

TOWN MEETING WARRANT
SB2
TOWN OF WINCHESTER
STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

To the inhabitants of the Town of Winchester, in the County of Cheshire in said state, qualified to vote in Town affairs:

You are hereby notified to meet in the Town Hall in said Winchester on Saturday the 30th of January next 2016 at nine o'clock in the forenoon to discuss, debate and amend warrant articles #1 through #31 and to receive the reports of the selectmen, town treasurer and other town officers including the agents and committees, and act thereon. Final vote will be by the official ballot on Tuesday, March 8, 2016.

You are hereby notified to meet in the Town Hall in said Winchester on Tuesday the 8th of March next 2016 at eight o'clock in the forenoon to act upon the following subjects. The Polls not to close an hour earlier than seven of the clock in the afternoon.

Article 1: To choose all necessary Town Officers for the ensuing year.

Article 2: Shall the Town of Winchester **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 \$3,567,376.00** (three million five hundred sixty seven thousand three hundred seventy six dollars). Should this article be defeated, the default budget shall be \$3,460,888.00 (three million four hundred sixty thousand eight hundred eighty eight dollars) which is the same as last year, with certain adjustments required by previous action of the Town of Winchester 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)

- **Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 4-1**
- **Recommended by the Financial Advisory Committee 4-0**

Article 3: Shall the Town of Winchester **raise and appropriate the sum of \$343,521** (three hundred forty three thousand five hundred and twenty one dollars) for the operations of the Sewer Department, the funds to be raised by user fees, or act in a manner thereon. **This article will not affect taxation.** Should this article be defeated, the default budget shall be \$319,647.00 (three hundred nineteen thousand six hundred and forty seven dollars) 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)

- **Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 5-0**
- **Recommended by the Financial Advisory Committee 2-1, with 1 abstention**

Article 4: Shall the Town of Winchester **raise and appropriate the sum of \$259,828** (two hundred fifty nine thousand eight hundred and twenty eight dollars) for the operations of the Water Department, the funds to be raised by user fees, or act in a manner thereon. **This article will not affect taxation.** Should this article be defeated, the default budget shall be \$232,187 (two hundred thirty two thousand one hundred and eighty seven dollars) 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)

- **Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 5-0**
- **No Recommendation by the Financial Advisory Committee 2-2**

Article 5: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen to enter into a seven year lease purchase agreement with a non-appropriation clause in the amount of \$451,657.16, to be paid in annual interest and principal payments for the purpose of purchasing a new Fire department pumper truck and **to raise and appropriate \$72,850.00** (seventy two thousand eight hundred fifty dollars) for the first year's payment for that purpose.

- **Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 4-1**
- **Recommended by the Financial Advisory Committee 4-0**

Article 6: To see if the Town will vote **to raise and appropriate \$29,118.35** (twenty nine thousand, one hundred eighteen dollars and thirty five cents) for the third year lease payment on the 2014 Freightliner dump truck, plow and sander package.

- **Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 5-0**
- **Recommended by the Financial Advisory Committee 4-0**

Article 7: To see if the Town will vote **to raise and appropriate \$19,294.00** (nineteen thousand, two hundred ninety four dollars) to be placed in the existing non-lapsing Capital Reserve Fund established under Article 16 at the March 2006 Town Meeting for the purpose of performing the assessing update or revaluation of the real estate in the Town of Winchester scheduled for 2015-2020. (Majority vote required)

- **Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 5-0**
- **Recommended by the Financial Advisory Committee 4-0**

Article 8: To see if the Town will vote **to raise and appropriate an amount not to exceed \$18,000.00** (eighteen thousand dollars) to be deposited in the Evergreen Expendable General Care Trust Fund established by an affirmative vote by the 1998 Town Meeting as Article 11; **the source of these funds to be withdrawn from the surplus generated by the perpetual care funds** already established for the care and maintenance of lots within the Evergreen Cemetery, and **not from taxation.** (Majority vote required)

- **Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 5-0**
- **Recommended by the Financial Advisory Committee 4-0**

Article 9: To see if the Town will vote to establish a Municipal Pipeline Coalition Legal Fund Capital Reserve Account under the provisions of RSA 35:1, III for the purpose of opposing the Kinder Morgan natural gas pipeline, and **to raise and appropriate \$15,882.00** (fifteen thousand eight hundred eighty two dollars) for Winchester's portion of the Municipal Pipeline Coalition legal fees to be placed in this fund with the Board of Selectmen being the agent of said fund.

