

1852

January 5, 1852

At a legal meeting of the Inhabitants of the Town of Methuen qualified by law to vote in Town affairs held on Monday the 5th day of January 1852 agreeable to Warrant 84 file 6th.

Opened said meeting and John Davis was elected **Moderator**.

Voted to divide the petition of Jonathan F. Russell and others so as to act only upon School District No. 6 ~

Voted that a committee be raised to take into consideration the law and the facts in regard districting School Districts and to report the same at our next Annual Meeting ~

Voted that the remaining articles in the Warrant be referred to the same committee

Voted that the committee consist of nine – one from each School District each District nominating their own man: the following persons were chosen ~

School District No. 1 – George Gutterson

School District No. 2 – Varnum Tyler

School District No. 3 – Charles J. Griffin

School District No. 4 – Josiah Dearborn

School District No. 5 – Isaac B. Cobb

School District No. 6 - George W. Gage

School District No. 7 – Washington Merrill

School District No. 8 – Edward Carleton

School District No. 9 – J. M. Grosvner

Voted to desolve the meeting.

Attest

Josiah Dearborn Town Clerk.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Essex SS. Court of County Commissioners. October Term. A. D. 1851 –

Pursuant to the adjudication of the County Commissioners for Said County and their orders thereon, made at their October Term. A.D. 1850.

On the petition of Ebenezer Marsh and others, No. 294 – praying for a highway to be widened, straightened and new located in Methuen It having been made to appear that all persons and corporations interested therein, had been duly notified of the time and place of meeting, we the

County Commissioners for Said County, did on the thirty first day of December, A.D. 1850,
proceed to widen, straighten and new locate said highway in manner following. Viz.:

New location number one begins at a stake near Pelham line southerly of the house of George Gutterson, and on the southerly side of the existing road and runs thence south fifty three and one half degrees east nine hundred and forty five feet, through lands of said Gutterson and of John P. White to the northerly side of the old road; laying the road for this whole extent three rods in width southerly of the line described.

Widening number one – begins on the northerly side of the present road at a maple tree by land of Josiah Fox, and runs thence on the following courses over land of said Fox, viz.; - South fifty five degrees east thirty two feet to a stake, thence south fifty nine and a half degrees east fifty feet to a stake, thence south sixty nine degrees east fifty feet to a stake, thence south seventy three degrees each fifty feet to a stake, then south seventy seven degrees east fifty to a stake, thence south eighty eight and one half degrees east fifty feet to a stake, and thence north seventy nine degrees east one hundred and thirty one feet to a small maple tree at the existing road near the brook.

Widening number two – begins on the southerly side of the existing road at a stake by the land of Methuen work house farm, by a post in a pair of bars, and runs thence over said Methuen's land north seventy one each one hundred and thirty four feet to a stake, north sixty seven and three fourth degrees each six hundred feet to a stake, north eighty and one fourth degrees east thirty seven feet to a stake, south seventy eight degrees east twenty four feet to a stake, north fifty six degrees east thirty four feet to a stake; south thirty three and one half degrees east forty feet to a stake and thence south thirty and one fourth degrees east one hundred and eighty four feet to a stake by the existing road nearly in front of the work house.

Widening number three – begins on the northeasterly side of the existing road at a stake near the junction of roads by David Clark's house, and runs from said stake south twenty eight and a half degrees east over said work house from land five hundred and thirty eight feet to an elm tree by said existing road.

New location number two begins on the southwesterly side of the existing road at an abutment of stone wall on said farm and runs thence south twenty five degrees east over said farm three hundred and twenty nine feet and over land of Joseph R. Bodwell two hundred and sixty one feet to a stake, thence south nineteen and one fourth degrees east three hundred and fifty five feet to land of Aaron Clark, thence south twelve and one half degrees east over said Clark; land three hundred and twenty five feet to the existing road; laying the road for the entire extent of this location number two three

rods in width northeasterly of the lines described.

Widening number four – begins on the northeasterly side of the existing road at a stake near
the end of the location last described and runs thence over land of Joseph R. Bodwell
south five and
one half degrees east five hundred and seventy six feet to a stake, south thirteen and one
fourth degrees east one hundred and fifty feet to a stake, thence south seventeen and one
half degrees east fifty feet to
a stake, thence south twenty degrees east fifty feet to a stake by land of Henry Bodwell,
and thence south thirty five degrees east over said Henry Bodwell's land fifty feet to a
stake by the existing road.

Widening number five – begins on the southwesterly side of the existing road at
an abutment
of a pair of bars by land of Ezekiel Clark, and runs thence south thirty five degrees east
one hundred
and ninety one feet, and thence south twenty nine degrees east two hundred and thirty
eight feet to
the northeasterly corner of the blacksmith shop by land of said Clark.

Widening number six – begins on the same side of the road of the last at a stake
near
the house of Samuel Clark, and runs thence south thirty seven and one half degrees east
over
said Clark's land two hundred and forty-seven feet to the corner of the road near E.
Marsh.

Widening number seven begins at the end of the fence on the north side of the
road by
Pond brook, so called, and runs thence south sixty four degrees east to a poplar tree by
the road.

New location number three – begins at the poplar tree aforesaid and runs thence
south fifty
nine and three fourth degrees east twenty two hundred and ninety three feet through and
over lands
of A. Bodwell, H. Wilson, Methuen Company, S. Barker and Sargent to a post about ten
feet in front
of the southwest corner of said Sargent's barn, thence south eighty five degrees east one
hundred and seventy one feet over said Sargent's estate to land of Isaac Trull; laying the
road for the whole extent
of the first line described in this location number three, four rods in width on the
southerly side of the said described line, and as much wide across the knolls upon said
line as may be found necessary to complete suitable cuttings and embankments by
making the slopes outside of the said four rods.

Having heard the said petitioners by their agents, and the owners of lands in each case by themselves of their agents, we do consider it necessary that all the proprietors of lands over which said highway is laid shall have a right to take off wood, timber and trees from the said lands at any time before the expiration of six months from the date hereof, and according to our best skill and judgment we have estimated the damages occasioned by laying out said highway as follows, viz.:

To	George Gutterson thirty seven dollars	37 ~
	John White eighty dollars	80 ~
	Josiah Fox twenty four dollars	24 ~
	Town of Methuen one hundred and fifty dollars	150 ~
	Joseph R Bodwell fifty six dollars	56 ~
	Aaron Clark twenty dollars	20 ~
	Henry Bodwell two dollars	2 ~
	Ezekiel Clark twenty dollars	20 ~
	Samuel Clark ten dollars	10 ~
	Samuel Alger three dollars	3 ~
	Asa M. Bodwell twenty eight dollars	28 ~
	Henry T. Wilson seventy dollars	70 ~

Methuen Company seventy dollars	70 ~
Stephen Barker one hundred and sixty dollars	160.00
Sargent's heirs two hundred and twenty dollars	<u>220.00</u>
	<u>\$950 ~</u>

To be paid to them out of the County Treasury when the land over which the highway is located shall have been entered upon and possession taken, for the purpose of constructing said highway.

And it is determined by said County Commissioners that the inhabitants of Methuen the Town in which said road is laid, shall on or before the first day of October, A.D. 1852, complete and finish the same, at least twenty four feet wide, crowned in the middle so that it shall be raise three inches to every yard above the level thereof, measuring from each side to the middle thereof; and in making said road once any hills that may be in the route of the same, shall cut down such hill

or hills, or raise the valleys on each side of such hill, or the valley between such hills, and remove all obstructions in such a manner as that the ascent of any such hill shall not in any place make an angle of more than three degrees with the base thereof and the sides of the cuttings which shall be made through hills shall in all cases make an angle of at least twenty two and a half degrees with a plumb line from the top of the hill to the road; and in finishing said road where the land is loamy, they shall deposit and spread at least six inches of gravel upon the surface of the same; and at every brook and at every other place where the same shall be necessary, shall erect and make a good and sufficient stone bridge or sluice for the passage of water under said road, of stone suitable to build and cover the same; and in making said road over low lands, shall raise and build the same so high that the water shall not overflow it at any season of the year; and that, the said road shall remain dry, be freed of stones and all other obstructions and finished in a work-manlike manner according to the reasonable directions and requirements, and to the acceptance of said County Commissioners; so that horses, carriages, carts, drays and teams of every description, with customary loads, may these pass with safety and ease over the same.

In testimony whereof, we the Said County Commissioners have hereunto set our hands
this eighteenth day of November in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and fifty one.

Asa W. Wilds, } County
John I. Baker, } Commissioners
Benjamin Mudge, }

Essex, SS. Court of County Commissioners October Term. A.D. 1851.

The foregoing report is filed and accepted and thereupon it is ordered that the same be recorded; that the said road may be known as a public highway forever.

A true copy,
A true copy Attest A. Huntington, Clerk.
Attest A. Huntington, Clerk.
Attest Josiah Dearborn Town Clerk

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Essex. SS. Court of County Commissioners, December Term, A.D. 1851.

On the petition of Frances R. Frye and others, No 362 praying for a highway to be widened and straightened in Methuen and Lawrence It having been made to appear that all persons and corporations interested therein had been duly notified of the time and place of meeting, we the

Country commissioners for Said County did on the twenty fifth day of October, A.D. 1851, proceed to view said highway, and hear all parties interested, and did adjudge that common convenience and necessary required that said highway should be widened and straightened

And at the time of said view no person interested having objected, we did proceed to widen and straighten said highway in manner follow, viz.:

Beginning at a post in a gateway on the easterly side of the Haverhill road about fifty feet easterly of the bridge over the brook in the valley southwesterly of the house of Daniel Carleton in Methuen, and run then south sixteen and one fourth degrees west, thirteen rods to a stake on the easterly side of the present road on land of Said Carleton: - thence south twenty five and three quarters degrees west, three fourths rods to a stake, thence south six degrees west six rods to a stake, - thence south three and one half degrees east, eight rods to a stake, thence south sixteen and one fourth degrees East, three and three quarters rods to the line of the Town of Lawrence, thence on the same course eight and two thirds rods to a stake at the side of the existing road, thence south fifteen and one half degrees east seventeen rods by the easterly line of the present road to a stake, thence south seventeen and one fourth degrees east eighteen rods to a stake at side of the existing road by land of William Swan, thence south seven degrees each thirty two rods by the easterly line of the existing road to a stake, thence south fourteen degrees east, thirty five rods over land of Wheeler and Sargent, to a post in a gate way, by the side of the existing road, thence south six and three fourth degrees east fifteen rods by the easterly side of the present road at a stake, thence south one degree east, five rods to a stake.

The above described line is hereby established as the easterly line of the highway, and the said highway is hereby located, widened and established as three rods wide, westerly, of said described line.

Having heard the said petitioners by their agents, and the owners of lands in each case by themselves or their agents, we do consider it necessary that all the proprietors of lands over which said highway is laid shall have a right to take off wood, timber and trees from the same land at any time before the expiration of two months from the date hereof, And according to our best skill and judgment we have estimated the damages occasioned by laying out said highway as follows, viz.:

To	Daniel Carlton, one hundred dollars	100.00
	William Swan, fifty dollars	50.00
	William Wheeler, fifteen dollars	15.00
	William Sargent, fifteen dollars	15.00
	The Essex Company, sixty dollars	60.00

To be paid to them out of the County Treasury when the land over which the highway is located, shall have been entered upon and possession taken, for the purpose of constructing said highway.

