

2025 WARRANT



TOWN OF NEW BOSTON

To the Inhabitants of the Town of New Boston, New Hampshire in the County of Hillsborough, in said State qualified to vote in Town affairs:

You are hereby notified in accordance with SB-2, the first session of all business other than voting by official ballot shall be held on **Monday, February 3, 2025, at 6:00 pm**, at the New Boston Central School, located at 15 Central School Road, New Boston, NH 03070. The first session shall consist of explanation, discussion, and debate of each Warrant Article. Warrant Articles may be amended, subject to the following limitations:

- (a) Warrant Articles whose wording is prescribed by law shall not be amended;
- (b) Warrant Articles that are amended shall be placed on the official ballot for final vote on the main motion, as amended.

The second session of the annual meeting, to vote on questions required by law to be inserted on said official ballot and to vote on all Warrant Articles from the first session on official ballot shall be held on **Tuesday, March 11, 2025, from 7:00 am until 7:00 pm**, at the New Boston Central School located at 15 Central School Road, New Boston, NH 03070, to act upon the following:

Article 01:

Cemetery Trustee for 3 years, vote for not more than 1

Almus Chancey [1297]

Fire Ward for 3 years, vote for not more than 3

Derek Danis [1102]
Brandon Merron [1149]
Mark Shatney [1041]

Library Trustee for 3 years, vote for not more than 3

Jennifer M. Allocca [1134]
Michael Constance [1040]
John Fladd [966]

Select Board Member for 3 years, vote for not more than 1

Kevin G. Collimore [859]
Glen Dickey [523]

Trustee of Trust Fund for 3 years, vote for not more than 1

Wendy Lambert [1220]

Article 02: Are you in favor of the adoption of the following amendment to the existing Town Zoning Ordinance as proposed by the Planning Board?

To amend the New Boston Zoning Ordinance, Article IV, Special Provisions, Section 404, Accessory Dwelling Units, as follows:

Section 404.3 Requirements/Limitations

Amend 404.3, 12, by adding bold text so #12, reads as follows:

^{12.} An interior door shall be provided between the principal dwelling unit and the accessory dwelling unit. (Added March 14, 2017.) Door to be located on common wall dividing dwelling units.

YES [911] NO [574]

Explanation of Article 02: This article by the Planning Board would clarify the location of the interior door in the existing ordinance.

Article 03: Are you in favor of the adoption of the following amendment to the existing Town Zoning Ordinance as proposed by the Planning Board?

To amend the New Boston Zoning Ordinance, Article III, General Provisions, Section 314, Off-Street Parking, as follows:

Section 314 Off-Street Parking (Section Amended March 8, 2011.)

Amend this section by deleting the words “Each residential use shall have a minimum of two parking spaces per dwelling unit” and adding the bold text:

Off-street parking shall be provided on the same lot as the use and/or building it is to serve in accordance with the standards of the Non-Residential Site Plan Review Regulations of the Town of New Boston whenever any new use and/or building is established, or any existing use and/or building is enlarged or expanded. All parking areas shall be prohibited within the entire required minimum front yard area and within the first 50% of the required minimum side and rear yard areas for any district, with the exception of one or two-family dwellings that do not have non-residential uses occurring therein.

~~Each residential use shall have a minimum of two parking spaces per dwelling unit.~~ **Each residential use shall have a minimum of two parking spaces per dwelling unit, except that 1.5 residential parking spaces shall be required per unit for studio and one-bedroom units under 1,000 square feet that meet the requirements for workforce housing under RSA 674:58, IV, and 1.5 residential parking spaces shall be required per unit for multi-family developments of 10 units or more.**

Alternative Parking Solutions pursuant to RSA 674:16-a may be submitted to the applicable land use board for consideration consistent with the statutory requirements.

Except as otherwise provided within this Ordinance, the Planning Board is authorized, through the Non-Residential Site Plan Review Regulations of the Town of New Boston, to adopt and administer regulations regarding parking standards for all uses of land.

YES [946] NO [544]

Explanation of Article 03: This article by the Planning Board would update the Zoning Ordinance to mirror recent changes in State statute updates.

Article 04: Are you in favor of the adoption of the following amendment to the existing Town Zoning Ordinance as proposed by the Planning Board?

To amend the New Boston Zoning Ordinance, Article VI, Definitions, Section 602, Term Definitions, as follows:

Amend the existing definition of Yard Sale to include bold text:

Yard Sale: The display and sale of excess items originating from a family at a residence. More than four such sales within any consecutive 12-month period or such sales that include items purchased specifically for such a sale, shall be considered a Home Business and must comply with Section 319 of this Ordinance. Other terms to describe such sales are garage, lawn, barn, tag, and attic sales which shall have the same meaning. (Added March 12, 2013.) **At the conclusion of any yard sale, any and all items originating from such sale shall be removed within 24 hours.**

YES [1011] NO [515]

Explanation of Article 04: This article by the Planning Board would stipulate a time by which items need to be removed, lessening the occurrence of items causing a nuisance.

Article 05: Are you in favor of the adoption of the following amendment to the existing Town Zoning Ordinance as proposed by the Planning Board?

To amend the New Boston Zoning Ordinance, Article VI, Definitions, Section 602, Term Definitions, as follows:

Amend the existing definition of Abutter to include bold text:

Abutter: Any person whose property is located in New Hampshire and adjoins or is directly across the street or stream as **determined by lines drawn perpendicular from all pairs of corner boundaries along the street or stream of the applicant to pairs of projected points on any property boundary across the street or stream that intersect these perpendicular lines. This includes any property that lies along the street or stream between each pair of projected points or is within 50 feet of any projected point** from the land under consideration by the local land use board. For purposes of receiving

testimony only, and not for purposes of notification, the term "abutter" shall include any person who is able to demonstrate that his land will be directly affected by the proposal under consideration. For purposes of receipt of notification by a municipality of a local land use board hearing, in the case of an abutting property being under a condominium or other collective form of ownership, the term abutter means the officers of the collective or association, as defined in RSA 356-B:3,XXIII. For purposes of receipt of notification by a municipality of a local land use board hearing, in the case of an abutting property being under a manufactured housing park form of ownership as defined in RSA 205-A:1, the term "abutter" includes the manufactured housing park owner and the tenants who own manufactured housing which adjoins or is directly across the street or stream from the land under consideration by the local land use board. Per RSA 672:3, as amended. (Amended March 11, 2003.)

YES [1004] NO [459]

Explanation of Article 05: This article by the Planning Board would update the Zoning Ordinance to mirror recent changes in State statute with regard to definition updates.

Article 06: Are you in favor of the adoption of the following amendment to the existing Town Zoning Ordinance as proposed by the Planning Board?

To amend the New Boston Zoning Ordinance, Article VI, Definitions, Section 602, Term Definitions, as follows:

Amend the existing definitions of Group Child Day Care Center and Family Day-Care Home:

Family Day-Care Home:

~~Family Day-Care Home: A residence occupied by the provider in which child care is regularly provided for any part of a day (but less than 24 hours, except in emergencies) for one (1) to six (6) children from one or more unrelated families. The maximum of six (6) children includes children under six years of age who are living in the home and children related to the applicant who are received for child care.~~

Family Day-Care Homes: which are approved by the N.H. Department of Health and Welfare to provide services to school-age children shall care for no more than three (3) school-age children, including the provider's own children, and other children residing in the home (up to 10 years old), in addition to the allowed number of pre-school children. **This use shall be allowed as an accessory use to any primary residential use and shall not be subject to local site plan review.**

~~Group Child Day-Care Center~~ (**"Day Care Center"**): A facility for the care of the children and as defined in RSA 170-E:2(IV)(2)(IV)(2). **This use shall be allowed as an accessory use to any primary residential use and shall not be subject to local site plan review.**

And amend the New Boston Zoning Ordinance, Article II, Establishment of Districts and District Regulations, Section 204.3, "R-1" Residential-One, as follows:

Section 204.3 "R-1" Residential One

Objective and Characteristics

The purpose of this district is to provide opportunities for mixed types of residential uses. Such districts usually have good road access and are usually convenient to public facilities such as schools and the fire station; and, having a high-density soils potential rating as defined in the Master Plan.

Uses

Permitted Uses

1. One family dwelling
2. Two family dwelling
3. Multi-family dwelling*
4. Accessory building or use
5. Agriculture
6. Open Space Development in accordance with the provisions of Article IV.
7. Attached Accessory Dwelling Unit
8. Roof mounted solar systems
(in accordance with Section 410) 3/2024
- 9. Day Care Center**
- 10. Family Day Care Home**

Allowed by Special Exception

1. Outdoor Recreational Facility
2. Funeral Home
3. Hospital
4. Home Business
5. Essential Service
6. Manufactured Housing Park**
7. Office
8. Public Use
9. Private School ~~and or Day Care Center~~
10. Home Shop
- ~~11. Family Day Care Home~~

Allowed by Conditional Use Permit

1. Housing for Older Persons Development***
2. Lodging House(Short Term Rental)****
3. Bed and Breakfast/Inn****
4. Boarding/Rooming House****
5. Kennel****
6. Outdoor Event Venue****
7. Residential Use Increased Density*****
8. Ground mounted solar systems
(in accordance with Section 408 & 410) 3/2024

(Table amended March 9, 2010, March 8, 2016, March 13, 2018, March 12, 2019, March 8, 2022 and March 12, 2024.)

