



# In The Know Hampton. A Thinking Voter's Resource.

This document is intended to help Hampton voters understand the Warrant Articles that will appear on the ballot on March 13, 2018. Each Article is explained, and there is a short statement about what those in favor say about it, and what those opposed say. There is an In The Know Hampton Facebook page that covers some of the same discussions, but where Hampton residents have provided their perspectives. The last page of this document provides a checklist of each of the articles so you can make notes about how you wish to vote. You may bring your notes about your choices to the Ballot Box to save time. You can print the checklist, fill in your choices and bring it with you to the voting booth to save time. [Here is a link to the sample ballot.](#)

## Article 1: Election of Officers

Note: There are 4 contested races, outlined in yellow. All other positions have candidates equal to the number of openings. You have the option to write in the name of a candidate.

	Term	# of Positions	# of Candidates	Candidate Names				
Selectman	3 Yrs	2	5	Timothy Jones	Brendan McNamara	Bryan Provencal	Jim Waddell	MaryLouise Woolsey
Town Moderator	2 Yrs	1	1	Robert Cassasa				
Supervisor of Checklist	6 Yrs	1	1	No One Declared				
Tax Collector	3 Yrs	1	1	Donna Bennett				
Trustee of Tr. Funds	3 Yrs	2	3	Nancy Andrew	John C Bletzer	Warren J. Mackensen		
Library Trustee	3 Yrs	2	2	Jayashree Athuluri	Elizabeth S Keroack			
Planning Board	3 Yrs	2	2	Tracy Emerick	Mark J Olson			
Cemetery Trustee	3 Yrs	1	2	Mary Blackwell	Ute Pineo			
Budget Committee	3 Yrs	2	3	Sunny Kravitz	Michael Plourffe	Brian Warburton		
Zoning Board	3 Yrs	2	2	Norma Collins	Bill O'Brien			

## Articles 2-6 are Zoning Articles

### Article 2: Zoning – New Personal Service Establishment Category

Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 1 as proposed by the Planning Board for the Hampton Zoning Ordinance as follows?

Amend Article I – General. Section 1.6 Definitions to add a definition for “Personal Services Establishment”.

Amend Article II – Districts. Section 2.8 – Town Center District to modify Section C and Section F to cross-reference personal services establishment with the definition of same.

Amend Article III – Use Regulations. Section 3.25a to clarify that the uses listed in this section are personal services establishments.

Amend Article I - This adds a definition of “Personal Service Establishment” as follows: “Personal Service Establishment: A business which provides beauty-health services including beauty and barber shops, nail salons, cosmetologists, spas, skin care therapies, tanning salons, massage therapists, and other similar services as may be regulated by the State of New Hampshire under RSA 313-A.”



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Amend Article II - This adds the following language under Section 2.8 Town Center District, C. Permitted Uses in Town Center-Historic District, #10. "Personal services establishments (as defined in Section 1.6)" It adds the following language to Section 2.8, F. Permitted Uses in the town Center-South and Town Center-North Districts, #15. "Personal services establishments (as defined in Section 1.6)"

**What it means:** This article creates a new category of business - Personal Service Establishment, and provides a definition for the category and describes permitted uses in different zones in Hampton.

**Those for and against say:** No one spoke either for or against this Article at the Deliberative Session.

**Fiscal Impact:** No tax impact.

## **Article 3: Zoning – New Dog Day Care Center Category of Business**

Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 2 as proposed by the Planning Board for the Hampton Zoning Ordinance as follows?

Amend Article I – General. Section 1.6 Definitions to add a definition for "Dog Day Care Center".

Amend Article III – Use Regulations to add New Section 3.25e to permit dog day care centers in the Industrial (I) Zoning District with Site Plan/Subdivision Review by the Planning Board.

Recommended by the Planning Board

Amend Article III - This adds a chart for 3.25e "Dog Day Care Center" to permit dog day care centers in the Industrial (I) Zoning District with Site Plan/Subdivision review by the Planning Board.

**What It Means:** This adds a definition of "Dog Day Care Center" to Article I - General, Section 1.6 as follows: "A short-term daytime care operation for dogs which provides activities and supervision."

**Those for and against say:** No one spoke either for or against this Article at the Deliberative Session.

**Fiscal Impact:** No tax impact.

## **Article 4: Zoning – Clarification of types of businesses that can be included as Professional Offices in residential districts, and which types of structures are permitted to house those businesses in those districts.**

Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 3 as proposed by the Planning Board for the Hampton Zoning Ordinance as follows?

Amend Article II – Districts, Section 2.7 – Professional Office / Residential District to clarify which principal uses are permitted in the District; to specifically add two-family dwellings as a permitted use, to specifically add



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multi-family dwellings as a permitted use (in accordance with Article VIII), to add language stating that the Planning Board may approve other uses which are permitted in the RA and/or RB Zoning Districts (in accordance with Article III) if similarity with surrounding residential uses is demonstrated by the applicant; to state that the front, side, and rear setback requirements for single-family residential dwelling structures shall comply with those required for the RA Zone; to specify that a Sign Permit is required from the Building Department, to state that all structures, other than single-family residential dwellings, shall be subject to the provisions of the Site Plan Review Regulations regarding Architectural Design; and other clarification and consistency changes.

