



**THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
TOWN OF NORTH HAMPTON**

VOTER GUIDE

The Select Board has prepared the following information for the purpose of providing information to voters in advance of Town Meeting.

FIRST SESSION

The First (Deliberative) Session of the Annual Town Meeting, will be held at the:

**North Hampton Town Hall,
231 Atlantic Avenue in North Hampton, New Hampshire,**

On Saturday, February 4th, 2017 at 8:30 a.m.

**In the event of inclement weather, the snow date for the First Session is:
Saturday, February 11th, 2017 at 8:30 a.m.**

The First (Deliberative) Session will consist of explanation, discussion, and debate of each of the following warrant articles, and will afford those voters who are present the opportunity to propose, debate and adopt amendments to each warrant article, except those articles whose wording is prescribed by state law.

SECOND SESSION

The Second Session of the Annual Town Meeting, to elect town officers by official ballot and to vote by official ballot on the warrant articles as they may have been amended at the First Session, will be held at the:

**North Hampton School,
201 Atlantic Avenue in North Hampton, New Hampshire,**

**On Tuesday, March 14th, 2017,
Polls open at 8:00 a.m. and close no earlier than 7:00 p.m.**

Article One: Election of Officers

- 1 Select Board Member, 3 year term;
- 1 Town Treasurer, 1 year term;
- 1 Library Trustee, 3 year term;
- 2 Budget Committee Members, 3 year terms each;
- 1 Cemetery Trustee, 3 year term;
- 2 Planning Board Members, 3 year terms each;
- 1 Water Commissioner, 3 year term;
- 2 Zoning Board of Adjustment Members, 3 year terms each;
- 1 Trustee of the Trust Funds, 3 year term.

The purpose of this article is to elect officers.

Article Two: Amendment to Zoning Ordinance

Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment Number 1 to the Zoning Ordinance by the Planning Board as follows:

To amend Section 513 Accessory Apartment, Section 302 Definitions – Accessory Apartment, and Section 405 Permitted Use, Special Exceptions, and Prohibited Uses for All Districts. The intent of the proposed amendment is to bring the language of the Town of North Hampton Zoning Ordinance into compliance with State of New Hampshire Senate Bill 146 and NH RSA 674:71, 72, 73 Accessory Dwelling Units.

Majority Ballot Vote Required.
Recommended by the Planning Board: 5-0

The purpose of this amendment is to bring the language of the Zoning Ordinance into compliance with the SB 146 that permits accessory dwelling units in certain circumstances.

Article Three: Amendment to Zoning Ordinance

Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment Number 2 to the Zoning Ordinance by the Planning Board as follows:

To amend Section 506 Signs and Billboards. The intent of the proposed amendment is to bring the language of the Town of North Hampton Zoning Ordinance into compliance with changes in federal law, clarify certain aspects of the ordinance, and make minor amendments to the ordinance. The proposed changes also include minor revisions regarding Definitions associated with signage (Section 302), Sexually Oriented Business signage (Section 416.5.B), and Farm Stand signage (Section 508.5.E.5).

Majority Ballot Vote Required.
Recommended by the Planning Board: 5-0

This article responds to changes in federal law regarding the regulation of signs in relation to the First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution. It is also intended to make the ordinance easier to follow.

Article Four: Amendment to Zoning Ordinance

Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment Number 3 to the Zoning Ordinance by the Planning Board as follows:

To amend Section 507 Home Occupation and Section 302 Definitions – Home Occupation. The intent of the proposed amendment is to clarify the purpose of the home occupation ordinance to ensure that home occupations are carried out in a manner which does not change the character of and is not detrimental to the neighborhood.

Majority Ballot Vote Required.
Recommended by the Planning Board: 4-0

The intent of this article is to clarify the home occupation ordinance to ensure that home occupations do not change the character of and are not detrimental to the neighborhood.

