



THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

CENTRAL MASSACHUSETTS DIVISION
10 MECHANIC STREET, SUITE 301
WORCESTER, MA 01608

ANDREA JOY CAMPBELL
ATTORNEY GENERAL

(508) 792-7600
(508) 795-1991 fax
www.mass.gov/ago

August 13, 2026

Diane Dunfee, Town Clerk
Town of Nahant
334 Nahant Road
Nahant, MA 01908

Re: Nahant Annual Town Meeting of May 16, 2026 – Case # 12289
Warrant Article # 21 (Zoning)
Warrant Articles # 19, 22, and 23 (General)

Dear Ms. Dunfee:

Articles 19, 21, and 22 – We approve Articles 19, 21, and 22, from the May 16, 2026 Nahant Annual Town Meeting.¹

Article 23 – Under Article 23, by citizen petition, the Town voted to amend the general by-laws to add a new by-law to prohibit the application of first and second generation anticoagulant rodenticides (also known as SGARS) or future generation anticoagulant rodenticides on all Nahant properties. In addition, under Article 24, the Town voted to authorize the Select Board to submit a Home Rule petition to the General Court for special legislation “permitting the Town to enact a by-law (see Article 23) prohibiting professional application of a certain class of pesticides called SGARS.”

Because the by-law amendment adopted under Article 23 is contingent upon the Town’s receipt of the special legislation requested under Article 24, we are placing Article 23 on “hold” until the Town receives approval of the requested special legislation. Once we receive this information we will continue our review of Article 23. If you have any questions please do not

¹ Under Article 22 the Town amended “the General, Police and Personnel By-laws by replacing all references to ‘Board of Selectmen’ or ‘Selectmen’ with the words ‘Select Board.’” We approve Article 22’s amendments to the Town’s general by-laws but we take no action on the portion of Article 22 that amends the Town’s Personnel By-laws because amendments to Personnel By-laws are not subject to the Attorney General’s review and approval under G.L. c. 40, § 32. See G.L. c. 41, § 108A (the Legislature authorized towns to adopt by-laws to establish employment classification plans but exempted such by-laws from the Attorney General’s review and approval); and G.L. c. 41, § 108C (the Legislature authorized towns to adopt consolidated personnel by-laws, including compensation provisions, but exempted such by-laws from Attorney General review and approval). The Town should consult with Town Counsel with any questions.

hesitate to contact me.

Note: Pursuant to G.L. c. 40, § 32, neither general nor zoning by-laws take effect unless the Town has first satisfied the posting/publishing requirements of that statute.

Very truly yours,

ANDREA JOY CAMPBELL
ATTORNEY GENERAL

Nicole B. Caprioli

By: Nicole B. Caprioli
Assistant Attorney General
Deputy Director, Municipal Law Unit
10 Mechanic Street, Suite 301
Worcester, MA 01608
(774) 214-4418

cc: Town Counsel Daniel Skrip