



**ABSENTEE
OFFICIAL BALLOT
ANNUAL TOWN ELECTION
CHARLESTOWN, NEW HAMPSHIRE
MARCH 12, 2024**

Patricia Chaffee
TOWN CLERK

INSTRUCTIONS TO VOTERS

- A. TO VOTE, completely fill in the OVAL to the RIGHT of your choice(s) like this:
- B. Follow directions as to the number of candidates to be marked for each office.
- C. To vote for a person whose name is not printed on the ballot, write the candidate's name on the line provided and completely fill in the OVAL.

<p>SELECTBOARD MEMBER Vote for not more than Two</p> <p>For Three Years</p> <p>JEREMY WOOD <input type="radio"/></p> <p>SHELLY L. ANDRUS <input type="radio"/></p> <p>(Write-in) <input type="radio"/></p> <p>(Write-in) <input type="radio"/></p>	<p>LIBRARY TRUSTEE Vote for not more than One</p> <p>For Two Years</p> <p>JAMES LUPOLT <input type="radio"/></p> <p>LYNNE FISK <input type="radio"/></p> <p>(Write-in) <input type="radio"/></p> <p>CEMETERY TRUSTEE Vote for not more than One</p> <p>For Three Years</p> <p>(Write-in) <input type="radio"/></p> <p>SUPERVISOR OF THE CHECKLIST Vote for not more than One</p> <p>For Six Years</p> <p>SHEILA D. PUTNAM <input type="radio"/></p> <p>(Write-in) <input type="radio"/></p>	<p>PLANNING BOARD Vote for not more than Two</p> <p>For Three Years</p> <p>LENNY OSTASIEWSKI <input type="radio"/></p> <p>PATRICIA CHAFFEE <input type="radio"/></p> <p>(Write-in) <input type="radio"/></p> <p>(Write-in) <input type="radio"/></p> <p>FINANCE COMMITTEE Vote for not more than Two</p> <p>For Three Years</p> <p>LENNY OSTASIEWSKI <input type="radio"/></p> <p>STEVEN A. NEILL <input type="radio"/></p> <p>(Write-in) <input type="radio"/></p> <p>(Write-in) <input type="radio"/></p> <p>TREASURER Vote for not more than One</p> <p>For Three Years</p> <p>LINDA A. STEWART <input type="radio"/></p> <p>(Write-in) <input type="radio"/></p>
<p>SELECTBOARD MEMBER Vote for not more than One</p> <p>For One Year</p> <p>WILLIAM RESCSANSKI <input type="radio"/></p> <p>CHARLES E. BARALY <input type="radio"/></p> <p>(Write-in) <input type="radio"/></p> <p>(Write-in) <input type="radio"/></p> <p>TRUSTEE OF TRUST FUNDS Vote for not more than One</p> <p>For Three Years</p> <p>PATRICIA ROYCE <input type="radio"/></p> <p>(Write-in) <input type="radio"/></p> <p>(Write-in) <input type="radio"/></p>	<p align="center">ARTICLES</p>	

**Article 02
Sign Ordinance Amendment**

Are you in favor of the adoption of the Zoning Ordinance amendment to the existing Town of Charlestown Zoning Ordinance as proposed by the Planning Board: Amend the sign regulations to remove content-based regulations.

The Planning Board recommends approval of this amendment.

YES
NO

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.

TURN BALLOT OVER AND CONTINUE VOTING

ARTICLES CONTINUED

**Article 03
New Fire Station**

To see if the Town will raise and appropriate the sum of \$3,500,000 for the construction of a new public safety building to house the Fire Department; \$3,500,000 of such sum to be raised through the issuance of bonds or notes under and in compliance with the Municipal Finance Act, RSA 33:1 et seq, as amended; to authorize the Selectmen to apply for, obtain and accept federal, state or other aid, if any, which may be available for said project and to comply with all laws applicable to said project, with the intention of the Selectmen to seek and obtain such grant and/or other funding such as through the USDA Rural Development program and other funding sources in order to reduce the amount necessary for bonding; to authorize the Selectmen to issue, negotiate, sell and deliver said bonds and notes to determine the rate of interest thereon and the maturity of the other terms thereof; and to authorize the Selectmen to take any actions or pass any vote relative thereto. This is a petition article. 3/5 ballot vote required.

