

**STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE**  
**TOWN OF RUMNEY**  
**WARRANT for 2020 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 10<sup>th</sup> day of March 2020, 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 12<sup>th</sup> day of March 2020, 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.

Meeting officially opened at 7:03 pm with the pledge of allegiance.

Moderator James Buttolph opened the meeting with a brief history lesson:

"This year, I'd like to take you back to the annual meeting of 1968. The selectmen were Haven Little, Lyle McGinnis, and Donald Kenneson. The town clerk was Ruth Moses, and Herbert Moses was the deputy town clerk. At that time, Herbert was also the town moderator, so in those times if the town moderator didn't run the meeting the way the town clerk thought was proper, presumably there was the potential for additional penalties at home so the moderator had extra motivation to do a good job."

"This was the town meeting where we reviewed the year of Rumney's 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 1967, and since we recently celebrated the 250<sup>th</sup>, this seemed like an appropriate thing to do. One of the highlights was the presentation of a gold bound copy of "Rumney Then and Now" that was compiled by Jesse Barney after much effort. There were many things going on in town, and the celebration featured a giant parade that was estimated to be some two miles long - starting in Rumney Depot and ending on Stinson Lake Road. There were historic and modern floats, "snappy" drum and bugle corps, and a giant birthday cake float that was constructed by the Mount Stinson Girl's 4-H Club. I also noticed that at the kick off for the effort to organize this celebration, the men started raising beards, although in the pictures included in the town report I didn't notice any particularly long beards so I wondered what that really was about."

"By the way, Article 21 in that annual business meeting said, "Shall the provisions of chapter 171-A of the revised laws relating to playing "Beno" be adopted in this town?" This shows that our more recent question about games being allowed in the Town of Rumney was not the first time we dealt with questions like this."

"Hopefully this gives you a taste of what was happening over 50 years ago."

**ARTICLE 1:** To choose all necessary town officers for the ensuing year (by official ballot on March 10th):

Selectman for 3 years  
**Isaac DeWever -142**  
Town Moderator 2 years  
**James M. Buttolph -254**  
Fire Commissioner for 3 years  
**Cameron Brown -231**  
Library Trustee for 3 years  
**Lorrie Gote-Eaton -261**  
Supervisor of the Check List for 6 years  
**Charlene Farnsworth -248**

(2) Planning Board Members for 3 years  
**Armand Girouard -239 / David W. Cook -217**  
Trustee of Trust Funds for 3 years  
**(Write – In) Mark Andrew -36**  
Cemetery Trustee for 1-year  
**Wayne Farnsworth -253**  
Supervisor of the Check List for 4 years  
**Katheryn L. Grabiek -243**

**ARTICLE 2:** To choose two members for the **Budget Advisory Committee:**

- (1) 3-year term from the Depot
- (1) 3-year term from the Village
- (1) 3-year term from Quincy
- (1) 1-year term from Lake Area**

**Article 2 was read; a motion was made to put it to the floor and was seconded.**

**An amendment was proposed to change the article to read: to choose four (4) members for the Budget Advisory Committee.**

**The amendment passed by voice vote with discussion. The amendment was needed to change the word Two (2) to Three (3) because of a typo. Joe Chivell then added that we need to add an additional member to the list due to Isaac DeWever was elected as Selectmen and was currently a member of the committee. RSA 32:15 a Selectmen is not allowed to hold the position of a Budget Advisory Committee member.**

**The article as amended passed by voice vote.**

**Edward Haskell nominated Gerard Thibodeau, nomination was seconded and the Town Clerk was instructed to cast a single vote for Gerard Thibodeau**  
**Mark Andrew nominated Kevin Maes, nomination was seconded and the Town Clerk was instructed to cast a single vote Kevin Maes**  
**Edward Haskell nominated George Bonfiglio, nomination was seconded and the Town Clerk was instructed to cast a single vote George Bonfiglio**

**ARTICLE 3:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$489,181** to defray the following **General Government Expenses** for the ensuing year. (Majority vote required)

General Government Expenses	
Executive	\$ 73,340
Town Clerk/Tax Collector	\$ 85,202
Supervisors of the Checklist	\$ 6,670
Financial Administration	\$ 50,582
Legal Expenses	\$ 37,000
Health Insurance	\$140,000

Planning Board	\$ 8,682
General Government Buildings	\$ 42,750
Streetlights	\$ 9,000
Insurance-Property/Liability & WC	\$33,705
Regional Association Dues	<u>\$ 2,250</u>
<b>Total General Government Expenses</b>	<b>\$489,181</b>

**Article 3 was read; a motion was made to put it to the floor and was seconded. With no discussion, the article passed by voice vote.**

