

TOWN OF AQUINNAH
THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

County of Dukes County, ss.

To either of the Constables of the Town of Aquinnah

GREETINGS: In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, you are hereby directed to notify and warn the inhabitants of the Town of Aquinnah who are qualified to vote in the election and town affairs to meet in the Town Hall on the Thirteenth day of May, 2025 at 7:00 P.M. then and there to act upon the articles of this Warrant, with the exception of Article One. And to meet again at the Aquinnah Town Hall on the fifteenth day of May, 2025 at twelve noon, then and there to act on Article One of the Warrant by the election of offices, ballot questions and any required override found on the Official Ballot.

The polls for voting on the Official Ballot will open at 12:00 P.M. and close at 8:00 P.M. on Thursday, May 15, 2025.

ARTICLE ONE: To elect the following officers on the Official Ballot

To elect the following officers on the Official Ballot

One member of the Select Board for three years

Two members of the Planning Board for three years

One Planning Board Associate for three years

One Moderator for three years

One Library Trustee for three years

One Library Trustee for two years

One member of the Board of Health for three years

QUESTION ONE: Shall the Town of Aquinnah be allowed to exempt from the provisions of proposition two and one-half, so-called, the amounts required to pay for the Town's allocable share of the bond issued by the Up Island Regional School District to pay costs of making various capital repairs to District Facilities, including all costs incidental and related thereto?

QUESTION TWO: Shall the Town of Aquinnah be allowed to exempt from the provisions of proposition two and one-half, so-called, the amounts required to pay for the Town's allocable share of the bond issued by the Up Island Regional School District to pay costs of a feasibility

study for the West Tisbury School, located at 401 Old County Road in West Tisbury, including all costs incidental and related thereto?

ARTICLE TWO: To hear the reports of the Town Officers and Committees and act thereon.

* Martha's Vineyard Regional High School Committee Presentation

** ADA Grant Presentation.

ARTICLE THREE: To see if the Town will vote to Raise and Appropriate the sum required to defray the general expenses of the Town as itemized in the FY 2026 operating budget and fix the salaries and compensation of all elected officers and employees of the Town as itemized therein, and to fund said appropriations through the tax levy.

ARTICLE FOUR: To transfer the sum of Eighty Thousand Dollars (\$80,000.00) from Free Cash account to be used to reduce the Fiscal 2026 tax rate.

ARTICLE FIVE: To see if the Town will vote to approve Two Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$200,000.00) borrowing authorized by the School Committee of the Up-Island Regional School District to pay costs of making various capital repairs to District facilities, including the payment of all costs incidental and related thereto, or to take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE SIX: To see if the Town will vote to approve Seven Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$700,000.00) borrowing authorized by the Up-Island Regional School District, for the purpose of paying costs of a feasibility study for the West Tisbury School, located at 401 Old County Road in West Tisbury, including the payment of all costs incidental and related thereto (the "Study").

ARTICLE SEVEN: To see if the Town will vote to transfer from available funds the sum of Fifteen Thousand Dollars (\$15,000.00) to construct a kennel facility for use by the Animal Control Officer, or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE EIGHT: To see if the Town will vote to accept the Seasonal Community designation as provided for in Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 23(B), Section 32(b), or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE NINE: To see if the Town will vote to transfer from available funds the sum of Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000.00) for expenses related to rip and replace the EV chargers on Town property, or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE TEN: To see if the Town will vote to transfer from available funds the sum of Fifteen Thousand Dollars (\$15,000.00) for the purpose of purchasing a handicap wheelchair and improve handicap access to Town beaches.

ARTICLE ELEVEN: To see if the Town will vote to transfer from available funds the sum of One Hundred Thirty Five Thousand Dollars (\$135,000.00) for improvements of repairs to Town Buildings, or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE TWELVE: To see if the Town will vote to transfer from available funds the sum of Eighteen Thousand Dollars (\$18,000.00) to engage the services of a grant-writer, or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE THIRTEEN: To see if the Town will vote to transfer from available funds the sum of Thirty Thousand Five Hundred Sixty Dollars and Seventy-eight Cents (\$30,560.78) to fund the purchase of two life-packs to equip the Tri-Town Ambulances, or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE FOURTEEN: To see if the town will vote to transfer from available funds the sum of Fifty Six Thousand Three Hundred Eighty Nine Dollars and Twenty-eight Cents (\$56,389.28) to fund the purchase of a new ambulance for the Tri-Town Ambulance service, or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE FIFTEEN: To see if the town will vote to transfer from available funds the sum of Seventy Thousand Fourteen Dollars and Thirty-Seven Cents (\$70,014.37) for highway construction or improvements from the Town of Aquinnah's Chapter 90 local transportation aid apportionment from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts for FY 2026 , or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE SIXTEEN: To see if the Town will vote to transfer from available funds the sum of Fifteen Thousand Dollars (\$15,000.00) to install audio/video equipment at the Town Hall.

