



**AMHERST TOWN WARRANT
THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
MARCH 8, 2016**

To the inhabitants of the Town of Amherst in the County of Hillsborough and the State of New Hampshire, qualified to vote in town affairs:

You are hereby notified that the Annual Meeting of Amherst will be held, in accordance with NH RSA 40:13. The first session, to transact all business other than voting, is on Wednesday, February 3, 2016 at 7:00 PM at the Souhegan High School Auditorium (Snow Date: Thursday, February 4, 2016 at 7 PM at Souhegan High School). The second session, voting by official ballot at the polls, is on Tuesday, March 8, 2016 at the Souhegan High School from 6:00 AM to 8:00 PM.

ARTICLE 21: To choose all necessary Town Officers for the ensuing terms as follows:

2 Selectmen for 3 Years

1 Moderator for 2 Years

1 Cemetery Trustee for 3 Years

3 Library Trustees for 3 Years

1 Supervisor of the Checklist for 6 Years

1 Trustee of the Trust Funds for 3 Years

1 Zoning Board of Adjustment Member for 1 Year

1 Zoning Board of Adjustment Member for 3 Years

ARTICLE 22: Operating Budget

Shall the Town vote to 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 herein, totaling **\$12,896,109**. Should this article be defeated the default budget shall be **\$12,596,564** which is the same as last year with certain adjustments 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. This operating budget warrant article does not include appropriations contained in ANY other Warrant Article. (Majority vote)

(The Board of Selectmen supports this article by a vote of 5-0-0.)

(The Ways and Means Committee supports this article by a vote of 6-0-0.)

This article has an estimated tax impact of \$ 0.16 (sixteen cents per thousand).

ARTICLE 23: Contingency Fund

To see if the Town will vote to establish a contingency fund for the current year, in accordance with NH RSA Section 31:98-a, for unanticipated expenses that may arise and further to raise and appropriate one hundred thousand dollars (**\$100,000**) to go into the fund. Said sum shall come from the undesignated fund balance and no amount to be raised from taxation. Any appropriation left in the fund at the end of the year will lapse to the general fund. (Majority vote)

(The Board of Selectmen supports this article by a vote of 5-0-0.)

(The Ways and Means Committee supports this article by a vote of 6-0-0.)

This article has an estimated tax impact of \$ 0.00 (zero cents per thousand).

ARTICLE 24: Assessing Revaluation Capital Reserve Fund

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of twenty-five thousand dollars (**\$25,000**) to be added to the Assessing Revaluation Capital Reserve Fund previously established. (Majority vote)

(The Board of Selectmen supports this article by a vote of 5-0-0.)

(The Ways and Means Committee supports this article by a vote of 6-0-0.)

This article has an estimated tax impact of \$ 0.02 (two cents per thousand).

The Assessing Revaluation CRF balance: \$83,134 as of December 31, 2015.

ARTICLE 25: Communications Center Capital Reserve Fund

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of twenty-five thousand dollars (**\$25,000**) to be added to the Communications Center Capital Reserve Fund previously established. (Majority vote)

(The Board of Selectmen supports this article by a vote of 4-1-0.)

(The Ways and Means Committee supports this article by a vote of 6-0-0.)

This article has an estimated tax impact of \$00.02 (two cents per thousand).

The Communication CRF balance: \$41,031 as of December 31, 2015.

ARTICLE 26: Fire Station Renovation Capital Reserve Fund

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of sixty-five thousand dollars (**\$65,000**) to be added to the Fire Station Renovation Capital Reserve Fund previously established. (Majority vote)

(The Board of Selectmen supports this article by a vote of 5-0-0.)

(The Ways and Means Committee supports this article by a vote of 6-0-0.)

This article has an estimated tax impact of \$00.04 (four cents per thousand).

The Fire Station Renovation CRF balance: \$55,016 as of December 31, 2015.

ARTICLE 27: Appropriation of Previously Collected Land Use Change Tax Funds and Deposit to the Fire Station Renovation Capital Reserve Fund

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of sixty thousand dollars (\$60,000), said sum to come from the amount collected and deposited into the Land Use Change Tax Fund (LUCT) in the preceding fiscal year, and to transfer said amount into the Fire Station Renovation Capital Reserve Fund, previously established. No additional amount to be raised by taxation. (Majority vote)

(The Board of Selectmen supports this article by a vote of 5-0-0.)

(The Ways and Means Committee supports this article by a vote of 6-0-0.)

This article has an estimated tax impact of \$00.00 (zero cents per thousand).

The Fire Station Renovation CRF balance: \$55,016 as of December 31, 2015.

