

1- Article x: 2024 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 **four million five hundred seventy-nine thousand eighteen dollars (\$4,579,018)** Should this article be defeated, the default budget shall be **four million ninety thousand six hundred & thirty dollars. (\$4,090,630)** 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.

(Majority vote required)

(Estimated Tax, net of estimated revenue, \$)

(Recommended by the Budget Committee 10-5)

(Recommended by the Board of Selectmen)

2 - Article x: TOWN EMPLOYEE COST OF LIVING INCREASE

Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **eighty-one thousand one hundred dollars (\$81,100)** to cover the salary and benefits-cost associated with providing a 3% COLA (cost of living adjustment) in 2024 for all town employees. Said amount to come from taxation.

(Majority vote required)

(Tax Estimate \$0.09)

(Recommended by the Budget Committee 15-0)

(Recommended by the Board of Selectmen)

3 - Article x: NORTHWOOD SAFETY COMPLEX CRF

Shall the Town vote to change the purpose of the existing Northwood Safety Complex, to the Public Safety Facilities CRF, with the Selectboard named as agents to expend.

(2/3 vote required)

4 - Article x: NORTHWOOD SAFETY COMPLEX

Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000)** to be used to engage the professional services to develop the necessary plans, and engineering associated with addressing the critical need for new Public Safety Facilities.

(Majority vote required)

(Tax Estimate \$0.10)

(Recommended by the Budget Committee 10-1)

(Recommended by the Board of Selectmen)

5 - Article x: FIRE DEPARTMENT AMBULANCE LEASE/PURCHASE PAYMENT

Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate **twenty-six thousand two hundred twenty-five dollars (\$26,225)** as the fourth 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 and all prior years' payments.

(Majority vote required)

(No Tax Impact)

(Recommended by the Budget Committee 15-0)

(Recommended by the Board of Selectmen)

6 - Article x: FIRE APPARATUS LEASE/PURCHASE PAYMENT

Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate **fifty-two thousand two hundred thirty-seven dollars (\$52,237)** as the fourth 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 and all prior years' payments.

(Majority vote required)

(No Tax Impact)

(Recommended by the Budget Committee 15-0)

(Recommended by the Board of Selectmen)

7 - Article x: NARROWS FIRE STATION ROOF REPLACEMENT

Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **thirty-five thousand dollars (\$35,000)** for the replacement of the roof on the Narrows Fire Station at 85 Main Street. Said project including but not limited to removing the existing roofing material, repairing any structural defects, and installing new shingles to meet all building codes.

(Majority vote required)

(Tax Estimate \$0.04)

(Recommended by the Budget Committee 15-0)

(Recommended by the Board of Selectmen)

8 - Article x: FIRE APPARATUS PURCHASE

Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate **four hundred thousand dollars (\$400,000)** for the purpose of replacing the 1996 Spartan Fire Engine and with said funds to come from the Fire Rescue Vehicle Replacement Special Revenue Fund established for this purpose.

(Majority vote required)

(No Tax Impact)

(Recommended by the Budget Committee 9-2)

(Recommended by the Board of Selectmen)

9 - Article x: HIGHWAY DUMP TRUCK LEASE/PURCHASE PAYMENT

Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate a sum of **twenty-six thousand four hundred thirty-nine dollars (\$26,439)** for the sixth-year lease payment of the seven-year lease/purchase agreement of a highway dump truck that was approved at the 2019 Town Meeting. If this article is defeated the vehicle must be returned and the town loses all prior years' payments.

(Majority vote required)

(Tax Estimate \$0.03)

(Recommended by the Budget Committee 15-0)

(Recommended by the Board of Selectmen)

10 - Article x: ROAD IMPROVEMENT ETF DEPOSIT

Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **two hundred and fifty thousand dollars (\$250,000)** to be added to the Road Improvement ETF previously established to be used for improvements to Town roads, including but not limited to paving, installing, and replacing culverts, tree removal prior to road work, crack sealing, ditching, grading, and full reconstruction in accordance with the Town's Road Surface Management Plan.

(Majority vote required)

(Tax Estimate \$0.27)

(Recommended by the Budget Committee 15-0)

(Recommended by the Board of Selectmen)

11 - Article x: Establish a Winter Maintenance Expendable Trust Fund

Shall the Town vote to establish a Winter Maintenance Expendable Trust Fund for unanticipated winter maintenance expenses, meaning sand, salt, and contract plowing, in excess of projected needs and appropriate the sum of **twenty thousand dollars (\$20,000)** 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, 2023.

(Majority vote required)

(No Tax Impact)

(Recommended by the Budget Committee 13-2)

(Recommended by the Board of Selectmen)

12 - Article x: BUILDING MAINTENANCE ETF DEPOSIT

Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **fifteen thousand dollars (\$15,000)** to be added to the Building Maintenance Expendable Trust Fund previously established. Said amount to come from the unassigned fund balance as of December 31, 2023.

(Majority vote required)

(No Tax Impact)

(Recommended by the Budget Committee 15-0)

(Recommended by the Board of Selectmen)

13 - Article x: LAGOON MAINTENANCE AND REPAIR EXPENDABLE TRUST FUND

Shall the Town vote to expand the purpose of the Lagoon Maintenance and Repair Expendable Trust Fund to include the development of the closure plan as required by DES, with the Selectboard named as agents to expend.

(2/3 vote required)

14 - Article x: LAGOON MAINTENANCE AND REPAIR ETF DEPOSIT

Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000)** to be placed in the Lagoon Maintenance and Repair Expendable Trust Fund. Said amount to come from the unassigned fund balance as of December 31, 2023

(Majority vote required)

(No Tax Impact)

(Recommended by the Budget Committee 15-0)

(Recommended by the Board of Selectmen)

15 - Article x: TRANSFER STATION EXPENDABLE TRUST FUND

Shall the Town vote to expand the purpose of the Transfer Station Facility Expendable Trust Fund to include the development of the closure plan as required by DES, with the Selectboard named as agents to expend.

(2/3 vote required)

16 - Article x: TRANSFER STATION FACILITY ETF DEPOSIT

Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **ten thousand dollars (\$10,000)** to be deposited into the Transfer Station Facility Expendable Trust Fund previously established for the maintenance, improvement and repairs of the transfer station facility. Said amount to come from the unassigned fund balance as of December 31, 2023. Current balance in this fund as of December 31, 2023: **\$x**.

(Majority vote required)

(No Tax Impact)

(Recommended by the Budget Committee 15-0)

(Recommended by the Board of Selectmen)

17 - Article x: HIGHWAY EQUIPMENT EXCAVATOR PURCHASE

Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **eighty thousand dollars (\$80,000)** for the purchase of a mini-excavator (15,000lb) for the Highway Department.

(Majority vote required)

(Tax Estimate \$0.09)

(Recommended by the Budget Committee 8-7)

(Recommended by the Board of Selectmen)

18 - Article x: VESTED BENEFIT TIME ETF DEPOSIT

Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **twenty thousand dollars (\$20,000)** to be added to the Benefit Vested Time Expendable Trust Fund previously established. Said amount to come from the unassigned fund balance as of December 31, 2023.

(Majority vote required)

(No Tax Impact)

(Recommended by the Budget Committee 15-0)

(Recommended by the Board of Selectmen)

19 - Article x: RT 4 RECREATION FIELDS IMPROVEMENTS

Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **thirty thousand dollars (\$30,000)** to continue improvements to the recreation complex located on Rt 4 as recommended by the Recreation Commission, including but not limited to expansion of parking, improving drainage, loaming and seeding and general equipment and improvements to the existing fields.

(Majority vote required)

(Tax Estimate \$0.03)

(Recommended by the Budget Committee 15-0)

(Recommended by the Board of Selectmen)

20 - Article x: RECREATION FACILITIES ETF DEPOSIT

Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **twenty thousand dollars (\$20,000)** to be deposited into the Recreation Facilities Expendable Trust Fund previously established for the maintenance, improvement, and repairs of Town recreational facilities, beyond the capabilities of department personnel and equipment. Said amount to come from the unassigned fund balance as of December 31, 2023. Current balance in this fund as of December 31, 2023: \$x.

