

TOWN OF GOFFSTOWN



TOWN VOTERS' GUIDE 2016 Official Ballot

SCHOOL DISTRICT VOTERS' GUIDE 2016 Official Ballot



The Goffstown Board of Selectmen and Goffstown School Board are pleased to present the 2016 VOTERS' GUIDE. All town and school articles which will appear on the Official Ballots are included with explanations following each article. Both boards strive toward improving communication with the Goffstown community, and we sincerely hope this guide will assist you in making informed voting decisions.

Please remember to exercise your right to vote on Tuesday, March 8, 2016 from 7:00 AM – 7:00 PM at Bartlett Elementary or Goffstown High School.

TOWN BALLOT: If ALL the appropriation articles recommended by the Board of Selectmen and Budget Committee pass, then the estimated town tax rate will increase from \$9.43 to \$9.95, an estimated increase of 52¢ to the tax rate. On a home assessed at \$250,000 this would equate to an increase of \$130.00 on your 2016 in property tax bill. This estimated increase does not account for any potential impact from any future state actions.

SCHOOL BALLOT: Article 2 – Presents the Operating Budget total at \$39,315,266. The Operating Budget includes the General Fund Budget (that portion raised by taxation) and the Food Service and the Special Federal Revenue Budgets both of which are self-funded. The Default Budget is calculated to be \$39,196,162, which is \$119,104 less than the proposed Operating Budget.

Article 3 – The first year cost for the Collective Bargaining Agreement reached between the Goffstown School Board and the Goffstown Education Association is \$677,771. A portion of the 2.5% Contingency Fund will be used to cover first year costs. The combined local rate for Articles 2 and 3 is projected to increase by \$.02 from \$14.99 to \$15.01. The NH State Education tax rate is estimated to be \$2.35.

Your comments regarding this newsletter are welcome. Please submit comments regarding town articles to Peter Georgantas, Board of Selectmen Chairman, pgeorgantas@goffstownnh.gov and comments regarding school articles to Dian McCarthy, School Board Chair, dmccarthy@goffstown.k12.nh.us.

2016 TOWN ARTICLES

ARTICLE 1 ELECTION OF OFFICERS

SELECTMEN

For 3 Years Vote for not more than Two
 David Pierce
 Allen Brown
 Write-In _____
 Write-In _____

BUDGET COMMITTEE

For 3 Years Vote for not more than Four
 Michael T. Smith
 Scott Gross
 Dennis Lynch
 Emily Sandblade
 Write-In _____
 Write-In _____
 Write-In _____
 Write-In _____

BUDGET COMMITTEE

For 2 Years Vote for not more than Two
 George Fullerton
 Craig Campbell
 Write-In _____
 Write-In _____

BUDGET COMMITTEE

For 1 Year1 Vote for not more than One
 Karl Soderquist
 Write-In _____

CEMETERY TRUSTEE

For 3 Years Vote for not more than One
 Jean Walker
 Write-In _____

CEMETERY TRUSTEE

For 2 Years Vote for not more than One
 Dennis Sweeney
 Write-In _____

LIBRARY TRUSTEE

For 3 Years Vote for not more than Two
 Suzanne Riel
 Aimee Huntemann
 Write-In _____
 Write-In _____

LIBRARY TRUSTEE

For 1 Year Vote for not more than One
 Janet Soderquist
 Steven P. Bouchard
 Karen Hewes
 Gary Meehan
 Write-In _____

PLANNING BOARD

For 3 Years Vote for not more than Two
 Barbara Griffin
 Michael Conlon
 Write-In _____
 Write-In _____

SEWER COMMISSION

For 3 Years Vote for not more than One
 Timothy Redmond
 Write-In _____

SEWER COMMISSION

For 2 Years Vote for not more than One
 Robert Trzepacz
 Write-In _____

SUPERVISOR OF THE CHECKLIST

For 6 Years Vote for not more than One
 Victoria Lemire
 Write-In _____

SUPERVISOR OF THE CHECKLIST

For 2 Years Vote for not more than One
 Al Desruijsseaux
 Write-In _____

TOWN MODERATOR

For 2 Years Vote for not more than One
 Rodney L. Stark
 Write-In _____

TRUSTEE OF TRUST FUNDS

For 3 Years Vote for not more than One
 Bill Tucker
 Write-In _____

ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT

For 3 Years Vote for not more than Two
 Emily Sandblade
 Gail Labrecque
 Write-In _____
 Write-In _____

ARTICLE 2

Shall the Town adopt Amendment No. 2 as proposed by the Planning Board, amending the Goffstown Zoning Ordinance by amending the Glossary by changing the definitions of “Dwelling” and “Manufactured Home,” and by adding the following new terms: “Dwelling, Accessory,” “Dwelling, Single Family,” “Modular Housing,” and “Pre-site Built Housing” as shown on the full-text copy of the Proposed 2016 Planning Board Initiated Zoning Amendments document? *(Full-text copies of the proposed amendments may be obtained from the Planning Department and the Town Clerk’s office).*

Submitted by the Planning Board.

Recommended by the Planning Board 6-0-0.

EXPLANATION: The intent of this change to the Zoning Ordinance is to clarify the definitions of types of housing to be consistent with what has occurred in the building industry. This change will also make the definitions of modular housing and manufactured housing consistent with State Law. There is no substantive change to the Zoning Ordinance with this Article.

ARTICLE 3

Shall the Town adopt Amendment No. 3 as proposed by the Planning Board, amending the Goffstown Zoning Ordinance by adding “Conversion of Single Family Dwelling to Duplex” as a new principal use under Section 3.11, Table A – for Residential uses, listing it as a use permitted by Special Exception in the Agricultural, Residential-1, and Residential-2 Districts and as a use permitted by right in the Residential Small Business Office-1, Residential Small Business Office-2, and Village Commercial Districts and as a Use Not Permitted in all other districts?

Submitted by the Planning Board.

Recommended by the Planning Board 5-1-0.

EXPLANATION: The intent of this change to the Zoning Ordinance is to clarify that conversion of single family homes to be two living quarters is allowed by special exception. While currently dwellings with two units in them exist in those districts, the ability to convert from one to two units was not clear. This supplements a change that occurred last year to allow the conversion to occur.