**What It Means:** This is a “housekeeping” Warrant Article, designed to add clarity to the references.

**Those for and against say:** No one spoke either for or against this Article at the Deliberative Session.

**Fiscal Impact:** No tax impact.

**Article 5: Zoning – Provides further clarity to the conditions under which Accessory Dwelling Units can be created, constructed, occupied, and removed.**

Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 4 as proposed by the Planning Board for the Hampton Zoning Ordinance as follows?

Amend Article III-A – Accessory Dwelling Units to Single-Family Dwellings as follows: Section 3-A.1 – Location and Quantity to state that no lot with more than one single-family dwelling or manufactured housing located upon it shall be eligible for an accessory dwelling unit; Section 3-A.5 – Site Location and Size to add new Subsection F stating that accessory dwelling units shall be subject to all applicable provisions of the Wetlands Conservation District Ordinance; Section 3-A.6 – Provisions for Water Supply and Sewage Disposal to state that a wastewater development charge shall be paid prior to receiving a Building Permit and also requiring notification to the Department of Public Works for all accessory dwelling unit applications; and Section 3-A.11 – Removal of an Accessory Dwelling Unit to specify that the recording of the Declaration of Covenants, Conditions and Restrictions (in an approved form) shall occur at the Rockingham County Registry of Deeds prior to issuance of a Certificate of Occupancy.

**What it means:** This provides further town guidance with regard to Accessory Dwelling Units, which were permitted by state law in June of 2017. There were approved additional regulations on the Hampton ballot in 2017 and this is a continuation of the customization of the state law to Hampton.

**Those for and against say:** No one spoke either for or against this Article at the Deliberative Session.

**Fiscal Impact:** No tax impact.



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**Article 6: Zoning – A petitioned warrant article to double the required lot size for new construction in the RA zone from 15,000 sq. ft. to 30,000 sq. ft.**

Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 5 as petitioned for the Hampton Zoning Ordinance as follows?

Modify Articles 4.1 and 4.1.1 of the Zoning Ordinance to change the minimum required lot size and lot area per dwelling unit in the RA Zone to 30,000 square feet (where 15,000 square feet is currently required).

**What it means:** This petitioned Article would change the minimum lot size in the RA zone from 15,000 square feet (about 1/3 of an acre) to 30,000 square feet (about 2/3 of an acre) for new construction.

**Click here for a map** to see what sections of Hampton are considered zone “RA”.

**Click here for a link** to determine into what zone your home falls.

(Enter the online database. Type in your address. Click on your address in the pop-up window. Scroll almost all the way to the bottom where you will see a section titled “Land Use”. Look for the “Zone” entry.)

**Those in favor say:** The declining availability of open land means that new residential developments are often being placed on land that is not ideal, contributing to issues with flooding in town. The increase in the required lot size in the RA zone would help insure that each new home is constructed on an appropriate lot size. A statement was made by the proponent that the Article, if passed, might be considered advisory.

**Those against say:** A statement at Deliberative Session indicated that since this is a petitioned Warrant Article, the Planning Board only became aware of it late in the process. There was not enough time to study the impacts of the change. Others have expressed concern about the effect on pre-existing homes on currently conforming smaller lots, and what the process would be for all of those homeowners when they wish to make changes to their properties. The proponent subsequently provided clarification that the structure and the lot are two different sets of regulations, so the fact that a home might be on a non-conforming lot would not in itself require a variance to make changes to the structure on the property.

**Fiscal Impact:** No tax impact.

## Articles 7-37 are Town-Sponsored Warrant Articles

**A note about “money Articles”:** The average property in Hampton is valued at \$408,000 for 2018, including homes on the waterfront. The average non-waterfront property is valued at \$381,000. In the “Fiscal Impact” section of each discussion below, In The Know Hampton has calculated the tax effect of each of the money articles at the higher amount. Additionally, we are using 52 week calculations for multi-year Articles, even if the dollar amount does not fall completely into 2018. A good example are the Collective Bargaining Agreements (Articles 10, 11 and 12) where the impact in 2018 is for 39 weeks only (because the Town Employees are on contracts that begin on April 1) but to be clear about the full-year impact we calculated it based on 52 weeks.



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**Here's how to find out what the cost will be for your property, for any of the Articles:**

- 1) Divide the Tax Assessor's Valuation of your home by 1,000. (Example: for the average assessment of \$408,000, the number to use would be 408.) Use your latest tax bill, or go to <http://gis.vgsi.com/hamptonnh/Search.aspx> and enter your street address to get your valuation.
- 2) Multiply the result in #1 by the cost per thousand dollar valuation provided for each article to get your cost.

**A reference point from 2017:** If all Articles had passed last year, the tax impact would have been \$343.00 for the average-value home. Once the votes were in, the tax impact of the articles that did pass was \$225.00 (about two-thirds). In 2018, with a slightly higher average-value for a Hampton home, the 52-week tax impact if all Articles passed would be \$340.00. There is no way to predict the success rate of this year's Warrant Articles. The statistic is provided as a reference only.

## **Article 7: Upgrades to Wastewater Treatment Facility**

Shall the Town of Hampton vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$11,780,000 for the purposes of constructing the necessary upgrades and making improvements to the Waste Water Treatment Plant as follows;

Headworks Upgrades;  
Aeration Tank Upgrade  
Primary Clarifier Number 1 Upgrade;  
Gravity Thickener Number 1 Upgrade;  
Plant Water System Upgrade;  
Primary Sludge Pump Upgrade;  
Thickened Sludge Transfer Pump Replacement;  
Polymer System Upgrade;  
Septage Handling Improvements;  
Operations Building Improvements;  
Maintenance Garage Improvements;  
and SCADA System Improvements.

