

TOWN WARRANT
2016
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, 2016 at 9:00 AM; the second session to be held at the Newton Town Hall**, in said Newton, **on Tuesday, the eighth 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. Are you in favor of the adoption of **Amendment No. 1** as proposed by the Planning Board for the Town of Newton Zoning Ordinance as follows?

Amend Section X - General Provisions, Paragraph 4. The changes are in **BOLD** and ~~struck-out~~ as follows:

4. No occupant or owner of land shall have or shall cause to have on their property or permit more than one (1) motor vehicle which is not registered ~~or~~ **and** inspected, unless such vehicle is stored in a legally permitted structure, **is stored in a manner consistent with an approved site plan, or is stored in a manner consistent with a legal, non-conforming use. Per RSA 266:1, any vehicle registered shall be inspected not later than 10 days after the registration or transfer of ownership of said vehicle.** This shall include vehicles or appurtenances no longer intended for legal use on the highways, or used parts or materials from which, taken together, include in bulk one or more vehicles. Violations of this ordinance shall be subject to fines and penalties as outlined in RSA 676:17. (Amended March 1994, amended March 2003, amended March 2008)

THE PLANNING BOARD DOES RECOMMEND THIS ARTICLE 6-0

3. Are you in favor of the adoption of **Amendment No. 2** as proposed by the Planning Board for the Town of Newton Zoning Ordinance as follows?

Amend Section XXXV - Commercial Architecture, Subsection III - Commercial Design Standards, Subsection B - Signs, Paragraphs 1 and 4. The changes are in **BOLD** and ~~struck-out~~ as follows:

1. General. All ~~new signs within a new development~~ **or the replacement of any sign not in existence prior to March 13, 2007** must conform to the following requirements. All signs within a development must be consistent with the overall design of the development, and ~~should~~ **shall** be constructed of wood, granite, painted cast metal, bronze, brass, or other material consistent with the materials used in the building's façade or fixtures. Plastic panel rear-lighted signs are not permitted. Billboards are not permitted. Signs employing mercury vapor, low pressure and high-pressure sodium, and metal halide lighting are not permitted.

4. Freestanding signs shall only be permitted where the business is not attached to any other buildings. All freestanding signs must be no larger than ~~four feet in height and no greater than six feet in width~~ **32 square feet**. ~~Freestanding signs constructed of natural materials such as granite or wood are encouraged.~~

THE PLANNING BOARD DOES RECOMMEND THIS ARTICLE 7-0

4. Are you in favor of the adoption of **Amendment No. 3** as proposed by petition of 25 or more legal voters in the Town of Newton to amend the Newton Zoning Ordinance as follows?

Amend section X General Provisions 4 with changes in **BOLD** as follows:

No occupant or owner of land shall have or shall cause to have on their property or permit more than one (1) ~~two~~ **(2)** motor vehicle(s) which is not registered or inspected,
Change from 1 (one) motor vehicle to 2 (two) vehicles
Effective immediately.

If approved, this appropriation will NOT change or effect any town budgets of the town.

THE PLANNING BOARD DOES NOT RECOMMEND THIS ARTICLE 3-3

5. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **One Million, Four Hundred Ninety Eight Thousand, Seven Hundred Dollars (\$1,498,700)** (gross budget) as recommended by the Newton Fire Station Building Committee **for the design, engineering, site preparation, building construction and renovation, equipment and furnishing for a new Fire and Rescue Station to be located at 8 Merrimac Road**, and to authorize the issuance of not more than **\$1,498,700** of bonds or notes in accordance with the provisions of the Municipal Finance Act (RSA 33) and to authorize the Selectmen to issue and negotiate such bonds or notes, to determine the date, maturities, denominations, interest rates, or discount rate in the case of notes, place of payment, form and other details of such bonds or notes and to enter into such agreements as are necessary to accomplish the financing and completion of such Fire and Rescue Station.

