

Town of Bethlehem, NH  
Town Meeting 2013 Warrant

To the inhabitants of the Town of Bethlehem, New Hampshire, Grafton County in New Hampshire, qualified to vote in Town affairs:

You are hereby notified that the **first session** (deliberative) of the annual meeting of the Town of Bethlehem will be held at the Bethlehem Town Building Meeting Room located at 2155 Main Street in said Bethlehem on February 4th, 2013 at 6:00 pm. Warrant articles may be amended at this session per RSA 40:13, IV a, with the exception of Warrant Articles whose wording is prescribed by law and cannot be amended per RSA 40:13 a. Warrant Articles that are amended shall be placed on the official ballot for a final vote on the main motion as amended.

You are further notified that the **second session** of the annual meeting of the Town of Bethlehem will be held at the Bethlehem Town Building Meeting Room on Tuesday, March 12th, 2013 at 8:00 am for the choice of town officers elected by official ballot, to vote on the questions required by law to be inserted on the official ballot, and to vote on all warrant articles from the first session on official ballot per RSA 40:13, VII. The polls for the election of town officers and other action required to be inserted on said ballot will open on said date at 8:00 am in the forenoon and will not close until 7:00 pm in the evening.

**Article 1:** To choose all necessary Town Officers for the ensuing year. (Ballot Vote)

**Article 2:** Are you in favor of the adoption of the Amendment No.1 as proposed by citizen petition to amend the Bethlehem Town Zoning Ordinances by adding to the existing language of **Article V – Zoning Districts and Uses, Section B District #1/Main Street, Section A District 1 – Main Street Permitted Uses** to read:

(Additional Language being proposed is highlighted in bold, existing language in regular type)

"Retail establishments for the sale and/or repair of food, clothing, drugs, jewelry, scientific instruments and other general merchandise, **but not to include Formula Retail and Formula Fast Food Restaurants.**" *(Planning Board does not recommend this Article)*

**Article 3:** Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 2, as proposed by Citizen Petition to amend the Bethlehem Town Zoning Ordinance by adding the following language to Article XXI definitions.

**Definitions:**

**Formula Retail and Formula Fast Food Restaurants** – means retailers or restaurant that are required by contractual or other arrangements to utilize any of the following: prescribed employee uniforms, interior and exterior color schemes, architectural design, signage, name, presentation format, or similar standardized features which cause the retailer or restaurant to be substantially identical to another retailer or restaurant regardless of ownership or location. *(Planning Board does not recommend this Article)*

**Article 4:** 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 therein, totaling \$2,663,542.000 (Two Million Six Hundred Sixty Three Thousand Five Hundred and Forty Two and Zero Dollars) should this article be defeated, the Operating Budget shall be \$2,692,268.00 (Two Million Six Hundred Ninety Two Thousand Two Hundred Sixty Eight and Zero Dollars) which is the same as last year, with certain adjustments required by previous action of the Town or by law or the local 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. *(The Board of Selectmen recommends this appropriation)*

**Note: This Operating Budget does not include appropriations in any other Warrant Articles.**

**Article 5:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$108,000.00 (One Hundred Eight Thousand Dollars) for the purpose of conducting by contract a revaluation of the Town in 2013. The results of this town-wide revaluation will be effective as of April 1<sup>st</sup> 2013. *(The Board of Selectmen recommends this Article)*

**Article 6:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$5,000.00 (Five Thousand Dollars) to be added to the Capital Reserve Fund, already established, for purchasing of Police Special Equipment. *(The Board of Selectmen recommends this Article)*

**Article 7:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$15,000.00 (Fifteen Thousand Dollars) to be added to the Capital Reserve Fund-Police Cruiser previously established. *(The Board of Selectmen recommends this Article)*

**Article 8:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$60,000.00 (Sixty Thousand Dollars) to be added to the Capital Reserve Fund, already established, for the purchase of a Highway truck. *(The Board of Selectmen recommends this Article)*

**Article 9:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$10,000.00 (Ten Thousand Dollars) to the Capital Reserve Fund, already established, for the purchase of Fire Department Emergency Safety Equipment. *(The Board of Selectmen recommends this Article)*

**Article 10:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$20,000.00 (Twenty Thousand Dollars) to be added to the Capital Reserve Fund previously established for purchasing a new or used fire truck. *(The Board of Selectmen recommends this Article)*

**Article 11:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$10,000.00 (Ten Thousand Dollars) to be added to the Capital Reserve Fund for the purpose of purchasing a new or used ambulance. *(The Board of Selectmen recommends this Article)*

**Article 12:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$5,000.00 (Five Thousand Dollars) to be added to the Capital Reserve Fund for Town Building Maintenance, previously established. *(The Board of Selectmen recommends this Article)*

