

## 1752

### **March meeting 1752.**

The particulars mentioned in a warning for a Town meeting, in March, the fourth day, 1752,  
are as followeth, viz.

1. To choose Town officers as the law directs.
- 2ly. To see what the Town will do concerning swine going at large for the year ensuing.
- 3ly. To allow Mr. Sargent's salary for the ensuing year.
- 4ly. To see what the Town will act concerning repairing the meeting house.
- 5ly. To see what money the Town will raise for mending the highways, and for Mr. Sargent's salary, and other Town charges which may arise.
- 6ly. To see if the Town will allow a road or roads which the Selectmen have laid out,  
or exchange some road, for said road where the Town may think best.

### **Moderator.**

Voted, at a legal annual Town meeting in Methuen, on the 4 day of March, in the year 1752  
and chose Lieut. Daniel Bodwell moderator for that meeting.

### **Town Clerk.**

Voted, at a legal annual Town meeting in Methuen, on the 4 day of March, in the year 1752,  
and chose Asie Swan Town Clerk.

### **Selectmen.**

Voted, at a legal annual Town meeting in Methuen, on the 4 day of March, in the year 1752  
and chose Lieut. Daniel Bodwell selectman for the year ensuing & sworn.

Voted, at a legal annual Town meeting in Methuen, on the 4 day of March, in the year 1752,

and chose Richard Whittier selectman for the year ensuing and sworn.

**Town Treasurer.**

132. Voted, at a legal annual Town meeting in Methuen, on the 4 day of March, in the year 1752, and chose Ebenezer Barker, Town Treasurer.

**Constable.**

Voted, at a legal annual Town meeting in Methuen, on the 4 day of March, in the year 1752,  
and chose Amos Morse constable for the year ensuing.

**Tithingmen.**

Voted, at a legal annual Town meeting in Methuen, on the 4 day of March, in the year 1752,  
and chose John Hibberd Tithingman or the year ensuing and sworn.

Voted, at a legal annual Town meeting in Methuen, on the 4 day of March, in the year 1752,  
and chose Israel Herrick Tithingman and sworn.

Voted, at a legal annual Town meeting in Methuen, on the 4 day of March, in the year 1752,  
and chose

**Surveyors of Highways.**

Benjamin Stevens and sworn	Asie Swan Jun. and sworn	
William Emerson and sworn	John Mansur and sworn	} Surveyors of Highways.
Moses Pingry and sworn	Joseph Morse and sworn	
William Webber and sworn	Caleb Hall and sworn	

Voted, at a legal annual Town meeting in Methuen, on the 4 day of March, in the year 1752,  
and chose

Francis Swan	} Fence viewers and sworn.
Stephen Barker	

**Hogreeves.**

Voted, at a legal annual Town meeting in Methuen, on the 4 day of March, in the year 1752,

and chose

John Barker and sworn  
James How } Hogreeves.  
Ebenezer Hibberd & sworn

**Surveyors of lumber.**

Voted, at a legal annual Town meeting in Methuen, on the 4 day of March, in the year 1752,  
and chose

Stephen Barker  
Joseph Cross } Surveyors of lumber.  
Nathaniel Messer

**Leather sealer.**

Voted, at a legal annual Town meeting in Methuen, on the 4 day of March, in the year 1752,  
and chose William Emerson, Sealer of leather and sworn.

**Sealer of weights and measures.**

Voted, at a legal annual Town meeting in Methuen, on the 4 day of March, in the year 1752,  
and chose William Cross, Sealer of weights and measures for the year ensuing and sworn.

**Deer.**

Voted, at a legal annual Town meeting in Methuen, on the 4 day of March, in the year 1752,  
and chose John Harris and Philemon Barker to take care of the deer.

**Swine.**

133. Voted, at a legal annual Town meeting in Methuen, on the 4 day of March, in the year 1752,  
that swine may go at large the year ensuing.

**Salary.**

Voted, at a legal annual Town meeting in Methuen, on the 4 day of March, in the year 1752,  
to Mr. Sargent 57-0-0 to support him in his salary, for the year ensuing.

**Meeting house.**

Voted, at a legal annual Town meeting in Methuen, on the 4 day of March, in the year 1752,  
to repair the meeting house.

Voted, at a legal annual Town meeting in Methuen, on the 4 day of March, in the year 1752,  
to repair the meeting house windows with sash glass.

Voted, at a legal annual Town meeting in Methuen, on the 4 day of March, in the year 1752,  
that the selectmen take care to repair the meeting house.

**Highway rates.**

Voted, at a legal annual Town meeting in Methuen, on the 4 day of March, in the year 1752, to raise 35-00-0 pounds lawful money, to repair the highways the year ensuing.

**Salary & meeting house.**

Voted, at a legal annual Town meeting in Methuen, on the 4 day of March, in the year 1752, to raise 70-0-0 lawful money to defray Mr. Sargent's salary and to repair the meeting house.

This meeting is adjourned until Monday, the 16 day of March instant, to the meeting house, at one of the clock in the afternoon.

**Constable.**

Voted, at a legal annual Town meeting in Methuen, on the 16 day of March, in the year 1752,  
upon adjournment, and accepted of John Hibberd to serve constable in Amos Morse's room for the year ensuing, and he is sworn to that office.

**Morses dismissed from being constable.**

Voted, at a legal annual Town meeting in Methuen, on the 16 day of March, in the year 1752, upon adjournment, and dismissed Joseph Morse, Amos Morse, and Moses Morse from serving constable for the five years next ensuing.

Voted, at a legal annual Town meeting in Methuen, on the 16 day of March, in the year 1752, upon adjournment, to allow the committee that was employed to get to get Spickett set back to this Parish 1-6-8.

### **Robert Swan 1-6-8.**

Voted, at a legal annual Town meeting in Methuen, on the 16 day of March, in the year 1752, upon adjournment, to Robert Swan 1-14-0 for service done for the court in the Town's behalf.

134.

### **Thomas Messer.**

Voted, at a legal annual Town meeting in Methuen, on the 16 day of March, in the year 1752, upon adjournment, to Thomas Messer 4-2-0 for plank to mend the highways with.

### **The petition for a highway between Brown and Carleton.**

To the Selectmen of the Town of Methuen,

The petition of us the subscribers, inhabitants of said Town, most humbly sheweth,  
that whereas some of us labor under difficulties for want of a convenient road to the house  
for the public worship of God, and we all labor under great inconveniences for want of a road  
to the mills and meadows, to which place we have great occasion to go, and we may say without which we are not able to subsist, and we must still labor under these inconveniences except we  
can be relieved by the Town, who we can't think desires we should, therefore, gentlemen, we  
pray that you would lay out a Town road of two rods wide, from the road in said Town called  
the country road, beginning at the same, between the lots formerly George Brown's and John Carleton's, from thence along on the southerly side of said Carleton's lots, till it comes to the house of Samuel Cross, from thence as the way is now trod to the road leading from the meeting house in said Town to the mills at Spickett Falls, which will accommodate us for the purpose aforesaid, and take away all cause of complaint in that regard, which we humbly hope you will  
do, and make return of your doings at the next annual meeting in said Town.

Asie Swan Jun.

John Cross

Jonathan Griffin

Francis Swan

Joseph Stevens

Daniel Barker

Timothy Lovejoy

Joseph Cross

John Tibbets

Thomas Silver

Moses Pingry

Benjamin Hall

William Gage	Daniel Cross	John Lindsey
Caleb Swan	William Lindsey	Aaron Chamberlain
William Cross	Stephen Bodwell	Nathaniel Pettengill
Hezekiah Asten	John Pettengill	Joseph Hibberd
	John Tippetts Jun.	Samuel Cole

**These names are signers to the above written petition.**

In answer to the above said petition, we, the subscribers have laid out a private road beginning at Bloody Brook bridge, and so along by the old saw pit, so called, and so along as it is cleared, and so to a pine marked on the east side of the road, and so as the path is now trod that leads to the meeting house, the said road being two rods and a half wide. This road was laid out by,

Robert Swan & } Selectmen  
Richard Whittier } for said Town.

Voted, that this road shall be recorded at the annual meeting in March the 4 day 1752.

**John Johnson and Carleton.**

Voted, at the annual Town meeting in Methuen, on March the 4 day 1752, to exchange that road that was reserved between John Johnson's addition to his ten acre lot, and John Carleton's land, as may appear by record in Haverhill Town book. The exchange was with Richard Swan for a road through his land to go to meeting and to mill.

**135. A Town meeting in May 1752, for a Constable**

The particulars mentioned in a warning for a Town meeting in Methuen, on May the 4 day, 1752, are as followeth, viz.

Firstly, to choose a constable to fill up the vacancy occasioned by the death of the last constable.

2ly. To see what the Town will act concerning a reckoning with the County Treasurer.

Methuen, date May the 4 day, 1752.

Robert Swan } Selectmen  
Richard Whittier } of Methuen

Voted, at a legal Town meeting in Methuen, on May 18 day, 1752, and chose Lieut. Daniel Bodwell moderator for that meeting.

Voted, at a legal Town meeting in Methuen, on May 18 day, 1752, and chose Daniel Lovejoy constable to fill up the vacancy made in this Town by the death of the last constable.

Voted, at a legal Town meeting in Methuen, on May 18 day, 1752, and chose Lieut. Daniel Bodwell to settle the matter with the County Treasurer, concerning our part of the County rate.