Article Five: Amendment to Zoning Ordinance

Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment Number 4 to the Zoning Ordinance by the Planning Board as follows:

To amend Section 302 Definitions and Section 405 Permitted Use, Special Exceptions, and Prohibited Uses for All Districts. The intent of the proposed amendment is to add definitions for Adult and Senior Facilities and Services uses and add Adult and Senior Facilities and Services as a permitted use only within the Industrial-Business/Residential Zoning District.

Majority Ballot Vote Required.
Recommended by the Planning Board: 4-0

This article defines Adult and Senior Facilities and Services in the Zoning Ordinance and establishes them as a permitted use only in the Industrial-Business/Residential Zoning District.

Article Six: Amendment to Zoning Ordinance

Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment Number 5 to the Zoning Ordinance by the Planning Board as follows:

To amend Article V General Regulations and Section 302 Definitions – Essential Services. The intent of the proposed amendment is to add a new section for the purpose of establishing permitting regulation for the installation of solar panels and solar arrays within all zoning districts of the Town of North Hampton.

Majority Ballot Vote Required.

Recommended by the Planning Board: 6-0

Article 6 regulates the installation of solar panels and arrays throughout North Hampton.

Article Seven: Amendment to Zoning Ordinance

Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment Number 6 to the Zoning Ordinance by the Planning Board as follows:

To amend Section 302 Definitions. Definitions added for Dark Sky Standard, Grade Plane, and Height. Definition revised for Lot.

Majority Ballot Vote Required.

Recommended by the Planning Board: 3-0-1

This Article establishes the “Dark Sky” standard regarding lighting regulations in North Hampton and adds several clarifications to other definitions in the Ordinance that make the Ordinance clear.

Article Eight: Amendment to Zoning Ordinance

Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment Number 7 to the Zoning Ordinance by the Planning Board as follows:

To amend Section 409 Wetland Conservation Areas. The intent of the proposed amendment is to add a 25 foot vegetative buffer zone distance within the 100 foot buffer zone setback requirement from Tidal Lands, Wetlands, and Isolated Non-Bordering Wetlands beginning at the outermost boundary of a wet area, clarify the permitted and prohibited uses within various portions of the Wetland Conservation District, and clarify the conditional use permit process for construction and other activities in the Wetland Conservation District.

Majority Ballot Vote Required.

Recommended by the Planning Board: 6-0

The intent of this amendment is to add a 25 foot vegetative buffer zone within the 100 feet set back in wetland conservation areas. It also simplifies the ordinance structure to make it easier to understand.

Article Nine: Town Safety Complex (By Citizens Petition)

Upon petition by at least 25 registered voters, to see if the Town of North Hampton will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Six Million Two Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$6,250,000) for the design and construction of a new Municipal Safety Complex to house both Police and Fire/Rescue Departments; such sum to be raised through the issuance of bonds or notes under the Municipal Finance Act (RSA 33); and to authorize the Select Board to issue and negotiate such bonds or notes in accordance therewith and to determine the rate of interest thereon and the maturity and other terms thereof; and further, to raise and appropriate by taxation the sum of Two Hundred Ninety-six Thousand Three Hundred Forty Dollars (\$296,340) for the first year's payment on said bond. The Safety Complex shall be built on a newly purchased piece of property located between 85 and 115 Lafayette Road across from the Throwback Brewery, Map 13, Lots 68 and 69. Cost of the land is included in the total cost of the project. The tax impact to residents for this project will be \$0.30/\$1,000 of property valuation. The Total cost of this project with interest over 30 year cycle is Eight Million Eight Hundred Ninety Thousand Two Hundred Twenty Dollars (\$8,890,220).

Passage of this special warrant article shall override the 10% limitation of RSA 32:18 on a bond article due to the non-recommendation of the Budget Committee.

3/5ths Ballot Vote required.

