

## 1768

**The particulars (sic: particulars) of a Warrant for a March meeting Warrant  
granted by**

**Capt. William Russ, Capt. Stephen Barker and Jonathan Swan Selectmen and  
Warned**

**By Peter Harris Constable of the Town of Methuen (viz.) are as followeth**

- First To Choose (chose) a Moderator for Said Meeting
- 2dly To Choose (chose) Town Officers as the law directs
- 3dly To act what the Town shall think proper (proper) concerning the Reverend Mr. Sargants (Sargent's) sallery (salary) for the year ensuing
- 4ly To act what the Town shall think proper concerning a school or schools the year ensuing
- 5ly To consider what sum of money may be necessary to raise to repair the High ways the year ensuing
- 6ly To see if the Town will give liberty for swine to go at large the year ensuing
- 7ly To see if the Town will approve and establish such privet (private) or particular ways which have been laid out by the Selectmen in this Town in thee (the) month of December last and shall be reported to the Town at Said meeting or such of Said ways as shall appear reasonable to the Town
- 8ly At the request of Mr. Richard Swan to see what allowance the Town will make to Said Swan for the damage he suffered by reason the priveat (private) way that was laid out through his land by order of the Cort (Court) of General Sessions of the peace in the year 1764
- 9ly At the request of Mr. John Huse to see if the Town will discontinue the private way that was laid out in the year 1736 between the land of Doctor Stephen Huse and land of Asa Swan & Richard Swan and so on through Said Swans and the parsonage land to another private way leading to the Meeting House and dispose of the Said way to discontinue as the Town shall think proper
- 10ly To see if the Town will except (accept) of the alteration that the Select have in the private way between the house of James Ordway and the house of Benjamin Stevens agreeable to the report of the Selectmen at the meeting

## **Annual Town Meeting March 4th 1768**

**Dated at Methuen of 23d Day of februry (sic – February) AD: 1768 in the 8 year of Reign.**

**The above particulars were acted upon at a Leagel Annual Town Meeting in Methuen on March 4<sup>e</sup> :g: 1768 are as followeth**

First            The Town voted and Choose (chose) Capt William Russ Moderator for Said meeting

Secondly        **At a Leagel (Legal) (Legal) Annual Town Meeting in Methuen in March 1768**  
                  the Town voted Town Clerk and chose Richard Whittier Town Clerk (and sworn)

Select men      At the above Annuel (annual) meeting the Town voted and Choose (chose) Capt. Stephen Barker, Ebenezer Barker and Aaron Gage selectmen (and all sworn)

Constable        At the above Annuel meeting the Town voted and chose James Ingalls Constable for the East part of the Town (and sworn.)

John Bodwell     On adjournment from **March 9<sup>th</sup>, 1768 to March 22<sup>nd</sup> Instant**  
Constable        The Town voted and Choose (chose) John Bodwell Constable for the West part of the

Stevens           Town and the Town voted and excepted (accepted) of Benamen Stevens to same

In his Room      Constable instant Bodwells (Bodwell's) Room (in his place)  
                  Said Stevens was sworn to that office  
                  (penciled in) Amos Rollins was chosen Moderator

## **September Meeting 1768**

**The partluckers (particulars) of a Leagel (Legal) Town meeting on the twenty second day of September a Warrant given by Ebenezer Barker, Esq. and Capt. Stephen Barker, Select men to Benamen Stevens Constable are as followeth (viz.) –**

First            To chuse (choose) a Moderator for Said meeting

2ly            To bring in and allow Town Debts

3ly            To act what the Town shall think proper concerning the school

4thly To Choose (chose) a committee to reckon with the Town Treasurer and give Said committee their instructions

5thly To agree upon and grant such some (sum) of money to be raised as the Town shall think necessary to defray Town charge

First Att (At) Leagel (Legal) Town meeting in Methuen on September 22:1768

The Town voted and Choose (chose) Capt Stephen Barker Moderator for Said meeting.

2dly Att (At) the above meeting the Town voted and Choose (chose) Jonathan Swan, Lt. John Sargent and James Ingalls a committee to reckon with Samuel Coal the present Town Treasurer and to make report at the: (no date written in)

This meeting was adjourned (adjourned) to the twenty fifth of October at one of the clock in  
the after Noon

65 pounds **On adjournment from September 22:1768 to October 25<sup>th</sup>:1768**  
Raise and then meet (met) and Voted to raise Sixty five pound to Defray Town Charges

### **Methuen October 24<sup>th</sup>: 1768**

We the Subscribers having examined the accounts and order with Mr. Samuel Cole  
Town Treasurer and made a balance and find five pounds twelve shillings and fore  
(four) pence which he is orderd (ordered) to pay out more than he has orders to receive  
in to the Treasuror (Treasury) Dr Noyces order and Thomas EAtt (At)ons order  
was not reckoned in this account

John Sargent } Committee  
Jonathan Swan }

**At a Leagel (Legal) Town meeting in Methuen, on the 22<sup>d</sup> of September 1768**  
the Town voted that the reckoning should be recorded and recorded November  
9<sup>th</sup>: 1768.

**Lt Hall** **In a legal Town meeting in Methuen - on adjournment from September 22<sup>d</sup>  
1768  
to October 25: 1768:**

On adjournment the voted Leu<sup>t</sup> Benjamin Hall- 4 shillings and 10 pence for plank for to mend the highways

Att (At) the above meeting, on adjournment, the Town voted Henry Bodwell eleven shillings and six pence for work timber and plank to mend Specket (Spicket) Bridge

## 1769

### March Meeting 1769

**The particulars (particulars) of a Warrant for a March meeting, a Warrant granted by Capt. Stephen Barker, Ebenezer Barker and Aaron Gage (Selectmen) and warned by Benjamin Stevens Constable for Said Town of Methuen were as followeth:**

- Firstly To Choose a Moderator for Said meeting
- 2ly To Choose Town officers as the Law Directs
- 3dly To act what the Town shall think proper concerning Reverend Mr Sargent's (Sargent's) salary for the year ensuing
- 4thly To act what the Town shall think proper concerning a school or schools for the year ensuing
- 5thly To consider what sum of money may be necessary to raise to repair the high ways and private ways, the year ensuing and to determine the method where by the Said ways shall be repaired
- 6thly To see if the Town will give Liberty for swine to go at large the year ensuing.
- 7thly Stevens for his damage occasioned by Said way.
- 8thly At the request of several of the inhabitants of this Town to see what the Town will do relative to the delinquent surveyors of the high ways for not returning to their respective lists according as they are ordered by the Selectmen

**Dated at Methuen the 20<sup>th</sup> Day of februry anno quo Dominum 1769 and in the Ninth year of His Majestyes Reign**

**The above perticulars were acted upon at a leagel annuel ( legal annual)  
Town  
meeting in**

**Methuen on March of 8<sup>th</sup> Day of 1769 ~ are as followeth (viz.)**

First the Moderator Att (At) a Leagel (Legal) annuel Town meeting in Methuen on March 8<sup>th</sup>:1769, Town voted and Choose (chose) Mr. John Bodwell Moderator for Said meeting.

Secondly Town Clerk The Town voted and Choose (chose) Richard Whittier Town Clerk and sworn to his office

Select men Att (At) annuel Town meeting in Methuen on March 8<sup>th</sup>:1769 the Town voted and Choose (chose) Richard Whittier, Cap<sup>t</sup> William Russ and Mr John Bodwell as Selectmen for the present year and all sworn

Constables Att (At) the above meeting the Town voted and Choose (chose) James Carlton Constable for the east part of Said Town.

West part Att (At) the above meeting the Town voted and Choose (chose) Daniel Bodwell Junr Constable for the west part of the Town and the Town voted and to his office excepted of James Ordway in Said Bodwells (Bodwell's) Room and Said Ordway was sworn.

Treasurer Att (At) the above meeting The Town voted and Choose (chose) Samuel Coal - **Town Treasurer** for the year ensuing: and sworn to that office.

Wardens Att (At) the above the Town voted and chooss (chose) Mr. John Huse and Enoch Merriel **Wardens**: Huse is sworn:  
  
Att (At) a Leagel (Legal) annuel Town meeting in Methuen on March of 8<sup>th</sup> 1769 the Town voted and Choose (chose): on adjournment Stephen Webster Juner (Junior)  
was Choose (chosen)  
  
Att (At) the above meeting the Town voted and Choose (chose) Jacob Messer **Culler of Lumber** and sworn

**Surveyors of the High Ways**

Stephen Webster	Timothy Eaton	Ichobod Perkins
William Cross Junr	Ebenezer Carlton	Jonathan Barker
Ezekiel Morriell	Moses Morse	John Marsuer Junr
David Burbank		

Tyding men Att (At) the above annual meeting the Town voted and Choose (chose) John How, John Harries and Caleb Hall tyding men and all: sworn

Surveyors of Lumber Att the above meeting the Town voted to Choose (chose) John Masten, Ebenezer Herrick, John Barker and David Whittier Surveyors of Lumber: and sworn

Sealer of Sealer Waits and Mesuers Att (At) the above meeting the Town voted and Choose (chose) Leu<sup>t</sup> John Sargent of waits (weights) and mesuers (measures) and sworn (Weights and Measures)

Sealer of Leather Att (At) the above meeting the Town voted and Choose (chose) Richard Currier Sealer of Leather and sworn

Hog Reefs Att (At) the above meeting the Town voted and Choose (chose) Jonathan Barker, Abner Whittier, James Bodwell and Richard Currier hog reefs and sworn

Fish Corses Att (At) the above meeting the Town voted and Choose (chose) John Asten and Kimball Carlton to take care of the Fish Corses (Fish Courses) in this Town and sworn

Fens Viewers Att (At) the above meeting the Town voted and Choose (chose) Benjamen Maston and James How Junr fens viewers (fence viewers) for the year ensuing and sworn

Field Drivers Att (At) the above meeting the Town voted and Choose (chose) Stephen Webster Junr and James Mallon field drivers.

3ly Att (At) a Leagel (Legal) annuel Town meeting in Methuen on March 8<sup>th</sup> 1769 voted that there should be paid for the Reverend Mr. Christopher Sargent our present minister for his sallery the sum of forty nine pounds and fourteen shilling the present year lawfull money.

4thly Att (At) the above meeting the Town voted that the school should be moved into the several parts of the Town as it has been in years past at the discretion of the Selectmen of Said Town

5ly Att (At) a Leagel (Legal) Annuel Town meeting in Methuen on March 8<sup>th</sup> 1769 the Town voted raise the sum of fifty five pounds Shall be raised for repairing the High ways and privet ways in this Town - That the Selectmen shall assess the Said sum on the Inhabitants

of this Town as soon as may conveniently be and commit such assessment in several Lists

to the Surveyors of the highways and each of the Surveyors shall be warned and gives Lawfull Notice to all the persons named in his List that they may each one pay his respective proportion of Said Tax by Labour in repairing the Said ways allowing for such labour as followeth viz.: for each man two shillings per day and for a yoak [yoke] of oxen one shilling and fore pence per day and for a cart eight pence per day for all that shall be performed before the first of September – and three quarters of so much for all that shall be performed after that Time – and that the Surveyors shall return their respective List to the Selectmen with a fair account of what each person hath paid on or before the last day of October next and if there shall then be any that not paid their full proportion set down in such then was is in arrear and not paid shall be added to such delinquents Name in the Town Rates to be collected by the Constable and paid into the Town Treasury and if any of the Said

Surveyors shall neglect to Return their respective Lists as that the Town Treasurer shall prosecute such defective Surveyor or Surveyors in the law for such defect

Voted at the above Annual Meeting that the Said Surveyors shall speedily return their Lists to the Selectmen and Said sums therein set as are not yet paid shall be laid upon each delinquents by adding to their respective proportions of the tax for repairing the highways the present year.

6thly Voted at the above meeting that swine should go at large the ensuing year  
Swine

7thly                    Att (At) the above meeting it was put to vote to see if the Town would allow Jonathan

Negative Stevens pay for a road that was established at the Annual Meeting on March 9<sup>th</sup> 1768

Vote and voted in the Negative

8thly The eight artacal (article) was not acted on

**October 23, 1769**

**The particular of Warrant for a Town meeting granted by Richard Whittier  
Cap<sup>t</sup> William Russ and John Boswell Selectmen of Methuen and warned by  
James Ordway Constable of the above Said Town of Methuen, are as  
followeth (viz.) Bareing (bearing) date Octobery (October) 23 1769**

## First To Choose (chose) a Moderator for Said meeting

2ly To bring in and allow Town Debts

3ly To see what sums of money the Town will raise to defray Town charges the present year

fourthly To see if the Town will chuse (choose) a committee to reckon with Mr. Samuel Coal the present Treasurer and make report of their doings at the next Town meeting

**October 14<sup>th</sup> 1769**

Moderator **Att (At) a Leagel (Legal) Town meeting in Methuen in Octobery (October) 14<sup>th</sup> 1769 the Town**

Firstly voted and Choose (chose) Ebenezer Barker Esq<sup>r</sup> **Moderator** for Said meeting

Committee Att (At) the above meeting the Town voted and Choose (chose) Cap<sup>t</sup> William Russ and Lu<sup>t</sup> John Sargent a committee to reckon with Mr. Samuel Cole Treasurer

Ezekiel On adjournment (adjournment) of the above meeting from October 23: 1769 to November the 14:1769

Morriel On adjournment of the above meeting the voted that Ezekiel Morriel (Merrill) three pound four shilling six pence for plank to cover several bridges

William Cross On adjournment the Town voted that William Cross Junr should have nine shillings for plank and timber for to mend several bridges

Samuel Bodwell On adjournment voted to Samuel Bodwell two shillings for plank -

65 pounds Raise On the adjournment from October 23<sup>d</sup>:1769 to November 4 14<sup>th</sup> 1769 the Town voted to raise sixty five pound to defray Town charges the present year

Reckoning with Cole On the adjournment the Town voted that the report of the above committee be recorded. We the Subscribers have reckoned with Mr. Samuel Cole Treasurer and find in his hands (when he has settled with the Constables) Due to the Town eleven pounds sixteen shilling and nine pence

**Methuen Nov<sup>r</sup> 14:1769**

Cap<sup>t</sup> William Russ  
Richard Whittier } Committee

John Sargent

## 1770

### March Meeting 1770

#### **The particulars (particulars) of Warrant for calling an Annuel Town meeting on**

**March the 14<sup>th</sup> 1770** the Warrant granted by Richard Whittier, Capt William Russ

and John Bodwell Selectmen and warned by Aaron Gage Constable of the Town of

Methuen are as followeth (viz.)

First First to choos (choose) a Moderator for Said meeting

2<sup>dly</sup> To choos (choose) Town officers as the Law directs for the year ensuing

3<sup>dly</sup> To see what Town will act respecting the Reverend Mr. Christopher Sargents sallery (salary) for the year ensuing

4<sup>thly</sup> To see what sum or sums of money the Town will raise for repairing the high ways and the particular and private ways in Said Town the year ensuing

Fifthly To see what the Town will act respecting the school or schools in Said Town the year ensuing

7<sup>thly</sup> At the request of fifteen of the Inhabitants of Said Town these are to see if the Town will accept of a particular or private way laid out from the Town road near the East End of the dwelling house now inhabited by Jacob Whittier in Said Town fishing place at Bodwells (Bodwell's) falls so called in the Marimack (Merrimack) River and from thence by Said River to Bowdells (Bodwell's) ferry

8<sup>thly</sup> At the request of sundry of the Inhabitants of Said Town these are to see if the Town will accept a way laid out in the year 1735 from thence down by the East of Said Sargents Shop to and over Spicket River and so on between Josiah Osgood house and shop to the way that leads up to the mill and also to discontinue such part of the said old way as shall be running useless by laying out of such new way

9<sup>thly</sup> At the desire of nine of the Inhabitants of Said Town these are to see if the Town  
will discontinue the way formerly said beginning by or near the house of Daniel  
Messer and from thence along by the house which was Abiel Messers (Messer's) and so  
on by Jonathan Currier or open a part of said through Adamses farm so called which  
was thrown up by a vote of the Town

10<sup>thly</sup> At the request of eleven of the Inhabitants of Said Town these are – To see if the  
Town will either repair the way that leads from the country road near George Hastings  
to the way that leads from Abiel Hows to Haverhill or Discontinue the same

11<sup>thly</sup> At the request of ten of the Inhabitants of Said Town these are  
To see if the Town will accept of a particular or private way laid out at the  
beginning of the Town Road near the house of Thomas Mitchels (Mitchel's) thence westerly a  
little below the saw mill and so on through sundrey persons land till it come out  
Ichabod Perkens (Perkens')

12<sup>thly</sup> At the request of Jonathan Ayer of Haverhill these are  
To see if the Town will make the Said Ayer some reasonable satisfaction for a  
strip of land improved as a particular or privat way in the Town of Methuen Said way  
leads from the Town Road by Abiels (Abiel's) Hows to Ebenezer Carltons that part of Said  
way which the Said Ayer purchased of James Ford

13<sup>ly</sup> To see if the Town will accept of a way laid out by the house of Amos Morss  
beginning at Pelham Road so called at the southerly end of Josiah Gutterson stone wall  
thence westerly by and so with as turns along by Said Morses (Morse's) house till it  
comes out by Mr. Thomas Astens (Asten's) house as may appear by the return of said way  
more fully it being the request of ten of the Inhabitants of Said Town

**March 14, 1770**

**The above particulars ware entered upon at the Leagel (Legal) Annuel Town meeting in Methuen on March the 14<sup>th</sup> 1770 are as followeth (viz.)**

**First the Town voted and Choose (chose) Mr. James Ingalls Moderator for Said meeting**

Town Clerk the Town voted and Choose (chose) Richard Whittier Town Clerk and sworn  
Secondly

Selectmen At the above meeting the Town voted and Choose (chose) Cap<sup>t</sup> William Russ,  
Leu<sup>t</sup> John Sargent and James Jones Select men for the year ensuing and sworn

At the above Annuel (Annual) Meeting of the Town voted and Choose (chose) James Frye Constable for the East part of the Town of Methuen and sworn in his office

