

State of New Hampshire
Town of Stratford
2024 Town Meeting Warrants

To the inhabitants of the Town of Stratford in the County of Coos qualified to vote in Town affairs:

You are hereby notified to meet at the Fuller Town Hall on Tuesday, March 12, 2024, at 10 a.m. to act upon the subjects hereinafter set forth. The voting on Article 1 will be by official ballot and the polls shall be open for balloting from 10 a.m. and close at 7 p.m.

You are hereby notified, in accordance with the provisions of RSA 39:2, to meet at the Fuller Town Hall on Saturday March 16, 2024, at 10 a.m., to consider Articles 2 through 21.

Article 1: To choose by non-partisan ballot the following officers: 1 Selectboard Member (3 Year Term); 1 Town Clerk/Tax Collector (2 Year Term); 1 Cemetery Trustee (3 Year Term); 1 Library Trustee (3 Year Term); 1 Trustee of Trust Funds (3 Year term); 2 Supervisor of the Checklist (4 Year Term)(6 Year Term); 1 Moderator (2 Year Term).

Article 2. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate **\$962,352** for the operating budget. This article does not include the cost of any other warrant article.

Article 3. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate **\$6,000** to be added to the previously established Fire Department Expendable Trust Fund, with the full amount to come from the unassigned fund balance. (Board Recommends)

Article 4. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate **\$25,000** to be added to the previously established Highway and Bridges Capital Reserve Fund. (Board Recommends)

Article 5. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate **\$10,000** to be added to the previously established Fire Department Capital Reserve Fund. (Board Recommends)

Article 6. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate **\$3,000** to be added to the previously established Recycling Capital Reserve Fund, with the full amount to come from the unassigned fund balance. (Board Recommends)

Article 7. To see if the town will vote to establish a Land Purchase/ Building Capital Reserve Fund under the provisions of RSA 35:1 for purchases and new construction and to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$5,000** to be placed in this fund. Further, to name the Selectboard as agents to expend from said fund. (Board Recommends) (Majority Vote Required)

Article 8. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate **\$5,000** to be added to the previously established Government Buildings Maintenance Expendable Trust Fund. (Board Recommends)

Article 9. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate **\$1,000** to be added to the previously established Municipal Solar Capital Reserve Fund. (Board Recommends)

Article 10. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate **\$25,000** to be added to the previously established Recreation Revolving Fund. These funds will be specific to upgrading recreational parks. (Board Recommends)

Article 11. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate **\$2,000** to be added to the previously established Cemetery Capital Reserve Fund. (Board Recommends)

Article 12. To see if the town will vote to close the existing 250th Celebration Trust Fund and transfer the funds to the Recreation Revolving Fund. (Board Recommends) (2/3 vote required)

Article 13. To see if the Town will vote to rescind the 1977 vote which states "To see if the town will vote to accept a Curfew Ordinance, whereby a youngster 16 year of age or younger be off the streets by 9:00 P.M. unless accompanied by a parent or legal guardian, effective April 1, 1977." (Board Recommends)

Article 14. To see if the Town will vote to rescind the 1977 vote which states "To see if the town will vote to impose a penalty of \$5.00 on the parent or legal guardian for first offence and \$10.00 for second offence if a youngster is found in violation of the Curfew Ordinance, effective April 1, 1977." (Board Recommends)

Article 15. To see if the Town will vote to rescind the 1977 vote which states "To see if the town wishes to take reference to a "Dog Ordinance." (Board Recommends)

Article 16. To see if the town will vote to adopt a "Dog Ordinance." (Board Recommends)

Article 17. To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate **\$17,919** to be used for the purchase of a new battery powered combi-tool, "Jaws of Life."

Article 18. To see if the Town will vote to adopt the Stratford Community Power plan, to authorize the Select Board to implement the plan, and to take all action in furtherance thereof, pursuant to RSA 53-E. (Board Recommends)

Article 19. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate **\$250** for the Cohos Historical Society in showing support of the Town in helping to match grants for the restoration of the Marion Blodgett Museum in Stratford Hollow.

Article 20. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate **\$6,239** in donations to the following groups: \$1,500, North Country Home Health & Hospice; \$1,000, Northern Human Services; \$1,655, Tri-County CAP; \$1,000, Helping Hands; \$634, Backpack Program; \$250, CASA; \$200, Stratford Old Home Day, Inc.

Article 21. To transact any other business that may legally come before said meeting and to hear reports from any agents or committees heretofore chosen.

Given under our hands and seal this 12th day of February in the year 2024.

A True Copy of Warrant Attest:

HARRY JUERGENS
Harry R. Juergens, Chairman

Clayton Macdonald
Clayton Macdonald

Charles V. Goulet
Charles V. Goulet
Board of Selectmen, Stratford, NH

Signed:

Harry R. Juergens
Harry R. Juergens, Chairman

Clayton Macdonald
Clayton Macdonald

Charles V. Goulet
Charles V. Goulet
Board of Selectmen, Stratford, NH