Not recommended by the Select Board: 3-0

Not recommended by the Budget Committee: 8-0

This petitioned article proposes to construct a safety center on Route 1. The Select Board and Budget Committee do not recommend this article, mostly for reasons of cost and the environmental impact the construction would have on existing wetlands.

Article Ten: FY 2018 Operating Budget

Shall the Town 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, Seven Million Two Thousand Eight Hundred Thirty-two Dollars (\$7,002,832)? Should this Article be defeated, the default budget shall be Seven Million One Hundred Thirty Thousand Four Hundred SeventyDollars(\$7,130,470), which is the same as last year, with certain adjustment required by previous action of the Town 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 Ballot Vote Required.

Recommended by the Select Board:3-0

Recommended by the Budget Committee:6-2

The proposed FY 18 budget, which both the Select Board and the Budget Committee recommend, increased by 6.9% from the FY 17 budget and is lower than the Default Budget by \$127,638. The increase is largely due to health insurance premium increases (up 22.5%), increases in town contributions to the N.H. Retirement System and salary increases called for in the collective bargaining agreements previously approved by the Town. If you vote yes on this article, the budget will be \$7,002,832. If you vote no, the budget will be \$7,130,470.

Article Eleven: Lease Purchase of aPolice Cruiser

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board to enter into a three-year lease/purchase agreement, for Forty-twoThousandSix Hundred Dollars (\$42,600), for the purpose of leasing and equipping a police cruiser for the Police Department and to raise and appropriate through taxation the sum of Fourteen Thousand TwoHundred Dollars (\$14,200) for the first year's payment on the lease. This lease agreement contains a fiscal funding (escape) clause.

Majority Ballot Vote required.

Recommended by the Select Board: 3-0

Recommended by the Budget Committee: 8-0

Articles 11 and 12 permit the Town to acquire new police vehicles as part of our regular vehicle replacement policy. The policy provides that the vehicle fleet is replaced over 4 years, with 2 vehicles each in years 1, 2 and 3 and 1 vehicle in year 4. The N.H. Department of Revenue Administration requires that each lease have its own article, so that is why there are two articles. Regularly replacing vehicles reduces repair and maintenance costs and makes the most use of warranties for making repairs that are necessary.

Article Twelve: Lease Purchase of a Police Cruiser

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board to enter into a three-year lease/purchase agreement, for Forty-two Thousand Six Hundred Dollars (\$42,600), for the purpose of leasing and equipping a police cruiser for the Police Department and to raise and appropriate through taxation the sum of Fourteen Thousand Two Hundred Dollars (\$14,200) for the first year's payment on the lease. This lease agreement contains a fiscal funding (escape) clause.

Majority Ballot Vote required.

Recommended by the Select Board: 3-0
Recommended by the Budget Committee: 8-0

Articles 11 and 12 permit the Town to acquire new police vehicles as part of our regular vehicle replacement policy. The policy provides that the vehicle fleet is replaced over 4 years, with 2 vehicles each in years 1, 2 and 3 and 1 vehicle in year 4. The N.H. Department of Revenue Administration requires that each lease have its own article, so that is why there are two articles. Regularly replacing vehicles reduces repair costs and makes the most use of warranties for making repairs that are necessary.

Article Thirteen: Purchase of SCBA Units for the Fire Department from Taxation

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate through taxation the sum of Fifty-four Thousand Seven Hundred Sixty (\$54,760) for the purchase of Self-contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) units for the Fire Department to replace existing units as part of a replacement schedule of equipment. The life expectancy of the SCBA units is approximately 10 years. This is a special warrant article.

Majority Ballot Vote required.
Recommended by the Select Board: 3-0
Recommended by the Budget Committee: 8-0

Articles 13 and 14 will complete the process of replacing the SCBA systems for the Fire Department. The life span of these systems is about 10 years, and our systems are over 11 years old. The whole cost of replacement has been made over 3 years and this is the final year. The first year's appropriation \$50,000 is currently in the Fund Balance. Article 14 calls that money out of Fund Balance and combines it with last year's appropriation of \$50,000 and the \$54,760 from taxation in Article 13 to make a total of \$154,760 to replace all the SCBA units.

