

**Town of Rumney  
Board of Selectmen  
February 1, 2016  
[www.rumneynh.org](http://www.rumneynh.org)  
Selectmen's Meeting Minutes  
Public Budget Hearing**

**Present: Select Board Members-Chairmen Ed Haskell, Dan Kimble, Mark Andrew  
Administrative Assistant, Joe Chivell**

**Public:** Terry French, Tim Lewis, Steve Coursey, David Coursey, Diana Kindell, John Dow, Janice Mulherin, Roger Scroggins, Janet Sherburne, Sonny Ouellette, Tom Ambrose, Jim Buttolph, Greg Patten, Brett Miller, John Bagley, David Saad, Kathy Wallace, Paulette Bowers

**6:45PM Call to order** - Dan Kimble made a motion to suspended the Selectmen's Meeting in order to have a Public Budget Hearing. The motioned received a second from Ed Haskell. Motion passed 3-0

**STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE  
TOWN OF RUMNEY  
WARRANT for  
2016 ANNUAL TOWN MEETING**

To the inhabitants of the Town of Rumney in the County of Grafton and State of New Hampshire qualified to vote in town affairs:

You are hereby notified to meet at the Russell Elementary School Gymnasium on School Street in said Rumney on Tuesday, the 8<sup>th</sup> day of March 2016, next, at 8:00 o'clock in the morning at which time the polls shall be opened for balloting on Article 1 and shall close not earlier than 7:00 o'clock in the evening, and you are hereby notified to meet at the Russell Elementary School Gymnasium in said Rumney on Thursday, the 10<sup>th</sup> day of March 2016, next, at 7:00 o'clock in the evening for the second session of the Town Meeting at which time action will be taken upon the remaining articles in this warrant.

**ARTICLE 1:** To choose all necessary town officers for the ensuing year (by official ballot on March 8th):

Selectman for 3 years  
Selectman for 1 year

(2) Planning Board Members for 3 years  
Treasurer for 1 year

Library Trustee for 1 year  
Library Trustee for 3 years

Trustee of Trust Funds for 1 year  
Trustee of Trust Funds for 3 years

Cemetery Trustee for 3 years  
Town Moderator for 2 years  
Supervisor of the Check List for 6 years

Fire Commissioner for 3 years  
Town Clerk / Tax Collector for 3 years

*Not discussion on this Article*

**ARTICLE 2:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$190,000** for the purchase of a Highway dump truck and related accessories and to authorize the issuance of not more than \$190,000 for notes or bonds for the period of not more than 5 years, in accordance with the provisions of the Municipal Finance Act (RSA 33) and to authorize the Selectmen to issue and negotiate such bonds or notes to determine the interest rate thereon. (2/3 ballot vote required) Recommended by the Selectmen

***No additional discussion on this Article. Public Bond Hearing held just prior.***

**ARTICLE 3:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$52,058** for the replacement of the Buffalo Road Bridge, #128/073 with \$33,472.50.00 of said sum to come from the FEMA Hazard Mitigation Grant Program, \$14,868 of said sum to come from the NHDOT State-Aid Bridge Program, and the remaining \$3,717.50 of said sum to be withdrawn from the Bridge Repair & Maintenance Capital Reserve Fund (established in 2008). The Selectmen recommend this special article. (Majority vote required)

***Brief explanation: The cost to replace the Buffalo Road Bridge increased since the original warrant article was passed in 2014. This article covers the increase portions for FEMA, NH-DOT, and the Town of Rumney. The bridge is scheduled for replacement this summer. There will be no temporary bridge. It will be a complete road closure. It was requested that better signage be used to include signs on Route 25 and on Main Street.***

**ARTICLE 4:** To choose two members for the **Advisory Committee:**

- 1 for a 3-year term from the Depot
- 1 for a 3-year term from Quincy

***No Comments***

**ARTICLE 5:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$463,307** to defray the following **General Government Expenses** for the ensuing year. (Majority vote required)

General Government Expenses	
Executive	\$ 63,816
Town Clerk/Tax Collector	\$ 68,770
Supervisors of the Checklist	\$ 5,574
Financial Administration	\$ 36,906
Legal Expenses	\$ 49,200
Health Insurance	\$151,000
Planning Board	\$ 4,996
General Government Buildings	\$ 40,550
Street Lights	\$ 9,000
Insurance-Property/Liability & WC	\$ 31,495
Regional Association Dues	<u>\$ 2,000</u>
<b>Total General Government Expenses</b>	<b>\$463,307</b>

