

**REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS
OF THE
FINANCE COMMITTEE**

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

TOWN OF BELLINGHAM



SPECIAL TOWN MEETING

**Wednesday, May 1, 2024
7:30 p.m.**

BELLINGHAM HIGH SCHOOL

FINANCE COMMITTEE

John Allam, Chairman
Joseph E. Collamati, Jr.
Brian Boyd
Kevin Keppler
Jennifer Kuzmeskas
Jack McCarthy
Tina M. Griffin, Clerk

**CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS
COMMITTEE**

Roland A. Lavalley, Chairman
Joseph E. Collamati, Jr.
Michael Hennessey
Jennifer Kuzmeskas
Jack McCarthy
Tina M. Griffin, Clerk

MODERATOR

Michael Carr

TOWN CLERK

Lawrence J. Sposato, Jr.

SELECTBOARD

Michael Connor, Chairman
Sahan Sahin, Vice-Chairman
Michael Hennessey
Ann Odabashian

Hilarie Allie, Administrative Assistant

SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Michael J. Reed, Jr., Chairman
Jennifer L. Altomonte, Vice-Chairman
Mark J. Flannery
Erik Ormberg
Bev Pierce

CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

Heidi Chuckran

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR

Denis Fraine

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

TOWN OF BELLINGHAM

WARRANT FOR SPECIAL TOWN MEETING

Norfolk, ss:

To either of the Constables of the Town of Bellingham, in the County of Norfolk;

GREETINGS:

In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, you are hereby directed to notify and warn the inhabitants of said Town, qualified to vote in elections and in Town affairs to meet at the

BELLINGHAM HIGH SCHOOL AUDITORIUM

Located at 60 Blackstone Street in said Bellingham, on Wednesday, the first day of May 2024, at 7:30 p.m., then and there to act on the following article:

ARTICLE 1.

To see if the Town will vote to amend its Zoning Bylaws as follows:

- 1. To add the following definition to the provisions of Section 240-32**

Warehouse: A building or facility with the primary function is to provide for the commercial storage and/or distribution of a wide variety of merchandise, good and/or other products. This shall include those facilities designed to store products in preparation for shipping and where those products are generally not made available for retail sale at the facility. Warehouses shall include those facilities for short or long term storage, and, in this manner shall also include fulfillment or “last mile” facilities for the short term storage and distribution of items made available through online or other similar sales. The storage or parking of tractor-trailers, trucks or trailers used in moving goods to or from Warehouses is also included within this definition. The term Warehouses shall not include retail self-storage facilities where members of the public can lease portions of a building for storage of household or personal goods or other items not intended for distribution or sale.

- 2. To amend Section 240-31, the Use of Regulation table, by changing “Yes” to “No” for Warehouses in the industrial Zone, thereby making Warehouses a prohibited use in all zoning districts within the Town of Bellingham.**

(By: Steve Goyette, 58 Box Road, Bellingham, MA 02019)

(“The Planning Board will hold a Public Hearing concerning this Article on April 25th and will offer their Recommendation at Town Meeting”)

Motion: I move the Town vote to amend its Zoning Bylaws as follows:

1. To add the following definition to the provisions of Section 240-32

Warehouse: A building or facility with the primary function is to provide for the commercial storage and/or distribution of a wide variety of merchandise, good and/or other products. This shall include those facilities designed to store products in preparation for shipping and where those products are generally not made available for retail sale at the facility. Warehouses shall include those facilities for short or long term storage, and, in this manner shall also include fulfillment or “last mile” facilities for the short term storage and distribution of items made available through online or other similar sales. The storage or parking of tractor-trailers, trucks or trailers used in moving goods to or from Warehouses is also included within this definition. The term Warehouses shall not include retail self-storage facilities where members of the public can lease portions of a building for storage of household or personal goods or other items not intended for distribution or sale.

2. To amend Section 240-31, the Use of Regulation table, by changing “Yes” to “No” for Warehouses in the industrial Zone, thereby making Warehouses a prohibited use in all zoning districts within the Town of Bellingham.

Motion made by Steve Goyette, Petitioner, and seconded.

Vote: Article Passed by required two-thirds vote, 295 Yes / 100 No (see note below)

Note: Due to the unusually large number of attendees (412), the number of electronic voting devices was exhausted. Therefore, 13 Town Meeting members voted by hand count. The vote breakdown was as follows:

Electronic Voting Devices:	285 Yes / 97 No
Hand Count:	10 Yes / 3 No
Total Vote:	295 Yes / 100 No

The article was not brought up for reconsideration.