YES [919]

NO [548]

Explanation of Article 06: This article by the Planning Board would update the Zoning Ordinance to mirror recent changes in State statute with regard to definition updates.

Article 07: Are you in favor of the adoption of the following amendment to the existing Town Zoning Ordinance as proposed by the Planning Board?

To amend the New Boston Zoning Ordinance, Article II, Establishment of Districts and District Regulations, Section 202, Zoning Maps, as follows:
Section 202 Zoning Maps

Amend Section 202 Zoning Maps, by amending the Zoning Map by rezoning Tax Map/Lot #2/124, said portion contains 13.76 acres from Residential/Agriculture to Small Scale Planned Commercial.

YES [874] NO [527]

Explanation of Article 07: This article by the Planning Board would bring the lot into one zoning district with the existing 3 lots abutting its front. The lot is currently being used for commercial use. This would allow the expansion for additional commercial opportunities as well as expand the tax base in a positive manner.

Article 08: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate as an **Operating Budget**, not including appropriations by special warrant articles and other appropriations voted separately, the amounts set forth in the budget posted with the warrant or as amended by vote of the first session, for the purposes set forth therein, totaling **Seven Million Four Hundred Seventy-Six Thousand One Hundred Forty-One Dollars (\$7,476,141)**. Should this article be defeated, the default budget shall be **Seven Million Two Hundred Twenty-Four Thousand Two Hundred Sixty-Eight Dollars (\$7,224,268)**, which is the same as last year with certain adjustments required by previous action of the Town of New Boston or by law, or the governing body may hold one special meeting, in accordance with RSA 40:13, X and XVI, to take up the issue of a revised operating budget only. **(Majority vote required) (Select Board recommend 3-0) (Finance Committee recommend 6-0) (Estimated Tax Impact Net of Estimated Revenue \$5.47)**

YES [769] NO [768]

Explanation of Article 08: This year, prior to the start of the CY 2025 budget season, the New Boston Select Board came together to establish a timeline and set a goal to cap any budget increases to a five percent (5%) maximum from the CY 2024 approved budget. The operating budget includes routine, and, for the most part, recurring expenses related to staffing (including salaries and benefits), supplies, utilities, vehicles, maintenance, repairs, and the like required for the day-to-day operation of Town departments. This budget represents a 4.99% increase over the CY 2024 budget. It is mostly a maintenance budget with a few strategic enhancements to include a merit based (instead of COLA) wage increase for employees, moving to a full-time Youth Services Librarian, a full year's funding for the new Police Department Detective position partially funded in 2024, a 3-month succession plan for the Fire Department Fire Chief and increased monitoring for the landfill.

Article 09: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **Three Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$300,000)**, to be placed into the existing **Fire Department Vehicle Capital**

Reserve Fund established in 2000 per RSA 35:1. **(Majority vote required) (Select Board recommend 3-0) (Finance Committee recommend 6-0) (Estimated Tax Impact \$0.309)**

YES [893]

NO [655]

Explanation of Article 09: This yearly Capital Reserve Fund (CRF) includes both replacement and mid-life refurbishment of all Fire Department vehicles except the ambulances, which are purchased through a separate ambulance revolving fund that derives its revenues from user fees not taxes. The vehicle roster includes two (2) front-line engines and a backup engine, one (1) tank truck, one (1) forestry truck, one (1) light rescue vehicle and one (1) command vehicle. These vehicles are extremely expensive, and the costs are increasing at between 15% and 20 % per year and can take up to two (2) years from order to delivery. With a midlife refurbishment, these engines generally have a 25-year life cycle. The other vehicles have 15 to 30-year life cycles. Projections can be problematic based on inflationary factors and long delivery times. The Capital Improvements Program (CIP) Committee carefully reviews this vehicle schedule annually, attempting to account for any known increases in vehicle costs, and continues to recommend a deposit into the CRF of \$300,000 for 2025 and \$250,000 each year for the 5 subsequent since the vehicle to be purchased in 2025 is more expensive and escalating at a rate that would become cost prohibitive. The funding under this Warrant Article is consistent with the CIP recommendation and scheduling.

Article 10: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **One Million Fifty-Six Thousand Dollars (\$1,056,000)**, for the purchase of a **Fire Department Engine 2 Replacement**, and furthermore to authorize the withdrawal of said amount from the **Fire Department Vehicles Capital Reserve Fund**. This will be a non-lapsing appropriation per RSA 32:7, VI and will not lapse until the specified purchase is complete or December 31, 2028, whichever comes first. **(Majority vote required) (Select Board recommend 3-0) (Finance Committee recommend 5-1) (No current year tax impact)**

YES [887]

NO [656]

Explanation of Article 10: Engine 2 was originally scheduled for replacement in 2026. A utility vehicle (single purpose vehicle) was scheduled in 2023 that was not purchased, and those funds remained available in the Capital Reserve Fund and were reallocated for this purchase. The cost of fire engines are increasing at between 15% and 20% per year, are multi-purpose and are currently projected to take two (2) years from order to delivery. The Engine 2 replacement was moved to 2025 to hopefully have it delivered in 2027. Waiting until 2026 would potentially add another \$211,200 to the overall cost and it would not be delivered until 2028.

