

**STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
TOWN OF RUMNEY
WARRANT for
2018 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 13th day of March 2018, 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 15th day of March 2018, next, at 7:00 o'clock in the evening for the second session of the Town Meeting, for the purpose of discussion, debate, and final action, upon the remaining articles in this warrant.

On March 13, 2018, the meeting was brought to order by Moderator James Buttolph at 7:00 pm, followed by the Pledge Allegiance to the American Flag.

In honor of our town's history, moderator, James Buttolph shared some interesting facts from the 1959 town meeting minutes. In 1959 our town had fence-viewers, who made sure people were respecting property boundaries. We also had a Civil Defense Committee directed by Doris Tunnell and made up of local volunteers covering such issues as warning and communications, fire, medical, rescue, police, transportation, school liaisons and religious affairs.

Also recognized was the team of bi-partisan volunteers who faithfully help with the town elections year after year.

A motion was made and seconded to allow non-residents who are town employees to speak at the meeting. The motion passed.

ARTICLE 1: To choose all necessary town officers for the ensuing year (by official ballot on March 13th):

There were 172 votes cast at the election held on a very snowy March 13th, 2018.

Selectman for 3 years	Edward Haskell	144
Moderator for 2 years	James Buttolph	151
Cemetery Trustee for 3 years		
Cemetery Trustee for 2 years		
Cemetery Trustee for 1 year	Regina Rinaldo	151
Supervisor of the Check List for 6 years	Polly Bartlett	(write-in)
Treasurer for 1 year	Janet Sherburne	157
Trustee of Trust Funds for 3 years	Deborah Maes	126
Fire Commissioner for 3 years	Timothy Lewis	150
Library Trustee for 3 years	Stacie Winsor	(write-in)
(2) Planning Board Members for 3 years	Brian Flynn	146
	Brad Eaton	(write-in)

ARTICLE 2: To choose three members for the **Advisory Committee:**

Nominations were taken from the floor.

- 1 for a 1-year term from the Depot
- 1 for a 3-year term from West Rumney
- 1 for a 3-year term from the Stinson Lake Isaac Dewever

Isaac Dewever volunteered to be the member from the Stinson Lake Village. A motion was made and seconded to name Isaac to the advisory committee. Motion passed.

ARTICLE 3: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$464,808** to defray the following **General Government Expenses** for the ensuing year. (Majority vote required)

General Government Expenses	
Executive	\$ 65,578
Town Clerk/Tax Collector	\$ 80,104
Supervisors of the Checklist	\$ 4,630
Financial Administration	\$ 42,307
Legal Expenses	\$ 42,000
Health Insurance	\$132,000
Planning Board	\$ 7,057
General Government Buildings	\$ 46,750
Street Lights	\$ 9,000
Insurance-Property/Liability & WC	\$ 33,382
Regional Association Dues	\$ 2,000
Total General Government Expenses	\$464,808

The article was read. A motion was made to put it to the floor and seconded. Selectman Robert Berti explained the budget process and the Selectmen's desire to limit an increase in the budget to not more than 2%, which increased by only 1%. With no more discussion the motion passed by a voice vote.

ARTICLE 4: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$7,000** for the purpose of an **Old Home Day** celebration; **\$6,073** will come from the 2017 end-of-year fund balance, with the remaining **\$927** to be raised by taxes. The Selectmen recommend this special article. (Majority vote required)

The article was read. A motion was made to put it to the floor and seconded. With no discussion the article passed by a voice vote.

ARTICLE 5: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$45,750** for **Assessing Services and Tax Map updates** for the ensuing year. (Majority vote required)

The article was read. A motion was made to put it to the floor and seconded. With no discussion the article passed by a voice vote.

ARTICLE 6: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$3,500** for the purpose of **Code Enforcement** for the ensuing year. (Majority vote required)

The article was read. A motion was made to put it to the floor and seconded. With no discussion the article passed by a voice vote.

ARTICLE 7: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$27,650** for the operation of the **Cemeteries** for the ensuing year; \$5,000 to come from the Cemetery Trust Fund and \$22,650 to be raised by taxes. The Selectmen recommend this special article. (Majority vote required)

The article was read. A motion was made to put it to the floor and seconded. With no discussion the article passed by a voice vote.

