## Candidates for Local Elected Office – March 12, 2024

The candidates listed below are running for office in 2024 and will be voted by ballot on Tuesday, March 12, 2024, in the Enfield Community Building, 308 US Route 4, Enfield NH. The polls will be open from 8:00 a.m. until 7:00 p.m.

## One Budget Committee Member for 1 year

Michele Ilich-Daubas Dave Beaufait

### One Budget Committee Member for 2 years

Jean Patten

## One Supervisor of the Checklist for 2 years

Jane L. Rippe

### Two Select Board Members for 3 years

Michael Diehn Alice Kennedy Katherine "Kate" Plumley Stewart

## One Trustee of Trust Funds for 3 years

Michele Ilich-Daubas

## One Cemetery Trustee for 3 years

Peggy (Margaret) De Stefano Michael Diehn

#### One Library Trustee for 3 years

Shirley A. Green Susan E. Brown

#### Two Zoning Board of Adjustment Members for 3 years

Dan Regan Bill Finger

## **Three Budget Committee Members for 3 years**

James W. Fickett Bradley Rich Dan Regan

## One Supervisor of the Checklist for 4 years

Michelle C. Foote Pearce Michael Diehn

## One Supervisor of the Checklist for 6 years

Lynn Langley

## **State of New Hampshire**

## **Town of Enfield**

Grafton S.S.

### **2024 TOWN WARRANT**

To the inhabitants of the Town of Enfield, in the County of Grafton, qualified to vote in Town affairs:

Take notice and be warned that the Annual Town Meeting of the Town of Enfield, New Hampshire, will be held on two days as follows:

On Tuesday, March 12, 2024, in the Enfield Community Building, 308 US Route 4, Enfield, NH, there will be voting only by Official Ballot for the election of Town Officers. Note: By law, the meeting must open before the voting starts. Therefore, the meeting and polls will open at 8:00 a.m. for the consideration of all ballot articles. At 12:00 Noon the meeting will recess, but the polls will remain open.

Polls will be open at 8:00 a.m. and close at 7:00 p.m. There will be no opportunity to vote by ballot on Article 1 at the second session of the Town Meeting. After the polls close at 7:00 p.m., the ballots will be counted.

The meeting will reconvene Saturday, March 16, 2024; Article 1 will be presented and Articles 2 through 19 will be presented, discussed and acted upon beginning at 9:00 a.m. at the Enfield Elementary Village School, 271 US Route 4, Enfield, NH.

**Article 1.** To choose by ballot all necessary Town Officers for the ensuing year.

For One Year: One Budget Committee Member

For Two Years: One Budget Committee Member

One Supervisor of the Checklist

For Three Years: Two Select Board Members

One Trustee of Trust Funds One Cemetery Trustee One Library Trustee

Two Zoning Board of Adjustment Members

Three Budget Committee Members

For Four Years: One Supervisor of the Checklist

For Six Years: One Supervisor of the Checklist

**Article 2:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the Budget Committee recommended sum of \$9,410,232 for general municipal operations with \$270,500 to come from the unassigned fund balance. This article does not include appropriations contained in special or individual articles addressed separately.

The Select Board recommends this article by a vote of 5-0.

The Budget Committee recommends this article by a vote of 7-2.

**Article 3:** To see if the town will vote to discontinue the following funds:

Name of Fund	Created in Year	Balance
Reappraisal	1971	2,298,66
Ambulance	1972	3,185.70
Fire Vehicles & Equipment	1981	50,741.06
Land Acquisition	1998	132,205.11
Salt/Sand Facility	2007	159.52
<b>Total Balance All Funds</b>		186,291.39

Said funds, with accumulated interest to date of withdrawal, are to be transferred to the municipality's general fund. (Majority vote required)

Special Warrant Article

The Select Board recommends this article by a vote of 5-0.

The Budget Committee recommends this article by a vote of 9-0.

**Article 4:** To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$186,291 to be added to the Capital Improvement Program Capital Reserve Fund previously established. This sum to come from unassigned fund balance. No amount to be raised from taxation. (Majority vote required)

Special Warrant Article

The Select Board recommends this article by a vote of 5-0.

The Budget Committee recommends this article by a vote of 9-0.

Article 5: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$600,068 to be placed in the Capital Improvement Program Capital Reserve Fund; \$553,168 to come from general taxation and \$46,900 to come from the unassigned general fund balance. (Majority vote required)

Special Warrant Article

The Select Board recommends this article by a vote of 5-0.

The Budget Committee recommends this article by a vote of 9-0.

Article 6: To see if the Town will vote to establish a Police Recruitment & Retention Bonus Trust Fund under the provisions of 31:19-a for the funding of Police recruitment & retention bonuses in accordance with the Town's Police Recruitment and Retention Bonus Policy and further to raise and appropriate the sum of \$20,000 to be placed in this fund, said funds to come from the 2023 Unassigned Fund Balance, and to name the Town Manager as agent to expend from the Police Recruitment & Retention Bonus Trust Fund. (Majority vote required)

Special Warrant Article

The Select Board recommends this article by a vote of 5-0.

The Budget Committee recommends this article by a vote of 9-0.

**Article 7:** To see if the Town will vote to adopt the Town of Enfield Short Term Rental Ordinance to regulate the use of short term rentals in town and provide oversight to ensure compliance.

Article 8: Shall the Town rescind the authority to borrow \$97,500 approved at the 2018 Town Meeting?

Special Warrant Article

3/5 Paper Ballot Vote Required

The Select Board recommends this article by a vote of 5-0.

The Budget Committee recommends this article by a vote of 9-0.

**Article 9:** To see if the Town will vote to approve a revised "Tax Increment Finance (TIF) District Plan" as prepared by the Enfield TIF District Advisory Board. The original TIF District and Plan was created and approved by Town Meeting vote in March of 2005 and amended in 2009 per NH RSA 162-K. The project list below is for "Potential TIF Projects":

- Identify and replace aged (1903) Water Lines along US Route 4
- Add and/or improve sidewalks within the district
- Floodplain LOMA Study and/or improvement near Lovejoy Brook and US Route 4
- Oak Grove Street Upgrades
- Install Community Electric Vehicle (EV) Charging Stations
- Identify, purchase and/or remove dilapidated structures/properties within the district
- Identify and enable access Improvements to developable property along US Route 4 and Lovejoy Brook Road
- Identify and enable expanded sewer system connectivity and improvements within the TIF district
- Identify and enable expanded water system connectivity and improvements within the TIF district
- Add and/or improve lighting and signage within the TIF district
- New Enfield Public Library Parking Lot Construction
- Huse Park/Community Building Improvements

**Article 10:** Appointment of a Town Treasurer To see if the town will vote to authorize the Select Board to appoint a town treasurer in accordance with RSA 41:26-e, rather than electing a treasurer. (Majority vote required)

Article 11: To see if the town will vote to establish a Recreation Revolving Fund pursuant to RSA 35-B:2. The money received from fees, charges, and other revenues generated for Youth Sports shall be allowed to accumulate from year to year, and shall not be considered to be part of the general fund unassigned fund balance. The treasurer shall have custody of all monies in the fund, and shall pay out the same only upon order of the Town Manager and no further legislative body approval required. These funds may be expended only for Youth Sports recreation purposes as stated in RSA 35-B, and no expenditure shall be made in such a way as to require the expenditure of other funds that have not been appropriated for that purpose. (Majority vote required)

Special Warrant Article

The Select Board recommends this article by a vote of 5-0.

The Budget Committee recommends this article by a vote of 9-0.