Article Fourteen: Purchase of SCBA Units for the Fire Department from Unassigned Fund Balance

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000) from unassigned fund balance (surplus) for the purchase of Self-contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) units for the Fire Department to replace existing units as part of a replacement schedule of equipment. The life expectancy of the SCBA units is approximately 10 years. This article does not affect the tax rate. This is a special warrant article.

Majority Ballot Vote required.
Recommended by the Select Board: 3-0
Recommended by the Budget Committee: 8-0

Articles 13 and 14 will complete the process of replacing the SCBA systems for the Fire Department. The life span of these systems is about 10 years, and our systems are over 11 years old. The whole cost of replacement has been made over 3 years and this is the final year. The first year's appropriation \$50,000 is currently in the Fund Balance. Article 14 calls that money out of Fund Balance and combines it with last year's appropriation of \$50,000 and the \$54,760 from taxation in Article 13 to make a total of \$154,760 to replace all the SCBA units.

Article Fifteen: Road Resurfacing

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Two Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$250,000) for the purpose of resurfacing and reconstructing approximately 2.5 miles of road, by withdrawing Thirty Thousand Dollars (\$30,000) from the previously established Municipal Transportation Improvement Capital Reserve Fund created for this purpose, and raising through taxation Two Hundred Twenty Thousand Dollars (\$220,000).

Majority Ballot Vote required.

Recommended by the Select Board: 3-0

Recommended by the Budget Committee: 8-0

This article appears every year on the Warrant. It appropriates money to pave town roads. The actual roads to be repaved will be assessed in the spring and the most pressing repairs will be made first.

ArticleSixteen: Replace 6-Wheel DPW Dump Truck

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board to enter into a seven-year lease/purchase agreement in the amount of Two Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$200,000) for the purpose of leasing and equipping a 6-Wheel dump truck for the Department of Public Works; and to raise and appropriate through taxation the sum of Twenty-eight Thousand Six Hundred Dollars (\$28,600) for the first year's payment on said lease. This lease agreement contains a fiscal funding (escape) clause.

Majority Ballot Vote required.

Recommended by the Select Board: 3-0

Recommended by the Budget Committee: 8-0

Article 16 permits the Town to replace the Highway Department's large dump truck. This vehicle is an essential part of snow removal operations. The current vehicle is beyond its anticipated life. Replacement of this vehicle as part of our regular vehicle replacement policy. Regularly replacing vehicles reduce repair costs and make the most use of warranties for making repairs that are necessary.

Article Seventeen: Resurfacing Dearborn Park Parking Lot

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate through taxation the sum of Twenty-five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000) for the purpose of repair, reconstruction and resurfacing of the Dearborn Parking Lot.

Majority Ballot Vote required.

Recommended by the Select Board: 3-0

Recommended by the Budget Committee: 8-0

This article will reconstruct and repave the Dearborn Park parking lot. This project has been in the Capital Improvements Plan (available on the Town's website) for several years, but the Select Board and Budget Committee agreed to defer until this year. The deterioration of the paving is such that the work should be done now.

Article Eighteen: Repairs to North Hampton Public Library

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate through taxation the sum of Seventy-five Thousand Dollars (\$75,000) for the purpose of replacing the light fixtures, removing and replacing old insulation and replacing ceiling tiles in the North Hampton Public Library.

Majority Ballot Vote required.

Recommended by the Select Board: 3-0

Recommended by the Budget Committee: 8-0

This article will begin the process of making repairs to the Library Building that are safety related. The light fixtures are attached to the dropped ceiling. If there were a fire, and fire fighters had to pull down the ceiling to fight the fire, the light fixtures would come down too, possibly causing injury. The current building code requires light fixtures to be affixed to the building structure instead and this project would bring this part of the building into compliance with the code. The new light fixtures would be LED, and much more energy efficient. The insulation blown in on top of the existing ceiling tiles, causing them to bow, would be replaced as well.

