



TOWN OF RAYMOND, NH

2021

WARRANT ARTICLE OVERVIEW

PRE-DELIBERATIVE



Presented by the
Raymond Board of Selectmen

Warrant Article 1 – Elected Officials
Presented by Town Clerk, Alyssa Richard

Warrant Article 1– Elected Officials:

- Two (2) Budget Committee Members for 3-year terms
- Two (2) Planning Board Members for 3-year terms
- Two (2) Ethics Committee Members for 3-year terms
- One (1) Trustee of Trust Funds for a 3-year term
- One (1) Library Trustee for a 3-year term
- One (1) Board of Selectman for a 3-year term



Proposed Planning Board, Zoning Warrant Articles

Warrant Article 2 – Zoning Amendment Section

Presented by Planning Board

Zoning Articles Cannot Be Amended at Deliberative Session

Warrant Article 2 – Zoning Amendment:

Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 1 as proposed by the Planning Board for the town zoning ordinance as follows: To amend the language of Wetlands - 2.9.1 to include language that describes the benefits of wetland function as it relates to drinking water.

Recommended by the Planning Board



Warrant Article 3 – Zoning Amendment Section

Presented by Planning Board

Zoning Articles Cannot Be Amended at Deliberative Session

Warrant Article 3 – Zoning Amendment:

Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 2 as proposed by the Planning Board for the town zoning ordinance as follows: To amend the purposes of the Conservation District to include maintaining the health and water storage function of wetlands.

Recommended by the Planning Board

Points of Discussion



Warrant Article 4 – Zoning Amendment Section

Presented by Planning Board

Zoning Articles Cannot Be Amended at Deliberative Session

Warrant Article 4 – Zoning Amendment:

Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 3 as proposed by the Planning Board for the town zoning ordinance as follows: To amend the boundaries of the Shoreland Protection Area to include any area within 100 feet of any priority wetland.

Recommended by the Planning Board

Points of Discussion

- There is a Citizen Protest Petition associated with this Warrant Article (See [Helpful Terms](#) section)



Warrant Article 5 – Zoning Amendment Section

Presented by Planning Board

Zoning Articles Cannot Be Amended at Deliberative Session

Warrant Article 5 – Zoning Amendment:

Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 4 as proposed by the Planning Board for the town zoning ordinance as follows: To increase the setback from wetlands in the Conservation District from 25 to 75 feet for regular wetlands and to 100 feet for Priority Wetlands, and to relocate this requirement from Section 15.3.2 (which will be deleted) to a new section 15.1.4.

Recommended by the Planning Board

- There is a Citizen Protest Petition associated with this Warrant Article (See [Helpful Terms](#) section)



Warrant Article 6 – Zoning Amendment Section

Presented by Planning Board

Zoning Articles Cannot Be Amended at Deliberative Session

Warrant Article 6 – Zoning Amendment:

Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 5 as proposed by the Planning Board for the town zoning ordinance as follows: To remove the Sewer Overlay District.

Recommended by the Planning Board



Warrant Article 7 – Zoning Amendment Section

Presented by Planning Board

Zoning Articles Cannot Be Amended at Deliberative Session

Warrant Article 7 – Zoning Amendment:

Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 6 as proposed by the Planning Board for the town zoning ordinance as follows: To add section 6.10.5.7 to state that ADU’s require the same level of inspections as a Certificate of Occupancy.

Recommended by the Planning Board



Warrant Article 8 – Zoning Amendment Section

Presented by Planning Board

Zoning Articles Cannot Be Amended at Deliberative Session

Warrant Article 8 – Zoning Amendment:

Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 7 as proposed by the Planning Board for the town zoning ordinance as follows: Add a new section 2.15 to the General Provisions requiring that all agriculture and farming activities be conducted in accordance with the NH Department of Agriculture “Manual of Best Management Practices;” and to require that the keeping of livestock conform to the UNH Cooperative Extension “Housing and Space Guidelines for Livestock.”

Recommended by the Planning Board



Warrant Article 9 – Zoning Amendment Section

Presented by Planning Board

Zoning Articles Cannot Be Amended at Deliberative Session

Warrant Article 9 – Zoning Amendment:

Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 8 as proposed by the Planning Board for the town zoning ordinance as follows: Add a new definition of Agriculture to define the term as set forth in state law; and to amend the definition of Non-Commercial Agriculture to include the agricultural use of land accessory to a residential use regardless of size.

Recommended by the Planning Board



Warrant Article 10 – Zoning Amendment Section

Presented by Planning Board

Zoning Articles Cannot Be Amended at Deliberative Session

Warrant Article 10 – Zoning Amendment:

Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 9 as proposed by the Planning Board for the town zoning ordinance as follows: To add definitions of Private Nuisance and Public Nuisance.

Recommended by the Planning Board



Warrant Article 11 – Zoning Amendment Section

Presented by Planning Board

Zoning Articles Cannot Be Amended at Deliberative Session

Warrant Article 11 – Zoning Amendment:

Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 10 as proposed by the Planning Board for the town zoning ordinance as follows: To add a definition of Workforce Housing to define that term as set forth in state law.

