

1780

March 8, 1780 - Annual Meeting

The particulars of the Annual Meeting March 8th 1780

First To Choose (chose) Town officers Mr James Ingalls Choose (chose)n Moderator for meeting

Jonathan Swan Choose (chose)n Town Clerk and Town Treasurer & Sworn

Asa Messer Choose (chose)n Constable for the East End of the Town

The Town accepted Elijah Carlton in his stead and sworn

Abel Morrill Choose (chose)n **Constable for the West End** of the Town and on his refusal to take oath and paying the fine Joseph Griffin was Choose (chose)n and sworn

Tything men & Sworn

William Morse Thomas Herrick Parker Richardson

Surveyors of Highways & Sworn

Richard Whittier Jr	John Sargeant	Nathan Swan
Francis Richardson	James Messer	Thomas Dow
James Jones	Abner Morrill	Elijah Carlton
John Richardson	Benjamin Town	Jonathan Barker

Wardens & Sworn

James Sargent Nathaniel Pettingall Jr

Field Drivers & Sworn

Samuel Clark Jr Ebenezer Carlton

Fence Viewers & Sworn

William Whittier Jr Ichabod Perkins

Hog Reefs & Sworn

Henry Benson
John Swan

Zebediah Barker
James Davison

John Palmer
David Morse not sworn

Surveyors of Lumber & Sworn

James Wilson

Bodwell Ladd

John Masten Junior

Fish Course & Sworn

Cutting Marsh John Pettingall
To take care of the fish course in Dennison Brook

3dly Voted that the swine go at large the year ensuing

4ly Voted to raise two thousand pounds for repairing the highways in Labour at four pound a day for a man & oxen & carts in the usual proportion Surveyors to return their list to the Selectmen by first of November those Delinquent precincts the Town ?

Fifthly Voted to raise five hundred pounds for schools the year ensuing and each ward may have liberty
to send their children to any ward as they may be left accommodated those that hath notified their proportion of school money may have it if they provide each school by the first of November next

Seventhly Voted to Choose (chose) a committee to reckon with Jonathan Swan Town Treasurer & Mr James Ordway Ebenezer Barker Thomas Herrick were Choose (chose)n

Eighthly To allow Town Debts voted to Lieutenant John Sargeant one hundred & seventy pounds for his
Attendance at Cambridge & Boston on the State Convention for forming a new Constitution of Government

Voted to John Palmer six pounds for half a hundred of planks for the bridge at Mislek (Mystic) Pond

Voted to Daniel Pettingall Twenty four pounds for the damages he sustained by Moving out of his house that the small pox might have in it and loss of some of his goods

Voted to Benjamin Stevens three pounds for a days work at the Spicket Bridge

Voted to Stephen Huse nine pounds for 94 feet of whit oak timber for string pieces for Spicket Bridge

Voted Jonathan Swan for Att (At)ending a convention at Concord 28-0-0

Essex To Mr Joseph Griffen one of the Constables of the Town of Methuen
Greeting You are hereby required in the name of the Government and People of the State of Massachusetts Bay to warn all the Freeholders and other Inhabitants qualified by law to vote in Town affairs to meet at the Old Meeting House in Said Town on Thirsday (Thursday) the twenty fifth Day of May at two of the Clock in the afternoon then and there to act on the following particulars Viz.

First To Choose (chose) a Moderator for Said meeting

Secondly To see what sum of money the Town will vote to raise to defray Town charges the present year

3dly To see if the Town will vote that Mr Thomas Brag shall receive of this Town so much money as shall pay half the charges of carrying the law suit with Mr Jonathan Tyler which Mr Brag shall make appear he could not recover of Said Tyler by law or any part of the same

4thly To see if the Town will vote to give Mr Jonathan Tyler the whole or any part of the fine which Mr Brag recovered of Said Tyler for the Town by law

Fail not and make return of this Warrant with your doings thereon to one of us the Subscribers
at or before the time of Said Meeting

Given under our hands and seals this 11 Day of May 1780

Cutting Marsh Selectmen
Stephen Webster Jr } of
John Pettingall Methuen

May 25, 1780

Pursuant to the above Warrant I have notified the Inhabitants as above to meet at the time and place above mentioned

Joseph Griffen Constable of Methuen

The particulars of the Town Meeting as following

Mr James Ingalls Choose (chose)n Moderator for Said meeting

Voted to raise six thousand pounds to defray Town charges the present year agreeable to the second article

Voted not to act on the 3d and 4th article respecting Mr Brag and Mr Jonathan Tyler as mentioned in Said Warrant and to dissolve Said meeting

Essex To Mr. Joseph Griffen one of the Constables of the Town of Methuen
Greeting: You are hereby required in the name of the Government and People of the MassachusettsBy to warn all the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of twenty one years of age to meet at the Old Meeting House in Said Town on Thirsday (Thursday) the Twenty fifth Day of May at three of the Clock in the afternoon then and there to act on the

First To Choose (chose) a Moderator for Said meeting

2dly To see if the Town will vote to receive the frame of Government agreed upon by the Delegates of the State of Massachusetts Bay and act thereon as the Town shall then think proper

Fail not and make return of this Warrant and your doings thereon to one of us the Subscribers at or before the Time of Said meeting

Given under our hands and seal this 11th Day of May 1780

Cutting Marsh Selectmen
Stephen Webster Jr } of
John Pettingall Methuen

Pursuant to the above Warrant I have warned the Inhabitants of Methuen to meet at the time and place as within mentioned

Joseph Griffen Constable of Methuen

The particulars of the Town meeting are as followeth

Major Samuel Bodwell Choose (chose)n Moderator for Said meeting

Voted to receive the Constitution with amendments except the 3d article in the Bill of Rights if we cannot obtain an amendment on some articles mentioned

Essex To Mr Elijah Carlton one of the Constables of the Town of Methuen

Greeting These are to require you in the name of the Government and People of this State of the Massachusetts Bay to warn the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of Said Town that are qualified by law to vote in Town affairs to meet at the Old Meeting House in Said Town on Wednesday the fourteenth Day of this Instant June at one of the clock in the afternoon then and there to act on the following Particulars viz.

First To Choose (chose) a Moderator for Said Meeting

Secondly To see what method or way the Town will take to raise the Continental men that are required
of Said Town and act on that affair as the Town shall then think proper

Fail not and make return of this Warrant and your doings thereon to one of us the Subscribers at or before the time of the meeting

Given under our hands and seal this **twelfth Day of June 1780**

Cutting Marsh } Selectmen
Stephen Webster Jr } of Methuen

Methuen June 14th 1780

I have complied with the within Warrant and notified the Inhabitants to meet at the time and place within mentioned to act on Said article

Elijah Carlton Constable for Methuen

The particulars of the above meeting are as followeth

First Choose (chose) Major Bodwell Moderator for Said meeting

Secondly Voted to hire the Continental Soldiers by a Town rate

Voted that the Selectmen be assisting the officer in hiring Said soldiers

Voted the Town Treasurer shall give the Town's security to the men when enlisted and mustered for the purpose of reinforcing the army as agreed by the Selectmen and officer

Essex To Joseph Griffen one of the Constables of the Town of Methuen

Greeting You are hereby required in the name of the Government and People of this State of the Massachusetts Bay to notify and warn the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of Said Town that are qualified by law to vote in Town affairs to assemble at the Old Meeting House in Said Town on Tuesday the Eleventh Day of July next at four of the

Clock in the afternoon then and there to act on the following particulars viz.

First To Choose (chose) a Moderator for Said meeting

Secondly To see what sum of money the Town will raise to defray the extraordinary charges of this present year in this Town

Thirdly In answer to a Petition of Sundry of the Inhabitants of the Town of Methuen to see what money the Town will vote to give to Mr William Gutterson for his service as Constable the present year

Fail not and make return of this Warrant with your doings thereon to one of us the Subscribers at or before the time of Said meeting

Given under our hands and seal this thirtieth day of June 1780

Cutting Marsh } Selectmen
John Pettengill} of Methuen

I have complied with the Warrant within mentioned and have notified the Inhabitants of Methuen to met at the time and place within mentioned

Methuen July 11:1780 Joseph Griffen Constable

The particulars of the above meeting are as followeth

First Choose (chose) Major Samule (Samuel) Bodwell Moderator for Said meeting

Secondly Voted to raise fourteen thousand three hundred & fifty pounds to defray the extraordinary charges the present year

Thirdly Voted to Mr William Gutterson – Late Constable – thirty pounds for his services in collecting the taxes the year past

The particulars of a Town meeting regularly warned for the purpose of voting for a **Governour, Lieutenant Governour and Senators** agreeable to the new Constitution

The Honourable John Hancock Esq. for Governour votes	64
The Honourable James Bowdoin Esq. for Governour votes	2
The Honourable Artemas Ward Esq. for Lt Governour	31
The Honourable Benjamin Greenleaf Esq. Lt Governour	5
The Honourable James Warren Esq. for Lt Governour	2
The Honourable John Hancock Esq. for Lt Governour	2

The Honourable Azor Orne Esq. for Senator votes	29
The Honourable John Pickering Esq. Senator votes	14
The Honourable Samuel Holten Esq. Senator votes	12
The Honourable Samuel Osgood Esq. Senator votes	14
The Honourable Jonathan Greenleaf Esq. Senator votes	12
The Honourable Stephen Choat Esq. Senator votes	13
Colonel Samuel Jonson Esq. for Senator votes	4
Tristum Dalton Esq. for Senator votes	3

Methuen Sept 4th 1780

Cutting Marsh Selectmen
 Stephen Webster Jr } of
 John Pettingall Methuen

Jonathan Swan – Town Clerk

Essex To Joseph Griffen one of the Constables of the Town of Methuen

Greeting You are hereby required in the name of the Government and People of this State
 of the Massachusetts Bay to notify and warn the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of Said
 Town that are qualified by Law to vote in Town affairs to assemble and meet at the Old
 Meeting House in Said Town on Tuesday the eleventh day of this Instant July at five
 of
 the clock in the afternoon then and there to act on the following particulars viz.