And it is determined by Said County Commissioners that the inhabitants of Methuen and Lawrence, the towns in which said road is laid, shall on or before the first day of September A.D. 1852, complete and finish the same, at least twenty four feet wide, crowned in the middle so that it shall be raised three inches to every yard above the level thereof, measuring from each side to the middle thereof; and in making said road over any hills that may be in the route of the same, shall cut down such hill or hills, or raise the valleys on each side of such hill, or the valley between such hills, and remove all obstructions in such a manner as that the ascent of any such hill shall not in any place make an angle of more than three degrees with the base thereof; and the sides of the cuttings which shall be made through hills shall in all cases make an angle of at least twenty two and a half degrees with a plumb line from the top of the hill to the road; and in finishing said road where the road is loamy, they shall deposit and spread at least six inches of gravel upon the surface of the same; and at every brook and at every other place where the same shall be necessary, shall erect and make

a good and sufficient stone bridge or sluice for the passage of water under said road, of stone suitable to build and cover the same; and in making said road over low lands, shall raise and build the same so high that the water shall not overflow it at any season of the year; and that the said road shall remain dry, be freed of stones and all other obstructions, and finished in a workmanlike manner according to the reasonable directions and requirements and to the acceptance of said County Commissioners; so that horses, carriages, carts, drays and teams of every description, with customary loads may there pass with an ease over the same, and said Town of Methuen is also directed to repair and put in good order the hill between the house of Said Carleton and the commencement of the highway herein described.

In testimony whereof, we the Said County Commissioners have hereunto set our hands
this sixteenth day of February in the year of Our Lord one thousand eight hundred and fifty two.

Asa W. Wildes } County
John I. Baker } Commissioners
Benjamin Mudge }

Essex SS. Court of County Commissioners, December Term, A.D. 1851.

The foregoing report is filed and accepted, and thereupon it is ordered that the same be recorded; that the said road may be known as a public highway forever.

Essex SS. To John Low Constable of the Town of Methuen in the County of Essex,
[LS] Greeting.

You are hereby required in the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts to notify and warn the inhabitants of the Town of Methuen qualified by law to vote in Town Affairs to meet and assemble at the Vestry of the Baptist Society in said Town on Monday the first day of March next at ten o clock a.m. then and there to act upon the following articles, viz.:.

- 1st To choose a **Moderator** to govern said meeting.
- 2nd To choose all necessary Town Officers for the year ensuing.
- 3rd To bring in their votes for County Treasurer.

- 4th To raise such sums of money as may be necessary to defray Town charges the ensuing year.
- 5th. To see what sum the Town will raise to repair Highways the ensuing year.
- 6th To see what sum of money the Town will vote to raise for the support of Schools the ensuing year.
- 7th To see if the Town will authorize the Prudential School Committee to hire teachers the year ensuing.
- 8th To see if the Town will vote to restrain Horses, Neat Cattle, and Swine from running at large within the limits of the Town the year ensuing, or any part thereof.
- 9th To see what pay the Town will allow the members of the Fire Engine Company and act thereon as the Town shall think proper.
- 10th By request of Amos Morse 2nd and others to see if the Town will vote to sell the Poor Farm and act anything respecting the same the Town shall think proper.
- 11th To hear the report of Committees and act thereon.
- 12th By request of D. C. Rollins, Henry Townsend, Thomas Landfast, Wm. Mansur, Henry Tewksbury and Farnham H. Messer to see if the Town will vote them the privilege of working their highway tax on the road leading from the Lowell Road by the House of Said Rollins to the road near the Freight Depot and act thereon as the Town shall think proper.
- 13th By request of the School Committee to see what manner the Town will appropriate the money annually received from the Commonwealth as its proportion of the School fund, and act thereon as the Town shall think proper.
- 14th By request of Isaac B. Cobb to see if the Town will allow persons living in School District No. 5 to continue to send their children to Lawrence to School, and their schooling to be paid for from the money appropriated to said District and act thereon as the Town shall think proper.

15th By request of Aaron Jack and others to see if the Town will vote to widen the road leading from the House of Austin Pinney to the house of Joseph Gardner, and act thereon as the Town shall think proper.

16th By requests of Perley Morse, Samuel Sawyer, Solomon Hutchinson, Hiram Vincent & John J. Webster, to see if the Town will vote to allow them to work out their highway taxes on the private road passing by their dwellings and act thereon as the Town shall think proper.

Hereof fail not and make due return of this Warrant with your doings thereon to the Town Clerk at the time and place of meeting aforesaid.

Given under our hands and seal this twentieth day of February A.D. 1852.

J. W. Carleton	Selectmen
Samuel H. Harris	}
David Clark	Methuen

Essex SS. Methuen Feb 26th 1852.

Pursuant to the within warrant I have notified and warned the male Inhabitants of said Methuen qualified by law to vote in Town affairs to meet and assemble at the time & place and for the purposes therein named. John Low Constable of Methuen

A true copy Attest Josiah Dearborn, Town Clerk

March 1, 1853 – Annual Meeting

Annual meeting of the Inhabitants of the Town of Methuen qualified by law to vote in Town Affairs held on Monday March 1st 1852 agreeable to Warrant 85 file 6th.

Opened said meeting at 10 o clock A.M.

John Davis was chosen **Moderator**

Prayer by Reverend B. F. Bronson

Josiah Dearborn was chosen **Town Clerk**

Josiah Dearborn was chosen **Treasurer**

Josiah Dearborn was chosen **Collector.**

First ballot for **Selectmen** the whole number of ballots was 289. Necessary for a choice 145.

Samuel H. Harris had 201 votes and was declared elected; and as no other person had that number proceeded to a

Second ballot = whole number of ballots was 260. Necessary for a choice 131 and as no person had that number it was **Voted** to adjourn for one hour. **Met according to adjournment.**

Third ballot = whole number of ballots was 294. Necessary for a choice 148 – Daniel Merrill 3rd had 155 and was declared elected.

The **School Committee Report** was read, accepted and usual number ordered to be printed under the direction of Said committee.

School Committee – Chosen

Dr. Stephen Huse
Waggoner

Reverend B. F. Bronson

Reverend W. H.

The Committee chosen January 5, 1852 to report at our Annual March Meeting on the law and the facts in regard to School Districts made their report, that the “law would not warrant the alteration of the lines of the School Directs in said Town” which report was unanimously accepted.

County Treasurer

Dan Weed Jr. had 111 votes
Allen W. Dodge had 127 votes

Voted to adjourn until tomorrow at one o clock P.M.

Met according to adjournment. Proceeded to ballot for a Selectman

Fourth ballot = whole number of ballots was 274. Necessary for a choice 138 Joseph W. Carleton had 150 votes and was declared elected.

Constables elected & sworn

John Low Aaron P. Gage Jerome Cross Asa Barker

Selectmen elected as above & sworn

John Low Daniel Merrill 3rd Joseph W.
Carleton

Fire Wardens elected

John Low Ebenezer Sawyer John Wilson
Joshua Webster Frederick George

Fence Viewers elected & sworn

Joseph F. Ingalls Joseph How Amos Griffin

Surveyors of Lumber chosen & sworn

Samuel Harvey	George Mills	Henry Tewksbury	John
Anderson			
Samuel Clark	Jerome Cross	Henry A. Bodwell	Nathaniel
Hastings			
David Worthing	Edmond Sargent	John B. Webster	John Wilson

Surveyors of Wood and Bark Voted to be appointed by Selectmen

Ebenezer Sawyer	Frederick George	Frederick Kimball	Edmund
Sargent			
Alfred Clark	J. B. Webster	Samuel Richardson	Andrew
Thompson			
Joshua Webster	S. R. Merrill	Guy Carleton	Samuel
Webster			
Nathaniel Gorrell			

Field Drivers – Voted to be appointed by Selectmen

Asa Barker	George W. Gage	Benjamin Kimball	George W.
Butters			
John Stickney	Albert Hastings	J. B. Webster	David F.
Haynes			
Francis Sawyer	Andrew Thompson	Aaron S. Clark	

Sealer of Weights and Measures Voted to be appointed by Selectmen

Cristy E. Brock

Pound Keepers votes to be appointed by Selectmen

Samuel Crosby Nathaniel A. Harris

Article 4th **Voted** to raise Thirty Three Hundred Dollars to defray Town Charges.

Article 5th **Voted** to raise Eighteen Hundred Dollars to repair the Highways.

Article 6th **Voted** to raise Eighteen Hundred Dollars for the support of Schools.

Article 7th **Voted** to authorize the Prudential School Committee to hire the teachers.
The above vote was reconsidered.

Article 8th **Voted** to restrain Horses, Neat Cattle and Swine from running at large.

Article 9th **Voted** to pay the members of the Fire Engine Company the same per hour that
they
received last year when out on duty.

Article 10th **Voted** to pass over article 10th.

Article 11th The Committees on Law & Facts and School Committee made their reports which
were acted upon as per records above.

The Selectmen's report on the settlement with the Treasurer was accepted.

Article 12th **Voted** to grant the request of Dr. C. Rollins, Henry Townsend, Thomas Lanfast,
William Mansur, Henry Tewksbury and Farnham Messer the privilege of working
out their Highway Taxes on the road leading by their lands under the direction of
the
Highway Surveyor.

Article 13th **Voted** that the School Fund which is received from the Rate be appropriated by
the School Committee in such a manner as they may think best.

Article 14th **Voted** that persons living in School District No. 5 be allowed to send their
children to
Lawrence School and that the pay for their Schooling be drawn from the money
which
has been appropriated for that School District.

Article 15th **Voted** to refer article 15th to the Selectmen.

Article 16th

Voted to grant the request of Perley Morse, Samuel Sawyer, Solomon Hutchinson, Hiram Vincent & John J. Webster the privilege of working out their Highway Taxes on the road leading past their houses under the direction of the Highway Surveyor.

Jurymen Chosen

Charles Ingalls	David Gleason	John W. Mann
Ralph Clark	Leonard Morrison	Joseph F.
Ingalls		
John Russ	Daniel Currier	John B.
Webster		
Lorenzo Dow	Mathew Messer	Joseph How
Joseph S. Morse	Joseph Currier	Charles E.
Goss		
Edmund Sargent	K. G. Gleason	S. F. Dearborn
Amos Morse Jr.	Josiah G. White	Guy Carleton
Ebenezer Marsh	Joseph R. Bodwell	Washington
Merrill		
J. W. Carleton	Daniel Merrill 2 nd	T. W. White
Samuel H. Harris	Geo. W. Butters	Michael
Prescott		
David Clark	John Anderson	Daniel Merrill
3 rd		
Joseph A. Bodwell	Christopher How	C. M. Clark
Lewis Gage	Elijah Hale	Charles J.
Griffin		
Theodore P. Huse	Gilbert Emerson	Frederick
Kimball		
Samuel Richardson 2 nd		

Surveyors of Highways chosen & sworn

Nelson P. Cross	John Russ	Abner Stevens
John Anderson	James Merrill	Aaron Palmer
Andrew Thompson	Ralph Clark	J. M. Grosvner
Isaiah Silver	Joseph F. Ingalls	Asa Whittier
John Low	Benjamin Blood	George Mills
Leonard Morrison	Jerome Cross	Christopher
How		
Samuel Richardson	Benjamin Farrington	Henry A.
Bodwell		

Voted to desolve (dissolve) the meeting.

Attest
Josiah Dearborn Town Clerk

Selectmen's Report.

We the subscribers Selectmen of Methuen have examined the books and accounts of the
Treasurer of said Town and find them correctly kept and that he has proper
vouchers for payment. The following abstract will show the amount of money
raised and paid during the past year and the amount now remaining in his hand.