ARTICLE 4

Shall the Town adopt Amendment No. 4 as proposed by the Planning Board, amending the Goffstown Zoning Ordinance by moving the existing principal use “Landscaping Contracting or similar Business” from Section 3.11 Table J - the Agricultural Use Category, to Section 3.11 Table I – the “Manufacturing, Construction and wholesale Trade” category, and changing its status to be a use permitted by Special Exception in the Conservation Open Space and Agricultural district, and remaining the same in all other districts?

Submitted by the Planning Board. Recommended by the Planning Board 6-0-0.

EXPLANATION: The Zoning Ordinance currently allows for “Landscaping contracting or similar business” to occur in area allowing Agricultural use. The Planning Board’s experience with these types of applications is that they are more of a construction use than agricultural. This change provides that those types of business would be allowed as a manufacturing and construction use, following the same process, in the districts for those types of uses.

ARTICLE 6

Shall the Town adopt Amendment No. 6 as proposed by the Planning Board, amending the Goffstown Zoning Ordinance by amending existing Section 4.4.1 – Dimensional Standards for Multi-family Dwellings by removing portions of that section and replacing them in new subsections 4.4.1.1 and 4.4.1.2 and by adding another new subsection 4.4.1.3 that states that “the side and rear minimum setbacks for multi-family structures shall be the greater of the underlying setback for that zone or the length of the building side most parallel to that lot line divided by two”? (*Full-text copies of the proposed amendments may be obtained from the Planning Department and the Town Clerk’s office*).

*Submitted by the Planning Board.
Recommended by the Planning Board 6-0-0.*

EXPLANATION: This article is presented to supplement the change proposed in article 5. As the proposed density of building on the lots is proposed to change, this will address where on the lot the actual building can be located. The calculation is provided to provide appropriate setbacks so new construction is not directly adjacent to abutting lots.

ARTICLE 5

Shall the Town adopt Amendment No. 5 as proposed by the Planning Board, amending the Goffstown Zoning Ordinance by amending the “maximum number of dwelling units per buildable acre for duplex and multi-family lots” portion of Section 4.3, Table of Dimensional Regulations,” in the Residential-1 and Residential-2 districts where both water and sewer exist so that the allowable density is on a sliding scale for lots smaller than or equal to 3 acres as detailed on the full-text copy of the Proposed 2016 Planning Board Initiated Zoning Amendments document? (*Full-text copies of the proposed amendments may be obtained from the Planning Department and the Town Clerk’s office*).

Submitted by the Planning Board. Recommended by the Planning Board 6-0-0.

EXPLANATION: This Article is presented to change the current regulations that control the number of units that can be on lots where multifamily development is allowed. This change continues to allow multifamily development of lots, but sets different density requirements depending on the size of the lot. With this change, where water and sewer is available, more development can occur per square foot as the lot size is larger, up to the maximum development density allowed in the district.

ARTICLE 7

Shall the Town adopt Amendment No. 7 as proposed by the Planning Board, amending the Goffstown Zoning Ordinance by amending the following sections regarding signs: Section 6.3 and its subsections, Section 6.4.1, Section 6.5.2, Section 6.6.5, Section 6.8, and Section 6.12 to remove language that suggests that these sign regulations are content-based, and replace them with non-content based requirements as necessary, as detailed more fully in the full-text copy of the Proposed 2016 Planning Board Initiated Zoning Amendments document? (*Full-text copies of the proposed amendments may be obtained from the Planning Department and the Town Clerk’s office*).

*Submitted by the Planning Board.
Recommended by the Planning Board 6-0-0.*

EXPLANATION: This Article would change the language in the portion of the Zoning Ordinance that addresses signs. Recently there was a Supreme Court case that decided sign regulations could not address what the content of the sign was. The changes proposed in this Article removes the references to content that are currently in that section of our Zoning Ordinance.

ARTICLE 8

Shall the Town adopt Amendment No. 8 as proposed by the Planning Board, amending the Goffstown Zoning Ordinance by amending Section 7.5.2 – Construction of Fewer Parking Spaces, by removing and replacing language therein to a new subsection 7.5.2.1 and adding another new subsection 7.5.2.2, which allows for the Planning Board to consider submitted data from the Institute of Transportation Engineers (ITE) in determining whether or not a reduction in parking requirements can be allowed, as detailed in the full-text copy of the Proposed 2016 Planning Board Initiated Zoning Amendments document? *(Full-text copies of the proposed amendments may be obtained from the Planning Department and the Town Clerk's office).*

Submitted by the Planning Board.

Recommended by the Planning Board 6-0-0.

EXPLANATION: This Article would provide developers an additional method to calculate the amount of parking spaces needed for a proposed building. Building standards use calculations for parking spaces based on the size and use of the building. In certain cases circumstances may exist that make the standard calculation require more parking than is needed. This Article changes the Zoning Ordinance to provide a method that developers can use to request less parking.

ARTICLE 9

Shall the Town adopt Amendment No. 9 as proposed by the Planning Board, amending the Goffstown Zoning Ordinance by adding the following sentence at the end of Section 9.1 – Manufactured Homes, that states: “Modular Housing and other Pre-Site Built Housing as defined in this Ordinance are not subject to the provisions of this Section.”? *(Full-text copies of the proposed amendments may be obtained from the Planning Department and the Town Clerk's office).*

Submitted by the Planning Board.

Recommended by the Planning Board 6-0-0.

EXPLANATION: This Article proposes a change to the Manufactured Homes section of the Zoning Ordinance that is related to the changes in the types of housing that are now produced. This clarifies the types of housing that are not subject to the cited provision of the Zoning Ordinance, and is related to the change in definitions that are being proposed in Article 2.

ARTICLE 10

Shall the Town adopt Amendment No. 10 as proposed by the Planning Board, amending the Goffstown Zoning Ordinance by amending Section 14.7.3 - Use of a Non-conforming lot, by adding a new subsection – 14.7.3.3 that states: “Accessory buildings not creating an additional dwelling unit and not part of the existing principal building on the lot that meet Section 14.7.3.2 shall not require a Special Exception.”? *(Full-text copies of the proposed amendments may be obtained from the Planning Department and the Town Clerk's office).*

Submitted by the Planning Board.

Recommended by the Planning Board 5-1-0.

EXPLANATION: Many lots in our community are not as big as the size required in the District. Generally these are lots that have been in existence a long time. This Article allows those types of non-conforming lots to get a permit for an accessory building, such as a shed or garage, without having to get a special permit from the Zoning Board of Adjustment.