First To Choose (chose) a Moderator for Said meeting

Secondly To see if the Town will vote that the Town Treasurer shall give his notes for the corn to the militia that are a going in the Service of these States according to the agreement of the officer with those of the Militia that are required of this Town:

Fail not and make a Return of this Warrant with your doings thereon to one of us the Subscribers at or before the time of Said meeting

Given under our hands and Seals this **5th Day of July 1780**

Cutting Marsh } Selectmen
 Stephen Webster Jr } of Methuen

Methuen July 11th 1780

I have warned the Inhabitants of the Town of Methuen to meet at the time and place within mentioned that are qualified by law to vote in Town affairs

Joseph Griffen – Constable of Methuen

The particulars of the above meeting are as followeth

First Chose Col. Thomas Poor Moderator for Said meeting

Secondly Voted that Jonathan Swan Treasurer give the Town's Security (surety) to the Militia Soldiers hired for three months according to the agreement made with them by their officer

Essex To Mr Elijah Carlton one of the Constables of the Town of Methuen
Greeting These are to require you in the name of the Government and People of this State of the Massachusetts Bay to warn the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of Said Town who are qualified by Law to vote in Town affairs to assemble and meet at the Old Meeting House in Said Town on Thirsday (Thursday) (Thursday) the Twelfth Day

of this Instant October at one of the Clock in the afternoon then and there to act on the following particulars (particulars) viz.

First To Choose (chose) a Moderator for Said meeting

Secondly To see what the Town will vote to raise to pay the Continental and Militia Soldiers whether
corn or money and to act on that affair as the Town shall then think proper

Thirdly To bring in and allow Town Debts

Fail not and make Return of this Warrant and your doings thereon to one of us the Subscribers
at or before the Time of Said meeting

Given under our hands and seals this first day of October 1780

Cutting Marsh Selectmen
Stephen Webster Jr } of
John Pettingall Methuen

Pursuant to the within written Warrant I have warned the Freeholders and other Inhabitants to meet at the time and place within mentioned

Elijah Carlton Constable of Methuen

October 12, 1780

The Town meet agreeable to the above Warrant and Choose (chose) Mr James Ingalls
Moderator
for Said meeting

Voted to assess the Town to be paid in Indien (Indian) Corn to pay the Continental and
Militia Soldiers

Voted to allow Mr Ebenezer Barker for reckoning with Jonathan Swan Town Treasure
13-10-0

Voted to allow Mr James Ordway & Thomas Herrick as committeemen for reckoning
with
Said Swan nine pounds each 18-0-0

Essex Greeting To Mr Elijah Carlton one of the Constables of the Town of Methuen
These are to require you in the name of the People & Government
of this State of Massachusetts Bay to warn the Freeholders & other
Inhabitants of Said Town who are qualified by Law to vote in Town
affairs to assemble and meet at the Old Meeting House in Said Town on
Thirsday (Thursday) the twelfth Day of this Instant to act on the
following perticulars/Viz.

First To Choose (chose) a Moderator for Said meeting

Secondly To take unto consideration the Resolve of the General Court of September the
17:1780 concerning the beef they have required of this Town and to act on that affair
as the Town shall then think proper

Hereof fail not and make return of this Warrant and your doings thereon to one of us
the Subscribers at or before the Time of the Said meeting

Given under our hands & seals this **Twelfth Day of October 1780**

Cutting Marsh	Selectmen
Stephen Webster Jr }	of
John Pettingall	Methuen

Pursuant to the above Warrant I have warned the Freeholders and other Inhabitants to meet
at time & place for the within purpose October 12 1780

Joseph Griffen Constable of Methuen

The particulars of the above meeting are as followeth

First Choose (chose) Colonel Thomas Poor Moderator for Said meeting

Secondly Voted to raise by an assessment on the Town 8780 pounds of Beef agreeable to a resolve of the General Court of the 25 of September 1780 and voted to raise ten thousand pounds to purchase Said beef and the Selectmen be a committee to bie (buy) Said beef

Essex To Mr Joseph Griffen one of the Constables of the Town of Methuen
Greeting You are thereby required in the name of the People and Government of the State of the Massachusetts Bay to warn the freeholders and other Inhabitants of Said

Town
that are qualified by law to vote in Town affairs to assemble & meet at the old meeting
house in Said Town on Monday the Twenty Seventh Day of this Instant November (1780)
at one of the Clock in the afternoon then and there to act on the following particulars viz.

First To Choose (chose) a Moderator for Said meeting

Secondary To see if the Town will reconsider the Corn tax which was voted in the last Town Meeting
and vote to raise the money in lieu of it for the Soldiers and to act on that affair as the Town shall then think proper

Thirdly To see if the Town will vote to Choose (chose) a committee to go to Salem to purchase blankets & clothing for the army that are required of the Town and to act on that affair as the Town shall then think proper

Fourthly In answer to a petition of sundry of the Inhabitants of the Town aforesaid to see what sum of money the Town will vote to the Constables Mr Joseph Griffen & Mr Elijah Carlton for collecting the Extraordinary Taxes this year
Fail not and make a Return of this Warrant and your doings thereon to one of us the Subscribers at or before the time of Said meeting

Given under our hands and seals this **Twentieth Day of November 1780**

Cutting Marsh	Selectmen
Stephen Webster Jr }	of
John Pettingall	Methuen

November 27:1780 I have complied with the within Warrant and notified the freeholders and other Inhabitants to meet at the place & time within mentioned to act on the within articles

