



2025
WARRANT

Bethlehem

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 that the Annual Town Meeting will be held as follows:

First Session of Annual Meeting (Deliberative Session)

Date:
Time:
Location:
Details:

Second Session of Annual Meeting (Official Ballot Voting)

Date:
Time:
Location:
Details:

GOVERNING BODY CERTIFICATION

We certify and attest that on or before <DATE>, a true and attested copy of this document was posted at the place of meeting and at <LOCATION> and that an original was delivered to <OFFICIAL>.

| Name | Position | Signature |
|-----------------|-----------|--|
| Michael Bruno | Selectman | Michael Bruno (Jan 23, 2025 16:42 EST) |
| Nancy Strand | | Nancy Strand (Jan 23, 2025 19:26 EST) |
| April Hibberd | | April Hibberd (Jan 23, 2025 16:58 EST) |
| Caplain | | Caplain (Jan 23, 2025 16:53 EST) |
| Veronica Morris | Selectman | Veronica Morris (Jan 23, 2025 20:39 EST) |
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Article 01 Choose Town Officers

To choose all necessary Town Officers for the ensuing year. (Ballot Vote) (The Board of Selectmen recommends this Article 4-0).

Article 02 Zoning Amendment 1 Sign Ordinance

Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment 2 to the Bethlehem Zoning Ordinance as proposed by the Planning Board to help reduce light pollution and preserve our rural night skies as follows: Under the Amended Article VI, Signs, no new internally lit signs will be permitted because the light cannot be shielded and directed away from public streets and adjoining structures such as homes. Signs may be externally lit only, aimed downward, and dimmed by at least 50 percent, motion-activated, or turned off outside of business operating hours. Existing signs are exempt until they are modified.

Article 03 Zoning Amendment 2 Light Ordinance

Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment 3 to the Bethlehem Zoning Ordinances as proposed by the Planning Board to preserve our rural night skies as follows: repeal and replace Article VIII, Lighting, to require all new and modified outdoor lighting to be shielded, directed downward and designed to prevent spillover onto neighboring properties or public areas; to require lighting hues to avoid certain blue hues; and to require commercial and industrial lighting to be reduced outside of business hours, avoid excessive illumination, and prevent glare. Temporary, emergency, and seasonal lighting are exempt, as well as existing fixtures, until they are modified. This proposed ordinance establishes clear guidelines for outdoor lighting to reduce glare, to limit light from trespassing onto neighborhood properties, and to improve the functionality of outdoor lighting.

Article 04 Zoning Amendment 3 STR Ordinance

Are you in favor of amending Article XVII. Short-Term Rental, paragraph 3 (septic systems) to revise unclear language, add a new means of demonstrating that a system is currently functioning, and remove the requirement that a system constructed prior to NHDES permitting have a formal evaluation annually and a replacement design continuously approved by NHDES.

Article 05 Operating 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 \$ 3,733,607 (Three Million, Seven Hundred Thirty Three Thousand, Six Hundred Seven Dollars). Should this article be defeated, the default budget shall be \$ 3,684,235 (Three Million, Six Hundred Eighty Four Thousand, Two Hundred Thirty Five 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 4-0). Tax Impact 5.59

Article 06 Visitor Center Roof



Article 06 To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the SELECTMEN'S recommended amount of \$180,000 (One Hundred Eighty Thousand Dollars) from the unreserved fund balance to perform structural repairs and to replace the Visitor's center roof. This money was appropriated in 2024 and will not impact the tax rate. This special warrant article will be a non-lapsing appropriation per RSA 32:7, VI and will not lapse until the roof project is completed or by December 31, 2030, whichever is sooner. This amount does not cover the full cost of repairs recommended in the engineering study. The Board of Selectmen recommends this Article 3-1). Estimated tax impact 0.000

Article 07 Highway Equipment Capital Reserve Fund
To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$50,000 (Fifty thousand Dollars) to be added to the Highway Equipment Capital Reserve Fund previously established. (The Board of Selectmen recommends this Article 4-0). Estimated tax impact .095

Article 08 Police Cruiser Capital Reserve
To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$35,000 (Thirty-Five Thousand Dollars) to be added to the Police Cruiser Capital Reserve Fund previously established. (The Board of Selectmen recommends this Article 4-0). Estimated tax impact .067

Article 09 Police Equipment Capital Reserve Fund
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 previously established. (The Board of Selectmen recommends this Article 4-0). Estimated tax impact .010

Article 10 Fire Safety Equipment Capital Reserve
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 4-0). Estimated tax impact 0.019

