

EXETER TOWN WARRANT – 2014

To the inhabitants of the Town of Exeter, in the County of Rockingham, in the said State, qualified to vote in Town affairs:

First Session

You are hereby notified that the first session (the Deliberative Session) of the Annual Town Meeting will be held on Saturday, February 1, 2014 beginning at 9:00 a.m. at the Arthur L. Hanson III Center for the Performing Arts at Exeter High School, 1 Blue Hawk Drive. The first session will consist of explanation, discussion and debate of each of the following warrant articles, and will also afford voters who are present the opportunity to propose, debate and adopt amendments to warrant articles, except those articles in which wording is prescribed by state law.

Second Session

The second session of the annual town meeting, to elect town officers by official ballot and to vote on all warrant articles as they may have been amended at the first session, will be held on Tuesday, March 11, 2014 at the Talbot Gymnasium at the Tuck Learning Center, 30 Linden Street. Polls for voting by official ballot will open at 7:00 a.m. and close at 8:00 p.m.

Article 1

To choose the following: 2 Selectmen for a 3-year term; 1 Town Clerk for a 3-year term; 1 Supervisor of the Checklist for a 6-year term; 3 Trustees of the Library for a 3-year term; 1 Trustee of the Library for a 1 year term; 1 Trustee of Trust Funds for a 3-year term; 1 Trustee of the Robinson Fund for a 7-year term; 1 Trustee of Swasey Parkway for a 3-year term.

Article 2: Zoning Amendment #1: Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment #1 as proposed by the Planning Board for the town zoning ordinance, as follows: Amend Article 4, District Regulations, Schedule I Notes: Conversions by revising subsection (b) to read as follows: “b) The minimum lot size required shall be such that each dwelling unit is provided with thirty percent (30%) of the minimum lot size (per unit) required for the district.”

Article 3: Zoning Amendment #2: Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment #2 as proposed by the Planning Board for the town zoning ordinance, as follows: Amend article 5.6.3 Off-Street Parking by adding the following language to subsection A: “The Planning Board may grant a reduction in the size of the space if circumstances on the site, such as perimeter parking which allows overhang, can be provided.”

Article 4: Zoning Amendment #3: Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment #3 as proposed by the Planning Board for the town zoning ordinance, as follows: Amend article 5.6.4 Shared Parking to read as follows: “Shared parking is parking on a single site utilized by two or more uses in a 24 hour period. It is an allowance to fulfill their individual parking requirements as their prime operational hours may not overlap and their parking demands may vary from specified standards due to the scale of the project. Shared parking recognizes complimentary parking characteristics that may be unique for each case and for the specific users of the site.”

Article 5: Zoning Amendment #4: Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment #4 as proposed by the Planning Board for the town zoning ordinance, as follows: Amend article 5.6.5

by revising the first sentence to read as follows: “The Planning Board may grant reductions in the number and size of required off-street parking spaces in conjunction with its site plan review.”

Article 6 – Wastewater Facility Design and Engineering

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of five million and zero dollars (\$5,000,000) for the engineering design of a Wastewater Treatment Facility, Main Pump Station, and CSO Abatement Upgrades. The Town will authorize the issuance of not more than (\$5,000,000) of bonds or notes in accordance with the provisions of the Municipal Finance Act (RSA 33) and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to issue and negotiate such bonds or notes and to determine the rate of interest thereon; Debt service will be paid from the sewer fund (\$5,000,000).

(3/5 ballot vote required for approval.)

_____ by the Board of Selectmen

Article 7 – Replace and Rehabilitate Water and Sewer Mains

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of one-million six hundred thousand and zero dollars (\$1,600,000) for replacement and rehabilitation of water mains and sewer lines on Lincoln Street from Front Street to Main Street, Railroad Avenue, and Winter Street. The Town will authorize the issuance of not more than (\$1,600,000) of bonds or notes in accordance with the provisions of the Municipal Finance Act (RSA 33) and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to issue and negotiate such bonds or notes and to determine the rate of interest thereon; Debt service will be paid from the water fund (\$1,400,000) and the sewer fund (\$200,000).