**Question: Is the increase in the Supervisors of Checklist based on number of elections in 2016.**

**Answer: Yes it is because of the number of elections.**

**Comment regarding the Legal Expense Line: that line includes \$2,000 for the Planning Board.**

**Question on what makes up the Town Clerk/Tax Collector line item.**

**Paulette Bowers, Town clerk/Tax Collector listed the line items in that account.**

**Comment: Planning Board would like to see their requested increase that they placed in the "New Equipment" line item and had been remove placed back in the budget. The Board explained that if a piece of equipment were to stop working the replacement cost could be found.**

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**ARTICLE 6:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$45,650** for **Assessing Services** and **Tax Map updates** for the ensuing year. (Majority vote required)

**The increase in this line reflects the first year cost of the mandated 4 year revaluation process**

**ARTICLE 7:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$3,000** for the purpose of **Code Enforcement** for the ensuing year. (Majority vote required)

**Question: Is this police code enforcement that should be in the police budget.**

**Answer: This covers items such as junk yard and blasting code enforcement. This enforcement is contracted out to MRI.**

**ARTICLE 8:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$29,440** for the operation of the **Cemeteries** for the ensuing year; \$5,000 to come from the Cemetery Trust Fund and \$24,440 to be raised by taxes. The Selectmen recommend this special article. (Majority vote required)

**Question: How the contracted mowing went this year.**

**Answered: Very good, no complaints this year.**

**ARTICLE 9:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$16,000** for the purpose of repairing the stone wall at the Highland North Cemetery and to authorize the withdrawal of \$6,000 from the Cemetery Improvement Fund (established in 2014) and the remaining funds to be raised by taxes. This is a non-lapsing appropriation per RSA 32:7 V. The Selectmen recommend this special article. (Majority vote required)

**General explanation: This is to continue the work on the Quincy Road wall situation.**

**Question from Roger Scroggins: "Why the wording in article 8 & 9 were different, in that article 9 did not have the amount prior to the working "to be raised by taxes".**

**Answer: The wording mirrored the wording used in the same type of articles from years past. Both articles were approved by Town Council and NH-DRA; this can be looked into for next year.**

**ARTICLE 10:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$199,993** to defray the cost of running the **Police Department** for the ensuing year. (Majority vote required)

*Question was asked about the change in the Prosecutor line item. It was explained that the officers will be doing more of the court prosecution.*

**ARTICLE 11:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$146,500** to be added to the previously established **Capital Reserve Funds**. The Selectmen recommend this special article. (Majority vote required)

Highway Equipment Fund (1960)	40,000
Fire Department Fund (1963)	40,000
Police Department Fund (1986)	14,000
EMS Vehicle (2005)	5,000
EMS Equipment (2012)	3,000
Transfer Station Compactor Fund (2005)	4,000
Transfer Station Equipment Fund (2008)	3,000
Bridge Repair & Maintenance Fund (2008)	20,000
Fire Department Equipment Fund (2009)	8,000
Merrill Library Capital Improvement Fund (1998)	5,000
Town Office Equipment Fund (2015)	2,500
Water Supply-Dry Hydrant (2010)	2,000
<b>TOTAL CAPITAL RESERVE FUNDS</b>	<b>\$146,500</b>

*No comments on this article*

**ARTICLE 12:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$29,557** for **Ambulance Service** contracted with the Town of Plymouth for the ensuing year. (Majority vote required)

*Plymouth Ambulance will provide steady, reliable and professional coverage in a timely manner to Rumney.*

**ARTICLE 13:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$9,551** to defray the cost of the **Safety Committee, E-911 and Emergency Management** services for the ensuing year. (Majority vote required)

Safety Committee	\$ 1,500
E-911	\$ 200
Emergency Management	<u>\$ 7,851</u>
<b>Total Safety, E-911 &amp; Emg Mgt</b>	<b>\$ 9,551</b>

*No comments on this article*

**ARTICLE 14:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$73,951** to defray the cost of running the **Fire Department** for the ensuing year. (Majority vote required)

