



Charlestown

The inhabitants of the Town of Charlestown in the County of Sullivan in the state of New Hampshire qualified to vote in Town affairs are hereby notified that the Annual Town Meeting will be held as follows:

First Session of Annual Meeting (Deliberative Session)

Date: Saturday, February 5, 2022
Time: 10:00 AM
Location: Charlestown Middle School Gym
Details: Main Street

Second Session of Annual Meeting (Official Ballot Voting)

Date: Tuesday, March 8, 2022
Time: 8:00 am to 7:00 PM
Location: Charlestown Senior Center
Details: 223 Old Springfield Road

GOVERNING BODY CERTIFICATION

We certify and attest that on or before January 31, 2022, a true and attested copy of this document was posted at the place of meeting and at Charlestown Middle School, Charlestown Middle School and Town Offices and that an original was delivered to Patricia Chaffee, Town Clerk.

Name	Position	Signature
Wood Jeremy	Vice Chairman	
Shelly Andrus	Select board	
William Rescanski	Selectboard	
JEFFREY LESSELS	Clerk Secretary	
NANCY HOUGHTON	"	



Article 01 Election of Town Officers

To elect the necessary Town Officers for their respective terms.

Article 02 Building Code Amendment

Are you in favor of the adoption of the Building Code amendment to the existing Town of Charlestown Building Code as proposed by the Planning Board: Amend the Building Code to allow only manufactured housing assembled or built within the last 5 calendar years brought into Charlestown for placement? (The Planning Board recommends approval of this amendment.)

Copies of the full text of the proposed amendments are on file and available for public inspection during regular business hours in the Office of the Town Clerk and will be available at the Deliberative Session and at the polls.

Article 03 Planning & Zoning Regulations Amendment

Are you in favor of the adoption of the Planning & Zoning Regulations amendment to the existing Town of Charlestown Planning & Zoning Regulations as proposed by the Planning Board: Amend Section 2 DEFINITIONS to new definitions for the terms: "abutter", "manufactured housing", "manufactured housing park" and "tiny homes," to update other existing definitions to comply with State regulations, and make grammatical corrections? (The Planning Board recommends approval of this amendment.)

Copies of the full text of the proposed amendments are on file and available for public inspection during regular business hours in the Office of the Town Clerk and will be available at the Deliberative Session and at the polls.

Article 04 Operating Budget

Shall the Town raise and appropriate as an operating budget, not including appropriations by special warrant articles and other appropriations voted separately, the amounts set forth on the budget posted with the warrant or as amended by vote of the first session, for the purposes set forth therein, totaling \$6,241,349. This amount represents \$5,296,341 for the Town Operating budget, \$474,622 for the Water fund operating budget and \$470,386 for the Sewer fund operating budget. Should this article be defeated, the default budget shall be \$5,417,545 which is the same as last year, with certain adjustments required by previous action of the Town or by law; or the governing body may hold one special meeting, in accordance with RSA 40:13, X and XVI, to take up the issue of a revised operating budget only.

*The default budget represents \$4,558,775 for the Town operating budget \$460,428 for the Water Fund operating budget, and \$398,342 for the Sewer Fund operating budget.

NOTE: This warrant article (operating budgets) does not include appropriations in any other warrant article.

The Selectboard recommends this appropriation.
The Finance Committee recommends this appropriation.

Article 05 Highway 10-Wheeler Lease Purchase

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the selectmen to enter into a seven year lease-purchase for the purpose of acquiring a 10-wheel truck for the Highway Department at the cost of \$228,000, and to further raise and appropriate the sum of \$35,000 for the first year's payment of principle and interest for this purpose. This lease-purchase agreement shall contain a non-appropriations or "escape" clause providing that should the scheduled lease payment not be appropriated in future years, the vehicle will be returned to the lessor with no further obligations or liabilities on behalf of the Town. (Majority vote required.)

The Selectboard recommends this appropriation.
The Finance Committee recommends this appropriation.



Article 06 Contingency Fund

To see if the Town will vote pursuant to RSA 31:98-a to establish a contingency fund for the current year for unanticipated expenses that may arise and further to raise and appropriate \$20,000 to put in the fund. This sum to come from unassigned fund balance. No amount to be raised from taxation. Any appropriation left in the fund at the end of the year will lapse to the general fund. (Majority vote required.)

Article 07 Emergency Communications Improvements C/R Fund

To see if the Town will vote, by special warrant article, to raise and appropriate the sum of \$3,000 to be added to the Emergency Communications Improvements Capital Reserve Fund previously established under Article 11 at the 2016 Annual Town Meeting for the purpose of acquiring, replacing or repairing emergency services communications equipment or improvements. Recommendations Required. (Majority vote required.)
The Selectboard recommends this appropriation.
The Finance Committee recommends this appropriation.

Article 08 Solar Exemption

Shall the Town adopt the provisions of RSA 72:61-64 inclusively, which provide for an optional property tax exemption from the property's assessed value, for property tax purposes, for persons owning real property, which is equipped with solar energy systems intended for use at the immediate site. Such property tax exemption shall be in the amount equal to 100 % of the assessed value of qualifying solar energy system equipment under these statutes. (Majority vote required.)
The Selectboard recommends this article.

