

- 6 Voted To Chose a Representative according to Precept
 Voted Mr Ezra Sargeant Moderator
 Voted To Raise £50 to Defray Town Charges
 Voted that money Rais'd be Paid in the first of October Next
 Voted (Deer Joseph Perkins) be a Committee to agree with with Mr
 (Capt Wmth Blaney) & Bernard Green to Collect what is behind in
 (Mr David Sargeant) the Lists Committed to Mr Jacob Pain Deers Lists
 Voted To forgive Mr Moses Trucknams Rates in Mr Ebenth Shute Lists
 Voted To forgive Mr Moses Trucknams Rates in Mr Sam^l Sault Lists
 Voted To forgive Mr Isaac Wheeler Rates in Mr Sam^l Wards Lists
 Voted Mr Ezra Sargeant Representative

At a Legal Town meeting in malden may 27 1776

1. To see if the Town will Chose a Committee to Advise the Person Chosen to Represent them in the Next General Court whether that of the Honorable Congress should for the Safety of the Colonys Declare them Independent of the Kingdom of Great Brittain they the said Inhabitants will solemnly Engage with their lives and fortunes to Support them in the measure.
 2. To see if the Town will Chose a Committee man in the Room of Mr Nathaniel Jenkins Deerp to keechon with the Town Treasurer.
 3. To see if the Town will Impower the Person agreed with to Collect the Rats uncollected in the Lists Committed to Mr Jacob Pain Deerp when Constable.
 4. To see if the Town will Consider any matters of a Publick Nature and act thereon as Ocasion may require.
- Voted Mr Ezra Sargeant Moderator
 Voted to Chose a Committee to Advise the Representative
 The Town Resolved themselves into a Committee the Recd Mr Willis was Chosen Chairman the Committee Proceeded to Consider the matter and Prepared the following Instructions for their Representative and Reported the said Instructions to the Town for their Consideration and the Question was Put whether the Report and Instructions Prepared by the Committee be agreeable and it was in the Affirmative by a unanamous vote

Sir To Mr Ezra Sargeant
 A Resolution of the Late Honorable House of Representatives: Calling upon the several Towns in this Colony to Express their minds, with Respect to the Important Question of American Independence is the Ocasion of our now Instructing you, the Time was Sir when we lov'd the King and the People of Great Brittain with an affection truly filial, we felt our selves interested in their Glory: we shared in their joys & sorrows we cheerfully power'd the fruit of all our Labours into the lap of the mother Country & without Reluctance Expended our Blood and our Treasure in their Cause.

These were our Sentiments Towards Great Britain while she Continued to act the Part of a Parent State we felt our selves happy in our Connection with her nor wish'd to be Dissolv'd but our Sentiments are alter'd it is now the Ardent wish of our Selves that America may become a free & Independent State;

a Sense of unprovok'd Injuries will arouse the Resentment of y^e most Peacefull. Such Injuries these Colonies have Received from Britain unjustifiable Claims have been made by the King & his Ministers to Tax us without our Consent. these Claims have been Prosecuted in a manner Cruel & unjust to the highest Degree the wanton Policy of Administration hath Induced them to send fleets and Armies to America that by Depriving us of our Trade & Cutting the throats of our Brethren they might awe us into Submission & Erect a System of Despotism in America which should so far Enlarge the Influence of the Crown as to enable it to rivet their Shackles upon the People of Great Britain

This was brought to a Crisis upon the ever memorable Nineteenth of April we remember the fatal Day the Expiring groans of our murdered Countrymen yet vibrate on our Ears! we now behold the flames of their Peasful Swellings ascending to Heaven we hear their Blood Crying to us from the Ground Vengeance & Charging us as we Value the Peace of their Manes to have no ~~longer~~ further Connection with a King who can unfeelingly hear of the Slaughter of his Subjects & Composedly sleep with their Blood upon his Soul:

The manner in which the war has been Prosecuted hath Confirmed us in these Sentiments: Piracy & murder Robbery & breach of faith have been conspicuous in y^e Conduct of the Kings troops Defenseless Towns have been attacked & Destroyed: the Ruines of Charlestown which are daily in our View daily Remind us of this: the Cryes of y^e widows & y^e Orphan Demand our Attention they Demand that y^e Hand of Vengeance should wipe y^e tear from their Eye & that the Sword of their Country should Avenge their wrongs

We long Entertain'd hops that the Spirit of the British Nation would once more Induce them to assert their own and our Rights & Bring to condigne Punishment the Elected Villains who have Trampled upon y^e sacred Rights of men & affronted y^e Majesty of the People, we hop in vain they have lost their love to freedom they have lost their Spirit of just Resentment we therefore Renounce with Disdain our Connection with a Kingdom of Slaves, we bid a final adieu to Britain could an Accomodation be now offer'd, we have Reason to think that it would be fatal to the Liberties of America, we should soon Catch y^e Contagion of Sanality & Dissipation, which hath subjected Britons to Lawless Domination, were we Placed in the situation we were in in the Year 1773 were the Powers of appointing to Office & Commanding the militia in the hands of Governours, our acts Trade and manufactory would be Cramp'd:

Nay more than this the life of every man who has been active in the Cause of his Country would be Endangered for these reasons as well as many others which might be Produced we are Convinced in y^e opinion that the Present age will be Deficient in their Duty to God their Posterity & themselves if they Do not Establish an American Republick this is y^e only form of Government which we wish to see, Established for we can never be willingly Subject to any other King than He who being Posseld of Infinite wisdom Goodness & Rectitude is alone fit to Possess Unlimited Power: we have freely Spoken our Sentiments upon this Important Subject but we mean Not to Dictate, we have unbounded Confidence in the wisdom & uprightnes of the Continentall Congress with Pleasure we Recollet that this Affair is under their Direction and we now Instruct you Sir, to give them the Strongest Assuerance that if that they should Declare America to be a free & Independent Republick your Constinance will Support and Defend the measure to the last Drop of their Blood & the last farthing of their Treasure +

- Voted Samuel Merritt be a Committee man in the Room of Mr Nathaniel Jenkins Dece^d to kehon with the Town Treasurer
- Voted To Impower the Committee to agree with Sam Person to Collect the Rates uncollected in the Lifts Committed to Mr Jacob Pain Dece^d
- Voted To Adjorn the meeting to Monday y^e 3rd Day of June at 6 o'Clock PM June y^e 3 meet according to Adjournment

The Committee then Reported that they agreed with Mr Ebenezer Sargeant to gather the Rates that was uncollected in the Lifts Committed to Mr Jacob Pain Dece^d for 15 Pence p^r Pound

- Voted To Except of Mr Ebenezer Sargeant afore said to Collect said Rates
 - Voted That the Assessors Give the said Ebenezer Sargeant A warrant to Gather said Rates
- the meeting was Adjorned to Monday June the 10th at 6 o'Clock
June y^e 10 meet according to Adjournment

The Moderator Present
The meeting was further Adjorned to Monday the 17 day at 6 o'Clock at Mr Killells
June 17 meet according to Adjournment the moderator absent

- Voted Mr Ezekiel Senkings Moderator Protempore
- The meeting was further Adjorned to Monday y^e 24 of June at 6 o'Clock at Mr Killells
June 24 meet according to Adjournment Mr Ezekiel Senkings Moderator Protempore. the meeting was then Resolved

Chelsea May y^e 15th 1776

To The Selectmen of the Town of maldon Gentlemen this is to Inform you that I have Taken into my house at maldon a Family viz Samuel Haseldine wife Kith two Children Sarah and Hannah who Came the forth Day of this Instant May Last from Lynn I should be glad if you would warn them out
yours to serve Samuel Sargeant