**ARTICLE 4:** To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$5,000** to have an **Architectural Design** developed for a 20' X 30' addition to the Rumney Town Office Building and authorize the withdrawal of \$5,000 from the Town Facility Improvement Fund (established 1998). The Board of Selectmen recommend this special article. (Majority vote required)

**Article 4 was read; a motion was made to put it to the floor and was seconded. The article passed by voice vote.**

**This addition would include a basement for much needed storage. It will allow for more office and meeting space and be energy efficient. The current facility that was built in 1990 has sufficed for 30 years. This addition should last for another 30 years or more.**

**ARTICLE 5:** 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)

**Article 5 was read; a motion was made to put it to the floor and was seconded. With no discussion, the article passed by voice vote.**

**ARTICLE 6:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$7,800** for the purpose of an **Old Home Day** celebration. This special warrant article will be a non-lapsing appropriation per RSA 32:7, VI and will not lapse until the Old Home Day is completed or by March 12, 2025, whichever is sooner. The Selectmen recommend this special article. (Majority vote required)

**Article 6 was read; a motion was made to put it to the floor and was seconded. With no discussion, the article passed by voice vote.**

**ARTICLE 7:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$21,750** to defray the cost of **Assessing Services** and **Tax Map Updates**. (Majority vote required)

**Article 7 was read; a motion was made to put it to the floor and was seconded. The article passed by voice vote.**

**Concern: Didn't we just have assessing in 2019?**

**Response: We have assessing every year and re-evaluation every five (5) years.**

**ARTICLE 8:** 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)

**Article 8 was read; a motion was made to put it to the floor and was seconded.  
With no discussion, the article passed by voice vote.**

**ARTICLE 9:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$226,849** to defray the cost of running the **Police Department** for the ensuing year. (Majority vote required)

**Article 9 was read; a motion was made to put it to the floor and was seconded.  
With no discussion, the article passed by voice vote.**

**ARTICLE 10:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$155,000** to be added to the previously established **Capital Reserve Funds**. The Selectmen recommend this special article. (Majority vote required)

Police Department Fund (1986)	\$14,500
Highway Equipment Fund (1960)	\$40,000
Town Facilities Improvement (1998)	\$20,000
Fire Department Fund (1963)	\$40,000
Transfer Station Compactor Fund (2005)	\$ 2,000
Bridge Repair & Maintenance Fund (2008)	\$15,000
Transfer Station Equipment Fund (2008)	\$ 2,000
Fire Department Equipment (2009)	\$12,000
Water Supply – Dry Hydrant (2010)	\$2,000
Cemetery Improvement (2014)	\$ 6,000
Office Equipment/Software	\$ 1,500
<b>TOTAL CAPITAL RESERVE FUNDS</b>	<b>\$155,000</b>

**Article 10 was read; a motion was made to put it to the floor and was seconded.  
With no discussion, the article passed by voice vote.**

**ARTICLE 11:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$41,024** for **Ambulance Service** contracted with the Town of Plymouth for the ensuing year. (Majority vote required)

**Article 11 was read; a motion was made to put it to the floor and was seconded.  
With no discussion, the article passed by voice vote.**

**ARTICLE 12:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$6,735** 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	<u>\$4,060</u>
<b>Total Safety, E-911 &amp; Emg Mgt</b>	<b>\$6,735</b>

**Article 12 was read; a motion was made to put it to the floor and was seconded. With no discussion, the article passed by voice vote.**

**ARTICLE 13:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$94,528** to defray the cost of running the **Fire Department** for the ensuing year. (Majority vote required)

**Article 13 was read; a motion was made to put it to the floor and was seconded.**

**An amendment was proposed by Cameron Brown to change the article to read: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$96,528 to defray the cost of running the Fire Department for the ensuing year. the amendment passed by voice vote with discussion. The amendment was needed to add \$2,000.00 to the protective clothing budget line. Selectmen George Bonfiglio asked why the change in budget, Cameron Brown stated the need to have two (2) sets readily available.**

**The article as amended passed by voice vote.**

**ARTICLE 14:** 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)

**Article 14 was read; a motion was made to put it to the floor and was seconded. With no discussion, the article passed by voice vote.**

**ARTICLE 15:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$10,000** to **Replace and or Repair Dry Hydrants** within the town of Rumney and to authorize the withdrawal of \$5,000 from the Water Supply – Dry Hydrant Capital Reserve Fund (established in 2010) with the remaining \$5,000 raised by taxation. This special warrant article will be a non-lapsing appropriation per RSA 32:7, VI and will not lapse until the replacement and or repairs are completed or by March 12, 2025, whichever is sooner. The Selectmen recommend this special article.