Article 11 Fire Truck Capital Reserve
To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$30,000 (Thirty Thousand Dollars) to be added to the Fire Truck Capital Reserve Fund previously established. (The Board of Selectmen recommends this Article 4-0). Estimated tax impact 0.057

Article 12 Ambulance Capital Reserve
To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$25,000 (Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars) to be added to the Ambulance Capital Reserve Fund previously established. (The Board of Selectmen recommends this Article 4-0). Estimated tax impact .048

Article 13 Cemetery Trust Fund
To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$25,000 (Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars) to be added to the Cemetery Trust Fund previously established. (The Board of Selectmen recommends this Article 4-0). Estimated tax impact .048

Article 14 Assessing Capital Reserve
To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$26,000 (Twenty-Six Thousand Dollars) to be added to the Assessing Capital Reserve Fund previously established. (The Board of Selectmen recommends this Article 4-0). Estimated tax impact .050



Article 15 Tech/Computer Capital Reserve

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 4-0). Estimated tax impact .010

Article 16 Solid Waste Disposal Capital Reserve Fund

To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$40,000 (Forty Thousand) to be added to the Solid Waste Disposal Capital Reserve Fund previously established. (The Board of Selectmen recommends this Article 4-0). Estimated tax impact .076

Article 17 Town Building Maintenance Capital Reserve Fund

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$40,000 (Forty Thousand Dollars) to be added to the Town Building Maintenance Capital Reserve Fund previously established. (The Board of Selectmen recommend this Article 4-0). Estimated tax impact .076

Article 18 Library 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 Library Capital Reserve Fund previously established. (The Board of Selectmen recommends this Article 4-0). Estimated tax impact .029

Article 19 Recreation Facilities Capital Reserve Fund

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$27,500 (Twenty-Seven Thousand Five Hundred Dollars) to be added to the Recreation Facilities Capital Reserve Fund previously established. (The Board of Selectmen recommends this Article 4-0). Estimated tax impact .052

Article 20 Gazebo Concerts

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$9,650 (Nine Thousand Six Hundred Fifty Dollars) for the purpose of providing live musical entertainment to the public, to be held at the Bethlehem Gazebo in 2025. (The Board of Selectmen recommends this Article 4-0) Estimated tax impact .018

Article 21 Classify Alder Brook Road Private

To see if the town will vote to discontinue completely the road known as Alder Brook from Route 116 to the Littleton town line for a total of 530 feet. This warrant is intended to clarify the road classification as private for DOT. (The Board of Selectmen recommends this Article 4-0). Estimated tax impact .000

Article 22 Planning Board Professional Services Capital Reserve Fund

To see if the town will vote to establish a Planning Board Professional Services Capital Reserve Fund under the provisions of RSA 35:1 for and to raise and appropriate the sum of \$25,000 to be placed in this fund. Further, to name the Select Board as agents to expend from said fund. (The Board of Selectmen recommends this Article 4-0). Estimated tax impact .048

Article 23 Grant Match Expendable Trust Fund

To see if the town will vote to establish a Grant Match Expendable Trust Fund per RSA 31:19-a, for the purpose of raising funds for the match portion of grants awarded to the town and to raise and appropriate \$20,000 to put in the fund, with this amount to come from the general fund; further to name the Select Board as agents to expend from said fund. (The Board of Selectmen recommends this Article 4-0). Estimated tax impact .038



Article 24 Petition Boys & Girls Club

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 providing a healthy, safe, and productive after school and vacation camp environment for children from Bethlehem and the local community. The Club provides busing from the school to the Club for the afterschool program, which alone costs \$5000 a year.(The Board of Selectmen do not recommend this Article 4-0) Estimated tax impact 0.005

Article 25 Petition-Second Chance Animal Rescue

To see if the town of Bethlehem NH will vote to raise the appropriate sum of \$1,000 (One Thousand Dollars) for the Second Chance Animal Rescue. Second Chance Animal Rescue is a nonprofit that provides care and shelter for abused and abandoned cats and kittens. Second Chance Animal Rescue also sponsors monthly low cost Spay/Neuter clinics for both dogs and cats. (The Board of Selectmen do not recommend this Article 4-0) Estimated tax impact 0.002

Article 26 Petition- Grafton County Senior Citizens Council

We registered voters in the Town of Bethlehem present this petitioned article to be included in the 2025 Town of Bethlehem Warrant: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Ten thousand dollars (\$10,000.00) to Grafton County Senior Citizens Council, Inc. through the Littleton Area Senior Center and the ServiceLink Resource Center for services for Bethlehem residents in 2024. From July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024, the Littleton Area Senior Center provided services for 231 Bethlehem residents, and Service Link provided services for 49 residents. These services included nutrition, transportation, outreach support, ServiceLink support, and more. The cost of providing these services was \$190,433.47. Petitioned Article (The Board of Selectmen do not recommend this Article 4-0) Estimated tax impact 0.019