Recommended by the Planning Board

**End of Proposed
Planning Board, Zoning Warrant Articles**



Board of Selectman Proposed Warrant Articles



THE OLD BEAN HOUSE.

Total Appropriation Package (All Warrant Articles) Highlights

- **1.83% reduction** in the Town Operational Budget (-\$142,633).
- **6% reduction** in Water Department Operational Budget (-\$57,100).
- **\$122,582 reduction** in Total Tax Funded Appropriations (Budget and WA).
- **\$2.8M** investment Capital Funding; **75% (\$2.1M)** from sources other than future taxation (includes Block Grant):
 - 2021 Road Funding Package of approximately **\$936,000** (includes Block Grant),
 - 2021 Facility Funding Package of approximately **\$815,000**,
 - 2021 Water Funding Package of approximately **\$200,000**,
 - 2021 Vehicle and Equipment Funding Package of approximately **\$463,000**,
 - 2021 Emergency Services Management Funding Package of **\$320,000**.
- **\$420,000** deliberate growth in the Unassigned Fund Balance
 - 2020 DRA Reported Numbers of \$5,028,616.
- Second Consecutive year with an overall reduction of **\$120,000+**.
- **Projected to result in 3 consecutive year in Municipal Tax Cuts:**
 - **2018 Municipal Tax Rate \$6.58**,
 - **2019 Municipal Tax Rate \$6.45 (-\$.13 or -2%)**,
 - **2020 Municipal Tax Rate \$6.25 (-\$.20 or -3.2%)**,
 - **2021 Estimated Municipal Tax Rate \$6.06 (-\$.19 or -3.1%) (pre-Reevaluation)**,
 - **Total Estimated Reduction since 2018; -\$.52 or -8%**.

****Impacts Municipal Tax Rate only****

****Estimated reduction would reflect in Dec 2021 Tax Rate****

****Amounts shown are the impact on a full tax year****

****Estimates based the anticipated tax rate impact if all Warrant Articles Pass****

Warrant Article 12 – Operating Budget/Default Budget
Presented by Vice Chair Hoelzel

Warrant Article 12 – Operating Budget/Default Budget:

Shall the Town of Raymond vote to 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 **Eight Million, Four Hundred Eighty-Seven Thousand, Six Hundred and Seventy-Eight Dollars (\$8,487,678)**

Components of the budget include:

\$ 7,637,631	Town Operating Budget
\$ 850,046	Water Department Operating Budget
\$ 8,487,678	Total

Estimated 2021 Tax Impact: \$5.198

Should this article be defeated, the default budget shall be **Eight Million, Six Hundred Thousand, Four Hundred Sixty-Eight Dollars (\$8,600,468)** which is the same as last year, with certain adjustments required by previous action of the Town of Raymond 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.

Components of the budget include:

\$ 7,700,373	Town Operating Budget
\$ 900,095	Water Department Operating Budget
\$ 8,600,468	Total

Note: This operating budget Warrant Article does not include appropriations contained in any other Warrant Article.

Estimated 2021 Tax Impact: \$5.315

Points of Discussion

- The Operating Budgets are less than the Default Budgets because cost savings and Budget cuts implemented in 2021 will not reflect in the Default Budget until the following year.
- There is a 1.83% reduction in the Town Operational Budget (-\$142,633).
- There is a 6% reduction in Water Department Operational Budget (-\$57,100).
- Both Budgets were recommended by the Board of Selectmen and the Budget Committee.

Warrant Article 13– Capital Improvements
Presented by Chairman Campbell

Warrant Article 13 – Capital Improvements:

Shall the Town of Raymond vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **Three Hundred Fifty-Five Thousand, Three Hundred and Fifty Dollars (\$355,350)** to be deposited into previously established Capital Reserve Funds (listed below) and to apportion this sum among the several funds as listed below, naming the Board of Selectmen as agents thereof? (Majority Vote Required)

General Government Buildings Maintenance & Improvements	\$ 115,000
Highway Department Vehicle Repair & Replacement	\$ 40,000
Highway Department Heavy Equipment	\$ 45,000
Bridge & Culvert	\$ 34,500
Sidewalks	\$ 0
Master Plan Updates	\$ 0
New Town Facilities	\$ 0
Library	\$ 0
Police Department & Dispatch Equipment, Vehicle, & Facilities	\$ 10,350
Fire Department Equipment and Vehicle	\$ 100,000
Recreation Department Equipment, Vehicles & Facilities	\$ 0
Parks Equipment & Facilities	<u>\$ 10,500</u>
TOTALS TO CAPITAL RESERVE FUND	\$ 355,350

Estimated 2021 Tax Impact: \$0.368

Points of Discussion

- Allocation strategy is prepared and proposed by the Capital Improvement Committee each year (amount is increased 3% this year and is projected for 3% increase each year hereafter) to the Board of Selectman and Budget Committee (Recommended by all three).
- The Capital Improvement Committee partners with Town Department Heads to develop a Town-wide needs assessment.
- This Warrant Article Secures the funding outside of the Operating Budget to purchase, maintain, upgrade, or replace Town facilities, vehicles, equipment, and infrastructure.
- These funds are placed in specific Capital Reserve Funds (CRF) each year, which are like “savings accounts” to set money aside for future purchases.
- Spreading the cost of these large purchases over multiple years helps stabilize the tax rate.
- Used to cover capital purchases with a life expectancy of over 5 years and a cost more than \$20,000.
- These funds are deposited in Capital Reserve Funds (CRF) and only can be expended with approval of the Board of Selectmen.

