

## 2022 WARRANT ARTICLES

To the inhabitants of the Town of Wentworth, in Grafton County, in the State of New Hampshire, who are qualified to vote in Town affairs:

You are hereby notified and warned that the election of Town Officers of the said Town of Wentworth will be held at the Wentworth Elementary School, 1247 Mt. Moosilauke Highway, Route 25, Wentworth, N.H., on Tuesday March 8, 2022. The polls will be open at 11 A.M. and close at 7 P.M. to bring in your votes on Article 1 (Election of Town Officers). All other articles will be presented, discussed, and acted upon on Saturday, March 12, 2022, beginning at 1 P.M., the meeting for said purpose to be held at said Wentworth Elementary School.

**Article 01 Election of Officers**

To choose all necessary Town Officers for the ensuing year. (By Official Ballot).

**Article 02 Receive Reports**

To receive reports from the Selectmen, Town Clerk/Tax Collector, Treasurer, Auditors, and other Town Officers, and to vote on any motion relating to those reports.

**Article 03 Broadband Infrastructure Bond**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$1,505,200** (one million, five hundred five thousand two hundred dollars) for the purpose of funding broadband infrastructure; \$1,505,200 of such sum to be raised through the issuance of bonds or notes under and in compliance with the Municipal Finance Act RSA 33:1 et seq., as amended; to authorize the Select Board to apply for, obtain and accept federal, state or other aid, if any, which may be available for said project and to comply with all laws applicable to said project; to authorize the Select Board to issue, negotiate, sell and deliver said bonds and notes and to determine the rate of interest thereon and the maturity and other terms thereof; and to authorize the Select Board to take any other action or to pass any other vote relative thereto. The Select Board recommends this action. A 3/5 (three fifths) ballot vote is required.

**Article 04 General Municipal Operations**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$353,844** for General Municipal Operations for the purposes detailed in the operating budget posted with the warrant. This article does not include any amounts contained in any other article.

**Article 05 Planning Board**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$6,500** for the Planning Board in connection with its activities for such purposes and such uses as deemed necessary by said Planning Board.

**Article 06 Historical Society**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$1,500** for the maintenance and expenses associated the Wentworth Historical Society Museum and the grounds on which it stands

**Article 07 Police Department**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$100,976** for the maintenance of the Police Department for the ensuing year for the purposes detailed in the operating budget posted with the warrant. Please note that \$8,800 will be funded by the Police Revolving Fund, and the balance of \$92,176 is to come from general taxation.

**Article 08 Police Cruiser**

To see if the town will vote to purchase a 2022 Ford Expedition full-sized, fully equipped police cruiser for the sum of **\$57,900**. The monies will come out of the Police Cruiser Capital Reserve Fund, and nothing from general taxation. The Select Board unanimously recommends this action.

**Article 09 Animal and Pest Control**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$4,000** for the expenses associated with Animal and Pest Control.

**Article 10 Ambulance Services**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$105,000** for the operating expenses associated with Ambulance Services.

**Article 11 Fire Department**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$44,250** for the maintenance of the Fire Department for the purposes detailed in the operating budget posted with the warrant, with \$5,500 coming from unassigned fund balance and \$38,750 from general taxation.

**Article 12 Highway and Streets**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$384,730** for Highway and Streets for the purposes detailed in the operating budget posted with the warrant, with \$9,796 coming from unassigned fund balance, \$58,000 from highway block grant and \$316,934 from general taxation.

**Article 13 Western Star**

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen to continue with the second year of the seven (7)-year lease agreement for the purpose of leasing a 2022 Western Star 4700SF Dump/Plow Truck for the Highway Department and to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$28,489** for the said second year payment for that purpose. The lease agreement does not contain an escape clause. The Select Board unanimously recommends this action.

**Article 14 Transfer Station**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$82,800** for the purpose of disposal and hauling of solid waste and cost of maintenance for the Town Transfer Station, said amount to come from general taxation.

**Article 15 Parks and Recreation**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$6,600** for the Parks and Recreation for the general maintenance of parks including the Common, Library, Riverside Park, and Hamilton Memorial Field.