YES
NO

The Selectboard does not recommend this appropriation.
The Finance Committee does not recommend this appropriation.

**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 \$6,659,150. This amount represents \$5,612,881 for the Town Operating budget; \$604,781 for the Water Fund operating budget and \$441,488 for the Sewer Fund operating budget. Should this article be defeated, the default budget shall be \$6,439,793, 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.

YES
NO

*The default budget represents \$5,409,154 for the Town operating budget \$595,578 for the Water Fund operating budget; and \$435,061 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
Community Power Plan**

Shall the Town adopt the Charlestown Community Power plan, to authorize the Selectboard to implement the plan, and to take all action in furtherance thereof, pursuant to RSA 53-E. The Charlestown Community Power plan is an opt-out program that offers more flexible electricity procurement. The plan will initially provide lower electricity rates for residents, or will not launch. Initial participation in the plan can be declined, after which enrollment becomes voluntary. This article has no tax impact.

YES
NO

The Selectboard recommends this article.

**Article 06
Establish Transfer Station Equipment CRF**

To see if the Town will vote to establish a Transfer Station Equipment Capital Reserve Fund under the provisions of RSA 35:1 for the purchase and maintenance of Transfer Station Equipment and to raise and appropriate the sum of \$5,000 to be placed in this fund. Further, to name the Selectboard as agents to expend from said fund. Recommendations Required (Majority Vote Required)

YES
NO

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

**Article 07
Add Funds to Bridge Capital Reserve Fund**

To see if the Town will vote, by special warrant article, to raise and appropriate the sum of \$24,652.00 to be added to the Bridge Capital Reserve Fund, previously established under Article 06 at the 2022 Annual Town Meeting for the purpose of maintenance, construction or reconstruction of municipal bridges, with this amount to come from unassigned fund balance. No amount to be raised by taxation. (Majority vote required)

YES
NO

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

GO TO NEXT BALLOT AND CONTINUE VOTING



**ABSENTEE
OFFICIAL BALLOT
ANNUAL TOWN ELECTION
CHARLESTOWN, NEW HAMPSHIRE
MARCH 12, 2024**

BALLOT 2 OF 2

Patricia O'Chaffer
TOWN CLERK

INSTRUCTIONS TO VOTERS

TO VOTE, completely fill in the OVAL to the RIGHT of your choice(s) like this:

ARTICLES CONTINUED

**Article 08
Lease/Purchase of Transfer Station Roll Off Truck**

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectboard to enter into a five (5) year lease/purchase agreement in the amount of \$200,000, to finance the purchase of a Roll Off Truck for the Transfer Station and to raise and appropriate the sum of \$44,784.00 for the first year's payment under the lease/purchase agreement. The annual payments under the lease shall be \$44,784.00. This lease/purchase agreement contains an escape clause. (Majority vote required)

YES
NO

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

**Article 09
To Discontinue Spur of Borough Road**

To see if the Town will vote pursuant to RSA 231:43 to discontinue, completely and absolutely, the so-called Borough Road Spur, with a beginning at its intersection with the main Borough Road located at the northernmost point of Parcel #220-012 and proceeding south-easterly therefrom. Meaning and intending to completely and absolutely discontinue the section of the Borough Road Spur not previously discontinued by vote of the 1898 town meeting "to discontinue the road leading from E.M. Mcgrath's in an easterly direction to Acworth town line."

YES
NO

The Selectboard recommends this article.

**Article 10
Add Funds to Emergency Comms. CRF**

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. (Majority vote required.)

