

**FISCAL YEAR 2024
TOWN MEETING WARRANT
TOWN OF PETERBOROUGH
STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE**

To the inhabitants of the Town of Peterborough, in the County of Hillsborough, in said State, qualified to vote in Town affairs:

Pursuant to the Peterborough Charter, you are hereby notified to meet at the Town House in said Town on ***Tuesday, the 4th day of April 2023, at 7:00 p.m.*** for the first session of the Annual Town Meeting (to deliberate on Articles 3 - 18).

You are hereby further notified to meet at the Peterborough Community Center, 25 Elm St, in said Town on ***Tuesday, the 9th day of May 2023, at 7:00 a.m.*** (Polls close at 7:00 p.m.) for the second session of the Annual Town Meeting (to act on Articles 1- 18).

You are hereby further notified that consideration of all other articles contained in the warrant will commence at the third session of the Annual Town Meeting at the Town House in said Town on ***Wednesday, the 10th day of May 2023, at 7:00 p.m.***

**OFFICIAL BALLOT ARTICLES
MAY 9TH, 2023**

ARTICLE 1. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

SELECTMAN for Three Years;

vote for not more than one

Tyler Ward

Andrew Osterman

TRUSTEE OF THE TRUST FUNDS for

Three Years; *vote for not more than one*

John A. Nieskens

BUDGET COMMITTEE for Three Years;

vote for not more than three

Mary Clark

Carl Mabbs-Zeno

Richard Reynells

ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT for

Three Years; *vote for not more than two*

Daniel Latini

Christopher J. DiLoreto

CEMETERY TRUSTEE for Three Years;

vote for not more than one

C. Peter LaRoche

LIBRARY TRUSTEE for Three Years;

vote for not more than two

Margaret "Peggy" VanValkenburgh

Christine Mann

PLANNING BOARD for Three Years;

vote for not more than two

Andrew Dunbar

Gary Gorski

Lisa Stone

RECREATION COMMITTEE for Three

Years; *vote for not more than two*

Devon Tomasulo

Kate Coon

OTHER BALLOT ARTICLES

ARTICLE 2. ZONING AMENDMENTS

ZONING AMENDMENT 1:

Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment #1 as proposed by the Planning Board for the Peterborough Zoning Ordinance, as follows:

To rescind §245-11.1 Office District, a defunct zoning district consisting of only two lots, to be rezoned as: U019-024-000 to be in the General Residence District and U008-025-000 to be in the Family District. The Office District is obsolete and both lots within this District are currently legal nonconforming under Office District regulations; these changes would allow those lots to be conforming and have greater flexibility to expand, add, change uses or structures on their properties.

The Planning Board unanimously supports this amendment, 7:0.

ZONING AMENDMENT 2:

Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment #2 as proposed by the Planning Board for the Peterborough Zoning Ordinance, as follows:

To amend the definition of abutter under section §245-4 to include *“For purposes of notification, an abutter is the owner of any property, excluding street rights-of-way, within 100 feet of the applicant’s property. Determination of the names and addresses shall be based on the Town’s property tax records.”* This change will allow applicants to use an automatic, abutter tool on the Town’s ParcelViewer to create their abutters list.

The Planning Board unanimously supports this amendment, 7:0.

ZONING AMENDMENT 3:

Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment #3 as proposed by the Planning Board for the Peterborough Zoning Ordinance, as follows:

To amend the definition of “Commercial Uses” under §245-4 to include *“food services such as restaurants.”*

Yes No

The Planning Board unanimously supports this amendment, 7:0.

ZONING AMENDMENT 4:

Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment #4 as proposed by the Planning Board for the Peterborough Zoning Ordinance, as follows:

To rezone parcels U023-021-000 (80 Elm Street), U023-020-000 (36 Elm Street), and U023-019-000 (32 Elm Street) to be zoned entirely Village Commercial District. Current zoning of these parcels makes their uses legal nonconforming and very difficult for expansion or redevelopment.

This change will allow flexibility for existing and future development while providing a vegetated buffer where the parcels abut residential lots.

The Planning Board unanimously supports this amendment, 7:0.