DR

To amount paid on Selectmen's orders	
	4402.77
To amount paid on County Tax for 1851	
	1048.92
To amount paid on Discount on Taxes	
405.16	
To amount for Collection Taxes	
63.00	
To amount for recording Militia Rool (Roll) and recording births, Deaths, etc.	
24.78	
To paid Expressman postage etc.	
4.74	
To making out and distributing Tax bills	
20.00	
To J. F. C. Hayes for Printing Tax bills	
4.75	
To amount paid on Calvin Vickery's note & Interest	
108.25	
To amount paid on Interest on William Huse' note	
96.00	
To amount on Interest on David Gleason's note	
90.00	
To amount on Interest on Daniel Gleason's note	
48.00	
To amount on Interest on John Farley's note	
<u>60.00</u>	
\$6376.37	
To Amount remaining in Treasurer's hands	
	<u>1081.21</u>

CR

By balance due on last year's settlement	1636.28
By Tax list for 1851	6321.61
By State School Fund	
118.25	
By Received of the Selectmen of J. N. Adams	
4.00	
By Interest on Hannah Currier's note	
3.72	
By State Paupers	
4.68	
By William Austin, abated Tax for 1850	
1.50	
By Solomon Shattuck for produce sold	
87.54	

\$8177.58

Methuen February 28th 1852 ~

J. W. Carleton Selectmen
Samuel H. Harris } of
David Clark Methuen

A true copy

Attest

Josiah Dearborn, Town Clerk

Essex. Ss. To John Low Constable of the Town of Methuen in the County of Essex.

[LS]

- Greeting -

You are hereby required in the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts to notify and warn the inhabitants of the Town of Methuen qualified by law to vote in Town Affairs to meet and assemble at the Vestry of the Baptist Meetinghouse on Monday the twenty third day of August instant at three o'clock P.M. to act upon the following articles, viz.:.

1st To choose a **Moderator** to govern said Meeting.

2nd To see what order the Town will take respecting an action commenced by Atkinson Brown of Charlestown against said Town of Methuen for damages and act anything respecting the same the Town shall think proper.

Hereof fail not and make return of this warrant with your doings thereon to the Town Clerk at the time and place of meeting aforesaid.

Given under our hands and seal this **fourteenth day of August A.D. 1852.**

J. W. Carleton } Selectmen
Samuel H. Harris } of
Daniel Merrill 3rd } Methuen

Essex SS. Methuen Aug 21st 1852.

Pursuant to the within warrant I have notified and warned the male inhabitants of the Town of Methuen qualified by law to vote in Town affairs to meet & assemble at the time and place & for the purposes therein named.

John Low Constable
A true copy Attest Josiah Dearborn Town Clerk.

August 23, 1852

At a legal meeting of the Inhabitants of the Town of Methuen qualified by law to vote in Town affairs held on Monday August 23, 1852, agreeable to Warrant 86 file 6th.

Opened said meeting and John Davis was chosen **Moderator.**

Article 2nd **Voted** that the Town will defend the action commenced by Atkinson Brown of Charlestown for damages, and do appoint the following persons a committee with full authority to procure counsel and conduct said defence (defense) at the expence (expense) of the Town.

Joseph W. Carleton Samuel H. Harris Daniel Merrill 3rd

Voted to desolve the meeting

Attest Josiah Dearborn Town Clerk

Essex SS. To John Low Constable of the Town of Methuen in said County [LS] **Greeting: -**

You are hereby directed in the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts to Notify and Warn

the male Inhabitants of said Methuen qualified by law to vote in elections to meet and assemble at
the vestry of the Baptist Society in said Town on Monday the eight day of November
next at one
the clock P.M. To bring in their votes to the Selectmen for a **Governor** and Lt **Governor**
of the Common-wealth and five Senators for the County of Essex. Also their votes for a
Representative
for the Seventh Congressional District to represent them in the thirty third Congress of
the United States, all on one ballot: also to bring in their votes for a Representative to
represent them in General Court to be holden in Boston on the first Wednesday of
January next on a separate ballot: - Also to
give in their votes on the following question (viz.) Is it expedient that delegates should be
chosen to meet in Convention for the purpose of revising or altering the Constitution of
Government of this Commonwealth, on a separate ballot, all to be enclosed in one sealed
envelope. Hereof fail not and 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 and seal at Methuen this thirtieth day of October A.C. 1852~

Essex SS. Methuen Nov 2nd 1852

Pursuant to the within Warrant I have notified and warned the Inhabitants of the Town of Methuen qualified by law to vote in elections to meet and assemble at the time and place and for the purposes therein named.

John Low Constable of Methuen

A true copy

Attest Josiah Dearborn Town Clerk

November 8, 1852

At a legal meeting of the Inhabitants of the Town of Methuen qualified by Law to vote in
Town affairs held on Monday the 8th day of November 1852, agreeable to Warrant 86
file 6th
for the purpose of giving in their votes for Governor and Lt Governor of the
Commonwealth
and five Senators for the County Essex: Also their votes for a Representative for the
Seventh Congressional District to represent them in the Congress of the United States.

Also for a Representative to represent them in General Court to be held at Boston on the fifth Wednesday of January next: Also, on revising the Constitution. The votes were sorted, counted, recorded, and declaration thereof made as the law directs and were as follows /viz./

Whole number of ballots for **Governor** was 378.

John H. Clifford of New Bedford had	155 votes
Henry W. Bishop of Lenox had	121 votes
Horace Mann of Newton had	102 votes

Whole number of ballots for **Lt Governor** was 381

Elisha Huntington of Lowell had	182 votes
James D. Thompson of New Bedford had	125 votes
Amos Walker of North Brookfield had	74 votes

Whole number of ballots for **Senators** was 365.

Michajah Lunt of Newburyport had	166 votes
Thomas Wright of Lawrence had	156 votes
Henry Russel of Salem had	166 votes
N. S. Howe of Haverhill had	166 votes
Elisha Mack of Salem had	157 votes
Dan Weed of Lawrence had	159 votes
Albert Currier of Newburyport had	161 votes
James M. Sargent of Lynn had	158 votes
C. D. Hunkins of Haverhill had	158 votes
James Blood of Newburyport had	22 votes
William Hammond of Marblehead had	22 votes
George B. Loring of Salem had	22 votes
Samuel C. Pitnam of Swampscott had	22 votes
Edward C. Peabody of Groveland had	22 votes
Jonathan Morrele of Amesbury had	20 votes
Eben Sutton of Danvers had	20 votes
Aaron Wallace of Ipswich had	20 votes
Joseph Gregery of Marblehead had	20 votes
A. A. Blanchard of Lawrence had	20 votes
J. W. Carleton of Methuen had	6 votes
A. W. Harmon of Lawrence had	1 vote
Thomas P. Wright of Lawrence had	1 vote

Whole number of ballots for **Representative to U. S. Congress** was 369.

Luther V. Bell of Somerville had	169 votes
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Nathaniel P. Banks Jr. of Waltham had	85 votes
John A. Bolles of Winchester had	78 votes
Gorham Brooks of Medford had	36 votes
John Tenney of Methuen had	1 vote

Whole number of ballots on **Revising the Constitution** was 334

Noes 185 votes
Yea 149 votes

Whole number of ballots for a **Representative to General Court** was 367.

George W. Butters had	182 votes
Samuel Richardson 2 nd had	100 votes
Josiah G. White had	58 votes
Ebenezer Sawyer had	20 votes
Moody S. Wheeler had	4 votes
Moody Wheeler had	1 vote
Daniel Merrill 3 rd had	1 vote
Benjamin Kimball had	1 vote

No person having a majority it was **Voted** that when this meeting adjourn that they adjourn to meet tomorrow at 1.0 clock P.M.

Voted to adjourn until tomorrow at 1.0 clock P.M.

November 9th 1852 Met according to adjournment and proceeded to ballot for a **Representative**.

Whole number of ballots was 421.

George W. Butters had	204 votes
Samuel Richardson 2 nd had	119 votes
Josiah G. White had	62 votes
E. Sawyer had	8 votes
Moody S. Wheeler had	4 votes
Daniel Merrill 3 rd had	5 votes
Samuel Richardson had	1 vote
George Harris had	2 votes
Jared S. Howe had	1 vote
Andrew Thompson had	1 vote
William Mansur had	1 vote

Frederick Kimball had 13 votes

No person having a majority it was voted to desolve (dissolve) the meeting.

Attest

Josiah Dearborn Town Clerk

Essex SS. To John Low Constable of Methuen in said County of Essex = **Greeting:** -
[LS] You are hereby required in the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts to
Notify
and Warn the male Inhabitants of Methuen qualified by law to vote in elections to meet and
assemble
at the Baptist Vestry on Tuesday November the second 1852 at one o clock in the afternoon
to bring
in their votes on one ballot for thirteen Electors of President and Vice President of the United
States.

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

Given under our hands and seal this twenty third day of October Eighteen hundred and fifty two.

Essex SS. Methuen October 26th 1852.

Pursuant to the within Warrant I have notified and warned the male inhabitants of the Town of Methuen qualified by law to vote in elections to meet and assemble at the time and place and for the purposes therein named.

John Low – Constable of Methuen

A true copy

Attest Josiah Dearborn – Town Clerk

November 2, 1852

At a legal meeting of the Inhabitants of the Town of Methuen qualified by law
to vote
in elections held on Monday the second day of November 1852, agreeable to Warrant
88 file 6th

for the purpose of giving in their votes for thirteen Electors of President and Vice President of the United States. The votes were sorted, counted, recorded and declaration thereof made as the law directs and were as follows – viz. –

Whole number of ballots was 415

Electors at Large

Robert C. Winthrop of Boston had	187 votes
George Bliss of Springfield had	187 votes
Charles G. Greene of Boston had	158 votes
James S. Whitney of Conway had	158 votes
Stephen C. Phillips of Salem had	70 votes
James Fowler of Westfield had	70 votes

District No. One

J. H. W. Page of New Bedford had	187 votes
S. B. Phinney of Barnstable had	158 votes
John H. Shaw of Nantucket had	70 votes

District No. Two

George A. Crocker of Taunton had	187 votes
Edward Casneau of Hingham had	158 votes
William H. Wood of Middleboro had	70 votes

District No. Three

John Gardner of Dedham had	187 votes
Caleb Stetson of Braintree had	158 votes
Edward L. Keyes of Dedham had	70 votes

District No. Four

Amos Lawrence of Boston had	187 votes
Isaac Adams of Boston had	158 votes
Timothy Gilbert of Boston had	70 votes

District No. Five

Robert G. Shaw of Boston had	187 votes
Benjamin F. Hallett of Boston had	158 votes
John G. Palfrey of Cambridge had	70 votes

District No. Six

Daniel C. Baker of Lynn had	187 votes
Jonathan Nayson of Amesbury had	155 votes
John G. Whittier of Amesbury had	70 votes

District No. Seven

George Coggswell of Bradford had	187 votes
Eben H. Safford of Haverhill had	158 votes
Samuel E. Sewall of Stoneham had	70 votes

District No. Eight

Jacob Coggin of Tewksbury had	187 votes
Walter Fessenden of Townsend had	158 votes
John W. Graves of Lowell had	70 votes

District No. Nine

Ebenezer Torrey of Fitchburg had	187 votes
J. S. C. Knowlton of Worcester had	158 votes
Charles Mason of Fitchburg had	70 votes

District No. Ten

Rufus Bullock of Royalston had	187 votes
O. P. Ingraham of South Hadley had	158 votes
Rodolphus B. Hubbard of Sunderland had	70 votes

District No. Eleven

Ezekiel R. Colt of Pittsfield had	187 votes
Jonathan E. Field of Stockbridge had	158 votes
Joel Hayden of Williamsburg had	70 votes

Voted to desolve (dissolve) the meeting

Attest
Josiah Dearborn – Town Clerk

Essex SS. To John Low Constable of the Town of Methuen in said County. **Greeting:**

[LS] You are hereby directed in the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, to notify

and warn the Male Inhabitants of said Methuen qualified by law to vote in elections, to meet and assemble at the Baptist Vestry in said Town on Monday the 13th day of December instant at one of the clock P.M. To give in their votes to the Selectmen for one Representative to represent them in the Congress of the United States for the term of two years from the fourth day of March next for district number seven of this Commonwealth.

