

Town of Bethlehem  
New Hampshire  
Warrant and Budget  
2015

To the inhabitants of the town of Bethlehem in the County of Grafton in the state of New Hampshire qualified to vote in town affairs are hereby notified and warned that the two phases of the Annual Town Meeting will be held as follows:

First Session of Annual Meeting (Deliberative Session):

Date: 02/02/15

Time: 6pm

Location: 2155 Main Street

Details: Town Meeting Room

Second Session of Annual Meeting (Official Ballot Voting)

Date: 03/10/15

Time: 8am – 7pm

Location: 2155 Main Street

Details: Town Meeting Room

**Article 01: Other - Blank**

To choose all necessary Town Officers for the ensuing year. (Ballot Vote)

Yes       No

**Article 02: Operating Budget-Town-SB2**

operating and default budget

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 purposes set forth therein, totaling \$2,748,032(Two Million Seven Hundred Forty Eight Thousand Thirty Two Dollars). Should this article be defeated, the default budget shall be \$2,764,527 (Two Million Seven Hundred Sixty Four Thousand Five Hundred Twenty Seven Dollars), 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.

Yes       No

**Article 03: Establish CRF, Add Funds & Name Agents**

Raise and appropriate funds to Police Cruiser CRF

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$15,000 (Fifteen Thousand Dollars) to be added to the Police Cruiser Capital Reserve Fund. (The Board of Selectmen recommends this Article)

Yes       No

**Article 04: Establish CRF, Add Funds & Name Agents**

Appropriate funds to Police Specialized Equipment

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$5,000 (Five Thousand Dollars) to be added to the Police Equipment Capital Reserve Fund. (The Board of Selectmen recommends this Article)

Yes       No

**Article 05: Establish CRF, Add Funds & Name Agents**

Raise and appropriate funds for Emergency Safety E

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$10,000 (Ten Thousand Dollars) to be added to the Fire Department Emergency Safety Equipment Capital Reserve Fund. (The Board of Selectmen recommends this Article)

Yes       No

**Article 06: Establish CRF, Add Funds & Name Agents**

Raise and appropriate funds for New or Used Fire T

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$10,000 (Ten Thousand Dollars) to be added to the Fire Truck Capital Reserve Fund. (The Board of Selectmen recommends this Article)

Yes       No

**Article 07: Establish CRF, Add Funds & Name Agents**

Raise and appropriate funds for New or Used Ambula

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$20,000 (Twenty Thousand Dollars) to be added to the Ambulance Capital Reserve Fund. (The Board of Selectmen recommends this Article)

Yes       No

**Article 08: Establish CRF, Add Funds & Name Agents**

Establish a Capital Reserve Fund for Assessing

To see if the town will vote to establish an Assessing Capital Reserve Fund under the provisions of RSA 35:1 for the purpose of assessing property values of the town, as required by law, and to raise and appropriate the sum of \$15,000 (Fifteen Thousand Dollars) to be placed in this fund. Further, to name the Board of Selectmen as agents to expend from said fund. (The Board of Selectmen recommends this Article)

Yes       No

**Article 09: Establish CRF, Add Funds & Name Agents**

Broadband

To see if the town will vote to establish a Broadband Capital Reserve Fund under the provisions of RSA 35:1 for obtaining Broadband in areas of Town that do not have it and to raise and appropriate the sum of \$100 (One Hundred Dollars) to be placed in this fund. Further, to name the Board of Selectmen as agents to expend from said fund. (The Board of Selectmen recommends this Article)

Yes       No

**Article 10: Equipment Purchase**

Backhoe purchase

To see if the town will vote to authorize the selectmen to enter into a ten year lease/purchase agreement for \$101,900 for the purpose of leasing a Loader Backhoe for the Highway Department, and to raise and appropriate the sum of \$11,155 for the first year's payment for that purpose. The lease agreement contains an escape clause. This purchase is to replace the current 1998 Loader. (The Board of Selectmen recommends this Article)

Yes       No

**Article 11: Other**

GIS mapping

To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$34,880 (Thirty Four Thousand Eight Hundred Eighty Dollars) for the purpose of Mapping and GIS Development which includes NH T2 parcel data update, Spatial recompilation and GPS field data collection. (The Board of Selectmen recommends this Article)

