



WARRANT FOR SPECIAL TOWN MEETING February 24, 2016

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Middlesex, ss.

To any Constable in the Town of Weston, Greetings:

In the name of The Commonwealth you are hereby required to notify and warn the voters of said Town, qualified to vote in elections and Town affairs, to meet in the Auditorium of the Senior High School in said Town on Wednesday, the twenty-fourth day of February 2016, at 7:00 o'clock p.m., to act upon the following articles:

**ARTICLE 1: MOVE TAVERNSIDE PLAYGROUND TO CASE ESTATES INSTEAD OF LAMSON PARK
(SUBMITTED BY CITIZENS' PETITION)**

The May 14, 2014 vote of town meeting approving Article 27 APPROPRIATE FOR LAND FOR RECREATIONAL USE – MOVE TAVERNSIDE PLAYGROUND TO LAMSON PARK shall be amended by striking "Lamson Park, Town House Road, and substituting "available land at the Case Estates, Wellesley Street" as the location of the new playground.

Article 1 Explanation (provided by proponents): A "YES" vote on this article would move the location of the proposed new children's playground from Lamson Park on Townhouse Road to available land at the Case Estates on Wellesley Street. Situated just to the left of the Town Hall, Lamson Park is a historic and scenic site which is not suitable for a playground. The 1.7 acre parcel is hilly, with granite outcroppings and many trees. The land would have to be regraded to accommodate a playground. When the original \$225,000 appropriation was approved at May, 2014 town meeting, the town did not own the Case Estates. This option is now available. It is a much better option for the children and for the town. The Case Estates land is situated near the elementary schools, the town pool, the playing fields, the Scout House, Land's Sake gardens, the day camp, the library, and the Community Center (with the Recreation Department and the Council on Aging). The land is flat, very visible and safer for the children, as well as easier and less expensive to build on. With more land available and decreased land preparation expenses, a bigger, better, state-of-the-art playground could be built at the Case Estates, for children of all ages. This change in location is proposed for both practical and historical reasons that were not fully appreciated when the original site was approved in 2014. Lamson Park is the most significant historical site in our town. It memorializes the Weston Minute Men who set off to the Battle of Concord and Lexington on April 19, 1775. It is part of our nationally recognized Boston Post Road Historic District. The visual impact of regrading this hill and building a playground on it would not be in keeping with the historic nature of Lamson Park.

And you are to serve the warrant by posting four attested copies thereof at the Town Hall, at the Kendal Green Railroad Station, at the Town of Weston Transfer Station and on the kiosk at the front of the High School by the gymnasium, fourteen days at least before the time appointed for said meeting.

Hereof fail not to make due return of this warrant with your doings thereon to the Selectmen at the time and place of said meeting.

Given under our hands February 4, 2016.

Douglas P. Gillespie
Michael H. Harrity
Christopher E. Houston
Selectmen of the Town of Weston
