

Concord Town Meeting April 30, 2023

The Board of the League of Women Voters of Concord-Carlisle makes the following recommendations, based on the general positions achieved by the League through its process of study and consensus and on the applicability of those positions to the Articles presented here.

Article – Title	Recommendation
Article 5 – New Classification and Compensation Plan for Regular-Status Positions	Recommend a Yes vote. We support the thoughtful work of the Personnel Board.
Article 7 - Use of Free cash	Recommend a Yes vote. We regret the absence of the \$500,000 annual allocation for affordable housing from Free Cash and support a return to the practice next year.
Article 9 – FY24 Town Budget	Recommend a Yes vote. We support the fiscal prudence of the Town’s budget.
Article 10 – Citizen Petition: DEI Director	Recommend a Yes vote. We support this effort to bring a vigorous focus to DEI initiatives.
Article 11 – Capital Improvement and Debt Plan	Recommend a Yes vote. We support the careful fiscal planning of the Town.
Article 14 – Appropriation of Opioid Settlement Funds Received from the State Settlement Fund	Recommend a Yes vote. We support this important effort to make Concord a safe community.
Article 15 – Minuteman Regional Technical High School District Budget	Recommend a Yes vote. We value Concord’s participation in this program.
Article 16 – Concord-Carlisle Regional High School Budget	Recommend a Yes vote. We respect the careful budget process.
Article 17 – Concord Public Schools Budget	Recommend a Yes vote. We support the School Committee’s budget yet recognize FinCom’s concerns.
Article 18 – Concord Public Schools Capital Projects	Recommend a Yes vote. We support this expenditure.
Article 20 – Appropriation to Middle School Stabilization Fund	Recommend a Yes vote. We support the prudent fiscal management reflected in this article.

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Article 21 – Light Plant Solar Expansion – Middle School	Recommend a Yes vote. Supported by the LWVCC’s Environment Committee.
Article 22 – Citizen Petition: Municipal In-Town Solar Generation Task Force	Recommend a Yes vote. Supported by the LWVCC’s Environment Committee.
Article 23 – Adopt Specialized Stretch Energy Code	Recommend a Yes vote. Supported by the LWVCC’s Environment Committee.
Article 26 – Community Preservation Committee Appropriation Recommendations	Recommend a Yes vote. We support all of the recommendations while respecting the varied opinions about Warner’s Pond.
Articles 28 & 29 – CPC Appropriation Recommendations – Municipal Affordable Housing Trust; Transfer of Housing Funds	Recommend a Yes vote. We support effective affordable housing initiatives.
Article 31 – Beede Swim & Fitness Center Enterprise Fund Expenditures	Recommend a Yes vote. We support the careful fiscal management of the Beede Center.
Article 37 – Citizen Petition: Prohibition of Gas-Powered Leaf Blowers	Recommend a Yes vote. Supported by the LWVCC’s Environment Committee.
Article 38 – Solid Waste Disposal Fund Expenditures Articles 39, 40 -- Sewer System Expenditures; and Sewer Improvement Fund Expenditures	Recommend a Yes vote. Recommend a Yes vote. We wish to underscore the important relationship between sewer expansion and the growth of housing and businesses in Concord. Note that significant additional funding will be needed to expand the system capacity.
Article 41 – Water System Expenditures	Recommend a Yes vote. This is crucial to support clean water and we recognize this will continue to be a pressing financial issue for the town.
Article 42 – Authorize Expenditure from PEG Access & Cable-Related Fund	Recommend a Yes vote. We are grateful and support this invaluable resource.

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