

Town of Goffstown, NH 2007 Annual Warrant

To the inhabitants of the Town of Goffstown in the County of Hillsborough qualified to vote in Town affairs:

You are hereby notified to meet Wednesday, February 7, 2007 at seven o'clock in the evening at Goffstown High School in said Town for the first portion of Town Meeting, also known as the deliberative session, to act on the following subjects and determine matters which will then be voted upon by the official ballot on Tuesday, March 13, 2007. (Snow date for the first session is Thursday, February 8, 2007.)

You are further notified to meet Tuesday, March 13, 2007 to vote on all matters by official ballot. The polls will open on March 13, 2007 at 7:00 A.M. and close at 7:00 P.M. in the First District at the Goffstown High School and will open at 7:00 A.M. and close at 7:00 P.M. in the Fifth District at the Bartlett Elementary School.

ARTICLE 1

To choose all Town Officers, Trustees, Commissioners, and School District Officers for the ensuing year.

ARTICLE 2

Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 1 as proposed by the planning board for the town zoning ordinance as follows: to amend the definition of subdivision, adding before the last sentence of this definition: "A lot line adjustment, even though creating no new lots, is a subdivision. A lot merger, reducing the number of lots, is not a subdivision." And to amend Section 9.3.2.4 to read: "Manufactured home parks are subject to all provisions of the zoning ordinance that affect residential subdivisions, except in the case of conflicting standards, in which case those in this Section shall govern. Parks between 10 and 20 acres in size are not controlled by Section 12.5 Open Space Developments, but should be designed in a clustered form, to the extent practicable, in order to achieve meaningful open spaces and to minimize required infrastructure.

Recommended by the Planning Board

ARTICLE 3

Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 2 as proposed by the planning board for the town zoning ordinance as follows: to amend Section 1.4 dealing with interpretation of terms so that the existing language becomes Section 1.4.1 and a new Section 1.4.2 is added to read: "Any proposed use which cannot satisfy the setback requirements enumerated in this ordinance shall be considered presumptively unreasonable."

Recommended by the Planning Board

ARTICLE 4

Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 3 as proposed by the planning board for the town zoning ordinance as follows: to amend Section 7.4.1 by exempting this requirement in the VC district; amend Section 7.4.2, requiring that driveways be at least 50 feet from street intersections; and amend Section 7.4.3 by exempting this requirement in the VC district.

Recommended by the Planning Board

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ARTICLE 5

Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 4 as proposed by the planning board for the town zoning ordinance as follows: to amend Section 7.5 dealing with alternative parking arrangements so that: (1) Create a new Section heading 7.5.4 Parking Requirement Reduction; (2) Relocate Sections 7.5.3.2, 7.5.3.2.1 and 7.5.3.2.2 under this new heading; (3) Add “The number of parking spaces may be further reduced provided the Planning Board finds that the characteristics of the principal uses are such that the parking spaces will be occupied at different times by the respective uses that are sharing them, and that concurrent attempts at occupancy of the spaces will not occur” at the end of Section 7.5.3.2.2; (4) Delete “Within the RSBO-2, VC and C districts, the Planning Board may waive some or all of the parking requirements for the preceding reasons or in the event that the Board finds there to be sufficient parking in public parking lots, from on-street parking or from shared parking arrangements as described in Section 7.5.3, or from any combination thereof” from Section 7.5.2; (5) Add a new Section 7.5.4.2 to read; “Within the RSBO-1, RSBO-2, VC and C districts, the Planning Board may waive some or all of the parking requirements for the preceding reasons or in the event that the Board finds there to be sufficient parking in any combination from public parking lots, from on-street parking, or from shared parking arrangements as described in Section 7.5.3, and (6) Renumber Section 7.5.4 as 7.5.5.

