

Town Warrant

State of New Hampshire Town of Northumberland

To the inhabitants of the Town of Northumberland, Coos County and State of New Hampshire, qualified to vote in Town affairs:

You are hereby notified to meet at the Northumberland Selectmen's Meeting Room, 10 Station Square on the second Tuesday in March next, March 13, 2018, to act upon the subjects hereinafter mentioned. You are hereby warned that on said date and at said place the polls will be opened at **9:00** in the forenoon and will remain open until **7:00** in the evening for the reception of your ballots on Articles 1 through 4 under the Non-Partisan Ballot System. You are also hereby warned that on Saturday, March 17, 2018 and at the Groveton High School Ryan Auditorium in said Town at **10:00** in the forenoon, the matter of appropriations and such other business properly coming before said meeting will be taken up for your consideration and action.

The Annual Town Election for the Town of Northumberland and the Northumberland School District was declared opened at 9:00 AM, Tuesday, March 13, 2018 to act upon the subjects hereinafter mentioned. The polls were declared open for the reception of ballots. Moderator Young also announced that the absentee ballots would be processed at 1:00 PM. At 7:00 PM Moderator Young announced that the polls were closed.

241 Ballots were cast (27 Absentee, 214 Election Day)

School Results:

Moderator: Keith Young (Write-in)

Clerk: Kathy Wiles

Treasurer: Melody Barney

Board of Education: Glenn Cassady

The business meeting was called to order at 10:00 AM on March 17, 2018 by Moderator Keith Young. Moderator Young recognized our Veterans and led the voters in the Pledge of Allegiance. There were 111 registered voters in attendance with approximately 130 citizens in total attendance. Moderator Young went over the common sense guidelines of his meeting.

*Articles 1-4 will be printed on the official ballot.

***Article 1:** To choose by ballot the following Town Officers for the ensuing three years: one Selectman, Library Trustee, Trustee of Trust Funds and Cemetery Trustee.

Results: Selectman: Michael Phillips, Library Trustee: Julie Boisselle, Trustee of Trust Funds: Kathy Wiles, Cemetery Trustee: Richard Paradis

***Article 2:** To choose by ballot the following Town Officer for the ensuing one year: one Auditor. **No results until after Town Meeting (Write-ins) J. Boisselle 2, K. Young 2.** Julie is the Deputy Treasurer so cannot be auditor per RSA 669:7. Keith Young has turned it down. 669:68 Town Auditors. Vacancies in the office of town auditor shall be filled by

appointment made by the supervisors of the checklist. If a supervisor is also the town treasurer, he shall abstain from the decision on the appointment, and the other supervisors shall make the appointment.

See article 15. (did away with this position)

***Article 3:** To choose by ballot the following Town Officer for the ensuing two years: one Moderator.

Results: Keith Young 233

***Article 4:** To see if the Town will vote to adopt an amendment to the Town of Northumberland Zoning Ordinance, as proposed by the Town Planning Board, to insert new language in Article VIII, Definitions.

A public hearing, duly noticed, was held on the proposed amendment on December 6, 2017. Copies of the complete proposal are on file for public inspection at the Town Offices and will be available on the day of voting. The following question will appear on the Official Ballot:

"Are you in favor of adopting an amendment to the Town Zoning Ordinance, as proposed by the Town Planning Board, to insert new language in Article VIII, Definitions, to describe an **Accessory Dwelling Unit**, which would be permitted either within or attached to a single family dwelling unit?"

Results: Yes 147, No 56, Skipped 38

Supervisors of the Checklist for the ensuing six year term: **Results: Tina Hunt**

Article 5: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$366,202 dollars for the purpose of operating and maintaining the water department. Said funds to be offset by the water user fees. Any shortfalls in the water user fees will be made up from the accumulated surplus in the "regular water account". (Recommended by Board of Selectmen 3-0)

Motion made to accept article as read- James Weagle

Seconded by: Michael Phillips

Hand held card vote.

Article 5 passed as read.

Article 6: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$344,669 dollars for the purpose of operating and maintaining the sewer department. Said funds to be offset by the sewer user fees. Any shortfall in the sewer user fees will be made up from the accumulated surplus in the "regular sewer account". (Recommended by Board of Selectmen 3-0)

Motion made to accept article as read- Michael Phillips

Seconded by: Christopher Wheelock

Hand held card vote.

