



COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

Town of Carver

SPECIAL TOWN MEETING WARRANT

Plymouth, ss. To any of the Constables of the Town of Carver, County of Plymouth in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

GREETING:

In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, you are hereby directed to notify and warn the Inhabitants of the Town of Carver qualified to vote in Town affairs, to meet at the Carver Middle/High School, all three precincts in said Carver, on the 6th Day of December 2012 at 7:00 O'clock P.M., then and there to act on the following Articles, namely:

Article 1. To see if the Town will vote to transfer from available funds the specified sum of money to pay the following unpaid bills under the provisions of Chapter 44, §64, or take any other action relative thereto:

Norfolk Ram Group, LLC	\$6,337.56
OCE Imagistics, Inc.	<u>\$ 247.81</u>
<u>Total</u>	\$6,585.37

(By the Board of Selectmen)

Article 2. To see if the Town will vote to transfer from the North Carver Water District Retained Earnings the amount of Fifteen Thousand Three Hundred Fifteen Dollars and Seventy Five Cents (\$15,315.75) to pay the following unpaid bills under the provisions of Chapter 44, § 64, or take any other action relative thereto:

Kopelman & Paige	\$ 3,653.75
Kopelman & Paige	\$442.00
Small Water Systems	\$11,220.00

(By the North Carver Water District Commissioners)

Article 3. To see if the Town will vote to transfer a sum of money from Short Term Interest to the North Carver Water District (NCWD) for the purpose of defraying the NCWD Budget for FY 2013, or take any other action relative thereto:

(By the Board of Selectmen)

Article 4. To see if the Town will vote to increase the amount transferred from North Carver Water District (NCWD) Retained Earnings for the purpose of defraying the NCWD Operating Budget, from One Hundred Thousand Eight Hundred and Eighty Three Dollars(\$100,883.00) to One Hundred and Three Thousand Seven Hundred and Thirteen Dollars (\$103,713.00), or take any other action relative thereto:
(By the North Carver Water District Commissioners)

Article 5. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate, or borrow, the amount of Forty Thousand Three Hundred Dollars (\$40,300.00) for the Cranberry Village Water District (CVWD) for the purposes listed below with Twenty Six Thousand Three Hundred Dollars (\$26,300.00) to come from CVWD Retained Earnings and Fourteen Thousand Dollars (\$14,000.00) to come from CVWD Estimated Water Revenues, or take any other action relative thereto:

- a. \$ 10,000.00 for the purposes of having an Infrastructure Evaluation to be funded from Retained Earnings.
- b. \$ 10,000.00 for the purpose of a 20 yr. Master Plan for the Cranberry Village Water System to be funded from Retained Earnings.
- c. \$ 6,300.00 for the purpose of erecting a fence and purchasing a bulk chemical storage tank to be funded from Retained Earnings.
- d. \$ 14,000.00 increase to the Operating Supplies budget for additional chemicals to be funded from Water Revenues.

(By the Board of Selectmen)

Article 6. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, or borrow the sum of Thirty Eight Thousand and Seven Hundred Dollars (\$38,700.00), for the purpose of acquiring and equipping an additional Fire Department Water Tanker, such sum to serve as the town's required 5% share of the cost of said Tanker under a FEMA Fire Assistance Grant and to authorize the Fire Chief, with the approval of the Board of Selectmen, to expend the amount appropriated hereunder, and further, to accept and expend said FEMA grant; provided, however, that any sum appropriated hereunder shall be expended only if said grant is approved, or take any other action relative thereto.

(By the Fire Chief)

Explanation: The anticipated cost of the Water Tanker is \$300,000, with \$261,250 to be funded by FEMA, if successful. The Carver Fire Department submitted a grant proposal to FEMA for an additional Water Tanker in August 2012. Awards will be announced from October 2012 through March 2013. A 5% match will be required by the Town if we are successful in securing the grant, plus an estimated \$25,000 to outfit and customize the Tanker for the needs of Carver. The intent of this article is to have sufficient funds available to accept the grant if the Carver Fire Department is awarded the \$261,250 in Federal Grant funds. If the Fire Department is not awarded the FEMA Grant, it is the intent of the Fire Department to return the funds allocated by this article back to the Town

Article 7. To see if the Town will vote to transfer from available funds the sum of One Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$100,000.00) for the purpose of satisfying a court judgment in the case of Raymond Orr vs. the Town of Carver, or take any other action relative thereto.