YES
NO

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

**Article 11
Discontinue Silsby Library Masonry CRF**

To see if the Town will vote to discontinue the Silsby Library/Municipal Masonry Restoration and Preservation Capital Reserve Fund created in 2012. Said funds, with accumulated interest to date of withdrawal, are to be transferred to the municipality's general fund. (Majority vote required)

YES
NO

**Article 12
Transfer of Funds to the Silsby Library Trustees**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1331.00 for the purpose of building maintenance for the Silsby Library. This appropriation is to be funded from the Town's unassigned fund balance. No amount to be raised by taxation. This article shall be null and void if the Town does not vote to approve Article 1 concerning the discontinuance of the Silsby Library Masonry Project Capital Reserve Fund. (Majority vote required)

YES
NO

TURN BALLOT OVER AND CONTINUE VOTING

ARTICLES CONTINUED

**Article 13
Authorize Sale of Town Property**

To see if the Town will vote to adopt RSA 41:14-a, to allow the Selectmen to acquire or sell land, buildings or both; and to demolish or otherwise dispose of buildings: provided, however, they shall first submit any such proposed acquisition or sale to the planning board and to the conservation commission for review and recommendation by those bodies. This article will remain in effect until rescinded by majority vote. (Majority vote required)

YES
NO

The Selectboard recommends this article.

**Article 14
To Support the Charlestown Senior Center**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$2,000 in 2024 in addition to the annual budget of \$5,000 for the purpose of supporting the Charlestown Senior Center (This is a Petition Article)

YES
NO

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

YOU HAVE NOW COMPLETED VOTING THIS BALLOT

**ABSENTEE
OFFICIAL BALLOT
FALL MOUNTAIN REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
TOWN OF CHARLESTOWN, NEW HAMPSHIRE
MARCH 12, 2024**

Nancy D. Boschee
SCHOOL DISTRICT CLERK

INSTRUCTIONS TO VOTERS

- A. TO VOTE, completely fill in the OVAL to the RIGHT of your choice(s) like this:
- B. Follow directions as to the number of candidates to be marked for each office.
- C. To vote for a person whose name is not printed on the ballot, write the candidate's name on the line provided and completely fill in the OVAL.

	BUDGET COMMITTEE	DISTRICT MODERATOR
SCHOOL BOARD		
<u>AT LARGE</u> 3 Year Term	<u>AT-LARGE</u> 3 Year Term	Vote for not more than One 1 Year Term LEROY WATSON
ALISSA BASCOM <input type="radio"/>	JERRY HENRY <input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
(Write-in)	(Write-in)	(Write-in)
SCHOOL BOARD		
<u>WALPOLE</u> 3 Year Term	<u>WALPOLE</u> 3 Year Term	
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	
(Write-in)	(Write-in)	

WARRANT ARTICLES

Article 1 - Shall the Fall Mountain Regional 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 **\$36,656,877**? Should this article be defeated, the default budget shall be **\$35,592,468**, which is the same as last year, with certain adjustments required by previous action of the Fall Mountain Regional 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. (Majority vote required.)

YES
NO

The Budget Committee recommends this article by a vote of: (5) yes, (1) no, (1) abstain, (1) absent
The School Board recommends this article by a vote of: (6) yes, (1) absent

Article 2 - Shall the Acworth voters vote to appropriate \$3,200 for capital improvements to the Acworth Community School to replace two windows and close in four small windows with said funds to come from the Acworth Schools Capital Reserve Fund?

YES
NO

The School Board recommends this article by a vote of: (6) yes, (1) absent
The Budget Committee recommends this article by a vote of: (6) yes, (1) abstain, (1) absent

Article 3 - Shall the Alstead voters vote to appropriate \$36,200 for capital improvements to the Alstead Elementary for asbestos abatement and Vilas Middle Schools to repair outside gym stairs and replace Library carpet with said funds to come from the Alstead Schools Capital Reserve Fund?

YES
NO

The School Board recommends this article by a vote of: (6) yes, (1) absent
The Budget Committee recommends this article by a vote of: (7) yes, (1) absent

Article 4 - Shall the Charlestown voters vote to appropriate \$114,500 for capital improvements to the Charlestown Primary School to repoint bricks and replace the gym floor and Charlestown Middle School to abate asbestos in one classroom, installation of mini-split in the office, install outdoor basketball hoops and replace stairs by the kitchen with said funds to come from the Charlestown Schools Capital Reserve Fund?