**Article 15 was read; a motion was made to put it to the floor and was seconded. the article passed by voice vote.**

**The Fire Chief was asked the locations of these Dry Hydrant’s (non-pressurized pool of water to draw from) that need replacement or repair this year. Quincy Rd by the Veterinary office (damaged by flood), Groton Hollow Rd (funded by the Groton Wind Farm LLC), and interval near the green bridge (has never functioned properly).**

**ARTICLE 16:** 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)

**Article 16 was read; a motion was made to put it to the floor and was seconded.  
With no discussion, the article passed by voice vote.**

**ARTICLE 17:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$16,800** to defray the cost of running the **EMS (Emergency Medical Services)** for the ensuing year. (Majority vote required)

**Article 17 was read; a motion was made to put it to the floor and was seconded.  
With no discussion, the article passed by voice vote.**

**ARTICLE 18:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$246,652** to defray the cost of running the **Rumney Highway Department** for the ensuing year. (Majority vote required)

**Article 18 was read; a motion was made to put it to the floor and was seconded.  
With no discussion, the article passed by voice vote.**

**ARTICLE 19:** 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)

**Article 19 was read; a motion was made to put it to the floor and was seconded.  
With no discussion, the article passed by voice vote.**

**ARTICLE 20:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$14,237** for payment on the **2019 Rumney Highway Backhoe Purchase Bond**. This article does not include appropriations contained in special or individual articles addressed separately. The Selectmen Recommend this article. (Majority vote required)

**Article 20 was read; a motion was made to put it to the floor and was seconded.  
With no discussion, the article passed by voice vote.**

**ARTICLE 21:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$160,000** for the purchase of a **Highway Department Dump Truck** and related accessories and to authorize the withdraw of up to **\$160,000** from the Highway Equipment Capital Reserve Fund (established in 1960). The Selectmen recommend this special article.

**Article 21 was read; a motion was made to put it to the floor and was seconded.  
With no discussion, the article passed by voice vote.**

**ARTICLE 22:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$159,821** to defray the cost of maintaining the **Transfer Station** for the ensuing year. (Majority vote required)

**Article 22 was read; a motion was made to put it to the floor and was seconded. With no discussion, the article passed by voice vote.**

**ARTICLE 23:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$47,789** to defray the cost of operating the **Byron G. Merrill Library** for the ensuing year. (Majority vote required)

**Article 23 was read; a motion was made to put it to the floor and was seconded. With no discussion, the article passed by voice vote.**

**ARTICLE 24:** To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$44,325** 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)

**Article 24 was read; a motion was made to put it to the floor and was seconded. With no discussion, the article passed by voice vote.**

**ARTICLE 25:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$1,710** to defray the cost of the **Pemi-Baker Solid Waste District** for the ensuing year. (Majority vote required)

**Article 25 was read; a motion was made to put it to the floor and was seconded. With no discussion, the article passed by voice vote.**

**ARTICLE 26:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$2,650** to continue with **Phase II of the Landfill Closure process** as required by the State of New Hampshire. (Majority vote required)

**Article 26 was read; a motion was made to put it to the floor and was seconded. With no discussion, the article passed by voice vote.**

**ARTICLE 27:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$33,523** 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	\$ 424
Direct Assistance	\$10,000

Welfare Administrator Stipend, etc.	\$ 4,306
Grafton County Seniors	\$ 2,300
Tri-County CAP	<u>\$ 3,895</u>
<b>Total Animal Control, Health &amp; Welfare</b>	<b>\$33,523</b>

**Article 27 was read; a motion was made to put it to the floor and was seconded. With no discussion, the article passed by voice vote.**

**ARTICLE 28:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$20,000** to Dredge and Riprap a section of **Clark Brook** that runs along Groton Hollow Road with \$15,000 of this amount to be reimbursed from the Department of Homeland Security Federal Emergency Management Agency relating to Disaster #4357DR. The remaining \$5,000 to come from taxation. This special warrant article will be a non-lapsing appropriation per RSA 32:7, VI and will not lapse until the dredging and riprap is completed or by March 14, 2025, whichever is sooner. The Selectmen recommend this special article. (Majority vote required)

**Article 28 was read; a motion was made to put it to the floor and was seconded. With no discussion, the article passed by voice vote.**

**ARTICLE 29:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$13,360** for the purposes of **Culture, Recreation and Conservation** for the ensuing year. (Majority vote required)

Common-Mowing, Maint. & Port-a-toilet	\$2,460
Baker Athletic Field	\$3,500
Jim Darling Natural Area	\$ 1,000
Patriotic Purposes	\$ 400
Conservation Commission	\$1,540
Baker River Watershed Dues	\$ 300
Conservation Trust	\$3,500
Stinson Lake Port-a-toilet	<u>\$ 660</u>
<b>Total Culture, Recreation &amp; Conservation</b>	<b>\$13,360</b>