Such sum to be raised by the issuance of municipal bonds or notes for a period not to exceed thirty (30) years under and in accordance with the Municipal Finance Act (RSA 33); and  
To authorize the Board of Selectmen and the Town Treasurer to issue and negotiate such bonds or notes and to determine the rate of interest thereon in accordance with the Municipal Finance Act (RSA 33); and  
To authorize the Board of Selectmen to apply for, contract for, accept and expend any Federal, State or other available funds toward the project in accordance with the terms and conditions under which they are received and to borrow in anticipation of the receipt of such funds and or the issuance of such bonds or notes as provided in the Municipal Finance Act (RSA 33); and  
To authorize participation in the State Revolving Fund (SRF) (RSA 486:14) established for the purpose, and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to apply for, accept and expend such monies as they become available from the Federal and State Governments; and



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To authorize the Board of Selectmen to implement such cost effective solutions as are presented in the future that they deem to be in the best interest of the Town that may result in a lesser amount of expenditure than is authorized by this warrant article; and

To authorize the Board of Selectmen to take any and all actions necessary to carry out the project in the best interest of the Town of Hampton? (3/5ths vote required)

**What it means:** A Facility overview conducted by Wright Pierce and completed in September of 2017 identified two types of needs for the Hampton Wastewater Treatment Facility: aging infrastructure and capacity concerns. Article 7 as amended at Deliberative Session (the cost was reduced by \$1.2MM) addresses the first of these by funding upgrades in the most critical equipment, buildings and software that allow the town to process wastewater from drains and toilets in town.

**Those in favor say:** The Wastewater Treatment Facility has been on the "critical to address" list for some time. Wastewater treatment is by nature a corrosive process. Inadequate HVAC over decades has left the buildings and equipment in poor shape. The issue will not go away. Pushing the work forward will make it more expensive to accomplish down the road and will put the town's ability to process wastewater at risk in the interim.

**Those against say:** No one spoke against Article 7 at the Deliberative Session, but subsequently some have expressed concern that homeowners who do not have direct access to the town's sewer facilities (mostly on the west side of town) will be taxed at the same rate for the upgrades as those whose wastewater is carried directly to the plant. (All waste, including that from privately owned and maintained septic tanks, is processed at the town's WWTF although not with the same volume).

**Fiscal Impact:** Fiscal Impact Note (Finance Dept.) Since the above bond would not be issued until later in 2018 or even 2019, the first, estimated principal/interest payment of \$770,500 will not occur until late in 2019. The total of the bond's principal and interest payments over a 30-year period at an interest rate of 2.25% are estimated to be \$15,888,275. The average Hampton home valued at \$408,000 will be assessed an additional \$80.78 per year during the life of the bond. (Take your property value divided by 1000 and multiply by .198 to get your specific tax impact.)

### **Article 8: Operating Budget - \$27,225,312**

Shall the Town of Hampton vote to 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 as amended by vote of the first session, for the purposes set forth therein, totaling \$27,225,312.

Should this article be defeated, the default budget shall be \$26,842,312, which is the same as last year, with certain adjustments required by previous action of the Town of Hampton 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.



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**Fiscal Impact Note (Finance Dept.)** The proposed operating budget figure of \$27,225,312 is an increase of \$388,335 more than the budget amount adopted in 2017 of \$26,836,977. The default budget figure of \$26,842,312 is an increase of \$5,335 more than the budget amount adopted in 2017.

**What it means:** This is the proposed operating budget for the Town of Hampton for 2018, created with input from department heads, committees and commissions, and vetted by the Board of Selectmen and the Municipal Budget Committee. If voters do not approve the operating budget, the default budget will automatically become the operating budget for the Town for the year 2018. "Default budget" is defined as the appropriations contained in last year's operating budget adjusted for debt service, contracts, and other obligations previously incurred or mandated by law; and reduced by one-time expenditures contained in last year's operating budget.

**Those in favor say:** The proposed budget is 1.4% higher than last year and would provide funding for the Town employees and elected officials to complete the jobs that are expected of them by the residents of Hampton.

**Those against say:** The proposed operating budget will add to the average home's tax bill \$46.92 more for 2018 (vs. default budget). There is a concern that homeowners may find continuing increases in property taxes untenable.

**Fiscal Impact:** The average Hampton home valued at \$408,000 would bear an increased tax cost of \$47.74 if Article 8 passes versus an increase of .82 if it does not pass. (Take your property value divided by 1000 and multiply by .117 to get your specific tax impact.)

### **Article 9: \$1,500,000 from Reserve Fund for Street Repairs and Reconstruction**

Shall the Town of Hampton vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,500,000 for the purpose of reconstructing a portion of Lafayette Road from High Street to Winnacunnet Road and then from Winnacunnet Road to Towle Avenue to include street repairs and reconstruction and associated materials and labor necessary to do the work, and also to include associated drainage system maintenance and replacement, replacement of sidewalks, the installation of ornamental street lighting, granite curbing and other roadway infrastructure needed to complete the work; and

To fund such appropriation through the withdrawal of \$1,500,000 from the Road Improvement Capital Reserve Fund created under Article 16 of the 1998 Annual Town Meeting for the purpose and no amount to be raised from taxation. This will be a non-lapsing appropriation per RSA 32:7, VI and shall not lapse until the work is completed or by March 31, 2020, whichever is sooner?