Article 6 passed as read.

Article 7: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$2,330,608 dollars which represents the operating budget of the Town, said sum exclusive of special or individual articles addressed. (Recommended by Board of Selectmen 3-0)

Motion made to accept article as read- James Weagle

Seconded by: Michael Phillips

Hand held card vote.

Article 7 passed as read.

Article 8: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$4,643 dollars to increase the compensation of the Town Clerk/Tax Collector. This amount represents \$3,900 dollars increased compensation, \$242 dollars Fica, \$57 dollars Medicare and \$444 dollars NH retirement. This article is proposed to be approved in addition to the amount of Town Clerk/Tax Collector compensation included in the operating budget under Article 7. (Recommended by Board of Selectmen 3-0)

Motion made to accept article as read- James Weagle

Seconded by: Michael Phillips

Hand held card vote.

Article 8 passed as read.

Article 9: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$75,000 dollars to be placed in the following Capital Reserve and Expendable Trust Funds at the amounts shown:

Police Cruiser CRF, established 2001	\$20,000
Road Maintenance CRF, established 2009	\$25,000
Municipal Buildings CRF, established 2010	\$ 5,000
Public Works Equipment CRF, established 2017	\$25,000

(Recommended by Board of Selectmen 3-0)

Motion made to accept article as read- Christopher Wheelock

Seconded by: Michael Phillips

Hand held card vote.

Article 9 passed as read.

Article 10: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,359 dollars to be placed in the Transfer Station Equipment Capital Reserve Fund, with said funds to come from unassigned fund balance (this represents the 2017 scrap metal sales). (Recommended by Board of Selectmen 3-0)

Motion made to accept article as read- James Weagle

Seconded by: Michael Phillips

Hand held card vote.

Article 10 passed as read.

Article 11: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$36,600 dollars, to fund the following charitable organizations at the amounts shown:

North Country Home Health & Hospice Agency	\$12,759
Northern Human Services	\$ 3,100
Tri-County Community Action(Energy Services)	\$ 4,225
Senior Meals of Coos County-Meals On Wheels	\$ 1,970
Tri-County Transit	\$ 2,500
CASA of New Hampshire	\$ 500
American Red Cross NH & VT Region	\$ 2,200
Center for New Beginnings	\$ 500
Northern Gateway Regional Chamber of Commerce	\$ 1,219
Caleb Caregivers	\$ 2,000
Coos ServiceLink Resource Center	\$ 2,600
St Paul's Episcopal Church "Backpack" Program	\$ 1,027
Project Homebound	\$ 1,000
Big Brothers Big Sisters of New Hampshire	\$ 1,000

(Recommended by Board of Selectmen 3-0)

Motion made to accept article as read- Michael Phillips
Seconded by: Christopher Wheelock
Hand held card vote.
Article 11 passed as read.

Article 12: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$13,000 dollars for the purpose of supporting the Groveton Senior Fellowship Program for 2018. (Recommended by Board of Selectmen 3-0)

Motion made to accept article as read- James Weagle
Seconded by: Christopher Wheelock
Hand held card vote.
Article 12 passed as read.

Article 13: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,500 dollars for the purpose of supporting the 2018 Groveton Chem-Free Graduation Fund. These funds to be used to promote alcohol and drug free youth by sponsoring a chemical free graduation celebration. (Inserted by petition of voters) (Recommended by Board of Selectmen 2-1)

Motion made to accept article as read- Terri Charron
Seconded by: Harry Lee Rice, Jr.
Hand held card vote.
Article 13 passed as read.

Article 14: To see if the Town will vote to allow the operation of Keno games within the Town. Pursuant to CHAPTER 229, SB 191-FN-FINAL VERSION, establishing KENO 603 in support of grants for full-day kindergarten. (Inserted by petition of voters)

Motion made to accept article as read- Uldric Bernard
Seconded by: Kent Holden
Hand held card vote.
Article 14 passed as read.

Article 15: To see if the Town will vote to discontinue the elected Auditor position.(Recommended by Board of Selectmen 3-0)

Motion made to accept article as read- James Weagle
Seconded by: Christopher Wheelock
Hand held card vote.
Article 15 passed as read.

Article 16: Polling hours in the Town of Northumberland is now 8:00 in the morning to 7:00 in the evening. Shall we place a question on the state election ballot to change polling hours so that polls shall be open at 11:00 in the morning and close at 7:00 in the evening for all regular state elections beginning 1 January 2019?

Motion made to accept article as read- Melinda Kennett
Seconded by: Michael Phillips
Hand held card vote.
Article 16 passed as read.

Article 17: To see if the Town will vote to adopt the provisions of RSA 72:61 through RSA 72:72 inclusively, which provide for an optional property tax exemption from the property's assessed value, for property tax purposes, for persons owning real property, which is equipped with solar energy systems intended for use at the immediate site. Such property tax exemption shall be in

the amount equal to 100% of the assessed value up to \$10,000 of qualifying equipment under these statutes."

Motion made to accept article as read- James Weagle

Seconded by: Michael Phillips

Hand held card vote.

Article 17 passed as read.

Article 18: To see if the Town will vote to enter into a contract with George E. Sansoucy, PE, LLC for the assessed valuation and engineering consulting services of all utilities, including Public Service of New Hampshire (Eversource) and the new substation in Lost Nation. The contract is for 5 years, beginning with tax year April 1, 2018 through tax year beginning April 1, 2022 and ending March 31, 2023 at a fixed fee of \$9,000 per year. All utility values are to be completed by September 1 of each year of the contract. And further to raise and appropriate the sum of \$9,000 dollars to pay for the first year of the contract. (Recommended by Board of Selectmen 3-0)

Motion made to accept article as read- James Weagle

Seconded by: Christopher Wheelock

Hand held card vote.

Article 18 passed as read.

Article 19: To see if the Town will vote to restrict the discharge of permissible (consumer) fireworks under RSA 160-B and RSA 160-C as proposed below:

Ordinance on Restricted Use of Fireworks

Permissible (consumer) fireworks shall only be used, possessed and discharged during the following times without a permit:

Memorial Day from 5PM to 10PM

July 3rd to July 5th from 5PM to 10PM each day

Labor Day from 5PM to 10PM

New Year's Eve from 5PM to 12:30AM the following Day

Fireworks may be allowed at other times, if a permit is applied for and received in advance from the Fire Chief or their designee.

Any person who violates this ordinance, in addition to and penalties prescribed in NH RSA 160-B and NH RSA 160-C, shall be subject to a fine of \$50.00 for the first offense and \$100.00 for each subsequent offense, and confiscation of any fireworks in the person's possession. Any sworn law enforcement officer of the town, county or state, as well as the fire chief and their designee, shall be empowered to enforce this ordinance. All fines shall be paid to the Town of Northumberland and deposited into the town's general fund. (Recommended by Board of Selectmen 3-0)

Motion made to accept article as read- James Weagle

Seconded by: Michael Philips

Hand held card vote.

Article 19 passed as read.

Article 20: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$60,000 dollars for the purpose of a grant application for a technical report for infrastructure upgrades, with \$44,000 from a USDA Rural Business Development grant, \$15,000 from private contributors

and \$1,000 from unassigned fund balance. This appropriation is contingent on receipt of said grant. (Recommended by Board of Selectmen 3-0)

Motion made to accept article as read- Christopher Wheelock

Seconded by: Michael Phillips

Hand held card vote.

Article 20 passed as read.

Article 21: To see if the Town will vote to instruct the Selectmen to appoint all other officers as required by law.

Motion made to accept article as read- James Weagle

Seconded by: Michael Phillips

Hand held card vote.

Article 21 passed as read.

Article 22: To hear reports of agents, auditors, committees or other officers heretofore chosen and pass any vote relating thereto.

Motion made to accept article as read- James Weagle

Seconded by: Michael Phillips

Hand held card vote.

Article 22 passed as read.

Article 23: To transact any other business that may be legally brought before said meeting.

Motion made to accept article as read- Christopher Wheelock

Seconded by: Michael Phillips

Hand held card vote.

Article 23 passed as read.

Motion to adjourn was made by James Weagle and seconded by Terrance Bedell.

Hand held card vote. Motion to adjourn passed unanimously.

The business meeting was adjourned at 11:30 AM by Moderator Young on 3/17/2018.

Respectfully submitted,

Melinda A. "Min" Marshall Kennett
Certified Town Clerk & Tax Collector
Town of Northumberland