**Article 13:** To see if the Town will vote to establish a Capital Reserve Fund under the provisions of RSA 35:1 for the purpose of securing, engineering studies and/or demolishing of distressed buildings, and to raise and appropriate \$5,000.00 (Five Thousand Dollars) to be placed in this fund and to designate the Board of Selectmen to expend. *(The Board of Selectmen recommends this Article)*

**Article 14:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$45,000.00 (Forty Five Thousand Dollars) for finishing the Pool Renovations with said funds to come from unreserved undesignated fund balance. This amount represents the remaining funds from the 2012 appropriation for the pool. *(The Board of Selectmen recommends this Article)*

**Article 15:** To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen to accept the new Bethlehem Public Library as a Town Asset. The Building is being built on current Town owned land. No Tax Impact. *(The Board of Selectmen recommends this Article)(The Bethlehem Public Library Board of Trustees recommends this Article)*

**Article 16:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$7,500 (Seven Thousand Five Hundred dollars) to cover the cost of building operation (heat, electric, maintenance cost including a janitor, paper supplies, property liability insurance, and other cost currently included at the Town Building and not paid for by the Library) for the balance of 2013 with said funds to come from general taxation. The cost for building operation for 2014 is estimated at \$30,000.00 (will be included in the 2014 default and proposed budget). *(The Board of Selectmen recommends this Article)(The Bethlehem Public Library Board of Trustees recommends this Article)*

**Article 17:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$7,500.00 (Seven Thousand Five Hundred Dollars) for the purpose of providing live musical entertainment, free to the public, to be held at the Bethlehem Gazebo in 2013. *(This article is submitted by petition). (The Board of Selectmen recommends this appropriation)*

**Article 18:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$4,000.00 (Four Thousand Dollars) for Littleton Regional Hospital for the purpose of providing charity health care for people who are unable to pay, provide transportation services (Care-A-Van), free health screenings, and the Paramedic Intercept Program that assists local emergency medical service techs.

**Article 19:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,000.00 (One Thousand Dollars) for the Northwoods Home Health & Hospice, a Division of Weeks Medical Center for the purpose of providing support in assisting families and individuals who are unable to pay for home health and hospice services.

**Article 20:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$5,800.00 (Five Thousand Eight Hundred) for Ammonoosuc Community Health Services, Inc. for the purpose of providing high quality healthcare to 883 Bethlehem residents and others in need of services.

**Article 21:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$3,121.00 (Three Thousand One Hundred Twenty One Dollars) for Northern Human Services for the purpose of providing services on a sliding scale to people who are uninsured or under insured who need mental health services.

**Article 22:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$7,200.00 (Seven Thousand Two Hundred Dollars) to Tri-County Community Action for the purpose of helping defer the funds needed with overhead expenses that the programs administered do not cover.

**Article 23:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$2,500.00 (Two Thousand Five Hundred Dollars) for Above the Notch Humane Society to support their efforts in rescuing and caring for stray, abused, or abandoned dogs.

**Article 24:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$6,792.00 (Six Thousand Seven Hundred Ninety Two Dollars) for North Country Home Health & Hospice Agency to provide compassionate and quality home health and hospice care and make it possible for hundreds of people each year to continue to fulfill their desire to remain in their own home regardless of their ability to pay.

**Article 25:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,000.00 (One Thousand Dollars) for American Red Cross to provide emergency relief services.

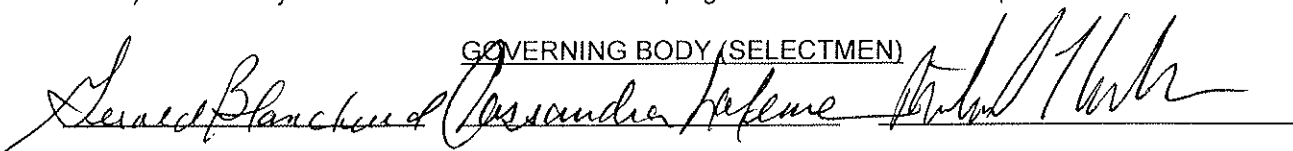
**Article 26:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$3,500.00 (Three Thousand Five Hundred Dollars) for Grafton County Senior Citizen Council to provide home delivered meals, transportation, services of an outreach worker, and other services designed to support the independence of older adults.

**Article 27:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$500.00 (Five Hundred Dollars) for CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates) to lift up the voices of abused and neglected children by recruiting, screening, and training volunteers to advocate for abused and neglected children in New Hampshire courts.

**Article 28:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$3,000.00 (Three Thousand Dollars) for The Bridge House to maintain and continue its vision of ending homelessness.

**Article 29:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,000.00 (One Thousand Dollars) for The Boy and Girls Club for after school programs and vacation camps.

GOVERNING BODY (SELECTMEN)

  
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