(By the Board of Selectmen)

Article 8. To see if the Town will vote to transfer the sum of Seventy Seven Thousand Dollars (\$77,000.00) from the Overlay Surplus Account in order to pay an abatement to Verizon New England, Inc. for taxes assessed in Fiscal Year 2009 upon poles and wires located in or over public ways in the Town of Carver, and further, to transfer an additional Twenty-One Thousand Three Hundred and Sixty

Dollars (\$21,360.00) from the Overlay Surplus Account to the Debt Service Line (Dept. 710, Schedule 0759) for related interest expenses, all as a result of the recent decision of the Massachusetts Appeals Court on this issue, and/or take any other action relative thereto.

(By the Board of Assessors)

Article 9. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the establishment of a Municipal Insurance Revolving Account in accordance with Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 44, §53E ½ to which shall be deposited reimbursements from insurers for Injured on Duty medical claims, and from which the Town, through the Board of Selectmen, may make expenditures for the purposes of paying for said claims. Expenditures for FY 2013 from such fund shall not exceed Seventy-Five Thousand Dollars (\$75,000.00), or take any other action relative thereto.

(By the Board of Selectmen)

Zoning By-Law Amendment:

Article 10. Large Scale Ground Mounted Solar Photovoltaic Installations:

To see if the Town will vote to amend Article II, Section 2110 as shown below, or to take any other action relative thereto:

(5) RESIDENTIAL AGRICULTURAL LARGE SCALE GROUND MOUNTED SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC INSTALLATION DISTRICT (see Section 3580)

and further, to amend the Town of Carver Zoning By-Laws, by amending Article II, Section 2230 of the Town of Carver Zoning by-Laws as shown below:

PRINCIPAL USE	RA	HC	GB	VB	V	GBP	IA	IB	IC	AP
C. INDUSTRIAL										
Large-scale ground mounted solar photovoltaic installations	SP#	N	N	N	N	SP+	SP	SP	SP	SP+

- Denotes SP within "Solar Overlay District" only, N elsewhere

+ - Denotes Large Scale Ground Mounted Solar Photovoltaic limited to 15% maximum area within the underlying zoning district

and further, to amend the Town of Carver Zoning By-Laws, by adopting the following new section, Article III, Section 3580.00:

3580.00. LARGE-SCALE GROUND MOUNTED SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC INSTALLATIONS

3580.10. Purpose. The purpose of this bylaw is to promote the creation of new large-scale ground-mounted solar photovoltaic installations (LSGMSPI) defined as those with a minimum nameplate capacity of 250 kW or greater or covering 1 acre or more of land, by providing standards for the placement, design, construction, operation, monitoring, modification and removal of such installations

that address public safety, minimize impacts on scenic, natural and historic resources, and to provide adequate financial assurance for the eventual decommissioning of such installations.

The provisions set forth in this section shall apply to the construction, operation, and/or repair of LSGMSPI proposed to be constructed or materially altered after the effective date of this section. To the extent that any particular provision of this bylaw is determined to be invalid, such invalidation shall not affect the validity of any other provision.

Smaller scale ground or building-mounted solar electric installations which are an accessory structure to an existing residential or non-residential use do not need to comply with this Section, but must comply with the other provisions of Carver's Zoning Bylaws as applicable.

LSGMSPI in the RA zone are allowable by special permit in the area designated "Solar Overlay District" shown on the zoning map, which shall be construed as an overlay district. All requirements of the underlying zoning district shall remain in full force and effect, except where the requirements of section 3580 are more restrictive or provide for uses or structures not otherwise available in the underlying district; in such cases, the requirements of section 3580 shall supersede the underlying zoning regulations.

3580.20. General Requirements for all Large-Scale Solar Power Generation Installations. The following requirements are common to all LSGMSPI to be sited in designated locations:

3580.21. Site Plan Review. All LSGMSPI shall undergo site plan review prior to construction or modification by the Planning Board, prior to issuance of a building permit to ensure conformity with all applicable bylaws.

3580.21.1. General. All plans and maps shall be prepared, stamped and signed by a Professional Engineer licensed to practice in Massachusetts.