**Article 12:** (By Petition) Shall we adopt the provisions of RSA 40:13 (known as SB 2) to allow official ballot voting on all issues before the Town of Enfield on the second Tuesday of March?

3/5 Majority Paper Ballot Vote Required

**Article 13:** (By Petition) Shall annual expenditures, separately or in aggregate, from the CIP (Capital Improvement Program) Capital Reserve Fund be limited to less than \$150,000 (one hundred fifty thousand dollars) without specific approval by Town Meeting?

**Article 14:** (By Petition) Shall annual expenditures, separately or in aggregate, from the Unassigned Fund Balance be limited to less than \$100,000 (one hundred thousand dollars) without specific approval by Town Meeting.

**Article 15:** *(By Petition)* 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 for 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.

**Article 16:** *(By Petition)* Shall the Pledge of Allegiance be recited at the beginning of the Enfield Town Meeting, following the call to order?

**Article 17:** *(By Petition)* Shall any, and all Town of Enfield Expenditures for legal, consulting, or engineering services related to Johnston Drive and/or the Johnston park properties require specific authorization by Town Meeting?

**Article 18:** *(By Petition)* Shall the voters in the Town of Enfield vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$5,725 to be allocated to Advance Transit, Inc. to help support the continued operation of public transportation services in the town in 2024?

Special Warrant Article

The Select Board does not recommend this article by a vote of 5-0.

The Budget Committee does not recommend this article by a vote of 9-0.

**Article 19:** To hear the reports of agents, auditors, committees, or any other officers heretofore chosen and pass any vote relating thereto.

A true copy of warrant, attest:

Katherine D. P. Stewart, Chair

atherine D.P. Stewart

Alice M. Kennedy

Erik Russell, Vice Chair

John W. Kluge

Tracy Young SELECT BOARD ENFIELD NH

## 2024 Town Warrant Narrative

This narrative, provided in concert to the Town Meeting Warrant, is intended to be informational in nature, and states the purpose and rationale of the articles. The State of New Hampshire Budget Reporting Form identified as the MS-737, which is printed in your Town Report, provides details as to prior year's appropriations and expended end of year totals for both the operational aspects and capital acquisitions together with proposed 2024 requests.

## **Ballot Articles (First Session)**

Article 1 is a ballot-voting article, which will require action, either by voting in person at the election or by absentee ballot. All absentee ballots should be directed through the office of the Town Clerk. Voting will take place:

When: Tuesday, March 12, 2024

Where: Enfield Community Building, 308 US Route 4 Street, Enfield

Polls Open: 8:00 a.m. Polls Close: 7:00 p.m.

NOTE: If you have not yet registered to vote, you may register on the actual day of voting. For quickest registration, please bring the following identification items with you: birth certificate or passport, AND driver's license or non-driver's identity card, AND proof of physical address. If your driver's license does not list your Enfield address you must also bring proof of your residence, such as your auto registration, lease agreement, or utility bill.

*No ID – No Problem – you'll simply have to sign an affidavit in the presence of an election official.* 

Article 1. To choose by ballot all necessary Town Officers for the ensuing year.

For a list of candidates see page 22.

## **Business Meeting (Second Session)**

Meeting will reconvene:

When: Saturday, March 16, 2024

Where: Enfield Village School, 271 US Route 4, Enfield

Time: 9:00 a.m.

#### 2024 PROPOSED OPERATING BUDGET SUMMARY

OPERATING EXPENSES					
Category	202	3 (Budgeted)	202	4 (Budgeted)	<b>%</b> Δ
General Government Operating Budget (excludes items funded from capital reserves, prior year encumbrances & additional appropriations)	\$	6,617,250	\$	7,521,249	13.66%
Water Fund Budget	\$	300,380	\$	390,319	29.94%
Sewer Fund Budget	\$	903,816	\$	950,268	5.14%
Capital Projects Fund Budget (Lakeview/Shaker Landing Sewer Extension Debt Service)	\$	181,313	\$	181,308	0.00%
TIF District Fund Budget	\$	192,088	\$	367,088	91.10%
Total All Funds	\$	8,194,847	\$	9,410,232	14.83%

#### **General Government Operating Budget:**

The proposed 2024 operating budget for general government operations is funded from a combination of property taxes, other local receipts, and state aid. The general government proposed operating budget, exclusive of Special Warrant Articles, is \$7,521,249, an increase 13.66% above 2023. Debt service accounts for roughly half of the overall budget increase. In 2023 only a partial payment was budgeted for the Public Safety Building loan. In 2024 the full payment for the Public Safety Building loan is budgeted, as well as the full payment on the Whitney Hall/Library Renovation & Expansion loan. This is an increase in debt service of \$153%, which equals 43% of the budget increase. We are cognizant of the financial pressures this causes our residents in the current economic climate. We continue to work to keep the costs of these projects within budget and to apply for grants to offset costs. There are no guarantees that grants will be awarded, but we will continue to apply. Being under the same pressures as all of our residents, due to inflation and rising prices for materials and services, the cost to maintain current levels of service has risen resulting in the additional increase in the 2024 budget. The main contributors to the increase are solid waste collection & disposal costs and employee health insurance costs which increased 15.6%. Employee contribution percentages increased in 2024 and are slated to increase again in 2025. During the coming year, Town administration will also look at opportunities for savings for employee health insurance which could include changing the plan offered, changing our health insurance provider, or other modifications to the current plan that can reduce health care related costs.

The proposed budget of the town is presented in the MS737 found in the Financial Reports section of this report. The Municipal Water Department, Municipal Sewer Department, Capital Projects (NH Route 4A sewer extension project) and Tax Increment Finance District expenses are listed on the MS737 under Interoperating Funds Out. These budgets will be discussed separately and do not affect the tax rate.

The 2024 budget projects total revenue to the general fund in the amount of \$2,106,250 from "non property tax" sources equally a roughly \$58,515 decrease from actual non-property tax revenue in 2023. We budget revenues conservatively and are always hopeful that revenues will come in higher than projected. Rooms & Meals Tax revenue remains at higher levels than seen a few years ago. This helps to offset expenses and keep the tax rate lower. Town administration will also look for ways to increase or add new non-property tax revenue sources.

Based on NH Department of Revenue calculations as illustrated by the MS737 in this report, it is estimated that \$5,830,167, will need to be raised from the municipal property tax levy to cover both operating expenses and special warrant articles presented.

Because the Town will be undergoing a town-wide revaluation in 2024 the tax rate will most likely go down. That does not equate to a lower tax bill but does make it difficult to make tax rate comparisons between 2023 and 2024. However, should the Town's property valuation remain unchanged we anticipate a 12.9% increase in the Town tax rate. Keep in mind that even without a revaluation the Town's property valuation typically does not remain stagnant but increases by about 1% per year. The Town rate increase will be offset by lower increases in the local school, state education and country tax rates. The total tax rate is estimated to rise 6.24%

Throughout 2023, we continued to experience reduced staffing due to the inability to find workers to fill vacant positions. The Town estimates a 2023 surplus of \$288,113, with \$261,233 attributed to unfilled positions. Thise estimated surplus is un-audited and subject to change. The resulting unexpended budget and revenues greater than anticipated contribute to the Unassigned Fund Balance (UFB), which is recommended by the NH Department of Revenue (DRA) to be maintained between 8% and 17%. The goal of the governing body (Select Board) relative to a healthy UFB is 12%. Even with proposed use of UFB in the 2024 budget we remain within the DRA recommended range. We are dropping lower within that range, but feel this year, in order to smooth the tax rate and ease the burden of the budget increase on taxpayers, it is the prudent thing to do. We must, however, watch this closely in the coming years.