Yes       No

**Article 12: Other**

To Raise and Appropriate \$7,500 for Live Musical

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$7,500 (this is a \$1500 decrease from 2009) for the purpose of providing live musical entertainment and support for the gazebo summer concert series, free to the public, to be held at the Bethlehem Gazebo in 2015. (The Board of Selectmen recommends this Article)

Yes       No

**Article 13: Other**

Grafton County Senior Citizens Council

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of five thousand dollars (\$5,000.00) to Grafton County Senior Citizens Council, Inc. through the Littleton Area Senior Center and the ServiceLink Resource Center for services for Bethlehem residents in 2015. These services include congregate meals, home delivered meals, transportation, outreach support, ServiceLink support, and more. In FY2014, the Littleton Area Senior Center provided services for 110 Bethlehem residents, and ServiceLink provided services for 80 residents. The cost of providing these services was \$56,176.27. (The Board of Selectmen recommends this Article)

Yes       No

**Article 14: Other**

Tri-County CAP

Tri-County Community Action Program, a private, non-profit agency, is requesting \$7,200 in funding from the town of Bethlehem. The funds requested are used in 2 very important ways. We receive matching grants to continue providing direct assistance to your citizens. Secondly, your local Community Contact Office is only funded by the Fuel Assistance programs from December through April. We start taking applications in July so applications can be processed by the time the program opens, saving towns substantial money in their Town Welfare budget for emergency heating assistance. (The Board of Selectmen recommends this Article)

Yes       No

**Article 15: Other**

The Center for New Beginnings in Littleton

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000) to help support The Center for New Beginnings in Littleton, which provides counseling and mental health services to individuals throughout the North Country. In 2014, the Center for New Beginnings provided services for 48 individuals who reside in the Town of Bethlehem. (The Board of Selectmen recommends this Article)

Yes       No

**Article 16: Other**

Ammonoosuc Community Health Services, Inc.

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Five Thousand Eight Hundred Dollars (\$5,800) for Ammonoosuc Community Health Services, Inc. (ACHS). ACHS is a non-profit community health center that provides primary preventive health care to anyone, regardless of their ability to pay. This will help ACHS continue to provide high quality care to 913 current Bethlehem patients, as well as reach more of those in need. (The Board of Selectmen recommends this Article)

Yes       No

**Article 17: Other**

Northern Human Services

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$3,121.20 for the purpose of Northern Human Services. (The Board of Selectmen recommends this Article)

Yes       No

**Article 18: Other**

Boys & Girls Club

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,000.00 (one thousand dollars) to support the Boys & Girls Club of the North Country in order to provide a healthy, safe, and productive after school and vacation camp environment for children from Bethlehem and other area towns. (The Board of Selectmen do not recommend this Article)

Yes       No

**Article 19: Other**

WREN Farmer's Market

To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$2,500 to support the Bethlehem Farmer's Market, sponsored by WREN. The Farmer's Market creates economic opportunity for local farmer's and small businesses and provides access to locally grown and produced products for the community. (The Board of Selectmen do not recommend this Article)

Yes       No

**Article 20: Other**

Above the Notch Humane Society

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Twelve Hundred Dollars (\$1200.00) to help support the Above the Notch Humane Society, for the rehabilitation and support of surrendered animals and for animal cruelty investigation in the New Hampshire North Country. (The Board of Selectmen recommend this Article)

Yes       No

**Article 21: Other**

Video Recording Selectboard Meetings

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Two Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$2,500.00) for the purpose of video recording Selectboard meetings, town budget hearing, deliberative session and other events. The contract holder will be required to record up to 50 meetings/events within a twelve month period. Meetings will be recorded in a continuous fashion from the opening of the meeting to the close of the meeting. No editing shall be allowed. A clock with sweep second hand will appear in the frame of the recording, to show continuity. Within 48 hours the videographer will deliver a complete copy of each meeting/event to the channel 2 studios in Littleton for broadcast on cable television. Boards that are being recorded shall use the existing public address system to ensure the best possible sound quality. (The Board of Selectmen do not recommend this Article)

Yes       No

**Given under our hands, <<DATE>>**

We certify and attest that on or before <<DATE>>, we posted a true and attested copy of the within Warrant at the place of meeting, and like copies at <<LOCATION>>, and delivered the original to the <<TOWN OFFICIAL>>

Printed Name	Position	Signature