3580.21.2. Required Documents. Pursuant to the site plan review process, the project proponent shall provide a site plan showing:

- A) Property lines and physical features, including roads, for the project site;
- B) Proposed changes to the landscape of the site, grading, vegetation clearing and planting, exterior lighting, screening vegetation or structures;
- C) Blueprints or drawings of the solar photovoltaic installation, and one or three line electrical diagrams detailing the solar photovoltaic installation, associated components, and electrical interconnection methods, with all National Electrical Code compliant disconnects and over current devices signed by a Professional Engineer licensed to practice in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts showing the proposed layout of the system
- D) Documentation of the major system components to be used, including makes and models of the PV panels, transformer, inverter, mounting system, and chemicals for cleaning and maintenance of equipment;

E) Name, address, and contact information for proposed system installer, the project proponent (s), and property owners if different;
F) The name, contact information signature of any agents representing the project proponent; and

- i) Documentation of actual or prospective access and control of the project site (see also Section 3580.22);
- ii) An operation and maintenance plan (see also Section 3580.23);
- iii) District designation for the parcel(s) of land comprising the project site (submission of a copy of a zoning map with the parcel(s) identified is suitable for this purpose);
- iv) Proof of liability insurance; and
- v) Description of financial surety that satisfies Section 3580.53.

The Planning Board may require additional information, data or evidence as it deems necessary pursuant to the site plan review process.

3580.22. Site Control. The project proponent shall submit documentation of prospective access and control of the project site sufficient to allow for construction and operation of the proposed LSGMSPI.

3580.23. Operation & Maintenance Plan. The project proponent shall submit a plan for the operation and maintenance of the LSGMSPI, which shall include measures for maintaining safe access to the installation, storm water controls, as well as general procedures for operational maintenance of the installation. A ground fuels maintenance plan shall be submitted during the site plan review process and be approved by the Fire Chief. The approved plan shall become a condition of the general site maintenance requirements outlined in section 3580.40.

3580.24. Utility Notification. No proposed LSGMSPI shall be submitted for review until evidence has been given to the Planning Board that the utility company that operates the electrical grid to which the installation is to be connected has been informed of the LSGMSPI owner or operator's intent to install an interconnected customer-owned generator, and that the electrical grid can safely transmit the proposed power output of the installation.

3580.25. Dimension and Density Requirements.

3580.25.1. Setbacks. For LSGMSPI, front, side, and rear setbacks shall be at least 50 feet on the applicant's property; provided, however, that where the lot is located in a Residential-Agricultural district, the setbacks shall not be less than 200 feet on the applicant's property. LSGMSPI shall be provided with 200 foot setbacks on all lot lines abutting the Residential-Agricultural district, regardless of the zoning designated for the proposed site. Vegetated screening shall be provided for a minimum of 50% of the specified setback.

Every abutting property shall be visually and acoustically screened from the installation through either existing vegetation or new plantings of not less than 8 feet in height at the

time of planting staggered at a spacing of no more than 8 feet apart throughout the required setback dimensions. All required plantings shall be maintained throughout the project's life, and replaced as necessary. As an alternate to providing the required screening through vegetation, it is acceptable to increase the setback to 600 feet on the applicant's property while providing an acceptable alternate screening such as a stockade fence and single row of vegetation in close proximity to the project.

The provided screening shall obscure from view on all sides at least 50%, or 100% if the project is located in the Residential-Agricultural zoning district, of the project from adjacent properties, including upper levels of existing structures at the time of construction, within three years of the start of construction or earthwork activities. Security fences, roadways, and equipment shall not be placed within the required setback, except for that which is required to access the site from an adjacent roadway, or to transmit the generated power to the grid. Access roads and transmission lines shall be placed in such a manner as to not create an unobstructed view of the project from adjacent property lines.

3580.25.2. Maximum Site Density. For projects with 10-20 acres within the security fence or the inner limits of screening if no security fence, no more than 50% of the receiving lot may be developed. For projects greater than 20 acres, up to 66% of the receiving lot may be developed. The developed area shall include the area of the project within the security fence of inner limits of screening if no security fence, plus all other existing and proposed structures throughout the site.

3580.25.3. Appurtenant Structures. All appurtenant structures to LSGMSPI shall be subject to regulations concerning the bulk and height of structures, lot area, setbacks, open space, parking and building coverage requirements contained elsewhere within the zoning bylaws. All such appurtenant structures shall be architecturally compatible with each other and be shaded from view by vegetation and/or joined or clustered to avoid adverse visual impacts. The project shall be designed so that the transformer (s) and inverter (s) are sited in the most remote location practical.

