



Town of Northwood 2015 Town Meeting Warrant

To the inhabitants of the Town of Northwood in the County of Rockingham in said State of New Hampshire, qualified to vote in Town Affairs:

You are hereby notified to meet in the **Auditorium of Coe Brown Northwood Academy**, 907 First NH Turnpike, in said Northwood on **Saturday, January 31, 2015 at 9:00 AM** to participate in the **First Session** of the 2014 Annual Town Meeting. This session shall consist of explanation, discussion and deliberation of the Warrant Articles numbered Two (2) through Twenty Six (26). The Warrant Articles may be amended subject to the following limitations: (a) Warrant Articles whose wording is prescribed by law shall not be amended, and (b) Warrant Articles that are amended shall be placed on the official ballot for a final vote on the main motion as amended.

Second Session: The Voting Session to act on all Warrant Articles, as amended, including the proposed budget, as a result of the action of the “*First Session*” will be held at the **Parish Center at St. Joseph’s Church**, 844 First NH Turnpike, in said Northwood on **Tuesday, March 10, 2015**. The polls will be open from **7:00 AM to 7:00 PM**.

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

Article 2: FIRE APPARATUS LEASE/PURCHASE

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to enter into a lease/purchase agreement for the sum of **Two hundred seventy thousand (\$270,000)** for the purpose of purchasing and equipping a Mini Rescue-style Pumper for the Northwood Fire Rescue Department to replace the 1997 International (Excellence) Rescue Truck and the 2004 International (Valley) Pumper Truck, and to raise and appropriate the sum of **Fifty seven thousand eight hundred twenty-two dollars (\$57,822)** for the first of five yearly payments, and to fund the payment by withdrawing the sum of **Fifty seven thousand eight hundred twenty-two dollars (\$57,822)** from the Fire/Rescue Vehicle Replacement Special Revenue Fund. This lease does not contain an escape clause. **(3/5 majority vote required) (Recommended by**

the Board of Selectmen 3-0) (Recommended by the Budget Committee 14-0) (No tax impact)

Article 3: 2015 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, totaling **\$3,422,445**. Should this article be defeated, the default budget shall be **\$3,379,163** 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. **(Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 3-0) (Recommended by the Budget Committee 14-0) (Estimated tax impact: \$.16)**

Article 4: AMBULANCE PAYMENT

To see if the Town will raise and appropriate the sum of **Forty-eight thousand six hundred seventeen dollars (\$48,617)** for the third of five annual payments on a five year lease on Ambulance 1 and to fund this appropriation by authorizing the withdrawal of **Forty-eight thousand six hundred seventeen dollars (\$48,617)** from the Fire/Rescue Vehicle Replacement Special Revenue Fund. This lease agreement was approved at the 2013 Town Meeting and does not contain an escape clause. **(Majority vote required) (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 3-0) (Recommended by the Budget Committee 14-0) (No tax impact)**

Article 5: DEFIBRILLATOR PAYMENT

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **Thirteen thousand, three hundred eighty-four dollars (\$13,384)** for the second of three yearly payments for two defibrillators for the Northwood Fire Department, and to fund this appropriation by authorizing the withdrawal of said sum from the unexpended fund balance as of December 31, 2014. This lease agreement contains an escape clause. **(Majority vote required) (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 3-0) (Recommended by the Budget Committee 14-0) (No additional tax impact)**

Article 6: HIGHWAY EQUIPMENT CAPITAL RESERVE DEPOSIT

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **Fifteen Thousand dollars (\$15,000)** to be deposited into the previously established Highway Equipment Capital Reserve Fund. **(Majority vote required) (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 3-0) (Recommended by the Budget Committee 14-0) (Estimated tax impact: \$.03)**

Article 7: HIGHWAY VEHICLE PURCHASE

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate a sum not to exceed **Ninety five thousand nine hundred dollars (\$95,900)** for the purchase of one

truck, equipped with a dump body, plow attachments and a spreader for the Highway Department, and to fund this appropriation by authorizing the withdrawal of **Eighty-three thousand dollars (\$83,000)** from the previously established Highway Equipment Capital Reserve Fund, and the withdrawal of **Twelve thousand nine hundred (\$12,900)** from the unexpended fund balance as of December 31, 2014. **(Majority vote required) (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 3-0) (Recommended by the Budget Committee 10-1) (No additional tax impact)**