Constables At the above annuel meeting the Town voted and Choose (chose) Enoch Merriel Constable for the West part of the Town of Methuen and sworn to his office

Wardens At the above Annuel meeting the Town voted and Choose (chose) Jonathan Currier Jun<sup>r</sup>  
and John Harries Wardens for the year ensuing and sworn to their office

Treasurer At the above Annuel meeting the Town voted and Choose (chose) Samuel Cole  
Town Treasurer for the year ensuing and sworn to that office

Tyding men Att (At) the above Annuel Town meeting the Town voted and Choose (chose) James Colton, James Mallone and John Davies tyding (tything) men for the year ensuing and sworn

**March 14, 1770**

**Att (At) a Leagel (Legal) Annuel Town in Methuen on March the 14 – 1770**  
the Town voted and Choose (chose)

	Daniel Messer
	James Messer } was Choose (chosen)
Surveyors of the Highways	Francis Swan } Surveyors of
	Kimball Colton } the Highway
	Jonathan Barker } for the year
	John Farnum } Ensuing and
	Samuel Palmer } sworn
	Joseph Griffin } to
	Josiah Osgood } their

	Ephriam Clark                   } office
Sealer of weights And Measures	At the above Annuel Meeting the Town voted and Choose (chose) John Sargent Sealer of Weights and Measures and sworn
Sealer of Leather	The Town voted and Choose (chose) Richard Currier Sealer of Leather and sworn.
Surveyors of Lumber	Att (At) the above Annuel Town meeting the Town voted and Choose (chose) John Masten, Ebenezer Herrick, John Mansur Junr and Jonathan Barker
Hog Reeves	the Town voted at the above meeting and Choose (chose) John Whittier, Jonathan Barker, Timothy Harries was chosen on the adjournment (adjournment) and Georg (George) Dameson was Choose (chosen) on the adjornment
Fish Cors	[Fish Courses} Nathaniel Lad and Kimball Carlton was Choose (chosen) to the due observation of the laws relative to the fish courses.
Fence Viewers	Att (At) the above meeting the Town voted and Choose (chose) James How and Ben Masten fence viewers
	Att (At) the above Annuel Town meeting March the 14 <sup>th</sup> 1770 the Town voted and Choose (chose) Stephen Webster Junr and John Mansur Junr fence viewers
3 <sup>dly</sup>	Att (At) a Leagel (Legal) Annuel Town meeting in Methuen on March the 14 <sup>th</sup> 1770 the Town voted that there should be raised for the Reverend Mr Christopher Sargent our present minister for his sallery (salary) the present year the sum of forty nine pounds and fourteen shillings lawfull money
4 <sup>thly</sup>	Att (At) the above meeting the Town to raise sixty pound to repair the highways and the privat (private) ways
5 <sup>thly</sup> School	Att (At) the above meeting the Town voted that the Selectmen oversee the schools in the several parts of the Town as they shall find most needfull
6 <sup>thly</sup>	Swine

Voted that swine should be at large the present year

7<sup>th</sup>ly In answer to a petition of sundry of the Inhabitants of the Town of Methuen to us the Subscribers to lay out a particular or private way in Said Town we have preceded as followeth the beginning by the Town land near the East End of the house now inhabited by Jacob Whittier thence southwesterly as the parth (path) is near road and then turning southwesterly by a white oak tree marked standing on the northwesterly side of the way at few poles distance from the bank of Merrimack River so on to the bank of Said river near the head of Huse Eddy (so called): thence turning westerly on the bank of Said river to or against the fishing place at Bodwells (Bodwell's) falls (so called), so on westerly more near the bank of Said river to Bodwells (Bodwell's) ferry. Said way we have laid out two poles in width Said way was laid

**February 26<sup>th</sup> 1770**

Richard Whittier      Selectmen  
William Russ      } of  
John Bodwell      Methuen

**March 14, 1770**

**At a Leagel (Legal) Annuel Town meeting in Methuen on March the fourteenth 1770** the above return being read in Said meeting and the Town voted in the affirmative

8<sup>th</sup>ly Att (At) a Leagel (Legal) Town meeting in Methuen on March the 14<sup>th</sup> 1770 in answer to a petition of several of the Inhabitants to us the Subscribers to lay out at particular or privet way as followeth (viz.)

Road from Sargent over Spicket Beginning at the road near the East End of Lt. John Sargents house thence down the hill by the East End of Said Sargents shop so on or near sail of Said Sargents corn mill thence turning eastwardly by to Spicket River and over Said river the north side of Josiah Osgoods (Osgood's) stone wall and so on easterly between Said Osgood Shop and house till it comes into the way that leads Joseph Stephen to or by Swans mill.

Said way we have laid out two rods on width

Said way was laid out February the 26<sup>th</sup> 1770

Richard Whittier      Selectmen  
William Russ      } of  
John Bodwell      Methuen

Josiah At a Leagel (Legal) Annuel Town meeting in Methuen on March the 14<sup>th</sup> 1770 the above

Osgoods return being read in Said meeting and being put to vote the Town voted in the Road affirmative provided that Mr Josiah Osgood pay and clear the Town from any charges of the road so laid out that he having the old road then discontinued

9<sup>thly</sup> In answer to a petition to the Town for to open that part of the way threw (through) Adames (Adam's) farm which was voted up by the Town sum (some) years ago being raised in a Annual Town meeting on March the 14<sup>th</sup> 1770 and the Town voted  
the Said way should be an open road threw the above Said farm where it was formerly laid out.

10<sup>thly</sup> The tenth Articule (article) being voted in the Negative

11<sup>thly</sup> The Eleventh Articule (article) being voted in the Negative

12<sup>thly</sup> The Town voted not to act on the eleventh articule (article) voted in the Negative

13<sup>thly</sup> The thirteenth articule (article) as not voted on Voted in the Negative

### **September 13<sup>th</sup> 1770**

**Att (At) a Leagel (Legal) Town Meeting in Methuen on September 13<sup>th</sup> 1770  
the Warrant was printed by Cap<sup>t</sup> William Russ Leu<sup>t</sup> John Sargent and  
James Jones Selectmen and warnd (warned) by James Frye Constable of  
Said Town**

The articules (articles) of Said meeting are as followeth (viz.)

Firstly To Choose (chose) a Moderator for Said meeting

2ly To see what sum of money the Town will raise to defray Town charges the present year

3ly To bring in and allow Debts

4thly To see if the Town will Choose (chose) a committee to settle with Captain John White upon the account of the way laid out through the Said White's Farm or other wise to all that the Town shall think proper respecting that affare (affair)

At the above meeting the Town mett (met) and acted on the Said articules (articles)

First the	Town voted and Choose (chose) Capten (Captain) Stephen Barker Moderator for Said meeting at a Leagel (Legal) Town meeting in Methuen on September the 13 <sup>th</sup> 1770 the
Voted 60 pounds	Town voted to raise sixty pounds lawfull money to defray Town charges the present year
Caleb Hall 0-3-8	Att (At) the above meeting the Town voted that Caleb Hall should have three shillings and eight pence for plank to cover Spicket Bridge
Webster 0-1:6	At the above meeting the Town voted that Stephen Webster should have one shilling and six pence Lawfull money for work done at the high ways
Whittier 0-1-10	Att (At) the above meeting the Town voted that Richard Whittier should have one shilling and ten pence lawfull money for work done at the high ways
Jacob Messer 0-1-10	Att (At) the above meeting the Town voted that Jacob Messer should have one shilling and ten pence lawfull money for work done at the high ways
Samuel Messer 0-1-6	Att (At) the above meeting the Town voted that Samuel Messer should have one shilling and six pence lawfull money for work done at the high ways
Daniel Messer 0-1-6	Att (At) the above meeting the Town voted that Daniel Messer should have one shilling and six pence lawfull money for work done at the high ways
Capt Whites Road	Att (At) Leagel (Legal) Town meeting in Methuen on September the 13 - 1770 the Town voted and Choose (chose) a committee to settle with Capt John White respecting the way that was laid out threw (though) his land –
	And the voted and Choose (chose) Jonathan Swan Richard Whittier and Josiah Osgood a committee to settle with Capt John White as to the charg (charge) of the survey to vew (view) Said way

# 1771

## March 13, 1771

**The particulars of a Warrant for calling an Annuel Town meeting in Methuen on March Wednesday the 13<sup>th</sup> day of 1771 the Warrant granted by Cap<sup>t</sup> William Lu<sup>t</sup> John Sargent and James Jones Selectmen of Said Town and warned by Enoch Merriell on of the Constables of Said Town of Methuen are as followeth (viz.)**