Joseph Griffen Constable of Methuen

The particulars of the meeting within mentioned are as followeth

Choose (chose) Lieutenant John Sargent Moderator of Said meeting

Secondly Voted to Reconsider the Corn vote and raise money in lieu of the same & pay the Soldiers in money

Voted to refer the affair to the Selectmen to settle with them and raise money accordingly to discharge the Town Security given them by Jonathan Swan Treasurer

Essex To Mr Joseph Griffin one of the Constables of the Town of Methuen

Greeting: You are required in the name of the Government & people of this State to notify

& warn the freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Said Town to assemble at the Old Meeting House in Said Town those that are qualified by Law to vote in Town affairs on Thirsday (Thursday) the Twenty First of this Instant December (1780) at one of the Clock in the afternoon then and there to act on the following particulars viz.

First To Choose (chose) a Moderator for Said meeting

Secondly To see what method or way the Town will take to raise those men for the army that the General Court require of Said Town by the Resolve of Said Court of the Second Day of this Instant December

Thirdly To see what sum or sums of money the Town vote to give the Constables of Said Town as pay for their time in collecting the Extraordinary Taxes the present year

Fourthly To see if the Town will vote to Choose (chose) a committee to purchase corn for the Soldiers with the money that was raised in lieu thereof

Fail not and make Return of this Warrant and your doings there on to one of us the Subscribers on or before the time of Said meeting

Given under our hands and seals this **Sixteenth Day of December 1780**

Cutting Marsh	Selectmen
Stephen Webster Jr }	of
John Pettingall	Methuen

Pursuant to the within Warrant I have notified the freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Methuen to meet at time & place to act on the within articles

December 21 1780 John Griffen Constable of Methuen

The particulars of the above meeting are as followeth

Voted & chose Mr James Ingalls **Moderator** for Said meeting

Secondly Voted & chose Colonel Thomas Poor, Capt James Mallone & Lieut Ebenezer Carlton as a committee to assist in hireing (hiring) sixteen men to fill up the Continental Army

Thirdly Voted to pay Mr Joseph Griffen & Mr Elijah Carlton **Constables** for the year 1780 three pence per pound of all Extraordinary rates they collect and the Selectmen are to say how much it shall be

Fourthly Voted and chose Messrs Richard Hall Francis Swan & Samuel Richardson as a committee to purchase corn for the Selectmen then adjourned to Thirsday (Thursday) January 4th 1781

1781

January 4th 1781

Met and then adjourned to Thirsday (Thursday) (Thursday) January 25th 1781

Essex To Mr Elijah Carlton one of the Constables of the Town of Methuen, you are hereby required in the name of the Commonwealth of the State Massachusetts to warn all the freeholders and other Inhabitants of Said Town qualified by law to vote in Town affairs to meet at the Old Meeting House in Said Town on Thirsday (Thursday) the Twenty fifth of this Instant January at two of the clock on the afternoon then and there to Act on the following particulars/Viz./

First To Choose (chose) a Moderator for Said meeting

2^{ly} To see what sum or sums of money the Town will raise to purchase beef for the Army according a Resolve of the General Court of the fourth of December last and to act on that affair as the Town shall then think proper

Hereof fail not and make a Return of this Warrant with your doings to one of us at on or before the time of Said meeting

Given under our hands and seal this **Eighteenth Day of January 1781**

Cutting Marsh	Selectmen
Stephen Webster Jr }	and Assessors
John Pettingall	for Methuen

Pursuant to the within Warrant I have warned the freeholders and other Inhabitants to meet at time and place as within mentioned

Elijah Carlton Constable of Methuen

January 25th 1781

The particulars of the above meeting are as followeth

The Town met and chose Mr John Masten Moderator for Said meeting

Then voted to adjourn Said meeting to Thirsday (Thursday) the eighth day of Febry next at one of the Clock in the afternoon

February 8th 1781

Thirsday (Thursday) February 8th 1781 the Town met according to adjournment and voted to

raise twenty two thousand seven hundred & sixty two pounds by assessing the Inhabitants of Said Town for to purchase the Town's proportion of Beef for the Army agreeable to a Resolve of the General Court

March 7th 1781

Essex SS To Mr Joseph Griffen on of the Constables of the Town of Methuen
Greeting: you are hereby required in the name of the People of the Commonwealth of the Massachusetts to Warn and notifie (notify) the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Said Town that are qualified by law to vote in Town affairs to assemble and meet at the Old Meeting House in Said Town on WenSaiday (Wednesday) the Seventh Day of March next Att (At) ten

of the Clock in the forenoon then and their to act on the following particulars/Viz./

Firstly To Choose (chose) a Moderator for Said meeting

2dly To Choose (chose) Town Officers as the Law directs

3ly To see if the Town will pass a vote to abate Mr Ebenezer Sargent David Morril and Solomon Wilkots rates or either or every part of them

4ly To see if the Town will vote that swine shall go at large the year ensuing

5ly To see what sum of money the Town will raise of School the year ensuing

6ly To see what sum of money the Town will raise for repairing the highways and private ways the year ensuing

7ly To see if the Town will vote that those persons that did not work out their highway rates the last year may have the liberty of working them out the year ensuing

8ly To see what sum of money the Town will vote to raise to hire sixteen men to go as Soldiers in the three year service or during the War which is required of this Town

9ly To see if the Town will vote Constable Griffen an additional sum of money for gathering Extraordinary Taxes.