Article Nineteen: Update of 2008 MRI Report on Public Safety Staffing and Equipment Levels

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate through taxation the sum of Twenty Thousand Dollars (\$20,000) for the purpose of commissioning an update to the 2008 MRI Study on Public Safety Staffing and Equipment Levels to help determine adequate staffing and staffing options and equipment levels in the Police and Fire Departments.

Majority Ballot Vote required.

Recommended by the Select Board: 3-0
Recommended by the Budget Committee: 8-0

This article would update the 2008 MRI study on the recommended staffing levels in the police and fire departments. It comes from a discussion between the Select Board and the Budget Committee about how many police officers and fire fighters the Town should have to maintain good services while remaining affordable.

Article Twenty: Contribution to the Health Benefits Stabilization Capital Reserve Fund

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate through taxation the sum of Thirty Thousand Dollars (\$30,000) for deposit into the Health Benefits Stabilization Control Capital Reserve Fund for the purpose of stabilizing health benefit cost increases for employees.

Majority Ballot Vote required.
Recommended by the Select Board: 3-0
Recommended by the Budget Committee: 8-0

This article appears on the Warrant every year. It allows the Town to plan for health insurance premium increases by saving a small amount every year. The Town has used this money to help reduce the budget impact of large premium increases over the last several years.

Article Twenty-one: Contribution to the Earned Time Settlement Capital Reserve Fund

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate through taxation the sum of Thirty Thousand Dollars (\$30,000) for deposit into the Earned Time Settlement Capital Reserve Fund. The purpose of this fund is to limit the Town's unfunded accrued leave liability. The total estimated liability for unfunded accrued leave is \$273,246 and the balance in the Fund, as of December 31, 2016, is \$69,725. The Select Board is the agent to expend from the said Fund.

Majority Ballot Vote required.
Recommended by the Select Board: 3-0
Recommended by the Budget Committee: 8-0

This article appears on the Warrant every year. Town employees are permitted to carry over a certain number of vacation days up to specific amount. If an employee leaves the Town, s/he is entitled to be paid for that time under state law. Over the course of time, the Select Board has revised the Town's policy to limit the number of days, but for long-serving employees, the cost to the Town when they leave can be quite extensive. This article continues our practice of saving a little each year to cover those costs so that the budget is not adversely impacted.

Article Twenty-two: Contribution to the Town Building Maintenance Capital Reserve Fund

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate through taxation the sum of One Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$100,000) for deposit in the Town Building Maintenance Capital Reserve Fund. The purpose of this fund is to perform improvement projects and regular maintenance at the various Town-owned buildings.

Majority Ballot Vote required.

Recommended by the Select Board: 3-0

Recommended by the Budget Committee: 8-0

This article appears on the Warrant every year. This year, the cost of re-painting two sides of the Town Hall, a new septic system for the Library and Town Clerk's building and repairs to the Town Hall bell tower are included in the projects for which this money will be spent.

Article Twenty-three: Contribution to the Town Revaluation Capital Reserve Fund

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate through taxation the sum of Twenty-five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000) for deposit in the Town Revaluation Capital Reserve Fund (Capital Reserve Fund No. 17). The purpose of this fund is to set aside sufficient funds to comply with the State of New Hampshire's requirement to perform a complete property revaluation every five (5) years.

Majority Ballot Vote required.

Recommended by the Select Board: 3-0

Recommended by the Budget Committee: 8-0

State law requires the Town to do a re-assessment of property every 5 years. The last reassessment was done in 2013. The cost of a re-assessment in 2013 was approximately \$70,000. This article makes a contribution toward that expense, and, if approved, would mean that we have saved just over \$85,000 for the re-assessment scheduled in 2018.