ARTICLE 28: Fire Truck Refurbish and Purchase Capital Reserve Fund

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of one hundred fifty thousand dollars (**\$150,000**) to be added to the Fire Truck /Refurbish and Purchase Capital Reserve Fund, previously established. (Majority vote)

(The Board of Selectmen supports this article by a vote of 5-0-0.)

(The Ways and Means Committee supports this article by a vote of 6-0-0.)

This article has an estimated tax impact of \$00.10 (ten cents per thousand).

The Fire Truck CRF balance: \$442,080 as of December 31, 2015.

ARTICLE 29: Change of Purpose, Bridge Replacement Capital Reserve Fund

To see if the Town will vote to change the purpose of the existing Bridge Replacement Capital Reserve Fund under the provisions of RSA 35:16, to the Bridge Repair and Replacement Capital Reserve Fund, and further, to name the Board of Selectmen as agents to expend. (2/3 vote required)

(The Board of Selectmen supports this article by a vote of 5-0-0.)

(The Ways and Means Committee supports this article by a vote of 6-0-0.)

This article has an estimated tax impact of \$00.00 (zero cents per thousand).

ARTICLE 30: Bridge Repair and Replacement Capital Reserve Fund

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of twenty-five thousand (\$25,000) to be added to the Bridge Repair and Replacement Capital Reserve Fund previously established. In the event Article 29 does not pass, this amount will be added to the existing Bridge Replacement Capital Reserve Fund.

(The Board of Selectmen supports this article by a vote of 5-0-0.)

(The Ways and Means Committee supports this article by a vote of 6-0-0.)

This article has an estimated tax impact of \$00.02 (two cents per thousand).

The Bridge Replacement CRF has a balance of \$20,115 as of December 31, 2015.

ARTICLE 31: Open Space Land, Conservation Commission

Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the gross sum of one million dollars (\$1,000,000) of which four hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$450,000) is to be raised by taxation, to be placed into the conservation fund of the Amherst Conservation Commission for the purchase of land only for open space purposes to meet conservation needs on the following conditions as more particularly set forth in Warrant Article 31:

- A. No more than \$450,000 is to be raised by direct taxation. The balance to be raised by available public or private gifts which the Selectmen are authorized to apply for and expend, and/or, payment for the conveyance by the Selectmen to the Piscataquog Land Conservancy of a conservation easement to perpetually restrict use of the property to conservation purposes and the Selectmen are authorized to grant such easement;
- B. The funds shall only be used for the purchase of all or part of the parcels of land known as Map 6, Lot 102, Map 4, Lot 119, and Map 4, Lot 121.
- C. The completion of purchase agreement regarding those properties no later than May 3, 2016, to the satisfaction of the Selectmen and Conservation Commission providing for a final closing no later than March 31, 2017.
- D. Any expenditure from the conservation fund shall be compliant with public hearing requirements and approved by the Selectmen.

This appropriation and authorization shall be null and void if the conditions set forth above do not occur as required. All as more particularly set forth in amended Article 31 set forth in the Town Warrant.

(The Board of Selectmen supports this article by a vote of 5-0-0.)

(The Ways and Means Committee supports this article by a vote of 6-0-0.)

This article has an estimated tax impact of \$00.29 (twenty-nine cents per thousand).

ARTICLE 32: Maintenance Garage Construction Project

To see if the town will vote to establish a Maintenance Garage Construction Project Capital Reserve Fund under the provisions of RSA 35:1 for the purpose of building a town vehicle maintenance garage and to raise and appropriate the sum of one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000) to be placed in said fund and further, to name the Board of Selectmen as agents to expend from said fund. (Majority Vote)

(The Board of Selectmen supports this article by a vote of 4-1-0.)

(The Ways and Means Committee does not support this article by a vote of 6-0-0.)

This article has an estimated tax impact of \$00.06 (six cents per thousand).

ARTICLE 33: Old Mail Road from Class VI to Class B Trail

Shall the Town vote to reclassify segments of the Class VI roadway known as Old Mail Road, commencing at its intersection with Winterberry Drive thence northerly approximately 3,220± feet to the southeasterly corner of the parcel of land identified as Lot 10-61-1 on the Tax Maps of the Town; and commencing at the intersection of New South Road thence northerly approximately 1,400± feet to the intersection with Horace Greeley Road from a Class VI Road to a Class B trail in accordance with RSA 231-A:3. *(Majority vote)*

(The Board of Selectmen supports this article by a vote of 5-0-0.)

This article has an estimated tax impact of \$00.00 (zero cents per thousand).