The Budget Committee and Select Board have presented to you a budget which they feel maintains and the services Enfield residents expect from town government.

#### **Municipal Water & Sewer Operating Budgets:**

Municipal water and sewer system operations are funded from fees assessed to the users of these systems. Municipal water and sewer system operating budget expenses do not affect the Town tax rate.

The 2024 proposed municipal water department operating budget is \$390,319, an increase of 29.94% above 2023 (\$300,380). And the 2024 proposed municipal sewer department operating budget is \$950,268, an increase of 5.14% above 2023 (\$903,816). These increases are due, primarily, to payments now due on the Town Meeting approved water improvement project loan and wastewater treatment charges due to a City of Lebanon rate increase

#### **Capital Projects Fund Operating Budget:**

Capital Projects expenses, debt service for the NH Route 4A – Shaker Landing & Lakeview Condominium – sewer extension project, are funded from sewer betterments assessed to the users of this system and State Aid Grant (SAG) funding. The 2024 proposed operating budget for the capital projects operations is \$181,308; which is a decrease of \$5.00 from the 2023 budget (\$181,313). Capital Projects Fund operating budget expenses do not affect the Town tax rate.

State Aid Grant (SAG) funding received in 2024 for the NH Route 4A Sewer Extension Project serving Shaker Landing and Lakeview Condominiums will again be used to pay down the loans and by doing so reduce the length and overall cost of the loans. The NH Route 4A project funding was provided by two loans: USDA and SRF (State Revolving Fund). The SAG award was based on original loan amounts: 57% SRF / 43% USDA. The actual SAG received will split by the same percentage to pay down the principal on these loans. We anticipate payments of \$23,849 to SRF and \$17,992 to USDA. This is good news for those property owners who are paying off these loans through sewer betterment assessments. By paying down the principal we are able to shorten the length of the loan. We are not able to adjust sewer betterment charges, however, since the semi-annual payments due on these loans will remain unchanged.

#### **Tax Increment Finance District Fund Operating Budget:**

The Tax Increment Finance District expenses (debt service and project expenses) are funded from the TIF District Fund. The TIF District Fund receives tax revenue on improvements to properties within the district and State Aid Grant (SAG) funding. The 2024 proposed TIF District operating budget is \$367,088, an increase of \$175,000 from the 2023 budget. The increase is comprised of \$150,000 for the Whitney Hall / Library parking lot and \$25,000 for flood plain engineering. As a new project on the proposed TIF District Project List, the expenditure of \$25,000 for floodplain engineering is dependent upon the passage of Article 9. Should Article 9 fail this \$25,000 cannot and will not be expended. TIF District operating budget expenses do not affect the Town tax rate.

The Town anticipates receipt of SAG funding for the US Route 4 Water & Sewer Extension Project in 2024 in the amount of \$29,842. Each year that SAG funding is received, the Town will use the funds to pay down the project loan principal (which is paid out of the TIF Fund) and by doing so reduce the length of the loan. As required by the NH Department of Revenue the expenditure of \$29,842 is included in the TIF Fund budget. If expended, it will be fully offset by revenues resulting in no change in the TIF Fund balance.

### **Article 2: Proposed Operating Budget**

**Explanation:** This article, raising and appropriating \$9,410,232, is indicative of the appropriations for Town operations, including Water and Sewer operations, Capital Projects (NH Route 4A Sewer Extension) and TIF District loan payments and projects detailed above.

The summary of the operating budget is provided at the beginning of this section, as well as the accompanying MS-737 Form (the Town's official "Proposed Budget") which the Budget Committee has filed with the NH Department of Revenue Administration.

When the Budget Committee and municipal administration began the budget development process for 2024, there were several broad goals set. These included:

- Maintain core services
- Support Enfield's high quality of life
- Ensure funding proposal align with ongoing department-/town-level strategic planning efforts
- Reinforce and encourage town efficiencies
- Make responsible budget decisions to minimize impacts on taxpayers in the short term as well as the long term

Additionally, the proposed budget was developed to

- Ensure that municipal employees continue to receive levels of compensation (inclusive of wages and benefits) that are competitive with other communities and reward high levels of performance.
- Minimizing any increase in the property tax rate to the fullest extent possible.
- Continue monitoring the undesignated fund balance in the General Fund (it is recommended that the undesignated fund balance be maintained at 8%-17% of the general ledger budget (which includes payments to county government and the local school district), which had entered a deficit situation prior to 2017. In 2019 the Enfield Selectboard adopted a town policy target of 12%. The undesignated fund balance is near the town's policy target.

- Continuing to support the Town's long-term commitment to fund the Capital Improvement Program Capital Reserve Fund.
- Continue to support the financial plan developed in 2018 for eliminating the existing Sewer Fund deficit and growing the Sewer fund balance to healthy levels.
- Encouraging administration and departments to seek and secure external funding for programs and services where possible, to offset costs that would otherwise need to be borne by property taxes and other sources of municipal revenue.

#### **Article 3:** Discontinuance of Capital Reserve Funds

*Explanation:* These funds are no longer actively being used. The Ambulance, Fire Vehicles & Equipment, Land Acquisition and Salt/Sand Facility funds are all purposes which are currently allowable uses in the Capital Improvement Program Capital Reserve Fund. By statute, when a reserve fund is discontinued the balance of the fund and accumulated interest must go into the general fund.

Name of Fund	Created in Year	Balance
Reappraisal	1971	2,298,66
Ambulance	1972	3,185.70
Fire Vehicles & Equipment	1981	50,741.06
Land Acquisition	1998	132,205.11
Salt/Sand Facility	2007	159.52
<b>Total Balance All Funds</b>		186,291.39

# Article 4: Appropriation to Capital Improvement Program Capital Reserve Fund from Unassigned Fund Balance

**Explanation:** If the Town Meeting votes to discontinue the funds in Article 3, it is proposed that a like amount be raised and appropriated and deposited into the Capital Improvement Program Capital Reserve Fund. This article has no impact on the Town tax rate.

American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds received by the Town (\$474,349) could have been used to purchase land for the Public Safety Building, however, if used for the purchase of land there were onerous federal reporting requirements. The Town was advised by the US Treasury that we could purchase the land from the operating budget and use the ARPA funds for payment of general operating expenses to offset the land purchase cost. During 2022 and 2023, in the interests of transparency, the Town decided on a different course of action. After legal review and discussions with the New Hampshire Department of Revenue Administration, Select Board, Capital Improvement Program (CIP) Committee and Trustees of Trust Funds, as well as our residents during two public hearings, one to discuss use of ARPA funds and one about the use of CIP funds for the purchase of land, the Select Board chose to use the ARPA funds to make purchases of a police cruiser, ambulance and plow truck – all purchases that were in the CIP Plan. In turn, the CIP capital reserve fund (CRF) was used to purchase the land for the Public Safety Building. The net result was that \$25,651 above the amount of expenditures offset by the ARPA funds were expended from the CIP CRF for the land purchase.

Depositing the funds from the discontinued capital reserve funds into the CIP CRF will make the fund "whole" for the purchase of the Public Safety Building land and will add additional funds to maintain the health of the fund for other capital projects.

## Article 5: Capital Improvement Program (CIP) Capital Reserve Fund (CRF)

**Explanation:** The Town recommends \$600,068 be raised and appropriated to the CIP capital reserve fund (CIP-CRF) in 2024, with \$46,900 from come for Unassigned Fund Balance (UFB).