(Majority vote required)

(No Tax Impact)

(Recommended by the Budget Committee 15-0)

(Recommended by the Board of Selectmen)

21 - Article x: CREATING A FULL TIME ASSISTANT LIBRARIAN

Shall the Town vote to approve creating a full-time assistant librarian position and to raise and appropriate the sum of **twenty-four thousand two hundred and fifty-four dollars (\$24,254)** to pay the additional wages and benefits not included in the proposed operating budget and further to authorize the Library Trustees and Budget Committee to include the necessary funds in future operating budgets to support this new full-time 35 hour per week position. This position is currently part time at approximately 30 hours/week.

(Majority vote required)

(Tax Estimate \$0.03)

(Recommended by the Budget Committee 9-2)

(Recommended by the Board of Selectmen)

22 – Article x: Master Plan Update

Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **thirteen thousand two hundred dollars (\$13,200)** to continue updating the Town’s Master Plan. This sum will provide for an update of the Economic Development chapter. Said amount to come from taxation.

(Majority vote required)

(Tax Estimate \$0.01)

(Recommended by the Budget Committee 13-2)

(Recommended by the Board of Selectmen)

23 - Article x: Establish a Fire Hydrant Expendable Trust Fund

Shall the Town vote to establish a Fire Hydrant Expendable Trust Fund to allow for the installation of, or the unanticipated repairs and replacement of the 20 Fire Hydrants within the Town of Northwood and appropriate the sum of **seven thousand, five hundred dollars (\$7,500)** 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, 2023.

(Majority vote required)

(No Tax Impact)

(Recommended by the Budget Committee 13-2)

(Recommended by the Board of Selectmen)

24 - Article x: Discontinue Highway Safety Capital Reserve Fund

Shall the town vote to discontinue the Highway Safety Capital Reserve Fund. Said funds and accumulated interest to date of withdrawal, are to be transferred to the municipality's general fund. Current balance in this fund as of December 31, 2023: \$x

(Majority vote required)

25 - Article x: EXPENDABLE TRUST FUND DEPOSITS

Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **eighty thousand five hundred ninety-one dollars (\$80,591)**, 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 2023 for these purposes, and the appropriation shall be funded by the withdrawal of the sum from the unexpended fund balance as of December 31, 2023. Current balance as of December 31, 2023: Cable \$x Transfer Station \$x, and Cemetery: \$x.

Cable Expendable Trust Fund	Transfer Station Expendable Trust Fund	Cemetery Expendable Trust Fund
\$474.00	\$78,917.00	\$1,200.00

(Majority vote required)

(No Tax Impact)

(Recommended by the Budget Committee 14-0)

(Recommended by the Board of Selectmen)

26 - Article x: TERRESTRIAL INVASIVE SPECIES ETF DEPOSIT

Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **six thousand dollars (\$6,000)** to be deposited into the previously established Terrestrial Invasive Species Expendable Trust Fund. Current balance as of December 31, 2023: \$x

(Majority vote required)

(Tax Estimate \$0.01)

(Recommended by the Budget Committee 11-0)

(Recommended by the Board of Selectmen)

27 - Article x: AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES PREVENTION ETF DEPOSIT

Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **eleven thousand five hundred dollars (\$11,500)** to be deposited into the previously established Aquatic Invasive Species Prevention & Control Expendable Trust Fund. Current balance in this fund as of December 31, 2023: \$x.

(Majority vote required)

(Tax Estimate \$0.01)

(Recommended by the Budget Committee 10-0-1)

(Recommended by the Board of Selectmen)

28 - Article x: AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES PREVENTION ETF

Shall the Town vote to expand the purpose of the existing Aquatic Invasive Prevention ETF, created 2017, to include the prevention of bacterial contaminate, and further to recognize education as an effective prevention mechanism for these conditions, with the Selectboard named as agents to expend.

(2/3 vote required)

29 - Article x: AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES TREATMENT ETF

Shall the Town vote to expand the purpose of the existing Aquatic Invasive Species Treatment & Control ETF, created 2003 and amended 2015, to include the control of bacterial contaminate, and further to recognize education as an effective control mechanism for these conditions, with the Selectboard named as agents to expend.

(2/3 vote required)

30 - Article x: 250th ANNIVERSARY ETF

Shall the Town vote to change the purpose of the existing 250th Anniversary ETF, to the 275th Anniversary ETF, with the Selectboard named as agents to expend.

(2/3 vote required)

DRAFT