INFORMATIONAL SUMMARY: Refer to APPENDIX G for Planning Board Amendments. This article would increase a property tax exemption for elderly taxpayers with low income and assets, the limits of which are determined under M.G.L. c.59, §5, Clause 41C. This cost is paid for through the Overlay, an account set aside for abatements and exemptions, the Overlay is managed by the Board of Assessors. This exemption was last increased in Fiscal Year 2006.

PROPOSED MOTION: I move that the Town vote to increase the property tax exemption granted to eligible seniors pursuant to M.G.L. c. 59, §5, Clause 41C, as set forth in article 25 of the Warrant.

(Majority Vote Required)
Recommendation: Select Board 5-0, Board of Assessors 3-0

ARTICLE 26: MORATORIUM ON MOUNTED SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC INSTALLATIONS:
To see if the Town will vote to amend Section 3580 of the Town’s Zoning Bylaws, Large-Scale Ground Mounted Solar Photovoltaic Installations, to add a new section adopting a twelve month moratorium on the issuance of special permits for new Installations or the expansion of existing Installations, not including expansions that do not increase the footprint of existing installations, for the period of twelve months from the effective date of this zoning bylaw amendment, as set forth below; or take any other action relative thereto.

3580.01. Moratorium. Notwithstanding any other provision of the Town of Carver Zoning Bylaws to the contrary, the Town hereby adopts a temporary moratorium on the issuance of special permits for the new use of land for Large-Scale Ground Mounted Solar Photovoltaic Installations (hereinafter referred to as “Installations”) or for the expansion of any existing Installations for a period of one (1) year from the effective date of this bylaw, provided that such moratorium shall not apply to the expansion of any existing Installation that does not increase the footprint thereof. During the moratorium period, the Planning Board, Select Board and other Town officials shall conduct a review of Carver Zoning By-law 3580, review solar bylaws in other communities, undertake a planning process that addresses potential impacts of solar photovoltaic installations in Carver, consider the long-term objective for solar photovoltaic installations and their impact on health, safety, and welfare of Carver’s citizenry, determine how the Town shall reasonably and thoroughly regulate and approve solar electric installations, shall review and address the impacts of current, impending and potential Installations and they may develop a plan to mitigate future impacts of such Installations on the general health, safety, welfare and quality of life of the residents of the Town of Carver, which may include but not be limited to the presentation of a suggested bylaw amendments to a future town meeting.

SELECT BOARD

INFORMATIONAL SUMMARY: Refer to APPENDIX G for Planning Board Amendments. As there has been an increase in the numbers of large-scale ground mounted solar photovoltaic installations throughout the town in recent years (defined as those with a minimum nameplate capacity of 250 kW or greater or covering 1 acre or more of land), this article would implement a 12-month hold on all new special permits or expansion of existing installations. Additionally, this would give the town officials adequate time to review Carver solar bylaws, policies, and procedures, as well as research bylaws in other communities to address the potential impact that these solar arrays may have on the health, safety and welfare of the citizens. This moratorium will have no effect on roof mounted solar programs.

PROPOSED MOTION: I move that the Town approve Article 26 as set forth in the Warrant.

(Two Thirds Vote Required)
Recommendation: Select Board 3-2, Planning Board: 5-0 As Amended
PETITION ARTICLES: (Recommendations from Planning Board for Petition Articles 31, 38, 39 & 40 are in Appendix G)

ARTICLE 31: Respectfully requesting the Town of Carver to amend Article 21. Purposing a change to non-medical marijuana overlay districts (NMOD) North Overlay to accept and approve Map 21 Lot 4-4 for use as a marijuana cultivation and processing facility.

ARTICLE 32: To see if the Town of Carver will vote to amend the following provision to the Town of Carver By-laws under Article 34, established on June 6, 1990 at the Annual Town Meeting to add “No person shall be appointed to the Earth Removal Committee for more than two (2) terms for a total of six years on the Earth Removal Committee.” This provision will be effective immediately upon town vote and anyone currently serving with two (2) or more terms cannot be re-appointed.

ARTICLE 33: To see if the Town of Carver will vote to amend the following provision to the Town of Carver By-laws under Section 4.1.3 to add “No person shall be appointed to the Zoning Board of Appeals for more than two (2) terms.” This provision will be effective immediately upon town vote and anyone currently serving with two (2) or more terms cannot be re-elected.

ARTICLE 34: To see if the Town of Carver will vote to amend the following provision to the Town of Carver By-laws under Section 2.2.1 to add “No person shall be elected to the Select Board more than two (2) terms for a total of six years on the Select Board.” This provision will be effective immediately upon town vote and anyone currently serving with two (2) or more terms cannot run for re-election.

ARTICLE 35: To see if the Town of Carver will vote to amend the following provision to the Town of Carver By-laws under Section 4.1.3 to add “No person shall be appointed to the Finance Committee for more than two (2) terms for a total of six years on the Finance Committee.” This provision will be effective immediately upon town vote and anyone currently serving with two (2) or more terms cannot be re-appointed.

ARTICLE 36: To see if the Town of Carver will vote to amend the following provision to the Town of Carver By-laws under Section 4.1.3 to add “No person shall be elected to the Planning Board more than two (2) terms.” This provision will be effective immediately upon town vote and anyone currently serving with two (2) or more terms cannot be re-elected.

ARTICLE 37: To see if the Town of Carver will vote to amend the following provision to the Town of Carver By-laws under Section 4.1.3 to add “No person shall be elected to the ReDevelopment Authority for more than two (2) terms.” This provision will be effective immediately upon town vote and anyone currently serving with two (2) or more terms cannot be re-elected.

ARTICLE 38: The Town hereby adopts a temporary 11 ½ month moratorium to March 26, 2023, on the new use of land for Battery Storage effective immediately upon Town vote. During the moratorium period, the Town shall adopt new zoning bylaws for battery storage and undertake a planning process that addresses the current and future impacts of battery storage facilities on Carver’s residents, consider the long-term objectives for additional battery storage facilities in the town and their impact on health, safety and welfare of the town.