Recommended by the Planning Board

ARTICLE 6

Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 5 as proposed by the planning board for the town zoning ordinance as follows: to amend Section 8.4 dealing with outdoor lighting so that the last sentence reads: “The Planning Board may grant exceptions within Goffstown and Pinardville and Grasmere Village Centers, as defined by the Planning Board, and for outdoor recreational facilities and for historic purposes by Conditional Use Permit. In addition to Section 14.4.1 Conditional Use Standards, exceptions should perform some public purpose, for example, lighting a public sidewalk or other facility.

Recommended by the Planning Board

ARTICLE 7

Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 6 as proposed by the planning board for the town zoning ordinance as follows: to amend Section 9.3.2.3 dealing with manufactured homes and manufactured home parks, deleting the words “except in the case of age restricted housing when maximum density shall be 125% of that density”, and “Age restricted housing shall be that which requires one resident over 55 years of age and prohibits residents under 18 years of age,” thereby removing any density bonus for age restricted housing.

Recommended by the Planning Board

ARTICLE 8

Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 7 as proposed by the planning board for the town zoning ordinance as follows: to amend Section 12.2 Flood Hazard (FH) District, amending the floodplain ordinance as necessary to comply with requirements of the National Flood Insurance Program.

Recommended by the Planning Board

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ARTICLE 9

Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 9 as proposed by the planning board for the town zoning ordinance as follows: to amend Section Add a new Section 4.5 to read as follows:

4.5 Emergency Housing

4.5.1 An emergency, and its duration, shall be as defined by the Board of Selectmen.

4.5.2 Manufactured housing and trailers, as defined in the glossary, which are licensed and ready for highway use, may be used as temporary housing during a declared emergency.

4.5.3 The Building Inspector may issue permits for emergency housing.

4.5.3.1 Permitting of emergency housing may be off site with appropriate property owner agreements.

4.5.3.2 Permitting of emergency housing shall include consideration of appropriate sewer and water availability, on or off site, and how such is to be provided in order to insure public health.

4.5.3.3 Permitting of emergency housing shall include appropriate consideration of flooding or other natural hazards in order to insure public health.

Recommended by the Planning Board

ARTICLE 10

Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 10 as proposed by the planning board for the town zoning ordinance as follows: to amend Section 3.10B by adding a new use: "Cemetery and burial ground" after Church and synagogue", to be allowed by Conditional Use Permit in the Agricultural district, with the addition of Supplemental Standards 5.22 to read as follows:

5.22.1 Cemeteries to be a minimum of 1 acre in size.

5.22.2 Cemeteries to be accessed by a class V, or better, public road.

5.22.3 Burial lots to be a minimum of 100 feet from any dwelling house, school house or school, store or other place of business.

5.22.4 Cemetery shall be provided with a fence and necessary gates.

5.22.5 There shall be a plan for suitable care and maintenance of the cemetery, which shall be provided to the Goffstown Cemetery Trustees.

5.22.6 There shall be a plan for operations and management of the cemetery, which shall be provided to the Goffstown Cemetery Trustees.

5.22.7 Records shall be kept in accordance with RSA 289, as amended, including (1) the location of a burial site shall be recorded in the deed to the property upon transfer of the property to another person, (2) there shall be records of every burial showing the date of burial and the name of the person buried, the lot, plot or part of such plot and lot in which the burial was made, and (3) such records shall be provided to the Goffstown Cemetery Trustees.

Recommended by the Planning Board

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ARTICLE 11

Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 11 as proposed by the planning board for the town zoning ordinance as follows: to amend Section 3.11-A, Accessory to Principal Residential Use, adding Residential Wind Turbine as a new accessory use allowed by Conditional Use Permit in the CO and A districts, with an asterisk referring to Supplemental Standards Section 5.22; and to add a new Section 5.22 to read as follows:

5.22 Residential Wind Turbine:

- 5.22.1 Towers are limited to one per property.
- 5.22.2 Towers are limited to 80 feet in height.
- 5.22.3 No part of the use, tower, guys or associated equipment, shall be within a required front, side or rear yard setback. The fall-zone of the tower, generator and blades shall, likewise, not be within these setbacks.
- 5.22.4 Noise of a normally operating wind turbine shall be certified by the equipment manufacturer to not exceeding 57 decibels at the closest neighboring inhabited dwelling.
- 5.22.5 Certification by the manufacturer or an engineer, that the system, its tower, base and footings, as well as equipment, all meet the requirements of the currently adopted edition of the International Building Code.
- 5.22.6 If connected, evidence shall be provided that the utility company has been notified of the applicant's intent to install an interconnected customer-owned generator.
- 5.22.7 The Planning Board may require wildlife and other surveys in determining location appropriateness.

