

2012 ANNUAL TOWN MEETING WARRANT

To the inhabitants of the Town of Wakefield in the State of New Hampshire qualified to vote in town affairs:

You are hereby notified of the First and Second Session of the 2012 Annual Town Meeting as follows:

FIRST SESSION

You are notified to meet for the First Session of the Annual Town Meeting, to be held in the Opera House of the Wakefield Town Hall, 2 High Street, Sanbornville, New Hampshire, on Saturday, February 4, 2012 at 7:00 p.m. The First Session will consist of explanation, discussion, and debate of each of the following warrant articles, and will afford those voters who are present the opportunity to debate, propose and adopt amendments to each warrant article, except those articles whose wording is prescribed by state law.

SECOND SESSION

You are also notified to meet for the Second Session of the Annual Town Meeting to elect town officers by official ballot and to vote by official ballot on the warrant articles as they may have been amended at the First Session, to be held at the Opera House of the Wakefield Town Hall, 2 High Street, Sanbornville, New Hampshire, on Tuesday, March 13, 2012. Polls for voting by official ballot will open at 8:00 a.m. and will close at 7:00 p.m., unless the town votes to keep the polls open to a later hour.

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

Article 2: Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 1 as proposed by the Planning Board for the Town Zoning Ordinance as follows: Amendment modifies *Article 3, Table 1 – Permitted Uses* – by adding several new land uses to the table to be permitted by right and by conditional use permit across the zoning districts, modifying some of the existing uses in the table relative to zoning districts and permitting requirements, and reorganizes the table. Amendment also modifies *Article 33 – Definitions* – by adding a definition for “Historic Preservation Site.” **(Majority vote required.)**

Article 3: Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 2 as proposed by the Planning Board for the Town Zoning Ordinance as follows: Amendment modifies *Article 3, Table 3 – Density and Minimum Dimensional Requirements* – by modifying footnote #1 to clarify the minimum area requirements for unit density in the Village/Residential District. **(Majority vote required.)**

Article 4: Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 3 as proposed by the Planning Board for the Town Zoning Ordinance as follows: Amendment modifies *Article*

4 – *Official Zoning Map* – to replace the existing Official Zoning Map with the latest map revision dated November 2011. **(Majority vote required.)**

Article 5: Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 4 as proposed by the Planning Board for the Town Zoning Ordinance as follows: Amendment modifies *Article 9 – Wetland Conservation Overlay Zoning District* – to modify the definition of “wetlands” to follow the NHDES definition, clarify the boundaries of the District, remove the special exception provision, and establish additional criteria for conditional use permitting in the District. **(Majority vote required.)**

Article 6: Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 5 as proposed by the Planning Board for the Town Zoning Ordinance as follows: Amendment modifies *Article 10 – Historic Overlay Zoning District* – by adding a sub-section D to establish specific activities that do not require a certificate of approval in the District. **(Majority vote required.)**

Article 7: Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 6 as proposed by the Planning Board for the Town Zoning Ordinance as follows: Amendment modifies *Article 11 – Floodplain Development Overlay District* – as recommended by the NH Office of Energy and Planning to remain compliant with the National Flood Insurance Program. **(Majority vote required.)**

Article 8: Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 7 as proposed by the Planning Board for the Town Zoning Ordinance as follows: Amendment modifies *Article 23D – In-Law Apartment* – to eliminate both the requirement for a yearly permit to be issued by the Code Enforcement Officer and the requirement that the use be temporary; and *Article 33* to amend the definition of “In-Law Apartment.” **(Majority vote required.)**

Article 9: Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 8 as proposed by the Planning Board for the Town Zoning Ordinance as follows: Amendment modifies section B of *Article 25 – Conforming and Nonconforming Structures and Uses* – to allow for the expansion of non-conforming uses in certain situations without a variance. **(Majority vote required.)**

Article 10: Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 9 as proposed by the Planning Board for the Town Zoning Ordinance as follows: Amendment modifies *Article 36 – Permit Required* – to require a setback permit only for certain accessory structures that do not exceed 200 sq. ft; and *Article 33 – Definitions* – to amend the definition of “Building.” **(Majority vote required.)**

Article 11: Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 10 as proposed by the Planning Board for the Town Zoning Ordinance as follows: Amendment modifies *Articles 3, 23B and 29* – to remove the special exception process in certain cases while still providing for the conditional use process through the Planning Board; and amends *Articles 13, 21 and 28*, to remove the conditional use permit process in certain cases while still

providing for the special exception process through the Zoning Board. **(Majority vote required.)**

Article 12: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000) to be added to the Ambulance Capital Reserve Fund previously established. (Majority vote required.)

This appropriation is recommended by the Board of Selectmen, by a vote of 3-0, and the Budget Committee, by a vote of 10-0.

Article 13: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Seventy-Five Thousand Dollars (\$75,000) to be added to the Bridge Construction Capital Reserve Fund previously established. (Majority vote required.)

This appropriation is recommended by the Board of Selectmen, by a vote of 3-0, and the Budget Committee, by a vote of 10-0.

Article 14: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Forty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$45,000) to be added to the Fire Truck Capital Reserve Fund previously established. (Majority vote required.)

This appropriation is recommended by the Board of Selectmen, by a vote of 3-0, and the Budget Committee, by a vote of 10-0.

Article 15: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Twenty-Nine Thousand Eight Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$29,850) to be added to the Police Cruiser Capital Reserve Fund previously established. (Majority vote required.)

This appropriation is recommended by the Board of Selectmen, by a vote of 3-0, and the Budget Committee, by a vote of 10-0.

Article 16: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of One Thousand Seven Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$1,750) to be added to the Emergency Management Capital Reserve Fund previously established. (Majority vote required.)