**March meeting adjourned to the 25 day of May.**

This meeting is adjourned until Monday, the 25 day of May instant at 3 of the clock in the afternoon.

Voted, at a legal Town meeting in Methuen, on May the 25 day, 1752, by adjournment, from the annual meeting in March, and Daniel Lovejoy declared in said meeting that he would not take the oath of constable.

Voted, at a legal Town meeting in Methuen, on May the 25 day, 1752, by adjournment, from the annual meeting in March, and then chose John Hibberd constable for the year ensuing, to fill up the vacancy made in this Town by death, and the said John Hibberd declared and refused to take the oath of a constable in said meeting.

Voted, at a legal Town meeting in Methuen, on May the 25 day, 1752, by adjournment, and chose Joseph Clark, constable for the year ensuing, to fill up vacancy of that office occasioned in this Town by the death of the last constable.

This meeting is adjourned to Monday, the first day of June next, at the meeting house in said Town at 3 of the clock in the afternoon.

Methuen, date, May the 25 day, 1752.

**Stevens constable.**

Voted, at a legal Town meeting in Methuen, on adjournment from the first day of June 1752, to the 8 day of June instant, at three of the clock in the afternoon, and chose Benjamin Stevens constable for the year ensuing, to fill up the vacancy occasioned by the death of the last constable and he is sworn to that office as the law directs.

136. Voted, at a legal Town meeting in Methuen, on June the 8 day, 1752, by adjournment, and accepted of Benjamin Stevens to serve constable for Daniel Lovejoy as well as for himself the year ensuing.

**Hibberd & Clark. (this heading should likely be Clark & Ordway)**

Voted, at a legal Town meeting in Methuen, on adjournment, the 8 day of June 1752, and relinquished the fine of Joseph Clark and James Ordway for their not serving constable this present year 1752.

**The particulars mentioned in a warrant for a Town meeting are as followeth, in Methuen, on October the 9 day, 1752, are as followeth.**

First, to see what money the Town will raise to defray Town charges.

2ly. To allow Town debts.

3ly. To see what the Town will do concerning the school.

Warned by	Daniel Bodwell
	Robert Swan      } Selectmen
	Richard Whittier

Voted, at a legal Town meeting in Methuen, on October the 9 day, 1752, and chose Lieut.

Daniel Bodwell moderator for that meeting.

Voted, at a legal Town meeting in Methuen, on the 9 day of October, 1752, and chose Robert Swan Town Clerk for that meeting and sworn.

Voted, at a legal Town meeting in Methuen, on the 9 day of October, in the year 1752, to allow Daniel Bodwell and Robert Swan one shilling and sixpence each for laying out a road from Merrimack river to Dracut road, so called, through Mrs. Jonathan Parker's land and others.

Voted, at a legal Town meeting in Methuen, on the 9 day of October, in the year 1752, to Robert Swan and Richard Whittier one shilling and sixpence each for laying out a road from the meeting house to Bloody brook bridge.

Voted, at a legal Town meeting in Methuen, on the 9 day of October, in the year 1752, to raise money to make up what was raised in the annual meeting in March last, to repair the meeting house twenty pounds.

Voted, at a legal Town meeting in Methuen, on October the 9 day, 1752, to add to the money that was raised to glaze the meeting house, which was thirteen pounds, seven pounds; the whole amounting to twenty pounds.

Voted, that a school shall be kept at, or near Ebenezer Barker's.

Voted, at a legal Town meeting in Methuen, on October the 9 day, 1752, that the school be kept at George Hastings' house, if he will allow of the same.

Voted, at a legal Town meeting in Methuen, on October the 9 day, 1752, that there be a school kept at Richard Whittier's. The said schools are to be kept at each place three weeks..

## 1753

### 137. **March meeting 1753.**

The particulars mentioned in a warrant for an annual meeting in March the 7 day, 1753,  
are as followeth.

Firstly, to choose Town officers as the law directs.

2ly. To see if the Town will revoke the vote that was passed last annual meeting  
that freed the Morses from serving constable that year, since they have  
not  
fulfilled their agreement with the Town.

3ly. To see what the Town act concerning Mr. Sargent's salary.

4ly. To see what the Town will act concerning swine going at large.

5ly. To see what money the Town will raise for the repairing the highways.

6ly. To see if the Town will allow of the particular roads which she  
Selectmen  
have laid.

Voted, at a legal Town meeting in Methuen, on March the 7 day, 1753, and chose  
Lieut.  
Daniel Bodwell moderator for that meeting.

**Clerk.**

Voted, at a legal annual Town meeting in Methuen, on March the 7 day, 1753, and chose  
Asie Swan Town Clerk.

**Selectmen.**

Voted, at a legal annual Town meeting in Methuen, on March the 7 day, 1753, and chose

Lieut. Daniel Bodwell	Lieut. Daniel Bodwell, sworn
Ebenezer Barker and }	Ebenezer Barker sworn assessor, 1753
Nathaniel Messer	Nathaniel Messer sworn.

**Constable.**

Voted, at a legal annual Town meeting in Methuen, on March the 7 day, 1753, and chose  
Henry Sawyer and William Gage constables.

**Tithingmen.**

Voted, at a legal annual Town meeting in Methuen, on March the 7 day, 1753, and chose

sworn.	John Currier
	John Bailey } Tithingmen &
	Dea. James How

**Surveyors of highways.**

Voted, at a legal annual Town meeting in Methuen, on March the 7 day, 1753, and chose

Samuel Hazeltine surveyor and sworn

James How surveyor and sworn  
Daniel Lovejoy surveyor and sworn  
Caleb Swan surveyor and sworn  
Samuel Stevens surveyor and sworn  
James Mallon surveyor and sworn  
Joseph Stevens surveyor and sworn  
Joseph Pettengill surveyor and sworn

**138. Sealer of weights & measures.**

Voted, At a legal Town meeting in Methuen, on March the 7 day, 1753, and chose William Cross sealer of weights and measures.

**Fence viewers.**

Voted, at a legal annual Town meeting in Methuen, on March the 7 day, 1753, and chose Benjamin Hall and John Cross fence viewers, and both are sworn.

**Surveyor of lumber.**

Voted, at a legal annual Town meeting in Methuen, on March the 7 day, 1753, and chose John Harris surveyor of lumber and sworn.

**Sealer of leather.**

Voted, at a legal annual Town meeting in Methuen, on March the 7 day, 1753, and chose Richard Currier Sealer of leather and sworn.

**Swine.**

Voted, at a legal Town meeting in Methuen, on March the 7 day 1753, that swine may go at large the year ensuing.

**Hogreeves.**

Voted, at a legal annual Town meeting in Methuen, on March the 7 day 1753, and chose Ebenezer Carleton Hogreeve and sworn.

Voted, at a legal annual Town meeting in Methuen, on March the 7 day, 1753, and chose Zebediah Barker Jun. Hogreeve and sworn.

**Deer.**

Voted, at a legal annual Town meeting in Methuen, on March the 7 day, 1753, and chose John Harris to take care of the deer.

### **Salary.**

Voted, at a legal annual Town meeting in Methuen, on March the 7 day, 1753, to raise 57-0-0 lawful money for Mr. Sargent's salary the year ensuing.

Voted, at a legal annual Town meeting in Methuen, on March the 7 day, 1753, to raise 30-0-0 pounds, lawful money, to be laid out in repairing the highways with the year ensuing.

This meeting is adjourned to the 21 day of March instant, at one of the clock in the afternoon,  
at the meeting house in Methuen. 1753.

### **How Constable 1753.**

Voted, at a legal Town meeting in Methuen, on March the 21 day, 1753, by adjournment, and chose James How Jun. constable, and he refused to be sworn to that office.

### **Ordway Constable 1753.**

Voted, at a legal Town meeting in Methuen, on March the 21 day, 1753, and chose James Ordway constable, and he reused to be sworn to that office.

### **Morses money 1753.**

Voted, at a legal Town meeting in Methuen, on March the 21 day, 1753, that the money the Morses paid into the Town Treasury, shall be drawn out to hire a constable for the south end  
of this Town voted by adjournment.

### **Benjamin Stevens Constable 1753.**

139. Voted, at a legal Town meeting in Methuen, on March the 21 day, 1753, on adjournment, and accepted of Benjamin Stevens to serve constable in James How's and Henry Sawyer's room,  
and he is sworn to that office.

### **Gage and Ordway.**

Voted, at a legal Town meeting in Methuen, on March the 21 day, 1753, and relinquished the fine of William Gage and James Ordway from serving constable this year.

### **A road through Harris' land 1753.**

Methuen, November the 17, 1752. In answer to a petition to us, the subscribers, we have laid out a private way or road beginning at the house of John Harris Jun. and so along as the path is trod through John Harris' land to the end of Harris' wall, and so on southwesterly of said wall till it comes to the road that leads to Dracut, this road being laid out three rods wide, by us,

Daniel Bodwell & } Selectmen  
Richard Whittier

### **A road from Mistake pond to the house of John Merrill 1753.**

Methuen, November the 17 1753. In answer to a petition of several of the inhabitants of this Town, we have laid out a particular or private way, beginning at the southeast end of Mistake pond, at the road that leads from Spickett falls, along by said pond, and so along by the house of John Merrill as it is now cleared, till it comes to the road that leads from Abel Merrill's to Zebediah Barker's, this road being laid two rods wide, by us,

Daniel Bodwell, Richard Whittier, Selectmen

Voted, at a legal annual Town meeting in Methuen, on March the 7 day, 1753, and accepted of these two roads, and allowed them to be recorded, if the owners of the land will give the land for that use and service.