ZONING AMENDMENT 5:

Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment #5 as proposed by the Planning Board for the Peterborough Zoning Ordinance, as follows:

To amend section §245-24.6E(2) Workforce Housing to remove "...however there may be no more than one such building permitted per lot in the Rural District." This change will enable there to be more than one building on one lot in the Rural District as a part of a multi-family workforce housing development.

The Planning Board unanimously supports this amendment, 7:0.

ZONING AMENDMENT 6:

Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment #6 as proposed by the Planning Board for Section §224 Manufactured Housing Parks of the Peterborough Town Code, as follows:

To amend Manufactured Housing Parks under §224-2B(1) by adding "*or shall provide a community water and septic service.*" §224 only allows Manufactured Housing Parks in the Rural District, however, the current regulations also require that they be connected to Town water & sewer which is largely unavailable in this District.

The Planning Board unanimously supports this amendment, 7:0.

ZONING AMENDMENT 7:

Zoning Amendment – By Petition.

To see if the Town will vote to amend the Zoning Ordinance as follows:

To repeal Section §245-24.7D3b(iii), which regulates only Single-Family or Duplex Residential Freestanding Solar Energy Systems and reads as follows: "The system shall be located to the rear property line when feasible. In any event, not part of the system may be placed closer to the front property line than the part of the house closest to the street, provided however, that the system need not be setback further than 100 feet from the front property line;" and to amend Section 245-24.7D3a(vi) to remove screening requirements for only Single-Family or Duplex Residential Freestanding Solar Energy Systems and not the other larger Freestanding Solar Energy Systems governed by the ordinance to read as follows: "The systems, *with the exception of Single-Family or Duplex Residential Freestanding Solar Energy Systems*, shall be located to minimize visual impacts to abutting properties and the road."

The Planning Board supports this amendment 6:0, with 1 abstention.

ARTICLE 3. BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2024 – \$14,791,950

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **Fourteen Million, Seven Hundred Ninety-One Thousand, Nine Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$14,791,950)** for the support of General Municipal, Water, and Wastewater Operations. This represents the fiscal year 2024 budget period,

July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024. This article does not include appropriations in special or individual articles addressed separately.

The Select Board recommends this appropriation by a vote of 3-0

The Budget Committee recommends this appropriation by a vote of 8-1

ARTICLE 4. PAY-AS-YOU-THROW SPECIAL REVENUE FUND – \$131,000

To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **One Hundred Thirty-One Thousand Dollars (\$131,000)** for the purpose of operating and maintaining the Town's Pay-As-You-Throw program, with said funds to come from Pay-As-You-Throw Special Revenue Fund and no additional funds to be raised through taxation.

The Select Board recommends this appropriation by a vote of 3-0

The Budget Committee recommends this appropriation by a vote of 9-0

ARTICLE 5. CAPITAL RESERVE AND EXPENDABLE TRUST FUNDS – \$764,700

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **Seven Hundred Sixty-Four Thousand, Seven Hundred Dollars (\$764,700)** to be placed in the following previously established capital reserve and expendable trust funds:

- Eighteen Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$18,500) to be placed in the GIS Capital Reserve Fund
- Eighty Thousand Dollars (\$80,000) to be placed in the Police Department Fleet Management Capital Reserve Fund
- Two Hundred and Ten Thousand Dollars (\$210,000) Fire Department Apparatus and Equipment Capital Reserve Fund
- One Thousand Two Hundred (\$1,200) to be placed in the Winter Operations Expendable Trust Fund
- Three Hundred Seventy-Five Thousand Dollars (\$375,000) to be placed in the Fleet Management Capital Reserve Fund
- Sixty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$65,000) to be placed in the Recreation Department Equipment Capital Reserve Fund
- Fifteen Thousand Dollars (\$15,000) to be placed in the Adams Pool Improvement Capital Reserve Fund

The Select Board recommends this appropriation by a vote of 3-0

The Budget Committee recommends this appropriation by a vote of 8-1

ARTICLE 6. ROADWAY SYSTEM UPGRADES CAPITAL RESERVE FUND – \$400,000

To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **Four Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$400,000)** to be placed in the previously established Roadway System Upgrades Capital Reserve Fund.