Fail not and make a Return of this Warrant to one of us the Subscribers on or before the time of Said meeting

Given under our hands and seal this **Twenty fifth Day of February 1781**

Cutting Marsh	Selectmen
Stephen Webster Jr }	For
John Pettingall	Methuen

Essex In pursuant to the within Warrant I have warned all the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Methuen in the usual way to meet Att (At) the time and place and for the purposes within mentioned

Methuen March the 7 1787

Joseph Griffen Constable for Methuen

The Peticulars (particulars) of the Annual Meeting of March 7th 1787

To Choose (chose) Town Officers

Mr. James Ingals chose **Moderator** for Said. meeting

Francis Swan chose **Town Clerk** and Sworn

Mr. Jonathan Swan chose **Town Treasurer** and Sworn

Mr. Thomas Herrick

Mr. Cutting Marsh and

Mr. Asa Messer **Selectmen**

Capt Stephen Webster chosen **Constable for the East part of the Town** and

Mr. Nathaniel Hezaltine accepted in his stead and Sworn

Mr. Abner Morril chose **Constable for the West part of the Town** and Sworn

Tything Men

Deacon Elijah Sargeant and Nathaniel Hibberd

Warden

William Bodwell

Fence Viewers

Ichabod Perkens

Field Driver

Samuel Clark Junior

Hog Reef

Deacon John Harris Deacon Josiah Osgood Mr Isaac Barker

Surveyor of Lumber

John Masten Junior

Highway Surveyors – All Sworn

Jacob Messer

Lieut John Parker

Daniel Bodwell Junior

John Masten Junior

Semion (Simeon) Tyler

Parker Richardson

Bodwell Ladd
Doctor Samuel Hezaltine

William Runnels
Nathaniel Bodwell

Moses Sargeant
Benjamen Towns

Voted not to release Ebenezar Sargeant and David Merril of their rates
Solomon Wilket freed from his corn rate;

Voted that hogs go at large

Voted not to raise money for schooling the year ensuing

Voted to raise six thousand pounds for the repairing of the Highway the year ensuing

Voted that the Surveyors return their Warrants to the Selectmen at the appointed

Voted that Joseph Griffen & Elijah Carlton should not loose the counterfeit (?)
money that they have now by them:

Voted that Joseph Griffen have in addition one penny (penny) upon a pound:

Att (At) a Legal Meeting the Town met and voted

Chose John Hancock Chief Governor	35 votes
Thomas Cushing Lieutenant Governor	24 votes
Jonathan Greenleaf Senator	8
Samuel Phillips Senator	9
Samuel Osgood Senator	16
Azores Orn Senator	19
Stephen Chote Senator	18
Samuel Holton Senator	20
Elbridge Gray Senator	19

Methuen April 1 1781

Essex To Mr Abner Morril one of the Constables of the Town of Methuen;
Greeting, These are to require you in the name of the Commonwealth of the
Massachusetts to notify and warn the freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town
aforesaid that are qualified by Law to vote in Town affairs to assemble Att (At) the Old
Meeting House in Said Town on Monday the twenty-fifth Day of this Instant June Att
(At) Four Oclock in the afternoon then and there to Act on the following particulars

First To Choose (chose) a Moderator for Said Meeting

2ly To see if the Town will vote that the Constables for the 1780 shall take the Continental
Bills of the Old Emission for Town taxes as usual

3dly To see what way the Town will vote to take the remainder of Said taxes into the Treasury and to act on that affair as the Town shall then think proper

Fail not and make a return of this Warrant and your doings thereon to one of us the Subscribers before the time of Said meeting

Given under our hands and seal this **Sixteenth Day of June 16 1781**

Thomas Herrick	Selectmen
Cutting Marsh	of
Asa Messer	Methuen

Pursuant to the within Warrant I have notified the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Methuen to meet Att (At) the time and place for the purposes within mentioned

Methuen 25 Day of June 1781 Abner Morril Constable

July 25 1781

Att (At) a Legal Town Meeting met and chose Lieutenant John Sargent Moderator for Said meeting Methuen July 25 1781 and then adjourned to Tuesday the Third Day of July

next Att (At) 4 of the Clock in the afternoon and then meet and voted not to take the Old Emession of money for Town taxes nor as usual

The meeting then desolved (dissolved)

Methuen June Ye 25 1781

July Ye 4

Essex SS: To Mr Abner Morril one of the Constables of the Town of Methuen

Greeting: These are to require you in the name of the Commonwealth of the Massachusetts to notify and warn the freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Said Town that are qualified by Law to vote in Town affairs to meet Att (At) the Old Meeting House in

Said Town on Tuesday the tenth of this Instant July Att (At) Four Oclock in the afternoon then

and there to Act on the following perticulars Viz.

