## State of New Hampshire Town of Stratford 2025 Town Meeting Warrant

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 11, 2025, 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 15, 2025, at 10 a.m., to consider Articles 2 through 19.

- Article 1: To choose by non-partisan ballot the following officers: 1 Selectboard Member (3 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 (3 Year Term)(5 Year Term). 1 Town Treasurer (3 Year Term).
- Article 2. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$997,174 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 \$6,200 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 raise and appropriate \$5,000 to be added to the previously established Land Purchase/ Building Capital Reserve Fund. (Board Recommends)
- 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 \$500 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 \$5,000 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 raise and appropriate the sum of \$5,925 to resurface the Hollow basketball court.
- Article 13. To see if the Town will vote to authorize reducing 100% to 15% of the Land Use Change Tax collected pursuant to RSA 79-A:25 to be deposited into the existing Conservation Fund. (Board Recommends)
- Article 14. To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$60,860 for Bog Road Infrastructure and Roadway improvements and authorize the withdrawal of Highway and Bridges Capital reserve Fund created for that purpose. The balance of \$30,430 is to come from general taxation.

  (Board Recommends)
- Article 15. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$100 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 16. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$5,266 in donations to the following groups: \$500, North Country Home Health & Hospice; \$1,000, Northern Human Services; \$1,655, Tri-County CAP; \$500, Colebrook Food Pantry; \$500, Helping Hands; \$611, Backpack Program; \$250, CASA; \$250, Stratford Old Home Day, Inc.
- **Article 17.** Petition to file a Warrant Article for presentation at the March 2025 Town Meeting. The purpose of the article is to discuss and bring to a vote the following:
- ...any expenditure of \$25,000 or more made by the Town throughout the course of the fiscal year that was not included in the annual budget must be brought before the residents for discussion at a public meeting prior to the expenditure being made (unless needed for urgent safety or emergency reason).
- ...any piece of equipment to be purchased by the Town with a cost of \$25,000 or more will require an ROI presented to the town residents prior to the purchase. Additionally, any piece of equipment purchased by the Town that meets or exceeds \$25,000 will require a minimum of three (3) written quotes submitted to the Town prior to the purchase.

This article is seeking the vote & approval of Stratford residents on the articles described above.

Article 18. Petition to file a Warrant Article for presentation at March 2025 Stratford Town Meeting. The purpose of the article is to discuss and vote on moving the Stratford Selectboard meetings to 6pm on their currently, normally scheduled days. This topic has come up numerous times with no change to the meeting schedule. Maintaining the current scheduled time of 3:30pm prevents many working residents from attending the meetings, being involved, being informed of plans, topics of discussion, current & future needs of the Town, etc.

This article is asking for the vote & approval of Stratford residents on the subject of moving all regularly scheduled Selectboard meetings from 3:30pm to 6pm.

**Article 19.** 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 10th day of February in the year 2025.

A True Copy of Warrant Attest:	Signed:
Clayton Macdonald, Chairman	Clayfon Macdonald, Chairman
HANAY JUENCENS Harry R. Juergens	Harry R. Jueyens
Charles V. Goulet	Charles V. Howlet Charles V. Goulet
Board of Selectmen, Stratford, NH	Board of Selectmen, Stratford, NH