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

Given under our hands and seal at Methuen **this fourth day of December A.D.**
1852.

J. W. Carleton Selectmen
Samuel H. Harris } of
Daniel Merrill 3rd Methuen

Essex SS. Pursuant to the within warrant I have notified and warned the male Inhabitants qualified b law to vote in elections to meet & assemble at the time & place & for the purposes therein named.

Methuen Dec 6th 1852 ~

John Low – Constable.

A true copy

Attest Josiah Dearborn – Town Clerk.

December 13, 1852

At a legal meeting of the Inhabitants of the Town of Methuen qualified by law
to vote
in Town affairs held Monday the 13th day of December 1852, agreeable to Warrant 89
file 6th
for the purpose of giving in the votes for one Representative to represent them in the
Congress
of the United States for the term of two years from the fourth day of March next.

Whole number of ballots was 237

Luther V. Bell of Somerville had 134 votes
Nathaniel P. Banks Jr. of Waltham had 98 votes

Gorham Brooks of Medford had	3 votes
John A. Bolles of Winchester had	1 vote
J. G. Whittier of Amesbury had	1 vote

Attest

Josiah Dearborn – Town Clerk

Essex SS. To John Low Constable of the Town of Methuen in said County
[LS] **Greeting:** -

You are hereby directed in the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts to Notify and Warn the Male Inhabitants of said Methuen qualified by law to vote in Town affairs to meet and assemble at the Baptist Vestry in said Town on Monday the 13th day of December instant at 2 o clock P.M. to act on the following particulars /viz./

1st To choose a **Moderator** to govern said meeting.

2nd To see if the Town will authorize the Treasurer of said Town to hire such sums of money as may be necessary to meet the expences (expenses) of said Town with the approval of the Selectmen; also for authority to renew certain notes against the Town:

Also to hear the report of the Selectmen in relation to widening the road as petitioned for by Aaron Jacks and others, and act thereon as the Town shall think proper.

Hereof fail not and make due return of this Warrant with your doings thereon to the Town Clerk at the time and place above named.

Given under our hands and seal **this fourth day of December A.D. 1852 ~**

A true copy

Attest Josiah Dearborn – Town Clerk.

Essex SS. Dec. 6th 1852,

Pursuant to the within warrant I have notified and warned the Male Inhabitants of Methuen qualified by law to vote in Town Affairs to meet and assemble at the time and place and for the purposes therein named. John Low Constable

A true copy

Attest Josiah Dearborn – Town Clerk.

Selectmen's Report.

The subscribers to whom was referred the petition of Aaron Jacks and others for widening and straightening of the road between the houses of Austin Pinney and Joseph Gardner, have viewed said road, we have widened and straightened the same as follows. Beginning at a stake on the east side of said road on Land of said Pinney, thence southerly thirty three rods to a bound by said road on said Pinney's land, thence southerly eighteen rods to land of Joseph Gardner. Thence southerly through said Gardner's land to the north east corner of said Gardner's Cider Mill.

Damage awarded Mr. Pinney for about 26 rods of Land and moving of
Fifty one rods of wall

\$30.00

Damage awarded Mr. Gardner for about 28 rods of Land & the moving of
46 rods of wall

23.00

Making in all fifty three dollars
\$53.00

Which is respectfully submitted by

J. W. Carleton Selectmen
Samuel H. Harris } of
Daniel Merrill 3rd Methuen
Josiah Dearborn – Town Clerk

Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

Essex SS. Court of County Commissioners, October Term, A.D. 1852.

On the petition of Henry Dearborn and others, No. 65, praying for a highway to be laid out in Lawrence and Methuen, - It having been made to appear that all persons and corporations interested therein, had been duly notified of the time and place of meeting, we the County Commissioners for said County, did on the eighteenth day of October, A.D. 1852, proceed to view said highway and hear all parties interested and did adjudge that common convenience and necessity required that said highway should be laid out. And at the time of said view, no person interested having objected, we did proceed to lay out said highway in manner following, viz.:

Beginning at the south side of Spicket river at a stake by the easterly line of Lawrence Street
in Lawrence, and running thence across said river and upon land on the northerly side thereof north
eight degrees west three hundred and fifty six feet to a stake, thence north twenty seven and one
fourth degrees west sixteen hundred and ninety six feet to a stake, thence north thirty three and three fourths degrees west eight hundred and seventeen feet to a stone boundary post between Lawrence and Methuen, near the house of H. Dearborn, thence north forty five degrees west thirty one hundred and thirty two feet to a stake by the old road, which leads from the house of G. W. Butters to the house of Jonathan Merrill's heirs: laying the road sixty feet wide westerly of the lines above described.

Having heard the said petitioners by their agents, and the owners of lands in each case by themselves or their agents, we do consider it necessary that all the proprietors of lands over which said highway is laid out shall have a right to take off wood, timber and trees from the same lands at any time before the expiration of two months from the date hereof. And according to our best skill and judgment we have estimated that there are no damages occasioned by laying out said highway and hence we award no damages.

And it is determined by said County Commissioners that the inhabitants of Lawrence and Methuen, the towns in which said road is laid, shall on or before the first day of September A.D. 1853, complete and finish the same, at least twenty four feet wide, crowned in the middle so that it shall be raised three inches to every yard above the level thereof, measuring from each side to the middle thereof; and in making said road over any hills that may be in the route of the same, shall cut down such hill or hills, or raise the valleys on each side of such hill, or the valley between such hills, and remove all obstructions in such a manner as that the ascent of any such hill shall not in any place make an ankle (angle) of more than three degrees with the base thereof; and the sides of the cuttings which shall be made through hills shall in all cases make an angle of at least twenty two and

a half degrees with a plumb line from the top of the hill to the road; and in finishing said road where the land is loamy, they shall deposit and spread at least six inches of gravel upon the surface of the same; and at every brook and at every other place where the same shall be necessary, shall erect and make a good and sufficient stone bridge or sluice for the passage of water under said road, of stone suitable to build and cover the same; and in making said road over low lands, shall raise and build the same so high that the water shall not overflow at any season of the year; and that the said road shall remain dry, be freed of stones and all other obstructions, and finished in a workmanlike manner according to the reasonable directions and requirements, and to the acceptance of said County Commissioners, so that horses, carriages, colts, drays and teams of every description, with customary loads, may there pass with safety and easy over the same.

In testimony whereof, We the said County Commissioners have herewith set our hands this eighteenth day of November in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and fifty two.-

Asa W. Wildes County
John I. Baker }
Commissioners Benjamin Mudge

Essex SS. Court of County Commissioners, October Term, A.D. 1852

The foregoing report is filed and accepted, and thereupon it is ordered that the same be recorded;
that the said road may be known as a public highway forever.

A true copy Attest A. Huntington, Clerk

A true copy Attest Josiah Dearborn, Town Clerk

Essex SS. To John Low Constable of the Town of Methuen
[LS] in said County of Essex. **Greeting:-**

You are hereby required in the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts to notify and warn the male Inhabitants of said Town of Methuen qualified by law to vote in Town Affairs to

meet and assemble at the Vestry of the Baptist Society on Monday the 21st day of February instant
at 2 o clock P.M. to act on the following particulars, /viz.:

1st To choose a **Moderator** to govern said meeting.

2nd To see what order the Town will take in regard to the Petition of Isaac B. Cobb and others now pending before the General Court of the Commonwealth, requesting to be set off from the Town of Methuen and annexed to the Town of Lawrence, and act anything respecting said petition the Town shall think proper.

3rd By petition of Ebenezer Sawyer and others to see if the Town will vote to build a Town House the coming season and act anything respecting the same the Town shall think proper.

Hereof fail not and make due return of this warrant with your doings thereon to the Town Clerk at the time and place above named.

Given under our hands and seal this twelfth day of February A.D. 1853 –

J. W. Carleton Selectmen
Samuel H. Harris } of
Daniel Merrill 3rd Methuen

1853

Essex SS. Feb 19th 1853.

Pursuant to the within warrant I have notified &

warned

the Male Inhabitants of the Town of Methuen qualified by law to vote in Town Affairs to meet.

and assemble at the time & place & for the purposes therein named

John Low Constable

A true copy

Attest Josiah Dearborn Town Clerk

February 21, 1853

At a legal meeting of the Inhabitants of the Town of Methuen qualified by law to vote in

**Town Affairs held on Monday the 21st day of February 1853, agreeable to Warrant
91 file 6th.**

Opened said meeting and John Davis was chosen **Moderator**.
Voted to excuse John Davis as **Moderator**

Joseph F. Ingalls was elected .

Art. 2nd It was moved to pass over article 2nd – not sustained –

Voted that Joseph W. Carleton, Samuel H. Harris and Daniel Merrill 3rd be a committee with full authority to use all fair and honorable means to oppose the setting off of any part of Methuen and annexing the same to Lawrence, as petitioned for by Isaac B. Cobb and others.

Art. 3rd It was moved to pass over article 3rd – not sustained.

Voted that a committee consisting of 9 persons one from each School District be raised whose duty it shall be to make a report at our next Annual Meeting in March of the probably cost of a suitable building for a Town House, and the expense of the lot to set it on.

Voted – That the nomination of this committee proceed from each School District.

The following persons were elected – viz.:-

No. 1 - Amos Morse 2nd
No. 2 – Oliver Wetherbee
No. 3 – Ralph Clark
No. 4 – Ebenezer Sawyer
No. 5 – Nathaniel Gorrell
No. 6 – Edmund Sargent
No. 7 – J. W. Mann
No. 8 – Edward Carleton
No. 9 – Frederick Kimball

Voted to desolve (dissolve) the meeting. Attest Josiah Dearborn, Town Clerk
Essex SS. To John Constable of the Town of Methuen in said County of Essex.

[LS] Greeting:-

You are hereby required in the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts,
to Notify and Warn the Male Inhabitants of said Town of Methuen qualified by law to vote
in
Town Affairs, to meet and assemble at the Vestry of the Baptist Society in said Town on
Monday

the seventh day of March next at ten of the clock A..M. Then and their to act upon the following articles /Viz./

- 1st To choose a **Moderator** to govern said Meeting.
- 2nd To choose all necessary Town Officers for the year ensuing.
- 3rd To bring in their votes for Country Treasurer.
- 4th To raise such sums of money as the Town may deem necessary to defray Town charges the year ensuing:-
- 5th To see what sum the Town will vote to raise to repair highways and bridges the year ensuing.
- 6th To see what sum of money the Town will vote to raise for the support of Schools the year ensuing.
- 7th To see if the Town will autherize (authorize) the Prudential School Committees to hire the Teachers the year ensuing.
- 8th To see if the Town will vote to restrain Horses, neat Cattle & Swine from running at large within the Limits of the Town the year ensuing or any part thereof.
- 9th To see what pay the Town will allow the members of the Fire Engine Company the year ensuing and act thereon as the Town shall think proper.
- 10th To hear the report of Committees and act thereon.
- 11th By request of George Gutterson and Joseph R. Bodwell to see if the Town will vote to discontinue the old road through their respective lands.
- 12th By request of Daniel Merrill 2nd to see if the Town will vote to refund to him a part of the money he has paid for building School Houses.
- 13th To see if the Town will vote to divide the highway district in which John Low was surveyor the last year.