**Article 16 Conservation**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$2,000** to be expended on behalf of the Conservation Commission and Town Forest in connection with activities for such conservation as set forth in RSA 36-A and expenses related to the forester.

**Article 17 Town Forests**

To see if the Town will vote to establish as Town Forest under RSA 31:110 the Plummer Town Forest Map8 Lot11 Sub32 consisting of 130.57± acres, the Van Deusen parcel Map8 Lot11 Sub33 consisting of 35.5± acres, the Turner and Buffalo Road parcel Map11 Lot6 Sub19 consisting of 15.31± acres and the North Dorchester parcel Map12 Lot2 Sub6 consisting of 1.1± acres. To authorize the conservation commission to manage the town forest(s) under the provision of RSA 31:112. To authorize the placement of any proceeds that may accrue from this forest management in a separate forest maintenance fund, which shall be allowed to accumulate from year to year as provided by RSA 31:113.

Goals of this warrant are to (1) sets official municipal policy on the intended use of the property, (2) income from management of the forests will remain in a separate fund for future use, (3) allows the conservation commission to be managers.

**Article 18 ETF & CRF**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$94,100** to be placed in the following Expendable Trust Funds and Capital Reserve Funds, to come from 2022 general taxation. The Select Board unanimously recommends this action.

- Webster Memorial Library EFT (established 2015) \$10,000
- Fire Truck CRF (established 1984) \$25,000
- Police Cruiser CRF (established 1993) \$9,000
- Property Revaluation CRF (established 1995) \$5,000
- Highway Equipment and Vehicles CRF (established 1973) \$25,000
- Town Office Expansion ETF (established 2017) \$15,000
- Town Hall Maintenance and repairs CRF (established 2000) \$5,000
- Celebration ETF (established 2018) \$100

**Article 19 ETF & CRF from Fund Balance**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$400,000** to be placed in the following Expendable Trust Funds and Capital Reserve Funds, to come from the unassigned fund balance and nothing from general taxation. The Select Board unanimously recommends this action.

- Town Bridges ETF (established 2006) \$200,000
- Road Paving CRF (established 2002) \$50,000
- Fire Department Site EFT (established 2004) \$150,000

**Article 20 Road Paving-Turner**

To see if the Town will vote to pave a section of Turner Road for the sum of **\$76,398**. The monies will come out of the Road Paving Capital Reserve Fund, and nothing from general taxation. The Selectboard recommends this action by majority vote.

**Article 21 Road Paving-North Dorchester**

To see if the Town will vote to pave a section of North Dorchester Road for the sum of **\$125,842**. The monies will come out of the Road Paving Capital Reserve Fund, and nothing from general taxation. The Selectboard recommends this action by majority vote.

**Article 22 Town Office Expendable Trust**

To see if the Town will vote to expand the purpose of the Town Office Expendable trust to include expenses related to records retention such as shredding, filing and storage, and permanent office equipment and fixtures and to appoint the Select Board as agents to expend such fund. A 2/3 ballot vote is required.

**Article 23 Webster Memorial Library**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$48,214** for the Webster Memorial Library expenses, **\$9,708** to come from Library income, and the remaining sum of **\$38,506** to come from General Taxation.

**Article 24 Cemeteries Expendable Trust**

Received by petition. To see if the Town will vote create the Wentworth Cemeteries Expendable Trust and to appoint the Wentworth Cemetery Trustees as agents to expend said fund. The fund will be used to receive cash and investment assets, plot sale fees and burial fees, and all future Plummer Trust Funds due for disbursement of the various Wentworth Cemeteries as they become available. The Trust Fund would be solely used to reimburse the Town for administrative, maintenance operations and improvements in the Foster, Eastside and Village Cemeteries as appropriate. A majority ballot vote is required.

**Article 25 Foster Cemetery**

Received by petition. To see if the Town will vote to accept the physical and financial assets of the Foster Cemetery Association. All future administrative costs including insurances and payroll would be provided by the Office of the Select Board and be reimbursed by the Wentworth Cemeteries Expendable Trust. Maintenance activities including the hiring and supervision of the sexton and plot sales would be the responsibility of the Wentworth Cemetery Trustees.

**Article 26 Other Business**

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