1st To chose a Moderator for Said Meeting

2ndly To see if the Town will vote to purchase 6957 pounds of Beef which is required of Said Town for the Army by a Resolve of the General Court of June the 22 1781, and to act on that affair as the Town shall think proper

3dly To see if the Town will vote to hire twelve men to serve in the army for three months

Fail not and make a return of this Warrant and your doings thereon to one of us the Subscribers on or before the time of Said Meeting;

Given under our hands and seal this 4th Day of July 1781

Thomas Herrick	Selectmen
Cutting Marsh	}
Asa Messer	Methuen

Pursuant to the within Warrant I have warned the freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Said Town to meet Att (At) the time and place appointed to act on the articles within mentioned

Abner Morril Constable of Methuen

Methuen July Ye 10th, 1781

Methuen July Ye 10th, 1781 Att (At) the above warned legall Meeting Chose Col.
Thomas Poor

Moderator for Said meeting – then voted to raise two hundred pound silver money to purchase 6957 pounds of Beef

Voted to raise 12 Men to serve as Soldiers three months in the Army

The Officers to raise the Men and the Treasurer to give security

Adjourned to Fryday (Friday) the 15 Day of July Att (At) Four Oclock

July 15 Met and dissolved the Meeting

Essex SS: August Ye 18 1781

To Mr Abner Morril one of the Constables of the Town of Methuen
Greeting; In the name of the People of the Commonwealth of the Massachusetts you are required to notify and warn the freeholders and other Inhabitants of Said Town that are

qualified by Law to vote in Town affairs to assemble Att (At) the Old Meeting House in
Said
Town on Monday the twentieth Day of this Instant Att (At) three Oclock in the afternoon
then
and there to act on the following Perticulars (Viz.)

First To Choose (chose) a Moderator for Said Meeting

2dly To see what method the Town will vote to collect so much hard money as the soldiers require for to bare their expenses to headquarters and to act on Said affair as the Town shall act on Said affair as the Town shall think proper

3dly To see what method will vote to pay the soldiers that were hired for three months the last year, those of them that are not paid and to act on that affair as the Town shall then think proper

Fail not and make a return of this Warrant with your doing thereon to one of us the Subscribers on or before the time of Said meeting

Given under our hands and seal this 18 Day of August AD 1781

Thomas Herrick	Selectmen
Cutting Marsh	}
Asa Messer	Methuen

Pursuant to the within Warrant I have warned the freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Methuen to meet Att (At) the time and place within mentioned to act on the within Articles

Abner Morril Constable for Said Town

August; 20th AD 1781

Att (At) the above warned Meeting met and chose Mr James Ingalls Moderator for Said meeting

Voted to raise 180 dollars and if two thirds of the rates which the Selectmen shall assess be paid in ten days their rates shall be cropped, if not shall pay the full sum to be paid by the 30 of August Instant - Dissolved the meeting

Essex SS To Mr Nathaniel Hazeltine one of the Constables of the Town of Methuen
Greeting You are required in the name of the Commonwealth of the Massachusetts to warn the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of Said Town that are qualified by law to vote in Town affairs to assemble and meet Att (At) the Old Meeting House in Said Town

on TueSaiday (Tuesday) the twenty third day of this Instant October Att (At) two of the Clock in the afternoon then and there to act on the following particulars /viz./

- First To Choose (chose) a Moderator for Said meeting
- 2dly To bring in and allow Town debts
- 3dly To see what sum of money the Town will raise to defray Town charges
- 4thly To see if the Town will accept of a number of men the Selectmen have picked out for the Petit Jury (definition of Petit Jury: meaning jury of 12 compared to the Grand Jury)

Fail not and make a Return of this Warrant with your doings to one of us Att (At) or before the time of Said meeting

Given under our hands and seals this **Eighteenth Day of October 1781**

**Dated Att (At) Methuen
October Ye 8 1781**

Thomas Herrick Selectmen
Cutting Marsh } of
Asa Messer Methuen

Essex SS Pursuant to the within Warrant I have warned the freeholders and other inhabitants of this Town to assemble and meet Att (At) the time and place within mentioned

Nathan Hazeltine Constable of Methuen

Methuen October Ye 23 1781 Att (At) a Legal Town meeting

Lieutenant John Huse Moderator for Said meeting

Voted that Major Samuel Bodwell should have as many days works allowed him on Nathaniel Bodwells (Bodwell's) list as twenty one pounds would come to in the year
1780

Voted and allowed Capt Henry Bodwell six shillings for 100 feet of lumber

Voted and accepted of the Regulation of the Jury Boxes

Adjourned to the six day of November 1781 at three of the Clock in the afternoon

Att (At) the adjournment voted to allow Doctor Stephen Huse 14 shillings for ninety six
feet

Of white oak timber

Voted to allow Capt Henry Bodwell three shillings for plank to Bridge

Voted to raise three hundred pounds to defray Town charges

1782

March Ye 13 1782

Essex SS. To Mr Abner Morrel one of the Constables of the Town of Methuen

Greeting You are hereby required in the name of the Commonwealth of the
Massachusetts

to warn the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town aforesaid that are qualified by
law to

vote in Town affairs to assemble and meet at the Old Meeting House in Said Town on
Wednesday the thirteenth day of March next at ten o the Clock in the forenoon then and
there to act on the following particulars