ARTICLE 11

Shall the Town adopt Amendment No. 11 as proposed by the Planning Board, amending the Goffstown Zoning Ordinance by amending Section 14.10 – Abandonment of a Non-conforming Use, by amending its subsection 14.10.3 to allow for the restoration to be within two years in the case of fire or other casualty instead of one year for the use to not be considered abandoned? *(Full-text copies of the proposed amendments may be obtained from the Planning Department and the Town Clerk's office).*

Submitted by the Planning Board.

Recommended by the Planning Board 6-0-0.

EXPLANATION: This Article corrects an error that was found. Currently an owner has two years to restore a use that has been lost, such as a house to a fire. We found that one part of the Zoning Ordinance was not changed to be the two years, and this change is proposed to correct that.

ARTICLE 12

Shall the Town adopt Amendment No. 12 as proposed by petition by registered voters of the Town of Goffstown to amend the Zoning Ordinance as follows: “Shall the Town amend the Goffstown Zoning Ordinance, which currently reads as follows:

6.6.4 In the Commercial (C) and Commercial Industrial Flex Zone (CIFZ) districts, one portable A-frame sign per business, not to exceed six (6) square feet of sign area per side, may be placed outside the business, within 10 feet of the building's entry, while the business is open. [Note: Any use of public property requires permission of the Board of Selectmen.]

by deleting the words “within 10 feet of the building's entry” and replacing them with the words “and shall not be placed closer than 10 feet to any property line”?

Submitted by Petition.

Recommended by the Planning Board 5-1-0.

EXPLANATION: This Article was submitted by petition. The intent of this article is to allow a business's A-frame sign to go on more places on the lot. Currently it needs to be within 10 feet of the entrance to the business. This change allows it to go on the lot within 10 feet of the actual property line.

ARTICLE 13

Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of Two Million Three Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$2,300,000) (gross budget) for the renovation and expansion of Fire Station #18 (18 Church Street) and to authorize the issuance of not more than \$2,300,000 of bonds or notes in accordance with the provisions of the Municipal Finance Act (RSA 33) and to authorize municipal officials to issue and negotiate such bonds or notes and to determine the rate of interest thereon? (3/5 ballot vote is required for passage.)

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 5-0-0 and Budget Committee 13-0-0.

EXPLANATION: In 2014 there was a bond article for \$4.5 million to address the needs of all three fire stations. While the article passed by simple majority, it did not pass by the required super majority. This article proposes to address the needs of one fire station – the Church Street Fire Station. It will add 6,850 square feet which will provide an additional bay area, and additional meeting/training area. The electrical, heating/cooling, and plumbing systems will be upgraded to meet current code requirements. The building’s energy efficiency will be improved. This project will remove the underground fuel tanks, asbestos, lead and PCBs. It will provide a vehicle exhaust removal system for the larger apparatus area. These enhancements along with an updated generator will enable this station to be a back-up Emergency Operations Center.

In 2016 the town will retire two bonds by making the last bond payments totaling \$255,449 (ARRA South Mast Road Drainage Note and the initial Landfill Closure Bond). If this article passes, the first bond payment estimated at \$177,265 would be due in 2017 which is less than the amount budgeted in 2016 thus not creating a spike in the property tax rate.



FUND/DEPT.	2015		2016	DIFF.
	BUDGET	ACTUALS*	BUDGET	2015-2016
GENERAL FUND				
Administration				
Admin & Eco. Dev.	811,413	760,104	843,543	
Town Clerk	187,345	177,988	193,716	
Election	20,032	16,824	61,244	
Finance	274,083	266,489	284,136	
Tax	88,590	88,002	89,984	
IT	425,018	417,882	439,461	
Reval	194,145	185,195	198,204	
Planning & Zoning	224,000	233,180	227,519	
Other Gen Gov't	20,000	17,021	20,000	
Building/Health Inspection	86,037	81,122	88,055	
Human Services	82,819	58,298	75,543	
Administration	2,413,482	2,302,105	2,521,405	107,923
Police				
Operations	3,969,074	3,703,944	4,091,685	
Communications	769,054	719,867	814,319	
Police	4,738,128	4,423,811	4,906,004	167,876
Fire				
Fire Operations	2,538,431	2,408,389	2,581,225	
Emer Management	3,924	2,532	5,759	
Fire	2,542,355	2,410,921	2,586,984	44,629
Public Works				
Cemetery	111,719	99,437	108,736	
Operations	3,131,089	3,104,416	3,213,210	
Storm Water Operations	206,590	112,249	154,604	
Fleet Operations	567,426	551,556	524,673	
Solid Waste	1,080,790	1,103,733	1,001,224	
Public Works	5,097,614	4,971,391	5,002,447	-95,167
Parks & Recreation	431,723	429,676	443,828	12,105
Library	734,103	717,673	735,040	937
Debt Service				
Debt Service Prin	252,216	252,214	252,928	
Debt Service Prin&Int LVDP	53,245	53,244	53,244	
Debt Service Int	14,108	14,108	7,131	
Interest Short Term Notes	2	0	1	
Debt Service	319,571	319,566	313,304	-6,267
Capital Improvements				
Land & Improvements	450,000	420,013	0	
Mach., Equip & Veh	592,372	577,740	552,906	
Buildings	0	0	85,000	
Improvements o/t Land	121,000	108,641	664,500	
Capital Improvements	1,163,372	1,106,394	1,302,406	139,034
GENERAL FUND	17,440,348	16,681,537	17,811,418	371,070
EMS SPECIAL REV. FUND	420,691	354,056	422,232	1,541
SEWER FUND	1,548,013	1,421,516	1,606,262	58,249
OPERATING BUDGET TOTAL	19,409,052	18,457,109	19,839,912	430,860

*unaudited; includes encumbrances

ARTICLE 14

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 Nineteen Million Eight Hundred Thirty Nine Thousand Nine Hundred Twelve Dollars (\$19,839,912)?

Should this article be defeated, the default budget shall be Nineteen Million Five Hundred Sixteen Thousand Two Hundred Sixty Seven Dollars (\$19,516,267), 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.

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 5-0-0 and Budget Committee 13-0-0.

EXPLANATION: Article 14 is the Operating Budget for the Town of Goffstown which consists of three (3) funds: General Fund; EMS Special Revenue Fund; and Sewer Fund. Of these three funds, only the General Fund impacts the town's property tax rate as the other two funds are funded with user fees and other revenue. The 2016 General Fund has an increase of 2.13% or \$371,070. The three categories with the largest increases are Capital Improvements Program (CIP) (up \$139,034), Benefits (up \$133,785) and Elections (\$41,212). The increase in CIP includes: replacement flooring on the upper level of Town Hall to address safety concerns; painting and repair of the exterior of Grasmere Town Hall; expansion of the Westlawn Cemetery; and improvements to Roy Park. While employee health insurance increased by about 11%, the cost was mitigated with an increase in employee contributions. In 2016 there are 4 elections as compared to 1 in 2015, thus the increase of \$41,212.

The Selectmen and Budget Committee unanimously recommended passage of this article.

ARTICLE 15

Shall the Town approve the cost items included in the collective bargaining agreement reached between the Board of Selectmen and the Professional Firefighters of Goffstown, Local 3420, International Association of Firefighters, which calls for the following increases in salaries and benefits at the current staffing level:

Fiscal Year	Estimated Increase
2016	\$35,097
2017	\$33,181
2018	\$17,344

and further to raise and appropriate the sum of Thirty Five Thousand Ninety Seven Dollars (\$35,097) for the current fiscal year, such sum representing the additional costs attributable to the increase in salaries and benefits required by the new agreement over those that would be paid at current staffing levels? *(This appropriation is in addition to Article 14.)*

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 5-0-0 and Budget Committee 12-0-0.

EXPLANATION: This Collective Bargaining Agreement between the Professional Firefighters and the Town of Goffstown achieves many goals. It replaces a 9 step matrix (8% and 4% steps) with a more sustainable 20 step matrix with 2% steps. Steps are awarded based on passing a performance evaluation and one year of service. The longevity formula is replaced with a flat rate not calculated into overtime. There are several changes in regards to health insurance. The CBA offers two new lower cost plans – a high deductible plan and an Access Blue SOS plan, and eliminates the Blue Choice plan in 2017. It also changes the formula for employee contribution which increases the employee share incrementally each year of the contract. Finally and very importantly, there is language to reopen the contract to avoid the Cadillac Tax under the Affordable Care Act. The Dental Plan coverage was increased from \$750 per member to \$1,250 per member. Life Insurance is still the base salary but the cap has been increased from \$50,000 to \$100,000 of coverage. Vacation time has been increased to the same as non-union employees, and we have calculated the cost of each additional vacation week. While the town will experience a savings each year in health insurance, we are only allowed to calculate the savings in the first year of the contract by law.

ARTICLE 16

Shall the Town raise and appropriate Two Hundred and Twenty Five Thousand Dollars (\$225,000) to be added to the Fire Department Apparatus Capital Reserve Fund previously established in 2008? *This sum to come from the fund balance and no amount to be raised by taxation. (This appropriation is in addition to Article 14.)*

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 5-0-0 and Budget Committee 12-0-0.

EXPLANATION: The Fire Department Apparatus Capital Reserve Fund was established in 2008 for the purpose of helping defray the single-year impact of the replacement cost of fire apparatus, which can run from \$500,000 to \$1 million. This Capital Reserve Fund helps to spread that cost over multiple years to avoid a spike in the property tax rate. This fund can also provide the Town leverage, in the form of a local match, when seeking grants to replace apparatus. This was the case in 2010, when the Fire Department was able to accept an Assistance to Firefighters Grant to replace the town's obsolete ladder trucks with one Tower/Ladder. In that instance, the required match dollars came from this fund. The Fund currently has approximately \$343,000 and the Town is seeking to add \$225,000 for future fire apparatus purchases. Funding for this article is proposed to come from the unassigned fund balance, with no amount to be raised by taxation.

Both the Board of Selectmen and Budget Committee unanimously recommend passage of this article.



Tower 1

FIRE UNION - ESTIMATED COSTS OF CBA

	2016	2017	2018
Wage Adjustment (Steps)	\$19,120.92	\$27,627.60	\$18,203.64
Wage Adjustment (Holiday)	\$1,149.12	\$1,326.96	\$1,013.28
Wage Adjustment (Longevity)	\$2,970.00	\$1,200.00	\$800.00
Add'l Vacation	\$10,142.65	\$3,323.88	\$1,061.34
TOTAL WAGE ADJUSTMENT:	\$33,382.69	\$33,478.44	\$21,078.26
Medicare rate x increase in wages	\$336.98	\$437.24	\$290.25
NHRS rate x increase in wages	\$6,776.80	\$8,793.07	\$5,836.93
Health & Dental Ins. Adjustment (3/4 yr for 1 st year)	-\$5,884.73	-\$9,798.78	-\$10,043.08
STD Disability Adjustment on Increase	\$67.94	\$88.15	\$58.51
LTD Disability Adjustment on Increase	\$81.34	\$105.54	\$70.06
Life Insurance Adjustment on increase; base salary with cap of \$100k	\$335.28	\$76.56	\$52.80
WARRANT ARTICLE COSTS:	\$35,097	\$33,181	\$17,344

ARTICLE 17

Shall the Town raise and appropriate Two Hundred Eighty Thousand Dollars (\$280,000) to purchase the required harnesses and equipment for the Self Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) and a Jaws of Life? *This sum to come from the fund balance and no amount to be raised by taxation. (This appropriation is in addition to Article 14.)*

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 5-0-0 and Budget Committee 12-0-0.

EXPLANATION: Passage of this article would allow for the replacement of 38 obsolete Self Contained Breathing Apparatus. Last year the town was able to purchase the cylinders for the SCBAs through the budget process. This year we need to complete the project by purchasing the NFPA Compliant SCBAs, 25 additional face pieces, 3 firefighter locating receivers, and 2 RIT Packs for \$240,000. This article also includes the replacement of a Hydraulic Rescue Tool (Jaws of Life) with modern rescue equipment which is able to manage “modern” vehicle construction. It is battery operated and has increased reliability during an emergency; cost \$40,000. This article will be funded by the unassigned fund balance, thus having no impact on the tax rate.

Both the Selectmen and Budget Committee unanimously recommend the passage of this article.

ARTICLE 18

Shall the Town raise and appropriate Two Hundred Thirty Thousand Dollars (\$230,000) to purchase a replacement ambulance? *This sum to come from EMS Special Revenue Fund (established in 2006), and no amount to be raised by taxation. (This appropriation is in addition to Article 14.)*

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 5-0-0 and Budget Committee 12-0-0.

