

# January 10 STM - PAX warrant article rec...

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**Subject:** January 10 STM - PAX warrant article recommendations

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## **PAX WARRANT ARTICLE RECOMMENDATIONS Brookline Special Town Meeting, January 10, 2023**

We're pleased to share our Board's Warrant Article recommendations, as a super-majority (minimum threshold of 60%) of those voting. We generally recommend to Articles expressive of (albeit broad) PAX values (e.g., public education, public service and unions, climate change activism, social justice, and peace). (With just two Articles on the Warrant for the January 10 Town Meeting, one an important climate article and the other a straightforward "government" initiative, it was an easy call to endorse both Articles.) (See the website for more about us.)

We offer only very limited descriptions of these Articles. TMM's are (of course) to study the [Combined Reports](#), especially the Advisory Committee's. Whether you endorse with their recommendations or not (and for this STM, we agree 100%), the reports are the best resource for detailed explanations of Articles, usually giving a balanced discussion of Articles' pros and cons.

### **PLEASE PRINT THESE RECOMMENDATIONS and keep them at hand**

- 1. Stretch Code (Select Board) ► ► FAVORABLE ACTION:** We are boiling the oceans. If the oceans die, so do we! Okay, now that we have your attention, the Article formally adopts the Commonwealth's new specialized municipal stretch energy code, which makes it less likely that climate-incompatible fuel appliances are installed in new buildings. Like many other important actions, adopting The Code is a necessary step toward achieving our goal of net zero by 2040. Brookline continues to lead in pushing climate and other environmental initiatives. PAX joins with the Select Board, a nearly unanimous Advisory Committee, and with the Zero Emissions Advisory Board, in recommending Favorable Action on this (apparently) non-controversial Article.
- 2. Ballot Information (Select Board) ► ► FAVORABLE ACTION:** For those of us in our collective memories, the recent Ballot Question providing for a referendum related to firehouse renovation and reconstruction came to the voters through an organized pro-ballot question campaign. With no campaign, and no newspaper, voters were on their own, if they even knew of the question. The ballot question passed handily, but the underlying issue remains: absent organized campaigns, how are voters to know? And even with organized campaigns, it's usually only the already likely voters who are contacted.

reconstruction, but find little objection to having the Town inform voters.  
The provisions of state law that Article 2 enables aren't perfect, but giving  
option to take it or leave it, taking it makes complete sense.

Regards, Neil  
Co-chair (with Marty Rosenthal), Brookline PAX

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