Warrant Article 14 – Capital Reserve Funds (Water Revenues)

Presented by Selectman Plante

Warrant Article 14 – Capital Reserve Funds (Water Revenues):

Shall the Town of Raymond vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **Two Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$200,000)** to be deposited into previously established Capital Reserve Funds (listed below) and to apportion this sum among the several funds as listed below? These funds shall be paid by Water Revenues. (Majority Vote Required)

Construct, Repair & Maintain Town Water Treatment Facility	\$ 50,000	Water System
Infrastructure	\$ 45,000	
Water Storage Facilities	\$ 100,000	
Water Department Utility Replace Vehicle	\$ 3,000	
New Well Site Acquisitions	<u>\$ 2,000</u>	
TOTAL	\$ 200,000	

Estimated 2021 Tax Impact: \$0.000

Points of Discussion

- The exact same concepts described in Capital Improvement Warrant Article apply to this article with one key distinction:
 - There is no tax impact because the costs are built into water rates (paid by program users).
- Recommended by the Capital Improvement Committee, Board of Selectmen, and Budget Committee.

Notes _____

Warrant Article 15 – Mosquito Control

Presented by Selectman Long

Warrant Article 15 – Mosquito Control:

Shall the Town of Raymond vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **Forty Thousand Dollars (\$40,000)** for the purpose of controlling the adult mosquito population in the Town of Raymond? Methods to include, but may not be limited to, spraying bacterial insecticide into stagnant water for mosquito larvae control, and other reasonable steps to achieve adequate control. (Majority Vote Required)

Estimated 2021 Tax Impact: \$0.041

Points of Discussion

- Brought forward each year to control mosquito population growth.
- Recommended by the Board of Selectmen and the Budget Committee.

Warrant Article 16 – Town of Raymond Scholarship Fund

Presented by Selectman Barnes

Warrant Article 16 – Town of Raymond Scholarship Fund:

Shall the Town of Raymond vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **Two Thousand Dollars (\$2,000)** to be placed in the Town of Raymond Scholarship Fund for Raymond High School Senior Graduates and any Raymond resident attending their first year of college (established pursuant to Warrant Article 23 at the 2000 Town Meeting)? Said funds are to be administered by the Board of Selectmen as agents to expend. (Majority Vote Required)

Estimated 2021 Tax Impact: \$0.003

Points of Discussion

- Brought forward each year.
- Amount in current fund (as of Nov 2020): \$7,316.23.
- Recommended by the Board of Selectmen and the Budget Committee.

Notes _____

Warrant Article 17 – 4th of July 2021 Community Event
Presented by Selectman Long

Warrant Article 17 – 4th of July 2021 Community Event:

Shall the Town of Raymond vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **Three Thousand Dollars (\$3,000)** to help offset the expenses incurred associated with the 4th of July 2021 community event?
 (Majority Vote Required)

Estimated 2021 Tax Impact: \$0.003

[Points of Discussion](#)

- Brought forward each year to offset the cost of the 4th of July festivities.
- Recommended by the Board of Selectmen and the Budget Committee.

Warrant Article 18 – Social Service Agencies
Presented by Selectman Vice Chair Hoelzel

Warrant Article 18 – Social Services Agencies:

Shall the Town of Raymond vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **Forty Thousand Dollars (\$40,000)** in support of the following? (Majority Vote Required)

Social Service Agencies	2021
HAVEN	\$4,000
Court Appointed Service Advocates	\$1,500
Child Advocacy Center of Rockingham County	\$2,000
Waypoint/ <i>Formally Child and Family Services</i>	\$6,000
Retired Senior Volunteer Program	\$500
Raymond Coalition for Youth	\$7,000
Southern NH Services/Rockingham Community Action	\$4,000
Chamber Children’s Fund	\$2,000
Rockingham County Nutrition Program	\$6,000
Home Health & Hospice Care	\$1,000
American Red Cross	\$1,000
Richie McFarland Children Center	\$5,000
Total	\$40,000

Estimated 2021 Tax Impact: \$0.041

[Points of Discussion](#)

- In 2019 the Board of Selectmen tested breaking the Social Services apart into fourteen individual Warrant Articles; after community feedback, these Warrant Articles have been reconsolidated into one.

- The Warrant Article shows all requests and the Board of Selectmen’s recommended distribution.
- The Board of Selectmen capped the expenditure of this Warrant Article to \$40,000.
- Recommended by the Board of Selectmen and the Budget Committee.

Warrant Article 19 –Waste Disposal Special Revenue Fund (Fund 18)

Presented by Chairman Campbell

Warrant Article 19 – Waste Disposal Special Revenue Fund (Fund 18)

Shall the Town of Raymond vote to raise and appropriate the sum not to exceed **Eight Hundred Forty-Nine Thousand Dollars (\$849,000)** for the purpose of administering the Pay as You Throw Program with said funds to come from the **Waste Disposal Special Revenue Fund** also referred to as **Fund 18**? *Should this Warrant Article be defeated, the Town would not be able to continue with the Pay as You Throw Program due to the absence of legislative authority to legally access the funds.* (Majority Vote Required).

Estimated 2021 Tax Impact: \$0.000

Points of Discussion

- This Warrant Article is a **“Housekeeping Warrant Article”** brought forward under the recommendation of the N.H. DRA to address the procedural error regarding how the Town had been accessing the revenues in Fund 18 before 2019; now brought forward each year.
- Fund 18 revenue is derived from bag sales, recycle bin sales, and revenues received from the transfer station, all of which is currently used to pay the Town’s Pay-as-You-Throw program.
- This is a Special Revenue Fund (SRF) and the Town require authority form the voters to access these funds, and is recommended by the Board of Selectmen and Budget Committee.
- *****This Warrant Article is entirely separate from the question of how we pay for the program; rather it allows access to the funds in the account*****
- If passes (a Yes vote), there is no tax impact because this allows the Town to continue to have access to the Revenue generated and required to cover the cost of the Pay-as-You-Throw program.
- The amount in this Warrant Article is a gross estimate the highest potential program cost, not the actual program cost or revenue. Using this method provides the Town access to increased revenues if there is an unanticipated growth in the program. Does not create a tax impact.

Warrant Article 20 – Shim and Overlay Special Revenue Fund

Presented by Selectman Barnes

Warrant Article 20 – Shim and Overlay Special Revenue Fund:

Shall the Town of Raymond vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **Two Hundred Forty-One Thousand, One Hundred, Twenty-Six Dollars (\$241,126)** for road reconstruction and to authorize the withdrawal of \$241,126 from the Shim and Overlay Special Revenue Fund created for this purpose. No amount to be raised by taxation. This is a non-lapsing appropriation per RSA 32:7, VI and will not lapse until the Shim and Overlay work is complete or until December 31, 2023, whichever comes first. (Majority Vote Required)

Recommended by the Board of
Selectmen Recommended by the
Budget Committee

Estimated 2021 Tax Impact: \$0.000

Points of Discussion

- This Warrant Article is brought forward each year to allow access to the State funds deposited in a Special Revenue Fund (SRF).
- Because these funds come from the State, there is no tax impact.
- These **State funds** are combined with the Town funds and are primarily used to cover the cost of road reconstruction activities.
- Recommended by the Board of Selectmen and Budget Committee.

Warrant Article 21 – Road Reconstruction Projects

Presented by Selectman Barnes

Warrant Article 21 – Road Reconstruction Projects:

Shall the Town of Raymond vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **Three Hundred Sixty Thousand, Five Hundred Dollars (\$360,500.00)** for road reconstruction projects? This will be a non-lapsing appropriation per RSA 32:7, VI and will not lapse until the road reconstruction work has been completed or by December 31, 2023, whichever comes first. (Majority Vote Required)

Recommended by the Board of
Selectmen Recommended by
the Budget Committee

Estimated 2021 Tax Impact: \$0.373

Points of Discussion

- Prepared and proposed by the Department of Public Works and Town Manager and approved by the Board of Selectmen each year (amount increase 3% each year).
- Secures funding outside of the Operating Budget and Capital Improvement Warrant Article to cover the cost of road maintenance and culvert repair.
- These **Town funds** are combined with the State funds and are primarily used to cover the cost of road reconstruction activities (e.g., paving, culvert repair, bridge work, sidewalks, signage, curbing, drainage, guard rail replacement).

Warrant Article 22– Establish Contingency Fund
Presented by Chairman Campbell

Warrant Article 22– Establish Contingency Fund

To see if the town will vote to establish a contingency fund pursuant to RSA 31:98-a for the current year for unanticipated expenses that may arise and further to raise and appropriate the sum of **Seventy-Nine Thousand, One Hundred Seventeen Dollars (\$79,117)** from the unassigned fund balance to be placed in this contingency fund. Such fund shall not exceed one percent (1%) of the amount appropriated by the town for town purposes during the preceding year excluding capital expenditures and the amortization of debt. Any appropriation left remaining in the fund at the end of the year will lapse to the general fund. A detailed report of all expenditures from the contingency fund shall be prepared annually by the Board of Selectmen and published with their report. (Majority vote required).

Estimated 2021 Tax Impact: \$0.00

Points of Discussion

- Brought forward each year to allow current and future Operating Budgets to be reduced because it eliminates budgeting year after year for unforeseen events.
- Allows budgets to be built on actual and anticipated expenses, rather than “in case something happens.”
- Allows for access to funds in the event of an emergency without creating a tax impact.
- Requires Board of Selectmen approval to access funds limited to contingencies.
- Funds used must be reported to the state at the end of the year; ensures strict accountability/oversight.
- If funds are not required, then the money returns to the Unassigned Fund Balance.
- Examples for what the funds could be used for, if the activities/events below exceed funds available in the Operating Budget:
 - Winter Operations (multiple major winter events),
 - Response to a natural disaster or pandemic,
 - Significant loss of capital infrastructure caused by an event or failure,
 - Unanticipated legal liabilities or expenses of the Town.
- This Warrant Article does not create a tax impact today or in the future because it allows access to funds already raised through taxation and revenue to be available if such funds are required.
- Recommended by the Board of Selectmen and the Budget Committee.

Notes _____

Warrant Article 23 – Sick and Vacation Non-Union Expendable Trust Fund

Presented by Selectman Plante

Warrant Article 23 – Sick and Vacation Non-Union Expendable Trust Fund: *

Shall the Town of Raymond vote to raise and appropriate the sum not to exceed **Thirty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$35,000)** to be added to the Sick and Vacation Leave Non-Union Expendable Trust Fund (established pursuant to Warrant Article #25 of the 2004 Town Meeting) for the purpose of paying out accrued time upon leave of employment as indicated in the Town of Raymond Personnel Policy for employees? And further that said set amount to come from unassigned fund balance and no amount from taxation. (Majority Vote Required)

Estimated 2021 Tax Impact: \$0.00

***Updated at Deliberative Session**

Warrant Article 24– Sick and Vacation Union Expendable Trust Fund

Presented by Selectman Plante

Warrant Article 24 – Sick and Vacation Union Expendable Trust Fund: *

Shall the Town of Raymond vote to raise and appropriate the sum not to exceed **Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000)** to be added to the Sick and Vacation Leave Union Expendable Trust Fund (established pursuant to Warrant Article #14 of the 2002 Town Meeting) for the purpose of paying out accrued time upon leave of employment as indicated in the Town of Raymond Personnel Policy? And further that said set amount to come from unassigned fund balance and no amount from taxation. (Majority Vote Required)

Estimated 2021 Tax Impact: \$0.00

***Updated at Deliberative Session**

Points of Discussion

- Both Articles are used to help cover the cost of employee “Buyout” which the Town is migrating away from after the renegotiation of the 2019 Collective Bargaining Agreement.
- These funds are deposited into a Trust Fund and used to cover the total cost of the “Buyouts.”
- If these funds are not expended, they stay in the trust fund to cover future liabilities until the Town has completely migrated from the “Buyout” program.
- The Town is using the Unassigned Fund Balance to cover the cost of this Warrant Article, eliminating the tax impact.
- Recommended by the Board of Selectmen and the Budget Committee.
- Trust Fund Balances as of Nov 2020:
 - Non-Union; \$22,112.27
 - Union; \$87,953.53



Warrant Article 25 - Elderly Exemption
Presented by Chairman Campbell

Warrant Article 25 - Elderly Exemption Increase and Reevaluation Adjustment:

Shall the town Modify the provisions of RSA 72:39-a for elderly exemption from property tax in the Town of Raymond, based on assessed value, for qualified taxpayers, to be as follows: for a person 65 years of age up to 75 years, \$125,000; for a person 75 years of age up to 80 years, \$137,500; for a person 80 years of age or older \$162,500. To qualify, the person must have been a New Hampshire resident for at least 3 consecutive years, own the real estate individually or jointly, or if the real estate is owned by such person’s spouse, they must have been married to each other for at least 5 consecutive years. In addition, the taxpayer must have a net income of not more than \$31,853 or, if married, a combined net income of less than \$43,190; and own net assets not in excess of \$73,469 excluding the value of the person’s residence. (Majority vote required)

Estimated 2021 Tax Impact: \$0.020

Points of Discussion

- This Warrant Article is brought:
 - As a continuing effort to ensure the Elderly Exemption in not outpaced by the cost of living increases in Social Security.
 - To mitigate the potential impacts of the 2021 Reevaluation on qualified residents.
- This Warrant Article will need to be brought forward each year to keep pace with the cost of living.
- Recommended by the Board of Selectmen and the Budget Committee.

Notes _____



Warrant Article 26 - Blind Exemption Reevaluation Adjustment
Presented by Vice Chair Hoelzel

Warrant Article 26 - Blind Exemption Reevaluation Adjustment:

Shall the town Modify the provisions of RSA 72:37, Exemption for the Blind, to allow an inhabitant who is legally blind as determined by the blind services program, to be exempt each year on the assessed value, for property tax purposes, of his or her residential real estate to the value of \$62,500 as determined by legislative body} (Majority vote required)

Estimated 2021 Tax Impact: \$0.000

Warrant Article 27 -Disabled Exemption Reevaluation Adjustment
Presented by Vice Chair Hoelzel

Warrant Article 27 – Disabled Exemption Reevaluation Adjustment:

Shall the town Modify the provisions of RSA 72:37-b, Exemption for the Disabled from property tax, based on assessed value for qualified taxpayers to be \$125,000. To qualify the person must have been a New Hampshire resident for at least 5 years, own the real estate individually or jointly, or if the real estate is owned by such person’s spouse, they must have been married for at least 5 consecutive years. In addition, the taxpayer must have a net income of not more than \$27,000 or if married, a combined net income of not more than \$37,000, and own net assets not in excess of \$70,000 excluding the value of the person’s residence. (Majority vote required)

Estimated 2021 Tax Impact: \$0.000

Points of Discussion

- Both of these Warrant Articles are “**Housekeeping**” to mitigate the potential impacts of the 2021 Reevaluation on qualified residents.
- This Warrant Article will need to be brought the year prior to each Reevaluation.
- No impact on the Municipal Tax Rate (beyond current impact of qualified exemptions).
- Recommended by the Board of Selectmen and Budget Committee.

Notes _____

Warrant Article 28 - Disabled Veterans Credit Increase
Presented by Chairman Campbell

Warrant Article 28 – Disabled Veterans Credit Increase:

To see if the Town will increase the optional residential property tax credit for One Hundred Percent (100%) Permanently and Totally Disabled Veterans as determined by the Department of Veteran Affairs and their surviving spouse, from **Two Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$2,500) to Three Thousand Dollars (\$3,000)**. (Majority vote required).

Estimated 2021 Tax Impact: \$0.010

Points of Discussion

- This Warrant Article is brought forward as the second year of a four-year effort to incrementally raise the Disabled Veteran Credit from \$2,000.00 to the State of New Hampshire allowed \$4,000.
- This Warrant Article will need to be brought forward to increase this credit at \$500 per year until the \$4,000 limit is achieved.
- There are approximately 20 Veteran Homeowners in the Town of Raymond who meet the criteria established by this exemption.
- Recommended by the Board of Selectmen and the Budget Committee.

Warrant Article 29 - One-Time or Cyclic Procurement Capital Reserve Fund *Presented by Selectman Barnes*

Warrant Article 29 – One-Time or Cyclic Procurement Capital Reserve Fund:

To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **One-Hundred Sixty-One Thousand, Five Hundred Dollars (\$161,500)** to be placed in the Operational Budget One-Time or Cyclic Procurement Capital Reserve Fund for the purposes set forth below and to authorize the expenditure of funds previously raised and appropriated for this CRF for their designated purposes authorized by 2020 Town Vote. This Capital Reserve Fund was established in 2020 for purpose of stabilizing the Town’s Operational Budget and offset the tax impact of one-time or cyclic operational budget purchase needs. This sum is to come from the unassigned fund balance and no amount will be raised through future taxation. (Majority Vote Required)

Covid-19 Associated Expenses	\$ 20,000
Town Re-Evaluation Expenses	\$ 6,500
Legal Expenses and Settlements	\$ 40,000
Police Department Technologies (Body Cameras and Electronic Finger Printing)	\$ 95,000
TOTALS TO CAPITAL RESERVE FUND	\$ 161,500

Estimated 2021 Tax Impact: \$0.000

Points of Discussion

- This Warrant Article is brought forward each year starting in 2020 as an effort to stabilize the budget and reduce taxation by removing one-time or cyclic cost from the Operational Budget.
- Consistent with the 2019 Town Fiscal Principles, the funds used to cover these items will be from the funds not expended from the previous year’s Operational Budget that would have gone into the Unassigned Fund Balance Excess Revenues; no part of the funding is coming from future taxation and creates no tax impact.
- This Warrant Article will be brought forward each year with differently identified items as part of the Board of Selectmen’s strategy to reduce the municipal tax impact.

Notes _____

Warrant Article 30 - Establish Road Revitalization Capital Reserve Fund

Presented by Chairman Campbell

Warrant Article 30 – Road Revitalization Capital Reserve Fund:

To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **Three Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$300,000)** to be placed in the Road Revitalization capital Reserve Fund. In 2020 the Town voted to establish a Road Revitalization Capital Reserve Fund under the provisions of RSA 35:1 for purpose of supporting the Town’s five-year strategic initiative to upgrade and render safe the Town’s road infrastructure systems. These funds are to be used in conjunction with the funds received from the Road Reconstruction Fund to address sustained underfunding of municipal capital investment for Town roads, culverts and bridges and return the Town Roads to a maintainable condition. This sum is to come from the unassigned fund balance and no amount will be raised through future taxation. (Majority Vote Required)

Estimated 2021 Tax Impact: \$0.000

Warrant Article 31 - Establish Facility Revitalization Fund

Presented by Selectman Plante

Warrant Article 31 – Facility Revitalization Capital Reserve Fund:

To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **Seven Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$700,000)** to be placed in the Facility Revitalization Capital Reserve Fund. In 2020, the Town voted to establish a Facility Revitalization Capital Reserve Fund under the provisions of RSA 35:1 for purpose of supporting the Town’s five-year strategic initiative to address sustained underfunding of municipal capital investment for Town facilities. In addition, portions of these funds may be utilized to cover the cost of relocation and storage of equipment to support facility upgrade efforts. This sum is to come from the unassigned fund balance and no amount will be raised through future taxation. (Majority Vote Required).

Estimated 2020 Tax Impact: \$0.000

Points of Discussion

- These Warrant Articles are brought forward as part of the Board of Selectmen’s multi-year strategy to provide the funding needed to address the road and facility infrastructure issues.
- The funds used to cover these items will be from the funds not expended from the previous year’s Operational Budget that would have gone into the Unassigned Fund Balance and Excess Revenues; no part of the funding is coming from future taxation and creates no tax impact.
- These funds will be in addition to all other funds sought to repair and maintain the Roads and address municipal facility issues.
- It is anticipated this Warrant Article will be brought forward each year as part of a capital investment strategy until funding is at a sustainable level.
- Recommended by the Board of Selectmen and the Budget Committee.



**Warrant Article 32 - Establish a Town Vehicle and Equipment Revitalization
Capital Reserve Fund**
Presented by Selectman Plante

Warrant Article 32 – Establish a Town Vehicle and Equipment Revitalization Capital Reserve Fund:

To see if the town will vote to establish a Vehicle and Equipment Revitalization Capital Reserve Fund under the provisions of RSA 35:1 for purpose of supporting the Town’s forty-year strategic Capital Investment initiative to fund Town-wide vehicle and equipment funding needs identified in the 2020 Capital Investment Analysis and to raise and appropriate the sum of **Two Hundred Fifty-Seven Thousand, Five Hundred Dollars (\$257,500)** to be placed in this fund. These funds are to be used in conjunction with the funds received from other municipal vehicle and equipment funds to address sustained underfunding of municipal capital investment for Town vehicles and equipment. This sum is to come from the unassigned fund balance and no amount will be raised through future taxation. Further, to name the Board of Selectmen as agents to expend from said fund. (Majority Vote Required).

Estimated 2021 Tax Impact: \$0.000



**Warrant Article 33 - Establish an Emergency Management Revitalization
Capital Reserve Fund**
Presented by Vice Chair Hoelzel

Warrant Article 33 – Establish an Emergency Management Revitalization Capital Reserve Fund:

To see if the town will vote to establish a Emergency Management Revitalization Capital Reserve Fund under the provisions of RSA 35:1-c for purpose of funding shortfalls in the Town’s Emergency Management Capabilities and provide funding to enhance the Town’s capabilities to achieve National Incident Management Command and Control capabilities and support the effectiveness of the Town’s Emergency Response and to raise and appropriate the sum of **Three Hundred Twenty Thousand Dollars (\$320,000)** to be placed in this fund. This sum is to come from the unassigned fund balance and no amount will be raised through future taxation. Further, to name the Board of Selectmen as agents to expend from said fund. (Majority Vote Required).

Estimated 2021 Tax Impact: \$0.000

Points of Discussion

- As with the Road and Facility Revitalization Warrant Articles, these Warrant Article are brought forward as part of the Board of Selectmen’s multi-year strategy to provide the funding needed address the Town-wide Capital Funding shortfalls.
- The funds used to cover these items will be from the funds not expended from the previous year’s Operational Budget that would have gone into the Unassigned Fund Balance and Excess Revenues; no part of the funding is coming from future taxation and creates no tax impact.
- These funds will be in addition to all other funds sought to procure, repair, and maintain the vehicles and equipment to support Town Emergency Management efforts.
- It is anticipated this Warrant Article will be brought forward each year as part of a capital investment strategy until funding is at a sustainable level.
- Recommended by the Board of Selectmen and the Budget Committee.



**Warrant Article 34 - Establish a Capital Reserve Fund for the Purchase of
10 Old Fremont Road (Bean Tavern)
*Presented by Chairman Campbell***

**Warrant Article 34 – Establish a Capital Reserve Fund for the Purchase of 10 Old Fremont Road
(Bean Tavern):**

To see if the Town will vote to establish a Capital Reserve Fund under the provisions of RSA 35:1-c for purpose of purchasing 10 Old Fremont Road (The Bean Tavern) to ensure the landmark’s preservation and to raise and appropriate the sum of **Two Hundred Sixty Thousand Dollars (\$260,000)** to be placed in this fund. This sum is to come from the unassigned fund balance and no amount will be raised through future taxation. Further, to name the Board of Selectmen as agents to expend from said fund. (Majority Vote Required).

Estimated 2021 Tax Impact: \$0.000

Points of Discussion

- This Warrant Article is brought forward as part of the Board of Selectmen’s action to protect the Bean Tavern.
- The funds used to cover this item will come from the Unassigned Fund Balance and therefore there is no tax impact.
- Recommended by the Board of Selectmen and the Budget Committee.

**End of Board of Selectman Proposed
Warrant Articles**





Warrant Article 35 - Cemetery Plot Fees Maintenance Fund
Presented by Chairman Campbell

Warrant Article 35 – Cemetery Plot Fees Maintenance Fund:

To see if the town will authorize the Trustees of the Trust Funds to close the following expendable trust funds: Cemetery Sale of Trees, Cemetery Sales of Lots and Cemetery/Sale of Lumber. And to move the balances into the previously established Cemetery Plot Fees Maintenance fund. (Majority Vote Required)

Estimated 2021 Tax Impact: \$0.000



Warrant Article 36 - Closure of Designated Cemetery Expendable Funds
Presented by Selectman Long

Warrant Article 36 – Closure of Designated Cemetery Expendable Funds

To see if the town will authorize the Trustees of the Trust Funds to close the following expendable trust funds: Cemetery/Common Fund and the Cemetery/Common Fund/Single Space Fund and move the balances to the previously established Cemetery Plot Fees Maintenance and Cemetery Plot Fees Expansion funds as follows: (Majority Vote Required)

- Cemetery Common Fund/Single Space – Cemetery Plot Fees Maintenance fund
- Cemetery/Common Fund - Split 50/50 Cemetery Maintenance Plot Fees & Cemetery Plot Fees Expansion fund

Estimated 2021 Tax Impact: \$0.000

Points of Discussion

- Brought forward as part of the Trustees of the Trust Funds’ multi-year effort to correct trust fund issues that have prevented access to funds available.
- These are “Housekeeping” Warrant Articles and do not have a tax impact.



Proposed Citizen Petition Warrant Articles



Warrant Article 37 - Citizen Petition Section

Presented by Petitioner

Warrant Article 37 – Citizen Petition(s)/Zoning Amendment: To restrict any commercial signs promoting cannabis, or marijuana, drug- related paraphernalia or products.

Shall the Town of Raymond NH vote to amend zoning ordinance 271:A-7 Prohibited signs, to include: any sign that includes the marijuana plant or its likeness.

This is a citizen petition warrant article.

Recommended by the Planning Board



Warrant Article 38 - Citizen Petition Section

Presented by Petitioner

Warrant Article 38 – Citizen Petition(s)/Zoning Amendment: To restrict the commercialization of marijuana and marijuana-based products.

Shall the Town of Raymond NH vote to amend the Raymond Zoning Ordinance to restrict activities related to marijuana and marijuana-based products? This would include commercial marijuana cultivation, marijuana testing facilities, marijuana product manufacturing, marijuana retailers, on-site marijuana consumption at a business location, and any other marijuana-related activity for commercial purposes by whatever name used. This warrant article is not intended to limit a private citizen’s access to medical marijuana-related products in a private, non-commercial, residence.

This is a citizen petition warrant article.

Recommended by the Planning Board

End of Proposed Citizen Petition Warrant Articles



Helpful Explanation of Terms

What is a Citizen protest Petition?

In certain instances, landowners may use a procedure found in RSA 675:5 to “**protest**” a proposed change and force the margin of approval from a majority of votes cast to two-thirds of those **citizens** voting on the specified zoning Warrant Article.

What are Capital Reserve Funds (CRF) and Expendable Trust Funds?

A capital reserve fund is defined in RSA 35:1. Basically, it is a fund used to save for the future purchase of a major capital item or a specific type of capital item. An expendable trust fund, as defined in RSA 31:19-a, is to save for the maintenance and operation of the Town.

CRF Example: Capital Improvement CRFs (Warrant Articles 16 & 17).

Trust Fund Examples: Sick and Vacation Trust Funds (Warrant Articles 22 & 23).

What is a Contingency Fund?

Per RSA 52:4-a, every village district may establish a contingency fund annually by inserting an article in their warrant. The contingency fund is to meet the cost of unanticipated expenses that may arise during the year. The district cannot exceed one percent of the amount appropriated (exclusive of capital expenditures and amortization of debt) during the preceding year.

Example: Contingency Fund (Warrant Article 11).

What is a Special Revenue Fund?

A special revenue fund (SRF) is an account established by the Town to collect money that must be used for a specific project. Special revenue funds provide an extra level of accountability and transparency to taxpayers that their tax dollars will go toward an intended purpose.

Examples:

- *Solid Waste Special Revenue Fund: Fund 18 (Warrant Article 13).*
- *Shim and Overlay Special Revenue Fund (Warrant Article 21).*

What is an Unassigned Fund Balance?

The Unassigned Fund Balance is the residual classification for the General Fund. This classification represents the remaining monies in the overall fund balance that has not been assigned to other funds and that have not been restricted, committed, or assigned for specific purposes within the General Fund.

What is a “Buyout?”

For nearly the last 30 years, the Town has actively participated in a program where long-term employees were paid at a lower rate with the understanding that the employee would receive a cash settlement “Buyout” of their leave and sick time at the end of their service. This “Buyout,” at times, could equal 6 months’ pay at the employee’s highest rate and has resulted in a significant unbudgeted liability each year. Prior to the migration from this program, the projected liability (cost) of this program was estimated \$3,800,000 over the next twenty years.