ARTICLE 8: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$215,384** to defray the cost of running the **Police Department** for the ensuing year. (Majority vote required)

The article was read. A motion was made to put it to the floor and seconded. With no discussion the article passed by a voice vote. Chief Miller made a motion to restrict the reconsideration of this article. Motion was seconded and passed with a voice vote.

ARTICLE 9: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$165,000** 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)	14,500
EMS Vehicle (2005)	6,500
EMS Equipment (2012)	7,000
Transfer Station Compactor Fund (2005)	2,000
Transfer Station Equipment Fund (2008)	3,000
Town Facilities Improvement (1998)	20,000
Cemetery Improvement (2014)	6,500
Bridge Repair & Maintenance Fund (2008)	20,000
Merrill Library Capital Improvement Fund (1998)	1,000
Town Office Equipment Fund (2015)	2,500
Water Supply-Dry Hydrant (2010)	2,000
TOTAL CAPITAL RESERVE FUNDS	\$165,000

The article was read. A motion was made to put it to the floor and seconded. After a discussion about what makes this a "special" article. Administrative Assistant explained that because these funds are beyond the general operation budget the article becomes "special" by Department of Revenue Administrative designation.

A request was made, by Gary McCool, to slow down the process and have some explanation of the article from the persons responsible for it. The request was recognized and agreed to.

Article 9 passed by a voice vote.

ARTICLE 10: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$30,149** for **Ambulance Service** contracted with the Town of Plymouth for the ensuing year. (Majority vote required)

The article was read. A motion was made to put it to the floor and seconded. Fire Chief Coursey elaborated on the level of training skill and equipment of the Plymouth Ambulance service. The article passed by a voice vote.

ARTICLE 11: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$5,655** to defray the cost of the **Safety Committee, E-911, and Emergency Management.** (Majority vote required)

Safety Committee	\$ 2,500
E-911	\$ 175
Emergency Management	\$ 2,980
Total Safety, E-911 & Emg Mgt	\$ 5,655

The article was read. A motion was made to put it to the floor and seconded. There was a question about what the Safety Committee is and how the money is spent. Joseph Chivell, Administrative Assistant, explained that the Safety Committee meets 4 times during a year and reviews any accidents or injuries that happened to employees and how to prevent these from happening again. They also buy protective equipment and examine the town's facilities for safety issues. No payment or stipend go to the members. The article passed by a voice vote.

ARTICLE 12: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$81,808** to defray the cost of running the **Fire Department** for the ensuing year. (Majority vote required)

The article was read. A motion was made to put it to the floor and seconded. With no discussion the article passed by a voice vote.

ARTICLE 13: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$3,451** to defray the cost of Forest Fire Protection for the ensuing year. (Majority vote required)

The article was read. A motion was made to put it to the floor and seconded. With no discussion the article passed by a voice vote.

ARTICLE 14: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$35,000** to defray the cost of purchasing **five (5) new Self-contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA)** to replace five (5) current units and to authorize the withdrawal, for this purpose, of **\$19,000** from the Fire Department Equipment Capital Reserve Fund (established in 2009) with the remaining **\$16,000** be raised by taxes. The Selectmen recommend this special article. (Majority vote required)

The article was read. A motion was made to put it to the floor and seconded. The cost of the SCBA was questioned. Fire Chief Coursey informed the meeting that the old units are 15 years old. He also explained the cost of each SCBA. Two units will have thermal imaging units for officers to wear. Extra masks will be on the truck. Currently we have 9 certified officers able to use this equipment. The article passed by a voice vote.

ARTICLE 15: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$8,000** to defray the cost of hydrant repairs, of that amount, to authorize the withdrawal of **\$4,000** from the Water Supply Capital Reserve Fund (established in 2010) with the remaining **\$4,000** to be raised by taxes. The Selectmen recommend this special article. (Majority vote required)

The article was read. A motion was made to put it to the floor and seconded. There was a question as to which hydrants need work. Chief Coursey reported that Buffalo Road Pond and French's Pond on Groton Hollow Road need work. He reported we have three working hydrants: The Bible Conference Pond, the Stinson Lake Pond, and the pond at Cersosimo's Lumber. He wants to have one or two maintained each year.