EXPLANATION: This article seeks to fund the replacement of a 2005 Road Rescue Ambulance known as Ambulance #3. This new ambulance would improve the reliability of the mechanical, electrical and body issues. This ambulance would be funded from the EMS Special Fund which is supported by user fees, thus having no impact on the property tax rate.

Both the Selectmen and Budget Committee unanimously support this article.

ARTICLE 19

Shall the Town raise and appropriate Two Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$250,000) for Goffstown’s Road Improvement Program? Passage of this article will direct the Selectmen to include this amount in future operating and default budgets of the Town of Goffstown. *(This appropriation is in addition to Article 14 which has \$845,000 budgeted for reclamation, resurfacing and crack sealing of roads.)*

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 5-0-0 and Budget Committee 12-0-0.

EXPLANATION: Currently, we have a total of about \$845,000 in the proposed 2016 Budget for road improvements. This article seeks to add \$250,000 to the road plan budget for a total of \$1,095,000 which is still far below previous funding levels. At peak funding level in 2009 the town budgeted \$2,596,397 for road improvements.

Both the Selectmen and Budget Committee unanimously support this article.

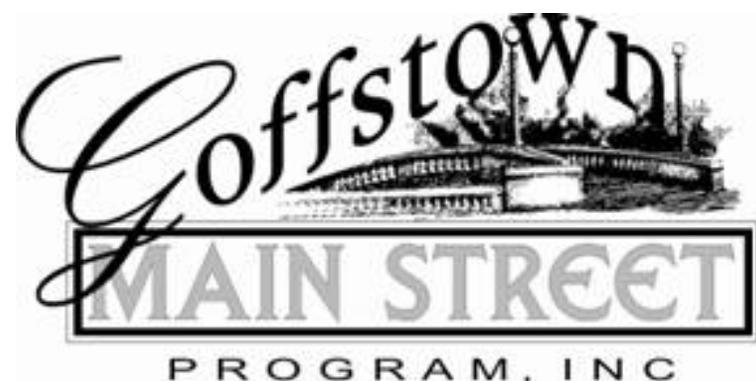
ARTICLE 20

Shall the Town raise and appropriate Twenty Thousand Dollars (\$20,000) for the purpose of helping to support the nonprofit Goffstown Main Street Program, Inc.? *(This appropriation is in addition to Article 14.)*

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 5-0-0 and Budget Committee 12-0-0.

EXPLANATION: Goffstown Main Street Program’s mission is to provide support, advice, and promotion to current and potential business owners and residents of the designated Main Street area using the National Main Street Center’s 4-Point Approach. The 4-Point Approach revolves around principles of effective design, promotion, economic restructuring, and organization as the keys to economic revitalization of the historic downtown. Many of you are familiar with the special events sponsored by Main Street including the St. Patrick’s Day Dance with Silent Auction, Old Home Day, Concerts on the Common, Giant Pumpkin Regatta, Friday Night Under the Lights, and Art Showoffs. These events bring business to the Village Area as well as fostering a sense of community. Passage of this warrant article would provide \$20,000 towards their 2016 Budget of \$71,750.

This article is recommended unanimously by the Selectmen and Budget Committee.



ARTICLE 21

Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of Twenty-Thousand Dollars (\$20,000) for the purpose of helping to support the programs of Goffstown nonprofit Crispin’s House Coalition for Youth Inc., a youth drug, alcohol and suicide prevention agency? *(This appropriation is in addition to Article 14.)*

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 5-0-0 and Budget Committee 12-0-0.

EXPLANATION: CRISPIN’S HOUSE has provided services to youth and families of Goffstown for over 25 years, providing positive program opportunities to help kids make positive choices. The total budget is about \$85,890. The warrant article covers only \$20,000. The organization works hard to raise the remaining funds through fund raising activities, community involvement and grants. The newest program is in the area of Suicide Prevention, a growing concern in our community, and they work in collaboration with Makin’ It Happen of Greater Manchester and the National Alliance on Mental Illness.

This article is recommended unanimously by the Selectmen and Budget Committee.



ARTICLE 22

Shall the Town raise and appropriate up to Fifteen Thousand Dollars (\$15,000) for the purpose of helping to support Goffstown Waterways Association and Namaske Lake Association efforts to manage milfoil in the upper portion of the Piscataquog River, Glen Lake, and Namaske Lake? Passage of this article will direct the Selectmen to include this amount in future operating and default budgets of the Town of Goffstown. *(This appropriation is in addition to Article 14.)*

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 5-0-0 and Budget Committee 12-0-0.

EXPLANATION: This article seeks to assist the Goffstown Waterways and Namakse Lake Associations with managing the milfoil in the upper portion of Piscataquog River, Glen Lake, and Namaske Lake. There are Long-Term Variable Milfoil Management Plans for each lake developed by the NH Department of Environmental Services which has also provided grants to these associations for herbicide treatments. The town funding assists these associations in meeting their match to these grants. This article is recommended unanimously by the Selectmen and Budget Committee.

ARTICLE 23

Shall the Town adopt RSA 41:9-a to authorize the Board of Selectmen to establish and amend fees following the procedures outlined in said statute, such authority in effect until rescinded?

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 5-0-0.

EXPLANATION: This article seeks to adopt RSA 41:9-a, which standardizes the process for establishing and amending fees. The RSA requires a 7 day notice published in a newspaper and posted in two public places. The notice shall include the proposed fee schedule.