Article Twenty-four: Creation of the Town Anniversaries Expendable Trust Fund

To see if the Town will vote to establish a Town Anniversaries Expendable Trust Fund pursuant to RSA 31:19-a, for the purpose of paying for the observation of major anniversaries of the Town's founding (e.g., 275th, 300th); and to raise and appropriate through taxation the sum of One Dollar for the said purpose; and to appoint the Select Board as agents to expend money from said Trust.

Majority Ballot Vote Required.

Recommended by the Select Board: 3-0

Recommended by the Budget Committee: 8-0

This article would create an expendable trust fund for observing town anniversaries. Small contributions over time would mean reasonable funds for appropriate celebrations.

Article Twenty-five: Creation of School Resource Officer Position

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate through taxation the sum of Eighty-seven Thousand Seven Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$87,750) for salary and benefits of an additional patrol officer for the North Hampton Police Department? The addition of another officer will permit the creation of a School Resource Officer (SRO) position during the school year and a Beach Patrol Officer (BPO) position during the summer; and, without limitation, to support the mission of the other 12 sworn officers of the North Hampton Police Department. This warrant article does not restrict the Police Chief's authority under RSA 105 to direct which officer or officers in the Department would actually perform SRO and BPO duties. The salary and benefits for the new position consist of \$40,170 for salary, and \$47,580 for wage related costs like health insurance and retirement. This position will be covered under the police union's Collective Bargaining Agreement. Future salary and benefits for this position will be contained in the operating budget for subsequent years.

Majority ballot vote required.

Recommended by the Select Board: 3-0

Not recommended by the Budget Committee: 5-3

This article would add a sworn officer to the North Hampton Police Department, increasing the number of sworn officers from 12 to 13. The Select Board's intent is to place a School Resource Officer in the school during the academic year and then provide a beach patrol officer in the Little Boar's Head Village District during the summer. The Select Board believes this is an important part of public safety by providing a continuing police presence in the school and at the beach. The Budget Committee does not recommend passage of this article.

Article Twenty-six: North Hampton Forever Balance Sheet Deficit

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Thirty-one Thousand Seven Hundred Three Dollars (\$31,703) from unassigned fund balance (surplus) to eliminate the accumulated North Hampton Forever Capital Project Fund deficit. This article does not impact the tax rate.

Majority Ballot Vote Required.

Recommended by the Select Board: 3-0

Recommended by the Budget Committee: 8-0

This article corrects an accounting error that occurred when land was acquired for conservation during North Hampton Forever's work several years ago. The cost of services related to that acquisition was paid for out of the general fund and not reimbursed from the North Hampton Forever bond proceeds. Once the fiscal year ended, the bond proceeds went to fund balance. In order to correct the balance sheet, permission to remove these funds from fund balance is necessary. This article raises no new money and will not affect the tax rate. It is moving money already appropriated from one "bucket" to another "bucket" for accounting purposes.

Article Twenty-seven: Amendment to Authorizing Legislation: Accrued Benefits Liability Expendable Trust Fund

To see if the Town will vote to appoint the Select Board as agents to expend from the Accrued Benefits Liability Expendable Trust Fund? This Fund was created in 2000 to fund the costs of accrued employee vacation and sick leave that is payable at the time of employee separation or retirement. This article does not impact the tax rate.

Majority Ballot Vote Required.

Recommended by the Select Board: 3-0

This is a house-keeping article, because it makes clear that the Select Board is the agent to expend on this fund. The fund is established for the purpose of saving money to pay for benefits accrued by employees during their time here in North Hampton that have to be paid out when they leave.

Article Twenty-eight: Amendment to Authorizing Legislation: Municipal Transportation Improvements Capital Reserve Fund

To see if the Town will vote to appoint the Select Board as agents to expend from the Municipal Transportation Improvements Capital Reserve Fund? This Fund was created in 2012 for the purpose of setting aside the additional Five Dollar fee collected on motor vehicle registrations to help fund road and transportation improvements in the Town. This article does not impact the tax rate.