Article 11: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000)** to be placed into the existing **Fire Department Equipment Capital Reserve Fund** established in 2024 per RSA 35:1, for purchasing, upgrading, and maintenance of Fire Department equipment. **(Majority Vote Required) (Select Board recommend 3-0) (Finance Committee recommend 6-0) (Estimated Tax Impact \$0.01)**

YES [1016]

NO [529]

Explanation of Article 11: This Capital Reserve Fund was established in 2024 and will provide for the purchasing, upgrading and maintenance of large dollar items such as SCBA (Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus), compressors, hose and equipment. The funding under this article is normally \$50,000 but was reduced to \$10,000 for 2025 to account for the additional funding needed in the Fire Department Vehicles Capital Reserve Fund and would return to \$30,000 in 2026 consistent with the CIP recommendation and scheduling.

Article 12: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **Twenty Thousand Dollars (\$20,000)**, to be placed into the existing **Emergency Management Capital Reserve Fund** established in 2020 per RSA 35:1, to maintain the Emergency Management communications and related system. **(Majority vote required) (Select Board recommend 3-0) (Finance Committee recommend 6-0) (Estimated Tax Impact \$0.021)**

YES [978] NO [561]

Explanation for Article 12: In 2020, the Town voted to establish an Emergency Management Capital Reserve Fund for the collection of funds to maintain the Emergency Services communications and related systems. The CIP Committee is continuing to request a \$20,000 annual deposit into this fund to meet the needs of the radio tower maintenance scheduled in 2027. The funding under this article is consistent with the CIP recommendation and scheduling.

Article 13: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **One Hundred Eighty Four Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$184,500)**, to be placed into the existing **Highway Truck Capital Reserve Fund** established in 1999 per RSA 35:1. **(Majority vote required) (Select Board recommend 3-0) (Finance Committee recommend 6-0) (Estimated Tax Impact \$0.19)**

YES [884] NO [651]

Explanation of Article 13: This Capital Reserve Fund now covers two (2) full-sized 6-wheel dump trucks, one (1) smaller 6-wheel truck (F-550) with plows, five (5) 10-wheel trucks, an F-250 4x4 pickup truck with a plow and a Chevy Silverado 1500. Four (4) of these vehicles are scheduled to be replaced in the next four (4) years. The cost of a new 10-wheel truck with plows is currently \$285,500 but the Town was able to find an existing 2024 cab and chassis for current pricing saving \$15,500 for the proposed truck for 2025. The Capital Improvements Program Committee recommended a deposit of \$200,000 in 2025 but 2025 was reduced because of the availability of an existing 10-wheeled truck at 2024 pricing. The increases for future years \$225,000 in 2026 and \$250,000 in 2027 will be necessary to maintain balances in the fund needed to purchase these vehicles since these vehicles are increasing in cost by 6% per year. The funding under this article is consistent with the CIP recommendation and scheduling.

Article 14: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **Two Hundred Seventy Thousand Dollars (\$270,000)**, for the purchase of **one (1) fully equipped 10-wheel dump truck with plow and related equipment**, and furthermore to authorize the withdrawal of said amount from the existing **Highway Truck Capital Reserve Fund**. This will be a non-lapsing appropriation per RSA 32:7, VI and will not lapse until the specified purchase is complete or

December 31, 2028, whichever comes first. **(Majority vote required) (Select Board recommend 3-0) (Finance Committee recommend 6-0) (No current year tax impact)**

YES [969]

NO [574]

Explanation of Article 14: It is the recommendation of the Highway Manager to replace the existing 2008 6-wheel dump truck with a plow. The life cycle for this type of vehicle is 15 years. Response time is improved with a 10-wheel and less trips needed to reload for material. The funding under this Warrant Article is consistent with the CIP recommendation and scheduling and accounts for the 6% inflationary factor for this vehicle from the actual 2024 cost. The purchase of this Truck saves \$15,500 (originally estimated at \$285,500) since the Highway Manager was able to find an existing new cab and chassis and vendor agreed to the 2024 price contingent on this vote. This truck would be outfitted with the body and accessories in May 2025 and should be on the road in the summer of 2025, plenty of time before winter 2025. This purchase is incredibly timely since the current shortage of transmissions will cause a delay for any subsequent cab and chassis that are ordered. If the Town doesn't purchase this truck in 2025, the estimated cost for this truck for 2026 is \$302,630, an increase of \$32,630, and might not be available for use until 2027 or 2028.

