

Article 1: Elections

To choose all necessary officers for the ensuing year.

Zoning and other ballot articles that come first.

Article 3: 2021 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 **Three Million Nine Hundred Sixty-Two Thousand and Sixty Dollars (\$3,962,060)**. Should this article be defeated, the default budget shall be **three million seven hundred three thousand sixty-six dollars (\$3,703,066)** 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. **(Tax Impact Net of estimated revenue \$3.54.) (Majority vote required) (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen -) (Recommended by the Budget Committee 14 - 0)**

Article 4: FIRE APPARATUS LEASE/PURCHASE

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate **Fifty-six thousand six hundred seventy two dollars (\$56,672)** as the first payment on a 5 year lease/purchase agreement for a Tanker Truck with said funds to come from the Fire Rescue Vehicle Replacement Special Revenue Fund established for this purpose. If this article is defeated the vehicle must be returned and the town loses the \$300,000 down payment it has committed to spend. This purchase is in accordance with the Town's Capital Improvement Plan. **(No Tax Impact) (Majority vote required) (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 5-0) (Recommended by the Budget Committee 14-0)**

Article 5: AMBULANCE LEASE PURCHASE

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate **twenty-six thousand two hundred twenty-five dollars (\$26,225)**, as the first payment on a 7 year lease/purchase agreement for an Ambulance with said funds to come from the Fire Rescue Vehicle Replacement Special Revenue Fund established for this purpose. If this article is defeated the vehicle must be returned and the town loses the \$100,000 down payment it has spent on it. This purchase is in accordance with the Town's Capital Improvement Plan. **(No Tax Impact) (Majority vote required) (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 5-0) (Recommended by the Budget Committee 14-0)**

Article 6: COMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT PURCHASE

To see if the Town will raise and appropriate the sum of **thirty-three thousand dollars (\$33,000)** for the acquisition of communication equipment pursuant to the second year of the three-year Fire Department Mobile Communications Equipment Replacement Plan. The plan will replace all our portable and mobile radios over the three-year period. This purchase is in accordance with the Town's Capital Improvement Plan. **(Tax Impact \$0.05) (Majority vote required) (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 5-0) (Recommended by the Budget Committee 14-0)**

Article 7: EXPENDABLE TRUST FUND DEPOSITS

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **Ninety-six thousand three hundred and ninety-one dollars (96,391.00)**, to be placed in the following existing expendable trust funds created under RSA 31:19 - a. These amounts represent the amount of user fees deposited in the general fund in 2020 for these purposes, and the appropriation shall be funded by the withdrawal of the sum from the unexpended fund balance as of December 31, 2020. Current balance as of December 31, 2020: Cable \$63,478, Transfer Station \$98,291, and Cemetery: \$57,633.

Cable Expendable Trust Fund \$40,617.00	Transfer Station Expendable Trust Fund \$53,674.00	Cemetery Expendable Trust Fund \$2,100.00
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**(No Tax Impact) (Majority vote required) (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen
(Recommended by the Budget committee)**

Article 8: VESTED BENEFIT EXPENDABLE TRUST FUND DEPOSIT

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **ten thousand dollars (\$10,000)** to be added to the Benefit Vested Time Expendable Trust Fund previously established. Current balance as of December 31, 2020: \$40,394. **(Tax Impact \$0.02) (Majority vote required) (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 5-0) (Recommended by the Budget Committee 14-0)**

Article 9: HIGHWAY DUMP TRUCK LEASE

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate an sum of **twenty-six thousand one hundred six dollars (\$26,106)** for the third year's lease payment of the seven-year lease/purchase agreement of a highway dump truck that was approved at the 2019 Town Meeting. If this is defeated the vehicle must be returned and the town loses all the money it has spent in prior years. The lease agreement contains an escape clause. **(Tax impact \$0.04) (Majority vote required) (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 5-0) (Recommended by the Budget Committee 14-0)**

