



**ABSENTEE
OFFICIAL BALLOT
ANNUAL TOWN ELECTION
GOFFSTOWN, NEW HAMPSHIRE
MARCH 14, 2023**

Cathleen Ball
TOWN CLERK

INSTRUCTIONS TO VOTERS

TO VOTE, completely fill in the OVAL to the RIGHT of your choice(s) like this: ●

ARTICLES

ARTICLE 2

Shall the Town adopt Amendment No. 1, as proposed by the Goffstown Planning Board, by removing all references to residential use, multi-family use, and mixed-use residential as permitted uses in the Commercial Industrial Flex Zone (CIFZ) in Sections 3.11, 5.9, 4.3, and 2.3.9. Also, add a sentence in Section 2.3.9, "Residential uses are not allowed in the Commercial Industrial Flex Zone (CIFZ)"?

Recommended by the Planning Board 7-0-0.

YES

NO

ARTICLE 3

Shall the Town adopt Amendment No. 2, as proposed by the Goffstown Planning Board, by modifying zoning restrictions for the location of Tattoo Parlors, treating them in a manner similar to beauty shops, barbershops, and similar personal services?

Recommended by the Planning Board 7-0-0.

YES

NO

ARTICLE 4

Shall the Town adopt Amendment No. 3, as proposed by the Goffstown Planning Board, by removing Section 15.3.7.5 Report from the Planning Board, in its entirety, where Zoning Board applications relating to (a) a commercial or industrial project or use, or (b) a residential use of three or more units for which Site Plan approval will be required, are delivered to the Planning Board for comment?

Recommended by the Planning Board 7-0-0.

YES

NO

ARTICLE 5

Shall the Town adopt Amendment No. 4, as proposed by the Goffstown Planning Board, by removing Section 15.8, Violations, in its entirety and refer to the NH State Statutes for violation procedures?

Recommended by the Planning Board 7-0-0.

YES

NO

ARTICLE 6

Shall the Town adopt Amendment No. 5, as proposed by the Goffstown Planning Board, by adding Section 6.6.4. Electronic Message Centers (EMC) in order to address the maximum brightness permitted for EMC's?

Recommended by the Planning Board 7-0-0.

YES

NO

ARTICLE 7

Passage of this article shall override the 10 percent limitation imposed on this appropriation due to the non-recommendation of the budget committee.

Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Seven Million Two Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$7,200,000) (gross budget) for the renovation and expansion of the Goffstown Public Library (2 High Street) and to authorize the issuance of not more than Seven Million Two Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$7,200,000) of bonds or notes in accordance with the provisions of the Municipal Finance Act (RSA 33) and to authorize the Select Board to issue, negotiate, sell and deliver such bonds or notes and to determine the rate of interest thereon and the maturity and other terms thereof; to authorize the Select Board to apply for, obtain, accept and expend any and all Federal, State, or other aid, if any, which may be available for said project, and to comply with all laws applicable to said project; to authorize the Select Board to take any and all action necessary in connection therewith or to pass any other vote relative thereto? (3/5 ballot vote is required for passage.)

Submitted by petition.

NOT Recommended by the Select Board 5-0-0.

NOT Recommended by the Budget Committee 7-5-2.

YES

NO

ARTICLE 8

Shall the Town of Goffstown vote to 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 purposes set forth therein, totaling Twenty-Six Million, Nine Hundred Forty-Nine Thousand, Eight Hundred Ninety-Three Dollars (\$26,949,893)?

Should this article be defeated, the default budget shall be Twenty-Five Million, Nine Hundred Fifty-Seven Thousand, Six Hundred Eighty-Seven Dollars (\$25,957,687), which is the same as last year, with certain adjustments required by previous action of the Town of Goffstown, 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. NOTE: This article (operating budget) does not include appropriations in any other warrant article.

Recommended by the Select Board 5-0-0.

Recommended by the Budget Committee 14-0-0.

