

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

FIRST SESSION:

To the inhabitants of the Town of Deerfield, in the County of Rockingham, in said State qualified to vote in Town Affairs:

You are hereby notified to meet at the Town Hall, 10 Church Street, on Saturday, the 3rd day of February 2024 at 9:00 a.m. This session shall consist of explanation, discussion and deliberation of the Warrant Articles numbered One (1) through Seventeen (17). The Warrant Articles may be amended subject to the following limitations: (a) Warrant Articles whose wording is prescribed by law shall not be amended, and (b) Warrant Articles that are amended shall be placed on the official ballot for a final vote on the main motion as amended.

SECOND SESSION:

The final ballot vote for warrant articles will take place at the Town Hall, 10 Church Street, Tuesday, March 12, 2024. The polls will be open from 7:00 a.m. until 7:00 p.m.

1. To choose all necessary Town Officers for the year ensuing.
2. To see if the Town will vote to adopt amendments to the existing Town Zoning Ordinance as proposed by the Planning Board. (The amendments as proposed by the Planning Board are available for inspection at the Offices of the Town Clerk and the Selectmen during business hours of 8:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. Mondays and from 8:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Tuesday through Friday.)
3. To vote on the following Warrant Articles, as amended, including the proposed budget as a result of the action of the First Session.

Zoning Amendment # 1:

Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 1 as proposed by the Planning Board for the Town Zoning Ordinance as follows: delete Section 211 Floodplain Development Regulations in its entirety and replace it with a new Section 211 Floodplain Development Regulations as necessary to comply with requirements of the National Flood Insurance Program?

Zoning Amendment # 2:

Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 2 as proposed by the planning board for the town zoning ordinance as follows: amend Article III Section 325.4.D.(b) by inserting the following new section and editions:

(b) Internal Setbacks and Separation:

(1) Front setback: Structures and/or buildings shall be located at least twenty-five (25) feet from the edge of any roads in the subdivision.

(2) Side and rear setbacks: Structures and/or buildings shall be located not less than 20 feet from internal side and rear property lines.

(3) Dwelling units Separation: The depth of side and rear yards (measured from building to property lines) shall not be less than 20 feet. The Planning Board may approve a smaller separation if an acceptable alternative for fire safety, as determined by the Fire Chief, is provided. The location of setbacks proposed to achieve this requirement shall be depicted on all plats in the proposed open space subdivision.

Article # 1 Shall the Town of Deerfield raise and appropriate as an operating budget, not including appropriations by special warrant articles and other appropriations voted separately, the amounts set forth on the budget posted with the warrant or as amended by the vote of the first session, for the purposes set forth therein totaling **\$4,967,688.00**. Should this article be defeated, the default budget shall be **\$4,379,617.00** which is the same as last year, with certain adjustments required by previous action of the Town of Deerfield or by law; or the governing body may hold one special meeting, in accordance with RSA 40:13X and XVI, to take up the issue of the revised operating budget only.

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 5-0-0

Recommended by the Municipal Budget Committee 4-3-0

Estimated Tax Impact/\$1,000.00 of Assessed Property Value for Proposed Budget \$3.81

Estimated Tax Impact/\$1,000.00 of Assessed Property Value for Default Budget \$3.06

Article # 2 Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of One Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (**\$150,000.00**) for the purpose of repair and/or reconstruction of existing roads and associated drainage improvements? Shall the Town further authorize the Board of Selectmen to accept any and all State Aid or other revenue source that may become available for this work. The funds will be used for the improvement, reconstruction, maintenance, crack sealing, engineering of roads and tree removals as needed. This will be a non-lapsing appropriation as per RSA 32:7, VI and will not lapse until December 31, 2025.

Roadway Construction - Background: *Road rehabilitation and reconstruction continues to be a challenge. In an effort to work towards a goal of improving overall road conditions within the Town, these funds will be utilized to systematically improve roads based on the results of the Road Service Management System Report completed by NH Southern Planning Commission and in consultation with the Road Agent. Road program priorities are generally guided by road condition, traffic volumes, and opportunities to coordinate road construction with other projects.*

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 4-1-0

Recommended by the Municipal Budget Committee 10-0-0

Estimated Tax Impact/\$1,000.00 of Assessed Property Value \$0.19

Article # 3 To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Seventy Thousand Dollars (**\$70,000**) to be placed in the previously established Cemetery General Maintenance Expendable Reserve Fund.

INFORMATION: The balance of the trust fund as of 11/30/2023 is \$66,900.00

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 4-1-0

Recommended by the Municipal Budget Committee 9-1-0

Estimated Tax Impact/\$1,000.00 of Assessed Property Value \$0.09

1.25.24

Article # 4 To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Sixty-Seven Thousand Eight-Hundred Twenty-six Dollars (**\$67,826.00**), which includes additional wages and required benefits, for the purpose of providing cost-of-living adjustment to Town employees in the amount of 3.2%.

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 3-2-0
Recommended by the Municipal Budget Committee 10-0-0
Estimated Tax Impact/ \$1,000.00 of Assessed Property Value \$0.09

Article # 5 To see if the town will raise and appropriate the sum of Thirty-Five Thousand, Eight Hundred Eighty Dollars (**\$35,880.00**) for additional part-time Fire Fighter / EMT hours in the Deerfield Fire/Rescue Department. Should this article pass, it would only be funded in the event that the 2024 Operating Budget fails to pass. This request has been supported by the BOS and MBC during the municipal budgeting process.

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 5-0-0
Not Recommended by the Municipal Budget Committee 5-5-0
Estimated Tax Impact/ \$1,000.00 of Assessed Property Value \$0.05

Article # 6 To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars (**\$25,000**) to be placed in the previously established Highway Vehicle and Equipment Maintenance Expendable Trust Fund. The fund will have a cap at \$300,000.00 in principal.

INFORMATION: The balance of the trust fund as of 9/30/2023 is \$75,393.79

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 3-2-0
Recommended by the Municipal Budget Committee 10-0-0
Estimated Tax Impact/ \$1,000.00 of Assessed Property Value \$0.03

Article # 7 To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of up to Twenty Thousand Dollars (**\$20,000**) to be placed in the previously established Municipal Government Buildings And Related Infrastructure Expendable Trust Fund.

INFORMATION: The balance of the trust fund as of 9/30/2022 is \$25,231.03.

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 4-1-0
Recommended by the Municipal Budget Committee 10-0-0
Estimated Tax Impact/ \$1,000.00 of Assessed Property Value \$0.03

Article # 8 To see if the town will vote to establish a Philbrick James Library Building Maintenance Expendable Trust Fund per RSA 31:19-a, for the purpose of general maintenance and repair to the building and grounds of the Library building; and to raise and appropriate Twenty Thousand Dollars (**\$20,000.00**) to put in the fund; further to name the Library Trustees as agents to expend from said fund. The fund will have a cap at \$30,000.00 in principal.

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 3-2-0
Recommended by the Municipal Budget Committee 8-1-1
Estimated Tax Impact/ \$1,000.00 of Assessed Property Value \$0.03

Article # 9 To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Eight Thousand Dollars (**\$8,000**) to be used by Northwood Lake Watershed Association for Aquatic Invasive Species/Aquatic Bacteria Education, Prevention, Treatment and Control in Northwood Lake.

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 3-2-0
Recommended by the Municipal Budget Committee 10-0-0
Estimated Tax Impact/\$1,000.00 of Assessed Property Value \$0.01

Article # 10 To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Two Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (**\$2,500**) to be used by the Pleasant Lake Preservation Association to increase the number of hours for trained attendants to provide courtesy boat inspection at the public access ramp on Gulf Road to prevent the introduction and spread of exotic aquatic plants, like variable milfoil and aquatic nuisance animals like zebra mussels from entering Pleasant Lake.

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 4-1-0
Recommended by the Municipal Budget Committee 9-0-1
Estimated Tax Impact/\$1,000.00 of Assessed Property Value \$0.01

Article # 11 Shall we rescind the provisions of RSA 40:13 (known as SB 2), as adopted by the Town of Deerfield on March 8, 2005, so that the official ballot will no longer be used for voting on all questions, but only for the election of officers and certain other questions for which the official ballot is required by state law?" (A 3/5 majority of those voting is required.)

