

**TOWN OF EASTON
TOWN MEETING WARRANT
MARCH 12, 2019**

To the inhabitants of the Town of Easton, in the County of Grafton, in the State of New Hampshire qualified to vote in Town affairs: You are hereby notified and warned of the Annual Town Meeting to be held at the Town Hall in said Town on Tuesday, March 12, 2019. Polls will open from 3:00 PM to 6:00 PM for voting on Articles 1-3. The Town's annual business meeting will follow at 7:00 PM.

To act upon the following subjects:

ARTICLE 1. Elect All Officers

To choose all necessary officers for the ensuing year, on the Official Ballot. (Ballot Vote)

ARTICLE 2. To see if the Town is in favor of the adoption of Amendment #1 as proposed by the Planning Board for the Town of Easton Zoning Ordinance as follows:

Replace the entirety of Article 6, Section 606, Steep slopes hillside & ridgeline development overlay district, Part D, Density Analysis to state:

Prior to submitting an application for subdivision, the applicant shall complete a slope-density analysis to determine the allowable density for the subject lots. Such analysis shall include a lot elevation map highlighting the areas of the lots having a slope less than 15%, as well as the percentage of area highlighted per lot.

Lots with a surface area of less than 15% slope over or equal to half of the lot shall have a minimum lot size of three (3) acres. Lots with a surface area of greater than 15% slope over half of the lot shall have a minimum lot size of six (6) acres.

In all cases, each lot shall have at least one contiguous acre that is of less than 15% slope. The lots are subject to State and Town building requirements in force at time of approval.

(The Planning Board recommends adoption of this Article) (Ballot vote)

ARTICLE 3. To see if the Town is in favor of the adoption of Amendment #2 as proposed by the Planning Board for the Town of Easton Zoning Ordinance as follows:

Append the following to Article 8, Section 810, Road and driveway access:

All private driveways less than 18 feet wide and exceeding a length of 1500 feet, must have a turnout(s) capable of supporting a fire truck or other emergency vehicle, in order to allow another emergency vehicle to pass. Minimum dimensions of the turnout shall be at least 12 feet wide and 40 feet long. There must be at least one turnout for every 1500 feet of driveway. Turnout(s) should be approximately equally placed.

(The Planning Board recommends adoption of this Article) (Ballot vote)

ARTICLE 4. Town Operating Budget

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$264,154 for general Town operation as follows:

Executive	\$16,550
Election Registration, Town Clerk & Vital Stats	\$12,500
Financial Administration	\$14,500
Revaluation of Individual Properties	\$6,000
Legal Expenses	\$20,000
Personnel Administration & Payroll Taxes	\$2,000
Planning & Zoning	\$4,500
Government Buildings	\$13,000
Cemetery	\$2,600
Insurance	\$3,200
Advertising & Regional Associations	\$2,020
General Government – Contingency	\$5,000
Police Department	\$0
Ambulances	\$11,353
Fire Department	\$23,500
Building Inspections	\$250
Emergency Management – Forest Fire	\$500
Public Safety – Other (Including Communications)	\$1,500
Highways and Streets	\$65,000
Sanitation – Solid Waste	\$29,230
Animal & Pest Control	\$300
Welfare Assistance	\$3,000
Parks and Recreation	\$16,351
Library	\$0
Patriotic Purposes	\$100
Conservation Commission	\$1,100
Construction Bonds – Principal	\$7,400
Construction Bonds – Interest	\$2,700
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Total Operating Budget	\$264,154

ARTICLE 5. Budget for Health Agencies & Hospitals

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,511 for Health Agencies & Hospitals as follows: (The Selectmen recommend adoption of this Warrant Article.) (Majority vote required)

Ammonoosuc Community Health Services	\$500
North Country Home Health & Hospice	\$800
White Mountain Mental Health	\$211
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Total Health Agencies & Hospitals	\$1,511

ARTICLE 6. Budget for Other Welfare

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$2,600 for Other Welfare as follows: (The Selectmen recommend adoption of this Warrant Article.) (Majority vote required)

American Red Cross	\$100
Center for New Beginnings	\$250
Grafton County Senior Citizens Council	\$100
Tri-County CAP Energy Service Program	\$2,150
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Total Other Welfare	\$2,600

ARTICLE 7. Budget for Other Culture & Recreation

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,000 for Other Culture & Recreation: (The Selectmen recommend adoption of this Warrant Article.) (Majority vote required)

North Country Boys & Girls Club	\$1,000
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Total Other Culture & Recreation	\$1,000

ARTICLE 8. Fee for Franconia Library

To see if the Town will vote to accept a special discounted patron rate of \$10 per Easton resident at the Abbie Greenleaf Library in Franconia, and to raise and appropriate the sum of \$500 for payment to such library for this purpose. (The Selectmen recommend adoption of this Warrant Article.) (Majority vote required)

ARTICLE 9. Other Animal & Pest Control

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$500 for Above the Notch Animal Rescue; of this amount the entirety is to be raised from general taxation. (The Selectmen recommend adoption of this Warrant Article.) (Majority vote required.)

ARTICLE 10. Fire Department Capital Equipment Reserve Fund

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$20,000.00 to add to the Easton Fire Department Capital Equipment Reserve Fund (established in March 1997); of this amount the entirety is to be raised from general taxation. (The Selectmen recommend adoption of this Warrant Article.) (Majority vote required.)

ARTICLE 11. Legal Fees Expendable Trust Fund

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$20,000 to add to the Legal Fees Expendable Trust Fund; of this amount the entirety is to be raised from general taxation. (The Selectmen recommend adoption of this Warrant Article.) (Majority vote required.)

ARTICLE 12. Conservation Capital Reserve Trust Fund

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$500 to be added to the Conservation Capital Reserve Trust Fund; of this amount the entirety is to be raised from general taxation. (The Selectmen recommend adoption of this Warrant Article.) (Majority vote required.)

ARTICLE 13. Town Roads Maintenance Expendable Trust Fund

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$10,000 to add to the Town Roads Maintenance Expendable Trust Fund; of this amount the entirety is to be raised from general taxation.

(The Selectmen recommend adoption of this Warrant Article.) (Majority vote required.)

ARTICLE 14. Expendable Trust Fund for the Maintenance and Repair of Government Buildings

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$7,500 to add to the Expendable Trust Fund for the Maintenance and Repair of Government Buildings; of this amount the entirety is to be raised from general taxation. (The Selectmen recommend adoption of this Warrant Article.) (Majority vote required.)

ARTICLE 15. Town Cemetery Expendable Trust Fund

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$5,000 to add to the Town Cemetery Expendable Trust Fund; of this amount the entirety is to be raised from general taxation. (The Selectmen recommend adoption of this Warrant Article.) (Majority vote required.)

ARTICLE 16. Fire Dept. Major Equipment Replacement and Repair Expendable Trust Fund

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$7,500 to add to the Fire Department Major Equipment Replacement and Repair Expendable Trust Fund; of this amount the entirety is to be raised from general taxation. (The Selectmen recommend adoption of this Warrant Article.) (Majority vote required.)

ARTICLE 17. Forest Fire Reimbursement Expendable Trust Fund

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$5,000 to add to the Forest Fire Reimbursement Expendable Trust Fund; of this amount the entirety is to be raised from general taxation. (The Selectmen recommend adoption of this Warrant Article.) (Majority vote required.)

ARTICLE 18. Establish and Fund the Transfer Station Capital Reserve Fund

To see if the Town will vote to establish the Transfer Station Capital Reserve Fund under the provisions of RSA 35:1 for the purpose of financing Easton's share of equipment purchases and improvements at the Tri-Town Transfer Station, and to raise and appropriate the sum of \$8,897 to add to the said fund; of this amount the entirety is to come from the December 31, 2018 Fund Balance. The amount represents Easton's share of the funds from the discontinuation of the Franconia Transfer Station Recycling Special Revenue Fund. Furthermore, to appoint the selectmen as agents to expend from the fund. (The Selectmen recommend adoption of this Warrant Article.) (Majority vote required).

ARTICLE 19. Change of Purpose for the Fire Dept Major Equipment Repair & Replacement Fund

To see if the town will vote to change the purpose of the Fire Dept Major Equipment Repair & Replacement Fund from covering major or unforeseen Fire Dept equipment replacement and repair costs, excluding vehicle replacements, to equipment acquisition, repair and replacement for the EFD, excluding acquisition and replacement of vehicles and apparatuses. Furthermore, to change the fund name to the Easton Fire Department Equipment Expendable Trust Fund, and to appoint the selectmen as agents to expend from the fund. (The Selectmen recommend adoption of this Warrant Article.) (2/3 vote required)

ARTICLE 20. Change of Purpose for the Fire Department Capital Equipment Reserve Fund

To see if the town will vote to change the purpose of the Easton Fire Department Capital Equipment Reserve Fund from equipment acquisition and replacement for the EFD, to vehicle and apparatus acquisition and replacement for the EFD and to change the fund name to the Easton Fire Department Vehicle and Apparatus Capital Reserve Fund. Furthermore, to remove the selectmen as agents to expend from the fund. (The Selectmen recommend adoption of this Warrant Article.) (2/3 vote

required)

ARTICLE 21. Purchase a pre-owned, replacement firefighting apparatus for the Easton Fire Department

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$95,000.00 to purchase a firefighting apparatus for the Easton Fire Department; of this amount the entirety is authorized to be withdrawn from the Easton Fire Department Vehicle and Apparatus Capital Reserve Fund established for that purpose. (The Selectmen recommend adoption of this Warrant Article.) (Majority vote required.)

ARTICLE 22. PETITIONED – Abutter Approval for Road Expansion

Any minor bridge/culvert repair, pavement expansion or road widening for maintenance or other purpose, on state or municipal roads, must be approved by abutters in area where the ROW width is unknown, has not been previously determined and marked by NHDOT, or is in dispute.

ARTICLE 23. PETITIONED – Permission for Horizontal Directional Drilling

Horizontal Directional Drilling is prohibited in road rights-of-way without abutting landowner permission, due to its high potential for sub-surface chemical/material trespass onto abutting properties.

ARTICLE 24. PETITIONED – Survey for Infrastructure Burial

Any major construction that involves burial of electrical transmission infrastructure, or any other utility, in public roadways, requires a complete boundary survey for road width and all abutting property lines, including complete deed chains, signed by a licensed NH surveyor and accepted by the Town, before construction.