- Firstly To Choose (chose) a Moderator for Said meeting -----
- 2ly To Choose (chose) Town Officers for this present year as the law directs
- 3ly To see what the Town will act respecting the Reverend Mr Christopher Sargants sallery (salary) for this present year -----
- 4ly To see what the Town will act respecting the school this present year
- 5ly To see what sum or sums of money the Town will raise to repair highway in Said Town this present year
- 6ly To see what the Town will act concerning the swine going at large this year
- 7ly To see what the Town will come into some method to prevent the rams going at large at an unseasonable time o the year or to act what they shall think proper respecting the same -----
- 8ly To see if the Town will give to John Whittier what he is indebted to the Town upon the account his purchasing (purchasing) sum (some) of the things of widow Rhodireck which was sold at *Vendue* (*vendue* comes from the French word *vendre* meaning to sell. The English used this word also when selling slaves or the poor.)
- 9thly At the request of Stephen Webster Junr these are to see if the Town will allow him any pay for that part of the way which leads through part of the land which he bought of Abiel Messer
- 10thly At the request of eleven of the Inhabitants of the west part of Methuen these To see what Town will act respecting a petition to be presented at Said meeting by a number of the Inhabitants of the west part of this Town
- Eleventh To see if the Town will except (accept) of the way lately occupied (occupied) and made passable through Mr Tuckers land in Said Town in lieu (lieu) of the old way that goes over the hill

12thly To see Town will allow Mr Josiah Osgood and others pay for their labour done at the New bridge below the falls at Spicket River and plan for the Said bridge

13thly At the request of sundry of the Inhabitants of this Town these are to see what the Town will act upon the account of making way for the fish to pass in the several streams in Said Town

### **March 13, 1771**

**The above particulars were acted upon at Leagal Annuel Town meeting in Methuen  
on March the 13<sup>th</sup> 1771 are as followeth (viz.)**

Moderator the voted and Choose (chose) Mr James Ingall **Moderator** for Said meeting

First Town Clerk At the above meeting the Town voted and Choose (chose) Richard Whittier **Town Clerk**/and sworn

2ndly At the above meeting the Town voted and Choose (chose) Cap<sup>t</sup> William Russ  
Cap<sup>t</sup>

Selectmen Stephen Barker and Mr Aaron Gage **Selectmen** for the year ensuing Cap<sup>t</sup> Barker refusing to serve in that office on Adjournment the Town voted and Choose (chose) Lu<sup>t</sup> John Sargent for to serve in his Room (to serve in his place) Russ Sargent and Gage were sworn to the office of Selectmen

School Voted that the Selectmen should oversee the school as they shall think proper for the Town

Jonathan Att (At) the above meeting the Town voted and Choose (chose) Mr Jonathan Swan Constable

Swan Constable for the **East part of the Town** and Said Swan refused in Said meeting to serve as Constable but Said he would apply to the Sessions for to be release

Carlton Constable Att (At) the above meeting the Town voted and Choose (chose) Ebenezer Carlton **Constable for East part of the Town of Methuen**/and was sworn to his office

Enoch Att (At) the above meeting the Town voted and Choose (chose) David Whittier **Constable**

Merriel for the **West part of the Town**/the Town on adjournment from March the 13<sup>th</sup> 1771 to

Constable March the 21:1771 voted and exected (accepted) of Enoch Merriel -----

To serve Constable in the Room (in the place of) of David Whittier Said Merriel was sworn to his office

Mr Cole At the above meeting the Town voted and Choose (chose) Mr Samuel Cole **Town  
Treasuror** (Treasurer) for the year ensuing/and sworn to that office  
(Treasurer)

Wardens At the above Annuel meeting the Town voted and Choose (chose) Joseph How and Benamen Stevens **Wardens** for the present year/and sworn to their office

Tydingmen At the above meeting the Town voted and Choose (chose) James Messer Peter  
Harries  
John Pettengill and Ebenezer Herrick **Tydingmen**/and all sworn to that office

Samuel Messer  
Lu<sup>t</sup> Benjamen Hall      } Surveyors  
Jonathan Currier, Junr      } of  
Samuel Bodwell      } the  
John Parker Junr      } high

Surveyors Att (At) the above meeting the Town voted and Choose (chose) John Masten  
of Lumber Ebenezer Herrick  
William Whittier **Surveyors of Lumber** and sworn

Sealer of Waits and Mesuers (Weights & Measures) Att (At) the above meeting they voted and Choose (chose) Lu<sup>t</sup> John Sargent Sealer of Waits and Mesuers

Sealer of Att (At) the above meeting the Town voted and Choose (chose) Timothy Easton  
Sealer  
Leather **of Leather**

Fence Viewers (Fence Viewers) At a Leagel (Legal) Annuel Town meeting on March the 13<sup>th</sup> 1771 the Town voted and Choose (chose) James How Junr and Ichobod Perkens **Fence Viewers** for the ensuing year and sworn

Hog	Att (At) the above meeting the Town voted and Choose (chose) Joseph Griffen Timothy
Reefs	Harries James Bodwell Ebenezer Hibberd Junr Jonathan Baxter and Asie Currier <b>Hog Reefs</b> for the year ensuing and sworn
Fish	( <b>Fish Courses</b> ) At the above meeting the Town voted and Choose (chose) James Ordway
Corses	and Abiel How to the dew observation of the law respecting the Fish Corses in this Town and as the law directs/and sworn
Field	At the above meeting the Town voted and Choose (chose) Nathaniel Messer Junr and
Drivers	Thomas Richardson <b>Field Drivers</b> – Richardson was sworn
Deer	Att (At) the above meeting the Town voted and Choose (chose) Mr. John Vernum and John How to take care of the <b>Deer</b> and sworn
2ndly 4g:14	At a Leagel (Legal) Annuel Town meeting in Methuen on March the 13 <sup>th</sup> 1771 the Town voted that there should be raised for the Reverend Mr Christopher Sargent our present minister for his sallery the present year the sum of forty nine pound and fourteen shilling lawfull money
3dly 70-0 Highways	At the above meeting they voted that there should be raised seventy pounds for to repair the highways the present year
4thly Swine	At the above meeting the Town voted that swine should go at large
5thly	Att (At) the above meeting the Town voted that the Debt that John Whittier owed the respecting the widow Rhoderick should be abated
6thly	Att (At) the above meeting the Town voted to exchange that piece of way that leads
Mr Tuckers Way	over the hill the East of Mr Tuckers house and barn and the Town voted and except (accepted) of the way that is newly occupied in Lieu the old way that goes over the hill
	Att (At) the above meeting the voted to allow Mr Josiah Osgoods (Osgood's) and others for work done at the New Bridge over Spicket River: Namely

To Mr Josiah Osgood	19-7-0
To Mr Samuel Cole	19-4-0
To Mr Joseph Stevens	05-0-0
To Mr Samuel Huse Junr	14-0-0
To Mr Abel Huse	02-0-0
To Mr Abel Merriel	05-4-0
To Mr Jacob Merrick	10-8
To Mr John Hibberd	0-6-8
To Mr John Tippets	0-5-4

**The particulars of a Warrant for calling a Town meeting are as followeth (viz.)**  
**first to Choose (chose) a Moderator for Said meeting** 2ly to bring in a allow Town Debts 3ly to see if the Town will chuse (choose) a committee to reckon with the Town Treasurer – fourthly to see what sum or sums of money the Town will raise to defray Town charges the present year

### **October 24, 1771**

**At a Leagel (Legal) Town meeting in Methuen on October the 24<sup>th</sup> 1771 the Town voted and Choose (chose) Lu<sup>t</sup> Benjamen Hall Moderator for Said meeting**

Att (At) the above meeting the Town voted and Choose (chose) Lu<sup>t</sup> John Sargent Cap<sup>t</sup> William

Russ Junr and Henery Bodwell a committee to reckon with Mr Samuel Cole Town Treasurer and to make report at the Adjournment

70 pounds      This meeting was adjourned to Friday the first day of November 1771 The Town to defray      voted on adjournment to raise seventy pound to defray Town charges the present Town charges year –

On adjournment the Town voted that workers at the Spicket Bridge should have two shillings per day

A reckoning      We the Subscribers have reckoned with Mr Samuel Cole Treasurer and find in his with      hand when he has settled with the Constable due to the Town twenty five pounds Mr Cole      sixty shillings and penney

### **Methuen November 1<sup>st</sup> 1771**

Then voted that the above reckoning should be recorded

William Russ  
 John Sargent Committee

**1772**

## March 11, 1772

**The particulars (particulars) for calling an Annuel Town Meeting in  
Methuen on TueSaiday (Tuesday) March 11<sup>th</sup> 1772** the Warrant given by Cap<sup>t</sup>  
William Russ Lu<sup>t</sup> John Sergent (Sargent) and Aaron Gage Selectmen of Said  
Town and warned by Ebenezer Carlton one of the Constables of Said Town of  
Methuen was as followeth (viz.)