The funding requested is the equivalent of an additional \$26,200 over the prior year (5¢ on the tax rate), plus an appropriation of \$46,900 – more on that to follow. Of the total appropriation requested \$553,168 would be funded by taxation and \$46,900 would be funded by a withdrawal from the Unassigned Fund Balance (UFB).

### Why the use of Unassigned Fund Balance?

In 2022 the Town's chipper was extensively damaged by a piece of steel which was mixed in with brush deposited at the Town's brush "dump.". The chipper was deemed totaled by the Town's insurer. The Town received \$46,900 from the insurance company. Following discussion with the CIP Committee and the Select Board it was deemed appropriate to purchase a new chipper and use the insurance money to offset that expense. The \$46,900 was deposited into the general fund. Because the receipt of funds from the insurer happened in a different year than the purchase of the new chipper the Town was unable to directly use the insurance money to purchase the chipper and was ultimately added to the UFB as surplus. The CIP CRF was used to pay the full cost of the new chipper and the Town is requesting that the \$46,900 now come from the general fund unassigned fund balance to reimburse the CIP CRF.

### **Potential Amendment at Town Meeting**

The Select Board and Budget Committee have discussed a proposed amendment at Town Meeting. <u>If Articles 3 & 4</u> pass there will be funds entering the CIP CRF from the closed CRFs. In light of financial pressures from our current economy, there may be an amendment proposed by the Select Board to reduce the amount to be raised in this article. The amount of the proposed amendment is not known at the time of this printing but would be done for the purposes of reducing the tax need while still funding the CIP CRF.

The available funds in the CIP-CRF are approximately \$1.8 million at 2023-year end. Proposed 2024 expenditures will result in an estimated net decrease of \$21,882. Each year the CIP Committee's goal is to appropriate to the CIP-CRF a total amount which exceeds what is withdrawn, with the goal of growing the size of the fund so that fewer vehicle/equipment purchases necessitate any borrowing (i.e., loans and capital leases). The CIP Committee reviews the plan annually and will be making decisions regarding proposed expenditures, prioritizing projects as needed, to maintain the long-term solvency of this fund. We continue to use borrowing when interest rates are favorable to get the most out of the fund. A complete report of 2023 actual and 2024 planned CIP-CRF expenditures is provided in this Annual Report.

Upon its inception in 2012, the goal was to add \$26,200 to appropriations each year ( $5\phi$  on the tax rate) in order to grow the fund. It was hoped to discontinue the annual increases, but the additional  $5\phi$  is not keeping up with inflation so will be continued. The following amounts have been raised and appropriated to the fund (amounts that will likely be proposed in future years are shown in *italics*):

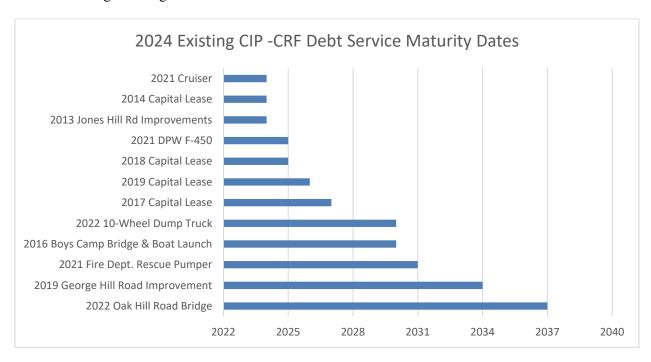
Year Appropriation		Difference		
2012	210,168	56,832		
2013	267,000	24,783		
2014	291,783	25,585		
2015	317,368	26,200		
2016	343,568	26,200		

2017	369,768	(49,800)
2018	319,968	102,200
2019	422,168	26,200
2020	448,368	26,200
2021	519,568	71,200
2022	500,768	26,200
2023	526,968	26,200
2024	553,168*	26,200
2025	579,368	26,200
2026	605,568	

<sup>\*</sup>Exclusive of amount to be raised from Unassigned Fund Balance

The overarching strategy developed by the CIP Committee is to:

- 1. Continue to update and maintain fixed asset inventories
- 2. Articulate an affordable long-term funding strategy through the development of a 6-year Capital Improvement Plan (CIP plan)
- 3. Facilitate a smooth, affordable tax rate
- 4. Leverage funding sources that fit our needs



Article 6: Establish a Police Recruitment & Retention Bonus Trust Fund

**Explanation:** This article creates and funds an expendable trust fund to cover the costs of police recruitment and retention and fund it with \$20,000 from the surplus created by unfilled police positions in 2023. The cost to retain our trained officers is far less than the cost to train a new officer.

#### **Article 7:** Adopt a Short Term Rental Ordinance

**Explanation:** The purpose of the proposed short term rental ordinance is to preserve the traditional character of residential neighborhoods and quality of life for abutting residences and to ensure the safety of Short-Term Rental occupants.

## **ORDINANCE**

#### RELATIVE TO SHORT TERM RENTALS

#### **Definitions**

"Short-Term Rental" means a dwelling unit where transient lodging is provided for compensation for stays of between one and 30 consecutive nights, and where the dwelling unit would normally be considered a residential living unit not associated with regulated commercial activities such as a New Hampshire State licensed hotel, inn, motel, or bed-and-breakfast.

#### Whereas:

The short-term rental market has been expanding due to the advent of technology that can list rentals and their availability through the internet and applications on mobile devices. The Town of Enfield NH has seen an increase in short term rentals, especially in the vicinity of the Town's lakes and ponds. The Town's proximity to area tourist attractions, businesses, institutions and academic centers has also caused the short-term rental market to expand markedly. The Town of Enfield hereby adopts this ordinance for the following purpose:

- To preserve the traditional character of residential neighborhoods and quality of life for abutting residences.
- To ensure the safety of Short-Term Rental occupants.

## Whereby:

- 1. All Short-Term Rental units shall be required to obtain a Short-Term Rental Permit from the Town, effective May 1, 2024.
- 2. A fee for a Short-Term Rental Permit shall be \$100 per year payable to "The Town of Enfield, NH."
- 3. An application for a Short-Term Rental Permit shall be filed with the Town Land Use Office at the DPW Facility at 74 Lockhaven Road, Enfield, NH.
- 4. A Short-Term Rental that is rented for 14 nights or less per calendar year and is the owner's primary residence does not require a permit or inspection. All other requirements of this ordinance apply and remain in effect.
- 5. A Short-Term Rental Permit will be approved or denied by the Land Use Administrator using the following criteria:

- a. The owner of any Short-Term Rental unit shall provide the name, address, and telephone number of a person or persons within a sixty (60) minute drive who is authorized to accept calls for and respond to questions, complaints, and service requests. These individuals may also receive process for any legal proceeding brought against the owner of the property. This person/s shall be known as the Primary Point of Contact (PPOC). The Town must be notified, in writing, within fourteen (14) days if there is a change in the identity of the PPOC. Failure to notify the Town of a change of PPOC within fourteen (14) days, will require a new permit to be issued, resulting in a new charge for the permit fee.
- b. The Short-Term Rental property shall be inspected, before the issuance of any new permit, for compliance with these regulations by the Enfield Building Inspector or other Town designee. Any deficiencies will be detailed in a written inspection report prepared by the inspector and provided to the applicant and the PPOC. Properties that have kept their Short Term Rental Permit in good standing will be reinspected on an as needed basis, however the Town reserves the right to inspect the property whenever it deems necessary. Inspections will be performed no less than every five (5) years.
- c. As part of the application process the owner of the Short-Term Rental unit must sign an Affidavit which shall certify the following:
  - i. Smoke/CO detectors are installed and maintained in areas defined by the NH State Fire Code and NH State Building Code.
  - ii. Windows and/or doors designated for emergency egress are well maintained and are in operational order.
  - iii. No basement space shall be used as a sleeping area unless there are properly sized egress windows and/or doors conforming to the NH State Fire Code and NH State Building Code.
  - iv. A functional fire extinguisher must be visibly installed in any kitchen area.
  - v. The maximum number of people that the dwelling unit can be advertised for in any published listing or other form of marketing, shall be two (2) people for each bedroom listed on the town issued building permit and/or tax card, plus two (2) additional people,. This will also be the established overnight occupancy limit. The maximum overnight occupancy and day guest occupancy numbers shall be requested by the applicant at the time of the permit and will require approval by the Town.
  - vi. All vehicles shall be parked on the property and in designated parking areas. Vehicles left in the public right of way may be subject to towing and removal at the owner's expense. The number of parking spaces will be requested by the applicant and will require approval by the Town.
  - vii. A seasonal burn permit must be obtained for outdoor fire pits and rings. Contact the forest fire wardens for burn permits.
  - viii. Responsibilities of a Short-Term Rental Owner include the removal of all trash and recycling in a timely manner. Waste shall not be left out for collection any earlier than 24 hours before a scheduled municipal pick-up time.
  - ix. Owners shall clearly communicate that all renters must follow all state laws and local ordinance requirements. These include, but are not limited to: noise limits, use of fireworks, dogs on leash, boating licenses, etc. (town ordinances can be found at:
    - https://www.enfield.nh.us/town-manager/pages/ordinances-policies-regulations
  - x. The owner of a Short Term Rental unit shall provide proof of a current NH Rooms and Meals Tax license number or document an equivalent service that collects these funds as per State of NH law.
- 6. The Primary Point of Contact will be notified of any violation of this Ordinance either in person by responding Town personnel, written notice, or regular mail. The owner has the right to a

hearing to appeal against any such notice. A hearing must be requested within 10 days of the notice. Failure to contest the notice in the required time period results in a conclusive presumption that the violation and any corresponding fine is valid. The hearing shall be before a three-member board known as the Short-Term Rentals Appeals Board ('STRAB") appointed by the Select Board, or if there is no STRAB, then the Select Board shall hear the appeal. The owner shall have the right to present written and oral evidence subject to the right of cross-examination. The STRAB will arbitrate whether or not the violation is proper.

- 7. Short Term Rental Permits shall be good for one calendar year (January 1 to December 31). Applications for the following calendar year may be submitted starting November 15 of the prior year.
- 8. Nuisances or any other dangers to the public health reported by lodgers or abutters may require an inspection pursuant to NH RSA 147:3. Complaints will be investigated by the police department and/or building and health inspector.
- 9. All Short Term Rentals shall have a clearly visible and legible notice posted within the dwelling unit on or adjacent to the front door containing the following information:
  - a. The name of the Primary Point of Contact authorized in writing to accept service for the owner of the unit and a telephone number at which that party can be reached on a 24-hour basis.
  - b. The E-911 address of the property.
  - c. The maximum number of occupants permitted to stay overnight in the dwelling unit as well as the maximum number of day guests permitted at any one time.
  - d. The maximum number of vehicles allowed to be on the property.
  - e. The requirement that all guest parking must be in the available parking areas on the property and not in or along any private, community or public street or right-of-way or on any lawn or vegetated area on the property.
  - f. The trash pick-up day and notification that trash and refuse shall not be left or stored on the roadside any earlier than 24 hours before a scheduled municipal pick-up time.
  - g. Notification that an occupant or guest may be cited and fined for creating a disturbance or for violating other provisions of the Town's Ordinances, including parking and occupancy limits.
  - h. Notification that Short Term Rental occupants and guests are required to make the dwelling unit available for inspection by the Enforcement Officer upon request.
- 10. Penalties for non-compliance with this ordinance will be issued by the Enfield Police Department as follow: 1st offense- a written warning, 2nd offense- a \$500 fine, 3rd offense and subsequent- a \$1,000 fine and possible revocation of permit. Short-Term Rental Permits may be revoked as a result of any violation of this ordinance, state laws, or other local regulations, in the sole discretion of the Selectboard. The Town reserves the right to revoke Short-Term Rental permits for any level of violation, and regardless of whether there were prior violations.

#### **Article 8: Rescind Authority to Borrow**

*Explanation*: The 2018 Town Meeting authorized the borrowing of \$97,500 for Crystal Lake Road improvements (\$58,000), Huse Park Basketball Court Improvements (\$15,000), Whitney Hall Parking Lot Resurfacing (\$15,000), Transfer Station Office Trailer Replacement (\$6,500) and Community Building Security/Locks Upgrades (\$3,000), The loan was never taken out. We were able to complete the Crystal Lake Road Improvements and Community Building Security/Locks Upgrades using funds within

the budget when the projects were completed. The Whitney Hall parking lot resurfacing was not undertaken; \$150,000 for a municipal parking lot is an approved project in the TIF (Tax Increment Finance) District Plan and is included in the 2024 TIF Fund budget. The parking lot improvements budgeted in the TIF Fund will have no impact on the tax rate. A more efficient use of our buildings at the Transfer Station negated the need to expend funds to replace the office trailer. The basketball court improvements were contingent upon receiving some grants, donations or other funding sources that did not materialize. Therefore, it is recommended that the authorization to borrow be rescinded.

#### **Article 9:** Approve Amended Tax Increment Finance (TIF) District Plan

**Explanation:** The TIF District Advisory Committee proposes adoption of this amended TIF District Plan which includes updates to the Proposed Projects List:

## Tax Increment Finance (TIF) District Plan Adopted at the Enfield Town Meeting

on March 14, 2005, Amended 2009 Amended 2019

#### **TAX INCREMENT FINANCING (TIF)**

TIF is a powerful economic development tool for funding infrastructure improvements, which support commercial development and has been used successfully in communities throughout New Hampshire.

Authorized under New Hampshire Title XII RSA Chapter 162K, Tax Increment Financing (TIF) provides financing for public improvements (sewer, water, roads, sidewalks, landscaping, etc.) that are required to initiate viable economic development. New property tax revenue created by the proposed development is used to offset the cost of the public improvements. A TIF can provide an attractive and viable mechanism to pay for the public improvements necessary to support desired re-development projects, business expansion, or renovation in specific areas desirable to the municipality.

The properties within the area designated for revitalization are defined as a "TIF District". The size and configuration of the District is determined by the type and nature of the economic development activity that a City or Town wants to stimulate. When a TIF district is established, the current assessed property values in the district are set as a baseline. This value is sometimes referred to as a "snapshot," where values are fixed at the creation of the district. Any increase in the property values within that district which results in increased tax values can be used entirely, or in part, to pay for the infrastructure improvements.

## ENFIELD, NH'S TIF DISTRICT

Enfield's Tax Increment Finance (TIF) District was first created in 2005, pursuant to RSA Chapter 162-K, and was amended in 2009 to remove what was known as the "Ironman Development," a residential housing development project proposed for land with frontage on Maple Street and US Route 4. The remaining District area encompasses most of the US Route 4 corridor through Enfield, as well as portions of the Village area around Main Street.