### **A Town meeting in October the 29 day, 1753.**

**The particulars mentioned in a warrant for a Town meeting in October, in the year 1753, are as followeth, viz.**

First, to act what the Town shall think best concerning school.

Secondly, to bring in and allow Town debts.

Thirdly, to make up a reckoning with the Town Treasurer.

Fourthly, to see what money the Town will raise, to defray Town charges.

Warned by

Lieut. Daniel Bodwell  
Ebenezer Barker & } Selectmen  
Nathaniel Messer

140. Voted, at a legal Town meeting in Methuen, on October the 29 day, 1753, and chose Lieut. Daniel Bodwell moderator for that meeting.

Voted to move the school.

Voted, at a legal Town meeting in Methuen, on October the 29 day, 1753, that the school shall be kept at the school house, and at Ebenezer Barker's house and Dea. Thomas Eaton's house; and at William Webber's house, and at Ebenezer Hibberd's, so long at each place as the selectmen shall judge fit.

Voted, at a legal Town meeting in Methuen, on October the 29 day, 1753, to Lieut. Daniel Bodwell 4 shillings for services done to the Town, concerning Hawk's meadow bridge.

Voted, at a legal Town meeting in Methuen, on October the 29 day, 1753, to raise 16-0-0 to defray Town charges this year.

Voted, at a legal Town meeting in Methuen, on October the 29 day, 1753, not to reckon with the Town Treasurer this year.

Voted to Lieut. Daniel Bodwell and Nathaniel Messer, 4-6 apiece for perambulating the line between Dracut and Haverhill.

Voted to Samuel Hazeltine ten shillings for his charges in opposing us in getting them set back to his Parish again.

Voted, at a legal Town meeting in Methuen, on October the 29 day, 1753, 3-0-0 pounds for services done the Town this year.

## 1754

### March meeting 1754.

The particulars mentioned in a warning for a Town meeting in Methuen, on March 6<sup>th</sup> 1754,  
are as followeth, viz.

Firstly, to choose Town officers for the year ensuing.

Secondly, to act what the Town shall then think best concerning Mr. Sargent's salary.

Thirdly, to allow of such ways as shall be laid out and returned into said meeting  
and to exchange the way that was formerly laid out through land now in possession  
of Joseph Morse, and land now in possession of John Sargent, to some more convenient place.

141. Fourthly, to act what may then be thought best, concerning repairing the highways.

Fifthly, to give liberty for swine to go at large the year ensuing.

Sixthly, to see what the Town will do concerning seating the meeting house.

### **Moderator.**

Voted, at a legal annual Town meeting in Methuen, on March the 6 day, 1754, and chose  
Lieut. Daniel Bodwell moderator for that meeting.

### **Clerk.**

Voted, at a legal annual Town meeting in Methuen, on March the 6 day, 1754, and chose  
Asie Swan Town clerk for the year ensuing.

### **Selectmen.**

Voted, at a legal annual Town meeting in Methuen, on March the 6 day, 1754, and chose  
Lieut. Daniel Bodwell selectman for the year ensuing.

Voted, at a legal annual Town meeting in Methuen, on March the 6 day, 1754, and chose  
Samuel Hazeltine selectman for the year ensuing.

Voted, at a legal annual Town meeting in Methuen, on March the 6 day, 1754, and chose Ebenezer Barker selectman for the year ensuing.

**Treasurer.**

Voted, at a legal annual Town meeting in Methuen, on March the 6 day, 1754, and chose Ebenezer Barker Town Treasurer for the year ensuing.

**Constable.**

Voted, at a legal annual Town meeting in Methuen, on March the 6 day, 1754, and chose Joseph Clark constable for the year ensuing, and sworn to that office.

Voted, at a legal annual Town meeting in Methuen, on March the 6 day, 1754, and chose James Ordway constable for the year ensuing, and sworn to that office.

**Tithingmen.**

Voted, at a legal annual Town meeting in Methuen, on March the 6 day, 1754, and chose Caleb Hall tithingman for the year ensuing and sworn to that office.

Voted, at a legal annual Town meeting in Methuen, on March the 6 day, 1754, and chose Jonathan Currier tithingman for the year ensuing, and sworn to that office.

**Surveyors of highways.**

142. Voted, at a legal annual Town meeting in Methuen, on March the 6 day, 1754, and chose

Evan Jones and sworn.	Zebediah Barker Jun. & sworn.
Dea. James How and sworn.	John Harris Jun. & sworn.
Thomas Whittier and sworn.	Samuel Palmer and sworn } Surveyors of
Highways	
Caleb Swan and sworn.	John Sargent and sworn
Henry Bodwell and sworn.	Thomas Whittier and sworn

**Sealer of weights and measures.**

Voted, at a legal annual Town meeting in Methuen, on March the 6 day, 1754, and chose William Cross Sealer of weights and measures.

**Leather sealer.**

Voted, at a legal annual Town meeting in Methuen, on March the 6 day, 1754, and chose Richard Currier Sealer of leather and sworn to that office.

**Fence viewers.**

Voted, at a legal annual Town meeting in Methuen, on March the 6 day, 1754, and chose Benjamin Hall and William Russ fence viewers and both are sworn to that office.

**Deer.**

Voted, at a legal annual Town meeting in Methuen, on March the 6 day, 1754, and chose John Harris to take care of the deer as the law directs.

**Surveyor of lumber.**

Voted, at a legal annual Town meeting in Methuen, on March the 6 day, 1754, and chose Stephen Barker surveyor of lumber and sworn.

Voted, at a legal annual Town meeting in Methuen, on March the 6 day, 1754, and chose Asie Swan Jun. surveyor of lumber.

**Hogreeves.**

Voted, at a legal annual Town meeting in Methuen, on March the 6 day, 1754, and chose Timothy Barker Hogreeve and sworn to that office.

Voted, at a legal annual Town meeting in Methuen, on March the 6 day, 1754, and chose Moses Pingry Hogreeve and sworn to that office.

**Salary.**

Voted, at a legal annual Town meeting in Methuen, on March the 6 day, 1754, to raise 42 pounds lawful money to defray Mr. Sargent's salary the year ensuing.

### **Morse's road.**

Voted, at a legal annual Town meeting in Methuen, on March the 6 day, 1754, that the road that leads by John Sargent's, and by Joseph Morse's shall go as the path is trodden.

143. Voted, at a legal annual Town meeting in Methuen, on March the 6 day, 1754, and chose Zebediah Barker Jun. and John Tippets Jun. and Daniel Bodwell Jun. and on adjournment of that meeting from the 6 day of March to the 3 day of April next, and then voted that James How Jun. and Nathaniel Pettengill Jun. be a committee to seat the meetinghouse with the above named Zebediah Barker and John Tippets and Daniel Bodwell, and to bring in their return at the next Town meeting.

### **Committee power.**

Voted, at a legal annual Town meeting in Methuen, on March the 6 day, 1754, that the meeting house shall be seated by the Town rate that was in the year 1728, and in the year 1752, and to bring no man back from where they were seated formerly.

### **Highway rate.**

Voted, at a legal annual Town meeting in Methuen, in April the 3 day, by adjournment in the year 1754, to raise 35-0-0 lawful money to be laid out in repairing the highways with, the year ensuing.

### **Swine.**

Voted, at a legal annual Town meeting in Methuen, on March the 6 day, 1754, that swine may go at large the year ensuing.

### **A meeting the first day of May 1754, for a representative.**

**The particulars mentioned in a warrant for a Town meeting in Methuen, on May the first day, 1754, are as followeth viz.**

To choose a representation, and

Secondly, to see what the Town will do towards the better support of the Rev. Mr. Sargent in the work of the ministry amongst us.

Voted, at a legal Town meeting in Methuen, on May, the first day, 1754, and chose Lieut. Daniel Bodwell moderator for that meeting.

Put to vote, and voted not to send a deputy.

Voted, at a legal Town meeting in Methuen, on May, the first day, 1754, not to act on the second article in the warning for this meeting.

### **A Town meeting to bring in Town debts. October the 21 day, 1754.**

**The particulars mentioned for a warrant for a Town meeting in Methuen, on October the 21 day, 1754, are as followeth, viz.**

Firstly, to bring in and allow Town debts.

Secondly, to act what the Town shall think best concerning school.

Thirdly, to see what money the Town will raise to defray Town charges.

Fourthly, to act what may be thought further needful or proper concerning seating meeting house.

### **144. Moderator for a Town meeting October 21 day, 1754.**

Voted, at a legal Town meeting in Methuen, on October the 21 day, 1754, and chose Capt. Daniel Bodwell moderator for that meeting.

Voted, at a legal Town meeting in Methuen, on October the 21 day, 1754, to Mr. Sargent six shillings, lawful money, for boarding Mr. Martin and his man.

Voted, at a legal Town meeting in Methuen, on October the 21 day, 1754, to Henry Bodwell Jun. 0-7-5 pence, lawful money, for boards and plank.