**Article 29 was read; a motion was made to put it to the floor and was seconded. With no discussion, the article passed by voice vote.**

**ARTICLE 30:** New Hampshire Resolution to Take Action on Climate Pollution. We the town of Rumney hereby call upon our State and Federal elected representatives to enact carbon-pricing legislation to protect New Hampshire from the costs and environmental risks of continued climate

inaction. To protect households, we support a Carbon Fee and Dividend approach that charges fossil fuel producers for their carbon pollution and rebates the money collection to all residents on an equal basis. Enacting a Carbon Cash-Back program decreases long-term fossil-fuel dependence, aids in the economic transition for energy consumers, and keeps local energy dollars in New Hampshire's economy. Carbon Cash-Back has been championed by US economists (Jan 17, 2019 WSJ) as the most effective and fair way to deliver rapid reductions in harmful carbon emissions at the scale required for our safety.

We expect our representatives to lead in this critical moment for the health and well-being of our citizens and for the protection of New Hampshire's natural resources upon which we all rely.

The record of the vote approving this article shall be transmitted by written notice to Rumney's State Legislators, to the Governor of New Hampshire, to Rumney's Congressional Delegation, and to the President of the United States, informing them of the instructions from their constituents, by Rumney's Board of Selectmen within 30 days of this voted. (Article Submitted by Petition) (Majority Vote Required)

**Article 30 was read; a motion was made to put it to the floor and was seconded.**

**There was much discussion on this article from the floor.**

**Concern: Worried about jobs and companies leaving the state.**

**Response: Other states will be implementing this program also, so companies won't be leaving to go to elsewhere because of this.**

**Concern: This will cause gas and oil costs to rise and there is already a gas tax when we fill our vehicles.**

**Response: No one likes to pay taxes, but this is a very important national issue. It doesn't commit us to anything. It just lets Rumney go on the record with our Representatives that this is a serious problem.**

**Concern: What amount of the tax money collected will be returned in the refund checks?**

**Response: All carbon tax money collected will be distributed evenly in refund checks, which was openly doubted by some meeting attendees.**

**Concern: Volcanic ash is causing carbon of which we have no control over and the carbon from this lingers for a very long time.**

**Response: We can't control natural occurrences, but we can control our individual carbon contributions.**

**A motion was made and put to the floor to move the question and end debate, allowing one more question.**

**Last concern: An individual attendee urged all attendees to vote no on this issue.**

**Article 30 was done by a secret ballot and held open for 15 minutes this allowed all 60 registered town voters to cast their vote. There was a motion to go to next article while ballots were being counted, this was agreed by voice vote. The ballots were counted by David Coursey and Janice Mulherin.**

**Article 30 Ballots were counted and there was 28 YES votes and 32 NO votes.  
The article failed by secret ballot.**

**ARTICLE 31:** To see if the Town will vote to adopt NH RSA 72:28-b, All Veterans' Tax Credit." Currently, in order to qualify for the credit, a veteran must have served during specific time periods. RSA 72:28-(b) eliminates those specific time periods and makes all veterans, who qualify, eligible for the credit. (Article Submitted by Petition) (Majority Vote Required)

**Article 31 was read; a motion was made to put it to the floor and was seconded.**

**An amendment was proposed by Janet Sherburne to change the article to read: To see if the Town will vote to adopt NH RSA 72:28-b, All Veterans' Tax Credit." "The credit shall be in the amount of \$500.00." Currently, in order to qualify for the credit, a veteran must have served during specific time periods. RSA 72:28-(b) eliminates those specific time periods and makes all veterans, who qualify, eligible for the credit. (Article Submitted by Petition) (Majority Vote Required)**

**The article as amended passed by voice vote.**

**ARTICLE 32:** 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.

**Selectmen Robert Berti; Chair thanked the EMS Committee for their service and commitment. The Selectmen, speaking for the town, appreciate this. Rumney can't provide a service full time, we need regionalization. Plymouth only offered a 1-year contract, we just ended a 3-year contract. This will be a major problem for ours and surrounding towns. It would cost over \$500k yearly to hire 7 people at \$15 and hour plus health insurance, and retirement. We're hoping some of the surrounding small towns can pull together.**

**He thanked George Bonfiglio for his service, time and effort to the town. George had been asked to run as Selectmen shortly after he had moved to Rumney when others didn't want to. He stepped up and served in this position for (3) years. He served on the planning board and helped with the Planning Board Ordinance #20-01-revised Subdivision Regulations, Dated 02/25/2020.**

**Meeting adjourned at 8:55 PM**



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**Lila Williams  
Town Clerk**