The TIF District was intended as a funding mechanism for infrastructure improvements to support and increase the commercial businesses and jobs in the town, thereby increasing the commercial tax base. Funding is in the form of tax revenues from property assessment increases due to new construction and improvements to fund approved projects within the district. Several projects have been funded with dollars in the TIF District Fund, including park improvements and a bridge replacement. The

largest project undertaken was the US Route 4 sewer and water extension. The annual bond debt service payments for the \$3.2 million loan are paid from TIF District Funds. This 30-year note on this project was scheduled to be paid in full in by 2042. This date assumes that no additional payments are made to principal during that time. In fact Enfield has made additional principal payment as the revenues generated by TIF, have been healthy.

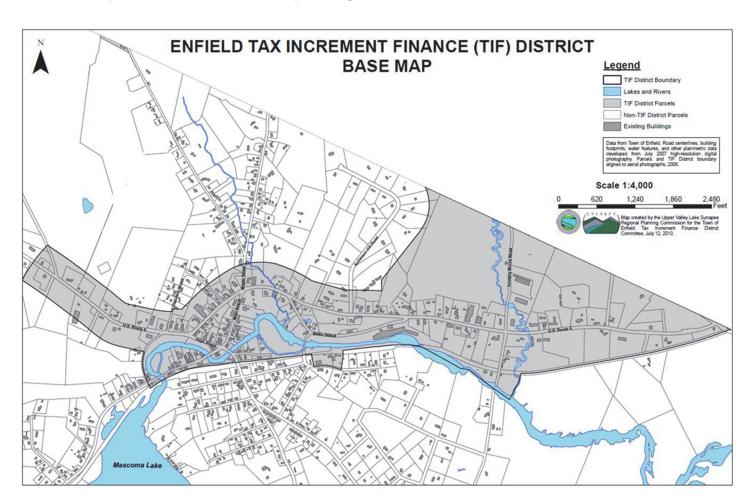
#### TIF COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Andrew Bernier—Committee Chair (Term Expires 2026)\* Benjamin Shapiro—Committee Member (Term Expires 2024) Bruce Bergeron—Committee Member (Term Expires 2024)\* Erik Russell—Select Board Rep. & Committee Member (Term Expires 2024) Bobbi Lynds—Committee Member (Term Expires 2026)

\* In District Property Owner (must be a majority of the committee

#### TIF COMMITTEE STAFF

Ed Morris- Town Manager Rob Taylor—Land Use and Community Development Administrator



### **AUTHORITY AND PURPOSE**

In Accordance with RSA 162-K, the Town of Enfield hereby adopts the following Tax Increment Financing Plan (TIF) for the area of town known as the Enfield Village. It is the purpose in forming this district to encourage new investment, revitalization, and re-investment in this area. Without these additional investments, the capacity does not presently exist to support all of the development for which these areas are zoned. Also, without improvements to the physical infrastructure and visual appearance, revitalization efforts are hampered and erosion of the tax base could occur. It is the Town's intention to use tax increment financing to help pay for necessary improvements. The Enfield Tax Increment Finance District was adopted by vote of Town Meeting on March 14. 2005.

### **LOCATION OF DISTRICT**

The Enfield Village Tax Increment Finance District is illustrated by the map above. It encompasses a large part of the Community Business (CB) Zoning District located along US Route 4 as well as the Route 4 Zoning District. This District comprises approximately 343 acres, or less than 2% of the town land area: by law, no TIF district can account for more than 5% of the total land area.

#### **TIF ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

The legislative body of the municipality shall create an advisory board for each development district that ensures fair representation of business and community interests. The board shall consist of such number of members appointed or elected as determined by the legislative body. A majority of members shall be owners or occupants of real property within the community and at least one member shall be an owner or occupant of real property within the development district. In a substantially residential development district, however, the board shall consist solely of owners or occupants of real property within the community and at least one member shall be an owner or occupant of real property within the development district. The advisory board shall advise the governing body and district administrator on planning, construction and implementation of the development program and on maintenance and operation of the district after the program has been completed. The governing body shall by resolution delineate the respective powers and duties of the advisory board and the planning staff or agency. The resolution shall establish reasonable time limits for consultation by the advisory board on the phases of the development program, and provide a mechanism for appealing to the governing body for a final decision when conflicts arise between the advisory board and the planning staff or agency, regarding the development program in its initial and subsequent stages.

#### **STATEMENT OF OBJECTIVES**

The purpose of the district is to fund public improvements to roads, intersections, sidewalks, sewer, water, drainage, lighting, signage, utility poles and lines, broadband telecommunications, landscaping, or other associated improvements that will help create and support development of mixed land uses, typical of New England Villages and consistent with Enfield's own traditions. It is recognized that this area is the core commercial area in the Town that provides a substantial number of jobs and services, and also represents an important part of the non-residential Tax base of the community.

## **DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR AND DISTRICT ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Pursuant to RSA 162-K:13, the Enfield Selectboard has appointed the Town Land Use and Community Development Administrator to serve as the TIF District Administrator. Following the approval of this plan at Town Meeting in 2005, the Board of Selectmen appointed TIF District Advisory Committee (Board) which, in accordance with the provision of RSA 162-K:14, must be made up of a majority of members who are owners or occupants of real property within or adjacent to the District.

This Board shall advise the District Administrator and Selectmen on the maintenance and implementation of the District Plan. All meetings of the Advisory Board shall be public, and both the Administrator and the Board are encouraged to obtain extensive public input as they prepare to implement the plan.

### **TIF DISTRICT PLAN**

Per RSA 162-K:6, the TIF District Plan "shall contain a complete statement as to the public facilities to be constructed within the district, the open space to be created, the environmental controls to be applied, the proposed reuse of private property, and the proposed operations of the district after the capital improvements within the district have been completed".

The TIF District Plan may include the following range of projects:

- a) Acquire, construct, reconstruct, improve, alter, extend, operate, maintain or promote developments aimed at improving the physical facilities, quality of life and quality of transportation.
- b) Acquire real property or easements through negotiation or through powers of eminent domain, except that property acquired through powers of eminent domain shall be put to public use, as defined in RSA 162-K:2, IX-a.
- c) Adopt ordinances regulating the use of public parking structures and other facilities constructed within the development district and access to them and the conditions under which such access is allowed. Traffic regulations may include, but shall not be limited to, direction and speed of traffic, kinds of service activities that will be allowed in arcades, parking structures and plazas. and rates to be charged in the parking structures:
- d) Require construction of buildings within the district so as to accommodate and support pedestrian systems which are part of the program for the development district. When the municipality requires for the public benefit the construction of columns. beams or girders with greater strength than required for normal building purposes, the municipality shall reimburse the owner for the added expense from development district funds:
- e) Install lighting systems, street signs and street furniture, landscaping of street and public property, and snow removal systems compatible with the character of the district:
- f) Acquire property for the district, lease air rights over public property and spend public funds for constructing the foundations and columns in the public buildings strong enough to support the buildings to be constructed on air rights.
- g) Lease all or portions of basements. ground and second floors of the public buildings constructed in the district: and negotiate the sale or lease of property for private development if the development is consistent with the development program for the district.

#### **DURATION OF THE DISTRICT**

It is the intention of the Town that once a plan has been adopted and sufficient funds have been allocated to pay for necessary improvements, or bond notes for improvements have been retired, the District will no longer be needed. Therefore the District will expire on February 8, 2020, unless extended by Town Meeting vote\*. It shall be the duty of the Administrator and the Board of Selectmen to ensure that any obligations of the District or unexpended funds will be adequately addressed prior to or as part of this expiration, and a detailed report shall be provided at the March 2020 Town Meeting detailing the steps to be taken to properly meet any obligations or to provide for unexpended funds.