Article #12 To see if the Town will vote to deposit 50% of the revenues collected pursuant to RSA 79-A (the land use change tax) into the Town's Conservation Fund in accordance with RSA 36-A:5, III as authorized by RSA 79-A:25, II. Decreasing the amount collected to 50% from the current 100% of the land use change tax going to the Conservation Fund will provide additional revenue to the Town general fund, thus helping to reduce the overall tax rate amount needed to meet yearly expenses. If adopted this article shall take effect April 1st, and shall remain in effect until altered or rescinded by a future vote of the town meeting.

Article # 13 To see if the town will vote to adopt the Conflict-of-Interest Ordinance approved by the Board of Selectmen on June 5, 2023, copies of which are available at the Town Clerk's office, posted at the George B White Building, Library and Post Office, on the Town webpage and Town Facebook page.

Article #14 To see if the Town will vote to adopt the Deerfield Community Power Plan, which authorizes the Deerfield Select Board to develop and implement Deerfield Community Power as described therein (pursuant to RSA 53-E:7), the goal of which is to lower electric supply costs. There is no tax impact or use of Town funds.

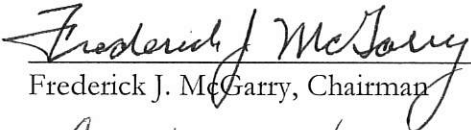
Article # 15 Advisory Only. To see if the Town of Deerfield supports the Deerfield Fire/Rescue Department and the Board of Selectman in pursuit of transitioning away from a Non-Transport Emergency Medical Service to a Transporting Emergency Medical Service and obtaining Deerfield its own Ambulance.

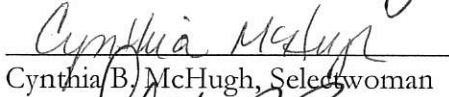
Article # 16 WE THE UNDERSIGNED PETITION TO CHANGE THE ELDERLY EXEMPTION TO \$50,000 AT AGE 65 WITH INCREMENTS OF EVERY 5 YEARS BEING AN ADDITIONAL DEDUCTION OF \$50,000 (AT AGE 65 EXEMPTION TO BE \$50,000 AT AGE 70 \$100P,000, ETC). tHE RECIPIENT MAY HAVE UP TO \$150,000 IN ASSESTS NOT COUNTING THE HOME AND UP TO TWO VEHICLES. [Sic] (Petition Warrant Article)

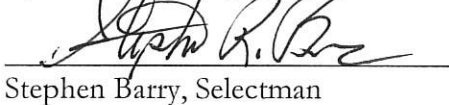
Article # 17 This petition will recind the vote of Article #6 of May 2021 allowing the selectmen to appoint the road agent. We the undersigned petiTion the town voters to return to an elected highway agent with salary to be \$70,000 per year with raises as to each years town employees. The road agent shall received all benefits the full-time employees receive. [Sic] (Petition Warrant Article)

Given our hands and seal this 29th day of January in the year of our Lord Two Thousand and Twenty-Four.

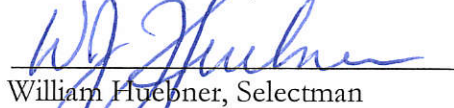
TOWN OF DEERFIELD
BOARD OF SELECTMEN


Frederick J. McGarry, Chairman


Cynthia B. McHugh, Selectwoman

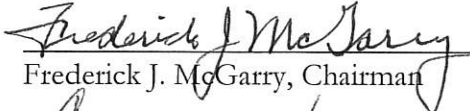

Stephen Barry, Selectman

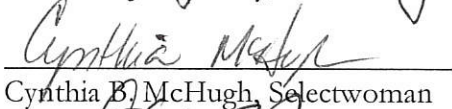

Richard W. Pitman, Vice Chairman

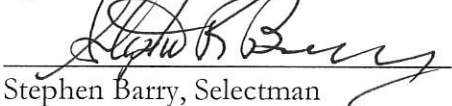

William Huebner, Selectman

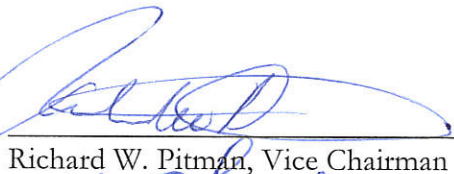
A True copy,
Attest:

TOWN OF DEERFIELD
BOARD OF SELECTMEN


Frederick J. McGarry, Chairman


Cynthia B. McHugh, Selectwoman


Stephen Barry, Selectman


Richard W. Pitman, Vice Chairman


William Huebner, Selectman