Hereof fail not and make due return of this Warrant, with your doings thereon to the Town Clerk at the time and place afore named.

Given under our hands and seal this twenty fifth day of February A.D. 1853.

Essex SS. Methuen March 2nd 1853.

Pursuant to the within Warrant I have notified and warned the male
Inhabitants of
Methuen qualified by law to vote in Town Affairs to meet & assemble at the time & place
& for the purposes therein named.

John Low, Constable
A true copy
Attest Josiah Dearborn, Town Clerk.

March 7, 1853 – Annual Meeting

**Annual meeting of the Inhabitants of the Town of Methuen qualified by law to vote in
Town Affairs held on Monday March 7th 1853, agreeable to Warrant 92, file 6th.
Opened said meeting at 10 O clock A.M.**

John Davis was chosen **Moderator**.

Prayer by Reverend B. F. Bronson.

Josiah Dearborn was chosen **Town Clerk, sworn.**

Josiah Dearborn was chosen **Treasurer, sworn.**

Josiah Dearborn was chosen **Collector, sworn.**

Selectmen chosen & sworn

Joseph W. Carleton Samuel H. Harris Daniel Merrill 3rd

The School Committee's Report was read, accepted and the usual number of copies were ordered to be printed under the direction of the School Committee.

School Committee chosen

B. F. Bronson John C. Phillips Josiah G. White
Voted to excuse Josiah G. White and A. J. French was chosen to fill the vacancy.

County Treasurer.

Allen W. Dodge of Hamilton had 125 votes
Jefford M. Decker of Ipswich had 76 votes

Voted to adjourn until 2 1/4 o clock P.M.

Met according to adjournment

Constables – Voted to have two Constables.

John Low was elected & sworn Aaron H. Gage elected.
Fire Wardens elected

John Low Ebenezer Sawyer Lorenzo Dow
Samuel Richardson 2nd Moody S. Wheeler

Fence Viewers elected and sworn

Joseph F. Ingalls Joseph How Amos Griffin

Surveyors of Lumber

Samuel Harvey	Wm H. Wallace	Saml. Clark	Geo. Mills
Jerome Cross	Edmund Sargent	Henry Tewksbury	Amos Morse Jr.
Joseph Emerson	John Anderson	John Frederick	Saml. Richardson
Francis R. Frye			

Surveyors of Wood and Bark, Voted to be appointed by Selectmen

Ebenezer Sawyer	Frederick George	Frederick Kimball	J. F. Ingalls
Alfred Clark	Nath. Gorrell	J. B. Webster	L. R. Merrill
Saml. Richardson	Andrew Thompson	Henry Tewksbury	Chas E. Goss
Phineas W. Smith	Wm. H. Frye		

Field Drivers, Voted that they be appointed by the Selectmen

Asa Barker	Geo. W. Gage	Benjamin Kimball	John Stickney
Albert Hastings	Geo. W. Butters	Francis Sawyer	Andrew Thompson
David F. Haynes	Wm. H. Wallace	Charles Merrill	James M. Richardson
Aaron S. Clark	Joseph Gardner		

Sealer of Weights & Measures, Voted to be appointed by the Selectmen

Cristy E. Brock

Pound Keepers, Voted to be appointed by the Selectmen

Samuel C. Crosby Nathaniel N. Harris

Surveyors of Highways elected

Nelson P. Cross	Edward Kimball	Andrew Thompson	Joseph A. Bodwell
John Low	Joshua P. Hill	Rufus Griffin	John Russ
Oliver Emerson	Ralph Clark	Edmund Sargent	Nathan Pearly
William Cross	Christopher Messer	Artemus Herrick	Austin Pinney
Niles How	Samuel M. Griffin	Charles How	Christopher How
Joseph M. Emerson	Wm. H. Frye and	Charles Russel appointed.	

Art. 4th **Voted** to raise Thirty Hundred Dollars, to defray Town charges.

Art. 5th **Voted** to raise Eighteen Hundred Dollars, to repair Highways & Bridges.

Art. 6th **Voted** to raise Eighteen Hundred Dollars, for the support of Schools.

Art. 7th **Voted** to authorize the Prudential School Committee to hire the Teachers.

Voted that the School Committee be requested to present their report printed at our next Annual meeting.

Art. 8th **Voted** to restrain Horses, Neat Cattle & Swine from running at large.

Art. 9th **Voted** to pay the members of the Fire Engine Company the same per hour that they received last year when out on duty.

Voted that our Engine Company be authorized to go to Lawrence or any other adjoining Town in case of fire.

Art. 10th **Voted** that the Committee's Report on the Town House be accepted and that they be discharged.

Voted to accept the Selectmen's Report.

Art. 11th **Voted** to refer Article 11th to the Selectmen with authority to do what they may judge best for the interest of the Town.

Art. 12th **Voted** to pass over this article.

Art. 13th **Voted** to pass over this article.

Voted to adjourn to the first Monday in April next at 3 o clock P.M.

Attest

Josiah Dearborn, Town Clerk.

Special Constables, appointed by Selectmen

Charles E. Goss

Thomas Spofford

James M. Richardson

Thomas C. Maison

Andrew Thompson

Asa Barker

Jerome Cross

Lorenzo Dow

Farnham H. Messer

Selectmen's Report

We the subscribers Selectmen of Methuen have examined the books and accounts of the

Treasurer of said Town, and find them correctly kept and that he has proper vouchers for payment.

The following abstract will show the amount of money received, and paid during the past year, and

the amount remaining in his hands.

Dr	To balance due on settlement March 1, 1852.	1801.24
	To Tax List for 1852.	6266.81
	To cash received from School Fund	109.02
	To cash of County Treasurer for land damage and fencing	150.00
	To cash of State Treasurer for support of Poor	10.02
	To cash of Stephen Barker on act of Jacob Sargent	26.05
	To cash of the Town of Andover on account of Miss Beverly	16.25
	To cash of Solomon Shattuck balance of account on settlement with Overseers	118.45
	To cash for abated Taxes	3.92
	To cash for John Anderson for old bridge timber	<u>2.50</u>
		8504.26
Cr	By paid on Selectmen's orders	4974.98
	By paid on County Tax for 1852.	1048.92
	By discount on Taxes	413.38
	By Collecting Taxes	62.66
	By recording births, deaths and marriages and Militia returns of the same and recording	
	The Militia roll etc.	21.26
	By paid Express men Stationary etc.	3.87
	By making out and distributing Tax bills	20.00
	By paid J. F. C. Hayes for Printing Tax bills	3.50
	By paid William Huse interest on note	48.00
	By paid John Farley interest on note	60.00
	By paid David Gleason interest on note	90.00
	By paid Daniel Gleason interest on note	<u>48.00</u>

6794.57

6794.57

Methuen March 1st 1853.

A true copy
Attest

Josiah Dearborn, Town Clerk

Essex SS. To John Low Constable of the Town of Methuen in said County of Essex
[LS] **Greeting**

You are hereby requested in the Name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts to Notify and Warn the Male Inhabitants of said Town of Methuen qualified by Law to vote in the election of Senators and Representatives in General Court to meet and assemble at the Vestry of

the Baptist Society in said Town on Monday the seventh day of March next at 10 o clock
P.M. for
the purpose of electing one delegate to represent said Town in a Convention to be held at
the State
House in Boston on the first Wednesday of May next for the purpose of revising or
amending the Constitution of Government of this Commonwealth.

Hereof fail not and 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 and seal at Methuen this twenty fifth day of February A.C. 1853.

Essex SS. Methuen March 2nd 1853.

Pursuant to the within Warrant I have notified and warned the Male Inhabitants of the Town of Methuen qualified by law to vote for Senators & Representatives & our General Court to meet and assemble at the time & place & for the purposes therein named.

John Low, Constable
A true copy
Attest Josiah Dearborn, Town Clerk.

March 7, 1853

At a legal meeting of the Inhabitants of the Town of Methuen qualified by law to vote in elections held on Monday March 7th 1853 agreeable to Warrant 93 file 6th for the purpose of giving in their votes for one Delegate to represent them in a Convention to be held at Boston on the first Wednesday of May next to revise or amend the Constitution.

Whole number of ballots was 327 – Necessary for a choice 164.

John Davis had	166 votes and was declared elected
John Low had	130 votes
Benjamin Ditson had	29 votes
Stephen Barker had	1 vote
J. C. Phillips had	1 vote

Voted to desolve (dissolve) the meeting.

Attest
Josiah Dearborn, Town Clerk

Essex. Ss. To John Low Constable of the Town of Methuen in Said County.
[LS] **Greeting: -**

In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts You are directed to Notify and Warn the Male Inhabitants of Said Methuen qualified by law to vote in Elections to meet and assemble at the Vestry of Baptist Society in Said Town on Monday the fourth day of April next at one o'clock P.M. To bring in their votes to the Selectmen for three County Commissioners and for two Special Commissioners to serve for the ensuing term of three years for the County of Essex: said votes to be all on one ballot.

And you are further required to notify said voters in said manner to meet and assemble on said day

at said place at 2 o'clock P.M. To choose a **Moderator** to preside in said meeting to act on the following article: -

1st At the request of John J. Webster, Samuel Sawyer and Perley Morse to see if the Town will authorize them to work out their Highway Taxes on the private road leading past their houses under direction of the Surveyor of said District, and act thereon as the Town shall think proper.

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

Given under our hands and seal this **twenty sixth day of March A.D. 1853.**

J. W. Carleton	}	Selectmen
Samuel H. Harris	}	of
Daniel Merrill 3 rd	}	Methuen

Essex SS. Methuen April 2nd 1853.

Pursuant to the within warrant I have notified & warned the male Inhabitants of Said Methuen qualified by law to vote in elections to meet and assemble at the time & place & for the purposes therein named.

John Low	Constable
A true copy	Attest
Josiah Dearborn Town Clerk	

April 4, 1853

At a legal meeting of the Inhabitants of the Town of Methuen qualified by law to vote in elections held on Monday April 4, 1853 agreeable to Warrant 94 file 6th for the purpose of giving in their votes for three County Commissioners and two Special Commissioners to serve the County for the term of three years for the County of Essex.

The whole number of ballots for **County Commissioners** was 196

Joseph W. Carleton of Methuen had	110 votes
Robert G. Walker of Haverhill had	178 votes

George Wilson of Marblehead had	101 votes
Benjamin Mudge of Lynn had	77 votes
John B. Cross of Ipswich had	41 votes
Asa W. Wildes of Newburyport had	16 votes
John I. Baker of Beverly had	17 votes
John D. Cross of Ipswich had	36 votes
Charles Kimball of Ipswich had	1 vote
Moses Newall of Newbury had	1 vote
Joseph How of Methuen had	2 votes
John Low of Methuen had	3 votes

The whole number of ballots for **Special Commissioners** was 195

Joseph W. Carleton of Methuen had	17 votes
Lewis Allen of Danvers had	15 votes
David M. Tewksbury of Amesbury had	178 votes
Augustus D. Rogers of Salem had	181 votes
Joseph Hall of Bradford had	1 vote

Voted to desolve (dissolve) the meeting.

Attest Josiah Dearborn, Town Clerk

April 4, 1853

**At a legal meeting of the Inhabitants of the Town of Methuen qualified by law to vote in
Town Affairs held on Monday April 4, 1853 at two o clock P.M. agreeable to Warrant
94
file 6th.**

John Davis was elected **Moderator**

Article 1st **Voted** that the Selectmen have power to lay out a part, or the whole, of the petitioners highway taxes on the private road leading past their houses, if in their judgment the public good requires it.

Voted to desolve (dissolve) the meeting.