**Those in favor say:** This is part of the maintenance that the Town should be performing for the citizens, and the fund being used is one that taxpayers have contributed to over the years for just such purposes.

**Those against say:** There does not seem to be an objection to the work, only questions about the prioritization of streets to be addressed.

**Fiscal Impact:** There is no tax impact because the money was appropriated in prior tax years. This Article is allowing the withdrawal of the money from the fund for the specified purpose.



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## Article 10: Collective Bargaining Agreement with Town Employees in Local 633

Shall the Town of Hampton vote to approve the cost items included in the collective bargaining agreement reached between the Hampton Board of Selectmen and the International Brotherhood of Teamsters Local 633, which calls for the following increases in salaries and benefits at the current staffing level, over the amount paid in the prior fiscal year:

Fiscal Year	Estimated Increase (over previous year level)
2018 (39 weeks)	\$ 36,404
2019 (52 weeks)	\$ 53,483
2020 (52 weeks)	\$ 41,813
2021 (13 weeks)	\$ 8,975

And to further raise and appropriate \$36,404 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?

**What it means:** A yes vote approves the salary increases of 2.7% each of the 3 years.

### Who is represented:

At the Hampton Police Department: two Senior Secretary Positions, the Communications Specialist Supervisor, Communications Specialists, the Animal Control Officer and the Senior Custodian.

At the Public Works Department: Public Works Foreman, Public Works Operations Coordinator, Public Works Transfer Station Foreman and Vehicle Maintenance

At the Town Office: the Assistant Building Inspector, the Building Department Secretary, the Deputy Town Clerk, Assistant Clerks and the Bookkeeper in the Town Clerk's Office, the Welfare Clerk, the Deputy Tax Collector, the Account Payable and Account Receivable Clerks and the Payroll Supervisor in the Finance Department.

**Those in favor say:** The employees who will benefit from the passage of Article 10 are "behind the scenes" folks who help you register your car, license your dog and remove unwanted critters from your property. From 2006 through 2017 the group of employees represented by the Teamsters received average wage increases of one-half of one-percent, with no increase at all in 7 of the last 12 years. Social Security increases during that same period of time (for reference) averaged 2.5%. This means that our Town employees are lagging way behind the cost of living that those on Social Security receive.

**Those against say:** No one spoke against this article at Deliberative Session.

**Fiscal Impact:** The average Hampton home (\$408,000) would bear an increased tax cost of \$6.53 in a 52-week period at current staffing levels. (Your property value divided by 1000 and multiplied by .016 for your tax impact.)





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## Article 11: Collective Bargaining Agreement with Fire Supervisory Association

Shall the Town of Hampton vote to approve the cost items included in the collective bargaining agreement reached between the Hampton Board of Selectmen and the Hampton Fire Department Supervisory Association Local 3017, which calls for the following increases in salaries and benefits at the current staffing level, over the amount paid in the prior fiscal year:

Fiscal Year	Estimated Increase (over previous year level)
2018 (39 weeks)	\$ 55,514
2019 (52 weeks)	\$ 74,283
2020 (13 weeks)	\$ 10,571

And to further raise and appropriate \$55,514 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.

**What it means:** A yes vote approves salary increases negotiated via the Collective Bargaining Agreement with the Fire Officers. There will be a 3% increase in salaries for each of the 2 years in the contract. Although the contract covers only 2 years (104 weeks), the way the weeks fall, 3 years are involved. The first 39 weeks fall in 2018, a full 52 weeks in 2019 and the remaining 13 weeks fall in 2020.

There are changes to the medical costs as well. New lower cost health plans have been added for health insurance and prescription drug plan, saving the Town and employees on health insurance expenses. The employee contribution rate is increased to 83.5% effective 1/1/20 (from 80%). Should the Cadillac tax be imposed under the Affordable Care Act, members (not taxpayers) will be responsible for 100% of the tax.

### Who is represented:

Fire Lieutenants  
Fire Captains  
Fire Prevention Officer  
EMS Officer  
Fire Department Secretary  
Fire Prevention Secretary (part-time)  
Deputy

**Those in favor say:** Those who spoke at Deliberative Session expressed support for this contract. Fire Supervisors received have no increases in 8 of the last 12 years, with the average increase being a little more than one-half of one percent. Social Security increases during that same period of time (for reference) averaged 2.5%.

**Those against say:** No one spoke against this article at Deliberative Session.



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**Fiscal Impact:** The average Hampton home valued at \$408,000 would bear an increased tax cost of \$9.38 in a 52-week period at current staffing levels. (Take your property value divided by 1000 and multiply by .023 to get your specific tax impact.)

## Article 12 – Collective Bargaining Agreement State Employees Association

Shall the Town of Hampton vote to approve the cost items included in the collective bargaining agreement reached between the Hampton Board of Selectmen and the State Employees Association of New Hampshire, Inc., SEIU Local 1984, AFL-CIO, CLC, which calls for the following increases in salaries and benefits at the current staffing level, over the amount paid in the prior fiscal year:

Estimated Increase	
Fiscal Year	(over previous year level)
2018 (39 weeks)	\$ 60,679
2019 (52 weeks)	\$121,796
2020 (52 weeks)	\$ 97,501
2021 (13 weeks)	\$ 18,910

And to further raise and appropriate \$60,679 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?

**What it means:** A “yes” vote approves the salary increases negotiated via the Collective Bargaining Agreement. The Agreement provides a 3% salary increase for each of the 3 years, starting in 2018.

**Those in favor say:** This agreement is for many of the Dept. of Public Works non-supervisory employees who start at \$14/hour. These Town employees have gone without an increase in 9 of the last 12 years, with an average increase of less than one-half of one percent. New hires are difficult to hire and keep because they find better paying jobs. Social Security increases during that same period of time (for reference) averaged 2.5%.

**Those against say:** No one spoke against this Article at Deliberative Session.

**Fiscal Impact:** The average Hampton home valued at \$408,000 would bear an increased tax cost of \$14.68 for a 52-week period at current staffing levels if this Article is approved. (Take your property value divided by 1000 and multiply by .036 to get your specific tax impact.)

## Article 13 – Two DPW Trucks - \$600,000/\$124,000 Lease

Shall the Town of Hampton vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to enter into a 5-year lease-purchase agreement for two (2) Mack Cab Over Trucks with Labrie Automated Side Loader Body units in the amount of \$620,000 and to raise and appropriate the sum of \$124,000 to fund said lease-purchase agreement in year one; said lease-purchase agreement shall contain a non-appropriation clause.



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**Those in favor say:** The existing 2010 sidearm packers have required approximately \$103,000 in repairs and labor in 2017 alone. A large part of the issue for these Trash/Recycling vehicles relates to the Exhaust Gas Recirculating (EGR) System, which takes the gases that are developed from the combustion process in an engine and “scrubs” them prior to being discharged through the exhaust stacks. The new trucks will not use this type of emissions system as they will use selective catalytic reduction (SCR) which uses diesel exhaust fluid (DEF) in conjunction with a catalyst to reduce nitrous oxide emissions. The proposed solution is a 5-year lease/purchase agreement for 2 side loaders at a total cost of \$620,000. The year 1 lease cost is \$124,000, which will cover exhaust, engine and other system repairs during the lease.

**Those opposed say:** No one spoke against this Article at the Deliberative Session.

**Fiscal Impact:** The \$124,000 lease cost in 2018 will create an additional tax for the average Hampton home valued at \$408,000 of \$15.09. (Your property value divided by 1000 and multiplied by .037 to get your tax impact.)

### Article 14 – Sidewalk Repairs and Paving Overlays \$316,231

Shall the Town of Hampton vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$316,231 for improvements to streets consisting of paving overlays, adjustments to structures to permit paving, repairs and replacements to drainage, repairs to sidewalks and driveway openings, crack sealing and curbing installation in accordance with the pavement management program or as required due to damage to roadways and improvements and repairs to Town Parking Lots and parking areas. Upon completion of the work scheduled in this warrant article, if funds remain unused the DPW may proceed to the next street(s) on their priority repair list until said unused portion is spent. Said appropriation to be offset by the State Highway Block Grant estimated to be \$316,231. This shall be a non-lapsing appropriation per RSA 32:7, VI and shall not lapse until the projects are completed or by March 31, 2020, whichever occurs sooner?

**What it means:** The Town of Hampton has been successful in receiving NH DOT Highway Grant Block aid that help to maintain Class IV and Class V “highways” (basically compact sections of town roads). Funds are applied to specific projects as identified by DPW and approved by the Board of Selectmen. The streets affected this year will be Ann’s Lane (Ann’s Terrace to Mill Road), Ann’s Terrace (Ann’s Lane south to the dead end), Ash Street (From Thorwald to Emerald) and Ashbrook Drive (from Morrill Street west in the circle).

**Those in favor say:** This will help Hampton to improve streets in need of repair, and the cost will be offset by a block grant from NH DOT.

**Those against say:** No one spoke in opposition to this Article at the Deliberative Session.

**Fiscal Impact:** Due to the NH DOT grant, there will be no tax impact.

### Article 15: Road Improvement Capital Reserve Fund - \$300,000

Shall the Town of Hampton vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$300,000 to be added to the Road Improvement Capital Reserve Fund created under Article 16 of the 1998 Annual Town Meeting in accordance with the provisions of RSA 35 for the purpose of maintenance and/or reconstruction of streets?



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**What it means:** This is essentially a savings plan so road work does not all need to be paid for in one year's tax bill.

**Those in favor say:** This is the fund that is paying for the work described in Article 9 (if that Article is approved.)

**Those against say:** No one spoke in opposition to this Article at the Deliberative Session.

**Fiscal Impact:** The average Hampton home valued at \$408,000 would bear an increased tax cost of \$36.71 if this article is approved. (Your property value divided by 1000 and multiply by .09 to get your specific tax impact.)

## Article 16: Human Services Agencies \$172,624

Shall the Town of Hampton vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$172,624 for the cost of Hampton's contribution to 20 human service agencies in the Seacoast in the amounts corresponding to the agency's requests in the right hand columns as follows:

	<u>2017 Funding</u>	<u>2018 Funding Request</u>
<b>Aids Response Seacoast</b>	\$2,700	\$2,700
<b>American Red Cross</b>	2,000	2,000
<b>Area Home Care &amp; Family Services</b>	12,000	12,000
<b>Big Brothers Big Sisters</b>	8,000	8,000
<b>Child Advocacy Center</b>	1,250	1,250
<b>Child and Family Services</b>	6,000	6,000
<b>Crossroads House</b>	15,000	15,000
<b>Families First Health &amp; Support Center</b>	10,000	10,000
<b>Haven Violence Protection &amp; Support Services</b>	7,500	7,500
<b>Lamprey Health Sr. Trans. Program</b>	4,200	4,200
<b>New Generation Shelter</b>	2,000	2,000
<b>Retired &amp; Senior Volunteer Program</b>	1,800	1,800
<b>Richie McFarland Children's Center</b>	7,800	7,800
<b>Rockingham Community Action</b>	25,000	25,000
<b>Rockingham Meals on Wheels</b>	6,625	7,174
<b>Seacoast Family Promise</b>	2,500	2,500
<b>Seacoast Mental Health Center</b>	8,000	8,000
<b>Seacoast Visiting Nurse</b>	40,000	40,000
<b>Seacoast Youth Services</b>	2,500	2,500
<b>Transportation Assistance for Seniors (TASC)</b>	9,600	9,600
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 174,475</b>	<b>\$ 172,624</b>

These twenty (20) human service agencies shall each be required to give a written report at the end of the calendar year or fiscal year 2018 to the Board of Selectmen highlighting what the funds were used for and what impact the funds had in assisting to achieve their goals and objectives.



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**What it means:** Each of the listed agencies will receive a donation from the town in the noted amount. The funds raised and donated last year are provided for comparison. This is an “all or none” Warrant Article. If the Article passes, all the listed agencies receive the specified donations. If it fails, none do.

**Those in favor say:** This is something our town does every year. These agencies handle social issues that the town would be dealing with if the agencies were not, so it saves the town money. Most of the agencies have some kind of formula that takes into account the number of people from Hampton who are served.

**Those against say:** This sort of funding should be voluntary, not mandated via property taxes. A person should not be required to support all of these agencies if he or she has a philosophical disagreement with any of them.

**Fiscal Impact:** The average Hampton home valued at \$408,000 would bear an increased tax cost of \$21.22 if this Article passes. (Take your property value divided by 1000 and multiply by .052 to get your specific tax impact.)

### **Article 17: \$131,814 to replace Kids Kingdom Playground and Tuck Field Fencing**

Shall the Town of Hampton vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$131,814 for the following purposes of the Parks and Recreation Department: (a) to replace the 22-year old Kids Kingdom Playground and (b) to replace the Tuck Field right field fencing and netting, as determined by the Board of Selectmen, the Town Manager and the Director of Parks and Recreation, and to authorize the withdrawal of \$131,814 from the Recreation Infrastructure Special Revenue Fund established for the purpose under Article 44 of the 2007 Annual Town Meeting?

**What it means:** Every year, the needs of the Parks and Recreation Department are identified, and the voters need to approve withdrawal of the requested dollars from an established fund.

**Those in favor say:** The projects will contribute to a safer play environment for the children of our town, and the costs have been covered by revenue generated in Town Parking lots.

**Those against say:** No one spoke against this article at the Deliberative Session.

**Fiscal Impact:** No tax impact, as there is an established fund for the Parks and Rec Department from which the funds are withdrawn with the approval of the voters.

### **Article 18: \$120,000 for Fire Department Software, Computers and Communications Equipment**

Shall the Town of Hampton vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$120,000 for the purpose of purchasing software, hardware, and services, including any necessary support items to upgrade the Fire Department's primary Dispatch, EMS, and records reporting services software, and to replace and upgrade computers and communications equipment and upgrade and outsource the Town's website hosting services, with said sum of \$120,000 to come from the Unassigned Fund Balance. This will be a non-lapsing appropriation per RSA 32:7, VI and shall not lapse until the work is completed or by March 31, 2020, whichever is sooner?



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**What it means:** This will purchase Computer-Assisted Dispatch for the Fire Department, replacing a system that is 14 years old and was developed for Police Departments. It does not fully address the needs of Fire operations.

**Those in favor say:** The hardware/software will help the Fire Stations to operate more efficiently.

**Those against say:** No one spoke against this article at the Deliberative Session.

**Fiscal Impact:** No tax impact because the \$120,000 cost would be withdrawn from the Unassigned Fund Balance, meaning that the taxpayers have already paid for it.

### **Article 19: Decorative Street Lighting at Hampton Beach - \$100,000**

Shall the Town of Hampton vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$100,000 for the purpose of installing new decorative street lighting at Hampton Beach on C, D, and F Streets and on Ashworth Avenue, including all engineering, design, procurement, shipping, delivery and installation costs, together with all related appurtenances and activities necessary or desirable to complete the purposes of this article, with the sum of \$100,000 to come from the Unassigned Fund Balance. This will be a non-lapsing appropriation per RSA 32:7, VI and shall not lapse until the work is completed or by March 31, 2020, whichever is sooner?

NOTE: Decorative lighting was installed in 2009 on A and B Streets as well as part of Ashworth Avenue in accordance with plans in the possession of the Town. The underground conduit already is in place on all of Ashworth Avenue and all of the lettered streets with only wiring and above ground decorative lighting left to be installed. The new lighting that was installed has greatly improved visibility and safety on the streets where lighting was completed; the old commercial street lighting was disconnected and removed and utility billing for the commercial street lighting has been terminated for those streets.

**What it means:** The description and notes above are self-explanatory.

**Those in favor say:** Much of the expensive work (underground conduits) has already been done, and the balance, which will be taken from the Unassigned Fund Balance, will not increase taxpayers costs in 2018.

**Those against say:** No one spoke against this article at the Deliberative Session.

**Fiscal Impact:** No tax impact in 2018 because the funds are being withdrawn from the Unassigned Fund Balance.

### **Article 20: \$100,000 to Study and Report on Beach Flooding**

Shall the Town of Hampton vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$100,000 for the purpose of hiring a consultant engineering firm to study and report on the impacts of, and solutions to, flooding from the Hampton River and Hampton Harbor onto and along the West Side Streets off of Ashworth Avenue, Brown Avenue, and the Island Path and Glade Path areas, and the flooding that occurs from New Hampshire Route 101 North to Winnacunnet Road, including NH Route 1A and in the areas surrounding Meadow Pond, including High Street, King's



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Highway, Gentian, Greene and Meadow Pond Roads, with said sum of \$100,000 to come from the Unassigned Fund Balance. This will be a non-lapsing appropriation per RSA 32:7, VI and shall not lapse until the work is completed or by March 31, 2020, whichever is sooner

**What it means:** An engineering firm will be tasked with studying how the water breaches existing environmental and man-made systems and floods the named streets. They will identifying possible solutions and costs.

**Those in favor say:** The flooding in the mentioned areas has become worse over time. There are days when even without any precipitation, the water pours onto Kings Highway (Kings Highway being just one example) and prevents homeowners from leaving or returning to their properties.

**Those against say:** No one spoke in opposition at the Deliberative Session, but subsequently some people expressed concerned that the problem is the rising tides, and there will not be an easy solution. Some people also point to the fact that history books indicate that flooding in the low lying areas is not a new phenomenon.

**Fiscal Impact:** No tax impact because the dollars are being withdrawn from the Unassigned Fund Balance.

### **Article 21: Police Forfeiture Fund \$90,000**

Shall the Town of Hampton vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$90,000 to carry out all lawful functions allowed under federal, state and local criminal justice forfeiture programs and to authorize the withdrawal of said sum of \$90,000 from the Police Forfeiture Special Revenue Fund created for that purpose under Article 55 of the 2003 Town Meeting?

**What it means:** During normal police operations, items of value may be forfeited by individuals. There are expenses associated with the management of such property, including storage, auctioning, returning items where appropriate, etc. NH law permits the auctioning of this property where appropriate, and the funds so received are put into a fund. Some of the money is used to cover the expenses of the forfeiture process. Excess funds may be used for other town costs.

**Those in favor say:** This is a standard, annual procedure. This year, the funds will be used to refurbish the Police Department Fitness Room.

**Those against say:** No one spoke against this Article at Deliberative Session.

**Fiscal Impact:** No tax impact.

### **Article 22: \$80,000 to Investigate and Preliminarily Design Storm Water Drainage System for Beach Area**

Shall the Town of Hampton vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$80,000 to conduct an investigation and preliminary design for a storm water drainage system for the King's Highway area from Winnacunnet Road to the closed 12th Street Sewer Pumping Station and from the closed 12th Street Sewer Pumping Station to High



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Street, to include Greene Street, Meadow Pond Road, Gentian Road and portions of High Street and the numbered streets where necessary and including the design for converting the abandoned sewer line and pumping station to move storm water in the new system, with said sum of \$80,000 to come from the Undesignated Fund Balance. This will be a non-lapsing appropriation per RSA 32:7, VI and shall not lapse until the work is completed or by March 31, 2020, whichever is sooner?

**NOTE** – These streets are regularly inundated with water covering and ponding in the roadways. The water is considered a traffic hazard due to the potential for freezing during the winter and also causes conflict during the summer when motorists are trying to avoid the water with pedestrians and bicyclists in the roadway. The elevation of the water table and the infiltration rates of the soils prevent water from being able to infiltrate into the subsurface areas. The grade of the roads and the saturated soils cause water to cover and pond in the roadways and flood yards along these streets.

**What it means:** This is related to the flooding issues of Article 20, in that they both address flooding but from different perspectives. Article 20 provides for the study and possible solutions to flooding in general, whereas Article 22 would address the issues with moving standing water away from the roads and homes once it has accumulated. There is a suspicion that the drainage in the Kings Highway area is not working properly - either the pipes are clogged or perhaps they are not large enough. The purpose of the study is to determine likely causes and to preliminarily design a drainage system to address those issues.

**Those in favor say:** Storm water drainage is long overdue along King's Highway. A light rain shower results in excessive standing water on the roadway.

**Those against say:** We have allowed the building of homes and roads in places that couldn't support it. Do we need a study to know where we went wrong?

**Fiscal Impact:** No tax impact because the dollars are being withdrawn from the Unassigned Fund Balance.

### **Article 23: Utility Pickup Truck for Fire Department - \$51,000**

Shall the Town of Hampton vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$51,000 for the purpose of purchasing and equipping a utility pickup truck with plow for the Fire Department; this vehicle will be multi-purpose: for use in the winter to haul equipment and materials for the clearing of fire hydrants; during warmer weather it is utilized in the forest fire role; it is also used to haul equipment to and from fire scenes and to tow all trailers belonging to Hampton Fire and Rescue trailers, including for transporting Marine 2. This shall be a non-lapsing appropriation per RSA32:7, VI and shall not lapse until this project is completed or by March 31, 2020, whichever is sooner?

**What it means:** The purpose as stated in the Warrant language above is self-explanatory.

**Those for and against say:** No one spoke either for or against this Article at the Deliberative Session, other than to explain it. The explanation is as laid out in the Warrant itself.





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**Fiscal Impact:** Approval of this purchase will create an additional tax cost for the average Hampton home valued at \$408,000 of \$6.12. (Your property value divided by 1000 and multiplied by .015 will give you your tax impact.)

