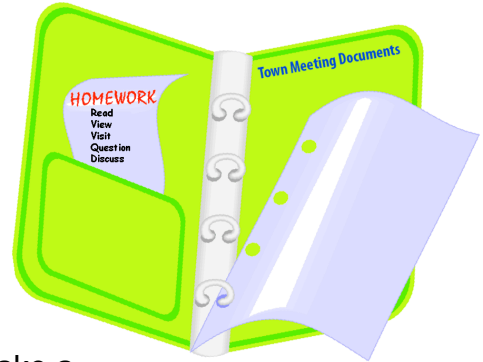


Preparing for Annual Town Meeting - April 26, 2017

There are a variety of ways in which Town Meeting members and the public can learn about the articles for **2017 Annual Town Meeting, which begins on Wed., April 26, 2017.**

Attend the Warrant Review – The Warrant Review will be held on **Tues., April 4, 2017 at 7:00 pm** in the **Town Room** at Town Hall. It will be recorded by Amherst Media and rebroadcast several times on Channel 17 as well as being available to view on your computer “On Demand”. Visit www.AmherstMedia.org for more information.

Mailings from Town Hall – Packets of materials will be mailed to all Town Meeting members. Be sure to read these materials before Town Meeting. You may want to bring these documents to Town Meeting in a binder.



Bus Tour – TMCC will host a Bus Tour for Town Meeting members to view sites related to current TM articles. The Bus Tour will be held from 1:45 to 4 pm on **Sunday, April 23, 2017. Please meet in the Middle School parking lot by 1:45** to board the bus so we can leave promptly. We'll make a video of the tour that will be available on www.AmherstMedia.org and Ch. 17.

Warrant Discussions – This is a good way to learn more about Town Meeting. At a Warrant Discussion, Town Meeting members and the public gather to learn about and discuss the articles to be decided at Town Meeting. You may attend any of the Warrant Discussions regardless of where you live in town. The Warrant Discussions will be held at the following times and places:



- **Wed., April 19 at 7:00 pm**, Immanuel Lutheran Church Parlor, 867 North Pleasant Street
- **Thurs., April 20 at 7:00 pm**, Large Activity Room at the Bangs Center
- **Sat., April 22 at 2:00 pm**, Police Station Community Room, Main Street
- **Mon., April 24 at 7:00 pm**, Crocker Farm School Library, 280 West St.

March-April - Select Board, Finance Committee, Planning Board, and other committees review articles. Attending or viewing these meetings is a great way to learn the details of the articles.

TMCC Mentor Program – If you would like to talk informally with or email questions to an experienced Town Meeting member, feel free to participate in our Mentor Program. If interested, send an email to TMCC at TownMeeting@amherstma.gov .

2017 Annual Town Meeting begins on Wednesday, April 26, 2016 at 7:00 pm in the Middle School Auditorium. Additional sessions, if needed, are reserved for **April 27, May 1, 3, 4, 8, 10, 11, 15, 17, 18, 22, 24, and 25, 2017.** **Note:** Town Meeting will take place on **Mondays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays** unless otherwise decided at Town Meeting.

Email us your questions and suggestions to TownMeeting@amherstma.gov .

Electronic Communications for Town Meeting Members

Please let us know if you would like to be added to the improved Public Contact by Email list and publicly viewable AmherstTownMeeting Google group by replying to TownMeeting@amherstma.gov. See below.

1. Revised! Public Contacting Town Meeting Members via Email

www.amherstma.gov/ContactTM

The very popular method for the public to contact TM members via email is being restored with a few changes. We appreciate the feedback we received and think we have addressed the issues raised. **We strongly encourage all Town Meeting members with email to join this list.**

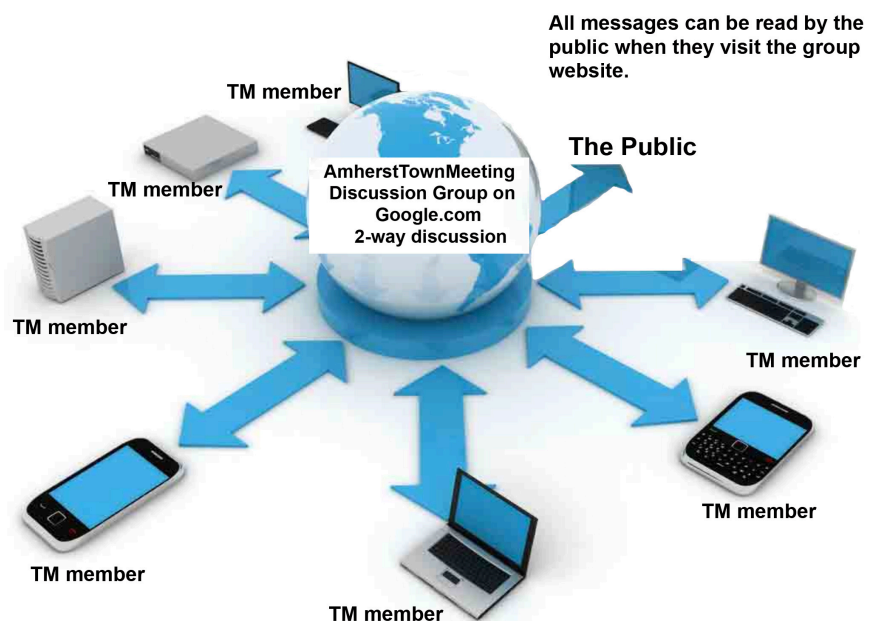
- Only current TM members who opt in will be included.
- TM members' email addresses will not be revealed unless you respond to the individual letter writer. If you do respond, only the original sender will receive your email.
- When a resident clicks on the link for their precinct # for example Precinct#@amherstma.gov, a form will appear for the person to type in Name, Street Address, Email Address, and Comments, then press Submit. Precinct number and phone number fields are optional. After submitting the sender will receive an automatic message indicating whether the message was successfully received.
- Use of a form should reduce the number of emails received. Participants cannot use "Reply All" or send to more than one precinct at a time. Town Meeting members cannot use the precinct address as if it were a listserv and resulting in overloaded mailboxes.
- Town Meeting members will automatically receive an email from no-reply@amherstma.gov with the email from the public.
- **Please opt in by Thursday April 6** so we can have this option functioning by April 10. Send TMCC an email at TownMeeting@amherstma.gov with your **name, precinct number, and preferred email address** for receiving messages from the public.

2. New! TMCC's AmherstTownMeeting Discussion Group on Google

<https://groups.google.com/forum/#!forum/AmherstTownMeeting>

Many Town Meeting members like to participate in or just read emails discussing articles to be decided at Town Meeting. All messages sent on this listserv can be viewed by the public on the group website.

Any current TM member can join and post messages on the group by sending an email to TownMeeting@Amherstma.gov. Please specify that you want to join the Discussion Group in your email. We are developing a FAQ file (Frequently Asked Questions) that will be sent to members upon joining the group.



3. TMCC Informational Listserv

This one-way informational listserv is used for all TM members to receive emails about Town Meeting, dates, TMCC events, motion sheet, rebroadcast times, etc. To join, email TMCC at TownMeeting@Amherstma.gov.