

THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

The polls will be open from 8:00 A.M. to 7:00 P.M.

To the inhabitants of the Town of Strafford in the County of Strafford in said State, qualified to vote in Town Affairs:

You are hereby notified to meet at the **Strafford Town Hall** in said Strafford on Tuesday, the Eleventh (11<sup>th</sup>) day of March, next at 8:00 A.M. to act upon the following subjects:

\*\* 1. To choose all necessary Town Officers for the year ensuing.

**\*\* NOTE: ALL ARTICLES, EXCEPT ARTICLES 1 WILL BE TAKEN UP AT 8:30 A.M., SATURDAY, March 15, 2025 AT THE STRAFFORD SCHOOL.**

2. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$445,000. for Capital Improvements (Drainage work, culverts, gravel and paving) of roads within the Town boundaries at the discretion of the Road Agent, as funding permits.

3. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,030,217. for the operation and maintenance of the Strafford Police Department.

4. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$25,000. to be placed in the Police Vehicle and Equipment Capital Reserve Fund. The Selectmen recommend this article.

5. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$61,102. for the purpose of purchasing quality communications equipment and services (i.e. body cameras). (Note: The intent is to apply for a grant to reimburse 50% of the funds expended for this purchase. if a grant is awarded, general fund will be reimbursed.)

6. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,084,006. for the operation and maintenance of the Strafford Fire Department.

7. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$154,161. for the fourth year's payment of the lease agreement for the new Fire Engine Tanker approved at the 2022 Town Meeting and to authorize the withdrawal of \$77,081. from the Fire Engine Capital Reserve Fund to be used for this purpose. The balance of \$77,080. to come from general taxation. This lease/purchase agreement contains an escape clause. The Selectmen recommend this article.

8. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$25,000. for the purpose of purchasing equipment and supplies for the ambulances, and to authorize the withdrawal of \$25,000. from the Rescue Vehicle and Equipment Special Revenue Fund to be used for this purpose. No funding to come from general taxation. The Selectmen recommend this article.

9. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$65,000. for the purpose of purchasing a new First Responder Vehicle and equipment (i.e. Lighting and Radios) for the Fire Department and to authorize the withdrawal of \$65,000. from the Rescue Vehicle and Equipment Special Revenue Fund to be used for this purpose. No funding to come from general taxation. The Selectmen recommend this article.

10. To see if the Town will vote to change the purpose of the Capital Reserve Fund known as the Dry Hydrant Fund established by Article 11 at the March 12, 2016 Town Meeting to the Dry Hydrant, Fire Gear/SCBA and equipment fund for the purposes of dry hydrant repair/replacement, purchasing turnout gear/SCBA and equipment, and to designate the Selectmen as agents to expend. The Selectmen recommend this article. (2/3 vote required)

11. To see if the Town will vote to hear the report of the New Fire Station Committee established by a vote at the 2022 Town Meeting to be comprised of the Fire Chief, one Fire Department member, one Selectman, and two Town residents. The committee to report back at the 2023 Town Meeting. Article tabled at 2023 and 2024 Town Meetings, to be heard at 2025 Town Meeting.

12. To see if the Town will vote to establish a capital reserve fund pursuant to RSA 35:1 to be called the Fire Station Expansion/Improvement and/or Relocation Fund to be used for the purposes of funding expansion, improvement, and/or relocation and raise and appropriate \$200,000. to be placed in this fund, and to designate the Selectmen as agents to expend. The Selectmen recommend this article.

13. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$66,509. For the purpose of funding a full-time Library Director position at the Hill Library and associated costs. This position is currently a part-time position.

14. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$174,543. for the operation and maintenance of the Hill Library.

15. To see if the Town will vote to change the purpose of the existing Capital Reserve Fund known as the Library Expansion and Improvement Capital Reserve Fund established by Article 12 at the March 16, 2013 Town Meeting to the Library Expansion, Improvements and/or Relocation Capital Reserve Fund for the purposes of Library Expansion, Improvements and/or Relocation, and to designate the Selectmen as agents to expend, and furthermore to raise and appropriate \$10,000. to add to the newly established fund. The Selectmen recommend this article. (2/3 vote required)

16. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$10,000. to be placed in the Library Expansion and Improvement Capital Reserve Fund, and to designate the Selectmen as agents to expend. This article will be considered null and void on the passage of Article 15. The Selectmen recommend this article.

17. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$5,000. to be placed in the Town Hall Building Maintenance, Improvements and/or Expansion Capital Reserve Fund. The Selectmen recommend this article.

18. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$10,000. to be placed in the Future Reval/Statistical Update Capital Reserve Fund. The Selectmen recommend this article.

19. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$5,000. to be placed in the Highway Department Vehicle and/or Equipment Capital Reserve Fund. The Selectmen recommend this article.

20. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$5,000. to be placed in the Reflective Road Signage Capital Reserve Fund. The Selectmen recommend this article.

21. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$10,000. to be placed in the Repair/Replace Recycling Center Equipment Capital Reserve Fund. The Selectmen recommend this article.

22. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$25,000. to be placed in the Bridge Construction & Repair Non-Capital Reserve Fund. The Selectmen recommend this article.

23. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$25,000. to be used for the preparation of a Bow Lake Watershed Management Plan. The plan will include a comprehensive septic system inventory, road drainage analysis and mitigation to correct issues that are negatively impacting water quality in a defined watershed area. This appropriation is contingent on the Town successfully applying for a \$25,000. grant through the Piscataqua Regional Estuaries Program. The Planning Board recommends this article.

24. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,925,112. for general Town operations.

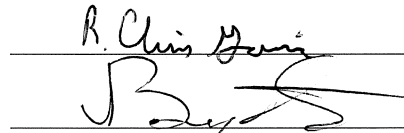
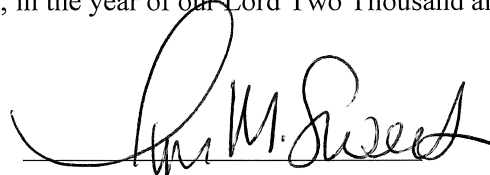
|  |              |
|--|--------------|
| Executive.....                                     | \$ 100,814.  |
| Election & Registration.....                       | 33,750.      |
| Financial Administration.....                      | 111,075.     |
| Appraisal of Property & Tax Maps.....              | 49,047.      |
| Legal Expenses.....                                | 60,000.      |
| Employee Benefits, FICA, Medi & Unemp. Comp.....   | 45,918.      |
| Planning and Zoning.....                           | 53,150.      |
| General Government Building.....                   | 57,700.      |
| Auto Permits/Town Clerk Fees.....                  | 42,350.      |
| Insurance.....                                     | 75,735.      |
| Advertising and Regional Association.....          | 5,000.       |
| Stafford Regional Planning Comm. Dues.....         | 5,682.       |
| Contingency Fund.....                              | 15,000.      |
| Annual CPA Audit.....                              | 13,000.      |
| Emergency Management.....                          | 5,500.       |
| Building Inspection.....                           | 36,621.      |
| General Highway Expenses and Town Maintenance..... | 750,790.     |
| Street Lighting.....                               | 5,500.       |
| Solid Waste Disposal.....                          | 402,247.     |
| Animal Control.....                                | 1,800.       |
| Cemeteries.....                                    | 11,000.      |
| Cornerstone VNA.....                               | 3,991.       |
| General Assistance and Welfare.....                | 10,000.      |
| Community Action.....                              | 2,000.       |
| Haven Sexual Assault Support Services.....         | 992.         |
| My Friend's Place.....                             | 1,000.       |
| The Homemakers Health Services.....                | 3,200.       |
| Catamount Womenaid.....                            | 1,000.       |
| Ready Rides.....                                   | 1,500.       |
| CASA.....  | 500.         |
| Stafford Nutrition & Meals on Wheels.....          | 1,500.       |
| Parks and Recreation.....                          | 6,350.       |
| Patriotic Purposes and Fireworks.....              | 6,900.       |
| Conservation Commission.....                       | 2,500.       |
| Interest Expense & Tax Anticipation Notes.....     | 2,000.       |
| TOTAL.....   |              |
|  | \$1,925,112. |

(The intent of this article is to raise the sum of \$1,925,112. exclusive of all other Articles addressed.)

25. "Shall the Town vote to change the Veterans' Tax credit (the optional tax credit for all Veterans and Service Connected Total Disability) upon adoption by the Town pursuant to RSA 72:28 and RSA 72:35, shall be the amount of \$500.00 and \$1,000.00. The optional tax credit and service connected total disability shall replace the current credits of \$200.00 and \$700.00 in their entirety and shall not be in addition thereto." (by Petition.)

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

Given under our hands and seal, this 11<sup>th</sup> day of February, in the year of our Lord Two Thousand and Twenty-five.



Selectmen of Strafford

A true copy of Warrant - Attest:

