

# **BETHLEHEM 2018 DELIBERATIVE MEETING FEBRUARY 5<sup>TH</sup> 2018**



# **Our Community - Tonight's Meeting**

**I thank you in advance for your  
engagement in our community and  
thoughtful exchange at the 2018  
Bethlehem Deliberative Session.**

# Dates to Remember

- Monday, Feb 12, Keno hearing
- Tuesday, March 6 Bethlehem Elementary School Annual Meeting
- Thursday March 8 Town of Bethlehem Candidate's Night 6-8pm
- Tuesday, March 13 Election Day 8am-7pm
- Thursday, March 15 Profile High School Annual Meeting

# **Article 01: To choose all necessary Town Officers for the ensuing year**

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

*Election is held on March 13<sup>th</sup>, 2018 from 8:00 to 7:00  
at the Town Building, 2155 Main St*

# Article 04: District V Expansion Submitted by Petitioned Warrant Article

## PETITION FOR AMENDMENT TO ZONING ORDINANCE

Are you in favor of adopting the following amendment to the zoning ordinance of the Town, subject to the condition stated below?

Condition This amendment shall take effect only upon the execution of a host community agreement with North Country Environmental Services, Inc. ("NCES"), by a majority of the board of selectmen as contemplated by the petitioned warrant article directing the selectmen to negotiate a host community agreement with NCES and setting forth the minimum terms of that agreement.

Amendment Substitute the language below for the part of Article V entitled "District V: (Landfill District)" [Explanatory Note: (1) Existing language of Article V is displayed in regular type; (2) Language being proposed is highlighted in bold type and replaces the metes and bounds description of District V now in Article V; and (3) Zoning District V is more particularly described in the "Legal Description of Proposed District V" accompanying this petition and on file with the selectmen and the planning board]:

*For discussion cannot amend*

## Article 04 (Continued)

A building or structure may be erected, altered, or used and a lot may be used or occupied only for the following purposes and in accordance with the following provisions after site plan review by the Planning Board and a building permit is issued by the Board of Selectmen. For purposes of this provision, "building or structure" does not include a landfill cell (including its footprint, content and final grade slope) or infrastructure for landfill gas management, leachate management, groundwater monitoring, or storm water management which is approved by the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services. This District shall include the land lying within the area described as follows: Zoning District V as shown on attached map entitled "Zoning District V" and comprising Lots 22 and 24 of the town's 2017 Tax Map 419. District V Permitted uses are as follows: 1. Landfilling shall be a permitted use in this District. 2. Any accessory building or structure erected, altered or used in the normal course of landfilling is permitted provided such use is not injurious, noxious or offensive to the neighborhood, and provided however than an incinerator within the definition of RSA 149-M:4(X)(a) (Supp. 2004) for the purposes of generating power and or solid waste combustion is not a permitted use and is expressly prohibited.

(The Planning Board recommends this Article)

*For discussion cannot amend*

# Article 22: Host Community Agreement Petitioned Warrant Article

To see whether the town will approve the following:

I. The board of selectmen is authorized and directed to negotiate in good faith and to execute a new host community agreement with North Country Environmental Services, Inc. ("NCES") on behalf of the town in accordance with the terms of this warrant article.

II. The host community agreement shall: a. Provide for a 100-acre expansion of town Zoning District V b. Result in projected revenues and financial benefits to the town totaling at least \$53,700,000 over the 20-year projected life of the NCES landfill within the expanded District V. These revenues and benefits may include, but are not limited to: i. Free pickup and disposal of household solid waste and recyclables for residences and town buildings; ii. Free access to NCES's transfer station on Trudeau Road for residents and the town to dispose of solid waste except for construction and demolition debris; iii. Host community fees payable for each ton of waste accepted at the NCES landfill; and iv. Property tax payments (including town, county, and school district taxes) consistent with the methodology set by the N.H. Board of Tax and Land Appeals.

III. The selectmen shall consult with the town's counsel in negotiating the host community agreement and shall include in the agreement such additional terms as counsel deems commercially or legally reasonable and in the town's best interest.

# **Article 25: Requiring a Town Vote on Host Community Agreement Petitioned Warrant Article**

To see whether the Town will approve the following: Any new or modified host-community agreement with North Country Environmental Services, Casella Waste Systems Inc. or a subsidiary approved by the Select Board must also then be approved by the town's voters.



# **Article 02: Amend Site Plan Review Regulations**

## ***Title on Ballot will Read; Amend Zoning Ordinance***

“Are you in favor of amending Article II, General Provisions, of the town zoning ordinance as proposed by the Planning Board as follows: “Change the parking requirements in Article II, H, a to be the same as is required in the current town Site Plan Review Regulations.”

*For discussion only cannot amend*

# Article 03: Amend Zoning Ordinance

Are you in favor of amending the existing zoning ordinance Article V - Zoning Districts and Uses A. District 1 Main Street Permitted Uses and Special Exception as proposed by the Planning Board to Change the hours during which the noise restriction applies from 10 pm to 9 am to 10 pm to 8am?

*For discussion only cannot amend*

# **Article 05: Front Setback Zoning Amendment Submitted by Petitioned Warrant Article**

Are you in favor of adopting an amendment to the Bethlehem Zoning Ordinance that would change the front setback in District 2 for accessory structures only. The accessory structure setback will at minimum conform to the setback of the existing structure provide the existing primary structure was built prior to the enactment of the 60-ft. minimum front setback requirement. (The Planning Board recommends this Article)

*For discussion only cannot amend*

# **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 \$2,834,006 (Two Million Eight Hundred Thirty Four Thousand Six Dollars). Should this article be defeated, the default budget shall be \$2,877,753 (Two Million Eight Hundred Seventy-Seven Thousand Seven Hundred Fifty Three 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.

<b>General Fund Budget</b>		<b>2017 Budget</b>	<b>2017 Unaudited 12/31/17</b>	<b>2018 Default</b>	<b>2018 Proposed</b>	<b>Difference between default and proposed</b>	<b>Difference between proposed and 2017</b>	<b>Tax Impact</b>	<b>Ins Added</b>
	<b>EXECUTIVE OFFICES</b>	175,754	168,651	163,189	162,797	-392	-12,957	0.706	171,716
	<b>ELECTION, REGISTRATION, VITALS</b>	58,849	50,931	63,131	64,578	1,447	5,729	0.280	
	<b>FINANCIAL -Tax Collecting</b>	52,324	47,188	52,324	55,600	3,276	3,276	0.241	
	<b>REAL PROPERTY APPRAISAL</b>	28,050	26,084	30,450	28,520	-1,930	470	0.124	
	<b>LEGAL</b>	50,000	36,307	50,000	50,000			0.217	
	<b>PLANNING AND ZONING</b>	21,157	18,300	21,157	22,692	1,535	1,535	0.098	
	<b>GENERAL GOVERNMENT BUILDINGS</b>	77,300	56,159	77,300	64,885	-12,415	-12,415	0.281	
	<b>TOWN INSURANCE</b>	89,131	82,429	241,305	241,305		152,174	1.046	
	<b>VISITOR CENTER</b>	10,900	10,134	10,900	10,355	-545	-545	0.045	
	<b>OTHER GENERAL GOVERNMENT</b>	2,000	1,570	2,000	2,000			0.009	
	<b>POLICE DEPARTMENT</b>	528,674	477,344	479,075	504,276	25,201	-24,398	2.185	542,834
	<b>DISPATCH</b>	99,500	83,717	99,500	80,000	-19,500	-19,500	0.347	
	<b>FIRE DEPARTMENT</b>	145,011	131,022	138,098	137,175	-923	-7,836	0.594	145,656
	<b>BUILDING INSPECTION</b>	18,551	12,272	18,551	17,480	-1,071	-1,071	0.076	
	<b>HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT</b>	721,301	723,933	645,597	636,623	-8,974	-84,678	2.759	711,905
	<b>STREET LIGHTING</b>	37,000	36,103	37,000	37,000			0.160	
	<b>AMBULANCE</b>	36,400	32,048	36,400	35,800	-600	-600	0.155	
	<b>EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT</b>	500	0	500	500			0.002	
	<b>LIBRARY</b>	112,000	112,000	112,000	118,300	6,300	6,300	0.513	
	<b>CONSERVATION COMMISSION</b>	1,270	1,270	1,270	1,270			0.006	
	<b>DEBT SERVICE</b>	99,759	99,738	97,839	97,839		-1,920	0.424	
	<b>TAN</b>	10,000		10,000	10,000			0.043	
	<b>HEALTH AGENCIES/HOSPITALS</b>		23,621						
	<b>WELFARE</b>	20,000	9,596	20,000	16,500	-3,500	-3,500	0.072	
	<b>Culture &amp; Recreation</b>		7,150						
	<b>PARKS &amp; RECREATION GF (01)</b>	141,833	118,592	129,452	97,796	-31,656	-44,037	0.424	119,840
<b>Total Budgeted Expenses</b>		<b>2,537,264</b>	<b>2,366,159</b>	<b>2,537,038</b>	<b>2,493,291</b>	<b>-43,747</b>	<b>-43,973</b>		

<b>General Fund Budget</b>	<b>2017 Budget</b>	<b>2017 Unaudited 12/31/17</b>	<b>2018 Default</b>	<b>2018 Proposed</b>	<b>Difference between default and proposed</b>	<b>Difference between proposed and 2017</b>
<b>Total Budgeted Expenses</b>	<b>2,537,264</b>	<b>2,366,159</b>	<b>2,537,038</b>	<b>2,493,291</b>	<b>-43,747</b>	<b>-43,973</b>
<b>Special Revenue Funds</b>						
Bethlehem Country Club	340,715	262,267	340,715	340,715		
<b>Total Special Revenue Funds</b>	<b>340,715</b>	<b>262,267</b>	<b>340,715</b>	<b>340,715</b>		
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>2,877,979</b>	<b>2,628,426</b>	<b>2,877,753</b>	<b>2,834,006</b>	<b>-43,747</b>	<b>-43,973</b>
<b>(Total Revenues)</b>	<b>1,665,965</b>	<b>1,522,372</b>	<b>1,575,497</b>	<b>1,572,997</b>	<b>-2,500</b>	<b>-92,968</b>
<b>Total to be Raised From Taxes for Budget</b>	<b>1,212,014</b>		<b>1,302,256</b>	<b>1,261,009</b>		
Plus Veterans Credit applied to taxes	95,500		112,000	95,500		
Plus Overlay (RSA 76:6)	276,262		123,818	125,000		
<b>Total Adj amt to be raised from taxes</b>	<b>1,583,776</b>		<b>1,538,074</b>	<b>1,481,509</b>		
<b>Total Valuation</b>	<b>230,748,747</b>		<b>230,748,747</b>	<b>230,748,747</b>		
<b>Using 1/4 % estimated increase in value</b>						
Estimated Tax Rate for Budget only	6.864		6.67	6.420		
Warrant Articles	1.538			1.176		
Total	8.402			7.597		

# Article 07: Convert Street Lights to LED

To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$59,508 (Fifty-Nine Thousand Five Hundred and Eight) for the purpose of installing energy efficient LED street lights and to partially fund this appropriation with a rebate through Eversource in the amount of \$23,175 (Twenty-Three Thousand One Hundred Seventy-Five Dollars). The net amount to be raised from taxes will be \$36,333 (Thirty-Six Thousand Three Hundred Thirty-Three Dollars) If approved, this installation will produce savings that should result in a full payback within 2.3 years. Any additional costs due to any added lights or needs will come from the street light line item budget.

*(The Board of Selectmen recommends this Article)*

# **Article 08: Capital Improvement Program Committee**

To see if the town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to appoint a Capital Improvement Program Committee in accordance with RSA 674:5, which shall include at least one member of the planning board and may include but not be limited to other members of the planning board or the town governing body, to prepare and amend a recommended program of municipal capital improvement projects projected over a period of at least 6 years. The capital improvements program may encompass major projects being currently undertaken or future projects to be undertaken with federal, state, county and other public funds. The sole purpose and effect of the capital improvements program shall be to aid the Selectmen in their consideration of the annual budget.

*(The Board of Selectmen recommends this Article)*



# Article 09: KENO

Shall we allow the operation of KENO games  
within the town?

*Public Hearing will be held February 12<sup>th</sup> at 6:00  
at the Town Building, 2155 Main St*

*(The Board of Selectmen recommends this Article)*

## **Article 10: Sell or Lease Country Club**

To see if the town will direct the Select Board to explore options for the sale or long-term lease of the town-owned Bethlehem Country Club property. If this article is approved the Select Board will hold no less than two public meetings to seek further public input. Any final decision will be made at a future town meeting.

*(The Board of Selectmen recommends this Article)*

# **Article 11: Keep the Country Club a golf course if it is sold**

If Warrant Article 10 passes and the Country Club is sold or leased would you want the sale or lease to be contingent on it remaining a golf course?

*(The Board of Selectmen recommends this Article)*

## **Article 12: Highway Truck Capital Reserve Fund**

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 previously established.  
*(The Board of Selectmen recommends this Article)*

## **Article 13: Police Cruiser Capital Reserve Fund**

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 previously established.  
*(The Board of Selectmen recommends this Article)*

## **Article 14: Police Equipment Capital Reserve Fund**

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 previously established.  
*(The Board of Selectmen recommends this Article)*

## **Article 15: Fire Dept. Safety Equip. Capital Reserve Fund**

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 Department Emergency Safety Equipment Capital Reserve Fund previously established.  
*(The Board of Selectmen recommends this Article)*

## **Article 16: Fire Truck Capital Reserve Fund**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$20,000 (Twenty Thousand Dollars) to be added to the Fire Truck Capital Reserve Fund previously established.

*(The Board of Selectmen recommends this Article)*

## **Article 17: Ambulance Capital Reserve Fund**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$10,000 (Ten Thousand Dollars) to be added to the Ambulance Capital Reserve Fund previously established.

*(The Board of Selectmen recommends this Article)*

## **Article 18: Assessing Capital Reserve Fund**

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 previously established.

*(The Board of Selectmen recommends this Article)*

## **Article 19: Tech Needs Capital Reserve Fund**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$8,000 (Eight Thousand Dollars) to be added to the Tech/Computer Capital Reserve Fund previously established.

*(The Board of Selectmen recommends this Article)*

## **Article 20: Solid Waste Disposal Capital Reserve Fund**

To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$25,000 (Twenty-Five Thousand) to be added to the Solid Waste Disposal Capital Reserve Fund previously established.

*(The Board of Selectmen recommends this Article)*

## **Article 21: Gazebo Summer Concert Petitioned Warrant Article**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$7,500, for the purpose of providing live musical entertainment, free, to the public, to be held at the Bethlehem Gazebo in 2018.

*(The Board of Selectmen does not recommend this Article)*



## **Article 23: 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 does not recommend this Article)*

## **Article 24: Grafton County Senior Citizens Petitioned Warrant Article**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of five thousand and five hundred dollars (\$5,500.00) to Grafton County Senior Citizens Council, Inc. through the Littleton Area Senior Center and the ServiceLink Resource Center for services for Bethlehem residents in 2018. These services include congregate meals, home delivered meals, transportation, outreach support, ServiceLink Support, and more. In FY2017, the Littleton Area Senior Center provided services for 150 Bethlehem residents, and ServiceLink provided services for 78 residents. The cost of providing these services was \$84,579.36.

*(The Board of Selectmen does not recommend this Article)*

## **Article 26: Tyler Blain Homeless Shelter Petitioned Warrant Article**

To see if the Town of Bethlehem will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$500 for the purpose of providing funding to the Tyler Blain House Homeless Shelter.

*(The Board of Selectmen does not recommend this Article)*

## **Article 27: 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 does not recommend this Article)*

## **Article 28: Tri-County Transit Petitioned Warrant Article**

To see if the Town of Bethlehem will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$3000.00 (Three thousand dollars) In support of the Tri County Transit Bus Services.

*(The Board of Selectmen does not recommend this Article)*

## **Article 29: Accept Upper Valley Road as Town Road Petitioned Warrant Article**

To see if the Town will vote to accept the road system known as Upper Valley Road and perform routine yearly maintenance including winter clearings. Understand that the road has been approved by the Bethlehem Planning Board, that it meets both Town and State specifications, that it has been inspected by a certified engineer and that currently there are three homes located on the road

## **Article 30: Ammonoosuc Community Health Petitioned Warrant Article**

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 preventative health care to anyone, regardless of their ability to pay. This will help ACHS continue to provide high quality care to 1014 current BETHLEHEM patients, as well as reach more of those in need.

*(The Board of Selectmen does not recommend this Article)*

## **Article 31: Caleb Interfaith Volunteer Caregivers Petitioned Warrant Article**

To see if the voters will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$2000 (two thousand) to help support Caleb Interfaith Volunteer Caregivers, that serves the needs of Seniors in the community.

*(The Board of Selectmen does not recommend this Article)*

## **Article 32: Boys & Girls Club Petitioned Warrant Article**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$2,500.00 (two thousand five hundred 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 the local community. The Club provides a van shuttle from the school to the Club for the afterschool program.

*(The Board of Selectmen does not recommend this Article)*

# **Article 33: North Country Home Health & Hospice Petitioned Warrant Article**

We the Undersigned Registered Voters of the Town of Bethlehem, NH, petition the Town to place a request from North Country Home Health & Hospice in the amount of \$4,000 on the Town Warrant. The requested funds shall be used to assist in the delivery of home health and hospice services to the residents of the Town of Bethlehem.

*(The Board of Selectmen does not recommend this Article)*