*No Comments on this article*

**ARTICLE 15:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$9,500** to defray the cost of **purchasing three (3) new sets of protective clothing** and **five (5) new Self-contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) bottles** to replace EXPIRED bottles for the Fire Department and to authorize the withdrawal of \$5,000 from the Fire Department Equipment Capital Reserve Fund (established in 2009) with the remaining funds to be raised by taxes. The Selectmen recommend this special article. (Majority vote required)

*Request to explain how this compares to last years' article.*

*Explanation: There will be no radios replaced this year, only replacing the SCBA bottles that are expired and protective clothing.*

**ARTICLE 16:** To see if the Town will vote to establish a Non-Capital Reserve Fund under the provisions of RSA 35:1-c for the purpose of compensating firefighter's involved with fighting forest fires and to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$1,000** to be placed in this fund and to appoint the Selectmen as agents to expend from said fund.

*Explanation – Last year the town experienced a forest fire that required several other towns to respond and assist. This fire was caused by a person, not by natural causes. If a forest fire is caused by natural means the State Forest service will aid in paying for the responding towns. When a forest fire starts by a person, the State doesn't aid in paying for the responding towns, it is up to the town in which the fire occurs to pay the responding towns.*

*Response to a structure fire is covered by a compact entered into by members of Lakes Region Fire Dispatch but forest fires are not covered by the compact. This fund would help offset the cost of a man made forest fire, if it were to happen again.*

**ARTICLE 17:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$40,000** to pave the parking lots adjacent to Town Facilities and to authorize the withdrawal of \$20,000 from the Town Facilities Fund (established in 1998) with the remaining funds to be raised by taxes. The Selectmen recommend this special article. (Majority vote required)

*This would cover the repaving in front of the Depot Street Fire Department bays to eliminate the water running into the building. It would pave areas adjacent to the Depot Street Fire Department, adjacent to the police side of the town office building, and extend the parking lot on the west end of the town office building. The paving at the fire station was done in 1973. It was questions why pave, has gravel been explored. It was explained that paving would eliminate mud and assist with maintenance.*

**ARTICLE 18:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$18,223** to defray the cost of running the **EMS (Emergency Medical Services)** for the ensuing year. (Majority vote required)

*A question was asked to explain the difference between article 12 and article 18. It was explained that article 12 covers the response of an ambulance and crew that would ultimately take over patient care and transport to the hospital. Article 18 covers local EMS members that live in Rumney and will respond and cover a medical emergency until the ambulance arrives.*

**ARTICLE 19:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$240,157** for the maintenance of **Highways and Bridges** for the ensuing year. (Majority vote required)

*Question: Is this different from article 3.*

*Answer: This is the operating budget for the Town Highway Department.*

*Question: why it was labeled Highways and Bridges.*

*Answer: It is a DRA term, but we can look into whether or not we can change it next year.*

**ARTICLE 20:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$90,000** for **Road Improvements** for the ensuing year. (Majority vote required)

*Question: What work will be done and why the increase.*

*Answer: This will complete the paving on last year's Buffalo Road project. It will also cover work on North Groton Road. When the North Groton Road work was priced out, for the additional amount the entire job could be completed in one year, rather than have a short piece to finish in 2017.*

*Every attempt will be made to work the bid so that this job and Article 17 could be done at the same time and possibly lowering the cost of each project.*

*Several comments of the dissatisfaction of the contractor used on this year's project were shared.*

**ARTICLE 21:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$145,449** to defray the cost of maintaining the **Transfer Station** for the ensuing year. (Majority vote required)

*This covers only the operating budget of the Transfer Station, no capital items. Question asked about the \$2,000.00 increase. Sonny Ouellette explained it was the increase in hourly employee wages. This was done to stop the employee turnover rate.*

**ARTICLE 22:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$1,320** to defray the cost of the **Pemi-Baker Solid Waste District** (\$1,220) and the annual **Plymouth Water and Sewer District Permit Fee** (\$100) for the ensuing year. (Majority vote required)

*An explanation of this article was requested. Sonny Ouellette explained this is a co-op of approximately 17 towns that join together to lower the cost of contracting the removal of items from the Transfer Station. It also allows for the removal of septic waste to be dumping at the Plymouth facility.*

**ARTICLE 23:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$3,200** to continue with Phase II of the Landfill Closure process as required by the State of New Hampshire. (Majority vote required)