Article 8: COST OF LIVING ADJUSTMENT FOR TOWN EMPLOYEES

To see if the Town will vote to authorize a 2% cost of living adjustment (COLA) for all town employees, and appropriate the sum of \$26,551 to cover the salary and benefit costs associated with the increase. **(Majority vote required) (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 3-0) (Recommended by the Budget Committee 12-2) (Estimated tax impact: \$.06)**

Article 9: TOWN HALL HVAC SYSTEM UPGRADE

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **Sixty-nine thousand dollars (\$69,000)** for the purpose of upgrading the heating/cooling systems of the Northwood Town Hall, and to fund this appropriation by authorizing the withdrawal of **Forty four thousand dollars (\$44,000)** from the previously established Town Hall Improvement Capital Reserve Fund with the balance of **\$25,000** to be raised by taxation. **(Majority vote required) (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 3-0) (Recommended by the Budget Committee 14-0) (Estimated tax impact: \$.05)**

Article 10: ROAD CONSTRUCTION/RESURFACING

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **One Hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000)** to be used for the construction, reconstruction, and/or resurfacing of town roads, and the refurbishing of ditches and culverts as recommended by the Highway Advisory Committee. **(Majority vote required) (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 2-1) (Recommended by the Budget Committee 13-1) (Estimated tax impact: \$.21)**

Article 11: LAGOON MAINTENANCE AND REPAIR EXPENDABLE TRUST FUND

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **Fourteen thousand dollars (\$14,000)**, to be placed in the Lagoon Maintenance and Repair Expendable Trust Fund and to fund this appropriation by authorizing the withdrawal of that amount from the Lagoon Special Revenue Fund held by the Northwood Treasurer. **(Majority vote required) (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 3-0) (Recommended by Budget Committee 12-0) (No tax impact)**

Article 12: FACILITIES COMMITTEE EXPENDABLE TRUST

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **Twenty-two thousand dollars (\$22,000)** to be deposited into the Facilities Committee

Expendable Trust Fund previously established for the maintenance, improvement, repairs and replacement of general government buildings. **(Majority vote required) (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 3-0) (Recommended by the Budget Committee 14-0) (Estimated tax impact: \$.05)**

Article 13: TRANSFER STATION EXPENDABLE TRUST DEPOSIT

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **Twenty one thousand six hundred fifty-nine dollars and sixty-one cents (\$21,659.61)**, to be placed in the existing Transfer Station Expendable Trust Fund previously established for the purpose of purchasing transfer station equipment and repairing and maintaining the transfer station buildings and to fund this appropriation by authorizing the transfer of that amount from the unreserved fund balance as of December 31, 2014. This amount is the equivalent of the amount received from the sale of recyclable materials in 2014. **(Majority vote required) (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 3-0) (Recommended by the Budget Committee 12-0) (No tax impact)**

Article 14: APPOINTING AGENTS TO EXPEND

To see if the Town will vote to appoint the Board of Selectmen as agents to expend from the previously established Recreation Revolving Fund established in 2002. **(Majority vote required) (Recommended by Board of Selectmen 3-0)**

Article 15: MILFOIL TREATMENT AND CONTROL PROGRAM EXPENDABLE TRUST

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **Six Thousand dollars (\$6,000)** to be deposited into the previously established Milfoil Treatment and Control Program Expendable Trust Fund. **(Majority vote required) (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 2-1) (Recommended by the Budget Committee 14-0) (Estimated tax impact: \$.01)**

Article 16: RENAMING MILFOIL EXPENDABLE TRUST FUND

To see if the Town will vote to expand the purposes of the previously approved Milfoil Treatment and Control Program Expendable Trust to include treatment and control of any aquatic invasive species and to change the name of the fund to the **AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES TREATMENT AND CONTROL EXPENDABLE TRUST. (2/3 Majority vote required) (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 3-0)**

Article 17: BENEFIT PAY VESTED TIME EXPENDABLE TRUST FUND

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **Fifteen Thousand dollars (\$15,000)** to be added to the Benefit Vested Time Expendable Trust Fund previously established. **(Majority vote required) (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 3-0) (Recommended by the Budget Committee 14-0) (Estimated tax impact: \$.03)**

Article 18: CABLE EXPENDABLE TRUST FUND

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **Thirty four thousand nine hundred thirty-five dollars and four cents (\$34,935.04)**, to be deposited into the previously established Cable Expendable Trust Fund and to fund this appropriation by authorizing the transfer of that amount from the unreserved fund balance as of December 31, 2014. This amount is equivalent to the amount received as cable TV franchise fees in the year 2014. **(Majority vote required) (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 3-0) (Recommended by Budget Committee 12-0) (No tax impact)**