- **Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 4-1**
- **Not Recommended by the Financial Advisory Committee 4-0**

Article 10: To see if the Town will vote **to raise and appropriate the sum of \$10,000.00** (ten thousand dollars) for the Town's share of State road grant reconstruction costs for bridges and place it in the existing non-lapsing Capital Reserve Fund established at the March 2006 Town Meeting under Article 19 for that purpose. (Majority vote required)

- **Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 5-0**
- **Recommended by the Financial Advisory Committee 4-0**

Article 11: To see if the Town will vote **to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1.00** (one dollar) to sand and refinish the wood floors at the Thayer Library. (Majority vote required)

- **Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 4-0, with 1 abstention**
- **Recommended by the Financial Advisory Committee 4-0**

Article 12: To see if the Town will vote **to raise and appropriate the sum of \$3,000.00** (three thousand dollars) to be placed in the existing non-lapsing Capital Reserve Fund established at the March 2012 Town Meeting under Article 15 for the purpose of treating exotic invasive plants in Forest Lake. (Majority vote required)

- **Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 4-1**
- **Recommended by the Financial Advisory Committee 4-0**

Article 13: To see if the Town will vote **to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,600.00** (one thousand six hundred dollars) to support the annual Pickle Festival. (Majority vote required)

- **Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 5-0**
- **Recommended by the Financial Advisory Committee 4-0**

Article 14: To see if the Town of Winchester will accept the roads known as Arlington Heights and Bolton Woods in the subdivision known as Arlington Heights and Bolton Woods as town roads.

- **Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 5-0**

Article 15: To see if the Town will **raise and appropriate the sum of fifty thousand dollars \$50,000** (fifty thousand dollars) for the purpose of subsidizing youth recreation in the Town of Winchester to be paid to the E.L.M. Memorial Community Center on a contractual basis.

Changed Article 15 to read: To see if the Town will raise and appropriate the sum of thirty five thousand dollars \$35,000 (thirty five thousand dollars) for the purpose of subsidizing youth recreation in the Town of Winchester to be paid to the E.L.M. Memorial Community Center on a contractual basis.

Inserted by Petition

- **Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 5-0**
- **Recommended by the Financial Advisory Committee 4-0**

Article 16: To See if the Town will **raise and appropriate the sum of \$50,000.00** (fifty thousand dollars) to give to ACCESS (All Children Cared for Education Supported & Successful) for the purpose of providing K-12 enrichment programs for the children & teens of Winchester & Ashuelot.

- **Inserted by petition**
- **Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 3-0**
- **Not Recommended by the Financial Advisory Committee 4-0**

Article 17: To see if the Town will vote **to raise and appropriate the sum of \$5,000.00** (five thousand dollars) to be given to the Winchester Historical Society for the purpose of operating and maintaining the Sheridan House so that this museum may continue to preserve the history of Winchester for benefit of the public.

- **Inserted by petition**
- **Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 5-0**
- **Recommended by the Financial Advisory 4-0**

Article 18: To see if the Town will **raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,200.00** (One thousand two hundred dollars) to support the operation of the Boat ramp at Forest Lake

- **Inserted by Petition**
- **Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 5-0**
- **Recommended by the Financial Advisory Committee 4-0**

Article 19: To see if the Town of Winchester will hire a grant writer for the purpose of securing a grant for assistance to the people eligible for workforce; elderly and veteran housing. The Town of Winchester let expire the Community Block Grant that was worth approximately \$1,000,000.00 in 2015 for lack of a grant writer.

Change Article 19 to read: Shall the Town vote to recommend the Select board hire a grant writer. Funding this grant writer will come solely from grants acquired and will not affect taxation.

- **Inserted by petition**
- **Not Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 5-0**

Article 20: To see if the Town of Winchester will adopt a budget committee pursuant to RSA 32:14; with such budget committee membership to be established pursuant to RSA 32:15; and with such budget committee to have all powers and authority as established by applicable statutes of RSA 32.