Attest Josiah Dearborn, Town Clerk.

April 4, 1853 – Annual March Meeting continued from March 7, 1853

Met according to the adjournment of March 7th at 3 o clock P.M. April 4, 1853 and the following resolve was offered by Alfred Clark and passed by a unanimous vote.

Voted – Resolved that the Selectmen be instructed to hire the man on the Town Farm for a succeeding year, & that the old board hire instead of the new in after years.

Voted to build the Town House. The house was polled and the vote was 180 in favour to 74 against it.

Voted to build the Town house upon the lands of the Methuen Company and Rufus How. The yeas and the nays were called on this question and they were Yea 154 Nay 79.

Voted – That the Town House be built two stories above the basement.

Voted – That a Committee of three be nominated from the chair whose duty shall be to procure a plan and cost of a Town House agreeable to the vote of the Town, and present the same at the adjourned meeting. The following persons were chosen – Joseph F. Ingalls, Ebenezer Sawyer and John B. Webster.

Voted to adjourn two weeks from today at 2 o clock P.M.

Attest

Josiah Dearborn, Town Clerk

Annual March Meeting continued from April 4, 1853

Met according to the adjournment April 18th and Voted to desolve (dissolve) the meeting.

Attest

Josiah Dearborn, Town Clerk

Essex SS. To John Low Constable of the Town of Methuen in said County of Essex.
[LS] **Greeting:-**

You are hereby required in the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts to Notify and Warn the Male Inhabitants of said Town of Methuen qualified by law to vote in Town Affairs, to meet and assemble at the Vestry of the Baptist Society in said Town on Monday the eighteenth day of April instant at one O clock P.M. To act on the following articles (viz.-)

1st To choose a **Moderator** to govern said meeting.

2nd To see if the Town will vote to purchase a piece of Land of the Methuen Company and Rufus How, bounding easterly on the Turnpike road and southerly on the road leading from said Turnpike to the brick Factory and authorize some person to take a deed of the same in behalf of the Town.

3rd To see if the Town will vote to build a Town House on said land, and authorize the Town Treasurer to hire money with the approval of the Selectmen, to defray the expence (expense) of Land and building.

4th And act anything respecting the building of a Town House the Town shall think proper.

5th By request of Daniel Merrill 2nd to see if the Town will vote to refund him a part of the money he has paid for building School Houses and act thereon as the Town shall think proper.

6th To see if the Town will instruct the Highway Surveyors of the several districts to prosecute for all encumbrances of the Highways in their several districts.

Hereof fail not and make due return of this Warrant with your doings thereon to the
Town
Clerk at the time and place a forenamed.

Given under our hands and seal this **ninth day of April A.D. 1853.**

J. W. Carleton Selectmen
Samuel H. Harris } of
Daniel Merrill 3rd Methuen

Essex SS. Methuen April 11th 1853

Pursuant to the within Warrant I have notified the Male Inhabitants of the Town of Methuen qualified by law to vote in Town Affairs to meet and assemble at the time & place and for the purposes therein named.

John Low, Constable

A true copy

Attest Josiah Dearborn, Town Clerk

April 18, 1853

At a legal meeting of the Inhabitants of the Town of Methuen qualified by law to vote in Town Affairs held on Monday April 18, 1853 agreeable to Warrant 95 File 6th

John Davis was chosen **Moderator**.

Art. 2nd **Voted** That the Selectmen be authorized to purchase the land of the Methuen Company and Rufus How and take a deed of the same for the Inhabitants of the Town of Methuen.

Art. 3rd **Voted** That the Town do proceed to build a Town House on said land agreeable to the plan submitted by the Committee on a granite foundation.

Voted To authorize the Town Treasurer to hire the money, with the approval of the Selectmen, to defray the expence of building the Town House and payment of the Land.

Art. 4th **Voted** That the Selectmen be a building Committee with authority to appoint an agent.

Art. 5th **Voted** To pass over article 5th.

Art. 6th **Voted** To pass over article 6th.

Voted to desolve the meeting.

Attest

Josiah Dearborn, Town Clerk.

Essex SS. To John Low Constable of the Town of Methuen in said County of Essex.
[LS] **Greeting:-**

Greeting:-

In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, you are directed to notify and warn the Male Inhabitants of said Methuen qualified by law to vote in elections to meet and assemble at the Vestry of the Baptist Society in said Town on Wednesday the Fourth day of May next at two o clock P.M. to bring in their votes to the Selectmen, for one County Commissioner and two Special Commissioners.

And you are further required by the authority aforesaid to notify and warn the male Inhabitants of said Town qualified to vote in Town Affairs to meet and assemble at the above named place at three o clock P.M. on said fourth day of May next to act on the following articles. To choose a **Moderator** to govern said meeting.

1st To choose a **Moderator** to govern said meeting.

By request of Daniel Merrill 2nd to see if the Town will vote to refund him apart of the money he has paid for building School Houses and act thereon as the Town shall think proper.

3rd To see if the Town will instruct the Surveyors of Highways to prosecute for the encroachments on the highways within their several Districts.

4th To see if the Town will continue to pay the City of Lawrence for Schooling the children of School District No. 5 and act thereon as the Town shall think proper.

Hereof fail not and make due return of this Warrant with your doings thereon to the Selectmen at the time and place first named.

Given under our hands and seal this **twenty third day of April A. D. 1853.**

J. W. Carleton Selectmen
Samuel H. Harris } of
Daniel Merrill 3rd Methuen

Essex SS. Methuen April 25, 1853 –

Pursuant to the within Warrant I have notified and warned the Male
Inhabitants of
said Methuen qualified by law to vote & as therein named to meet and assemble at the time
& place
and for the purposes therein expressed.

John Low, Constable

A true copy

Attest Josiah Dearborn, Town Clerk

May 4, 1853

At a legal meeting of the Inhabitants of the Town of Methuen qualified by law to vote in elections held on Wednesday May 4th 1853 agreeable to Warrant No. 96 file 6th for the purpose of giving in their votes for one County Commissioner and two Special Commissioners.

The whole number of ballots for **County Commissioner** was 50

Asa W. Wildes of Newburyport had	14 votes
Robert G. Walker of Haverhill had	20 votes
Moses Newel of West Newbury had	14 votes
Joseph How of Methuen had	2 votes

The whole number of ballots for **Special Commissioners** was 53

Lewis Allen of Danvers had 31 votes

Joseph W. Carleton of Methuen had	50 votes
Augustus D. Rogers of Salem had	14 votes
David M. Tewksbury of Amesbury had	4 votes

May 4th 1853

At a legal meeting of the Inhabitants of the Town of Methuen qualified by law to vote in elections held Wednesday May 4th 1853 at 3 o clock P.M. agreeable to Warrant No. 96 file 6th.

Art. 1st Joseph How was chosen .

Art. 2nd **Voted** to pass over article 2nd

Art. 3rd **Voted** to give the Highway Surveyors authority to prosecute for all encroachments on the roads within their several districts after notifying the parties making such encroachments.

Art. 4th **Voted** not to pay the City of Lawrence for Schooling the children from School District No. 5 –

Voted to desolve the meeting.

Josiah Dearborn, Town Clerk.

Essex SS. To John Low Constable of the Town of Methuen in said County
Greeting:-

[LS] In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts you are directed to Notify and Warn the Male Inhabitants of said Methuen qualified by law to vote in Elections to meet and assemble at the Vestry of the Baptist Society in said Town of Tuesday, the fifth day of July next at 3 o clock P.M. to act on the following particulars viz.:-

1st To choose a **Moderator** to govern said meeting.

2nd To see if the Town will authorize several alterations in the construction of the Town House to meet the wishes of individuals and parties desirous of hiring the same, and authorize some persons to lease the same, and act thereon as the Town shall think proper.

3rd To see if the Town will vote to reconsider the vote passed at the last Town meeting whereby they **Voted** not to pay the City of Lawrence for schooling the scholars in School District No. 5 and act anything respecting said district the Town shall think proper.

4th By request of Ebenezer Sawyer to see if the Town will accept a Street laid out from the House of David M. Richardson to the Lowell road near the house of Thomas Spofford, and make the same, and act thereon as the Town shall think proper.

Hereof fail not and make due return of this warrant with your doings thereon to the Town Clerk at the time and place above named.

Given under our hands and seal this **Twenty fifty day of June A.D. 1953.**

J. W. Carleton Selectmen
Samuel H. Harris } of
Daniel Merrill 3rd Methuen

Essex SS. Methuen June 27th 1853.

Pursuant to the within warrant I have notified & warned the male Inhabitants of Methuen qualified by law to vote in Town Affairs to meet and assemble at the time & place & for the purposes therein named.

John Low, Constable

A true copy

Attest Josiah Dearborn, Town Clerk.

July 5, 1853

**At a legal meeting of the Inhabitants of the Town of Methuen qualified by law to vote in
Town Affairs held Tuesday July 5, 1853 at 3 o clock P.M. agreeable to Warrant 97
file 6th.**

Josiah G. White was chosen **Moderator**.

Art. 2nd **Voted** that it be left to the building committee to make such alterations in the Town House as they may think it best for the interest of the Town.

Voted that Samuel H. Harris and Elam Dole be a committee with authority to let and lease the Town House to said parties as may be desirous of hiring the same.

Art. 3rd **Voted** to reconsider the vote passed at the last Town Meeting whereby they **Voted** not to pay the City of Lawrence for schooling the scholars from School District No. 5.

Voted that persons living in School District No. 5 be allowed to send their children to Lawrence School and that the pay for their Schooling be drawn from the money which has been appropriated for that School District.

Art. 4th **Voted** to accept the Street as laid from the House of David M. Richardson's to the Lowell road near the House of Thomas Spofford's and to make the same.

Voted to desolve the meeting.

Josiah Dearborn, Town Clerk

Essex. Ss. To John Low Constable of the Town of Methuen in Said County.

Greeting:-

[LS] You are hereby directed in the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts to Notify and Warn the Male Inhabitants of Said Methuen qualified by law to vote in elections, to meet and assemble at the Vestry of the Baptist Society in said Town **on Monday the fourteenth day of November (1853)**, instant it being the second Monday of said month, at half past twelve o'clock P.M. to bring in their votes to the Selectmen; for a **Governor** and Lieutenant **Governor** of the said Commonwealth and for five Senators for the said County of Essex, all on one ballot. Also to bring in their votes on a separate ballot for a Representative to represent said Town in General Court, next to be holden at Boston on the first Wednesday of January next – Also to give in their ballots at the same time enclosed in a separate sealed envelope, for the ratification or rejection either or all of the eight Constitutional Propositions adopted by the convention of Delegates assembled at Boston, May 4th 1853 for the purpose of altering or revising the Constitution of Massachusetts. The votes for State Officers and the votes on the propositions for amending the Constitution and for Representative will be deposited in three separate boxes. The pools (polls) will be closed for State Officers and on the Constitutional propositions at half past three o'clock on said day.

Hereof fail not and 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 and seal at Methuen this **third day of November 1853.**

Essex SS. Methuen Nov. 12. 1853

Pursuant to the within Warrant I have notified and warned the male Inhabitants of the
Town of Methuen qualified by law to vote in elections to meet and assemble at the time
& place
and for the purpose therein named.

John Low Constable

A true copy

Attest

Josiah Dearborn Town Clerk.