***Ongoing requirement, but should only be every other year from this point forward.***

**ARTICLE 24:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$36,397** for the purposes of **Animal Control, Health and Welfare** for the ensuing year. (Majority vote required)

Animal Control	2,050
Health Officer Stipend, etc.	946
Health Administration	500
Mount Mooselauke Health Center	1,500
Pemi-Baker Community Health	4,500
Voices Against Violence	1,000
Bridge House	2,000
Genesis	300
CASA	400
CADY	600
Transport Central	100
Direct Assistance	11,000
Welfare Administrator Stipend, etc	4,306
Grafton County Seniors	3,300
Tri-County CAP	<u>3,895</u>
<b>Total Animal Control, Health &amp; Welfare</b>	<b>\$ 36,397</b>

***Transport Central is a new addition. It will be evaluated and revisited next year***

**ARTICLE 25:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$8,806** for the purposes of **Culture, Recreation and Conservation** for the ensuing year. (Majority vote required)

Common-Mowing & Maintenance	1,600
Baker Athletic Field	1,200
Jim Darling Natural Area	600
Patriotic Purposes	400
Conservation Commission	1,206
Baker River Watershed Dues	300
Conservation Trust	<u>3,500</u>
<b>Total Culture, Recreation &amp; Conservation</b>	<b>\$8,806</b>

***Tim Lewis requested funding for a Portable Toilet at the Stinson Lake boat ramp. After a brief discussion it was agreed to place \$500.00 into the budget for a portable toilet. Target dates for placement will be Memorial Day to Labor Day.***

**ARTICLE 26:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$4,500** for the purpose of an **Old Home Day** celebration; \$3,241 will come from the 2015 end-of-year fund balance, with the remaining \$1,259 to be raised by taxes. The Selectmen recommend this special article. (Majority vote required)

***Please remember the Rumney 250<sup>th</sup> is 2017.***

**ARTICLE 27:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$39,680** to defray the cost of operating the **Byron G. Merrill Library** for the ensuing year. (Majority vote required)

***No Comments***

**ARTICLE 28:** To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$48,024** for payment on the Byron G. Merrill Library Improvement bond. This article does not include appropriations contained in special or individual articles addressed separately. (Majority vote required)

***No Comments***

**ARTICLE 29:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$1,500** for the purpose of purchasing security equipment for the Town Office Building and to authorize the withdrawal of \$1,500 from the Town Facilities' Fund (established in 1987). The Selectmen recommend this special article. (Majority vote required)

***To enhance the interior/exterior safety of the building and the staff working in the building***

**ARTICLE 30:** To see if the town will vote to adopt RSA 41:14-a, to allow the selectmen to acquire or sell land, buildings or both; provided, however, they shall first submit any such proposed acquisition or sale to the planning board and to the conservation commission for review and recommendation by those bodies. This article will remain in effect until rescinded by majority vote. (Majority vote required)

***The adoption of this article would allow the Board to act in situation when a person wanted to donate a piece of land to the town. This happened last year, but the Board had no authority to accept the property. This also could be used if the Common fountain committee wants to give the fountain to the town.***

***Janice Mulherin wanted to see a copy of the RSA. Tom Ambrose thought it was too broad. A copy of the RSA will be provided at Town meeting***

**ARTICLE 31:** To hear reports of agents, auditors, and committees heretofore chosen, to pass any vote relating thereto, and to transact any other business that may legally come before said meeting.

***No comments on this article.***

Given our hands this 15th day of February, 2016.

Rumney Board of Selectmen

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Edward L. Haskell, Jr. Chairman

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Daniel E. Kimble, Jr.

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Mark H. Andrew

Jim Buttolph asked that some thought be given, in advance, to who may want to be on the advisory committee. This item, in the past, has taken a lot of time to resolve during the Town Meeting.

Jim Buttolph also asked for counters at the upcoming elections.

There are currently two opening for Trustee of Trust Funds that no one signed up to run for.

The Board took a moment and introduced Greg Patten, the new full time officer for Rumney.

8:05 PM Ed Haskell made a motion to close the Public Budget Hearing. The Motion received a second from Mark Andrew. Motion passed 3-0

Sincerely Submitted,

Joe Chivell  
Administrative Assistant

Upcoming dates:

Selectmen's meeting February 29, 2016

Selectmen's meeting March 7, 2016

Town Elections March 8, 2016

Town Meeting March 10, 2016