3580.26. Design Standards

3580.26.1. Lighting. Lighting of LSGMSPI shall be consistent with local, state and federal law. Lighting of other parts of the installation, such as appurtenant structures, shall be limited to that required for safety and operational purposes, shall be shielded to eliminate glare from abutting properties, shall be directed downward, and shall incorporate cut-off fixtures to reduce light pollution.

3580.26.2. Signage. Signs on LSGMSPI shall comply with the Town of Carver's sign bylaw, Section 3500. Signage at all site entrances shall be required to identify the owner and provide a 24-hour emergency contact phone number. LSGMSPI shall not be used for the display of any advertising.

3580.26.3. Utility Connections. All utility connections from the LSGMSPI shall be placed underground, unless soil conditions, shape, or topography of the site and any requirements of the utility provider dictate above ground installation. Electrical transformers for utility interconnections may be above ground if required by the utility provider.

3580.26.4. Hazardous Materials. Hazardous materials stored, used, or generated on site shall not exceed the amount for a Very Small Quantity Generator of Hazardous Waste as defined by the DEP pursuant to Mass DEP regulations 310 CMR 30.000, and shall meet all requirements of the DEP including storage of hazardous materials in a building with an impervious floor that is not adjacent to any floor drains to prevent discharge to the outdoor environment. If hazardous materials are utilized within the LSGMSPI, including the photovoltaic panels or transformer (s), then impervious containment areas capable of controlling any release to the environment and to prevent potential contamination of groundwater are required.

3580.30. Safety and Environmental Standards.

3580.31. Emergency Services. The LSGMSPI owner or operator shall provide a copy of the project summary, electrical schematic, as built plans, and site plan to the Fire Chief and Emergency Management Director. Upon request, the owner or operator shall cooperate with local emergency services in developing an emergency response plan. All means of shutting down the LSGMSPI shall be clearly marked, and training required to allow emergency response personnel to safely shut down the LSGMSPI in event of an emergency provided at no cost to the Town as requested by the Town. The owner or operator shall identify a responsible person for public inquiries throughout the life of the installation, all changes shall immediately be brought to the attention of the Town. Site access to LSGMSPI shall be conducive to emergency vehicle travel to allow for unimpeded access around the site at all times. Access requirements, not limited to gating, road widths and surfaces, etc. will be reviewed during the site plan review process, with approval being at the discretion of the Fire Chief.

3580.32. Land Clearing, Soil Erosion and Habitat Impacts. Clearing of natural vegetation shall be limited to what is necessary for the construction, operation and maintenance of the LSGMSPI or otherwise prescribed by applicable laws, regulations, and bylaws.

3580.33. Control of Vegetation. Mowing or the use of pervious pavers or geo-textile materials underneath the LSGMSPI is the preferred method of vegetation control. Herbicides may only be used where it can be demonstrated that no danger is posed to groundwater supplies, or to local agricultural activities. The Agricultural Commission and Board of Health are to approve all proposed herbicides.

3580.34. Panel Maintenance. Any and all materials used for maintenance of the LSGMSPI or other structures shall be properly disposed of and no harmful chemicals shall be used.

3580.40. Monitoring and Maintenance.

3580.41. Large-Scale Solar Photovoltaic Installation Conditions. The LSGMSPI owner or operator shall maintain the facility in good condition, including but not be limited to, snow removal, painting, structural repairs, maintenance of landscaping and required screening, and integrity of security measures. Site access shall be maintained to a level acceptable to the local Fire Chief and Emergency Medical Services. The owner or operator shall be responsible for all maintenance.

3580.42. Modifications. All material modifications to a LSGMSPI made after issuance of the required building permit shall require site plan review and approval by the Planning Board for continued compliance of all applicable bylaws.

3580.43. Annual Reporting. The owner or operator of the LSGMSPI shall submit an Annual Report demonstrating and certifying compliance with the Operation and Maintenance Plan and the requirements of this bylaw and their approved site plan including control of vegetation, maintenance of screening, adequacy of road access, information on the maintenance completed during the course of the year, and the amount of electricity generated by the facility. 6 copies of the report shall be submitted to the Board of Selectmen no later than 45 days after the end of the calendar year.