- 1ly To Choose (chose) a Moderator for Said meeting
- 2ly To Choose (chose) Town Officers as the Law directs
- 3ly To see if the swine go at large the year ensuing
- 4ly To see what sum of money the Town will vote to raise for the year ensuing to be paid out
in schooling or for that purpose
- 5ly To see if the Town will vote to receive the Report of the Committee that last reckoned
with the Town Treasurer
- 6ly To see if the Town will vote to Choose (chose) a committee to reckon with the Town
Treasurer
and make their report at the fall meeting and to act on that affair as the Town shall think
proper
- 7ly To see what sum of money the Town will vote to raise to mend the highways and private
ways

the year ensuing and to act on that affair as the Town shall think proper

8ly To see if the Town will vote to lay the road wider upon the bank of the river near Samuel Webber

9ly To see what sum of money the Town will vote to pay the Constables for collecting the extraordinary taxes for the year 1781

10ly To see if the Town will vote to allow Constable Elijah Carlton for his counterfeit money Said Carlton took for rates

11ly To see if those persons that did not work out their highways rates last year may have the liberty of working them out the ensuing year

Fail not and make return of this Warrant and your doing thereon to one of us the Subscribers on or before the time of Said meeting.

Given under our hands and seal this 28 day of February in the year 1782

Thomas Herrick	Selectmen
Cutting Marsh	} for
Asa Messer	Methuen

Essex SS. In obedience to the within Warrant I have warned the Freeholders and the other Inhabitants of the Town of Methuen to meet at time and place appointed to act on the within Articles dated at Methuen aforesaid to act on the following Articles

March Ye 13 1782 Abner Morrill } Constable for Methuen

The particulars of the Annual Town Meeting

Met and chose Mr. James Ingalls Moderator for Said Meeting

Francis Swan Town Clerk and Sworn

Cutting Marsh Capt Stephen Webber and Capt David Whittier

Jacob Messer chose **Constable** Richard Hall excepted (accepted) in his stead -

Capt James Malloon chose **Constable for the West part of the Town** and William Farnum excepted (accepted) in his stead

Mr. Jonathan Swan **Town Treasurer.**

John Chickering and Nathaniel Pettengill, Jr. **Tything men** and sworn

Surveyors of Highways and sworn

William Whittier, Jr.	John Masten, Jr.	James Davison
Thomas Herrick	Joseph Haistens	

For the West part of the Town and sworn

Stephen Barker, Jr.	William Bodwell	Joseph Morrill
Joseph Merrill	Capt Davis James Hibbord	

Fence Viewers

Deacon John Harris	John Whittier
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Field Drivers

James Frye

Hog Reefs:

James Frye	William Whittier
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Surveyors of Lumber

John Masten, Jr.	James Wilson	Samuel Richardson
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Voted that swine go Att (At) large the year ensuing provided they be yoked and ringed

Voted not to raise money for schooling the year ensuing

Voted and accepted the Report of the Committee that Reckoned with Jonathan Swan
Town Treasurer for Methuen

Ebenezer Barker	John Huse	Nathaniel Hazeltine
Chose (chosen) as a committee to reckon with Jonathan Swan Treasurer for Methuen		

Voted to raise one hundred and fifty pounds to repair the highways and private ways

Voted mens (men's) labour 4 shillings per day in proportion to the above labour

Voted the road be made wider by Samuel Webbers

Voted the Constables have two Eighteen Pounds allowed them for gathering the extraordinary taxes in the year 1781 and to divide it according to their value

Allowed Elijah Carlton be allowed the counterfeit money he took for rates

Voted that those who did not work out their highways rates should be paid by so many days work as would pay them the last year

Adjourned to the 20 day of this Instant March at 4 o'clock in afternoon

At the adjournment met and voted that those persons who refuse to work out their highways rates should be rated in the Town tax

Adjourned to first Monday in April at 4 o'clock then met and dissolved the meeting

April 14 Ye 1782

Att (At) a Legal Town Meeting on April 14 Ye 1782

John Hancock Chief Governor	2 votes
Artemus Ward Chief Governor	4 votes

Senators

Azor Orn	4 Ditto
Samuel Phillips	3 Do
Stephen Choat	4 Do
Jonathan Greanleaf	4 Do
George Williams	4 Do

Essex SS. To Mr. Abner Morrel one of the Constables of the Town of Methuen
Greeting These are to notify and warn all the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of
the Town
of Methuen that are qualified by law to vote in Town affairs to assemble and meet Att
(At) the Old Meeting House in Said Town on Wednesday the Twentieth Day of this
Instant Month Att (At) three of the Clock in the afternoon then and there to act on the
following particulars viz.