YES
NO

The School Board recommends this article by a vote of: (6) yes, (1) absent
The Budget Committee recommends this article by a vote of: (7) yes, (1) absent

Article 5 - Shall the Walpole voters vote to appropriate \$92,000 for capital improvements to the North Walpole School and the Walpole Elementary and Primary Schools to abate asbestos in one classroom in each building and installation of a walk-in freezer in Walpole Elementary School with said funds to come from the Walpole Schools Capital Reserve Fund?

YES
NO

The School Board recommends this article by a vote of: (6) yes, (1) absent
The Budget Committee recommends this article by a vote of: (7) yes, (1) absent

VOTE BOTH SIDES OF BALLOT

WARRANT ARTICLES CONTINUED

Article 6 - Shall the District vote to appropriate \$81,500 for capital improvements to the Fall Mountain Regional High School to abate asbestos in one room, replace library rooftop unit and rebuild water pumps with said funds to come from the Fall Mountain Regional High School Capital Reserve Fund?

YES
NO

The School Board recommends this article by a vote of: (6) yes, (1) absent
The Budget Committee recommends this article by a vote of: (7) yes, (1) absent

Article 7 - Shall the District vote to appropriate \$150,000 to hire a qualified engineering firm to perform the necessary services, including surveying of the Fall Mountain Regional High School campus and the preparation of bid documents, to facilitate future improvement projects? These projects would be a minimum of three phases, to include repaving the parking lot and access road, paving of the bus barn parking lot, and creating an additional access road as recommended by the Department of Homeland Security, with said funds to come from the Fall Mountain Regional High School Capital Reserve Fund.

YES
NO

The School Board recommends this article by a vote of: (5) yes, (1) no, (1) absent
The Budget Committee recommends this article by a vote of: (5) yes, (2) no, (1) absent

Article 8 - Shall the District vote to raise and appropriate up to \$250,000 to be placed in the district's capital reserve funds with the breakdown as follows: 7.18% up to \$17,951 to be added to the Acworth Capital Reserve Fund; 13.94% up to \$34,842 to be added to the Alstead Capital Reserve Fund; 45.09% up to \$112,730 to be added to the Charlestown Capital Reserve Fund; 5.15% up to \$12,868 to be added to the Langdon Capital Reserve Fund; 28.64% up to \$71,609 to be added to the Walpole Capital Reserve Fund with said funds to come solely from any year-end unassigned general fund balance. These funds are to be held by Trustees of Trust Funds in the respective towns and no withdrawals shall be made without consent of the voters.

YES
NO

The School Board recommends this article by a vote of: (4) yes, (2) no, (1) absent
The Budget Committee recommends this article by a vote of: (5) yes, (2) no, (1) absent

Article 9 - Shall the voters of the town of Charlestown vote to permanently close and relinquish ownership of the North Charlestown Community School?

YES
NO

The School Board recommends this article by a vote of: (5) yes, (1) no, (1) absent

Article 10 - Shall the voters of the Fall Mountain Regional School District vote to amend Article 18 of the District's Articles of Agreement to add the bolded language and remove the language that is crossed out below:

18. (As amended on March 28, 2023 – see appendix for original language.) The District agrees that a future warrant article proposing any of the following:

- acquisition of land
- construction of a new school
- square footage additions to existing schools
- major renovations or repairs (as determined by the school board)
- appropriations to or withdrawals from any elementary capital reserve
- fund established in 2006
- closure of ~~North Walpole or North Charlestown~~ any elementary school

the cost of such expenditure to be apportioned exclusively to ~~one~~ the town/pre-existing district where the elementary school is located shall be passed or defeated on the basis of votes tallied only in the identified town/pre-existing district with any appropriation for expenditures to be apportioned exclusively to any such town/pre-existing district. Any vote taken under such an article shall be considered a vote of the district and any expense approved under such an article shall be considered an appropriation of the district in accordance with RSA 195:14 (Supp.). This article shall be null and void if the District subsequently changes the manner in which it apportions capital expenses. (2/3 majority vote required).

YES
NO

The School Board recommends this article by a vote of: (6) yes, (1) absent

VOTE BOTH SIDES OF BALLOT