YES

NO

VOTE BOTH SIDES OF BALLOT

ARTICLES CONTINUED

ARTICLE 9

Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate Five Hundred Twenty-Six Thousand, Five Hundred Seventy-Six Dollars (\$526,576) for the purpose of funding EMS operations, said funds to come from the Emergency Medical Services Special Revenue Fund as previously established in 2001? This appropriation is offset by the revenue from the ambulance insurance payments and **there will be no funds raised from general taxation.** (Passage of this article will reduce the operating budget in Article 8 by \$526,576)

Recommended by the Select Board 5-0-0.
Recommended by the Budget Committee 14-0-0.

YES
NO

ARTICLE 10

Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate Two Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$250,000) to be added to the Fire Department Apparatus Capital Reserve Fund previously established in 2008? **This sum to come from unassigned fund balance and no amount to be raised by taxation.**

Recommended by the Select Board 5-0-0.
Recommended by the Budget Committee 14-0-0.

YES
NO

ARTICLE 11

Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Twenty Thousand Dollars (\$20,000) for the purpose of helping to support the programs of Goffstown nonprofit Crispin's House Coalition for Youth Inc., a youth drug, alcohol and suicide prevention agency? (This appropriation is in addition to Article 8)

Recommended by the Select Board 5-0-0.
Recommended by the Budget Committee 13-1-0.

YES
NO

ARTICLE 12

Shall the Town vote to modify the provisions of RSA 72:39-a for Elderly Exemption from property tax in the Town of Goffstown, based on assessed value, for qualified taxpayers, to be as follows: for a person 65 years of age up to 74 years, \$76,500; for a person 75 years of age up to 79 years, \$103,500; for a person 80 years of age or older \$137,500? To qualify, the person must have been a New Hampshire resident for at 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 \$42,500 or, if married, a combined net income of less than \$60,000; and own net assets not in excess of \$180,000, excluding the value of the person's residence. If approved, this article shall take effect for the 2023 property tax year. (Majority vote required)

Recommended by the Select Board 5-0-0.

YES
NO

ARTICLE 13

Shall the Town vote to modify the provisions of RSA 72:37, Exemption for the Blind, to allow an inhabitant who is legally blind as determined by the blind services program, to be exempt each year on the assessed value, for property tax purposes, of his or her residential real estate to the value of \$25,000? If approved, this article shall take effect for the 2023 property tax year. (Majority vote required)

Recommended by the Select Board 5-0-0.

YES
NO

ARTICLE 14

Shall the Town vote in accordance with RSA 72:27-a to readopt the provisions of RSA 72:28, II, and RSA 72:28-b, both previously adopted, for an Optional Veterans' Tax Credit and an All Veterans' Tax Credit of \$500.00 per year? If readopted and approved, this article shall take effect for the 2023 property tax year. (Majority vote required)

Recommended by the Select Board 5-0-0.

YES
NO

ARTICLE 15

Shall the Town vote, in accordance with RSA 674:5, to authorize the Planning Board to prepare and amend a recommended program of municipal capital improvement projects projected over a period of at least 6 years?

Recommended by the Select Board 5-0-0.

YES
NO

ARTICLE 16

Shall the Town vote to authorize the following resolution to be forwarded to our State and Federal elected representatives:

Resolved: We the town of Goffstown hereby call upon our State and Federal elected representatives to enact carbon pricing legislation to protect New Hampshire from the costs and environmental risks of continued climate inaction. To protect households, we support a Carbon Fee and Dividend approach that charges fossil fuel producers for their carbon pollution and rebates the money collected to all residents on an equal basis. Enacting a Carbon Cash-Back program decreases long-term fossil fuel dependence, aids in the economic transition for energy consumers, and keeps local energy dollars in New Hampshire's economy. Carbon Cash-Back has been championed by US economists (Jan. 17, 2019 WSJ) as the most effective and fair way to deliver rapid reductions in harmful carbon emissions at the scale required for our safety.

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

The record of the vote approving this article shall be transmitted by written notice to Goffstown's State Legislators, to the Governor of New Hampshire, to Goffstown's Congressional Delegation, and to the President of the United States, informing them of the instructions from their constituents, by Goffstown's Select Board, within 30 days of this vote.

Submitted by petition.
NOT Recommended by the Select Board 5-0-0.

YES
NO

VOTE BOTH SIDES OF BALLOT