\*In 2019, the Enfield Town Meeting voted to extend the TIF by another 10 years to February 8, 2030.

#### **POTENTIAL TIF PROJECTS LIST**

- Identify and replace aged (1903) Water Lines along US Route 4
- Add and/or improve sidewalks within the district
- Floodplain LOMA Study and/or improvement near Lovejoy Brook and US Route 4
- Oak Grove Street Upgrades
- Install Community Electric Vehicle (EV) Charging Stations
- Identify, purchase and/or remove dilapidated structures/properties within the district
- Identify and enable access Improvements to developable property along US Route 4 and Lovejoy Brook Road
- Identify and enable expanded sewer system connectivity and improvements within the TIF district
- Identify and enable expanded water system connectivity and improvements within the TIF district
- Add and/or improve lighting and signage within the TIF district
- New Enfield Public Library Parking Lot Construction
- Huse Park/Community Building Improvements

#### **Article 10:** Appoint Town Treasurer

**Explanation:** The Town currently benefits from a well-qualified individual serving as Town Treasurer. Due to the position requiring a certain level of knowledge and abilities to perform the required functions, it is recommended that this position become appointed rather than elected so we can be assured that we will continue to have this position filled by an individual with the abilities required to perform the job well.

### **Article 11: Establish Recreation Revolving Fund for Youth Sports**

**Explanation:** Mascoma area youth sports have been organized and run by the Mascoma Youth Sports Leage (MYSL). This is a very small group of parents who volunteer their time. The members tend to change as their children age out of the Youth Sports programs. The Town of Enfield will be taking over the administration and organization of youth sports in 2024. Other Mascoma school district towns will be asked to contribute to the cost of Youth Sports. In order to keep the funds from other municipalities segregated from the Enfield general fund and restrict use of the funds to Youth Sports it is recommended a Recreation Revolving Fund be created. Revenues going into the fund will include contributions from other communities for this purpose, fees for Youth Sports programs, and other revenue sources, such as concessions.

# Article 12: (By Petition) Adoption of the provisions of RSA 40:13 (known as SB 2) to allow official ballot voting on all issues before the Town

**Explanation:** This article has been placed on the warrant by citizen-petition.

#### From the Town – Town Meeting Under SB2:

RSA 40:13 Use of Official Ballot (<a href="http://www.gencourt.state.nh.us/rsa/html/III/40/40-13.htm">http://www.gencourt.state.nh.us/rsa/html/III/40/40-13.htm</a>) lays out the procedure for holding a Town Meeting under SB2. For complete information on the procedure follow the link provided. For the short version, read on.

#### The Town Meeting will be held in two sessions.

**First Session** – is for the transaction of all business other than voting by official ballot and will be held between the first and second Saturdays following the last Monday in January, inclusive of those Saturdays. Under SB2 in 2025 the first session would be held on or between February 1 and February 8.

At the first session the meeting will consist of explanation, discussion and debate of each warrant article, including warrant articles pertaining to the operating budget and default budget. Warrant articles may be amended at this first session subject to the following limitations:

- Warrant articles whose wording is prescribed by law shall not be amended
- Warrant articles that are amended shall be placed on the official ballot for a final vote on the main motion, as amended,
- No warrant article shall be amended to eliminate the subject matter of the article. An amendment that changes the dollar amount of an appropriation in a warrant article shall not be deemed to violate this subparagraph.

All Warrants articles shall be placed on the official ballot for a final vote, including articles as amended at the first session.

For adoption or amendment of an ordinance, the Enfield Zoning Ordinance for instance, the ballot may contain a topical description of the substance of the ordinance or amendment instead of the full text. When a topical description is used on the official ballot, an official copy of the proposed ordinance or amendment will be made publicly available not later than one week before the second session and will be on display at the second session.

**Second Session** – is the official ballot voting day to elect officers of the Town, to vote on questions required by law, and to vote on all warrant articles from the first session. The second session shall be held on the second Tuesday in March.

Voting at the second session will be held using the same procedures as are currently used for voting by official ballot at Town Meeting, including all requirements pertaining to absentee voting, polling place and polling hours.

Approval of all warrant articles are by simple majority except for questions which require a 3/5 vote by law, contract or written agreement.

**Default Budget** – If the operating budget article fails, the Town shall be deemed to have approved the default budget, or the Select Board may hold a special meeting to take up the issue of a revised operating budget. The "Default Budget" means the amount of the same appropriations as contained in the operating budget authorized for the previous year, reduced and increased, as the case may be, by debt service, contracts, and other obligations previously incurred or mandated by law, and reduced by one-time expenditures contained in the operating budget and by salaries and benefits of positions that have been eliminated in the proposed budget. In calculating the default budget amount, the Select Board, as the governing body, shall follow the statutory formula which may result in a higher or lower amount than the proposed operating budget. The default budget shall be disclosed and presented for questions and discussion at the first budget hearing.

The Select Board will provide to the voters line-item details for changes, including at minimum:

- Appropriations contained in the previous years' operating budget
- Reductions and increases to the previous year's operating budget

- One-time expenditures
- Reductions for eliminated positions and benefit expenditures

The question on the ballot concerning the operating budget will include the proposed budget as well as disclosure of the default budget in the event the article is defeated.

#### New deadlines will be in place:

The final date for submission of petitioned articles will be the second Tuesday in January, provided however, that if a petitioned article proposes a bond in excess of \$100,000, the deadline shall be the preceding Friday.

The Budget Hearing will be held on or before the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday in January. One or more supplemental budget hearings can be held any time before the first session.

Warrants and budgets shall be posted and available to the general public on or before the last Monday in January.

Final budgets and ballot questions will be printed in the Town Report and available at least one week before the second session of the annual meeting when ballot voting occurs.

Article 13: (By Petition) To Limit Expenditures from the Capital Improvement Program Capital Reserve Fund to less than \$150,000 without specific approval by Town Meeting.

**Explanation:** This article has been placed on the warrant by citizen-petition.

Article 14: (By Petition) To Limit Expenditures from Unassigned Fund Balance to less than \$100,000 without specific approval by Town Meeting.

**Explanation:** This article has been placed on the warrant by citizen-petition.

Article 15: (By Petition) To Adopt RSA 41:14-a to Allow the Selectmen to Acquire or Sell Land, Buildings or Both

**Explanation:** This article has been placed on the warrant by citizen-petition.

Article 16: (By Petition) To Recite the Pledge of Allegiance at Town Meeting

**Explanation:** This article has been placed on the warrant by citizen-petition.

Article 17: (By Petition) Require Specific Authorization by Town Meeting for Certain Services Related to Johnston Dr. and/or the Johnston park properties

**Explanation:** This article has been placed on the warrant by citizen-petition.

## Article 18: (By Petition) Raise & Appropriate \$5,725 to be Allocated to Advance Transit

Explanation: This article has been placed on the warrant by citizen-petition.

## **Article 19:** To Hear Reports

**Explanation:** This article allows voters to transact any other business that may legally come before Town Meeting. Items brought up for discussion can only be advisory or informational in content and nature. Any items requesting the Town to raise and appropriate money cannot come before the meeting under this article.

## **Moderator's Rules**

### Thank you for attending and participating in our traditional Enfield Town Meeting.

<u>Purpose:</u> Debate of the Warrant Articles, with legitimate differences of opinion and Final Decisions to be made by this body; Constructive discussion & feedback by this body, Town officials & Administration.

<u>Moderator's role:</u> To facilitate <u>your</u> meeting by orderly, fair, even-handed and civil debate of germane issues. Strict Roberts Rules and fancy parliamentary shenanigans are out of order. Any ruling by the Moderator can be over-ruled by a majority of this body.