Article 19: CEMETERY IMPROVEMENT EXPENDABLE TRUST FUND

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **Four Hundred dollars (\$400)** to be deposited into the previously established Cemetery Improvement Expendable Trust Fund and to fund this appropriation by authorizing the transfer of that amount from the unreserved fund balance as of December 31, 2014. This amount is the equivalent of the amount received from the sale of cemetery lots in 2014. **(Majority vote required) (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 3-0) (Recommended by the Budget Committee 12-0) (No tax impact)**

Article 20: APPOINTMENT OF TOWN HIGHWAY (ROAD) AGENT

To see if the Town will authorize the selectmen to appoint the town highway (road) agent in accordance with RSA 231:62, rather than electing a highway agent. If approved, the elected highway (road) agent will continue to hold office until the March, 2016 town meeting, at which time the elected office shall terminate. **(Majority vote required) (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 2-1)**

Article 21: NORTHWOOD'S 250TH ANNIVERSARY EXPENDABLE TRUST

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **Five hundred (\$500) dollars** to be deposited into the 250th Anniversary Expendable Trust fund to support efforts to recognize the town's 250th anniversary. **(Majority vote required) (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 3-0) (Recommended by the Budget Committee 14-0) (Estimated tax impact: Less than \$.01)**

Article 22: RECREATION FACILITY CAPITAL RESERVE FUND DEPOSIT

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **Fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000.00)** to be deposited in the Recreation Facility Capital Reserve Fund for the purpose of continuing construction of the new athletic fields on Route 4. **(Majority vote required) (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 3-0) (Recommended by the Budget Committee 14-0) (Estimated tax impact: \$.10)**

Article 23: PUBLIC SAFETY COMPLEX EXPENDABLE TRUST FUND

To see if the Town will vote to establish a **Public Safety Complex Expendable Trust Fund** under the provisions of RSA 31:19a for the purpose of a study to include a conceptual design for a Public Safety Complex and to raise and appropriate the sum of **Thirty five Thousand dollars (\$35,000)** to be placed in this fund and furthermore to appoint the Selectmen as agents to expend. This is a special warrant article per RSA 32:3, VI. **(Majority vote required) (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 3-0) (Recommended by the Budget Committee 12-0) (Estimated tax impact: \$.07)**

Article 24 (BY PETITION)(AS AMENDED 1/31/15): STRUCTURAL ASSESSMENT OF TOWN BUILDINGS

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate a sum not to exceed **\$1.00** to engage the services of a professional architectural firm and any other professions as needed to conduct a functional assessment of all Town buildings to include the library, fire stations, police station, elementary school, community center, town hall, Highway Department needs and transfer station building. The functional audit should include but not be limited to the level of compliance of each building with the appropriate current building codes at the state and local level, space needs, functional deficiencies, and strengths of the buildings in regards to the building's ability to assist the departments in their providing of services for the town. This assessment may also provide additional justification for facility related capital needs including HVAC, power, electrical, communication, computer, and security systems. This assessment should be completed and presented to the Town through the Board of Selectmen no later than October 1, 2015. **(Majority vote required) (Not Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 3-0) (Not Recommended by the Budget Committee 12-0) (Estimated tax impact: Less than \$.01)**

Article 25 (BY PETITION)(AS AMENDED 1/31/15): TOWN-OWNED VEHICLE POLICY

Shall we instruct the Board of Selectmen and Police Commission to review the town-owned vehicle policy? **(Majority vote required)**

Article 26: OTHER BUSINESS

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

Given under our hands and seal this 13th day of January, 2015.

Robert W. Holden, Chairman

Timothy Jandebeur, Vice Chairman

Scott R. Bryer

*Board of Selectmen,
Town of Northwood, NH*

A True Copy Attest:

/S/ Robert W. Holden, Chairman

/S/ Timothy Jandebeur, Vice Chairman

/S/ Scott R. Bryer

*Board of Selectmen,
Town of Northwood, NH*

We, the undersigned, hereby certify that we have caused a true copy of the Warrant and Town Budget to be posted at the Parish Center at St. Joseph's Church, Coe-Brown Northwood Academy and Northwood Town Hall on January 26, 2015.

/S/ Robert W. Holden, Chairman

/S/ Timothy Jandebeur, Vice Chairman

/S/ Scott R. Bryer

*Board of Selectmen
Town of Northwood, NH*