Article 15: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **Sixty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$65,000)**, to be placed into the existing **Highway Department Heavy Equipment Capital Reserve Fund** established in 2007 per RSA 35:1. **(Majority vote required) (Select Board recommend 3-0) (Finance Committee recommend 6-0) (Estimated Tax Impact \$0.067)**

YES [894]

NO [638]

Explanation of Article 15: The Capital Reserve Fund covers the replacement cost of the grader, loader, roller, backhoe and excavator. The funding under this Warrant Article is consistent with the CIP recommendation and scheduling.

Article 16: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000)**, to be placed into the existing **Town Bridge Repair/Replacement Capital Reserve Fund** established in 2011 per RSA 35:1. **(Majority vote required) (Select Board recommend 3-0) (Finance Committee recommend 6-0) (Estimated Tax Impact \$0.01)**

YES [1092]

NO [425]

Explanation of Article 16: This yearly Capital Reserve Fund request will be reduced to \$10,000. Previously approved projects to be funded by this CRF: for 20% of the engineering costs in 2024 for the replacements of Tucker Mill Road Bridge (2023 Warrant Article #11) and Gregg Mill Road Bridge (2023 Warrant Article #12) and a portion of the Bedford Road Culvert (2024 Warrant Article #9). Federal and State funds will cover the balance for these three bridges. The funding under this article is consistent with the CIP recommendation and scheduling. The funding has been reduced for 2025 and subsequent years until the next comprehensive plan is completed for any remaining qualified bridges or culverts.

Article 17: Shall the Town vote to establish a **Public Safety Services Revolving Fund** pursuant to RSA 31:95-h, I (c) for the purpose of providing public safety services to include the K9 unit, traffic enforcement equipment, Police Fleet purchasing and outfitting, or any public safety purposes deemed appropriate by the Select Board, which has been recommended or requested by the Police Chief. One hundred percent (100%) of the police portion of the New Boston Space Force Station/Police Department agreement proceeds, pistol permits, fees for reports/fines, and donations shall be deposited into this fund, and to raise and appropriate the sum of **One Hundred Dollars (\$100)** to be deposited into the fund. The money in the fund shall be allowed to accumulate from year to year and shall not be considered part of the Town's General Fund Balance. The Town Treasurer shall have custody of all monies in the fund and shall pay out the same only upon order of the Select Board and no further approval is required by the legislative body to expend. Such funds may be expended only for the purpose for which the fund was created. **(Majority vote required) (Select Board recommend 3-0) (Finance Committee recommend 6-0) (Estimated Tax Impact \$0.00, less than 1/100th of a cent)**

YES [968]

NO [553]

Explanation of Article 17: This article is proposed to change the way the Town accounts for police department fees, contract proceeds and donation funds. In recent years, if there was not a specific appropriation, funds designated by the police portion of New Boston Space Force Station agreement, to include the K9 unit and other fees, would simply be deposited into the General Fund without being spent on the costs associated with the agreement or used for initiatives such as speed calming devices (speed trailers, speed signs) and hand-held radar. The passage of this Warrant Article is intended to allow for enhancements that are covered by departmental fees, contract proceeds, and donation funds to be used to offset programs or initiatives within the department.

Article 18: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **Fourteen Thousand Dollars (\$14,000)**, for the purpose of purchasing **Community Development Department software**, with said funds to come from building permit fees. If approved, this appropriation will be included in the following year's Operating Budget and Default Budget. **(Majority vote required) (Select Board recommend 3-0) (Finance Committee recommend 6-0) (No current year Tax Impact \$0.00, to be offset by revenue)**

YES [940]

NO [565]

Explanation of Article 18: The Town currently relies on paper permits for the Community Development Department (Building, Planning, and Zoning) combined with a homegrown access database to keep track of the planning process. Residents, developers and contractors typically need to come into the Town Hall to apply for permits, fill out applications and review the process during working hours.

To enhance the process for residents, developers, contractors and the various trades there is a need for an online solution to allow for 24/7 access 365 days a year, application filing, notifications, scheduling of inspections, and payment of fees. This integrated approach will allow for consistent communication throughout the process and allow for a more integrated and collaborative approach which ultimately improves customer service. By digitizing the permitting process, the department can allocate resources more effectively, reduce administrative costs and foster a more accessible, sustainable and responsive system for both staff and the community.

This expenditure is anticipated to be fully offset by revenues raised through the Building, Planning, and Zoning Department fees that increased effective January 1, 2025 specifically to offset this purchase.