Recommended by the Planning Board

ARTICLE 12

Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 12 as proposed by the planning board for the town zoning ordinance as follows: to amend Section 5.9 Dwellings in a building Accommodating Non-Residential Uses, changing its title to: "Mixed Use Development", and adding the criteria that in the C and CIFZ Districts where multi-family dwelling units are also allowed in residential buildings, or on the ground floor within a mixed occupancy building, the gross square footage of the residential use shall not be larger than the gross square footage of the non-residential use.

Recommended by the Planning Board

ARTICLE 13

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate an amount not to exceed the sum of Two Million Five Hundred Thirty Seven Thousand Dollars (\$2,537,000) for the purpose of designing, constructing and installing a water distribution system which is more particularly described in an overall project plan dated October 18, 2006, which is intended to bring a water distribution system to the area of the Town of Goffstown known as the Lynchville and Danis Park areas, said improvements to be installed at the direction of and in accordance with the established requirements of the Town of Goffstown.

And to authorize the issuance of not more than One Million Six Hundred Forty Nine Thousand Fifty Dollars (\$1,649,050) of bonds or notes in accordance with the provisions of the

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Municipal Finance Act (Chapter 33) and to authorize the municipal officials to issue and negotiate such bonds or notes to determine the rate of interest thereon, the maturity and the other terms and provisions thereof, as may be in the best interests of the Town; to authorize municipal officials to raise a minimum of Eight Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$850,000) in grants and aid; and furthermore, to authorize municipal officials to utilize interest earnings on the invested bond proceeds of approximately Thirty Seven Thousand Nine Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$37,950). Summary of proposed funding sources: \$1,649,050 (bond) + \$850,000 (grants/aid) + \$37,950 (bond interest) = \$2,537,000 (appropriation).

Without impairing in any way the fact that the bonds will be general obligations of the Town, it is the intent to repay this bond issuance by charging an Accessibility Fee to each property benefiting from this water distribution system. This project is contingent on effectuating an acceptable Inter-Municipal Agreement with Manchester Water Works and a successful expansion of Manchester Water Works franchise area. (60% Ballot Vote required to pass).

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen and Budget Committee.

ARTICLE 14

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the operation, expenses and commitments of the town government, the budget approved by the Budget Committee in the amount of Sixteen Million Seven Hundred Sixty Eight Thousand Five Hundred Twenty Eight Dollars (\$16,768,528).

This budget will be predicated by estimated revenues in the amount of Seven Million Five Hundred Fifty Three Thousand Seven Hundred Sixty-Six Dollars (\$7,553,766).

The Sewer Enterprise Fund of One Million Six Hundred Sixty Three Thousand Two Hundred Fifteen Dollars (\$1,663,215) is included in this revenue amount and in the appropriations request in this article.

The EMS Special Revenue Fund of Three Hundred Twenty Six Thousand Nine Hundred Fifty Four dollars (\$326,954) is included in this revenue amount and in the appropriations request in this article.

The motion on the operating budget shall be the following, with only the appropriation amount subject to amendment: "Shall the Town of Goffstown 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 Sixteen Million Seven Hundred Sixty Eight Thousand Five Hundred Twenty Eight Dollars (\$16,768,528)? Should this article be defeated, the default budget shall be Sixteen Million Six Hundred Seventy One Thousand Nine Hundred Twenty Nine Dollars (\$16,671,929), which is the same as last year, with certain adjustments required by previous action of the Town of Goffstown 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." NOTE: This article (operating budget) does not include appropriations in any other warrant article.

Not recommended by the Board of Selectmen; Recommended by the Budget Committee.