### **A Town rate.**

Voted, at a legal Town meeting in Methuen, on October the 21 day, 1754, to raise 17-00-0 lawful money, to defray Town charges, this year ensuing.

Voted, at a legal Town meeting in Methuen, on October the 21 day, 1754, to have the school kept at several places this year.

Voted, at a legal Town meeting in Methuen, on October the 21 day, 1754, to Capt. Daniel Bodwell 20 squares of window glass.

Voted, at a legal Town meeting in Methuen, on October the 21 day, 1754, and adjourned this meeting until the 28 day of October instant, on Monday at one of the clock in the afternoon, at the meeting house.

Voted, at a legal Town meeting in Methuen, on the 21 day of October, 1754, that the school shall be kept at the school house, and at the house of Richard Whittier, at the house of Ebenezer Barker, at the house of Thomas Eaton, at the house of James Bodwell or some other place or places convenient, as near as may be, according to each part of the Town's proportion to the tax, if such part of the Town shall provide a convenient place.

Voted, to Asie Swan, at a legal Town meeting in Methuen, on the 28 day of October, 1754, 0-9-7 for plank to make Bloody brook bridge.

Voted, at a legal Town meeting in Methuen, by adjournment, to Capt. Daniel Bodwell 4 shillings for boards, to make the windows for the meeting house.

Voted, at a legal Town meeting in Methuen, by adjournment, on the 28 day of October, in the year 1754, to Hezekiah Asten 0-18-8, for his charges and doctoring Stephen Flood who was taken sick at his house.

Voted, at a legal Town meeting in Methuen, by adjournment, on the 28 day of October, in the year 1754, to Benjamin Stevens 7-10-2, for making the windows for the meetinghouse.

Voted, at a legal Town meeting in Methuen, on adjournment from the 21 day of October, in the year 1754, to the 28 day of October instant, and accepted of the committee's return in seating the meeting house.

145. The particulars mentioned in a warning for a Town meeting, in November the 25 day, in the year 1754, are as followeth.

First, to see if the Town will build a long pew or pews in the vacancies in the meeting house, to make the women's seats more equal with the men's seats, than they now are.

Secondly, in answer to a petition to us presented by ten of the freeholders of this Town, to reconsider the vote of our late Town meeting respecting seating the meeting house as the committee reported, and also to choose another committee for the better seating of the same – 1754.

Thirdly, to act any thing or things that the Town shall then think best or proper concerning seating the meetinghouse.

Warned by,      Daniel Bodwell      } Selectmen  
                    Ebenezer Barker      } of Methuen.

**Moderator.**

Voted, at a legal Town meeting in Methuen, on November the 25 day, 1754, and chose Ebenezer Barker moderator for that meeting.

Voted, at a legal Town meeting in Methuen, on November the 25 day, 1754, to reconsider the last vote of our Town meeting respecting seating the meeting house.

Voted, at a legal Town meeting in Methuen, on November the 25 day, 1754, to choose a new committee to seat the meeting house.

Voted, at a legal Town meeting in Methuen, on November the 25 day, 1754, and chose

Ens. Nathaniel Mess  
Benjamin Herrick  
Benjamin Hall  
Timothy Merrick  
John Harris

**The committee instructed on seating the meetinghouse.**

Voted, at a legal Town meeting in Methuen, on November the 25 day, 1754, that the committee shall, for their rule in seating the meeting house, one Town rate in each year before the Town was divided into Parishes, and one Parish rate on each year while we were a Parish, and one Town rate in each year since.

Voted, at a legal Town meeting in Methuen, on November the 25 day, 1754, that the committee shall have regard to the aged as they shall think best.

Voted, at a legal Town meeting in Methuen, on November the 25 day, 1754, that the committee shall 'dignify' the seats.

## 1755

### 146. **March meeting.**

The particulars mentioned in a warrant for a Town meeting in Methuen on March the 5 day,  
in the year 1755, are as followeth, viz.

Firstly, to choose Town officers for the year ensuing.

Secondly, to act what the Town shall think best concerning Mr. Sargent's salary.

Thirdly, to act what the Town shall think best concerning repairing the highways.

Fourthly, to see I the Town will repair the schoolhouse.

Fifthly, to see if the Town will give liberty for swine to go at large the year ensuing.

Sixthly, to act what the Town shall then think proper, concerning exchanging some road, or, roads which have been formerly laid out to some place or places more convenient, as may then be requested by some of the inhabitants of this Town.

### **Moderator 1755**

Voted, at a legal annual Town meeting in Methuen, on March the 5 day, 1755, and chose Ebenezer Barker moderator for that meeting.

### **Town Clerk.**

Voted, at a legal annual Town meeting in Methuen, on March the 5 day, 1755, and chose Asie Swan Town Clerk for the year ensuing.

### **Selectmen 1755.**

Voted, at a legal annual Town meeting in Methuen, on March the 5 day, 1755, and chose

Ebenezer Barker and sworn  
Capt. Daniel Bodwell & sworn } Selectmen  
Samuel Hazeltine & sworn.

**Constable.**

Voted, at a legal annual Town meeting in Methuen, on March the 5 day, 1755, and chose Ebenezer Hibberd Constable for the year ensuing and he refused to be sworn to that office.

Voted, at a legal annual Town meeting in Methuen, on March the 5 day, 1755, and chose John Marston Constable for the year ensuing and sworn to that office.

**Town Treasurer.**

Voted, at a legal annual Town meeting in Methuen, on March the 5 day, 1755, and chose Ebenezer Barker Town Treasurer for the year ensuing.

Voted, at a legal Town meeting in Methuen, on March the 5 day, 1755, and chose

Benjamin Hall and sworn } Tithingmen.  
John Barker and sworn

**Surveyors of Highways.**

147.

Voted, at a legal annual Town meeting in Methuen, on March the 5 day, 1755, and chose

Joshua Emerson & sworn	John Harris Jr. sworn	Surveyors
James How Jun. & sworn	Joseph Pettingill & sworn	of Highways
Thomas Messer & sworn	Samuel Coles & sworn	} for the year
Caleb Swan & sworn	Stephen Barker & sworn	ensuring.
Henry Bodwell Jr. sworn		

Voted, at a legal Town meeting in Methuen, on March the 5 day, 1755, and chose Daniel Cross Sealer of weights and measures.

Voted, at a legal Town meeting in Methuen, on March the 5 day, 1755, and chose Richard Currier Sealer of leather and sworn.

**Fence viewer.**

Voted, at a legal annual Town meeting in Methuen, on March the 5 day, 1755, and chose William Russ fence viewer.

Voted, at a legal Town meeting in Methuen, on March the 5 day, 1755, and chose John Sargent fence viewer for the year ensuing.

**To take care of the deer.**

Voted, at a legal annual Town meeting in Methuen, on March the 5 day, 1755, and chose

Dea. James How & sworn  
Dea. Francis Swan & sworn } To take care of the deer.

**Surveyor of lumber.**

Voted, at a legal annual Town meeting in Methuen, on March the 5 day, 1755, and chose Samuel Bodwell surveyor of lumber for the year ensuing, and sworn.

Voted, at a legal annual Town meeting in Methuen, on March the 5 day, 1755, and chose Zebediah Barker Jun., surveyor of lumber for the year ensuing and sworn.

Voted, at a legal annual Town meeting in Methuen, on March the 5 day, 1755, and chose

James Mallon and sworn  
George Davis and sworn } Hogreeves for the year ensuing.

**Mr. Sargent's salary.**

Voted, at a legal annual Town meeting in Methuen, on March the 5 day, 1755, to raise 42-10-0 lawful money for Mr. Sargent's salary, the year ensuing.

This meeting is adjourned to Monday, the 17 day of March instant at one of the clock in the afternoon.

**148. Surveyor of weights & measures.**

Voted, at a legal annual Town meeting in Methuen, on March the 17 day, 1755, on adjournment, and chose Daniel Cross Sealer of weights and measures, and sworn.

**Field drivers**

Voted, at a legal annual Town meeting in Methuen, on March the 17 day, 1755, on adjournment from the 5<sup>th</sup> day of March, and chose

James Messer and  
Enoch Merrill      } Field drivers.

**Delinquent or behind in the last year's rate for the highways rate.**

Voted, at a legal annual Town meeting in Methuen, on March the 17 day, 1755, by adjournment, that what was delinquent of the highway rate in the year 1754, shall be annexed to the highway rate for the ensuing year, and the surveyors shall warn them to appear and work it out.

**Fish courses.**

Voted, at a legal annual Town meeting in Methuen, on March the 17 day, 1755, by adjournment from the 5 day of March, and chose Samuel Palmer and David Barker to take care of the fish courses the year ensuing.

**Highway rates.**

Voted, at a legal annual Town meeting in Methuen, on March the 17 day, 1755, on adjournment, to raise 40-00-0 lawful money to be laid out in repairing the highways, the year ensuing.

**School house.**

Voted, at a legal annual Town meeting in Methuen, on March the 17 day, 1755, on adjournment, to repair the school house this year.

Voted, at a legal Town meeting in Methuen, on March the 17 day, 1755, that Mr. John Bodwell shall repair the schoolhouse.

**Swine to go at large.**

Voted, at a legal annual Town meeting in Methuen, on March the 17 day, 1755, on adjournment, that swine may go at large the year ensuing.