ARTICLE 24

Shall the Town 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:

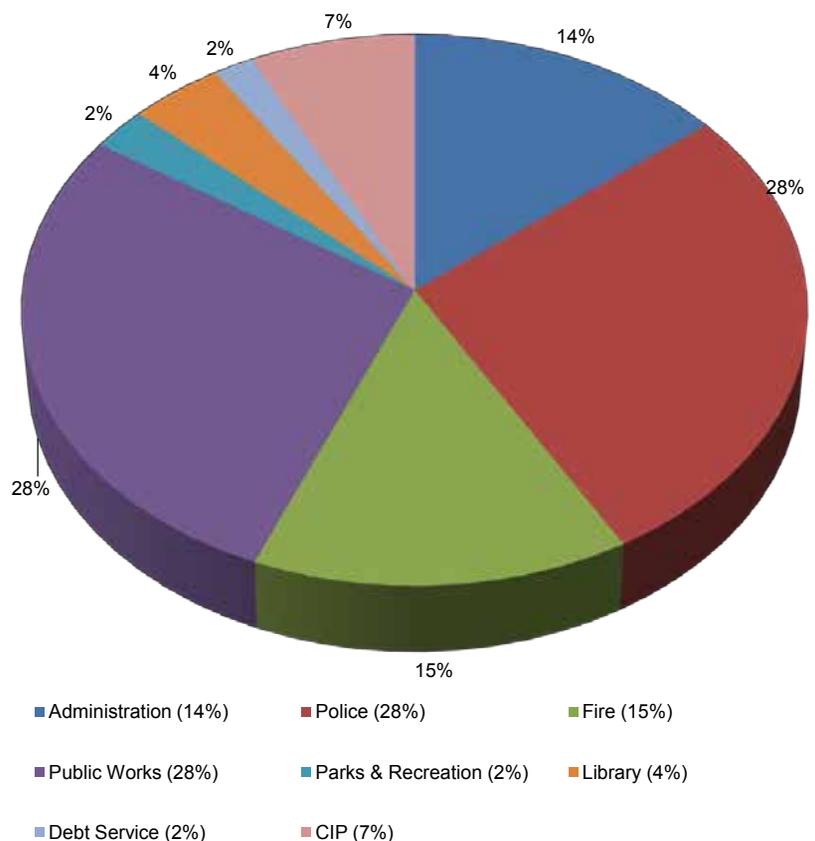
1. Ban Super PACs and overturn Citizens United
2. Expose secret donors and require full transparency
3. Ban bribes from big-money lobbyists and government contractors
4. Establish small-donor, citizen-funded elections
5. End gerrymandering and modernize voter registration
6. Close loopholes and enforce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

The record of the vote on this article shall be public information.

Submitted by petition.

EXPLANATION: The purpose of this article, submitted by petition, is to provide an opportunity for a publicly recorded vote for Goffstown residents, to indicate their concern over the impact of the Citizens United decision on our electoral system. The six parts of the “We the People” pledge, as noted in the article, address the different area where it is felt reform is needed.

2016 GENERAL FUND OPERATING BUDGET



2016 SCHOOL DISTRICT ARTICLES

ARTICLE 1 ELECTION OF OFFICERS

SCHOOL BOARD

For 3 Years

John G. Stafford

Reta Chaffee

Daniel J. Cloutier

Dian McCarthy

Write-In _____

Write-In _____

Write-In _____

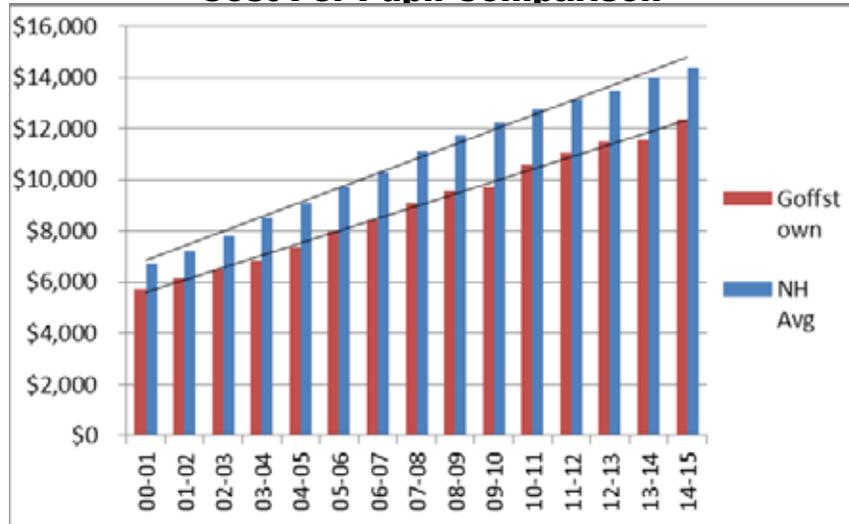
Vote for not more than Three

-
-
-
-
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-

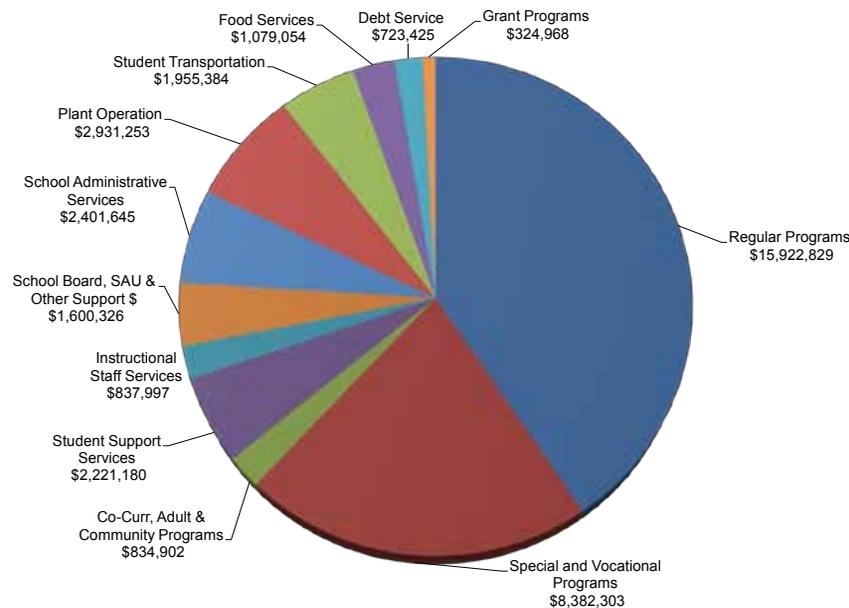
ARTICLE 2

Shall the Goffstown School District 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 THIRTY NINE MILLION THREE HUNDRED FIFTEEN THOUSAND TWO HUNDRED SIXTY-SIX DOLLARS (\$39,315,266.00)? Should this Article be defeated, the Default Budget shall be THIRTY NINE MILLION ONE HUNDRED NINETY SIX THOUSAND ONE HUNDRED SIXTY TWO DOLLARS (\$39,196,162.00), which is the same as last year, with certain adjustments required by previous action of the Goffstown School District 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. This warrant article (the Operating Budget Article) does not include appropriations in any other warrant articles. This warrant article (the Operating Budget Article) does not include appropriations in ANY other warrant articles. (Majority vote required).

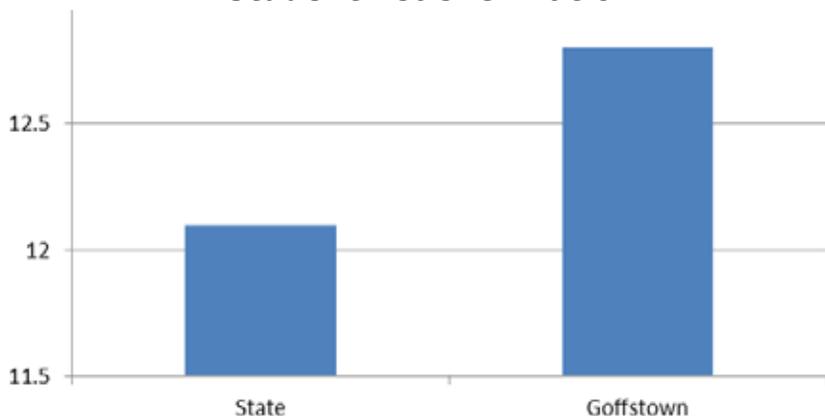
Cost Per Pupil Comparison



2016-2017 Goffstown School District Operating Budget \$39,315,266



Student Teacher Ratio



EXPLANATION: The \$39,315,266.00 Operating Budget has been recommended unanimously by the Goffstown School Board and unanimously by the Budget Committee. The proposed budget is \$798,960 or 1.99% lower than the current year's budget which is set at \$40,114,226. Total District enrollment is approximately 2,780 students. The Operating Budget supports all programs that allow the District to meet the needs of each child in a cost effective and appropriate manner. The budget priorities focus on maintaining current programming, teaching and learning, safety, special education and facilities. The dollars include support for programming, instruction and services for the District's five schools. There is a modest increase in planned spending for a new middle school and high school science curriculum.

The Goffstown School District continues to provide a high quality education to the students of the community at a cost that is approximately \$1,997 less than the state average.

The School District is projecting that federal program funding will remain flat. The Federal Grants Fund portion of the budget is expected to be \$324,968. As a result of new operational efficiencies, there is a slight decrease of \$8,551 in the Food Service Fund for a new total of \$1,076,009. Both the Federal Grants Funds and Food Service Operations are self-funding; revenues are used to offset expenses.

*A majority vote is required.
The School Board voted 8-0-0 to recommend this article.
The Budget Committee voted 12-0-0 to recommend this article.*

ARTICLE 3

Goffstown Teachers, Collective Bargaining Agreement

Shall the Goffstown School District vote to approve the cost items included in the 3-year Collective Bargaining Agreement reached between the Goffstown School Board and the Goffstown Education Association, which calls for the following increases in salaries and benefits at the current staffing levels:

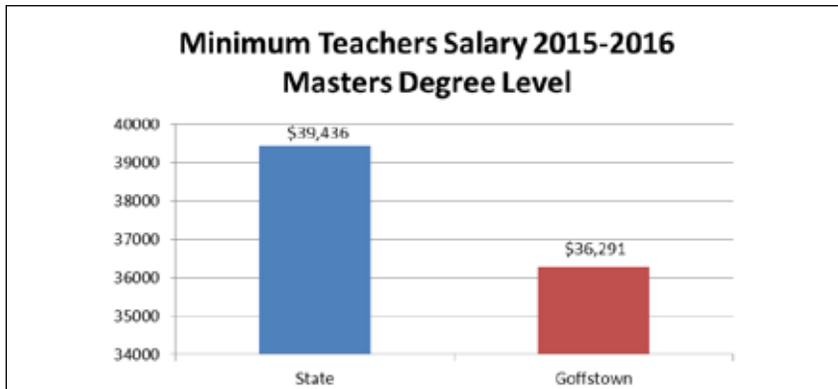
Year	Estimated Increase
2016-2017	\$677,771
2017-2018	(\$237,912) Decrease
2018-2019	\$724,992

and further to raise and appropriate the sum of SIX HUNDRED SEVENTY-SEVEN THOUSAND SEVEN HUNDRED SEVENTY-ONE DOLLARS (\$677,771.00) for the 2016-2017 fiscal year; this amount to be offset by EIGHTEEN THOUSAND FOUR HUNDRED EIGHTY DOLLARS (\$18,480.00) from the Special Federal Revenue Fund with the remaining amount of SIX HUNDRED FIFTY-NINE THOUSAND TWO HUNDRED NINETY-ONE DOLLARS (\$659,291.00) to be raised by taxation for the purpose of funding the additional costs attributable to the increase in salaries and benefits required by the new agreement over those that would be paid at current staffing levels. The first year of the CBA will have no tax impact because the District will use the 2.5% contingency fund. This appropriation is in addition to Warrant Article #2 the Operating Budget.

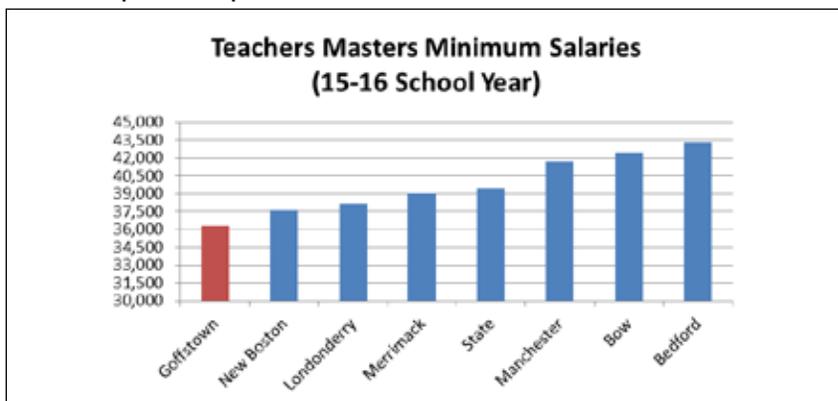
EXPLANATION: This article asks voters for permission to approve the cost items associated with the Collective Bargaining Agreement reached between the Goffstown Education Association (teachers) and the Goffstown School Board.

Major highlights of the agreement are as follows:

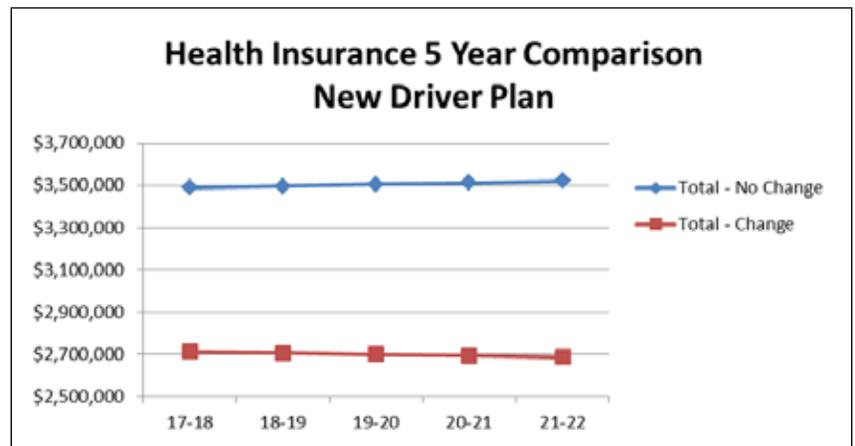
- The agreement provides for modest salary increases during the three year agreement. The salary grid will be incrementally adjusted during the term of the contract to bring a consistent increase amount to each step on the grid.



- Starting salaries were addressed to create a more competitive position to attract and retain staff members.



- New language was added to the contract to allow for hiring flexibility when an applicant comes to us with industry experience in the field in which they would be teaching.
- In the first and second years of the contract a new step will be created at the top of the grid which will provide a 2% increase for those on the top step. In year three the top step will increase by 1.7%. Employees on the top step currently account for 35% of our staff members.
- In the second year of the agreement there will be a change in the health insurance driver plan which results in increased office visit and prescription drug co-pays. A deductible for certain services is also a component of this driver plan. This change will reduce the amount the District pays in premiums for its other two plan offerings by setting a limit on the District's premium contribution to the more costly plans. The estimated premium savings in the first year of this driver plan is (\$775,672). The savings will continue year-over-year with a five year projected cumulative savings of (\$835,476).



- The language added to the current contract to protect the District from the effects of the "Cadillac Tax" that is part of the Affordable Care Act was fine-tuned for future year applicability. The language allows for significant future cost avoidance both in the tax itself as well as in health care premiums.
- The contract addresses the date in which the school year begins allowing flexibility depending on how the calendar falls in any given year.
- The contract provides for increases in extra-curricular stipends of 2% in years one and two.

Both the Goffstown Education Association and the Goffstown School Board ratified this three-year agreement. It calls for an estimated increase in salary and benefits of \$677,771 in 2016-2017. The first year of the Collective Bargaining Agreement will have no tax impact because the district will use the 2.5% contingency fund.

*A majority vote is required.
The School Board voted 6-0-0 to recommend this article.
The Budget Committee voted 11-0-1 to recommend this article.*

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE - VOTER ID LAW
RSA 659:13



[effective September 1, 2015]

EXPLANATORY DOCUMENT (RSA 652:26)
PROOF OF VOTER IDENTITY INSTRUCTIONS (RSA 658:29-a)

What type of ID will I need to vote?

- Driver's license issued by any state or federal government;
- Non-driver ID card issued by NH DMV or motor vehicle agency of another state;
- Photo ID card for "voting identification only" issued by NH DMV (RSA 260:21);
- United States armed services identification card;
- United States passport or passport;
- NH student ID card (see more information below);
- A photo ID not mentioned above, but determined to be legitimate by the moderator, supervisors of the checklist, or clerk of a town, ward or city. If any person authorized to challenge a voter does so under this provision, the voter shall be required to fill out a challenged voter affidavit before obtaining a ballot.
- Verification of the voter's identity by a moderator or supervisor of the checklist or clerk of a town, ward or city (not a ballot clerk). If any person authorized to challenge a voter does so under this provision, the voter shall be required to fill out a challenged voter affidavit before obtaining a ballot.

An acceptable photo ID must have an expiration date or date of issuance. The ID will remain valid 5 years beyond the expiration date unless the voter is 65 or older in which case an acceptable photo ID may be used without regard to expiration date. The name on the ID shall substantially conform to the name on the checklist.

More on student ID cards:

Acceptable student photo ID cards must be issued by:

- A college, university, or career school approved or licensed to operate in New Hampshire
- A public high school in New Hampshire
- A non-public high school in New Hampshire accredited by a private school accrediting agency that is recognized by the NH Department of Education
- Dartmouth College
- A college or university operated by the university system of New Hampshire or the community college system of New Hampshire

Beginning in 2014 all colleges or universities operated by the university system or community college system of New Hampshire must include the date of issuance on the student ID card. Student ID cards without a date of issuance will be accepted until September 1, 2018. Each August the Commissioner of the Department of Education will provide to the Secretary of State a list of all approved, licensed, and accredited schools from which a student ID is acceptable.

What if I do not have an approved photo ID?

Any voter who does not present an approved photo ID will be permitted to vote after executing a challenged voter affidavit. In addition, the voter shall have their photograph taken by the moderator or assistant moderator, which shall be attached to the challenged voter affidavit. If the voter objects to the photograph requirement because of religious beliefs, the voter may execute an affidavit of religious exemption that will be attached to the challenged voter affidavit instead of the photograph. A voter who does not have an approved photo ID may obtain a free photo ID for voting purposes only by presenting a voucher from their town/city clerk or the Secretary of State to any NH DMV office that issues identification.

Is there any post-election action required by me after I vote without an approved photo ID?

If you filled out a challenged voter affidavit in order to vote on Election Day, you will receive a verification letter from the Secretary of State requesting confirmation that you voted in the election. If you do not respond in writing to the Secretary of State within 90 days of the date it was mailed, the Attorney General will conduct an investigation to determine whether fraudulent voting occurred.

Where can I get more information? Your town or city clerk or the Secretary of State.

Secretary of State: Website: www.sos.nh.gov elections@sos.nh.gov

August, 2015



Town of Goffstown
TOWN OFFICES
16 Main Street
Goffstown, NH 03045

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GOFFSTOWN NH
PERMIT No. 44

Town of Goffstown
Residential Customers