(3/5 ballot vote required)

This article would result in a \$0.15 increase per \$1,000.00 of assessed value to be raised by taxes.

THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN DOES RECOMMEND THIS ARTICLE 4-0

6. "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 **\$3,181,348.00**? Should this article be defeated, the default budget shall be \$3,108,696.00 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 budget increase from the 2015 ACTUAL budget to the 2016 PROPOSED budget represents a tax impact increase of \$0.08 per \$1,000.00 of assessed value.

THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN DOES RECOMMEND THIS ARTICLE 4-0

7. To see if the town will vote to establish a Cemetery Expendable Trust Fund pursuant to RSA 31:19-a and RSA 289:2-a, allowing all future proceeds received from the sale of cemetery lots in Newton Cemeteries, and any interest gained thereon, for the maintenance of cemeteries; and further to name the Cemetery Trustees as agents to expend from this fund.

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

THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN DOES RECOMMEND THIS ARTICLE 4-0

8. Shall the Town accept the provision of RSA 202-A:4-d providing that any town at an annual meeting may adopt an article authorizing indefinitely, until specific rescission of such authority, the **public library trustees to accept gifts of personal property, other than money**, which may be offered to the library for any public purpose?

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

THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN DOES RECOMMEND THIS ARTICLE 4-0

9. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$12,700.00** from the unassigned fund balance **for revenues generated from rental fees at 8 Merrimac Road**, to be deposited into the Capital Reserve Fund created in 2015 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 4-0

10. To see if the Town will vote, as proposed by the Board of Selectmen, to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$60,000.00** to be paid toward the **2016 SOLID WASTE DISPOSAL BUDGET as an offset to the disposal costs** and to authorize the withdrawal of \$60,000.00 from the Transfer Station/Recycling Special Revenue Fund created in 2003 for this purpose.

A "yes" vote for this article would result in no increase in the amount to be raised by taxes. A "no" vote will result in an increase in the amount to be raised by taxes of \$0.12 per \$1000.00 of assessed value.

THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN DOES RECOMMEND THIS ARTICLE 4-0

11. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$30,459.00** for the following **Community Services**:

HAVEN (f/k/a A SAFE PLACE & SASS)	\$ 3,050.00
AREA HOMECARE & FAMILY SERVICES	3,800.00
CHILD ADVOCACY CENTER	2,000.00
CHILD AND FAMILY SERVICES	1,500.00
DRUGS ARE DANGEROUS	2,500.00
FAMILY MEDIATION	5,947.00
LAMPREY HEALTH CARE	1,600.00
NHSPCA	750.00
ROCKINGHAM COUNTY COMMUNITY ACTION	5,000.00
ROCKINGHAM NUTRITION MEALS ON WHEELS	1,612.00
VIC GEARY CENTER	<u>2,700.00</u>
	\$30,459.00

This article would result in a \$0.06 increase per \$1,000.00 of assessed value to be raised by taxes.

THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN DOES RECOMMEND THIS ARTICLE 4-0

12. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, as proposed by the Recreation Commission the sum of **\$4,000.00** for **Recreational Programs and Trips for Newton Senior Citizens**.

This article would result in a \$0.01 increase per \$1,000.00 of assessed value to be raised by taxes.

THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN DOES RECOMMEND THIS ARTICLE 4-0

13. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, as proposed by the Recreation Commission, the sum of **\$9,655.00** for the purpose of sponsoring an **“Olde Home Day”** similar to the event held in town on October 3, 2015.

This article would result in a \$0.02 increase per \$1,000.00 of assessed value to be raised by taxes.

THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN DOES RECOMMEND THIS ARTICLE 4-0

14. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, as proposed by the Recreation Commission, the sum of **\$15,000.00** to **resurface the Greenie Skate Park**. The Commission would like to make these improvements to enhance overall safety at Greenie Park.

This article would result in a \$0.03 increase per \$1,000.00 of assessed value to be raised by taxes.