The Select Board recommends this appropriation by a vote of 3-0

The Budget Committee recommends this appropriation by a vote of 9-0

ARTICLE 7. UPPER HALL EXPENDABLE TRUST FUND - \$5,000

To see if the Town will authorize the establishment of an Expendable Trust Fund (pursuant to RSA 31:19-a) to be known as the "Upper Hall Expendable Trust Fund" for the purpose of retaining funds for the orderly repair and upkeep of the Upper Hall of the Peterborough Town House and its associated spaces and designate the Select Board as agents to expend; and further, to raise and appropriate the sum of **Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000)** from the unrestricted fund balance. No amount to be raised through taxation.

The Select Board recommends this appropriation by a vote of 3-0

The Budget Committee recommends this appropriation by a vote of 9-0

ARTICLE 8. BRIDGES, CULVERTS, AND DAMS EXPENDABLE TRUST FUND - \$237,830

To see if the Town will authorize the establishment of an Expendable Trust Fund (pursuant to RSA 31:19-a) to be known as the "Bridges, Culverts and Dams Expendable Trust Fund" for the purpose of retaining funds for the orderly repair, replacement, upkeep and construction of bridges, culverts and dams, and further to raise and appropriate the sum of **Two Hundred Thirty-Seven Thousand, Eight Hundred Thirty Dollars (\$237,830)**, to come from the proceeds of the Unanticipated Bridge Aid accepted by the Select Board at a Public Hearing held on December 20, 2022, to be used for this purpose; no amount to be raised through taxation.

The Select Board recommends this appropriation by a vote of 3-0

The Budget Committee recommends this appropriation by a vote of 9-0

ARTICLE 9. AMBULANCE SERVICE REVOLVING FUND – \$450,834

To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **Four Hundred Fifty Thousand, Eight Hundred Thirty-Four Dollars (\$450,834)** to be placed in the Ambulance Service Revolving Fund. This amount represents the Town of Peterborough's share of the cost to operate the 911 Emergency Response Ambulance Service for calendar year 2023.

The Select Board recommends this appropriation by a vote of 3-0

The Budget Committee recommends this appropriation by a vote of 8-1

ARTICLE 10. FACILITIES AND GROUNDS CAPITAL RESERVE FUND

To see if the Town will authorize the establishment of a Capital Reserve Fund (pursuant to RSA Chapter 35) to be known as the "Facilities and Grounds Capital Reserve Fund" for the purpose of retaining funds for the orderly repair, replacement, and upkeep of existing Facilities and Buildings and to designate the Select Board as agents to expend.

The Select Board recommends this article by a vote of 3-0

ARTICLE 11. TERMS OF COMPENSATION FOR ELECTED OFFICIALS – \$5,250

To see if the town will vote to amend the annual terms of compensation for the elected Supervisors of the Checklist as follows:

- Supervisor of the Checklist from \$2,250 to \$3,000 in a regular election year or \$4,000 in an election year that includes State or Federal elections, plus \$1,000 in the year that the voter-list purge occurs once every ten years. There are three elected Supervisors of the Checklist. This provision is for each Supervisor of the Checklist.

And, furthermore, to raise and appropriate the sum of **Five Thousand, Two Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$5,250)** as the cost associated with this warrant article for fiscal year 2024.

The Select Board recommends this appropriation by a vote of 3-0

The Budget Committee recommends this appropriation by a vote of 9-0

ARTICLE 12. TERMS OF COMPENSATION FOR ELECTED TOWN CLERK

To see if the town will vote to amend the terms of compensation for the elected Town Clerk as follows:

A newly elected Town Clerk shall begin service with a salary level equal to the minimum Executive Salary Structure Grade Level 6, and benefits including Health Insurance, Dental Insurance, Pension, Life Insurance, Short-Term and Long-Term Disability Insurance, and Social Security. After the completion of each year of service the Town Clerk shall receive a salary increase equal to the Cost-of-Living Adjustment (COLA) increase approved at the prior Town Meeting.

Where applicable, all provisions of this warrant article shall be afforded the current Town Clerk.

The Select Board recommends this appropriation by a vote of 3-0

The Budget Committee recommends this appropriation by a vote of 8-1

ARTICLE 13. COST OF LIVING ADJUSTMENT AND MERIT INCREASE FOR ELECTED TOWN CLERK - \$8,297

To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **Eight Thousand, Two Hundred Ninety-Seven Dollars (\$8,297)** to award the current Town Clerk a Cost of Living Adjustment and merit-based salary increase and pay all associated increases to taxes and benefits.