Article 10: HIGHWAY EQUIPMENT CAPITAL RESERVE FUND

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **eighteen thousand five hundred dollars (\$18,500)** to be deposited into the previously established Highway Equipment Capital Reserve Fund. Current balance as of December 31, 2020: \$107,417. **(Tax Impact \$0.03) (Majority vote required) (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 5-0) (Recommended by the Budget Committee 14-0)**

Article 11: POLICE EQUIPMENT CAPITAL RESERVE FUND

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 Police Equipment Capital Reserve Fund. Current balance as of December 31, 2020: \$17,125. **(Tax Impact \$0.01) (Majority vote required) (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 5-0) (Recommended by the Budget Committee 14-0)**

Article 12 LAGOON MAINTENANCE AND REPAIR EXPENDABLE TRUST FUND

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **five thousand six hundred and eighty-one dollars (\$5,681)**. 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. Current balance as of December 31, 2020: \$118,027 **(No Tax Impact) (Majority vote required) (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen) (Recommended by the Budget Committee)**

Article 13 Discontinue Bicentennial Committee Trust Fund.

To see if the Town will vote to discontinue the Bicentennial Committee Trust Fund created in 1974 since the purpose was accomplished and the funds cannot be used for any other purpose. Said funds, with accumulated interest to date of withdrawal are to be transferred to the municipality's general fund. Estimated balance \$8,400 as of December 31, 2020. **(Majority vote required) (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 5-0)**

Article 14: NORTHWOOD'S 250TH ANNIVERSARY EXPENDABLE TRUST

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **Eight Thousand Four Hundred Dollars \$8400 see prior article**) to be deposited into the 250th Anniversary Expendable Trust Fund to support efforts to recognize the Town's 250th Anniversary in 2023, said funds to come from the unassigned fund balance as of December 31, 2020. **(Tax Impact zero) (Majority vote required) (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 5-0) (Recommended by the Budget Committee 14-0)**

Article 15: HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT BACKHOE LEASE/PURCHASE

To see if the Town will raise and appropriate the sum of **Twenty Thousand Two Hundred Ninety-Seven Dollars and Seventy-nine cents (\$20,297.79)** for the fourth of five yearly payments for the lease/purchase of the backhoe. This lease agreement was approved in 2018 and does contain an escape clause so if the article is defeated the vehicle must be returned and all prior expenditures will be lost. **(Tax Impact \$0.03) (Majority vote required) (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 5-0) (Recommended by the Budget Committee 14-0)**

Article 16: ROAD CONSTRUCTION/RESURFACING/PAVING AND DITCHING

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **One Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$150,000)** to be used for the construction, reconstruction, paving, and ditching and/or resurfacing of town roads, and the refurbishing of ditches and culverts as recommended by the Highway Advisory Committee. This would include Town Road Projects including paving Bigelow Road, culvert work on Harmony Hill, etc. **(Tax Impact \$0.22) (Majority vote required) (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 5-0) (Recommended by the Budget committee 12-0)**

Article 17: AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES PREVENTION EXPENDABLE TRUST FUND

To see if the Town will raise and appropriate the sum of **Seven Thousand Dollars (\$7,000)** to be deposited into the previously established Aquatic Invasive Species Prevention Expendable Trust Fund. Current balance as of \$3,260. **(Tax Impact \$0.01) (Majority vote required) (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 5-0) (Recommended by the Budget Committee 14-0)**

Article 18: AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES TREATMENT AND CONTROL EXPENDABLE TRUST FUND

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **Twelve Thousand Dollars (\$12,000)** to be deposited into the previously established Aquatic Invasive Species Treatment and Control Expendable Trust Fund. Current balance as of \$300. **(Tax Impact \$0.02) (Majority vote required) (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 5-0) (Recommended by the Budget Committee 14-0)**

