

Town of Bethlehem
New Hampshire
Warrant and Budget
2016

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: 02/01/2016

Time: 6:00 pm

Location: 2155 Main Street

Details: Town Meeting Room

Second Session of Annual Meeting (Official Ballot Voting)

Date: 03/08/2016

Time: 8am – 7pm

Location: 2155 Main Street

Details: Town Meeting Room

Article 01: To choose all necessary Town Officers

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

Yes No

Article 02: Amending language in Zoning Ordinance

Are you in favor of amending the language in the Bethlehem Zoning Ordinances, Article II General Provisions, section C

From:

"No building or structure shall be greater than forty (40) feet in height, unless a Special Exception is granted by the Zoning Board of Adjustments. However, under no circumstance shall any structure, or building, exceed sixty (60) feet in height. Appurtenances, such as antennae, will not exceed an additional ten (10)feet over the highest point of the building or structure. Personal wireless service facilities and amateur radio antennae are exempt for this provision."

To:

"No building or structure shall be greater than forty (40)feet in height from the average finished grade, unless a Special Exception is granted by the Zoning Board of Adjustments. However, under no circumstances shall any structure, or building, exceed sixty (60) feet in height. Appurtenances, such as antennae, will not exceed an additional ten (10) feet over the highest point of the building or structure. Personal wireless service facilities and amateur radio antennae are exempt for this provision."

Yes No

Article 03: Amending the language in the Zoning Ordinance

Are you in favor of amending the language in the Bethlehem Zoning Ordinances, Article II General Provisions, section E

From: "In all districts building coverage on the site shall not exceed twenty-five percent (25%) of the lot area."

To: "In all districts building coverage on the site shall not exceed twenty-five percent (25%) of the lot area unless otherwise stated here in. For the purpose of determining maximum lot coverage impervious areas are defined generally as areas the surface treatment of which substantially restricts or prevents water from being absorbed." (See special exemption for District 1 Main Street, Page 10)

Yes No

Article 04: Amending the language in the Zoning Ordinance

Are you in favor of amending the language in the Bethlehem Zoning Ordinances, Article V, District 1 Main Street Dimensional Standards

From:

"Any lawful non-conforming building or other structure located in District 1-Main Street may be exempt from the dimensional standards for setback and frontage be by special exception granted by the Zoning Board of Adjustments"

To:

"Any lawful non-conforming building or other structure located in District 1-Main Street may be exempt from the dimensional standards for setback, frontage, and lot coverage by special exception granted by the Zoning Board of Adjustments."

Yes No

Article 05: Adoption of zoning amendment

Are you in favor of the adoption of the zoning amendment as proposed by the planning board as follows:

Amend the official Zoning Map of the Town of Bethlehem, as described in Article V, Section A of the Bethlehem, NH Zoning Ordinance by changing the zoning classification of a portion of Town of Bethlehem Tax Map 406 from District III to District II. This includes all parcels located on Thornhill Road."

Yes No

Article 06: 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 \$2,776,517 (Two Million Seven Hundred Seventy Six Thousand Five Hundred Seventeen Dollars). Should this article be defeated, the default budget shall be \$2,778,881 (Two Million Seven Hundred Seventy Eight Thousand Eight Hundred Eighty One 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. The Board of Selectmen recommends this Article.

Yes No

Article 07: Raise and appropriate funds for Highway Truck

To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$80,000 (Eighty Thousand Dollars) to be added to the Highway Truck Capital Reserve fund. (The Board of Selectmen recommends this Article)

Yes No

Article 08: Raise and appropriate funds to Police Cruiser CRF

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$23,000 (Twenty Three Thousand Dollars) to be added to the Police Cruiser Capital Reserve Fund. (The Board of Selectmen recommends this Article)

Yes No

Article 09: Appropriate funds to Police Specialized Equipment

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$3,000 (Three Thousand Dollars) to be added to the Police Equipment Capital Reserve Fund. (The Board of Selectmen recommends this Article)

Yes No

Article 10: Raise and appropriate funds for Emergency Safety 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 Fire Department Emergency Safety Equipment Capital Reserve Fund. (The Board of Selectmen recommends this Article)

Yes No

Article 11: Raise and appropriate funds for assessing

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

Yes No

Article 12: Establish a Capital Reserve Fund for Tech Needs

To see if the town will vote to establish a Tech/Computer Capital Reserve Fund under the provisions of RSA 35:1 for computers and all technology needs and to raise and appropriate the sum of \$8,000 (Eight 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 13: To Purchase a new ambulance

To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$155,000 (One Hundred Fifty Five Thousand) to purchase a new ambulance and to authorize the issuance of not more than \$85,000.00 (Eighty Five Thousand Dollars) of notes in accordance with the provisions of the Municipal Finance Act (RSA 33) and to authorize the municipal officials to issue and negotiate such notes and to determine the rate of interest thereon; furthermore, to authorize the withdrawal of \$70,000 (Seventy Thousand Dollars) from the Ambulance Capital Reserve Fund created for this purpose. 3/5 ballot vote required. (The Board of Selectmen recommends this article)