Mark Andrew make a motion to amend the article as follows: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$12,000 to defray the cost of hydrant repairs, of that amount, to authorize the withdrawal of \$8,000 from the Water Supply Capital Reserve Fund (established in 2010) with the remaining \$4,000 to be raised by taxes. The motion to amend the article was seconded and was passed with a voice vote. A voice vote then passed the amended article.

ARTICLE 16: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate **\$5000** to replace three (3) overhead door openers, complete with new tracks, openers and safety photo cells, at the Depot Street Fire Station and to authorize the withdrawal for this purpose of **\$5,000** from the Town Facilities Improvement Fund (establish in 1998). (Majority vote required)

The article was read. A motion was made to put it to the floor and seconded. After discussion, Chief Coursey made a motion to pass over this article as he has found a way to repair the present overhead door openers. The motion to pass on the article was seconded and passed on a voice vote.

ARTICLE 17: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate **\$1,000** to add to the Mutual Aid Fire Fighter Fund non-capital reserve account established in 2016 for the purpose of compensating fire fighters involved with fighting forest fires. The Selectmen recommend this special article. (Majority vote Required)

The article was read. A motion was made to put it to the floor and seconded. With no discussion the article passed by a voice vote.

ARTICLE 18: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$17,100** to defray the cost of running the **EMS (Emergency Medical Services)** for the ensuing year. (Majority vote required)

The article was read. A motion was made to put it to the floor and seconded. With no discussion the article passed by a voice vote.

ARTICLE 19: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$234,701** to defray the cost of running the **Rumney Highway Department** for the ensuing year. (Majority vote required)

The article was read. A motion was made to put it to the floor and seconded. The discussion honored Frank Simpson who had served the town as Road Agent for many years and retired July 2017. The Town hired Nick Coursey from within the department who immediately had to deal with two floods, which he handled well. The article passed by a voice vote.

ARTICLE 20: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$75,000** for **Road Improvements** for the ensuing year. (Majority vote required)

The article was read. A motion was made to put it to the floor and seconded. The Road Agent explained that the intended road to improve was the west end of Old Route 25. The proposed funds, along with encumbered funds and highway safety funds will be used to complete paving and culvert work on Old Route 25. The article passed by a voice vote.

ARTICLE 21: To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$15,260** for payment on the **2016 Rumney Highway Dump Truck Purchase bond**. This article does not include appropriations contained in special or individual articles addressed separately. The Selectmen Recommend this article. (Majority vote required)

The article was read. A motion was made to put it to the floor and seconded. The discussion informed the Town that this will be the second payment of five payments on the already purchased truck. The article passed by a voice vote.

ARTICLE 22: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$45,493** to defray the cost of operating the **Byron G. Merrill Library** for the ensuing year. (Majority vote required)

The article was read. A motion was made to put it to the floor and seconded. With no discussion the article passed by a voice vote.

ARTICLE 23: To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$46,167** for payment on the Byron G. Merrill Library Improvement bond. This article does not include appropriations contained in special or individual articles addressed separately. The Selectmen recommend this article. (Majority vote required)

The article was read. A motion was made to put it to the floor and seconded. The discussion informed the Town that this will be the third of five payments. The article passed by a voice vote.

ARTICLE 24: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$149,084** to defray the cost of maintaining the **Transfer Station** for the ensuing year. (Majority vote required)

The article was read. A motion was made to put it to the floor and seconded. With no discussion the article passed by a voice vote.

ARTICLE 25: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$2,500** to defray the cost of replacing tires on the Bobcat loader and to authorize the withdrawal of **\$2,500** from the Transfer Station Equipment Fund (established in 2008). The Selectmen recommend this special article. (Majority vote Required)

The article was read. A motion was made to put it to the floor and seconded. With no discussion the article passed by a voice vote.