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ARTICLE 15

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of One Million Four Hundred Seventy Three Thousand Six Hundred Sixty Five Dollars (\$1,473,665) for the purpose of implementing the current phase of the Road Improvement Plan. The road improvement plan has been part of the CIP process since 2002 and annual appropriations for the plan have been approved as Special Articles since 2002. This article is designated as a Special Article pursuant to RSA 32:3, VI (d). (This appropriation is in addition to Article 14.)

Recommended by Board of Selectmen and Budget Committee.

ARTICLE 16

To see if the Town will direct the Board of Selectmen to include the Road Plan appropriation in the operating and default budgets beginning in 2008.

Recommended by Board of Selectmen.

ARTICLE 17

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of One Hundred Thousand dollars (\$100,000) to be deposited into the Grasmere Town Hall Restoration Capital Reserve Fund (This appropriation is in addition to Article 14.)

Recommended by Board of Selectmen. Not recommended by Budget Committee.

ARTICLE 18

To see if the Town will vote to appoint the Selectmen as agents to expend from the Grasmere Town Hall Restoration Capital Reserve Fund as provided by RSA 35:15.

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen.

ARTICLE 19

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate Fifteen Thousand dollars (\$15,000) for the purpose of funding the nonprofit Goffstown Main Street Program, Inc. (This appropriation is in addition to Article 14.)

Recommended by Board of Selectmen and Budget Committee.

ARTICLE 20

To see if the Town will vote, pursuant to RSA 72:39-(a) and (b), to modify the elderly exemption from property tax in the Town of Goffstown, based on assessed value, for qualified taxpayers, to be as follows: for a person 65 years of age up to 75 years, \$45,000; for a person 75 years of age up to 80 years, \$60,000; for a person 80 years of age or older \$80,000. To qualify, the person must satisfy all the conditions of RSA 72:39-(a) and (b) that pertain to eligibility for this exemption as well as those contained in any other applicable statute, including, without limitation, that they demonstrate that they have been a New Hampshire resident for at least 3 consecutive years preceding April 1 in the year the exemption is claimed, own the real estate individually or jointly, or if the real estate is owned by such person's spouse, they must have been married for at least 5 consecutive years. In addition, the taxpayer must have a net income in each applicable age group of not more than \$35,000 or, if married, a combined net income of less \$50,000; and own net assets, whether married or not, not in excess of \$150,000 excluding the value of the person's residence.

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen.

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ARTICLE 21

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Two Hundred Ninety Five Thousand Four Hundred Thirty Eight Dollars (\$295,438) for the purpose of hiring ten (10) full-time firefighters. This amount is for six months, beginning July 1, 2007. These new positions added to current staff will provide coverage at one fire station 24 hours per day, 7 days per week. Staffing will be a minimum of five (5) full-time firefighters per shift.

Said appropriation to be funded as follows:

- (1) reallocation of Forty Nine Thousand One Hundred Seventy Eight Dollars (\$49,178) from the call firefighter related account lines to full-time employee related account lines in the 2007 Fire Department operating budget;
- (2) reallocation of Eighty Thousand One Hundred Sixty Nine Dollars (\$80,169) from EMS wage related account lines in the EMS operating budget to full-time employee related account lines in the 2007 Fire Department operating budget; and
- (3) the remaining One Hundred Sixty Six Thousand Ninety Two Dollars (\$166,092) to be raised by taxes.

The annualized (12 month) cost of hiring 10 full-time firefighters is Five Hundred Fifty Seven Thousand Three Hundred Thirty Five Dollars (\$557,335).

Implementation of this article is contingent upon negotiating an agreement with the exclusive bargaining unit representative.

(These calculations are based on 2005 wage and cafeteria plan rates.) (This appropriation is in addition to Article 14.)

Recommended by Board of Selectmen and Budget Committee.

ARTICLE 22

To see if the Town will vote, pursuant to RSA 162-K:1, to adopt the provisions of RSA 162-K relative to Municipal Economic Development and Revitalization Districts so that the town will thereafter have all the authority, powers, duties and responsibilities set forth in that chapter.