- Firstly To Choose (chose) a Moderator for Said meeting
- Secondly To Choose (chose) Town Officers as for the present year as the Law directs
- Thirdly To see what the Town will act respecting the Reverend Mr Sargents selery  
(salary)  
for the ensuing
- Fourthly to see what sum or sums of money the Town will raise the repairing the highway  
and particular priveat (private)ways in Said Town the year ensuing
- Fifthly To see what the Town will act respecting the school or school the year ensuing
- Sixthly To see what the Town will act respecting the swine going at large the year  
ensuing
- Seventhly To see what the Town will act respecting the case of Hannah Bowley whereas she  
has  
been a long time under the doctors hands and yet remains unable to support  
herself  
or to pay the doctors  
  
The petition James Hutson of Newbrey (Newberry) Salt maker for sum (some)  
help  
of this Town
- Eighthly To see what the Town will act in reference to Said petition after hearing of it in  
Said meeting
- Ninthly At the request of twelve of the Inhabants (Inhabitants) of this Town these are to  
see if the Town will accept a piece way which has been trod and improved by  
passing and repassing  
from the Town Way to the house of John Mansur for many years past lying apart  
joining the land of Nathaniel Ladd from the one land to the other allowing Said  
way two rods wide

Tenthly To see of the Town will discontinue the old Town way that leads by the house of James Ordway to or near the house of Benamen Stevens

Eleventhly At the request of seventeen of the Inhabitants of the Town; these are to see if the Town will Choose (chose) a committee to lay out burying place in some convenient place in the West part of the Town

Twelfthly To see what the Town will act respecting the fish courses whether the Town will prefix places for catching fish

Thirteenthly To see if the Town will Choose (chose) a person or persons to take care of the parsonage

### **March 15, 1772**

**The above particulars (perticulars) were acted upon at Leagel (Legal) Annuel Town meeting in Methuen on March the 15<sup>th</sup> 1772 are as followeth (viz.)**

First The Town voted and Choose (chose) Mr John Bodwell Moderator for Said meeting  
Moderator

Town Clerk At the above Annuel Meeting the Town voted and Choose (chose) Richard Whittier  
Town Clerk for the year ensuing and sworn

Selectmen At the above meeting the Town voted and Choose (chose) Mr John Bodwell Cap<sup>t</sup>  
William Russ and Cap<sup>t</sup> Stephen Barker Selectmen and sworn

Osgood At a Leagel (Legal) Annuel Town meeting in Methuen on March the 11<sup>th</sup> 1772  
the Town voted and Choose (chose) Josiah Osgood Constable for the East part of the Town

Merriel At the above meeting the Town voted and Choose (chose) Nathaniel Ladd  
Constable for  
the West part of the Town: and the Town voted and excepted (accepted) of  
Enoch Merriel  
to serve Constable for Said Ladds (Ladd's) place Said Merriel was sworn in Said meeting

On The above Leagel (Legal) Annuel Town meeting was adjourned from March the 11<sup>th</sup> to  
Adjournment March the eighteenth of the same month 1772 and then proceeded on adjournment

Jones On adjournment the Town voted and Choose (chose) James Jones Constable for  
the East

Constable	part of the Town of Methuen and sworn to that office
Town	Att (At) a Leagel (Legal) Annuel Town meeting in Methuen on March the 11 <sup>th</sup> 1772 the Town
Treasurer	voted and Choose (chose) Mr Samuel Cole Treasurer for Said Town and sworn
Wardens	Att (At) the above meeting the Town voted and Choose (chose) James Carlton and Nehemiah Barker Wardens for the year ensuing and sworn
Tydingmen	Att (At) the above meeting the Town voted and Choose (chose) Jonathan Currier Ebenezer Herrick Abner Morriell and Eliphetet Bodwell Tyding men and sworn
Surveyors of High ways	Att (At) the above Annuel Meeting on adjournment the Town voted and Choose (chose) Surveyors of the High ways and all sworn
	Samuel Messer John Davies Elijah Carlton Abel Huse Benjamen Stevens John Whittier Junr James Malloon Samuel Cole John Masten John Pettengill Isaac Asten Ephram Clark Abner Morriel was appointed one of the Surveyors of the High ways in the room (in the place of) John Whittier and sworn
Surveyors of Lumber	Att the above meeting the Town voted and Choose (chose) John Masten Ebenezer Herrick and Benjamen Herrick Surveyors of Lumber and sworn
Sealer of Waits (Weights)	Att (At) the above meeting the Town voted and Choose (chose) Lu <sup>t</sup> John Sargent Sealer of Waits and sworn
Sealer of Leather	Voted and Choose (chose) Thomas Herrick Sealer of Leather and sworn
Fence	Att (At) the above meeting the Town voted and Lu <sup>t</sup> Benjamen Hall and Moses Pingrey

Viewers	Fence Viewers Said Hall refuses to be sworn Pingrey is sworn
Hog	Att (At) the above meeting the Town voted and Choose (chose) John Mansur Peter Harries
Reefs	Joshua Bodwell John Hibberd and James Sargent Hog reefs

## March 11, 1772

### **On Adjournment – Att (At) Leagel (Legal) Annuel Town meeting in Methuen on adjournment from March the 11<sup>th</sup> 1772 to March the 18<sup>th</sup> Instant**

Fish	The Town voted and Choose (chose) James Ordway and Henery Bodwell Junr to take
Courses	care and clear the fish course on Denison's Brook in Said Town/sworn as the Law directs
Field Drivers	Att (At) the above Leagel (Legal) meeting the voted and Choose (chose) Nathaniel Messer Junr and Francis Richardson Field Drivers/and Richardson sworn
Deer	Att (At) the above meeting the Town voted and Choose (chose) Zebediah Barker and John
Reefs	How Deer Reefs and sworn

Mr	Att a Leagel (Legal) Annuel Town meeting on Adjournment the Town voted that there
Sargents	should be raised for the Reverend Mr Christopher Sargent our present minister for his
3ly	salary the present year the sum of fifty three pounds and seven shillings Lawful
Salary 53-7:0	money

Highways	Att the above Leagel (Legal) Town meeting the Town voted to raise eighty pounds for to
80 pounds	repair the highways the present year
4ly	
5ly	Att the above meeting the Town voted that the Selectmen should order the School in the several parts of the Town as they shall think proper
6ly	The Town voted that swine should go at large the present year

Swine

7ly Att (At) the above meeting the Town voted to raise three pounds six shillings and eight pence for the support of Hannah Bowley the Selectmen to dispose of Said money as they shall think proper

8ly This article was voted in the Negative

9ly Att (At) the above meeting the Town voted and allowed the way that leads from the  
Town Road to the house of John Mansur to be a Town Road and that Said way to go within about two or three rods of Said Mansuers (Mansur's) house on Mansuers and Nathaniel Ladds (Ladd's) land a little more than half on Mansuers Land Said road is two rods wide

10ly Att (At) the above meeting the Town voted to discontinue the old Town way that leads by the house of James Ordway to or near the house of Benjamen Stevens

11ly Att (At) the above meeting the Town voted that the Selectmen should be a committee to  
Committee to lay out Burying place in sum (some) convenient place in the West part of the Town

12thly Att (At) the above meeting the Town voted that there should be no fish taken till after  
they git (get) above the first mill on Denesons Brook

Committee Voted at the above meeting on adjournment and Choose (chose) Henery Bodwell and  
Mr John Huse a committee to take care of the parsonage in this Town

## April 24, 1772

A vote At a Leagel (Legal) Town Meeting in Methuen on April the 24 – 1772 – the  
for fish Town  
Spicket voted and Choose (chose) Mr. John Bodwell Moderator for Said meeting it being  
River put  
to vote at the above meeting to see if the Town would make any provision for  
fish passing up Spicket River and it passed in the Negative

The particulars of a Warrant for calling a Leagel (Legal) Town Meeting in Methuen on October the 20<sup>th</sup> 1772 a Warrant granted by John Bodwell Cap<sup>t</sup> William Russ and Cap<sup>t</sup> Stephen Barker Selectmen of the Town and warned by

Enoch Merriel Constable of Said Town are as followeth (viz.): first to Choose (chose) a Moderator for Said meeting

2ly To bring in and allow Town Debts

3ly To Choose (chose) a committee to reckon with the Town Treasurer and to give Said committee their instructions

4thly To agree upon and grant such sum of money to be raised as the Town shall think proper to defray Town charges

5thly To see whether the Town will except (accept) of the return of the committee that have laid out a burying place in the West part of the Town of Methuen

6thly To see what the Town will act concerning the widow Martha Cross account brought in for taking care of Hannah Bowley when she was sick

### October 20, 1772

First to **At a Leagel (Legal) Town meeting in Methuen October the 20<sup>th</sup> 1772 Met and chose**  
**Mr John Bodwell Moderator for Said meeting**

2ly The Town voted and allowed to Abel Merrell 0:4:6 at the above meeting the Town voted to Abel Huse for work done at Specket (Spicket) Bridge ten shillings and six pence 0-10-6

John Huse At the above meeting the Town voted to John Huse two pounds one shillings and three pence for timber and work done at Specket Bridge 6-2-1

A Committee Att (At) the above meeting the Town voted and Choose (chose) Lu<sup>t</sup> John Sargent  
 Mr John  
 to Bodwell and Mr John Huse a committee to reckon with Mr Samuel Cole  
 Reckon Town Treasurer and to make report at the adjournment

3dly Att (At) a Leagel (Legal) Town meeting in Methuen on adjournment from October 20<sup>th</sup>:1772 to October 27<sup>th</sup> of this Instant and met and received the Report of the Committee

Reckoning October the 27<sup>th</sup> 1772 reckoned with the Town Treasurer and find in his hands due to the Town upon balance fifteen, pounds sixteen shillings and ten pence  
 John Sargent  
 John Bodwell } Committee  
 John Huse

## October 27, 1772

### **Att (At) a Leagel (Legal) Town meeting in Methuen October on adjournment from October the 20:1772 to the 27<sup>th</sup> of the same Instant**

Gage  
And  
Mitchel  
The Town voted to Mr Ebenezer Mitchel for Timber and for plank for mending a break on the bank of Merrick (Merrimack) River nineteen shilling and nine pence 0-19-9

The Town voted to Mr Moses Gage for plank for the same use seven schilling and four pence 0-77-4

A Burying  
Place in the  
West part  
of the Town  
We the Subscribers being appointed a committee to lay out a convenient Burying place in the West part of the Town of Methuen  
We have laid out a piece of land for that use containing about a quarter of an acre Said land being given by Mr David Whittier for the above use and is bounded as followeth beginning at a stake and stone by the road that leads from Methuen to Dracutt thence runs by Said road eight poles and an-half westerly to another stake and stones by Said road thence running southeasterly by land in possession of the widow Lydia Morrel seven poles and a half to another stake and stones thence running northeasterly six poles to a stake and stones in land of David Whittier above Said thence running four poles to the bound first above mentioned

**Methuen October the 7<sup>th</sup>:1772**

John Bodwell

William Russ } Committee

Stephen Barker

The  
Money  
Laid  
Att (At) a Leagel (Legal) Town meeting on adjournment from October the 20<sup>th</sup> to the 27<sup>th</sup>  
of same Instant the Town voted to raise eighty five pound for the defray Town charges the present year 85:0-00-00

## 1773

### March 10, 1773

**The particulars for calling a Leagel (Legal) Annuel Town meeting in Methuen on WenSaiday (Wednesday) the 10<sup>th</sup> of March:1773** the Warrant was granted by Cap<sup>t</sup> William Russ Mr John Bodwell and Cap<sup>t</sup> Stephen Barker Selectmen of Methuen and warned by Enoch Merriel one of the Constables of Said Town are as followeth (viz.)

First To Choose (chose) a Moderator as the law directs

Secondly To Choose (chose) Town officers for the present year as the law directs

3ly To act what the Town shall think proper concerning the Reverend Mr Sargents Sallery for the year ensuing

4ly To act what the Town shall think proper concerning a school or schools for the ensuing year

5ly To consider what sum or sums of money may be necessary to be raised to repair the High ways the year ensuing

6ly To see if the Town will give liberty for swine to go at large the year ensuing

7thly To see what the Town will act concerning those persons that are delinquent in working their proportion in repairing the highways in Said Town

8thly To see if the Town will remove the road that leads from James Longs to the Town Road that leads from John Astens (Asten's) by Moses Morses (Morse's) to the line of Said Morses Land and so on up on a straight line through a corner of Morses Land to Said Road

9thly To see if the Town will except (accept) all or part of the way that was laid out by the Selectmen of Said Town in the year 1770 from the house that was Thomas Mitchels (Mitchel's) by the house of Nathaniel Herrick and to the house of Ichabod Perkens and over to the Town Road

10thly To see if the Town will except (accept) of a road laid out by the Selectmen of Said Town from the Country Road beginning near house of Asa Cross thence southerly through land of John Bodwell and Joshua Bodwell to the Town Road

11thly To bring in and allow Town Debts

12thly To see if the Town will give liberty to build a convenient place for the singers in the front gallery in the meeting house

The above meeting was adjourned from March the 10-1773 to March the 24<sup>th</sup> of the same Instant and met

**March 10, 1773**

**The above particulars were acted upon March 10<sup>th</sup> 1773 are as followeth(viz.)**

First Moderator	At Leagel (Legal) Annuel Town meeting in Methuen on March 10 <sup>th</sup> 1773 The voted and Choose (chose) M <sup>r</sup> John Bodwell Moderator for Said meeting
Secondly Town Clerk	At the above meeting voted and Choose (chose) Richard Whittier Town Clerk for the year ensuing and sworn
Selectmen	Att (At) the above meeting the voted and Choose (chose) Cap <sup>t</sup> William Russ M <sup>r</sup> John Bodwell and M <sup>r</sup> Nathaniel Messer Jun <sup>r</sup> Selectmen for the present year and sworn
Constable	Att (At) the above Annuel meeting the Town voted and Choose (chose) M <sup>r</sup> Josiah Osgood Constable for the East part of the Town and sworn
Constable	Att (At) the above Annuel meeting the Town voted and Choose (chose) Francis Richardson Constable for the West part of the Town –
	Att (At) a Leagel (Legal) Annuel Town meeting in Methuen by adjournment from the tenth of March 1773 to the 24 of the same Instant the Town met and accepted of Enoch Merriel in the Room (in the place of) Francis Richardson to serve Constable the present year and Said Merriel was to that office sworn on Adjournment
Wardens	Att (At) the above meeting the Town voted and Choose (chose) M <sup>r</sup> Stephen Webster Jun <sup>r</sup> and M <sup>r</sup> John Barker Wardens and sworn
Tydingmen	Att (At) the above meeting the Town voted and Choose (chose) Mr Jacob Messer John Mansur Junr Enoch Merriel and Mr John Harries Tydingmen for the present year and all sworn
Surveyors of the Highways	Asa Messer Joseph Perkins Junr Pingrey Pingrey John Huse James Carlton John EAtt (At)on William Whittier James Mallon Nathaniel Pettengill James Long and Mr Caleb Hall was chosen on the Adjournment from the 10 <sup>th</sup> of March to the 24 of the same Instant and sworn
Surveyors	Att (At) Leagel (Legal) Annuel Town meeting in Methuen on March the 10 <sup>th</sup> 1773 the Town

of Lumber	voted and Choose (chose) Ebenezer Herrick and Benjamen Herrick Surveyors of Lumber
Joseph Pettengill	Joseph Pettengill was Choose (chose)n surveyor of Lumber on the adjournment from the 10 <sup>th</sup> of March to the 24 <sup>th</sup> of the same Instant at two of clock in the afternoon and sworn
Sealer of Weights	At the above meeting the Town voted and Choose (chose) John Sargent, Sealer of Weights and measures for the year ensuing and sworn
Sealer of Leather	Att (At) the above meeting the Town voted and Choose (chose) Timothy EAtt (At)on, Sealer of Leather for the year ensuing and sworn
Hog Reeves	Att (At) the above meeting the Town voted and Choose (chose) Mr Samuel Bodwell Joseph Griffen John Pettengill Nathaniel Pettengill Junr and Jonathan Currier Junr Hog Reeves and sworn
Fence Viewers	Att (At) the above meeting the Town voted and Choose (chose) John Tippets Junr and Joseph How fence Viewers for the year ensuing and sworn
Field Drivers	Att (At) the above meeting the Town voted and Choose (chose) Elijah Carlton and Peter Harries Field Drivers for the year ensuing and sworn
Fish Courses Cleared	Att (At) the above meeting the vote and chose Stephen Barker Esq to see that the Fish Course or Courses is cleared so that the fish may pass in the course or courses where they are want to pass
3ly Sallery 57-0-0	At the above Annual meeting the Town voted to raise fifty seven pound for the Revrd Mr Christopher Sargent our present minister for his sallery for the present year
Deer	Att (At) the above meeting the voted and Choose (chose) Zebediah Barker and John How Deer Reefs for the year ensuing
6ly:swine	Att (At) the above meeting the Town voted that Swine should go at large
4ly	Att (At) the above Annuel meeting the Town voted that the Selectmen should order the
School Orderd	school in the several parts of the Town as they shall think proper

5ly	Att (At) the above Annuel meeting the Town voted to raise ninety pound for to repair
Highways 90:0-0	the Highways the year ensuing 90:0:0
Eighthly	Att (At) a Leagel (Legal) annuel Town meeting in Methuen on March 10 <sup>th</sup> 1773 the Town
Exchange Of a Road	voted to remove or exchange the Road that leads from James Longs to the Town Road that leads from John Astens (Asten's) by Moses Morses (Morse's) to the line of Said Morses (Morse's) land and so on upon a strait line through a corner of Said Morses (Morse's) land to the above Road and the Said Long is to make a good passable Road on his own cost accordly (accordingly) to his promise in the meeting
9ly Negative Vote	Att (At) the above meeting the ninth article was voted in the negative
Tenthly Negative Vote	Att (At) the above meeting the tenth article was voted in the negative
Perticulars of a meeting	<b>The perticulars (perticulars) of a Leagel (Legal) Town meeting in Methuen of May 10 – 1773 are as followeth</b>
First	To Choose (chose) a Moderator for Said meeting
Secondly	To Choose (chose) a committee to reckon with Mr. Samuel Coal former Treasurer and receive the report of Said committee at the adjournment of Said meeting
Thirdly	To see who and what persons the Town will vote to be put into the Jury Box from a list to be exhibited by the Selectmen to the Town
<b>May 21, 1773</b>	
<b>Att (At) a Leagel (Legal) Town meeting in Methuen on May 21<sup>st</sup> 1773</b> the Town voted and Choose (chose) Mr James Ingalls Moderator for Said meeting	
At the above meeting the Town voted and Choose (chose) William Russ John Pettengill and L <sup>t</sup> John Sargent a committee to reckon with Mr. Samuel Cole former Treasurer and make report at the adjournment	
Adjournment	The above meeting was adjourned to Monday the 14 <sup>th</sup> of June 1773 at five of the clock

in the afternoon and met

Reckoning      We the Subscribers have reckoned with Mr Samuel Cole former Treasurer: and find due to him upon balance the sum eight pounds eleven shilling and ten pence lawfull

**Methuen June 14<sup>th</sup> 1773**

William Russ  
John Sargent } Committee  
John Pettengill

At the above meeting the Town voted that the above reckon should be recorded

### **October 22, 1773**

The particulars of a Leagel (Legal) Town meeting in Methuen the **twenty second day of October 1773** are as followeth viz.:

First      First to Choose (chose) a Moderator for Said meeting

2dly      To bring in and allow Town debts

3ly      To see what sum or sums of money the Town will raise to defray Town charges this present year

4thly      To see what the Town will act respecting the bridge over Spicket River near the house of Mr Caleb Halls

First Moderator      Att (At) a Leagel (Legal) Town meeting in Methuen October the 22:1773 the voted and Choose (chose) Mr Samuel Bodwell Moderator for Said meeting

2ly      No Town debts brought in to be allowed in Said meeting

3ly      At the above Leagel (Legal) meeting the Town voted to raise one hundred pound lawfull money raised money to defray Town charges the present year

London Bridge      At the above meeting the Town voted to Choose (chose) a committee to view London Bridge

Att (At) the above meeting the Town voted and Choose (chose) Mr Samuel Bodwell

Richard Whittier and John Davies a committee to view Said bridge and to think it necessary to build said bridge.

At the above meeting the Town voted to build the buttments (abutments) of London Bridge so called with stone

The Names of the persons We whose names are under written subscribe to the set off prominently William Webber, John Tippits Junr, Nathaniel Pettengill, Ebenezer Hibberd, Enoch Merriel, Ebenezer Carlton, John Pettingill, William Cross, Amos Morse, Abel Merriel and others

## 1774

### February 3, 1774

**The particulars of a Leagel (Legal) Town meeting in Methuen, on Thirsday (Thursday) the third day of Februry (February) at one o'clock in the afternoon**

1774 are as followeth (viz.)

- First To Choose (chose) a Moderator for Said meeting
- 2ly To see if the Town will vote a promisenous privilege in Said Town and to set off a number of polls or Inhabitants with their heirs and estates Whose names shall be brought in at the meeting in order to promote and support the gospel in Said Town,
- 3ly To see if the Town will vote to poll off all whose names shall be made to appeal at court not exceeding one half in number of the Town inhabitants
- fourth Att (At) a Leagel (Legal) Town in Methuen on February 3<sup>d</sup> 1774 to see if the Town will be pleased to vote that the Great and General Court shall / if in their wiSaidom (wisdom) think fit / to set off the westerly part of Said Town (viz.) beginning at stake and stones on the bank of Merrimack River: about four poles to the east of Mr. Daniel Bodwells (Bodwell's) Ferry thence running northwesterly to the province line; about one hundred and fifty six poles to the west of Spicket River including all to the west of the above mentioned bounds; in order to join with the easterly of the Town of Dracut to make a Township; so that both the above Said towns may be better accommodated to Att (At) end publick worship
- First Att (At) a Leagel (Legal) Town meeting in Methuen on February the 3<sup>d</sup> 1774 the Town voted and Choose (chose) Mr James Ingalls Moderator for Said meeting

2dly Negative	Votes being called for to see if the Town vote off a promisenous privilege in the west part of the Town it passed in the negative
3ly Vote	Votes being called for to see if the Town would poll off a number of persons not exceeding one half of the Town and it pass in the negative
4thly	Att (At) the above Leagel (Legal) meeting votes being called for to see if the Town would be pleased to vote that the Great and General Court in their wiSaidom think fit to vote off the westerly part of Said Town and it passed in the negative

## March 9 1774

### **The particulars of a Warrant for calling an Annuel Town meeting in Methuen on WenSaiday (Wednesday) March the 9<sup>th</sup> 1774**

The Warrant was granted by Capt William Russ Mr John Bodwell and Mr Nathaniel Messer Junr Selectmen of Said Town: and warned by Josiah Osgood one of the Constables of Said Town of Methuen are as followeth (viz.)

First	To Choose (chose) a Moderator for Said meeting
Secondly	To Choose (chose) Town officers in the Town as the law directs
Thirdly	To see what the Town will act respecting the Rev <sup>r</sup> Christopher Sargent sallery (salary) for the year ensuing
Fourthly	To see what sum or sums of money the Town will grant for repairing the highways particulars or privet (private) ways in Said Town for the ensuing year
Fifthly	To see what the Town will act respecting the school or schools in Said Town the ensuing year
Sixthly	To see what the Town will act concerning the swine going at large this year
Seventhly	To see if the Town will chose a committee to reckon with the present treasurer and make their report at the adjournment of Said meeting
Eighthly	To see if the Town will allow the debts that shall be brought in against the Town at Said meeting for work done in repairing the highway the last year
Ninthly	To see if the Town will build a house for some persons to live in that are the care of the Town

Tenthly To see if the Town will accept the way laid out beginning at the Country Road near the house of Asa Cross thence running southerly across the Town way that lead by the house of Joshua Bodwells (Bodwell's) to Daniel Swans

Eleventhly To see if the Town will vote that the Great and General Court shall if their wiSaidom think fit / set off the westerly part of the Town (viz.) beginning at the stake and stones on the bank of Merrimack River about four poles to the east of Mr Daniel Bodwells (Bodwell's) ferry, thence running northwesterly to the province line about one hundred and forty six poles to the west of Spicket River including all the west of the above mentioned bounds, on order to join with the easterly part of the Town of Dracut to make a Township so that both the above Said Towns may be better accommodated to Att (At)end publick worship

Twelfly To see if the Town will Choose (chose) a committee to fence in the burying place in the westerly part of Methuen

Thirteenthly To see if the Town will act any respecting the Bridge over the Spicket River by Mr Caleb Halls

Fourteenth Particular To see if the Town will accept a way laid out by the Selectmen of Said Town beginning near the house of Obediah Morse thence running southerly by the west end of the house of Daniel Bodwell the 3<sup>d</sup> and so on through Said Bodwells (Bodwell's) land and others to another way that lead by the house of William Whittier to Pelham

### March 9, 1774

**The above particulars were acted upon at Leagel (Legal) Annuel Town meeting in Methuen March the 9<sup>th</sup> 1774 as followeth (viz.)**

First Moderator The Town voted and Choose (chose) Mr James Ingalls Moderator for Said meeting

Secondly The Town voted and Choose (chose) Richard Whittier Town Clerk for the year ensuing and sworn

Selectmen	Att (At) the above annuel meeting the voted and Choose (chose) Cap <sup>t</sup> Stephen Barker Esq. Mr James Ingalls and Lu <sup>t</sup> John Sargent Selectmen for the year ensuing and / sworn
	Att (At) the above meeting the voted and Choose (chose) Nathaniel Messer Junr Constable for the east part of the Town
	Att (At) the above meeting on adjournment from March the 9 <sup>th</sup> 1774 to March the 23 of the same Instant the voted and accepted of Ebenezer Carlton to be Constable in the room of Nathaniel Messer Junr and Said Constable was sworn to that office
Carlton Bodwell Constables	On the above adjournment the Town voted and Choose (chose) Eliphelet Bodwell Constable for the west part of Said Town / and sworn
Wardens	Att (At) the above meeting the Town voted and Choose (chose) George Daverson and John Mansur Junr Wardens / and sworn to their office
Tyding men	Att (At) the above meeting the Town voted and Choose (chose) Peter Harries Nathaniel Pettengill Tyding and on the above adjournment the Town voted and chose Caleb Hall Tyding and all sworn to that office
	Att (At) the above meeting the Town voted and Choose (chose):
Surveyors of the Highways	Stephen Webster Junr Ebenezer Carlton James Frye              } Surveyors James Mallon Samuel Huse Junr      } of the John Davies Daniel McLary              } high ways Parker Richardson Timothy Emerson Samuel Bodwell and Abner Morriell was Choose (chose)n on the above adjournment / Morriel was chosen / and all sworn
Surveyors of Lumber	At the above meeting the Town voted and Choose (chose) Ebenezer Herrick Joseph Pettengill and Benjamen Herrick Surveyors of Lumber and sworn
Sealer of Waits and Measurors (Measures)	Att (At) the above Annuel meeting the Town voted and Choose (chose) Lut John Sargent Sealer of Waits and Mesuers (Weights and Measures)

Sealer of Att (At) the above meeting the Town voted and Choose (chose) Robert Hastings  
Sealer of  
Leather for the year ensuing / and sworn

Fence Att (At) the above meeting the Town voted and Choose (chose) John Harries and  
James Mallon  
Viewers Fence Viewers and sworn

Hog Reefs Att (At) the above meeting the Town voted and Choose (chose) Samuel Cross  
Peter Harries Ebenezer Hibberd Junr and Asa Currier hog reefs

Fish Courses Att (At) the above meeting the Town voted and Choose (chose) Joseph Griffen to  
clear the fish courses in Said Town and sworn

Deer Reeves Att (At) the above meeting the Town voted and Choose (chose) Zebediah Barker  
and John How Deer Reefs and sworn