Voted, at a legal annual Town meeting, that this meeting shall be adjourned until Friday next coming, which will be the 21 day of March instant, in the year 1755, at one of the clock in the afternoon.

Voted, at a legal annual Town meeting in Methuen, on March the 21 day, 1755, on adjournment from the 17 day of March instant, that the Town shall take a note of Ebenezer Hibberd for his fine in refusing to be sworn to the office of a constable this present year.

**149. Surveyors' instructions 1755.**

Voted, at a legal annual Town meeting in Methuen, on March the 21 day, 1755, by adjournment from the 17 day of March instant, in the year 1755, that the surveyors of the highways for the year ensuing, when they have received their list, shall give reasonable and timely notice to each person named in such list, that they may pay each man on his proportion therein set down by labor in repairing the highways, and the allowance or wages for such labor shall be for each man two shillings per day, and for a yoke of oxen one shilling and four pence per day, and for a cart four pence per day, for all that should be wrought before the first day of September, and three quarters so much for men and oxen and carts after that time, and such surveyors shall return their lists to the selectmen before the first day of December, with fair account of what hath been paid by each person, and the delinquent sums, if any be, shall be collected and received by the constable warrant from the Selectmen.

**The exchange between Palmer and Morse for a road to go there 1755.**

Voted, at a legal Town meeting in Methuen, on March the 21 day by adjournment from the 17 day of March, 1755, that the road that was laid out through the land of Samuel Palmer and land of Moses Morse, shall be exchanged, and laid on the west side of several marked trees on said Palmer's land, to the land of Moses Morse, and then easterly on the line between said Palmer and said Morse, till it comes to the trodden road.

**Ebenezer Hibberd's road exchanged 1755.**

Voted, at a legal annual Town meeting in Methuen, on March the 21 day, by adjournment from the 17 day of March, 177, that the road was formerly laid out through the land of Ebenezer Hibberd shall be exchanged and laid where it is now troddenly said Hibberd's dwelling house, provided that the said Hibberd shall cause the said new road, or that part of which was set out for him by the selectmen the last year, to be made a good and passable road upon his own cost.

**A warrant for a Town meeting in October to bring in Town debts in the year 1755.**

**The particulars mentioned in a warrant for a Town meeting in October the 13<sup>th</sup> day 1755, are as followeth.**

Firstly, to act what shall then be thought best concerning school.

Secondly, to choose a committee to reckon with the Town Treasurer, and give them instruction in order thereunto.

Thirdly, to bring in and allow Town debts.

Fourthly, to agree upon and grant such a sum of money to be raised as the Town shall think necessary and convenient to make an addition to our Town stock of ammunition, and to defray Town charges.

**Moderator.**

Voted, at a legal Town meeting in Methuen, on the 13 day of October 1755, and chose Ebenezer Barker moderator for that meeting.

**School 1755.**

Voted, at a legal Town meeting in Methuen, on the 13 day of October in the year 1755, that the school shall be kept at the schoolhouse the remainder of the present year.

**150. A committee to reckon with the Town Treasurer 1755.**

Voted, At a legal Town meeting in Methuen, on the 13 day of October 1755, and chose Capt. Daniel Bodwell and Mr. Samuel Hazeltine to be a committee to reckon with the Town Treasurer this year, and make return thereof into the next annual meeting.

Voted, at a legal Town meeting in Methuen, on the 13 day of October 1755, to raise 20 pounds of lawful money to defray Town charges, and to provide a Town stock of ammunition.

**1756**

**Annual Town meeting in Methuen on March the 13 day 1756.**

**The particulars mentioned in a warrant for a Town meeting, are as followeth,  
viz.**

- Firstly, to choose Town officers for the year ensuing.
- Secondly, to act what the Town shall think proper concerning Mr. Sargent's salary.
- Thirdly, to act what the Town shall then think best concerning school.
- Fourthly, to act what may be thought necessary or proper concerning the repairing  
the highways the year ensuing.
- Fifthly, to see if the Town will give liberty for swine to go at large the year ensuing.

Sixthly, to receive the report of the committee that was chosen to reckon with  
the  
Town Treasurer, and to act the Town's pleasure thereon.

**Moderator 1756.**

Voted, at a legal Town meeting in Methuen, on March the 3 day, 1756, and chose Ebenezer Barker moderator for that meeting.

**Town Clerk.**

Voted, at a legal Town meeting in Methuen, on March the 3 day, and chose Asie Swan Town Clerk for the year ensuing.

Voted, at a legal Town meeting in Methuen, on the 3 day, 1756, and chose

Ebenezer Barker  
Capt. Daniel Bodwell } Selectmen and sworn.  
Samuel Hazeltine

**Constable 1756.**

Voted, at a legal annual Town meeting in Methuen, on the 3 day, 1756, and chose Jonathan Currier Constable for the year ensuing, and he is sworn to that office.

**Town Treasurer 1756.**

Voted, at a legal annual Town meeting in Methuen, on the 3 day, 1756, Ebenezer Barker Town Treasurer, and he refuseth to serve in that office.

**Tithingmen.**

Voted, at a legal annual Town meeting in Methuen, on the 3 day, 1756, and chose

William Russ and  
Caleb Hall and sworn } Tithingmen.

**Constable.**

Voted, at a legal annual Town meeting in Methuen, on the 3 day, and accepted of Mr. John Sargent, constable and sworn to that office.

151. Voted, at a legal annual Town meeting in Methuen, on March the 3 day, 1756

John Bailey Jun. and sworn	Stephen Barker and sworn
Aaron Gage and sworn	Caleb Sawyer and sworn
Richard Messer and sworn	William Messer and sworn } Surveyors of
highways.	
Caleb Swan refuseth to serve	Joseph Stevens and sworn
Jacob Whittier and sworn	John Bailey and sworn

**Sealer of weights and measures 1756.**

Voted, at a legal annual Town meeting in Methuen, on the 3 day, 1756, and chose Daniel Cross Sealer of weights and measures and sworn.

**Fence viewers.**

Voted, at a legal annual Town meeting in Methuen, on Monday, the 3 day, 1756, and chose

Joseph Perkins and sworn } to the office  
James Ordway and sworn } of Fence viewers.

**To take care of the deer 1756.**

Voted, at a legal annual Town meeting in Methuen, on the 3 day, 1756, and chose

James How Jun. and } Sworn to take  
John Pettengill } care of the deer.

### **Surveyors of lumber 1756.**

Voted, at a legal Annual Town meeting in Methuen, on the 3 day, 1756, and chose

Samuel Bodwell and sworn  
Zebediah Barker Jr. and sworn } Surveyors of lumber.  
James Wilson and sworn

### **Hogreeves.**

Voted, at a legal annual Town meeting in Methuen, on the 3 day, 1756, and chose

Thomas Richardson Jun.  
John How } Hogreeves.  
Abel Huse

### **Field drivers.**

Voted, at a legal annual Town meeting in Methuen, on the 3 day, 1756, and chose  
Samuel Cross and Joseph Swan, Field drivers.

### **Mr. Sargent's salary 49-14. 1756.**

Voted, at a legal annual Town meeting in Methuen, on the 3 day, 1756, to raise 49-  
14-0  
to support Mr. Sargent in the preaching of the Gospel among us the year ensuing.

152.

### **School 1756.**

Voted, at a legal annual Town meeting in Methuen, on the 3 day, 1756, that at the fall  
of the year ensuing, the school shall be removed to several places in the outskirts of  
the  
Town in the manner and form as was voted in the year 1754.

### **The delinquent of the highway rate 1756.**

Voted, at a legal annual Town meeting in Methuen, on March the 3 day, 1756, that  
what  
was not wrought out of the highway rate for the year past, shall be added to the rate  
for  
the year ensuing.

Voted, at a legal annual Town meeting in Methuen, on March the 3 day, 1756, to raise 40-00-00 pounds lawful money to be laid out in repairing the highways the year ensuing.

#### **Adjournment.**

This meeting is adjourned until the next Monday at one of the clock in the afternoon at the meeting house in said Town. Adjourned from the 3 day of March, 1756.

#### **Surveyor of highways.**

Voted, at a legal annual Town meeting in Methuen, on adjournment, on March the 8 day, and chose Moses Cross surveyor of highways for the year ensuing in Caleb Swan's room, and sworn to that office.

Voted at a legal annual Town meeting in Methuen, on March the 8 day, by adjournment, and chose John Cross Tithingman for the year ensuing and sworn to that office.

#### **Town Treasurer.**

Voted, at a legal, annual Town meeting on March the 8 day, by adjournment, and chose Stephen Barker Town Treasurer for the year ensuing, and he is sworn to that office.

### **A Town meeting in October, 1756.**

**The particulars mentioned in a Town meeting in Methuen on October the 11<sup>th</sup> day in the year 1756, are as followeth, viz.**

First, to bring in and allow Town debts.

Secondly, to agree upon and grant such sum of money to be raised to defray Town charges as the Town shall think best.

Thirdly, to act what may be thought further needful and proper concerning repairing the highways.

Voted, at a legal Town meeting in Methuen, on October the 11 day, 1756, and chose Capt.

Daniel Bodwell moderator for that meeting.

Voted, at a legal Town meeting in Methuen, on October the 11 day, 1756, that every person which hath wrought in repairing the highways in this Town, the present year, more than his proportion in the rate, the same year, such overplus shall be allowed to him, and deducted  
out of the rate or rates next following for repairing the highways.