November 14, 1853

At a legal meeting of the Inhabitants of the Town of Methuen qualified by law to vote in elections held on Monday the fourteenth day of November 1853 agreeable to Warrant 98. file 6th at a half past twelve o'clock P.M. for the purpose giving in their votes, for a Governor and Lieutenant Governor of the said Commonwealth and for five Senators for said County of Essex: Also their votes for a Representative to represent said Town in General Court next to be holden at Boston on the first Wednesday of January next: Also to give in their ballots for the ratification or rejection of either or all of the eight Constitutional Propositions, adopted by the convention of Delegates assembled at Boston, May 4, 1853. The votes were sorted, counted, recorded and declaration thereof made as the law direct and were as follows viz.: -

Whole number of ballots for **Governor** was 385

Emery Washburn of Worcester had	182 votes
Henry W. Bishop of Lenox had	145 votes
Henry Wilson of Natick had	57 votes
Bradford L. Wales of Randolph had	1 vote

Whole number of ballots for **Lieut. Governor** was 385

Wm. C. Plunkett of Adams had	182 votes
Levi A. Dowley of Boston had	145 votes
Amasa Walker of North Brookfield had	57 votes
George Osborne of Danvers had	1 vote

Whole number of ballots for **Senators** was 386

Thomas Wright of Lawrence had	174 votes
I. H. Boardman of Newburyport had	179 votes
Thomas P. Pingree of Salem had	179 votes
James Haskell of Rockport had	180 votes
Henry D. Gray of Marblehead had	179 votes
Nathaniel J. Lord of Salem had	7 votes

Bailey Loring of Andover had	9 votes
E. H. Stacey of Gloucester had	7 votes
Wm. Hammon of Marblehead had	7 votes
Edmund Pike of Newburyport had	7 votes
Marcus Morton Jr. of Andover had	193 votes
Albert Currier of Newburyport had	194 votes
C. D. Hunkins of Haverhill had	193 votes
Richard P. Waters of Beverly had	193 votes
John D. Cross of Ipswich had	193 votes
J. W. Carleton of Methuen had	1 vote

Whole number of ballots for **Representative** was 383

George W. Butters had	182 votes
John Low had	147 votes
Josiah G. White had	45 votes
Saml. H. Harris had	1 vote
Joseph How had	3 votes
John L. Blaisdell had	1 vote
A. J. French had	1 vote
Saml. Richardson had	1 vote
Benj. Ditson had	1 vote
John W. Mann had	1 vote

As no person had a majority it was **Voted** not to send a Representative.

Revising the Constitution.

Proposition No. 1	Yea	184
	Nays	195
" No. 2	Yea	184
	Nays	195
" No. 3	Yea	184
	Nays	197
" No. 4	Yea	185
	Nays	195
" No. 5	Yea	184
	Nays	195
" No. 6	Yea	190
	Nays	191
" No. 7	Yea	182
	Nays	197
" No. 8	Yea	182
	Nays	197

Whole number of ballots 381

Voted to desolve the meeting

Josiah Dearborn Town Clerk

1854

Essex SS. To John Low Constable of the Town of Methuen in said County of Essex
[LS] **Greeting:**

Greeting:

You are hereby required in the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts to notify and warn the male inhabitants of said Town qualified by law to vote in Town affairs to meet and assemble at the Town Hall in said Town on Monday the 20th Day of February instant, at two O clock P.M. to act on the following particulars (viz.)

1st To chose a **Moderator** to govern said meeting.

2nd To see if the Town will vote to oppose the petitions of William C. Chapin and others now pending before the general Court of this Commonwealth requesting that a part of Methuen may be set off and annexed to the City of Lawrence, and act anything in regard thereto the Town shall think proper.

Hereof fail not, and make due return of this warrant with your doings thereon, to
the
Town Clerk at the time and place above named.

Given under our hands and seal this **eleventh day of February A.D. 1854**

Essex SS. Pursuant to the within warrant I have notified & warned the male inhabitants of Methuen qualified by law to vote in elections to meet & assemble at the time & place & for the purpose therein named.

Methuen February 20th, 1854.

John Low Constable

February 20, 1854

At a legal meeting of the Inhabitants of the Town of Methuen qualified by law to vote in elections holden at the Town Hall on Monday the twentieth Day of February 1854 agreeable to the foregoing Warrant, the Selectmen called the meeting to order and Stephen Huse was chosen Town Clerk Pro tem. & sworn.

John Davis was chosen **Moderator**.

Voted that a committee be appointed to take all legal measures to oppose the prayer of the petitioners.

Voted the board of Selectmen constitute the committee.

Voted that John Low Esq. be added to the Committee.

Voted that the meeting be dissolved (dissolved).

Stephen Huse, Town Clerk Pro Tem.

Essex. Ss. To John Low Constable of the Town of Methuen in Said County of Essex.
[LS] **Greeting.**

You are hereby required in the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts to notify and warn the Male Inhabitants of Said Town qualified by law to vote in Town Affairs, to meet and assemble at the Town Hall in said Town **on Monday the sixth day of March (1854)**, next at 10 o'clock A.M. then and there to act on the following Articles. (Viz.)

- 1st To choose a **Moderator** to govern said meeting.
- 2nd To choose all necessary Town Officers for the Year ensuing.
- 3rd To bring in their votes for County Treasurer
- 4th To raise such sums of money as the Town may deem necessary to defray Town charges the year ensuing.
- 5th To see what sum of money the Town will vote to raise to repair Highways and Bridges the year ensuing.

6th To see what sum of money the Town will vote to raise for the support of Schools the year ensuing.

7th To see if the Town will authorize the Prudential School Committee to hire the Teachers the year ensuing.

8th To see if the Town will vote to restrain Horses, Neat Cattle and Swine from running at large within the limits of the Town the year ensuing or any part thereof.

9th To see what pay the Town will allow the members of the Engine Company the year ensuing and act thereon as the Town shall think proper.

10th To hear the report of Committees and act thereon.

11th By request of David Loud to see if the Town will vote to allow him to work out a part of his highway tax between his house and the main road the year ensuing.

12th To see what compensation the Town will allow the Surveyors of Highways for opening the roads when encumbered by snow the past winter and in future.

13th By request of Perley Morse to see if the Town will allow him and John J. Webster to work out their Highway Tax on the private way leading past their houses.

Hereof fail not and make due return of this warrant with your doings thereon unto the Town Clerk at the time and place herein named.

Given under our hands and seal this **twenty fourth day of February A.D. 1854**

J. W. Carleton	Selectmen	
Samuel H. Harris	}	of
Daniel Merrill 3d		
	Methuen	

Essex SS. Pursuant to the within warrant I have notified and warned the male inhabitants of Methuen qualified by Law to vote in Town affairs to meet and assemble and at the time and place and for the purposes therein named.

Methuen 27th February 1854

A truly copy

Attest

John Low Constable
Chas. Shed Town Clerk

March 6, 1854 – Annual Meeting

**Annual Meeting of the Inhabitants of the Town of Methuen qualified by law to vote
in**

**Town affairs held on Monday March 6th 1854 agreeable to Warrant No. 1 File 7 said
meeting was opened at 10 o'clock A.M.**

John Davis was **Moderator**

Prayer By Rev. B. F. Bronson

Charles Shed was chosen **Town Clerk and sworn**

Charles Shed was chosen **Treasurer**

Charles Shed was chosen **Collector**

Selectmen Chosen

Joseph W. Carleton

Joseph How

Daniel Merrill 3rd

County Treasurer

Allen W. Dodge had 114 votes being the whole number thrown.

Report of School Committee and accepted

School Committee Chosen

B. F. Bronson

J. C. Phillips

A. J. French.

Voted to adjourn until 1 ½ O'clock P.M.

Met agreeably to adjournment.

Constables Chosen

John Low

John D. Gage

Fire Wardens Chosen

John Low
Moody S. Wheeler

Ebenezer Sawyer
Samuel Richardson 2nd

Lorenzo Dow

Surveyors of Lumber Chosen

Samuel Harvey
Edmund Sargent
Francis R. Frye
John Frederic
Francis Sawyer

Jerome Cross
Henry Tewksbury
John Anderson
Samuel Clark

Joseph Emerson
Amos Morse Jr.
Enoch Merrill
George Mills

Surveyors of Wood & Bark - Voted to be appointed by the Selectmen

Ebenezer Sawyer sworn
T. C. Mason sworn
Alfred Clark
William H. Frye sworn
John B. Webster
Andrew Thompson sworn

Frederic George
Henry Tewksbury
Nathaniel Gorrill
Frederick Kimball
George Mills
Phineas Smith

Charles E. Goss sworn
S. R. Merrill
Christopher Howe
Joseph F. Ingalls
Ralph Clark

Field Drivers Chosen

Asa Barker
Daniel Carleton
John Carleton
James Smith
George W. Butters sworn

Charles Merrill
Benjamin Kimball sworn
Joseph Gardener
John W. Mann sworn
Moody S. Wheeler sworn

Samuel Cross
Edmund P. Sargent
Miles Howe
Michael Prescott

Sealer of Weights & Measures – Voted to be appointed by Selectmen.

Cristy E. Brock

Pound Keepers – Voted to be appointed by Selectmen.

J. W. Mann

N. N. Harris

Surveyors of Highways Chosen

Frederick Kimball 2nd
William Cross sworn
Benjamin Farrington
Rufus Griffin sworn
Charles Howe
Joseph Gardiner sworn

Enoch Merrill sworn
Gilbert Emerson sworn
John Welsh sworn
J. F. Ingalls sworn
John N. Hall
Edward Dodge

John Langley
Lewis Bartlett
Edward Carleton
Asa Harris sworn
Mark Gorrill
Michael Prescott sworn

Ralph Clark sworn in room of Lewis Bartlett

Article 4th **Voted** to raise Thirty Two Hundred Dollars to defray Town Charges.

Article 5th **Voted** to raise Eighteen Hundred Dollars for repairs of Highways and Bridges.

Article 6th **Voted** to raise Two Thousand Dollars for the support of Schools.

Article 7th **Voted** to authorize the Prudential School Committee to hire Teachers the ensuing year.

Article 8th **Voted** to restrain Horses, Neat Cattle and Swine from running at large.

Article 9th **Voted** to pay the members of the Engine Company fifteen cents per hour when on actual duty

Article 10th **Voted** to accept the Report of the Committee on the Town House.

Article 11th **Voted** to allow David Loud to work out a part of his highway tax between his house and the main road under the direction of the Surveyor.

Article 12th **Voted** to pay twelve and a half cents per hour for Surveyors of Highways for opening the roads encumbered with snow the past and coming winter.

Article 13th **Voted** to allow Perley Morse and John J. Webster to work out their Highway Tax on the private way leading past their houses.

Voted to dissolve the meeting.

Special Constables appointed by the Selectmen.

Charles E. Goss sworn
sworn

Jerome Cross
Thomas Spofford

Andrew Thompson

James M. Richardson sworn

Thomas C. Mason

Asa Barker

Selectmen's Report

The Selectmen have examined the Books and Accounts of the Treasurer of said Town and find them correctly kept and that he has proper vouchers for payment the following abstract will show the amount of Money received and paid out during the past year and the amount now remaining in his hands.

Treasurer's Account.