The Select Board recommends this appropriation by a vote of 3-0

The Budget Committee recommends this appropriation by a vote of 8-1

ARTICLE 14. ESTABLISH A TOWN FOREST

To see if the town will vote to designate the following Town-owned properties located off of Greenfield Road as a Town Forest pursuant to RSA 31:110

- 1) Parcel ID No. U008-034-100 taken by Tax Deed in 1993
- 2) Parcel ID No. U008-034-200 taken by Tax Deed in 1993
- 3) Parcel ID No. U008-034-300 taken by Tax Deed in 1993

And further, to authorize the Conservation Commission to manage the property in accordance with RSA 31:112, and to authorize the placement of any proceeds that may accrue from forest management in the Conservation Commission Account to accumulate pursuant to RSA 31:113. Once established, the Town Forest cannot be abolished in whole or in part without a two-thirds vote of Town Meeting.

The Select Board recommends this article by a vote of 3-0

ARTICLE 15. READOPT THE OPTIONAL VETERANS TAX CREDIT

To see if the town will vote to readopt the Optional Veterans Tax Credit for an annual tax credit on residential property of \$750.00 per year in accordance with RSA 72:28, II. If the credit is not readopted it will reset to the \$50.00 per year minimum.

The Select Board recommends this article by a vote of 3-0

ARTICLE 16. READOPT THE ALL VETERANS TAX CREDIT

To see if the town will vote to readopt the All Veterans Tax Credit for an annual tax credit on residential property of \$750.00 per year in accordance with RSA 72:28-b. If the credit is not readopted it will reset to the \$50.00 per year minimum.

The Select Board recommends this article by a vote of 3-0

ARTICLE 17. REVISE THE SOUTH PETERBOROUGH TAX INCREMENT FINANCE DISTRICT AND GREATER DOWNTOWN TAX INCREMENT FINANCE DISTRICT

To see if the town will vote to revise the South Peterborough Tax Increment Finance District to include these additional parcels:

- | | | |
|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| • R003-037-000 | • R003-025-500 | • R003-025-300 |
| • R003-019-000 | • R003-025-101 | • R003-025-400 |
| • R003-017-000 | • R003-025-100 | • R003-025-200 |
| • R003-016-000 | • R003-025-722 | • R003-025-701 |
| • R003-018-100 | • R003-020-000 | • R003-025-600 |
| • R003-018-000 | • R003-022-000 | • R003-024-000 |
| • U022-035-000 | | |

And further, to move the entire parcel U022-035-000, including the portion currently in the Greater Downtown Tax Increment Finance District to the South Peterborough Tax Increment Finance District.

The Select Board recommends this article by a vote of 3-0

ARTICLE 18. REVISE THE CHARTER OF THE ADVISORY BUDGET COMMITTEE

To see if the town will vote to revise the Charter of the Advisory Budget Committee as follows:

Mission Statement: The Peterborough Advisory Budget Committee (hereinafter "Budget Committee") mission is to provide the community, the Select Board, and the Town Administration with independent review and objective analysis of the proposed annual Town budget. The Budget Committee assists voters in the prudent appropriation of public funds by recommending whether to accept the proposed annual budget so as to meet the present and future needs of the Town.

- A. The Peterborough Budget Committee shall be composed of nine members elected to three-year terms. If a member resigns before his or her term expires, a replacement member shall