- A. ONLY ONE amendment at a time will be allowed, without amendments to amendments. Like-wise, only one motion will be on the floor at all times.
- B. Negative amendments or motions will not be accepted (amendments/motions that require a "no" to pass).
- C. Legally allowed amendments, germane to the **SUBJECT of ANY original, WARNED ARTICLE**, including petition articles can be made, explained, discussed, and debated. Amendments must be written. Passage or failure of amendments will be determined by vote. Final votes will determine the outcome for each Article. The wording of certain Articles is legally prescribed and may not be amended.
- D. RSA 40:7: "No person shall speak without leave of the moderator, nor when any person is speaking in order."
- E. Non-residents may speak to the Meeting regarding Warrant articles only with the consent of the meeting. There are usually issues regarding one or more Articles which non-resident input may be pertinent. A motion regarding allowing non-resident(s) to speak or will be needed. (Majority vote required)
- F. All Articles will be dealt with in the order printed in the published Warrant unless voted otherwise. We must take action on each & all Warrant Articles.
- G. We may need to move on to other business while completing paper ballot voting and counting regarding any Article. A motion to Table each such Article until the votes are counted will be entertained as appropriate.
- H. Everyone who speaks must use a microphone so they can be heard. If a voter is unable to reach one of the stand-up microphones, the voter should raise his/he hand and a hand-held one will be provided.
- I. Brevity is most effective. If you speak for more than just a very few minutes, you will probably not make your point effectively. Speakers must speak to the issue and not to individuals raising them. All comments will be directed to the moderator. Personal attacks, innuendos, and obstruction of orderly process will be Ruled Out of Order.
- J. Each speaker may only speak once until everyone has spoken.
- K. Previously, some residents expressed concern that debate was cut off too soon on some Articles, we have decided in recent years not to adopt rules limiting debate. Unless there is a motion otherwise, there will be no limits on debate. Considering the balance of fair and full discussion of all the Warrant Articles, with the continued presence of all of those attending this Meeting, motions to **Limit Debate** will be accepted, but will be interpreted to allow those citizens on either side who have not yet spoken to the Issue who are already standing, or who immediately get in line at the microphone, up to 2 minutes each to speak.

- L. Motions to Call the Question will be similarly interpreted. (2/3 Vote Required).
- M. Requests for a Secret Ballot require advance written request of 5 voters prior, (or 7 voters immediately after a vote) present and identified at the Meeting. Motions to Restrict Reconsideration are only in order after the Article(s) have been addressed and decided.
- N. If the meeting is not finished by 11:00 p.m., the moderator will recess the meeting to a future date.

Common Motions	Second	Debate	Amend	Vote	Reconsider
Main Motion (Warrant Article)	Yes	Yes	Yes	Varies	Yes
Amend a motion	Yes	Yes	No	Majority	Yes
Withdraw or modify a motion	No	No	No	Majority	No
Table or Resume the motion	Yes	No	No	Majority	Yes
Limit or extend debate	Yes	No	No	2/3	Yes
Division of the House	No	No	No	Honored	No
Point of Order	No	No	No	None	No

## **Warrant Articles Approved Until Rescinded**

The following articles were approved, until rescinded, by the voters at Town Meeting. The voters may reverse these decisions by a majority vote at a subsequent Town Meeting, provided an article is included on the warrant. An article may be placed on the warrant by the Board of Selectmen or by petition [RSA 40:13, II-a (b)].

Adopted March 10, 1998: Shall the Town accept the provisions of RSA 31:95-b providing that any town at an annual meeting may adopt an article authorizing indefinitely, until specific rescission of such authority, the selectmen to apply for, accept and expend, without further action by the Town Meeting, unanticipated money from a state, federal, or other governmental unit or a private source which becomes available during the fiscal year?

Adopted March 10, 1998: Shall the Town accept the provisions of RSA 202-A:4-c providing that any town at an annual meeting may adopt an article authorizing indefinitely, until specific rescission of such authority the Public Library Trustees to apply for, accept and expend, without further action by the Town Meeting, unanticipated money from a state, federal or other governmental unit or a private source which becomes available during the fiscal year?

Adopted March 10, 1998: Shall the Town vote to accept the provisions of RSA 31:95-e providing that any town at an annual meeting may adopt an article authorizing indefinitely, until specific rescission of such authority, the selectmen to accept gifts of personal property, other than money, which may be offered to the Town for any public purpose? The selectmen must hold a public hearing before accepting such gift, and the acceptance shall not bind the Town to raise, appropriate, or expend any public funds for the operation, maintenance, repair, or replacement of any such personal property.

Adopted March 10, 1998: Shall the Town vote to accept the provisions of RSA 202-A:4-d providing that any town at an annual meeting may adopt an article authorizing indefinitely, until specific rescission of such authority, the library trustees to accept gifts of personal property, other than money, which may be offered to the library for any public purpose, provided, however, that no acceptance of personal property by the library trustees shall be deemed to bind the town or the library trustees to raise, appropriate or expend any public funds for the operation, maintenance, repair or replacement of such personal property?

Adopted March 10, 1998: Shall the Town vote to accept the provisions of RSA 33:7 providing that any town at an annual meeting may adopt an article authorizing indefinitely, until specific rescission of such authority, the selectmen to borrow money in anticipation of taxes?

Adopted March 10, 1998: Shall the Town vote to accept the provisions of RSA 80:80 providing that any town at an annual meeting may adopt an article authorizing indefinitely, until specific rescission of such authority, the selectmen to administer, sell or otherwise dispose of any tax lien or real estate acquired by tax title or otherwise, by public auction, by advertised sealed bids, or to otherwise dispose of as justice may require, providing that if such property is to be sold at public auction, then the same shall be advertised sixty (60) days in advance of sale and again forty-five (45) days in advance of sale with notice posted in three public places and two local newspapers of wide circulation for two consecutive weeks?

Adopted March 10, 1998: Shall the Town vote to authorize indefinitely, until specific rescission of such authority, the selectmen to accept the dedication of any street shown on a subdivision plat approved by the Planning Board, provided such street has been constructed to applicable town specifications as determined by the selectmen and their agent?

Adopted March 10, 1998: Shall the Town vote to accept the provisions of RSA 31:19 providing that any town at an annual meeting may adopt an article authorizing indefinitely, until specific rescission of such authority, the selectmen to accept, on behalf of the Town, gifts, legacies, and devises made to the Town in trust for any public purpose?

Adopted March 12, 2016: Shall the town vote to adopt the provisions of RSA 36-A:4-a, I(b) to authorize the conservation commission to expend funds for contributions to "qualified organizations" for the purchase of property interests, or facilitating transactions related thereto, where the property interest is to be held by the qualified organization and the town will retain no interest in the property?

Adopted March 16, 2019: To see if the Town will vote to adopt the provisions of RSA 41:14-a and authorize the Board of Selectmen to acquire or sell land, buildings, or both.

Adopted March 13, 2001: Shall the Town authorize the Selectmen to accept for the Town parcels of land, which authority shall continue until rescinded, formerly the property of the Northern Railroad or state owned rights-of-way, that the New Hampshire Department of Transportation considers surplus to its needs?

Adopted March 18, 2023: To see if the town will vote, pursuant to NH RSA 35:9-a-II, to authorize the Trustees of Trust Funds to pay for Capital Reserve Fund investment management services, and any other expenses incurred, from capital reserve finds income. No vote by the town to rescind such authority shall occur within five years of the original adoption of this article.