3580.50. Abandonment or Decommissioning.

3580.51. Removal Requirements. Any LSGMSPI which has reached the end of its useful life, or has been abandoned consistent with Section 3580.52 of this bylaw, shall be removed no more than 120 days after the date of discontinued operations. The owner or operator shall notify the Planning Board by certified mail of the proposed date of discontinued operations and plans for removal. Decommissioning shall consist of:

3580.51.1. Physical removal of all LSGMSPI, structures, equipment, security barriers, and transmission lines from the site.

3580.51.2. Disposal of all solid and hazardous waste in accordance with local, state, and federal waste disposal regulations.

3580.51.3. Stabilization or re-vegetation of the site as necessary to minimize erosion and runoff.

3580.52. Abandonment. Absent notice of a proposed date of decommissioning or written notice of extenuating circumstances, the LSGMSPI shall be considered abandoned when it fails to operate for more than sixty days without the written consent of the Board of Selectmen. As a condition of approval, if the owner or operator of the LSGMSPI fails to remove the installation in accordance with the requirements of this section within 120 days of abandonment or the proposed date of decommissioning, the Town may enter the property and physically remove the installation. The costs for the removal may be charged to the property owner in accordance with the provisions of G.L. c. 139, s.3A as a tax lien on the property.

3580.53. Financial Surety. Proponents of LSGMSPI shall provide a form of surety, either through escrow account, or other means mutually agreed upon with the Town of Carver, to cover

the cost of removal in the event the Town must remove the installation and remediate the landscape, in an amount determined to be reasonable by the Planning Board and form determined to be reasonable by the Treasurer, but in no event to be less than 75 percent nor to exceed more than 125 percent of the cost of removal and compliance with the additional requirements set forth herein. Such surety will not be required for municipally or state-owned facilities. The project proponent shall submit a fully inclusive estimate of the costs associated with removal, prepared by a qualified expert, which shall include a mechanism for calculating increased removal costs due to inflation.

The financial surety may also be used to replace and maintain all required landscaping and vegetative screening when in the opinion of the Planning Board the owner/operator has failed to do so. All costs incurred by the Town for maintenance activities shall be paid by the property owner within 90 days, or the maintenance costs may be charged to the property owner in accordance with the provisions of G.L. c. 139, s.3A as a tax lien on the property.

3580.60. Special Permit for LSGMPI. In the event that a Special Permit is required for a LSGMPI, the Planning Board may grant a Special Permit if the following conditions are met:

1. Such use will not nullify or substantially derogate from the intent or purpose of this bylaw;
2. Such use will not constitute a nuisance;
3. Such use will not adversely affect the neighborhood in which it is sited;
4. Such use complies with the standards for site plan review as spelled out in this bylaw;
5. The Planning Board may also provide for other conditions that it deems necessary.

(By The Solar By-Law Committee)

Article 11. To see if the Town will vote to request that the Board of Selectmen not negotiate or execute any tax agreements or Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILOT) Agreements for any new solar project(s) through December 31, 2013, or take any action relative thereto.

Explanation: This is in the event that the Solar By-Law Study Committee's article is not passed.

(By the Board of Selectmen)

Article 12. To see if the Town will vote to adopt the following warrant item: No tax breaks shall be granted to renewable energy projects located within the Town of Carver without approval of two-thirds (2/3) majority of Town Meeting. Any tax breaks, as approved by two-thirds (2/3) majority of Town Meeting, may only be granted to projects in zones which Town Zoning Bylaws specifically authorize renewable energy projects. Tax breaks may be included in agreements such as but not limited to Payments in Lieu of Taxes (PILOT), Power Purchase Agreements (PPA), and all other such agreements which would effectively assess taxes on land at a value lower than that of the underlying zoning district, and on associated equipment including standard depreciation as allowed by state regulations; or take any other action relative thereto.

(By Petition)

CARVER BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Michael O'Jones

Dee Ann
Richard F. Ward

Sarah R. Harris

Pursuant to the above warrant, I have notified and warned the inhabitants of Carver qualified to vote in Town affairs to meet at the time and place and for the purpose therein expressed by posting attested copies thereof in the Town Hall and in each of the Fire Stations and Post Offices in Carver as required by law fourteen days at least before the time of said meeting.

11/14/12
Date

John C. Kelley
Constable

A True Copy Attest