Thirdly Att (At) the above Leagel (Legal) Annuel Town meeting in Methuen on March  
the 9<sup>th</sup> 1774 the Town voted to raise forty nine pound and fourteen shillings for  
the Revr<sup>d</sup> Christopher Sargent our present minister for his sallery for the present  
year

Fourthly Att (At) the above meeting the Town voted to raise one hundred pound for  
repairing the highways and private ways the present year

Fifthly Att (At) the above meeting the Town voted that the Selectmen should order the  
school to the several parts of the Town as they shall think most proper

Sixly At the above meeting the Town voted that swine should go at large this year

Seventhly At the above meeting the Town voted and Choose (chose) Cap<sup>t</sup> William Russ  
Deacon Samuel Cole and Mr James Ingalls a committee to reckon with the  
present Treasurer and make report at the adjourned meeting

Surveyors At the above meeting the Town voted that the Surveyors of the Highways should  
build the bridge over Spicket River near Caleb Halls as the Selectmen shall order  
them in the lists

Eightly At the above meeting the Selectmen should accept the several accounts exhibited  
to them for work done in repairing the highways in Said Town last year

Ninthly At the above meeting the ninth article passed in the negative

Tenthly At the above meeting the tenth article passed in the negative

Eleventhly At the above meeting the eleventh article passed in the negative

Twelfthly At the above meeting the Town voted and Choose (chose) Capt Stephen Barker and Mr

Committee John Harris a committee to fence the burying place in the west part of the Town

Burying Place

Adjournment We the Subscriber have reckoned with Mr Richard Whittier present Treasurer and  
A reckoning find upon balance due to the Town eighty four pound fourteen shillings and nine  
with the pence lawfull money  
Treasurer

**Methuen, March 16<sup>th</sup> 1774**

William Russ  
Samuel Cole } Committee  
James Ingalls

**Whereas We the Subscribers Stephen Huse and Samuel Bodwell both of  
Methuen**

have land in Said Town adjoining each other and that the line between said  
land extends from Spicket River in Said Town to the way or road leading  
from John Huses to the meeting house in said Town it is mutuley (mutually)  
agreed between assigns that the said Huse shall make and maintain the  
southerly moiety (moitié is French for half) or half part or half of the Said  
fence that to sy – from Spicket River toward Said Road or way and that the  
Said Bodwell shall make and maintain the northern moiety (moitié) or half of  
Said fence to the aboves Way or Road

**In witness and for confirmation hearof (hereof) we have hearunt set our  
hands this Sixteenth Day of March A:D:1774**

**Witnesses present**  
Caleb Richardson  
Caleb Swan

**Stephen Huse**  
**Samuel Bodwell**

**Methuen March 23:1774**

Surveyors of On adjournment the Town voted and Choose (chose) Samuel Bodwell Surveyor  
of  
Highways Highways for the year ensuing

At the above meeting the Town voted and Choose (chose) Abner Merriel  
Surveyor of the Highways and sworn

At the above meeting the Town voted and Choose (chose) Mr William Pages Field Driver for the year ensuing and was sworn

Tyding man Att (At) the above meeting the Town voted and Choose (chose) Isaac Astens (Asten's) Tyding man for the year ensuing and sworn

Att (At) the above meeting the Town voted and Choose (chose) Caleb Hall Tyding man for the year ensuing and sworn

At the above meeting Zebediah Barker was Choose (chose)n Hog Reef

A petition To the Selectmen of the Town of Methuen - Gentlemen,  
The humble petition of us the Subscribers is that you would lay out a particular or privet (private) way in the west part of the Town beginning at a Road at or near the house of Obediah Morses (Morse's) on Morses (Morse's) land to land of Moses Merrick thence to land of Daniel Bodwell Junr so along by the house of Daniel Bodwell Sr across Said Bodwell Land to William Whittier land so on Whittier Land to Said Whittiers (Whittier's) house or the west of his house or in some more convenient place as you shall think proper and in so doing you will oblige your humble petitioners

### **Methuen December the 14<sup>th</sup> 1773**

Daniel Bodwell Junr	Bodwell Ladd
Jonathan Noyes	John Mansur Junr
Caleb Richardson	Isaac Asten
John Barker	Jonathan Asten
Jonathan Barker	John Harries

#### **Petitioners**

**Methuen February 21<sup>st</sup> 1774** – We the Subscribers Selectmen of Said Town of Methuen have this day laid out a particular or privet (private) way in the westerly part of Said Town as followeth / viz. / Beginning at Black oak tree marked by the Town way near the house of Obediah Morses (Morse's) thence southerly through Said Morses (Morse's) land and land Moses Merrick and so on by the west end of the house of Daniel Bodwell the 3<sup>d</sup> and on southerly and southeasterly through land of Said Bodwell to land of William Whittier lying upon the easterly side of a number of marked trees thence turning southerly between Said Bodwell and Said Whittier land to land of William Ellot and so on between

Said Ellot and Said Whittier land to the Town way that leads from the house of Said Whittier to Pelham and allowing Said way to be two poles in width that one pole in width upon each

William Russ } Selectmen  
John Bodwell } of Methuen

## **May 30, 1774**

**The particulars of a Leagel (Legal) Town meeting in Methuen on May 30:  
1774  
are as followeth (viz.)**

First to Choose (chose) a Moderator Said meeting

2ly to see what the Town will act concerning regulating Juris Box

3ly To see what the Town will act concerning the first course called Dennison's Brook

4thly To see if the Town will vote that the Great and General Court shall in their wiSaidom (wisdom) think fit to set off the westerly part of this Town as it was resulted in the last Town meeting and in the Town would not vote to set off what hath been requested to  
see what part or proportion the Town shall think properly may be set off

**In obedience to the above particulars the Town met and on May the 18:1774  
and acted as followeth (viz.)**

First The Town voted and Choose (chose) Mr James Ingalls **Moderator** for Said meeting

2dly The Town regulated the Jury Box

3ly At the above meeting the Town voted and Choose (chose) (chose) Mr David Whittier and Mr John Farnum to be agents with John Hibberd and Joseph Griffen in clearing Denoson's Brook in order that the El--- may pass and Ree pass (repass or pass again)

Fourthly To it being put to vote to see if the Town would vote a part of the west end of the Town in order to join with the east part of Dracut for a Township and it passed in the negative

## **August 9, 1774**

**The particulars of a Leagel (Legal) Town meeting in Methuen August the 9<sup>th</sup>  
1774  
are as followeth (viz.)**

First to Choose (chose) a Moderator for Said meeting

Secondly To bring in and allow Town debts

Thirdly Whereas in the House of Representatives Seventeenth Day of June last past taking into their Consideration the many Distresses and Difficulties to which the American Colonies and this province in particular and must be Brought to by the operation of Carten (certain) late acts of pardonment - thereby determine and appinte (appoint) the Honorable James Bowdoin, the Honorable Thomas Cheshire Esq., Mr Samuel Adams, John Adams, and Robert ?(too faded) a committee on the part of this province to meet committee or delegates that shall or may be appointed or have been appointed hereto four (heretofore) appointed either by there (their) respective Towns or aney (any) other way to ?(too faded) and meet at Philadelphia

To see what money the Town will vote to be raised to defray Town charges the present year

**The above particulars (particulars) ware (were) acted upon in manner as followeth**

Moderator At the meeting the Town voted and Choose (chose) Mr. Jonathan Swan Moderator for Said meeting

The second article was passed over for the adjournment

Congress Att (At) the above Leagel (Legal) Town meeting the Town voted to draw out one pound

1 16  
17

sixteen shilling and seven pence lawfull (lawful) money to defray the charges of the Congress

**On adjournment from August 1774 to the 20<sup>th</sup> of September 1774** the Town voted to John Hibberd for clearing the fish course 0-6-0  
Voted to Mr Henery Bodwell for plan to cover Spicket Bridge near Caleb Halls 1- 6-8  
Voted to John Whittier Junr for plank 0-10-0  
Voted Abner Morriel for plank 0-12-0

At the above meeting the Town voted to raise eighty pounds for to defray Town charges 80-0

**December 8, 1774**

**The particulers of Leagel (Legal) Town meeting in Methuen on the eight day of December 1774 are as followeth (viz.)**

First To Choose (chose) a Moderator for Said meeting

2ndly To see what the Town will act concerning giving instructions to the Constable or Constables of Said Town according to the directions of the Provincial Congress and also to act what the Town shall think proper concerning giving the Selectmen instructions or directions concerning giving Warrants to Constables respecting Province rates/

first The Town met and acted on the above particulars

Moderator Voted and Choose (chose) Mr Jonathan Swan Moderator for Said meeting

2ndly Att (At) the above meeting the Town voted that Mr Enoch Merriel former Constable

Gardner should pay the remainder of the province money in his hand to Henery Gardner Esq. and Merriel procuring a receipt in full of Said Gardner and Merriel is discharged.

School Voted on adjournment that the school should be kept six weeks in a place

Provincial Voted at a Leagel (Legal) Town meeting by adjournment that the Selectmen should

Congress conduct themselves respecting the Constable Warrants according to the Provincial Congress Instructions