- 1ly To chose Moderator for Said Meeting
- 2ly To see what method the Town will take to satisfy those Soldiers notes for corn of the Town
- 3ly To see if the Town will send a man to court to carry on a case against the Town of Andover concerning Doreas Gage alias Pettengill
- 4ly To see if the Selectmen shall order a number of the Surveyors of the Highway to and private ways to work part of their money on the road near Isaac Austens (Austen's) to William Whittiers (Whittier's)
- 5ly To see if the Town will vote to pay Constable John Harris for his counterfeit money that he took for rates

Fail not and make a return of this Warrant and your doing thereof to one of us the Subscriber on or before the time and place appointed for Said meeting

Given under our hands and this thirteenth Day of March 1782

Cutting Marsh } Selectmen
David Whittier } of Methuen

The **At a Legal Town Meeting on March Ye 11 1782**
Particulars Met and chose Capt Stephen Webster Moderator for Said meeting

Voted that the Selectmen should settle the corn notes with the Soldiers

Voted and chose Capt John Bodwell to carry on the case against the Town of Andover concerning Doreas Gage

Voted not to act on the road affair

Voted that Constable John Harris be allowed four dollars for counterfeit money

May Ye 29 1782

Essex SS. To Mr. William Farnum one of the Constables of the Town of Methuen
Greeting You are hereby required in the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts to warn the Freeholders and Inhabitants of Said Town that are qualified by law to vote in Town affairs to assemble and meet Att (At) the Old Meeting House in Said Town on Wednesday the 29 Day of this Instant May at Four o the Clock in the afternoon then and there to act on the following particulars

- 1ly That is to Choose (chose) a Moderator for Said meeting

- 2ly To see if the Town will vote to build a stone Pound
- 3ly To see if the Town will vote where to set the Said Pound
- 4ly To see if the Town will vote to Choose (chose) a committee to build Said Pound

Fail not and make a return of this Warrant and your doings thereon to one of us the Subscribers on or before the time appointed

Given under our hands and seal this 18 Day of May 1782

Cutting Marsh Selectmen
Stephen Webster Jr. } for
David Whittier Methuen

In obedience to the within Warrant I have warned the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Methuen Town place appointed

Mr William Farnum Constable of Methuen

Methuen May Ye 29 1782 At a Legal Town Meeting met and

- 1ly Chose Mr Cutting Marsh Moderator for Said Meeting
- 2ly Voted to build a Stone Pound
- 3ly Voted that the Selectmen be the Committee to Build the Pound
- 4ly Voted that the Selectmen should build the Pound where they should think most proper and convenient

July 13th 1782

Essex SS. To Lieutenant Richard Hall one of the Constables of the Town of Methuen
Greeting - You are required in the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts to
warn the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of Said Town that are qualified by law to vote
in Town affairs to meet Att (At) the Old Meeting House in Said Town on Thirsday
(Thursday) the eighteenth day of this Instant July Att (At) four of the clock in the after
noon then and there to act on the following particulars /viz./

1 To Choose (chose) a Moderator for Said Meeting

2ly To see if the Town will vote to hire seven hundred and fifty three pounds to pay the last Continental rate that was made – or to act on that as they shall think proper

Fail not and make a Return of this Warrant with your doing thereon to one of us the Subscribers at or before the Said meeting

Given under our hands and seal this thirteenth Day of July 1782

Essex SS: In obedience to a Warrant to me committed I have Warned the Freeholders and other inhabitants of the Town of Methuen to meet at time and place appointed to act on the following Articles

Dated at Methuen July Ye 18 1782

Richard Hall } Constable For Methuen

Att (At) a Legal Town Meeting on July the 18 1872

Met and chose Mr. John Masten Moderator for Said Meeting
Voted in the negative not to act on the above articles

Accepted and allowed of the Account of Major Bodwell and Company

To Major Samuel Bodwell	1:7:6
To Capt John Davis	1:15:0
To Mr Samuel Huse	1:10:0
To Mr Jacob Merrick	0:10:0
To Capt James Malloon	1:12:6
To Mr. Joseph Griffen	1:0:0
To Mr. Parker Richardson	1:0:0
To Mr. James Sargeant and Sons	1:10:0
To Mr. Joshua Stevens	1:10:0
To William Morse Jun.	0:5:0
To James Shrake for timber 68 ft	0:18:0

August Ye 24 1782

Essex SS. To Mr. Richard Hall one of the Constables of the Town of Methuen
Greeting These are to require you in the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts to
warn the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of Said Town that are qualified by law to
vote in Town affairs to assemble and meet at the Old Meeting House in Said Town on
Thursday the
15 Day of September next at two o the clock in the after noon. Then and there to act
on the following particulars/ viz./

1ly To Choose (chose) a Moderator for Said meeting

2ly To see what way the Town will take to build the bridge that is broken down between Capt David Whittiers and the River

3ly To bring in and allow Town Debts

4ly To see what sum of money the Town will raise for defraying charges the present year

5ly At the request of James Ordway for to see if the Town will vote to give Said Ordway his
State Poll Tax that Abner Morrel has against him or any part thereof

Fail not and make a return of this Warrant with your doing there on to one of us the Subscribers on or before the time of Said Meeting.

Given under our hands and seal this 24 Day of August 1782

Cutting Marsh } Selectmen
David Whittier } of Methuen

At a Legal Town Meeting met and chose Capt Stephen Webster Moderator for Said Meeting

Voted to let out the Bridge to a committee whereof Major Samuel Bodwell, Capt John Davis and John Harris was chosen to take it by the Great

Voted to allow Capt John Davis 0:12:0 for 90 feet of plank and 38 feet of Oak Timber

Voted to raise on hundred and fifty pounds to defray Town charges the year ensuing

Voted to allow James Ordway one half of his Pole Tax in Abner Morrels List –

And adjourned to Thirsday (Thursday) the 17 Day of this Instant Month at four

Clock
the after noon