Majority Ballot Vote Required.
Recommended by the Select Board: 3-0

This is a house-keeping article, because it makes clear that the Select Board is the agent to expend on this fund. The fund is established for the purpose of saving money to help pay for paving roads and it is funded from the extra fee citizens pay when they register vehicles at the Town Clerk's office.

Article Twenty-nine: Amendment to Authorizing Legislation: Road Reclamation Capital Reserve Fund

To see if the Town will vote to appoint the Select Board as agents to expend from the Road Reclamation Capital Reserve Fund? This Fund was created in 1997 for the purpose of reclaiming roads in the Town. This article does not impact the tax rate.

Majority Ballot Vote Required.
Recommended by the Select Board: 3-0

This is a house-keeping article, because it makes clear that the Select Board is the agent to expend on this fund. The fund is established for the purpose of paving roads.

Article Thirty: Contribution to the Library Building Capital Reserve Fund (By Citizens Petition)

Upon petition by at least 25 registered voters, to see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate through taxation the sum of One Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$150,000) to be placed in the Library Capital Reserve Fund established in March 2006, for the planning and construction of a library addition or new building?

Majority Ballot Vote required.
Not recommended by the Select Board: 3-0
Not recommended by the Budget Committee: 8-0

This article would make a contribution to the Library Building capital reserve fund of \$150,000, or \$50,000 for each of the last three years that no contribution has been made. Previously, the Town contributed \$50,000 per year on five occasions and the Trustees matched that contribution with privately raised money in 4 out of the 5 of those years. The Select Board and the Budget Committee do not recommend this article because there is no matching component and they believe the amount is too high.

Article Thirty-one: Purchase of a Recreation Van(By Citizens Petition)

Upon petition by at least 25 registered voters, to see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriatethrough taxation the sum of Fifty-five Thousand Dollars (\$55,000) for the purchase of a recreation passenger van. Without limitation, the van will be used primarily for transportation incident to Programs for Active Senior Adults ("PASA").

Majority Ballot Vote required.

Recommended by the Select Board: 3-0

Recommended by the Budget Committee: 8-0

This article would raise money to acquire a new recreation van, one that is more accessible to elder citizens. The current van is difficult to climb into and would be difficult to get out of in an emergency because there is no central aisle. The existing van would likely be traded to defer the cost and the Select Board would buy either a used or new van depending on the best price it could get. Currently, the van is used primarily for PASA programs. Both the Select Board and the Budget Committee recommend this purchase.

Article Thirty-two: Adoption of Town Manager Plan Pursuant to RSA Chapter 37 (By Citizens Petition)

Upon petition by at least 25 registered voters, do you favor the adoption of the Town Manager plan as provided in Chapter 37 of the Revised Statutes Annotated?

Majority Ballot Vote Required.

Recommended by the Select Board 2-0-1.

This article proposes to formally adopt the Town Manager's statute, set out in RSA 37. At present, the Select Board hires a Town Administrator and provides him with much of the same authority that a manager has. This article would make that arrangement formal. There is no proposed increase in salary for the incumbent. The Select Board would remain in charge, but the Manager would have significant new authority now held by the Board, including the right to hire and fire, organize and manage departments, and spend money to a point set by the Board. There would be no increase in salary for the Town Administrator if this Article is passed other than the usual increases given town employees. This article does not add any employees. The Town has the authority to repeal the Town Manager plan if it so chooses at a later date. The Select Board recommends this article.