ARTICLE 26: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$1,533** to defray the cost of the **Pemi-Baker Solid Waste District** (\$1,433) and the annual **Plymouth Water and Sewer District Permit Fee** (\$100) for the ensuing year. (Majority vote required)

The article was read. A motion was made to put it to the floor and seconded. With no discussion the motion passed by a voice vote.

ARTICLE 27: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$2,000** to continue with Phase II of the Landfill Closure process as required by the State of New Hampshire. (Majority vote required)

The article was read. A motion was made to put it to the floor and seconded. There was a call for an explanation of the landfill closure process. Milton Ouellette explained that on the old landfill there are six wells which must be tested yearly. Last year they had to be tested for heavy metals at an additional cost. As we have been transporting our trash out of the area since 1983, he is inquiring from DES when we can stop testing the old landfill. The article passed by a voice vote.

ARTICLE 28: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$33,699** for the purposes of **Animal Control, Health and Welfare** for the ensuing year. (Majority vote required)

Animal Control	1,002
Health Officer Stipend, etc.	946
Health Administration	500
Mount Mooselauke Health Center	1,250
Pemi-Baker Community Health	4,500
Voices Against Violence	1,000
Bridge House	2,000
Genesis	300
CASA	500
CADY	600
Transport Central	150
Direct Assistance	10,000
Welfare Administrator Stipend, etc	4,306
Grafton County Seniors	2,500
Tri-County CAP	3,895
Tyler Blain Homeless Shelter	250
Total Animal Control, Health & Welfare	\$ 33,699

The article was read. A motion was made to put it to the floor and seconded. There was a question as to what the Direct Assistance is used for. The Welfare Officer, Joseph Chivell reported it is used mostly for rent and electricity for people in need. The article passed by a voice vote.

ARTICLE 29: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$11,555** for the purposes of **Culture, Recreation and Conservation** for the ensuing year. (Majority vote required)

Common-Mowing & Maintenance	1,600
Baker Athletic Field	2,800
Jim Darling Natural Area	800
Patriotic Purposes	400
Conservation Commission	1,435
Baker River Watershed Dues	470
Conservation Trust	3,500
Stinson Lake Port-a-toilet	550
Total Culture, Recreation & Conservation	\$11,555

The article was read. A motion was made to put it to the floor and seconded. With no discussion the article passed by a voice vote.

ARTICLE 30: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$1,000** for the purpose of purchasing security equipment for the Town Office Building and to authorize the withdrawal of \$1,000 the Town Facilities' Fund (established in 1987). The Selectmen recommend this special article. (Majority vote required)

The article was read. A motion was made to put it to the floor and seconded. After explaining that the \$1,000 from last year and this additional funding would cover the cost of window enclosures for safety issues. The article passed by a voice vote.

ARTICLE 31: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen to appoint a Town Treasurer in accordance to RSA 41:26-e, rather than electing a Treasurer. (Majority vote required)

The article was read. A motion was made to put it to the floor and seconded. The question under discussion was why this was being proposed. Administrative Assistant, Joseph Chivell reported due to increased responsibility entailing the managing of online payments making the treasurer's position more involved. Thus, appointing a treasurer would ensure continuity rather than an elected position. The motion passed by a voice vote.

ARTICLE 32: Shall we allow the operation of keno games within the town?

The article was read. A motion was made to put it to the floor and seconded. State law required a secret ballot vote. Moderator James Buttolph explained that the state is looking to fund full-day

kindergarten by building up the revenue per child by \$1,100, making the cost \$2,900 per child. Selectmen George Bonfiglio, explained a business operating Keno must hold a liquor license. After much discussion, a concern was expressed from the floor that Keno is gambling. A secret ballot defeated the motion 40 – No to 17 – Yes.

ARTICLE 33: 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.

Jan Mulherin had three comments: The Conservation Committee needs another member as one of their members is moving; She publicly thanked Brad Eaton for building the gazebo which is on the common. She also thanked the Administrative Assistant for printing a larger report making it more readable.

James Buttolph, Moderator, thanked Gail Sanborn for serving the town as a Supervisor of the Checklist for the past 6 years.

With no new business, a motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting. The Moderator called the meeting closed at 8:46 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Paulette Bowers, Town Clerk