**153.** Voted, at a legal Town meeting in Methuen, on the eleventh day of October 1756 to William Cross 0-1-4 for finding the Town brand.

Voted, at a legal Town meeting in Methuen, on October the eleventh day, 1756, to Stephen Barker 0-3-5 for finding the plank for the highways.

Voted, at a legal Town meeting in Methuen, on October the eleventh day, 1756, to Capt. Daniel Bodwell 0-2-0 for finding plank for the highways.

Voted, at a legal Town meeting in Methuen, on October the eleventh day, 1756, to abate  
and allow the rate that was laid on Samuel Stevens and Jonathan Griffin, that they were  
rated for their sons, when they were gone to Nova Scotia the last year.

Voted, at a legal Town meeting in Methuen, on October the eleventh day, 1756, to raise  
20-00-00 pounds lawful money, to defray Town charges, the year ensuing.

## **Annual Town meeting 1757.**

**The particulars mentioned in a warrant for the annual Town meeting in  
Methuen  
on March the 2 day 1757, are as followeth viz.**

Firstly, to choose Town officers for the year ensuing.

Secondly, to act what the Town shall think best concerning Mr. Sargent's salary.

Thirdly, to act what the Town shall think best concerning schools.

Fourthly, to act what shall be thought best concerning repairing the highways.

Fifthly, to receive a list of persons for jurymen then to be brought in by the selectmen, and act the Town's pleasure thereon.

Sixthly, to see if the Town will give liberty for swine to go at large the year ensuing.

Seventhly, to see if the Town will appoint another burying place or places.

Eightly, to choose a committee to reckon with the Town Treasurer.

Warned by John Sargent, constable, by the order of

Capt. Daniel Bodwell  
Ebenezer Barker      } Selectmen

**154. Moderator.**

Voted, at a legal annual Town meeting in Methuen, on March the 2 day 1757, and chose

Capt. Daniel Bodwell moderator for that meeting.

**Town Clerk.**

Voted, at a legal annual Town meeting in Methuen, on March the 2 day 1757, and chose

Asie Swan Town Clerk.

**Selectmen.**

Voted, at a legal annual Town meeting in Methuen, on March the 2 day 1757, and chose

John Bodwell  
William Russ      } Selectmen of Methuen and they are each sworn.  
Stephen Barker

Voted at a legal annual Town meeting in Methuen, on March the 2 day, 1757 and chose

Samuel Bodwell and sworn  
Moses Pingry      } Constables.

Voted, at a legal annual Town meeting in Methuen, on March the 2 day, 1757, and chose Stephen Barker Town Treasurer and sworn.

**Tithingmen.**

Voted, at a legal annual Town meeting in Methuen, on March the 2 day, 1757, and chose

Benjamin Hall and

Dea. Thomas Eaton } Tithingmen and sworn.

### **Surveyors of highways.**

Voted, at a legal annual Town meeting in Methuen, on March the 2 day, 1757, and chose

Richard Currier and sworn	John Barker and sworn	Surveyors
Aaron Gage and sworn	Caleb Sawyer and sworn	} of highways
Richard Messer and sworn	Moses Cross and sworn	} the year
Joseph Stevens and sworn	Jacob Whittier and sworn	ensuing.
Nathaniel Pettengill Jun. and sworn		

### **Sealer of weights & measures.**

Voted, at a legal annual Town meeting in Methuen, on March the 2 day, 1757, and chose

Daniel Cross sealer of weights and measures, for the year ensuing and sworn.

### **Fenceviewers**

Voted, at a legal annual Town meeting in Methuen, on March the 2 day, 1757, and chose

James How Jun. and	
John Tippets Jun.	} Fenceviewers and sworn.

### **To take care of the deer.**

Voted, at a legal annual Town meeting in Methuen, on March the 2 day, 1757, and chose

John Harris Jun. and	
Isaac Austin,	to take care of the deer as the law directs.

### **155. Sealer of leather.**

Voted, at a legal annual Town meeting in Methuen, on March the 2 day, 1757, and chose

John Bailey sealer of leather for the year ensuing and sworn.

### **Surveyors of lumber.**

Voted, at a legal annual Town meeting in Methuen, on March the 2 day, 1757, and chose

Zebediah Barker Jun. and sworn  
and John Cross and sworn and     } Surveyors o f lumber for the year ensuing.  
James Wilson and sworn

**Field driver.**

Voted, at a legal annual Town meeting in Methuen, on March the 2 day, 1757, and chose

Benjamin Marston Field driver and sworn.

**Hogreeves.**

Voted, at a legal annual Town meeting in Methuen, on March the 2 day, 1757, and chose

Perley Ayer &  
Reuben Emerson &     } Hogreeves and they 2 are sworn.  
Timothy Barker

**Mr. Sargent's Salary.**

Voted, at a legal annual Town meeting in Methuen, on March the 2 day, 1757, to raise

42-10-0 to support Mr. Sargent the year ensuing, for preaching the Gospel amongst us this present year ensuing.

Voted, at a legal annual Town meeting in Methuen, on March the 2 day, 1757, that swine go at large the year ensuing .

**The highway rate.**

Voted, at a legal annual Town meeting in Methuen, on March the 2 day, 1757, to raise

40-0-0 to repair the highways the ensuing.

**A committee to provide a burying place or places one at the west end of the Town and  
one at the east end.**

Voted, at a legal annual Town meeting in Methuen, on March the 2 day, 1757, and chose John Harris and Stephen Barker a committee to provide a burying place at the west end of the Town.

Voted, at a legal annual Town meeting in Methuen, on March the 2 day, 1757, and chose Lieut. Benjamin Herrick and Richard Whittier a committee to provide a burying place for the east end of the Town, and to bring their report at the next meeting.

156. June 1757.

The particulars mentioned in a warrant for a Town meeting are as followeth viz.

First, to receive the report of the committee that was chosen at our last annual Town meeting to lay out a burying place in several places in the Town, and to act the Town's pleasure thereon.

Secondly, in answer to a petition of thirteen of the inhabitants of said Town, to see what the Town will do concerning releasing those who are oppressed in paying rates to the minister contrary to the words of God, and the laws of our king.

Thirdly, to see if the Town will remit the minister rates to those persons who do not attend the preaching at the said meeting house.

Hereof fail not and make return and so forth dated at Methuen aforesaid the seventh day of June Anno Domini 1757.

Signed by John Bodwell and } Selectmen  
Stephen Barker } of Methuen.

## Moderator 1757.

Voted, at a legal Town meeting in Methuen, on June the 21 day, 1757, and chose Ebenezer Barker moderator for that meeting.

Voted, at a legal Town meeting in Methuen, on June the 21 day, 1757, to receive the committee's report brought in concerning a burying place, and it continued to another meeting.

## **The petitioners not to pay the minister rates.**

To the honored selectmen of this Town of Methuen, the humble petition of us  
whose

names are hereto subscribed, is, that you would appoint or order a Town meeting, that we may know what the Town will do concerning the releasing those who are oppressed in paying rates  
to the minister contrary to the word of God and the laws of our king.

Zebediah Barker	John Hibberd	Voted, at a legal Town
David Barker	Ebenezer Hibberd	meeting in Methuen,
Timothy Barker	Samuel Palmer	} on June 21, 1757,
Joseph Gutterson	Joseph Pettengill	not to dismiss or free the
William Cross Jun.	William Messer	petitioners from paying
William Webber	Caleb Richardson	to the minister rate.

**157. Negative votes.**

Voted, at a legal Town meeting in Methuen, on June the 21 day, 1757, it being suggested to  
the Town that some persons were pressed in paying rates to the minister contrary to  
the word  
and the laws of our king, the question was put whether it appeared to the Town that  
any were  
so oppressed, passed in the negative.

**A Town meeting in November 1757.**

**The particulars mentioned in a warrant for a Town meeting in Methuen, on  
Tuesday, the first day of November, in the year 1757, are as followeth viz.**

First, to receive the report of the committee that was chosen to reckon with  
the former Town Treasurer, and act the Town's pleasure thereon.

Secondly, to act what the Town shall think proper relating to the school.

Thirdly, to bring in and allow Town debts.

Fourthly, to agree upon, and grant such sum of money to be raised, as the  
Town shall think necessary to defray Town charges.

Fifthly, to see whether the Town will allow Mr. Adams of Newbury pay for  
the highway that is laid out through his land in this Town or otherwise act  
what  
the Town shall think proper thereon.

Warned by

John Bodwell

William Russ } Selectmen of  
Methuen.  
Stephen Barker

**A highway from Currier to Messer's 1757.**

Voted, at a legal Town meeting in Methuen, on Tuesday, the 1 day of November by adjournment to the 15 day of November 1757 instant; Whereas there hath formerly a private or particular way laid out by the dwelling house of Ebenezer Carleton and by the dwelling house of Jonathan Currier in this Town, and part of said way is now found unnecessary, wherefore voted that part of said way, that is from the house of Abiel Messer, to the house of Jonathan Currier shall be, and hereby is discontinued.

**Town rate.**

Voted, at a legal Town meeting on Tuesday the 15 day of November, by adjournment to raise 20-0-0 pounds to defray Town charges this year 1757.