Article Thirty-three: To Control Development of Conservation Land (By Citizens Petition):

Upon petition by at least 25 registered voters, shall the Town vote that any development of or changes to any conservation land owned or controlled by North Hampton or otherwise designated by North Hampton as conservation land be subject to all of the

following provisions: (1) said development or changes shall be reviewed by a Review Board for ultimate approval; (2) said Review Board shall consist of 1 member from each of the Planning Board, Zoning Board of Adjustment, and Conservation Commission as well as 1 member from the Select Board and the Building Inspector; (3) notices of all Review Board meetings shall be posted at the Town Offices, the Town Clerk's office, the Town Hall, the Town Library and the Town website, and sent by US registered mail to all abutters to the conservation land at least 5 days before said meeting; (4) said notices shall describe the development or changes and the conservation land by its location, commonly known address or name as well as its tax map designation; (5) all meetings shall be open to the public allowing public participation and be broadcast live on Channel 22, recorded and preserved by statute; (6) all meetings minutes shall be taken by a duly appointed secretary and be available for public review within 5 business days of the meeting; and (7) there shall be no closed door meetings, private understandings or private deliberations.

Majority Ballot Vote Required.

Not recommended by the Select Board 3-0.

This article is one of three submitted related to conservation land. The Select Board has submitted this article to the Town's attorney, who has indicated that it is illegal and cannot be enforced. The reason for this is that New Hampshire law establishes a Conservation Commission to review conservation decisions. A review board, like the one contemplated in this article, would be duplicative and is not permitted by RSA 36-A. The Select Board does not recommend passage of this article and could not enforce it if were passed.

Article Thirty-four: To Restore the Morris Lamprey Conservation Easement
(By Citizens Petition):

Upon petition by at least 25 registered voters, shall the Town vote that any development of or changes to any conservation land owned or controlled by North Hampton or otherwise designated by North Hampton as conservation land be subject to all of the following provisions:

Shall the Town of North Hampton vote that with respect to the ongoing development of the Morris Lamprey Conservation Easement that the decisions of the Conservation Commission and the Select Board be reversed and that the Conservation Commission and the Select Board shall cause the removal of structures, imported soil, sand, trees, septic system, artesian well, and restore the topographical state to conditions that existed at the time of Morris Lamprey's gift to the Town. The corrections shall be the responsibility of the property owner as set forth in the Morris Lamprey Conservation Easement: Section 6, paragraph C.

Majority Ballot Vote Required.

Not Recommended by the Select Board 3-0.

This article is one of three submitted related to conservation land. The Select Board has submitted this article to the Town's attorney, who has indicated that it is illegal and cannot be enforced. The decisions that this article seeks to address were made at the Conservation Commission, and then reviewed by the Charitable Trusts Division at the Attorney General's office. No fault was found. This article seeks to impose a financial liability on a particular landowner, which is not permitted under state law. The Select Board does not recommend passage of this article and could not enforce it if were passed.

Article Thirty-five: To Make the Conservation Commission an Elected Rather than Appointed Body (By Citizens Petition)

Upon petition by at least 25 registered voters, shall the Town vote that the members of the Conservation Commission be elected by the public rather than appointed by the Select Board.

Majority Ballot Vote Required.

Not Recommended by the Select Board, 3-0

This article is one of three submitted related to conservation land. The Select Board has submitted this article to the Town's attorney, who has indicated that it is illegal and cannot be enforced. The reason for this is that New Hampshire law establishes a Conservation Commission and requires that it be appointed by the Select Board. Unlike the planning board and the ZBA, for which the Legislature has provided for either an appointed or elected body, the law is clear that the Conservation commission can only be appointed. The Select Board does not recommend passage of this article and could not enforce it if were passed.

Article Thirty-six: Any other business.

To see if the Town will transact any other business that may legally come before the Meeting.

The Select Board hopes you will find this Voters Guide helpful in explaining the proposed Warrant Articles this year. The opinions stated in this Guide are those of the Select Board. Other citizens, and groups within the Town, may have other opinions. Voters are encouraged to research the issues, and, most importantly, to attend the Deliberative Session to ask questions and seek explanations for issues that are of interest to them. Voters are also encouraged to consult other sources of information. An informed electorate is vital to our democracy and the Board encourages you to become educated, ask questions and to participate fully in our democratic government.