Article 19: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **Thirty-Two Thousand Dollars (\$32,000)**, to come from unassigned fund balance; for the purpose of purchasing a comprehensive **financial software suite** that includes accounts payable, payroll, fund accounting and budgeting. If approved, this appropriation will be included in the following year's Operating Budget and Default Budget. **(Majority vote required) (Select Board recommend 2-1) (Finance Committee recommend 5-1) (No current year Tax Impact)**

YES [830]

NO [676]

Explanation of Article 19: The Town currently relies heavily on an outdated paper and manual workflow for its financial operation with duplication of data entry. The current system is server based and does not allow for departmental access to view their approved budgets and expenditures to date in real time, instead relying on emailed reports. The current process for payroll and accounts payable is manual, paper based and requires numerous hours in each department to process weekly payroll and accounts payable. All of the data is then re-entered into the finance system duplicating efforts and time. The budget process is also done offline in spreadsheets instead of managing the process and any revisions in a system that tracks the progress. This manual entry process is prone to errors; a system with enhanced features and security may also assist with the annual audit process and ensure compliance with purchase rules and procedures.

Due to the limitations and lack of access into a cloud-based financial suite, many departments also must keep a second method of recording activity through Excel, QuickBooks or other methods to periodically reconcile with the Town's finance software. The goal in moving forward with this system is to reduce the hours needed in each department for the various financial processes including payroll, accounts payable, and budgeting. Overall, this software will enhance operational efficiency and contribute to more effective planning and management, enabling better decision making. The ongoing amount to be added to the operating and default budget is \$25,534 which represents the yearly subscription cost of the new software minus the current software subscription cost if this warrant article passes.

Article 20: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate **One Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$150,000)**, for **Road Improvements**. This is a non-lapsing appropriation per RSA 32:7, VI and will not lapse until the road improvements are complete or until December 31, 2029, whichever comes first. **(Majority vote required) (Select Board recommend 3-0) (Finance Committee recommend 6-0) (Estimated Tax Impact \$0.155)**

YES [1042]

NO [479]

Explanation of Article 20: This yearly funding of roadwork has prevented New Boston from needing multi-million-dollar bonds to repair severely deteriorated roads. These repairs often include extensive tree trimming and drainage repairs. The Select Board recommends increasing this amount from \$100,000 to \$150,000 to continue to account for increased costs related to road projects and implement a 7-year gravel road plan as well as the paving and maintenance schedule recommended by the Road Surface Management System (RSMS) results and the amount may need

to be increased to \$200,000 starting in CY 2026. The funding under this article is consistent with the CIP recommendation and scheduling.

Article 21: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **Two Hundred Eighteen Thousand Eighty-Seven Dollars (\$218,087)**, for Town road-related upgrades and other road improvements, to be offset by revenue from the State of New Hampshire **Highway Block Grant Program** estimated to be **Two Hundred Eighteen Thousand Eighty-Seven Dollars (\$218,087)**. If the grant is not fully received, only the amount received will be expended. This will be a non-lapsing account per RSA 32:7, IV and will not lapse until the project is completed or December 31, 2026, whichever comes first. **(Majority vote required) (Select Board recommend 3-0) (Finance Committee recommend 6-0) (No funds to be raised by taxation)**

YES [1174] NO [342]

Explanation of Article 21: This article is to accept the 2025 State of New Hampshire Highway Block Grant revenue and to expend for purposes allowed under said program. The funds can only be used for construction, reconstruction and maintenance of each municipality's Class IV and V highways. The funds can also be used for equipment to maintain the local roads. The amount received is calculated based upon the Town's population in proportion to the entire State of New Hampshire's population and based upon the Town's Class IV and V road mileage in proportion to the total statewide Class IV and V mileage.

Article 22: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000)**, to be placed into the existing Town **Revaluation Capital Reserve Fund** established in 1995 per RSA 35:1, as required by State Law RSA 75:8-a, and the New Hampshire Constitution, the Town must revalue all real estate so that all assessments are at full and true value at least as often as every fifth year. **(Majority vote required) (Select Board recommend 3-0) (Finance Committee recommend 6-0) (Estimated Tax Impact \$0.026)**

YES [821] NO [690]

Explanation of Article 22: As required by State Law (RSA 75:8-a), and the New Hampshire Constitution, the Town must revalue all real estate so that all assessments are at full and true value at least as often as every fifth year. The next town full revaluation will be in 2031 with a statistical revaluation in 2026. The anticipated cost for the statistical revaluation is \$100,000. The Town is obligated to perform these revaluations and putting money aside stabilizes the tax impact of the work performed.