Presented by Board of Selectmen upon the recommendation of the Planning Board.

ARTICLE 23

Assuming the adoption by the Town of Article 22, to see whether the town will vote, pursuant to RSA 162-K:3 & 5, to resolve that the adoption and implementation of the Mast Road Tax Increment Financing (TIF) Development District Plan will serve a public purpose as the same as is contemplated in RSA 162-K:5 and to adopt the Mast Road Tax Increment Financing (TIF) Development District Plan.

Presented by Board of Selectmen upon the recommendation of the Planning Board.

ARTICLE 24

Assuming the adoption by the Town of Article 23, to see whether the town will vote, pursuant to RSA 162-K:5, to create and establish the Tax Increment Financing District described in the Mast Road Tax Increment Financing (TIF) Development District Plan and, in addition to establishing the district, establish the development program and tax increment financing plan more particularly set forth in said plan.

Presented by Board of Selectmen upon the recommendation of the Planning Board.

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ARTICLE 25

To see if the Town, in accordance with RSA 32:15, will vote to increase the number of the Budget Committee elected at large members from nine (9) to twelve (12).

Presented by Board of Selectmen upon recommendation of the Budget Committee.

ARTICLE 26

To see if the Town will go on record in support of effective actions by the President and the Congress to address the issue of climate change which is increasingly harmful to the environment and economy of New Hampshire and to the future well being of the people of Goffstown.

These actions include:

1. Establishment of a national program requiring reductions of U.S. greenhouse gas emissions while protecting the U.S. economy.
2. Creation of a major national research initiative to foster rapid development of sustainable energy technologies thereby stimulating new jobs and investment.

In addition, the Town of Goffstown encourages New Hampshire citizens to work for emission reductions within their communities, and we ask our Selectmen to consider the appointment of a voluntary energy committee to recommend local steps to save energy and reduce emissions. The record of the vote on this article shall be transmitted to the New Hampshire Congressional Delegation, to the President of the United States, and to declared candidates for those offices.

Submitted by petition.

ARTICLE 27

To see if the Town will vote to direct that records (including official minutes) of transactions and undertakings of all public bodies of the Town of Goffstown and of any and all Town public proceedings as defined in N.H. RSA 91-A:1-a are to include descriptive information reflecting the affirmative or negative vote cast and noted by each individual member of such public body on all matters for which a vote is taken, such that member votes are recorded by name and subject matter of each vote.

Submitted by petition.

ARTICLE 28

To see if the Town will vote to privatize the medical ambulance services to establish twenty-four (24) hour coverage for the whole Town.

Submitted by petition.

ARTICLE 29

To see if the Town will vote to deposit 100% of revenues collected pursuant to RSA 79-A (the land use change tax) in a conservation fund, established under RSA 36-A:5, in accordance with RSA 36-A:5 III as authorized by RSA 79-A:25 II, said funds to be used for conservation land and easement acquisition and costs associated therewith.

Submitted by petition.

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ARTICLE 30

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Two Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$250,000) for the purposes of acquisition of land conservation easements and costs associated therewith to support the goals of conservation and open space. These funds will expire at the end of 2007 if they have not been used.

Submitted by petition.

Not recommended by Board of Selectmen. Not recommended by Budget Committee.

ARTICLE 31

To hear the reports of Town Officers, Auditors and Committees and to pass any vote relating thereto.

ARTICLE 32

To transact any business that may legally come before said meeting.

Given under our Hands and Seal this 26th day of January 2007.

GOFFSTOWN BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Barbara J. Griffin, Chairman

Bruce F. Hunter, Vice Chairman

Nicholas Campasano

Philip A. D'Avanza

John A. Caprio

Then personally appeared the above named Barbara J. Griffin, Bruce F. Hunter, Philip A. D'Avanza, Nicholas Campasano, and John A. Caprio under oath that the above certificate by them is true.

Donna Bergeron, Town Clerk