ARTICLE SEVENTEEN: To see if the Town will vote to transfer from available funds the sum of Fifteen Thousand Dollars (\$15,000.00) to clear brush from the Town cemetery, or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE EIGHTEEN: To see if the Town will vote to transfer from available funds the sum of Forty Thousand Dollars (\$40,000.00) to re-grade and re surface Town parking lots at Town Hall, Library and Playground, or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE NINETEEN: To see if the Town will vote to transfer from available funds the sum of Twenty Thousand Dollars (\$20,000.00) to replace the propane fired furnace at the Fire Station with mini-splits or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE TWENTY: To see if the Town will vote to appropriate, or reserve, monies for the administrative expenses of the Community Preservation Committee, the payment of debt service, the undertaking of Community Preservation projects and all other necessary and proper expenses for the year, from projected Fiscal Year 2026 Community Preservation revenues of **Three Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$300,000)**. Thirty percent of those funds shall be allotted in the following amounts as required by Community Preservation legislation:

\$30,000 to the Community Preservation Historic Preservation Reserve; and,

\$30,000 to the Community Preservation Community Housing Reserve; and,

\$30,000 to the Community Preservation Open Space and Recreation Reserve; and,

In addition, the remaining seventy percent of funds raised during the Fiscal Year 2024 shall be reserved for appropriation or use in the following manner as recommended by the Aquinnah Community Preservation Committee:

\$70,000 to the Community Preservation Historic Preservation Reserve; and,

\$136,000 to the Community Preservation Community Housing Reserve; and,

\$4,000 to FY '26 CPA administrative expenses, or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE TWENTY-ONE: to see if the Town will vote to appropriate monies, from currently reserved Community Preservation revenues, for the undertaking of the following **Community Housing** efforts, as recommended by the Community Preservation Committee:

\$28,400 (twenty-eight thousand four hundred dollars) from the Community Preservation Community Housing Reserve for costs related to the development of affordable housing as proposed by Island Autism Group, and

\$50,000 (fifty thousand dollars) from the Community Preservation Community Housing Reserve for the subsidy of affordable rents in Aquinnah through the DCRHA's Rental Assistance program, and

\$28,200 (twenty-eight thousand two hundred dollars) from the Community Preservation Community Housing Reserve for IHT's development of Veterans Supportive Housing, and

\$35,250 (thirty-five thousand two hundred and fifty dollars) from the Community Preservation Community Housing Reserve for IHT's development of School Employee and Teacher Housing, and

\$10,000 (ten thousand dollars) from the Community Preservation Community Housing Reserve for general affordable and workforce housing pre-development costs, and

\$45,000 (forty-five thousand dollars) for principal and interest payments on borrowing previously approved for the Carl Widdiss Way apartments behind Aquinnah Town Hall, or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE TWENTY-TWO: To see if the Town will vote to appropriate monies, from currently reserved Community Preservation revenues for the undertaking of the following **Open Space and Recreation** efforts, and to approve borrowing for a portion of proposed Phase Two Playground construction costs, as recommended by the Community Preservation Committee:

\$35,000 (thirty-five thousand dollars) for ongoing mortgage costs related to capital improvements at the Aquinnah Circle, and

\$70,000 (seventy thousand dollars) for the construction of Phase 2 of the Town Playground behind Town Hall from the Community Preservation Open Space and Recreation Reserve, and

To authorize the Town Treasurer, under the authority of Chapter 44B, to borrow the sum of **\$180,000 (one-hundred eighty thousand dollars)** over a term not to exceed 10 years for the construction of Phase 2 of the Town Playground behind Town Hall, with all debt service costs to be paid with CPA funds, or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE TWENTY-THREE: To see if the Town will vote to appropriate monies, from currently reserved Community Preservation revenues, for the undertaking of the following **Historic Preservation** efforts, as recommended by the Community Preservation Committee:

\$53,860 (fifty-three thousand eight hundred and sixty dollars) from the Community Preservation Historic Preservation Reserve for the acquisition, preservation, restoration, and storage of documents and artifacts within and in addition to the Aquinnah Cultural Center's archival collection, including related activities as approved by the Community Preservation Committee, and

\$10,000 (ten thousand dollars) from the Community Preservation Historic Preservation Reserve for the restoration of the West Tisbury Mill Pond Historic Mill Building, and

\$35,000 (thirty-five thousand dollars) as matching funds to a Town-sponsored Mass Cultural Council grant, and for ongoing restoration at the Edwin DeVries Vanderhoop Homestead, and

\$21,000 (twenty-one thousand dollars) from the Community Preservation Historic Preservation Reserve to the Martha's Vineyard Shellfish Group, in coordination with the Aquinnah Cultural Center, for the preservation of the historically significant traits of wampum in quahogs, using selective breeding and scientific tools, or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE TWENTY-FOUR: To see if the Town will vote to accept M.G.L. c. 64L, § 2(a) to impose a local meals excise of .75% of the gross receipts of the vendor from the sale of restaurant meals.

And you are hereby directed to serve this warrant by posting attested copies at the School House and Town Hall in said Town, at least seven days prior to said meeting. Hereof fail not, and make due return of this warrant with your doings thereon to the town Clerk at the time and place of said meeting.

Given under our hands this ____ day of April, in the year of our Lord Two Thousand and Twenty-Five.

Gary Haley, Chairman

Julianne Vanderhoop

Thomas Murphy

Heidi Vanderhoop, Constable

Posted: April ____, 2025