Article 23: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **Seventy-Five Thousand Dollars (\$75,000)**, to come from unassigned fund balance; to be placed into the existing **Municipal Facilities Expendable Trust Fund** established in 2022 per RSA 31:19-a. **(Majority vote required) (Select Board recommend 3-0) (Finance Committee recommend 6-0) (No current year Tax Impact)**

YES [876] NO [630]

Explanation of Article 23: This fund provides for the maintenance, improvement and renovations of all town government facilities to ensure that they are well maintained and do not fall into disrepair. A facilities maintenance inventory has been established as well as a building committee made up of staff, residents, and a member of the Select Board that is tasked with developing a comprehensive schedule of projects required to maintain and repair the various buildings owned by the Town. The prior funding of \$30,000 per year was not sufficient to address the list of outstanding items and projects needed to stay ahead of the maintenance and repair of various town facilities including the Town Hall, Recreation Building, the Highway Garage, and the Wason Building.

Article 24: To see if the Town will vote to establish an Expendable Trust to be known as the **Library Facilities Expendable Trust Fund**, under provisions of RSA 31:19-a, to come from unassigned fund balance; for the purpose of providing funds for maintenance and repairs of the Library facilities and to raise and appropriate the sum of **Twenty-Seven Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$27,500)** to be placed into this fund, and to name the Library Trustees as agents to expend. **(Majority vote required) (Select Board recommend 3-0) (Finance Committee recommend 6-0) (No current year Tax Impact)**

YES [938] NO [580]

Explanation of Article 24: The Library understands the facility (opened in 2010) is valued at \$2.75 million. After 15 years the facility is in need of more extensive repairs including HVAC, water heaters, etc. In 2024 three HVAC units failed and needed replacement and the Town and the Library shared some of those costs. An estimated annual budget for maintenance and repairs is typically 1 to 4 percent of the total value of a building. This request is for \$27,500 or 1 percent of the value of the building.

Article 25: To see if the Town will vote to approve the cost items in the 3-year contract negotiated between the Town of New Boston and the Town of Goffstown for **Police and Fire Dispatch Services** and if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **Six Thousand Seven Hundred and Fifty-Two Dollars (\$6,752)** for CY 2025. Said sum representing the additional costs associated with providing the Police and Fire Dispatch Services contracted through the Town of Goffstown over the CY 2024 Town Budget.

The contract calls for a 3.12 percent increase each subsequent year:

CY 2026	\$2,532
CY 2027	\$2,616

If this article is approved, the appropriation for Police and Fire Dispatch Services will be included in each year's Operating Budget and Default Budget for the duration of the contract period. **(Majority vote required) (Select Board recommend 3-0) (Finance Committee recommend 6-0) (Estimated Tax Impact \$0.007)**

YES [1189] NO [364]

Explanation of Article 25: The contracts for Police and Fire Dispatch Services with the Town of Goffstown will increase by \$6,752 in 2025. The CY 2025 proposed and default budgets both include the base contract amount for Police and Fire Dispatch services with the Town of Goffstown

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of \$50,424 for Police, and \$24,040 for the Fire Department. This article only includes the increases beyond the base contracted amount already budgeted and would replace the yearly article on dispatch funding and the yearly increase each year will be included in both the operating and default budgets going forward in accordance with the contract terms through CY 2027. Other dispatching options would likely require the Town to split Fire and Police dispatch services and would increase the costs between 50 to 100 percent. Goffstown dispatch has served the Town well for the past 8 years. The Town must have dispatching services, and this article ratifies the additional cost items in this contract.

Article 26: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **Twelve Thousand Eight Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$12,850)**, for the purpose of supporting the New Boston Fourth of July Association, a non-profit organization, by funding a portion of the cost of the **Fourth of July fireworks** and cover the costs of **mandatory police and fire details** for the parade and the fireworks events. **(Majority vote required) (Select Board recommend 3-0) (Finance Committee recommend 6-0) (Estimated Tax Impact \$0.013)**

YES [948] NO [556]

Explanation of Article 26: This article is to support the annual Fourth of July parade and celebration with fireworks and the mandatory police and fire detail.

Article 27: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **Ten Thousand One Hundred Dollars (\$10,100)** to be distributed to six (6) human service agencies that provide service in the New Boston community in the amounts requested by the following agencies for 2025:

<u>Agency Name</u>	<u>2025 Funding</u>
Granite State Children's Alliance (Child Advocacy Center of Hillsborough County)	1,000
Court Appointed Special Advocates of New Hampshire (CASA)	1,000
Crispin's House Coalition for Youth	1,000
Family Promise of Southern New Hampshire	1,000
Red Cross	1,000
St. Joseph Community / Meals On Wheels	5,100
Total	<u>\$ 10,100</u>

These agencies shall be required to give a written report at the end of their fiscal year 2025 to the Select Board highlighting what the funds were used for and what impact the funds had in assisting them to achieve their goals and objectives. **(Majority vote required) (Select Board recommend 3-0) (Finance Committee recommend 6-0) (Estimated Tax Impact \$0.011)**

YES [1030] NO [578]

Explanation of Article 27: These agencies depend on the generosity of a caring community of donors and grants from the municipalities served. These agencies provide a variety of assistance to the residents of New Boston and many have over the years. These services include child

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advocacy when a case involves a New Boston youth resident, youth leadership opportunities, substance misuse prevention, suicide prevention, mental health initiatives along with a Juvenile Court Diversion program that serves the New Boston Police Department (NBPD). Other services include assistance to families who are temporarily experiencing homelessness, meals to homebound residents and services to ensure the health, safety, and preparedness for New Boston residents. The funding request for 2025 from Meals On Wheels increased \$2,200 due to the increase in the number of residents receiving meals, from 29 residents to 51 residents. The Meals on Wheels cost per resident of \$100 per year has not changed. The increase in the Warrant Article would be \$1,200 more than in 2024 and includes the reduction of Home Health Care Hospice/Visiting Nurse since they are able to fund their work through insurance or other means.

Article 28: To see if the Town will adopt the provisions of RSA 72:38-b for an exemption for the deaf or severely hearing-impaired persons as follows: the exemption from assessed value for qualified taxpayers shall be \$33,000. To qualify, the person must: meet the definition of a “deaf person or person with severe hearing impairment” under RSA 72:38-b(II); must be a resident of the State of New Hampshire for at least five (5) consecutive years prior to April 1 in which the exemption is sought; must occupy the property as his/her principal place of abode; must own the property (as defined in RSA 72:27(VI)) individually or jointly, or if owned by a spouse, they must have been married for at least five (5) consecutive years; had in the calendar year preceding April 1 a net income from all sources of not more than \$37,000 if single and \$47,000 if married; and own net assets not in excess of \$94,500, excluding the value of the person’s residence as described in RSA 72:38-b(III). **(Majority Vote Required) (Select Board recommend 3-0) (Finance Committee recommend 4-2) (No current year Tax Impact – tax impact is dependent on applied for and approved exemptions)**

YES [806]

NO [700]

Explanation of Article 28: This article asks for permission to grant a property tax exemption to those who are legally deaf as allowed under NH law. The property tax exemption shall be \$33,000 from the assessed value on a residence.

Article 29: To see if the Town will adopt an **exemption for Electric Energy Storage Systems** as defined in RSA 72:85 and allowed by RSA 72:27-a and RSA 72:33, 34, and 34-a, for the full value of the system to be exempted from taxation. The State of New Hampshire has given towns the option of this incentive to utilize renewable energy systems, which can reduce our dependence on fossil fuels. **(Majority Vote Required) (Select Board recommend 3-0) (Finance Committee not recommended 2-4) (No current year Tax Impact – tax impact is dependent on applied for and approved exemptions)**

YES [719]

NO [804]

Explanation of Article 29: This article asks for permission to grant a property tax exemption to those who wish to install qualifying Electric Energy Storage Systems as allowed under New Hampshire law. The property tax exemption shall be equal to 100% of the actual assessed value of the qualifying equipment, as defined in New Hampshire law.

Article 30: To see if the town will vote to name the new fire department building on 63 Mont Vernon Road after former fire chief, Dan MacDonald. **(Submitted by Petition) (Select Board not recommended 0-3) (No Tax Impact)**

YES [955]

NO [554]

Article 31: Shall we adopt the provisions of RSA 32:5-b, and implement a tax cap whereby the governing body (or budget committee) shall not submit a recommended budget that increases the amount to be raised by local taxes, based on the prior fiscal year's actual amount of local taxes raised, by more than 2%. **(Submitted by Petition) (3/5 vote required) (Select Board not recommended 0-3) (Finance Committee not recommended 0-6)**

YES [710]

NO [830]

Article 32: Whereas Hillsborough County is listed by immigration activist groups as a sanctuary county, and recognizing that President Trump has announced plans for mass deportation of illegal immigrants, the Town of New Boston acknowledges that its location within Hillsborough County could make it a target for individuals seeking sanctuary.

To address this concern, shall the Town vote to direct the New Boston Police Department to cooperate fully with U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) in lawful deportation actions? This cooperation includes sharing relevant information, detaining individuals at ICE's request as permitted by law, and assisting with federal immigration enforcement within the department's resources and authority, all in compliance with state and federal laws. **(Submitted by Petition) (Select Board not recommended 0-3)**

YES [690]

NO [861]

Article 33: To act on any other business that may legally come before this meeting.

Please Note:

The estimated tax impact noted in the article explanations are only estimates and will likely change at the time the 2025 tax rate is set next November. The estimates are based on the Projected Town Property Valuation (\$969,669,023), which will likely change in 2025. Revenues are based on estimates and will also change at the time of tax rate setting in 2025. The revenue total used to calculate the net impact of the operating budget does not include any use of fund balance at tax rate setting.