Yes No

Article 14: GIS mapping

To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$35,125 (Thirty Five Thousand One Hundred Twenty Five 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 15: Trust Fund Fees

To see if the town will vote, pursuant to NH RSA 35:9-a-II, to authorize the Trustees of Trust Funds, without further action of the town meeting, to charge any expenses incurred for professional banking or brokerage assistance for capital reserve funds and trust funds in their custody as authorized in RSA Chapter 35, against the capital reserve funds and trust funds involved, such authority to remain in effect until rescinded by a vote of the town meeting, which said vote to rescind such authority shall not occur within 5 years of the adoption of this article? (Majority vote required)

Yes No

Article 16: Solid Waste Disposal Capital Reserve Fund

To see if the town will vote to establish a Solid Waste Disposal Capital Reserve Fund under the provisions of RSA 35:1 for the purpose of establishing and/or operating a solid waste disposal facility and to raise and appropriate the sum of up to \$75,000 (Seventy Five Thousand) that will come from the revenues from the NCES Host Fee. Further, to name the Board of Selectmen as agents to expend from said fund. (The Board of Selectmen recommends this Article)

Yes No

Article 17: Petitioned Warrant Article for Live Musical Entertainment

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$7,500, 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 2016. (The Board of Selectmen do not recommend this Article)

Yes No

Article 18: Grafton County Senior Citizens Council Petitioned Warrant Article

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 2016. These services include congregate meals, home delivered meals, transportation, outreach support, ServiceLink support, and more. In FY2015, the Littleton Area Senior Center provided services for 162 Bethlehem residents, and ServiceLink provided services for 186 residents. The cost of providing these services was \$69,679.47. (The Board of Selectmen do not recommend this Article)

Yes No

Article 19: Northern Human Services Petitioned Warrant Article

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$3,121.20 as the town's contribution to the White Mountain Mental Health and Common Ground, programs of Northern Human Services, serving the mental health and developmental service needs of Bethlehem residents. (The Board of Selectmen do not recommend this Article)

Yes No

Article 20: Petitioned Article from North Country Home Health & Hospice

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$8,000 for the purpose of North Country Home Health & Hospice Agency Inc, to provide home health and home care services to the underinsured and uninsured Bethlehem residents. (The Board of Selectmen do not recommend this Article)

Yes No

Article 21: Tri-County CAP Petitioned Warrant Article

To raise and appropriate the sum of \$7,200.00 for Tri-County Community Action Grafton County for the purpose of continuing services of the Fuel Assistance Program for the residents of Bethlehem. (The Board of Selectmen do not recommend this article)

Yes No

Article 22: Video Recording Selectboard Meetings Petitioned Warrant Article

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. A copy will also be provided to the town. Boards that are being recorded will use the existing public address system to ensure the best possible sound quality. (The Board of Selectmen do not recommend this article)

Yes No

Article 23: Petitioned Warrant Article to discuss the formation of a committee to discuss Country Club

We, the undersigned, petition the Bethlehem Board of Selectmen to authorize - at no cost to the town - the formation of a committee to discuss ways to make the golf course more profitable, which would include considering alternative uses with the goal of reducing taxes, increasing tourism and encouraging businesses to locate in the town. (The Board of Selectmen do not recommend this Article)

Yes No

Article 24: Petitioned Article to Get Big Money Out of Politics

By petition of 25 or more eligible voters of the town of.....to see if the town will urge:
That the next President and Congress fight big money politics and restore government of, by, and for the people by championing the We the People agenda:

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. Ban Super PACs and overturn Citizens United | 4. Establish small-donor, citizen-funded elections |
| 2. Expose secret donors and require full transparency registration | 5. End gerrymandering and modernize voter registration |
| 3. Ban bribes from big-money lobbyists and government contractors | 6. Close loopholes and enforce campaign finance laws |

That the New Hampshire State Legislature support concrete legislation to enact the We the People agenda. The record of the vote approving this article shall be transmitted by written notice from the Selectmen to the NH congressional delegation and to’s state legislators, and to the President of the United States informing them of the instructions from their constituents within 30 days of the vote. (The Board of Selectmen do not recommend this Article)

Yes No

Article 25: Boys & Girls Club Petitioned Warrant Article

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 26: Above the Notch Humane Society Petitioned Warrant Article

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Fifteen Hundred Dollars (\$1500.00) 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 do not recommend this Article)

Yes No

Article 27: Petitioned Warrant Article from the Center for New Beginnings

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1500 to support the Center for New Beginnings in their mission to provide mental health counseling services to individuals throughout the North Country. The Center for New Beginnings provided services for 50 individuals who reside in the Town of Bethlehem in 2015. (The Board of Selectmen do not recommend this Article)

Yes No

Given under our hands,		
We certify and attest that on or before 01/25/2016, we posted a true and attested copy of the within Warrant at the place of meeting, and like copies at Bethlehem Website and Bethlehem Post Office, and delivered the original to the <<TOWN OFFICIAL>>		
Printed Name	Position	Signature