Change Article 20 to read: To see if the Town will vote to establish a budget committee under the provisions of RSA 32:14, to include three elected members, for the first year being appointed by the Moderator. The following year will be elected.

- **Inserted by petition**
- **Not Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 4-1**

Article 21: Shall the town vote to rescind Article 16, adopted March 10, 2015, which adopts a Housing Standards Ordinance in accordance with RSA 48:A.

Change Article 21 to read: Shall the town vote to continue Article 16, adopted March 10, 2015, which adopts a Housing Standards Ordinance in accordance with RSA 48:A.

- **Inserted by petition**
- **Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 3-1**

Article 22: Are you in favor of adoption of amendment #1 as proposed by the Planning Board? To amend Article III, "J3", delete conversion apartments.

Article 23: Are you in favor of adoption of amendment #2 as proposed by the Planning Board? To amend Article III, add new "J3", to permit Accessory Dwelling units (a living unit subordinate to the primary dwelling in which one shall be owner occupied) by right to expand housing opportunities and flexibility in household living while maintaining aesthetics and residential use compatible with the neighborhood in all districts subject to conditions.

Article 24: Are you in favor of adoption of amendment #3 as proposed by the Planning Board? To amend Article XXI, Definitions: A. New definition for accessory building or use; means a use of, a detached building which is subordinate to the main use or building and located on the same lot with the main building, or to the use of the land. If an accessory building; this includes any structure designed to be more or less permanent for the use as a storehouse or shelter for animals, vehicles or personal property. These uses shall be commonly, habitually and by a long established practice considered reasonably associated with the primary use.

Article 25: Are you in favor of adoption of amendment #4 as proposed by the Planning Board? To amend Article XXI, new definition- GG; Agriculture, Farm & Farming, as defined in RSA 21:34-a, which includes the definition of Agritourism. Agritourism does not include wedding venues, concert areas, amusement parks, event venues, farmers markets and other non farming commercial uses. Uses that are not considered normal and customary would be subject to approvals from the land use boards.

Article 26: Are you in favor of adoption of amendment #5 as proposed by the Planning Board? To amend Article XXI, new definition –“JJ”; “A duplex” is two dwelling units under one roof, or sharing of a common wall, with separate utilities, usually of similar size and occupied by two separate families independent of each other.

Article 27: Are you in favor of adoption of amendment #6 as proposed by the Planning Board? To amend the Sign Ordinance section II, Location: Delete “K”, “Off premises signs”. (For the purpose to allow off premises signage)

Article 28: Are you in favor of adoption of amendment #7 as proposed by the Planning Board? To amend the Sign Ordinance section IV Prohibited signs: Delete “A-Roof signs; B- overhang signs; E- Off premises signs”. (For the purpose to permit these signs)

Article 29: Are you in favor of adoption of amendment #8 as proposed by the Planning Board? To amend the Sign Ordinance section V, Signs by District: “Add overhang signs, off premises and roof signs in limited size and quantities in all districts”. (For the purpose of permitting these signs in all districts with limitations)

Article 30: Are you in favor of adoption of amendment #9 as proposed by petition? To see if the town will vote to amend the Master Plan and then the zoning ordinances. To allow the purchase and Transfer of Development Rights (TDR). This will preserve the sending land’s current development state and will enable the receiving land to increase its unit density. The receiving land and giving land will have their deeds amended to reflect these changes. This will enable workforce housing and veteran housing developments.

- **Not recommended by the Planning Board 4-1**

Article 31: To see if the Town will vote to accept and adopt the reports of the Selectmen, Auditors and other Town Officers.

Article 32: To transact any other business that may legally come before this meeting.

We, the undersigned Selectmen of the Town of Winchester, hereby certify on the 4th day of February, 2016 an Attested copy of the Original Warrant was posted at the place of meeting within specified, at the Post Office in Winchester and the Post Office in Ashuelot, New Hampshire being public places in said town.

True Copy of Warrant-Attest:

Roberta Fraser, Chairman

Theresa Sepe

Herbert C. Stephens

Jack Marsh

Then personally appeared: Roberta Fraser, Theresa Sepe, Herbert C. Stephens, and Jack Marsh, Selectmen of the Town of Winchester, and made oath that the foregoing affidavit by them is true.

Before me:

Karey Miner
Notary Public
Commission Expires: