

TOWN WARRANT – 2021

**TOWN WARRANT
2021
The State of New Hampshire**

THE POLLS WILL BE OPENING FROM 8:00 A.M. TO 8:00 P.M.

To the inhabitants of the Town of Newton, N.H. in the County of Rockingham, in said State, qualified to vote in Town Affairs; you are hereby notified to meet for the **first session** of the annual meeting, which shall be for the explanation, discussion and debate of each warrant article and the transaction of all business other than voting by official ballot **to be held at the Newton Town Hall on Saturday, January 30, 2021 at 9:00 AM**; the **second session to be held at the Newton Fire Station, 8D Merrimac Road** in said Newton, on Tuesday, the ninth day of March next, at eight o'clock in the forenoon, to choose all necessary Town officers for the ensuing year by official ballot, and to vote on all issues before the Town of Newton on the official ballot; the polls to be open at eight o'clock in the forenoon and to close not earlier than eight o'clock in the evening.

1. To elect all necessary Town Officers for the ensuing year.

2. "Shall the Town of Newton 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 vote of the first session, for the purposes set forth therein, totaling **\$3,693,448.00**. Should this article be defeated, the default budget shall be \$3,678,940.00, which is the same as last year, with certain adjustments required by previous action of the Town of Newton 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."

The estimated budget increase from the 2020 ACTUAL budget to the 2021 PROPOSED budget represents a tax impact increase of \$0.139 per \$1,000.00 of assessed value.

Default Budget would result in an estimated tax impact increase of \$0.116 per \$1,000.00 of assessed value.

THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN DOES RECOMMEND THIS ARTICLE 5-0

3. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$10,200.00 to be deposited into the Engineering & Renovation Capital Reserve Fund created in 2015; said funds to come from the Unassigned Fund Balance**. This represents the Rental Fees received at 8 Merrimac Road.

This article would result in no increase in the amount to be raised by taxes.

THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN DOES RECOMMEND THIS ARTICLE 5-0

4. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate **the sum of \$300,000.00 to be deposited into the Town Buildings Capital Reserve Fund created in 2006; said funds to come from the Unassigned Fund Balance with no amount to be raised from taxation**. Money to be earmarked for the sprinkler system, signs, apparatus bay exhaust system and for any other safety

issue at the new Fire Station, before being used for other town buildings. This sum represents part of the proceeds from the sale of the Old Fire Station at 35 South Main Street.

This amount would result in no increase in the amount to be raised in taxes.

THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN DOES RECOMMEND THIS ARTICLE 4-1

5. To see if the Town will vote to **name the Board of Selectmen as Agents to the Gale Library Building Capital Reserve Fund**, established in 1982 and renamed in 1998.

This article would result in no increase in the amount to be raised by taxes.

THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN DOES RECOMMEND THIS ARTICLE 5-0

6. To see if the Town will vote to **increase the Veterans' Tax Credit to \$750.00** as provided in a recent amendment to RSA 72:28. If adopted, this **will increase the credit from \$500.00 to \$750.00** that will be available to any resident who is eligible for the standard or optional veterans' tax credit or the All-Veterans' Tax Credit as previously voted by the Town of Newton under RSA 72:28 and RSA 72:28-b.

This article would result in no increase in the amount to be raised by taxes.

THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN DOES RECOMMEND THIS ARTICLE 5-0

7. To see if the Town will vote, as proposed by the Board of Selectmen, to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$25,000.00 for the purpose of holding a HAZARDOUS WASTE DAY**, for Newton Residents only, with \$25,000.00 to come from the Transfer Station / Recycling Special Revenue Fund created in 2003 for this purpose.

This article would result in no increase in the amount to be raised by taxes.

THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN DOES RECOMMEND THIS ARTICLE 5-0

8. To see if the Town will vote, as proposed by the Board of Selectmen, to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$5,000.00 for the purpose of maintaining the tractor**, with the \$5,000.00 to come from the Transfer Station / Recycling Special Revenue Fund created in 2003 for this purpose.

This article would result in no increase in the amount to be raised by taxes.

THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN DOES RECOMMEND THIS ARTICLE 5-0

9. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen, **to enter into a five-year lease / purchase agreement to purchase 19 Self Contained Breathing Apparatus**, known as SCBA's **and all related equipment**, payable over a term of five years at a rate of \$51,482.24 annually and **to raise and appropriate \$51,482.24 for the first year's payment**. The full cost of the 19 Self Contained Breathing Apparatus is \$243,793.25. The amount of the lease reflects the trade-in value of \$25,000.00 on the 19 Self Contained Breathing Apparatus being replaced.

This agreement does contain an escape clause. (Majority vote required)

This article would result in an estimated \$0.080 increase per \$1,000 of assessed value to be raised by taxes.

THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN DOES RECOMMEND THIS ARTICLE 5-0

10. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate as proposed by the Police Chief, the sum of **\$25,000.00** to be deposited into the **“POLICE CRUISERS AND EQUIPMENT” Capital Reserve Fund created in 2020** for the purpose of maintenance, repairs and purchase of cruisers and equipment.

This article would result in an estimated \$0.039 increase per \$1,000.00 of assessed value to be raised by taxes.

THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN DOES RECOMMEND THIS ARTICLE 5-0

11. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$30,263.00** for the following **Community Services:**

AREA HOMECARE & FAMILY SERVICES	\$ 3,800.00
CHILD ADVOCACY CENTER	2,000.00
DRUGS ARE DANGEROUS	2,500.00
HAVEN	3,050.00
NHSPCA	750.00
ROCKINGHAM COUNTY COMMUNITY ACTION	5,000.00
ROCKINGHAM NUTRITION MEALS ON WHEELS	2,927.00
ROCKINGHAM NUTRITION MEALS ON WHEELS TRANSPORTATION	1,600.00
SOROCK COALITION FOR HEALTHY YOUTH	4,936.00
VIC GEARY CENTER	2,700.00
WAYPOINT (f/k/a CHILD AND FAMILY SERVICES)	1,000.00
	<hr/>
	\$30,263.00

This article would result in an estimated \$0.047 increase per \$1,000.00 of assessed value to be raised by taxes.

THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN DOES RECOMMEND THIS ARTICLE 5-0

12. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, as proposed by the Recreation Commission the sum of **\$4,500.00 for Recreational Programs and Trips for Newton Senior Citizens.**

This article would result in an estimated \$0.007 increase per \$1,000.00 of assessed value to be raised by taxes.

THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN DOES RECOMMEND THIS ARTICLE 5-0

13. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, as proposed by the Recreation Commission, the sum of **\$16,500.00 to hire four Part-Time Lifeguards, one Part-Time Supervisor of Lifeguards, and to purchase necessary Safety Equipment,** to oversee the safety of all swimmers at the Town Beach between May 2021 and September 2021.

This article would result in an estimated \$0.026 increase per \$1,000.00 of assessed value to be raised by taxes.

THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN DOES RECOMMEND THIS ARTICLE 5-0

14. On a petition of 25 or more legal voters, to see if the Town will vote to **establish a Skateboard Park Expendable Trust Fund for the purpose of repairing, constructing / reconstructing, and maintaining the skateboard park located in Greenie Park** and to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$10,000.00** to be deposited into this fund, and to name the Board of Selectmen as the Agents of the fund.

This article would result in an estimated \$0.016 increase per \$1,000.00 of assessed value to be raised by taxes.

THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN DOES RECOMMEND THIS ARTICLE 5-0

15. On a petition of 25 or more legal voters, shall the Town of Newton vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$2,500.00** to support a **Lake Host Program** at the **Newton Town Boat Ramp** for the 2021 summer season. The Lake Host Program is a collaborative effort between NH Department of Environmental Services, NH LAKES and local lake associations. It trains and employs individuals to provide courtesy boat inspections to prevent the spread of aquatic invasive plants, such as milfoil, from one lake to another thereby protecting public lake uses such as swimming, fishing, and boating.

This article would result in an estimated \$0.004 increase per \$1,000.00 of assessed value to be raised by taxes.

THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN DOES RECOMMEND THIS ARTICLE 5-0

Given under our hands and seal this 18th day of January in the year of our Lord Two Thousand and Twenty-One.

Matthew A. Burrill, Chairman

Lawrence B. Foote, Vice-Chairman

Lisa L. Gonyer

Kathryn Michaels

Charles R. Melvin, Sr.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN