

**Town of Goffstown
2024 ANNUAL WARRANT**

To the inhabitants of the Town of Goffstown in the County of Hillsborough qualified to vote in Town affairs:

You are hereby notified to meet Saturday, February 3, 2024 at ten o'clock in the morning at the Goffstown High School, 27 Wallace Road, in the Dr. Craig Hieber Auditorium in said Town for the first portion of Town Meeting, also known as the Deliberative Session, to act on the following subjects and determine matters which will then be voted upon by the official ballot on Tuesday, March 12, 2024. (Snow date for the first session is Tuesday, February 6, 2024, at 7:00 p.m. and the same location.)

You are further notified to meet Tuesday, March 12, 2024 to vote on all matters by official ballot. The polls will open on March 12, 2024 at 7:00 A.M. and close at 7:00 P.M. in the First District at the Goffstown High School, 27 Wallace Road and will open at 7:00 A.M. and close at 7:00 P.M. in the Fifth District at the Bartlett Elementary School, 689 Mast Road.

**ARTICLE 1
ELECTION OF CANDIDATES**

**ARTICLES 2 - 11
ZONING AMENDMENTS**

ARTICLE 12

To see if the Town will raise and appropriate for the operation, expenses and commitments of the town government, the budget approved by the Budget Committee in the amount of Twenty-Nine Million, Three Hundred Thousand, One Hundred Twenty-Six Dollars (\$29,300,126).

This budget will be predicated by estimated revenues in the amount of Nine Million, Ninety-Five Thousand and Two Dollars (\$9,095,002).

The Sewer Enterprise Fund of Two Million, Seventy-Five Thousand, Seven Hundred Twenty-Seven Dollars (\$2,075,727) is included in this revenue amount and in the appropriations requested in this article.

The motion on the operating budget shall be the following, with only the appropriation amount subject to amendment:

“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-Nine Million, Three Hundred Thousand, One Hundred Twenty-Six Dollars (\$29,300,126)?

Should this article be defeated, the default budget shall be Twenty-Seven Million, Five Hundred Thirty-Eight Thousand, Five Hundred Thirty-Seven Dollars (\$27,538,537), 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 10-3-0.

**Town of Goffstown
2024 ANNUAL WARRANT**

ARTICLE 13

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate Five Hundred Fifty Thousand, Seven Hundred Twenty-Six Dollars (\$550,726) 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 12 by \$550,726.)

(Majority vote required)

Recommended by the Select Board 5-0-0.

Recommended by the Budget Committee 13-0-0.

ARTICLE 14

To see if the town will vote to approve the cost items included in the collective bargaining agreement reached between Select Board and the Public Works, Teamsters, Local 603 of NH which calls for the following increases in salaries and benefits at the current staffing level:

Fiscal Year	Estimated Increase
2024	\$151,752
2025	\$177,829

and further to raise and appropriate the sum of One-Hundred Fifty-One, Seven-Hundred Fifty-Two Dollars (\$151,752) for the current fiscal year, such sum representing the additional costs attributable to the increase in salaries and benefits required by the new agreement over those that would be paid at current staffing levels. Recommendations required. (This appropriation is in addition to Article 12).

(Majority vote required)

Recommended by the Select Board 5-0-0.

Recommended by the Budget Committee 13-0-0.

ARTICLE 15

To see if the town will vote to approve the cost items included in the collective Bargaining agreement reached between the Select Board and the Goffstown Patrol Officers, New England Police Benevolent Association, Local No. 24, which calls for the following increases in salaries and benefits at the current staffing level:

Fiscal Year	Estimated Increase
2024	\$96,059
2025	\$132,441
2026	\$128,105

and further to raise and appropriate the sum of Ninety-Six Thousand, Fifty-Nine Dollars (\$96,059) for the current fiscal year, such sum representing the additional costs attributable to the increase in salaries and benefits required by the new agreement over those that would be paid at current staffing levels. (This appropriation is in addition to Article 12).

(Majority vote required)

Recommended by the Select Board 5-0-0.

Recommended by the Budget Committee 13-0-0.

**Town of Goffstown
2024 ANNUAL WARRANT**

ARTICLE 16

To see if the town will vote to approve the cost items included in the collective bargaining agreement reached between the Select Board and the Goffstown Police Dispatchers/Clerks American Federation of State, County and Municipal 93, Local 3657, which calls for the following increases in salaries and benefits at the current staffing level:

Fiscal Year	Estimated Increase
2024	\$46,454
2025	\$72,270
2026	\$49,385

and further to raise and appropriate the sum of Forty-Six Thousand, Four Hundred Fifty-Four Dollars (\$46,454) for the current fiscal year, such sum representing the additional costs attributable to the increase in salaries and benefits required by the new agreement over those that would be paid at current staffing levels. (This appropriation is in addition to Article 12).

(Majority vote required)

Recommended by the Select Board 5-0-0.

Recommended by the Budget Committee 13-0-0.

ARTICLE 17

To see if the Town will 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 appropriation is in addition to Article 12).

(Majority vote required.)

Recommended by the Select Board 5-0-0.

Recommended by the Budget Committee 11-2-0.

ARTICLE 18

To see if the town will vote to establish a Goffstown Public Library Capital Reserve Fund under the provisions of RSA 35:1 for building projects and matching grant funds and to raise and appropriate the sum of Two Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$200,000) to be placed in this fund. Further, to name the Select Board and the Library Board of Trustees as joint agents to expend from said fund. Recommendations Required.

(Majority vote required.)

Recommended by the Select Board 5-0-0.

Recommended by the Budget Committee 8-4-1.

ARTICLE 19

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate Three-Hundred Forty Thousand Dollars (\$340,000) for the purpose of funding engineering design of a replacement Pool and Bath House at Barnard Park. (This appropriation is in addition to Article 12).

(Majority vote required)

Recommended by the Select Board 5-0-0.

Not Recommended by the Budget Committee 10-2-1.

**Town of Goffstown
2024 ANNUAL WARRANT**

ARTICLE 20

To see if the Town will 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 12.)

(Majority vote required)

Recommended by the Select Board 5-0-0.

Recommended by the Budget Committee 8-3-2.

ARTICLE 21

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Four Thousand Dollars (\$4,000) for the purpose of helping to support the nonprofit Goffstown Main Street Program, Inc. (This appropriation is in addition to Article 12.)

(Majority vote required)

Recommended by the Select Board 5-0-0.

Recommended by the Budget Committee 11-1-1.

ARTICLE 22

To see if the town will vote to establish a revolving fund pursuant to RSA 31:95-h, for the purpose of maintenance and replacement of the Town's dispatch center, hardware and software related to first responder dispatch services, including the first responder radio infrastructure. All revenues received from fees, charges, or other income from providing dispatching services to other entities will be deposited into the fund, beginning January 1, 2024, and the money in the fund shall be allowed to accumulate from year to year, and shall not be considered part of the town's general fund balance. The town treasurer shall have custody of all moneys in the fund, and shall pay out the same only upon order of the governing body and no further approval is required by the legislative body to expend. Such funds may be expended only for the purpose for which the fund was created.

(Majority vote required)

Recommended by the Select Board 5-0-0.

ARTICLE 23

To see if the Town will vote to establish a revolving fund pursuant to RSA 31:95-h, for the purpose of funding operating and capital expenditures of Emergency Medical Services. All revenues received from fees, charges, or other income from providing emergency medical services, along with any donations or grants accepted for the purpose of operating and capital expenditures of emergency medical services, beginning January 1, 2024, will be deposited into the fund, and the money in the fund shall be allowed to accumulate from year to year, and shall not be considered part of the town's general fund balance. The town treasurer shall have custody of all moneys in the fund, and shall pay out the same only upon order of the governing body and no further approval is required by the legislative body to expend. Such funds may be expended only for the purpose for which the fund was created.

(Majority vote required)

Recommended by the Select Board 5-0-0.

**Town of Goffstown
2024 ANNUAL WARRANT**

ARTICLE 24

To see if the Town will vote to discontinue the Emergency Medical Services Special Revenue Fund created in 2001. Said funds are to be transferred to the municipality's Emergency Medical Services Revolving Fund. This article is contingent on the passage of Article 23, which establishes the Emergency Medical Services Revolving Fund.

(Majority vote required)

Recommended by the Select Board 5-0-0.

ARTICLE 25

To see if the Town will vote pursuant to RSA 31:95-h to modify the existing CABLE ACCESS REVOLVING FUND established in 2013, to increase the amount of franchise fee revenues received from our Cable Franchise Agreement from Forty Percent (40%) to Seventy Percent (70%). The Cable Franchise Agreement revenue share shall be as follows:

Beginning January 1, 2024 = 70% to the Cable Access Revolving Fund
30% to the Town's General Fund.

Such monies, in addition to any Cable Franchise equipment grants, will be deposited into the fund and the money in the fund shall be allowed to accumulate from year to year, and shall not be considered part of the Town's general fund balance. The town treasurer shall have custody of all monies in the fund, and shall pay out the same only upon order of the governing body and no further approval is required by the legislative body to expend. Such funds may be expended only for the purpose for which the fund was created.

(Majority vote required)

Recommended by the Select Board 5-0-0.

ARTICLE 26

To see if the Town will vote to modify the Optional Veterans' Tax Credit and the All Veterans' Tax Credit from its current tax credit of \$500 per year to \$600 per year? (If adopted and approved, this article shall take effect for the 2024 property tax year. If this article is not adopted, the Veteran's Tax Credit and the All Veteran's Tax Credit will remain at \$500 per year.)

(Majority vote required)

Recommended by the Select Board 3-0-2.

ARTICLE 27

To see if the Town will vote in accordance with RSA 72:27-a, to modify the provisions of RSA 72:35 for an optional tax credit for a Service-Connected Total Disability on residential property from its current tax credit of \$2,000 per year to \$2,400 per year? (If adopted and approved, this article shall take effect for the 2024 property tax year. If this article is not adopted, the Service Connected Total Disability Tax Credit will remain at \$2,000 per year.)

(Majority vote required)

Recommended by the Select Board 5-0-0.

Town of Goffstown 2024 ANNUAL WARRANT

ARTICLE 28

To see if the Town will vote to adopt the provisions of RSA 72:81 and enable the Town to grant tax exemptions for new construction performed on commercial or industrial uses. The intent of the exemption authority is to provide incentives to businesses to build, rebuild, modernize, or enlarge within the municipality. The exemption shall apply only for municipal and local school property taxes assessed by the municipality. The exemption will not apply to the entirety of the property value, but only to any increase in assessment which results from the new construction. The period of time for which the property is eligible for exemption is five years.

The percentage of authorized exemption is as follows:

- Year 1, 50% of the increased assessment value as described above;
- Year 2, 40% of the increased assessment value as described above;
- Year 3, 30% of the increased assessment value as described above;
- Year 4, 20% of the increased assessment value as described above;
- Year 5, 10% of the increased assessment value as described above.

For purposes of this exemption, the term "new construction" shall mean new structures, or additions, renovations, or improvements to existing structures. For purposes of this exemption, the term "commercial" and the term "industrial" shall refer to the uses listed in the Goffstown Zoning Ordinance Table of Principal Uses (Section 3.11).

- B. Educational and Institutional
- C. Services - Entertainment and Recreation
- D. Services - Financial, Medical and Professional
- E. Services - Lodging and Restaurants
- F. Retail Trade (except motorized vehicles and restaurants)
- G. Motor Vehicle Sales and Service
- H. Transportation, Communications, and Utilities
- I. Manufacturing and Construction
- J. Agricultural

For purposes of this exemption, the term "commercial" and the term "industrial" shall not refer to any of the residential uses listed in the Goffstown Zoning Ordinance (Section 3.11, A. Residential) including dwelling units as part of a mixed use (residential and nonresidential) building or project. In a project involving dwelling units as part of a mixed-use (residential and nonresidential) building or project, only the nonresidential portion shall be eligible for this exemption. If adopted, this Warrant Article will become effective April 1, 2024 and will remain in effect for five (5) years.

(Majority vote required)

Recommended by the Select Board 5-0-0.

**Town of Goffstown
2024 ANNUAL WARRANT**

ARTICLE 29

To see if the Town of Goffstown vote to implement a cap on local municipal taxes. The warrant article aims to establish a cap on local municipal taxes to provide fiscal responsibility and stability for residents and businesses within the Town of Goffstown. The cap ensures that the tax burden remains reasonable while allowing essential municipal services to be maintained, if not improved

Shall we adopt the provisions of **RSA 32:5-b**, and implement a tax cap whereby the governing body (or budget committee) shall not submit a recommended budget that increases the amount to be raised by local taxes, based on the prior fiscal year's actual amount of local taxes raised, by more than 2.5%?

(3/5 Majority vote required)

Submitted by Petition.

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

ARTICLE 30

To transact any business that may legally come before said meeting.

Given under our Hands and Seal this 22nd day of January, 2024.

GOFFSTOWN SELECT BOARD



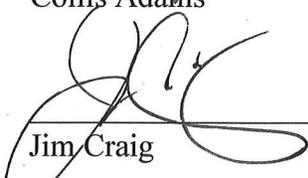
Kelly Boyer, Chairwoman



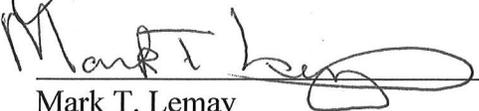
Peter Georgantas, Vice Chairman



Collis Adams



Jim Craig



Mark T. Lemay