Article 19: TERRESTRIAL INVASIVE SPECIES EXPENDABLE TRUST FUND

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **Five Thousand (\$5,000)** to be deposited into the previously established Terrestrial Invasive Species Expendable Trust Fund. Current balance as of December 31, 2020 is \$1. **(Majority vote required) (Tax Impact \$0.01) (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 5-0) (Recommended by the Budget Committee 14-0)**

Article 20: FACILITIES COMMITTEE EXPENDABLE TRUST 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 Facilities Committee Expendable Trust Fund previously established for the maintenance, improvement, repairs, and replacement of general government buildings including the Chesley Memorial Library. Current balance as of December 31, 2020: \$49,565. **(Tax Impact \$0.02) (Majority vote required) (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 5-0) (Recommended by the Budget Committee 14-0)**

Article 21 Establish a Public Safety Facility Site Capital Reserve Fund

To see if the Town will vote to establish a Capital Reserve Fund for acquisition of land for a new public safety facility, said purpose to include the land acquisition cost, site evaluation, design and engineering, and other costs associated with the development of the site, and further to raise and appropriate the sum of **Two Hundred and Ninety-Five Thousand Dollars (\$295,000)** to be placed in said fund, and to appoint the Board of Selectmen as agents to expend from said fund without further authorization. **Majority vote required. (Estimated Tax Impact \$0.43) (Recommended by the Select Board 5 – 0) (Recommended by the Budget Committee 12-2)**

Article 22 Establish an Information Technology Capital Reserve Account

To see if the Town will vote to establish a capital reserve fund for the purpose of purchasing information technology equipment both hardware and software for town departments, and to raise and appropriate the sum of **Twenty-three Thousand Six Hundred Dollars (\$23,600)** to be deposited in said fund and further to appoint the Board of Selectmen as agents to expend from said account without further authorization. Said amount to come from the unassigned fund balance as of December 31, 2020. **9 (No tax impact). Majority vote required. (Recommend by the Board of Selectmen 5-0) (Recommended by the Budget Committee 14-0)**

Article 23 Cable Expendable Trust Fund.

To see if the Town will vote to expand the purposes of the Cable Expendable Trust Fund established in 2000 from “creating, maintaining, and upgrading a broadcast system” to include paying costs for improving communications to Town citizens from Town’s Boards, Committees, and Departments. Said improvements to include but not limited to e-mail communications, message signage, newsletters, etc. **2/3 vote required.**

Article 24 Establish a Road Improvement Expendable Trust Fund

To see if the Town will vote to establish a Road Improvements Expendable Trust Fund for improvements to Town roads including but not limited to paving, installing, and replacing culverts, ditching, grading, and full reconstruction, etc. and to raise and appropriate the sum of **One Hundred and Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$150,000)** to be placed in said fund and further to name the Board of Selectmen as agents to expend from said fund without further authorization. Said amount to come from the unassigned fund balance as of December 31, 2020. Said funds will be used for road improvement projects as outlined in the Town’s Road Surface Management Plan and for emergency road repairs as they arise. **(No Tax Impact) (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen (5-0) (Recommended by the Budget Committee**

Article 25 Shall the town, in accordance with RSA 72:39-a and 72:39-b, modify the elderly exemptions from property taxes, based on assessed value, for qualified taxpayers, to be as follows: for a person 65 years of age up to 75 years, \$113,620; for a person 75 years of age up to 80 years \$162,500; for a person 80 years of age or older \$ 211,250. If approved, these amounts will be effective as of April 1, 2021. **(Majority vote required)**

Please Note:

The estimated tax impact noted in each article are only estimates and will likely change at the time the 2021 tax rate is set next October. The estimates are based on the 2020 tax rate setting total town evaluation

(\$684,256,881) which will likely change in 2021. Revenues are based on estimates and will also change at the time of tax rate setting in 2021. The revenue total used to calculate the net impact of the operating budget does not include any use of fund balance at tax rate setting.

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