This appropriation is recommended by the Board of Selectmen, by a vote of 3-0, and the Budget Committee, by a vote of 10-0.

Article 17: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Two Thousand Dollars (\$2,000) to be added to the Forest Fire Management Capital Reserve Fund previously established. (Majority vote required.)

This appropriation is recommended by the Board of Selectmen, by a vote of 3-0, and the Budget Committee, by a vote of 10-0.

Article 18: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Twenty Thousand Dollars (\$20,000) to be added to the Town Hall Improvement Capital Reserve Fund previously established. (Majority vote required.)

This appropriation is recommended by the Board of Selectmen, by a vote of 3-0, and the Budget Committee, by a vote of 10-0.

Article 19: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Twenty Thousand Dollars (\$20,000) to be added to the Invasive Species Expendable Trust Fund previously established. (Majority vote required.)

This appropriation is recommended by the Board of Selectmen, by a vote of 3-0, and the Budget Committee, by a vote of 10-0.

Article 20: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000) to be added to the Cemetery Maintenance Capital Reserve Fund previously established. (Majority vote required.)

This appropriation is recommended by the Board of Selectmen, by a vote of 3-0, and the Budget Committee, by a vote of 10-0.

Article 21: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000) to be added to the Highway Truck Capital Reserve Fund previously established. (Majority vote required.)

This appropriation is recommended by the Board of Selectmen, by a vote of 3-0, and the Budget Committee, by a vote of 10-0.

Article 22 : To see if the Town will vote to establish a Capital Reserve Fund under the provisions of RSA 35:1 for the construction of a Salt Shed and to raise and appropriate the sum of Fifty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$55,000) to be placed in said fund and further to appoint the Board of Selectmen as agents to expend. (Majority vote required.)

This appropriation is recommended by the Board of Selectmen, by a vote of 3-0, and by the Budget Committee by a vote of 10-0.

Article 23: To see if the Town will vote to lease to the Wakefield Food Pantry at One Dollar (\$1.00) for 99 years, up to one (1) acre, portion of land owned by the Town (Wakefield Tax Map 200 Lot 3, consisting of 56 acres, more or less, located on Route 153 and next to the Wakefield Highway Department property) for the following purpose: To allow the Wakefield Food Pantry to construct a building and related improvements on the leased portion to supply donated food and essentials to Wakefield residents who are in need. (Majority vote required.)

This article is recommended by the Board of Selectmen, by a vote of 3-0, and by the

Budget Committee by a vote of 10-0.

Article 24: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to accept, on behalf of the town, gifts of personal property, other than money, which may be offered to the Town for any public purpose, as permitted by RSA 31:95-e, and such authorization shall remain in effect until rescinded by a vote of town meeting. (Majority vote required.)

This article is recommended by the Board of Selectmen, by vote of 3-0.

Article 25: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate Four Thousand Eight Hundred Eighty-Five Dollars (\$4,885) for the purpose of purchasing an updated video camera system for use in police vehicles. This appropriation will be offset by a 50/50 Highway Safety Grant. The Town's portion of the appropriation will be Two Thousand Four Hundred Forty-Two Dollars and Fifty Cents (\$2,442.50) and is contingent upon the receipt of the grant. (Majority vote required.)

This appropriation is recommended by the Board of Selectmen, by a vote of 3-0, and by the Budget Committee by a vote of 10-0.

Article 26: To see if the Town will modify the elderly exemptions from property tax in the Town of Wakefield, based on assessed value, for qualified taxpayers, to be as follows:

**For a person 65 years of age up to 75 years, \$46,000;
For a person 75 years of age up to 80 years, \$62,000;
For a person 80 years of age or older, \$77,000.**

To qualify, the person must have been a New Hampshire resident for a least 3 consecutive years, own the real estate individually or jointly, or if the real estate is owned by such person's spouse, they must have been married to each other for at least 5 consecutive years. In addition, the taxpayer must have a net income of not more than \$20,000 or, if married, a combined net income of less than \$30,000; and own net assets not in excess of \$150,000 excluding the value of the person's residence. (Majority vote required.)

This article is recommended by the Board of Selectmen, by vote of 3-0.

Article 27: By Petition: We the undersigned, being duly registered voters of the Town of Wakefield, do hereby petition the Town of Wakefield, New Hampshire to establish an Agriculture Commission pursuant to RSA 674:44-e and RSA 673:1. (Majority vote required.)

Article 28: By Petition: To see if the Town will vote to limit the time duration that political signs may be displayed before and after an election as follows: All political signs, including posters are considered to be temporary. They shall not be erected until 30 days prior to any election and shall be removed within 7 days after a national, state, general and/or local election. The candidate or candidates whose name(s) appear on such signs shall be responsible for their proper location, erection and removal. (Majority vote required.)

Article 29: Shall the Town raise and appropriate as an operating budget, not including appropriations by special warrant articles and other appropriations voted separately, the amounts set forth on the budget posted with the warrant or as amended by vote of the first session, for the purpose set forth herein, totaling \$3,960,400? Should this article be defeated, the default budget shall be \$3,904,315 which is the same as last year, with certain adjustments required by previous action of the Town or by law, or the governing body may hold one special meeting, in accordance with RSA 40:13, X and XVI, to take up the issue of a revised operating budget only. (Majority vote required.)

This appropriation is recommended by the Board of Selectmen, by a vote of 3-0, and is recommended by the Budget Committee, by a vote of 10-0.

Article 30: To transact any further business that may legally come before this meeting.

Given under our hands and seal, this 25th day of January, in the year of our Lord Two Thousand Twelve.

WAKEFIELD BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Kenneth S. Paul, Chairperson

Mark P. Duffy

Peter M. Kasprzyk