- be appointed to serve until the next Town Meeting ballot session at which time the voters will elect a replacement to fill the resignee's term, pursuant to RSA:32:15, VII, per RSA 669:71.
- B. The nine elected members shall, on an annual basis, elect a chairperson, vice-chairperson, and a secretary from among themselves.
 - C. A quorum of five members is required for the Budget Committee to conduct a meeting.
 - D. To allow time for appropriate review, the Budget Committee should be informed when possible of any matter requiring its attention thirty days prior to any initial Town Meeting session, but no less than two weeks prior to said meeting. In order to allow the Budget Committee sufficient time to evaluate and advise on the upcoming budget, the department heads shall present a budget request for the ensuing year to the Budget Committee no later than March 15th of each year, and the Town Administrator shall present a final budget proposal before the Budget Committee votes on its recommendation to Town voters.
 - E. It shall be the duty of the Budget Committee to:
 - 1. Explain at each Town Meeting the tax impact of monies authorized by ballot or proposed for consideration at Town Meeting.
 - 2. Review and evaluate warrant articles based on short and long term financial ramifications, and make recommendations to the Town Administration pertaining to same.
 - 3. Withhold recommendations to voters only if there is insufficient information for making a recommendation.
 - 4. Report on the ballot the votes among Budget Committee members on whether to support, not support, recuse or abstain for all ballot items and on all items at Town Meeting that would authorize raising and appropriating monies. The position of individual Budget Committee members will not be reported to voters unless solicited from the floor at Town Meeting.
 - F. The Select Board, the Budget Committee, and Department Heads shall be required to work cooperatively with each other as far as practicable to ensure that the budgetary process is undertaken in a manner to best serve the community's needs.
 - G. The Select Board and the Budget Committee shall meet jointly to evaluate the recommendations of the Department Heads, and to discuss, where warranted, any budgetary matters related to the upcoming budget. Subsequent to the presentation of the final budget request by the Town Administrator, the Select Board and the Budget Committee will meet in joint session to record their recommendations to voters.
 - H. Being a public body, the Budget Committee is subject to the Right-To-Know Law (RSA:91) and is required to conduct all of its meetings in a manner which is open to the public; post notice of its meetings; keep minutes of its meetings and have those minutes available for public inspection in the Select Board's Office within six days of its meetings; or take any other action relating thereto.

The Select Board recommends this article by a vote of 3-0

The Budget Committee recommends this article by a vote of 8-1

OPEN SESSION ARTICLES

MAY 10TH, 2023

ARTICLE 19. BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2024 – \$14,791,950

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **Fourteen Million, Seven Hundred Ninety-One Thousand, Nine Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$14,791,950)** for the support of General Municipal, Water, and Wastewater Operations. This represents the fiscal year 2024 budget period, July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024. This article does not include appropriations in special or individual articles addressed separately.

The Select Board recommends this appropriation by a vote of 3-0

The Budget Committee recommends this appropriation by a vote of 8-1

Pursuant to the Charter of the Town of Peterborough, if the Official Ballot Session adopts an annual budget by approving **Article 3**, this article will be passed over.

ARTICLE 20. PEDESTRIAN PATH - \$201,000 – BY PETITION

To see if the town of Peterborough will appropriate \$201,000 from the Pedestrian Enhancement Fund for the construction of a ADA-Accessible Path that conforms to Best Management Practices for Erosion Control During Trail Maintenance and Construction as described in RSA:482. The path shall begin at the loop on Evans Rd, cross along the back of the DPW lot, and terminating with a connection to the Shaw's parking lot. With money coming from an establish fund, no additional funds will be raised through taxation.

By petition.

The Select Board does not recommend this appropriation by a vote of 0-3

The Budget Committee does not recommend this appropriation by a vote of 1-7

ARTICLE 21. CODE BOOK AMENDMENT REGARDING AGE OF APPOINTED BOARD, COMMITTEE AND COMMISSION MEMBERS – BY PETITION

If the average age of the current members of a town commission, committee or board is over the age of sixty-five, the select board shall only appoint residents below the age of sixty-five to any vacant seats, positions, or roles.

By petition.

The Select Board does not recommend this appropriation by a vote of 0-3

**ARTICLE 22. CODE BOOK AMENDMENT REGARDING SCHEDULING OF MEETINGS
– BY PETITION**

The family dinner and caring for young children at bedtime is an integral part of the American tradition and raising the next generation of Peterborough citizen. Moreover, a resident of Peterborough should never be forced to choose between being a good parent and being a good citizen. Therefore, no Town Meeting, Board Meeting, Commission Meeting or Committee Meeting shall take place between the hours of 5 PM and 8 PM.

By petition.

The Select Board does not recommend this appropriation by a vote of 0-3

SUBMITTED THE 5TH DAY OF APRIL 2023.

This is a true and certified copy:



Linda M. Guyette, Town Clerk