Article 27 Petition Northern Human Services

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$3,121.00 (Three Thousand One Hundred Twenty-One Dollars) as the town's contribution to the White Mountain Mental Health and Common Ground, programs of Northern Human Services, serving the mental health and development service needs of Bethlehem residents. (The Board of Selectmen do not recommend this Article 4-0) Estimated tax impact 0.006

Article 28 Petition-Tri-County Community Action Program

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$4,968.00 (Four thousand Nine Hundred Sixty-Eight dollars) for the operation of Tri-County Community Action Program, Inc. service programs in Bethlehem: Transportation, Energy Assistance, Weatherization, Guardianship, Head Start, Homeless Intervention and Prevention, Disaster Relief, and Tamworth Dental Center. Petition Article. (The Board of Selectmen do not recommend this Article -0) Estimated tax impact 0.009

Article 29 Petition-Ammonoosuc Community Health Services

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Six Thousand Dollars (\$6,000) for Ammonoosuc Community Health Services, Inc. (ACHS). ACHS is a non-profit community health center that provides comprehensive primary preventative health care to all, regardless of their financial situation. This will enable ACHS to continue to provide top-notch, affordable healthcare to 836 CURRENT BETHLEHEM PATIENTS. ACHS provides healthcare services to 8,268 patients within 26 towns in northern Grafton and southern Coos counties and has sites in Littleton, Franconia, Whitefield, Warren, and Woodsville. Petitioned Article. (The Board of Selectmen do not recommend this Article 4-0) Estimated tax impact 0.011












Warrant (6)


Final Audit Report

2025-01-24

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|-----------------|--|
| Created: | 2025-01-23 |
| By: | Mary Moritz (admin@bethlehemnh.org) |
| Status: | Signed |
| Transaction ID: | CBJCHBCAABAA7DdYz7uAkSwK8eJF1D5ymaVFHRcd_mzR |

"Warrant (6)" History


-  Document created by Mary Moritz (admin@bethlehemnh.org)
2025-01-23 - 9:41:10 PM GMT
-  Document emailed to selectman3@bethlehemnh.org for signature
2025-01-23 - 9:41:13 PM GMT
-  Document emailed to selectman5@bethlehemnh.org for signature
2025-01-23 - 9:41:13 PM GMT
-  Document emailed to selectman1@bethlehemnh.org for signature
2025-01-23 - 9:41:13 PM GMT
-  Document emailed to selectman2@bethlehemnh.org for signature
2025-01-23 - 9:41:13 PM GMT
-  Document emailed to selectman4@bethlehemnh.org for signature
2025-01-23 - 9:41:14 PM GMT
-  Email viewed by selectman3@bethlehemnh.org
2025-01-23 - 9:41:43 PM GMT
-  Signer selectman3@bethlehemnh.org entered name at signing as Michael Bruno
2025-01-23 - 9:42:09 PM GMT
-  Document e-signed by Michael Bruno (selectman3@bethlehemnh.org)
Signature Date: 2025-01-23 - 9:42:11 PM GMT - Time Source: server
-  Email viewed by selectman2@bethlehemnh.org
2025-01-23 - 9:53:20 PM GMT
-  Signer selectman2@bethlehemnh.org entered name at signing as Captain
2025-01-23 - 9:53:37 PM GMT

 Document e-signed by Caplain (selectman2@bethlehemnh.org)


Signature Date: 2025-01-23 - 9:53:39 PM GMT - Time Source: server

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2025-01-23 - 9:57:39 PM GMT

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2025-01-23 - 9:58:14 PM GMT

 Document e-signed by April Hibberd (selectman1@bethlehemnh.org)

Signature Date: 2025-01-23 - 9:58:16 PM GMT - Time Source: server

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2025-01-24 - 0:25:58 AM GMT

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2025-01-24 - 0:26:13 AM GMT

 Document e-signed by Nancy Strand (selectman5@bethlehemnh.org)


Signature Date: 2025-01-24 - 0:26:15 AM GMT - Time Source: server

 Email viewed by selectman4@bethlehemnh.org

2025-01-24 - 1:38:09 AM GMT

 Signer selectman4@bethlehemnh.org entered name at signing as Veronica Morris

2025-01-24 - 1:39:19 AM GMT

 Document e-signed by Veronica Morris (selectman4@bethlehemnh.org)

Signature Date: 2025-01-24 - 1:39:21 AM GMT - Time Source: server

 Agreement completed.

2025-01-24 - 1:39:21 AM GMT