Citizens Petition for Town Meeting Warrant Article

BRIEF EXPLANATION OF THE ARTICLE.
(These explanations are customarily included in the warrant, in italics, below the actual wording of the Article. This is a DRAFT explanation which may be modified prior to printing of the Warrant.)

This Article will place a Conservation Restriction (CR) on all land of St Mark’s Golf Course EXCEPT the small parcel proposed for a Public Safety Facility. The CR will preserve the entire remaining land area as open space, and will allow the golf course to be modified so that it can continue in operation. The Article will be withdrawn if the Selectmen’s Article to purchase the golf course is NOT approved.

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FINAL OFFICIAL WORDING OF ARTICLE, AS SIGNED ON THE PETITION:

The undersigned registered voters of the Town of Southborough, MA. hereby request that the following warrant article be placed on the next Special Town Meeting:

“To see if the Town will vote to place a CONSERVATION RESTRICTION (CR) on a portion of St Mark’s Golf Course, at 36 Cordaville Rd, provided Town Meeting has first voted on a prior Article to approve purchase of the Golf Course, and also provided the portion of the Golf Course to which the CR applies shall exclude the land proposed for a Public Safety Facility to be located on a small part of the Golf Course.

The intent of the CR is to preserve the open space for the benefit of the town, to protect historic scenic views and wildlife habitat, while allowing continued use as a Golf Course. The CR shall allow alterations of the Golf Course to accommodate the Public Safety Facility, and shall also allow construction of facilities needed to operate the Golf Course, such as a golf club, driveways, parking and maintenance facilities.

The wording of the CR shall be prepared following Town Meeting, by the Board of Selectmen with participation by the Open Space Preservation Commission, Conservation Commission, Historical Commission, Planning Board, five members of the Golf Club, and two abutters. The CR shall be legally in force prior to any future construction on the Golf Course following town purchase.

Funding for the redesign and reconstruction of part of the Golf Course, required to accommodate the Public Safety Facility, may be submitted at a future Town Meeting, so that the redesign may be done concurrently with the design of the Public Safety Facility, and so that the impact of the Public Safety Facility can be minimized.

‘or do or act anything in relation thereto.”