CR	By balance on hand March 1 1853	\$1709.69
	By Tax List for 1853	6593.55
	By State School Fund	114.15
	By State Paupers	31.44
	By Selectmen Cash Rec'd from Boston	49.00
	By Selectmen Cash Rec'd from Dracutt	7.00
	By Cash for sale of Blacksmith's Shop	10.00
	By Cash for Paddock	.87
	By Cash Brock & Chase for old copper & brass	8.00
	By Cash Essex Co. for repair of Bridges	80.54
	By Cash S. Shattuck Cash for Produce of Farm etc.	77.61
	By Cash John Smith's Tax	1.50
	By Cash J. W. Towson on Act of Rebecca A. Carter	12.00
	By Cash Money Hired on Treasurer's Notes	<u>11,568.35</u>
		\$20,263.35

Treasurer's Account

DR	To Paid Selectmen's Orders	16110.35
	To Paid State Tax	561.00
	To paid County Tax	1048.92
	To Paid Discount on Taxes	441.95
	To Paid Collecting Taxes	66.00
	To Paid Printing Tax Bills	4.75
	To Paid Recording Deeds & Expense	2.73
	To Paid Recording Births, Deaths & Marriages	17.08
	To Making Returns Births Death & Marriages & Recording the Militia Roll	5.00
	To Making Tax Bills & Distributing same	20.00
	To Cash Paid Wm. Huse Interest on note	48.00
	To Cash Paid John Farley Interest on note	60.00
	To Cash Paid David Gleason Interest on note	90.00
	To Cash Paid Daniel Gleason Interest on note	<u>48.00</u>
		\$18,523.78
	Balance in the Treasurer's hands	<u>1,739.57</u>
		\$20,263.35

March 1 1854

Josiah Dearborn Treasurer
J. W. Carleton
Sam H. Harris } Selectmen
Daniel Merrill 3rd

A true copy Attest

Chas. Shed Town Clerk

Essex. Ss. To John Low Constable of the Town of Methuen in Said County of Essex
[LS] **Greeting**

You are hereby required in the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts to notify and warn the Male Inhabitants of Said Town qualified by law to vote in Town Affairs, to meet and assemble at the Town Hall in said Town **on Monday the fifteenth day of May (1854)**, instant at 2 o'clock P.M. to act on the following particulars (viz.)

- 1st To choose a **Moderator** to govern said meeting.
- 2nd By petition of Rufus Griffin and others to see if the Town will vote to direct the Assessors of said Methuen to assess on the Polls and Estates of the inhabitants of School District No 2 in said Methuen and others liable to pay Taxes in said District the sum of one Thousand Dollars or the sum of eight hundred Dollars, or six hundred Dollars, or any of the sum, for the purpose of purchasing a sufficient quantity of land for a School House lot and either removing their present School House thereon, or erecting a new School House, and act anything in the premises the Town shall think proper.
- 3rd By request of Aaron Sawyer Jr. and others to see if the Town will take measures to have the River Road put into as good condition for traveling as it was previous to building the dam at Lawrence and act thereon as the Town shall think proper.
- 4th By request of Rufus Griffin to see if the Town will pass the necessary votes to discontinue the connection Ezra T. Holmes and Ezra Burley with School District No 9 in Dracutt.
- 5th To see if the Town will authorize the Treasurer of said Town to hire money with the approval of the Selectmen for a term not exceeding then years at 5 per cent interest payable annually or semi-annually for the payment of the present debt of the Town or any part thereof and act thereon as the Town shall think proper.
- 6th By request of Joseph A. Bodwell to see if the Town will vote to widen the road from the corner near the house of Benjamin F. Grosvenor toward the house of said Bodwell and act thereon as the Town shall think proper.

Hereof fail not and make due return of this warrant with your doings thereon to the
Town Clerk at the time and place above mentioned.

Given under our hands and seal this **sixth day of May A.D. 1854.**

J. W. Carleton Selectmen
Daniel Merrill 3d } of
Joseph How Methuen

Essex SS. Pursuant to the within warrant I have notified and warned the male inhabitants of Methuen qualified by law to vote in Town affairs to meet and assemble at the time and place and for the purposes therein named.

Methuen May 13 1854

John Low Constable

A true Copy

Attest

Chas. Shed Town Clerk.

May 15, 1854

**At a legal meeting of the Inhabitants of the Town of Methuen qualified to vote in
Town affairs held at the Town Hall on Monday, May 15 at 2 O'Clock P.M.
agreeable to Warrant 2 File 7**

Art. 1st **Voted:** that a Committee of Seven be chosen from the other School districts in Town whose duty it shall be to make full investigation of the affairs of School District No. 2 and report facts at some future meeting.

Art. 2nd **Voted:** that this Committee be nominated by the **Moderator**.

Voted: that the following persons having been nominated by the **Moderator** should compose
that Committee viz. David Clark, Daniel Merrill 2nd, Charles Ingalls, George W. Gage,
Joseph F. Ingalls, Edward Carleton, J. M. Grosvenor

Art. 3rd **Voted:** that the w hole subject be left with Daniel Merrill 3rd, Joseph How and Samuel H. Harris,
with full power to act on the premises in behalf of the Town..

Art. 4th **Voted:** that the subject be referred to the Committee chosen under Article second.
Art. 5th **Voted:** to authorize the Treasurer of the Town to hire money, with the approval of the Selectmen for a term not exceeding ten years at 5 per cent interest payable annually, or semi-annually for the payment of the present debt of the Town or any part thereof and act thereon as the Town shall think proper.

Art. 6th **Voted:** that the subject of this article be referred to the Selectmen with authority to act on the premises as they shall think best.

Voted: to dissolve the meeting.

Attest

Chas. Shed Town Clerk

Essex SS. To John Low Constable of the Town of Methuen in said County of Essex
[Seal] Greeting:

You are hereby directed in the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, to notify and warn, the male inhabitants of said Methuen qualified by law to vote in elections to meet and assemble at the Town Hall in said Town on Monday the thirteenth

day of November instant, it being the second Monday of said month, at half past Twelve O'Clock

P.M. to bring in their votes to the Selectmen for a **Governor** and Lieutenant **Governor** of the said Commonwealth, and for five Senators for the said County of Essex on one ballot: also to bring in

their votes on a separate ballot for a Representative to Congress for the Seventh Congressional

District to represent them in the Thirty fourth Congress of the United States, also to bring in their

votes on a separate ballot for a Representative to represent said Town in the General Court next to

be holden at Boston on the first Wednesday of January next also to bring in their votes on a separate ballot for one County Commissioner for the said County of Essex.-

The polls will be closed for the above named officers at 4 O'Clock P.M. of said day.

Hereof fail not and 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 and seal at Methuen this third day of November A.D.
1854.

Essex SS. Pursuant to the within warrant I have notified and warned the male inhabitants of the Town of Methuen qualified by law to vote in Elections, to meet and assemble at the time and place and for the purposes therein named.

Methuen Nov. 7th 1854

A true Copy Attest

John Low Constable

Chas. Shed Town Clerk

November 13, 1854

**At a legal meeting of the inhabitants of the Town of Methuen qualified by law to vote in
Elections held on Monday the thirteenth of November 1854, agreeable to Warrant No 3
File 7 at half past twelve O'Clock P.M. for the purpose of giving in their votes for a Governor
and Lieutenant Governor of the said Commonwealth and for five Senators for said County of Essex: also their votes for a Representative to Congress for the Seventh Congressional District
to represent them in the thirty fourth Congress of the United States: also to bring in their votes
for one Representative to represent said Town in the General Court next to be holden at Boston on the first Wednesday in January next: also their votes for one County Commissioner for the said County of Essex: the votes were sorted, counted, recorded, and declaration thereof made
as the law directs and were as follows viz.**

The whole number of Ballots for **Governor** was 355

Henry J. Gardner of Boston had	266 votes
Emory Washburn of Worcester had	36 votes
Henry W. Bishop of Lenox had	41 votes
Henry Wilson of Natick had	12 votes

The whole number of Ballots for **Lieutenant Governor** was 354

Simon Brown of Concord had	266 votes
Caleb Stetson of Braintree had	41 votes
William C. Plunkett of Adams had	35 votes
Increase Sumner of Great Barrington had	12 votes

The whole number of Ballots for **Senators** was 355

James D. Black of Danvers had	266 votes
Streeter Evans of Salisbury had	266 votes
John Batchelder of Lynn had	266 votes
Moses Tenney Jr. of Georgetown had	266 votes
Stephen Huse of Methuen had	265 votes
Samuel T. DeFord of Newburyport had	41 votes
James M. Sargent of Lynn had	41 votes
E. H. Safford of Haverhill had	41 votes
John H. Gregory of Marblehead had	41 votes
Moses Tarr of Gloucester had	40 votes
Henry G. Gray of Marblehead had	36 votes
William N. Cleaveland of Topsfield had	36 votes
Nathaniel Silsbee of Salem had	36 votes
Jeremiah Coleman of Newburyport had	36 votes
Joseph W. Carleton of Methuen had	35 votes
Richard P. Waters of Beverly had	12 votes
Marcus Morton Jr. of Andover had	11 votes
Benjamin F. Mudge of Lynn had	12 votes
Josiah G. White of Methuen had	12 votes
John D. Cross of Ipswich had	12 votes

The whole number of Ballots for **Representative to U.S. Congress** was 337

Nathaniel P. Banks Jr. of Waltham had	245 votes
Luther V. Bell of Somerville had	43 votes
Bowen Buckman of Woburn had	39 votes

The whole number of Ballots for **Representative to General Court** was 351

John L. Blaisdell had	273 votes
Enoch Merrill had	33 votes
John Low had	42 votes
Jared S. How had	2 votes
George Butters had	1 vote

The whole number Ballots for **County Commissioner** was (number not written)

Stephen Baker of Beverly had	257 votes
John P. Baker of Beverly had	39 votes
Rufus Slocomb of Haverhill had	37 votes
Andrew Dodge of Wenham had	1 vote

Voted to dissolve the meeting

Attest

Chas. Shed Town Clerk.

Essex SS. To John Low Constable of the Town of Methuen in said County of Essex
[Seal] **Greeting**

You are hereby required in the name of the

Commonwealth

of Massachusetts to notify and warn the male in habitants of said Methuen qualified by law to vote

in Town affairs, to meet and assemble at the Town Hall in said Town, on Monday the 13th day of November instant, at 2 O'Clock P.M. to act on the following particulars. /viz./

- 1st To choose a **Moderator** to govern said meeting.
- 2nd To heard the report of Committees and act thereon.
- 3rd To see what alteration if any the Town will make in the lines of any School District in pursuance of an Act of the General Court passed at the last session thereof and setting off a part of said Methuen and annexing the same to Lawrence and act thereon as the Town shall think proper.

Hereof fail not and make due return of this Warrant with your doings thereon to the Town Clerk at or before the time of said meeting.

Given under our hands and seal this fourth day of November A.D. 1854.

J. W. Carleton } Selectmen
Daniel Merrill 3rd } of Methuen

Essex SS. Methuen Nov. 7th 1854.

Pursuant to the within warrant I have notified and warned the male inhabitants of the Town of Methuen qualified by law to vote in Town affairs to meet and assemble at the time and place and for the purposes therein named.

John Low, Constable.

A true copy
Attest

Chas. Shed, Town Clerk

November 13, 1854

**At a legal meeting of the inhabitants of the Town of Methuen qualified by law to vote
in Town affairs, held on Monday November 13th 1854, agreeable to Warrant No 4
File 7 at
O'clock P.M.**

Art. 1st Chose John Davis

Art. 2nd **Voted** to accept the Report of the Committee to whom was referred the request of Rufus Griffin of School District No 2.

Voted to accept the Report of the Committee to whom was referred the petition of Joseph A. Bodwell requesting that the road leading from said Bodwell house to the corner near the house of Benjamin F. Grosvenor, be examined: also **Voted** that the same Committee be instructed to cause the obstruction of the above highway to be removed.

The Report of the Committee to whom was referred the petition of Aaron Sawyer Jr. and others that the Essex Company be requested to repair the road in the westerly part of Town damaged by flowing was read:

Voted that the petition be recommitted to the same Committee and that they be instructed to consult council.

Art. 3rd **Voted** to pass over this article.

Voted to dissolve the meeting.

Attest

Chas. Shed Town Clerk