Article 09 Establishment of Fees

To see if the Town will authorize, per RSA 41:9-a, the Selectboard to establish or amend fees or charges for the purposes described in RSA 41:9-a, II. Such a vote shall continue in effect until rescinded. (Majority vote required.)
The Selectboard recommends this article.

Article 10 Conveyance of Tax Deeded Property

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectboard, indefinitely, until rescinded, to convey any real estate acquired by the Town by Tax Collector's deed per RSA 80:80 II and III. Such conveyance shall be by quitclaim deed following a sale per RSA 80:80 II by public auction or by advertised sealed bids. Alternatively, such real estate may be otherwise disposed of as justice may require, pursuant to RSA 80:80 III, and including the authority to dispose of such real estate as described in RSA 80:80, VI. (Majority vote required.)
The Selectboard recommends this article.

Article 11 Offer land to abutters

Shall the Town vote per RSA 31:3 and 80:80, III and VI(b) to authorize the Selectboard to offer for sale, to abutters only those certain undeveloped lots listed below owned by the Town, with the stipulation that the lots be merged with the existing abutting lot per RSA 674:39-a for the preservation of open space and no further lot-line adjustment will be allowed. The price is to be determined by the Selectboard at the time of sale.

The list of properties to be offered to abutters under this Article are as follows:

- | | |
|---------|---------|
| 118-148 | 223-003 |
| 207-039 | 209-013 |
| 210-057 | 210-063 |
| 223-011 | 213-001 |

The Selectboard recommends this article.



Article 12 Library Accept Gifts of Personal Property Donated

Shall the Town adopt the provisions of RSA202-A:4-d providing that any town at an annual meeting may adopt an article authorizing indefinitely until specific rescission of such authority, the public library trustees to accept gifts of personal property, other than money, which may be offered to the library for any public purpose? Prior to the acceptance of a gift valued at over \$5,000 the public library trustees shall hold a public hearing on the proposed acceptance. (Majority vote required.)

The Selectboard recommends this article.

Article 13 Fort at #4

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$5,000 for the purpose of supporting the Fort at #4. (Majority vote required.) (By Petition)

The Selectboard does not recommend this appropriation.

The Finance Committee recommends this appropriation.

Article 14 Reclassification of Borough Road

To see if the Town will vote to discontinue and cease all maintenance and improvements on a certain section of Borough Road, expressly establishing that portion as a Class VI road (pursuant to RSA 231:43 and RSA 231:45): specifically intending to effect the portion of Borough Road beginning at the existing gate; a point approximately 800' (eight hundred feet) in a southeasterly direction along Borough Road from the property marker denoting the northern border of the property owned by Bonnie Remick Trust to the Acworth Town Line. (By Petition)

Article 15 Repurpose Ambulance Equipment C/R

To see if the Town will vote to change the purpose of the existing Ambulance Equipment Maintenance Capital Reserve Fund to the Fire/Rescue Equipment Capital Reserve Fund. (2/3 vote required.) (By Petition)

Article 16 Fire/Rescue Equipment Capital Reserve

To see if the Town will vote to establish a Fire/Rescue Equipment Capital Reserve Fund under the provisions of RSA 35:1 for the purpose of purchasing Rescue/EMS Equipment for the Fire Department and to raise and appropriate the sum of \$16,000 to be placed in this fund. This is to come from unassigned fund balance. Further, to name the Selectboard and Fire Chief as agents to expend from said fund. No amount to be raised from taxation. (Majority Vote Required.) (By Petition)

In the event that Article 15 and 16 both pass, the effect of Article 16 shall be to place \$16,000 in the existing capital reserve fund repurposed by Article 15, and not to create a new fund with similar purpose under this article.

The Selectboard does not recommend this appropriation.

The Finance Committee does not recommend this appropriation.



Article 17 Town Manager Study

To see if the Town will vote, by special warrant article, to authorize appointment of an Ad Hoc Committee to study and make recommendation whether Charlestown voters should adopt the town manager plan as provided in chapter 37 of the Revised Statutes Annotated on the March 2023 ballot and to raise and appropriate \$5,000 to support the efforts of this committee in communicating its findings with the community.

This committee shall be comprised of 7 members, including 2 appointed by the selectmen from amongst their own members and 5 appointed by the Moderator of which at least 1 serves on the Planning Board, 1 serves on the Finance Committee, and 3 to be chosen from among citizens of the community (but none of these 5 may be a town employee.) The committee shall develop a town manager job description incorporating the "powers and duties" of RSA 37:6, target compensation, and an organization chart suggesting reporting relationships within the Town's offices. The committee shall meet as necessary, consistent with RSA91-a Right to Know law, shall obtain from Town employees any information it may require, shall present its recommendations at a public hearing duly warned by the Selectboard on or before November 1, 2022, and shall disband on the anniversary of this vote.

Supporting documents can be found at the Town office, Main St. Charlestown NH
(By Petition)

The Selectboard does not recommend this appropriation.

The Finance Committee does not recommend this appropriation.

Article 18 Any all other Business

To transact any other business that may legally come before the meeting.