**School 1757.**

Voted, at a legal Town meeting in Methuen on adjournment from the first day of November to the 15 day of November instant in the year 1757, that the school shall be kept at the house of Richard Whittier one month the year 1757.

Voted, at a legal Town meeting in Methuen on adjournment from the first day of November to the 15 day of November instant in the year 1757, that the school shall be kept at the house of John Barker one month this year 1757, or some house near.

Voted, at a legal Town meeting in Methuen, on Tuesday the 15 day of November instant, in the year 1757, that the school shall be kept at the dwelling house of James Bodwell or some house near to it, one month this year, 1757.

158. Voted, At a legal Town meeting in Methuen, on Tuesday, the 15 day of November instant, in the year 1757, by adjournment from the first day of November, in the year 1757, that the school shall be kept at the dwelling house of Thomas Eaton, one month, or at some other house near to it one month this year 1757.

**1758**

**March meeting 1758.**

The particulars mentioned in a warrant for a Town meeting in Methuen, on March the first  
day 1758 are as followeth viz.

- 1ly. To choose a moderator and other Town officers, as the law directs for  
the year ensuing.
- 2ly. To act what the Town shall think proper concerning the Reverend Mr.  
Sargent's salary.
- 3ly. To consider what the Town will do concerning repairing the highway and  
to raise money therefore, and to raise money to defray other Town  
charges,  
if needed.
- 4ly. To act what the Town shall think proper concerning a school or schools,  
in  
said Town.
- 5ly. To see if the Town will give liberty for swine to go at large the year  
ensuing.
- 6ly. To see whether the Town will choose a committee to take care of the  
parsonage.
- 7ly. To see whether the Town will allow the highway to be turned about six  
poles  
to the south by Mr. William Guttersons, by his desire.

### **Moderator.**

Voted, and chose Ebenezer Barker moderator for our annual Town meeting in  
Methuen, on March the first day, in the year 1758.

### **Town Clerk.**

Voted, at the annual Town meeting in Methuen, on March the first day, and chose  
Asie Swan Town Clerk, and sworn to that office.

### **Selectmen.**

Voted, at the annual Town meeting in Methuen, on March the first day, and chose

Ebenezer Barker	John Mansur	} Selectmen for the year
Samuel Hazeltine	Richard Whittier	} ensuing, and they are sworn.
James Ordway		

**Constable.**

Voted, at the annual Town meeting in Methuen on March the first day, in the year 1758,  
and chose James Wilson constable for the east end of the Town this year ensuing, and sworn to that office.

**Constable Morse 1758.**

Voted, at a legal annual Town meeting in Methuen on March the 7 day, by adjournment and chose Amos Morse constable and he is sworn to that office for the year ensuing, that is 1758.

**159. Constable 1758.**

Voted, at the annual Town meeting in Methuen, on the first day of March in the year 1758,  
and chose Stephen Barker Constable for the ensuing year, and he refused to serve in that office, and the Town voted to relinquish his fine for not serving this year.

Voted, at the annual Town meeting in Methuen, on the first day of March, in the year 1758,  
and chose John Sargent constable for the year ensuing, and he refused to serve in that office for the year ensuing, and the Town voted that his fine shall be relinquished.

**Constable 1758.**

Voted, at the annual Town meeting in Methuen, on March the first day, in the year 1758,  
and chose Nathaniel Pettengill Jun. constable for the year ensuing, and he refused to serve in that office for the year ensuing and the Town voted to relinquish his fine this year.

**Town Treasurer 1758.**

Voted, at the annual Town meeting in Methuen, on March the first day, in the year 1758, and chose Stephen Barker Town Treasurer, for the year ensuing, and sworn to that office for the year ensuing.

**Tithingmen.**

Voted, at the annual Town meeting in Methuen, on March the first day, in the year 1758, and chose Caleb Hall and Francis Sawyer, Tithingmen for the year ensuing;

and Caleb Hall and James How Jun. Tithingmen for the year ensuing, and they are sworn to that office for the year ensuing.

### **Surveyors of highways 1758.**

Voted, at the annual Town meeting in Methuen, on March the first day, in the year 1758, and chose

James Jones	John Barker
Richard Messer Jr.	Samuel Cole
Moses Cross	Thomas Richardson Jr.
Samuel Stevens	Daniel M. Cleary
John Marston	Joseph Clark

} and sworn to that office, all but Jones.

### **Sealer of weights and measures.**

Voted, at the annual Town meeting in Methuen, on March the first day, in the year 1758,  
and chose Daniel Cross Sealer of weights and measures for the year ensuing and he is sworn to that office.

### **Fenceviewers.**

Voted, at the annual Town meeting in Methuen, on March the first day, in the year 1758,  
and chose John Tippets Jun. and James How Jun., Fence viewers and sworn.

### **5 Selectmen this year 1758.**

Voted, at the annual Town meeting in Methuen, on the first day of March , in the year 1758,  
to choose five selectmen the year ensuing, for the same sum, that the three Selectmen had the last year.

Voted, at the annual Town meeting in Methuen, on March the first day, in the year 1758, and chose Perley Ayer and James Maloney Jun. to take care of the deer, and sworn to that office.

### **160. Sealer of leather.**

Voted, at a legal Town meeting in Methuen, on March the first day, in the year 1758, John Bailey Jun. Sealer of leather, and he is sworn to that office.

Voted, at the annual Town meeting in Methuen, on March the first day, in the year 1758, and chose

James Wilson and  
Zebediah Barker Jun.   } Surveyors of lumber and sworn.  
Asie Swan Jun.  
John Cross and sworn

**Fenceviewers.**

Voted, at the annual Town meeting in Methuen, on March the first day, in the year 1758,  
and chose Daniel Lovejoy and James Messer, field drivers and sworn to that office  
for the  
year ensuing.

Voted, at the annual Town meeting in Methuen, on March the first day, in the year 1758, and chose Perley Ayer, David Barker, George Davis, Hog reeves for the year ensuing and all sworn to that office.

**Mr. Sargent's salary.**

Voted, at the annual Town meeting in Methuen, on March the first day, in the year 1758,  
that there shall be raised and paid to the Rev. Mr. Sargent, as his salary the present  
year,  
the sum of 43-16-8, lawful money.

**In answer to a petition of William Gutterson to return a road by his house.**

Voted, at the annual Town meeting in Methuen, on March the first day, in the year 1758,  
to answer the petition of William Gutterson, viz.

That the road that was laid out through his land, might be removed about five or six rods  
to the south, it being more convenient for myself and the public, and you will oblige  
your humble petitioner, William Gutterson. This petition is answered by a major vote  
in this  
meeting.

**Highway rate.**

Voted at a legal Town meeting in Methuen, on March the first day, 1758, to mend the  
highways this year by a rate.

Voted, at the annual Town meeting in Methuen, on March the first day, 1758, to raise  
44-0-0  
to mend the highways this year by the same rule as the last year.

**The committee to take care of the parsonage this year.**

Voted, at the annual Town meeting in Methuen, on March the first day, in the year  
1758,  
and chose

Joseph Stevens  
Daniel Bodwell Jun.   } a committee to take care of the  
Josiah Osgood              Parsonage this year ensuing, 1758.

**161. A Town meeting October the second day to bring in Town debts  
1758.**

The particulars mentioned in a warrant for a Town meeting in Methuen, in October  
the  
22 day, in the year 1758, are as followeth viz.

First, to choose a moderator for the same meeting.

Secondly, to choose a constable to fill up a vacancy occasioned by the  
removal  
of Amos Morse from the Town into his majesty's service as a bateauman.

Thirdly, to bring in and allow Town debts.

Fourthly, to act what the Town shall think best relating to school.

Fifthly, to choose a committee to reckon with the Town Treasurer.

Sixthly, to agree upon and grant such sum of money to be raised to defray  
Town charges, as the Town shall think best.

**Moderator in the year 1758.**

Voted, at a legal Town meeting in Methuen, on October the 22 day in the year 1758,  
and chose Ebenezer Barker moderator for that meeting.

**Adjournment.**

Voted, at a legal Town meeting in Methuen, on October the 22 day in the year 1758,

and adjourned this meeting to the 10 day of November next, at eleven of the clock in the forenoon.

Voted, at a legal Town meeting in Methuen, on November the 10 day, 1758, and adjourned this meeting to Wednesday the 15 day of November instant, at eleven of the clock in the forenoon.

Voted, at a legal Town meeting in Methuen, on Wednesday, the 15 day of November, by adjournment from the 10 day of November, 1758, and dissolved the meeting.

### **A Town meeting on the 4 day of December 1758.**

**The particulars mentioned in a warning for a Town meeting in Methuen, on this 4 day of December in the year 1758, are as followeth viz.**

First, to choose a moderator for said meeting.

Secondly, to act what the Town shall think best relating to the school.

Thirdly, to choose a committee to reckon with the Town Treasurer and to give them their instruction.

Fourthly, to bring in and allow Town debts.

Fifthly, to agree upon and grant such sum of money to be raised to defray Town charges as the Town shall then think proper.

Sixthly, to see if the Town will discontinue the road or private way which leads across Spicket River, by the house of Mr. Caleb Hall, or otherwise to cause the bridge called London Bridge on said way to be repaired.

#### **162. Moderator 1758.**

Voted, at a legal Town meeting in Methuen, on Monday the 4 day of December, in the year 1758, and chose Capt. Daniel Bodwell moderator for that meeting.