(3/5 ballot vote required for approval.)

_____ by the Board of Selectmen

Article 8 – Great Dam Removal Petition Article

On petition of Thomas Stanek and others, to see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of one-million seven hundred eighty-six thousand seven hundred and fifty-eight dollars (\$1,786,758) for the purpose of removing the Great Dam and restoring the Exeter River, and to authorize the issuance of not more than (\$1,786,758) of bonds or notes in accordance with the provisions of the Municipal Finance Act (RSA 33) and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to issue and negotiate such bonds or notes and to determine the rate of interest thereon; furthermore, to authorize the Board of Selectmen to accept any state, federal and other grants and gifts related to the project.

(The purpose of this article is to restore the Exeter River back to its natural condition, stop environment damage, reduce flooding, correct and comply with all current deficiencies and orders pending against the Town)

(3/5 ballot vote required for approval.)

_____ by the Board of Selectmen

Article 9 – Choose Officers

To choose all other necessary Town Officers, Auditors or Committees for the ensuing year.

Article 10 – Operating Budget

Shall the Town of Exeter raise and appropriate as an operating budget, not including appropriation 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 \$17,075,046. Should this article be defeated, the default budget shall be \$16,943,390 which is the same as last year, with certain adjustments required by previous action of the Town of Exeter 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)

_____ by the Board of Selectmen

Article 11 – Water Operating Budget

Shall the Town of Exeter raise and appropriate as a water operating budget, not including appropriation 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 \$2,538,457. Should this article be defeated, the water default budget shall be \$2,409,803 which is the same as last year, with certain adjustments required by previous action of the Town of Exeter or by law.

(Majority vote required)

_____ by the Board of Selectmen

Article 12 – Sewer Operating Budget

Shall the Town of Exeter raise and appropriate as a sewer operating budget, not including appropriation 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 \$2,412,706. Should this article be defeated, the default budget shall be \$2,432,299 which is the same as last year, with certain adjustments required by previous action of the Town of Exeter or by law.

(Majority vote required)

_____ by the Board of Selectmen

Article 13 – Exeter SEIU 1984 and Town of Exeter Collective Bargaining Agreement

To see if the Town will vote to approve the cost items included in the collective bargaining agreement reached between the Board of Selectmen and the Exeter SEIU 1984 (Public Works/Town Office unit) which calls for the following salaries and benefits at the current staffing levels:

Year	Estimated Salary and Benefits Increase	Health Insurance Savings
FY14	\$42,728	(\$35,904)
FY15	\$16,522	(\$71,809)

And further, to raise and appropriate the sum of six thousand eight hundred and twenty four dollars (\$6,824) for the 2014 fiscal year, such sum representing the additional costs attributable to the increase in salaries and benefits over those of the appropriation at current staffing levels.

(Majority vote required)

_____ by the Board of Selectmen

Article 14 – Human Service Agencies

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, through special warrant article, the sum of one-hundred nine thousand five hundred and ninety five dollars (\$109,595), for the support of various human service agencies that will serve Exeter residents in 2014:

Agency	Amount
A Safe Place	\$5,500
Area Home Care	\$13,000
Big Brother/Big Sister	\$9,000
Child and Family Services	\$12,000
Crossroads House	\$3,500
Families First	\$3,000
Friends Program (formerly RSVP)	\$2,200
Great Bay Kids	\$2,495
Meals on Wheels – Food	\$9,200
New Generation Shelter	\$2,000
New Outlook Teen Center	\$2,700
Richie McFarland Center	\$9,000
Rockingham Community Action	\$11,000
Seacoast Family Promise	\$1,500
Seacoast Mental Health	\$8,500
Seacoast VNA	\$5,000
Sexual Assault Support Services (SASS)	\$3,000
St. Vincent De Paul	\$5,000
Womenade of Greater Squamscott	\$2,000
Total	\$109,595

(Majority vote required)

_____ by the Board of Selectmen

Article 15 – Sidewalks Capital Reserve Fund and Funding

To see if the Town will vote to establish a capital reserve fund under RSA 35:1 for the purpose of making capital improvements to town sidewalks including construction and replacement of new town sidewalks, and repair and replacement of existing town sidewalks and to raise and appropriate the sum of eighty-thousand (\$80,000) to be placed in this fund and further the Board of Selectmen shall be named agents of the fund and be authorized to make expenditures from the fund.

(Majority vote required)

_____ by the Board of Selectmen

Article 16 – Town-wide Facilities Plan

To see if the Town will raise and appropriate, through special warrant article, the sum of fifty-thousand dollars (\$50,000), for the purpose of conducting a Town-wide Facilities Plan, to include building use recommendations on short and long term needs for all town buildings.

(Majority vote required)

_____ by the Board of Selectmen

Article 17 - Growing Oaklands Elliott Property Acquisition

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, through special warrant article, the sum of one-hundred forty-nine thousand five-hundred dollars (\$149,500) for the purpose of purchasing for conservation the approximately 34-acre Elliott property (Tax Map 26, Lot 15) (known as the ‘Growing Oaklands’ project) located east of Watson Road and abutting the western portion of the Oaklands Town Forest. The Growing Oaklands project adds a critical portion of a popular trail into town ownership and conserves wildlife habitat for several rare species. The total cost of the project is \$149,500, with the following revenue funding sources: \$26,490 from general taxation, \$33,510 from 2003 conservation bond proceeds; \$25,000 from the Conservation Commission’s Conservation Fund; \$54,000 from a US Natural Resources Conservation Service grant; and \$10,500 to be privately raised by Southeast Land Trust of New Hampshire. As part of this purchase, the property will be subject to a conservation easement granted to the US Natural Resources Conservation Service.

(Majority vote required)

_____ by the Board of Selectmen

Article 18 – Adopt RSA 79-E

To see if the Town will adopt the Community Revitalization Tax Relief Incentive outlined in Chapter 79-E of state law and to designate four commercial areas as meeting the standards for an eligible district as set forth in RSA 79-E:2? (The four districts will consist of areas zoned C-1 “Central Area Commercial” and WC “Waterfront Commercial”. A map of these districts is available on the Town’s website and Town Clerk’s Office.)

Majority vote required.

_____ by the Board of Selectmen

Article 19 – Adopt RSA 162-K

To see if the Town will vote to adopt RSA 162-K of the New Hampshire Revised Statutes, which if adopted will allow the Town to establish tax increment financing districts upon approval of the legislative body.

Majority vote required.

_____ by the Board of Selectmen

Article 20 – Increase Local Option Fee to Fund Transportation

To see if the Town will vote to increase the current motor vehicle local option fee from \$3.25 to \$4.00 to fund transportation services for senior and disabled residents and transportation service needs consistent with RSA 261:153 VI. Proceeds from the fee will be deposited into the Town’s Municipal Transportation Improvement Fund. This article will not impact the tax rate.

Majority vote required.

_____ by the Board of Selectmen

Article 21 -- Authorize Selectmen to Negotiate long term lease with Great Bay Kids Company

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to negotiate a long term lease with Great Bay Kids Company on Town owned property located on Hampton Road (Tax Map 69, Lot 4) with terms and conditions to be determined by the Board of Selectmen.

Majority vote required.

_____ by the Board of Selectmen

Article 22 – Petition Article: Keep New Hampshire Free of Transporting Tar Sands Oil

On petition of Stephanie Marshall and others, “to see if the Town will vote to express its opposition to the transport of toxic tar sands oil through New Hampshire, and further, to (1) communicate this opposition to the Governor and NH General Court and to the New Hampshire delegation in the US Congress requesting they take all reasonable steps to oppose the transport of tar sands oil through New Hampshire, and (2) to send a copy of this resolution and the official results from the Town Meeting vote to all relevant state and federal officials, including the NH Office of Energy and Planning, the N.H. Site Evaluation Committee and the U.S. State Department, as well as the chief executive officers of those companies directly involved in the production and proposed transportation of tar sands oil including Portland Pipe Line Corporation, Montreal Pipe Line Limited, Imperial Oil, ExxonMobil, and Enbridge, Inc.”

Majority vote required.

Article 23 – Citizen’s Petition: New Hampshire Resolution to Get Big Money Out Of Politics

By petition of Herb Moyer and other eligible voters of the Town of Exeter, NH, “to see if the town will vote to urge:

That the New Hampshire State Legislature join nearly 500 municipalities and 16 other states, including all other New England states, in calling upon Congress to move forward a constitutional amendment that: 1) guarantees the right of our elected representatives and of the American people to safeguard fair elections through authority to regulate political spending, and 2) clarifies that constitutional rights were established for people, not corporations.

That the New Hampshire Congressional delegation support such a constitutional amendment.

That the New Hampshire State Legislature support such an amendment once it is approved by Congress and sent to the State for ratification.

And furthermore, that this Town Meeting vote be a record that We the People want Congress and our state legislature to:

- Institute full, effective and immediate electronic disclosure of all election-related spending by any individual, group, corporation, party or institution.
- Provide for fair, nonpartisan and vigorous enforcement of existing campaign laws and regulations by federal and state agencies.
- Enact an absolute ban on campaign contributions by foreign governments, foreign agencies, foreign corporations or their subsidiaries and employees in the U.S.
- Enact legislation that would cut down on the influence of big bankroll donors by multiplying the power of small donations through the use of voter vouchers, tax credits and matching public funds.

The record of the vote approving this article shall be transmitted by written notice to Exeter’s congressional delegation, and to Exeter’s state legislators, and to the President of the United States informing them of the instructions from their constituents by the Board of Selectmen within 30 days of the vote.

Majority vote required.

Article 24 – Citizen’s Petition: Energy Exemptions

By petition of Jill and Allan Mayo and others, “to see if the Town will vote to help lessen our nation’s dependence on fossil fuels and to promote the use of solar energy in our town, by adopting the provisions of RSA 72:61 through RSA 72:64 inclusively, which allows for each New Hampshire city and town, to adopt an exemption from the assessed value of the solar-related equipment, for property tax purposes, for persons owning real property, which is equipped with solar energy systems intended for use at the immediate site. The property tax exemption shall only be in the amount equal to 100% of the assessed value of qualifying solar related equipment under these statutes. Per RSA 72:61, a “solar energy system” means a system which utilizes solar energy to heat or cool the interior of a building or to heat water for use in a building and which includes one or more collectors and a storage container. “Solar energy system” also means a system which provides electricity for a building by the use of photovoltaic panels. (A majority vote of yes would continue the Town’s current practice of not increasing home valuation due to

the solar installation for assessment purposes and would preclude the Town from, in the future, potentially collecting property tax on the assessed value of the solar-related equipment, as such a tax would reduce the benefit of installing such a system and would disincentivize installing one.)

Majority vote required.

To transact any other business which may legally come before this meeting.

Given under our hands and seal this _____th day of January, 2014.

Don Clement, Chairman

Daniel W. Chartrand, Vice-Chairman

Julie Gilman, Clerk

Matt Quandt

Frank Ferraro

We certify that on the 27th of January, 2014, we caused a true copy of the within warrant to be posted at the Exeter Town Hall on Front Street, the Exeter Public Library at Founder's Park, Exeter High School at 1 Blue Hawk Drive, Talbot Gymnasium at Tuck Learning Campus, 30 Linden Street, and the Town Clerk's Office, 10 Front Street.

Given under our hands and seals this _____st day of January, 2014.

Don Clement, Chairman

Daniel W. Chartrand, Vice-Chairman

Julie Gilman, Clerk

Matt Quandt

Frank Ferraro