#### **School.**

Voted, at a legal Town meeting in Methuen, on Monday the 4 day of December, in the year 1758, that the school shall be kept at five places this year, at, or near the places where usually have been kept.

### **Committee.**

Voted, at a legal Town meeting in Methuen, on Monday the 4 day of December, in the year 1758, and chose

Daniel Bodwell Jun.      }  
John Sargent and      } a committee to reckon with the Town Treasurer and  
to                              } bring in their report at the next Town meeting or  
return.

### **Town debts.**

Voted, at a legal Town meeting in Methuen, on Monday the 4 day of December, in the year 1758, to John Tippets 0-4-6 lawful money, for a copy of a highway taken out of the office at Salem.

Voted, at a legal Town meeting in Methuen, on Monday the 4 day of December, in the year 1758, to William Morse 0-4-0 lawful money.

Voted, at a legal Town meeting in Methuen, on Monday the 4 day of December, in the year 1758, to Asie Swan 0-0-7 pence, lawful money.

Voted, at a legal Town meeting in Methuen, on Monday the 4 day of December, in the year 1758, to William Russ 0-3-0 lawful money.

Voted, at a legal Town meeting in Methuen, on Monday the 4 day of December, in the year 1758, to Timothy Merrick 1-4-0 lawful money.

Voted, at a legal Town meeting in Methuen, on Monday the 4 day of December, in the year 1758, to raise 16-0-0 pounds lawful money to defray Town charges this year.

Voted, at a legal Town meeting in Methuen, on Monday the 4 day of December, in the year 1758, to continue the sixth article in this warning for said meeting, concerning London bridge.

1759

**Methuen, February 21, 1759.**

## A highway between Davis and Marston 1759.

In answer to a petition of several of the inhabitants of this Town, we have laid out a private or particular way, beginning at the country road between the land of Benjamin Hall's and Jacob Marston's land, so one rod upon each of their land, till it comes to James Silver's land, so half on Silver's land, so winding round the north end of Davis' meadow to the south side of two marked trees, then all on Davis' land, till it meets the old road.

Laid out by Ebenezer Barker  
James Ordway } Selectmen of  
Methuen.  
Richard Whittier 1759.

163.

## March meeting 1759.

The particular mentioned in a warrant for a Town meeting in Methuen, on March the 7 day,  
in the year 1759, are as followeth, that is,

First, to choose a moderator.

Secondly, to choose Town officers for the year ensuing as the law directs.

Thirdly, to act what the Town shall proper concerning Mr. Sargent's salary.

Fourthly, to act what shall then be thought best concerning repairing the highways.

Fifthly, to act what shall then be thought convenient relating to the school.

Sixthly, to receive the report of the committee that was chosen to reckon with the Town Treasurer, and act the Town's pleasure thereon.

Seventhly, to take under consideration the private ways, that, being laid out, shall be returned into said meeting, viz. From the house of Benjamin Hall, to the house of John Davis, and also the way that was formerly laid out that leads from the house of John Marston to the house of James Ingalls, and hath been improved as an highway, but no record of the same appears on the Town book, and also the way that leads from the house of Timothy Lovejoy to the house of Daniel Cross, as it was altered from the place where it was laid, and to act what the Town shall think best respecting the said ways.

Eightly, to see if the Town will discontinue the way that leads across Spicket river,  
at the bridge called London bridge. Ninthly, to give liberty for swine to go at large.

Warned by Ebenezer Barker  
James Ordway } Selectmen in the  
year 1758.  
John Mansur

## Moderator

Voted, and chose Ebenezer Barker moderator for that meeting.

164. Voted, at a legal annual Town meeting in Methuen, on March the 7 day, and chose Asie Swan Town Clerk for the year ensuing and sworn.

## Constables

Voted, at a legal annual Town meeting in Methuen, on March the 7 day, and chose William Messer and Richard Currier Constables and both sworn to that office.

## Selectmen

Voted, at a legal annual Town meeting in Methuen, on March the 7 day, and chose

Richard Whittier  
Samuel Hazeltine and } Selectmen and sworn to that office.  
Dea. Ebenezer Barker

### **Adjournment**

Voted and adjourned this meeting to Tuesday the 20 day of this March instant, to meet at the meeting house, at ten of the clock in the forenoon on said day.

### **Town Treasurer**

Voted, at a legal annual Town meeting in Methuen, on March the 20 day, on adjournment from the 7 day of March in the year 1759, and chose Stephen Barker Town Treasurer and sworn to that office.

Voted, at a legal annual Town meeting in Methuen, on adjournment, and chose

James Messer and sworn  
William Cross and } Tithingmen.  
Timothy Barker and sworn

**165.** Voted, at a legal annual Town meeting in Methuen, on March the 20 day, 1759, by adjournment, and chose Moses Pingry and John How, field drivers, and Moses Pingry is sworn to that office.

### **Hogreeves**

Voted, at a legal annual Town meeting in Methuen, on March the 20 day, 1759, and chose

David Barker  
George David } Hogreeves and all sworn.  
Perley Ayer

### **Surveyors of highways**

Voted, at a legal annual Town meeting in Methuen, on March the 20 day, 1759, by adjournment, and chose

Asie Swan and sworn  
Daniel Lovejoy sworn to that office

Aaron Gage sworn to that office  
Thomas Eaton sworn to that office  
Josiah Osgood sworn to that office    } Surveyors of highways.  
John Austin sworn to that office  
John Harris Jun. sworn to that office  
Samuel Bodwell

Voted, at a legal annual Town meeting in Methuen, on March 20, 1759, by adjournment,  
and chose Daniel cross, Sealer of weights and measures, & he is sworn to that office.

**Fenceviewers.**

Voted, at a legal annual Town meeting in Methuen, on March the 20 day, 1759, and chose  
James How Jun. and John Tippets Jun. Fenceviewers and sworn.

**To take care of the deer.**

Voted, at a legal annual Town meeting in Methuen, on March the 20 day, 1759, and chose

John Mansur and  
Dea. James How    }    is sworn to take that office, to take care of the deer,  
as the law directs.

**Surveyors of timber.**

Voted, at a legal annual Town meeting in Methuen, on March the 20 day, 1759, by adjournment, and chose

Asie Swan Jun.  
John Cross and    } Surveyors of timber.  
John Barker

Voted, at a legal annual Town meeting in Methuen, on March the 20 day, 1759, to raise  
40-0-0 pounds to defray Town charges in repairing the highways this year.

Voted, at a legal annual Town meeting in Methuen, on March the 20 day, 1759, by adjourn-  
ment, that those persons who were delinquent in working out their highway rate this  
year past, shall be added to the rate this year for repairing the highways.

Voted to pass by the 6 article in the warning.

Voted, that swine may go at large this year.

The sixth article in the warning is voted in the negative. 1759.

**166. Mr. Sargent's Salary 1759.**

Voted, at a legal annual Town meeting in Methuen, by adjournment from the 7 day of March

to the 20 day of March instant, then voted to Rev. Mr. Sargent as his salary the present year, 1759, forty nine pounds, fourteen shillings.

**The particulars in a warrant for a Town meeting in Methuen on April the 1 day 1752.**

The particulars mentioned in a warrant for a Town meeting are as followeth.

Firstly, to choose a surveyor of the highways.

Voted, at a legal Town meeting in Methuen, and chose Jonathan Barker surveyor of the highways for the year ensuing, and he is sworn to that office.

The particulars mentioned in a warrant for a Town meeting on December the 18 day, 1759,  
are as followeth.

First, to choose a moderator for that meeting.

2ly. To see what the Town will do concerning the school.

3.ly. To bring in Town debts.

4ly. To see what the Town will allow to defray Town charges this year.

5ly. To choose a committee to reckon with the Treasurer.

**Moderator for a Town meeting 1759.**

Voted, at a legal Town meeting in Methuen, on December, the 18 day 1759, and chose

Ebenezer Barker moderator for that meeting.

**School 1759.**

Voted, at a legal Town meeting in Methuen, on December the 18 day, 1759, that the school shall be kept at the house of Daniel Lovejoy part of the time.

Voted, at a legal Town meeting in Methuen, on Tuesday the 18 day of December in the year 1759, that the school shall be kept at the house of Thomas Eaton part of the time.

Voted, at a legal Town meeting in Methuen, on Tuesday the 18 day of December in the year 1759, that the school shall be kept at the house of John Mansur part of the time.

Voted, at a legal Town meeting in Methuen, on Tuesday the 18 day of December in the year 1759, that the school shall be kept at the house of John Hibberd part of the time.

### **Town debts to 1759.**

Voted, at a legal Town meeting in Methuen, on Tuesday the 18 day of December in the year 1759, to Joseph Stevens 0-16-0 shillings for timber to cover London bridge.

### **Henry Bodwell 0-2-8.**

Voted, at a legal Town meeting in Methuen, on Tuesday the 18 day of December in the year 1759, to Henry Bodwell 0-2-8 for plank to cover Bloody brook bridge.

**167.** Voted, at a legal Town meeting in Methuen, on Tuesday the 18 day of December in the year 1759, to raise 20-00-0 pounds to defray Town charges this year.

Voted, at a legal Town meeting in Methuen, on Tuesday the 18 day of December, to choose a committee to reckon with the Town Treasurer.