### **Article 24: \$50,000 for Used Yard Horse Tractor for DPW**

Shall the Town of Hampton vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$50,000 for the purchase of the following replacement vehicle for the Department of Public Works one replacement yard horse tractor, the replaced vehicle to be traded in if deemed to be prudent by the Public Works Director, Town Manager and Board of Selectmen. This shall be a non-lapsing appropriation per RSA 32:7, VI and shall not lapse until these purchases are completed or by March 31, 2019, whichever is sooner?

**What it means:** DPW is looking for a used Yard Horse Tractor, a vehicle that helps to transfer trailers of trash or recycling within the Transfer Station, as well as to move salt around. The current truck is a 1980 vehicle that does not have the proper hydraulic connection to engage the pumps in the trailers. Due to the lack of hydraulics, DPW has had to manually empty the trailers to do repairs, and had to cut open a trailer due to a fire in bins that could not be accessed without the hydraulic lift.

**Those in favor say:** DPW has researched used trucks and they feel they can purchase a reasonable “previously used” vehicle for their purposes and save taxpayers some money.

**Those against say:** No one spoke against this Article at Deliberative Session.

**Fiscal Impact:** Approval of this purchase will create an additional tax cost for the average Hampton home valued at \$408,000 of \$6.12. (Your property value divided by 1000 and multiplied by .015 will give you your tax impact.)

### **Article 25: Landing Road Sidewalk Repairs \$50,000**

Shall the Town of Hampton vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$50,000 for the maintenance, repair, re-construction, replacement, and making ADA compliant of the Landing Road sidewalk from Route 101 to Winnacunnet Road. This shall be a non-lapsing appropriation per RSA 32:7, VI and shall not lapse until this project is completed or by March 31, 2020, whichever is sooner.

**What it means:** Funds are applied to specific projects as identified by the Department of Public Works and approved by the Board of Selectmen.

**Those in favor say:** Funds would be used for maintenance, reconstruction, repairs and ADA compliance for Landing Road from Route 101 to Winnacunnet Road.

**Those against say:** No one spoke against this Article at Deliberative Session.

**Fiscal Impact:** Approval of this purchase will create an additional tax cost for the average Hampton home valued at \$408,000 of \$6.12. (Your property value divided by 1000 and multiplied by .015 will give you your tax impact.)



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### Article 26: Assistant Town Clerk - \$44,662

Shall the Town of Hampton raise and appropriate the sum of \$44,662.00 for the purpose of hiring a full-time Assistant Town Clerk? NOTE: The warrant article contains the cost for 39 weeks from April 1, 2018 to December 31, 2018. Total yearly cost is \$59,549.

**What it means:** A new person would be added to the staff at Town Hall, with the task of being the second in command to the Town clerk, and helping to manage the Town Clerk responsibilities, including Motor Vehicle Registrations, Boat Registrations, Dog Licensing, OHRV Registrations, Hunting & Fishing Licenses, Vital Records & Marriage Licenses, Voter Registration, Election Administration (Day of as well as preparation months before including Absentee Ballots), Beach & Transfer Station Decals, Oaths of Office, Filing of Articles of Agreement, Filing of Burial Transit Permits, Filing of Wetlands Applications, Record Retention and Notary Services. If successful, a full year's salary would be \$59,549. The first year would start in April so the 2018 cost is less.

**Those in favor say:** Often, there is a long line of people waiting to be served at Town Clerk's Office. The existing staff is not sufficient to handle the ever-increasing workload on a normal day. On days when some members of the team are not available for any number of reasons (illness, family emergency, vacation, etc), the Town Clerk needs to stand in. But at certain times such as the ramp-up to Town Meeting, this is not feasible. The volume of work has increased almost 25% since 2007, yet staff hours are identical.

**Those against say:** A speaker at Deliberative Session noted that window hours have been re-structured so that the windows are open more hours Monday - Thursday and close early on Friday (a total of 39.5 hours per week). Although not clear, presumably the point was that more people would come later in the day on Friday if the windows were open then, thus reducing the lines during the rest of the week.

**Fiscal Impact:** The average Hampton home would bear an increased tax cost of \$6.93 for a 52- week period.

### Article 27: P/T Paralegal - \$21,057

Shall the Town of Hampton vote to raised and appropriate the sum of \$21,057 for the purpose of hiring a part-time paralegal in the Town Counsel's Office? NOTE: The warrant article contains the cost for 39 weeks from April 1, 2018 to December 31, 2018. Total yearly cost is \$28,075.

**What it means:** For over ten years, Town Counsel was assisted by a legal assistant who then became Assistant Town Counsel. But since 2014, that position has been vacant. Some work has been contracted to outside services and at points in time, Town Counsel has been assisted by an intern. With current workloads and resources considered, the voters are asked to again support an on-staff part-time legal assistant.

**Those for and against say:** No one spoke either for or against this Article at the Deliberative Session.

**Fiscal Impact:** The average Hampton home valued at \$408,000 would bear an increased tax cost of \$3.26 for a 52-week period if this Article passes. The cost per thousand of property valuation is .008.



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## Article 28: Study the Method of Charging for Sewer - \$20,000

Shall the Town of Hampton raise and appropriate the sum of \$20,000 to engage the services of a professional financial advisor/engineer to study and report back to the Board of Selectmen to advise the Board and the Town on whether a sewer enterprise fund should be created that would remove sewer costs and expenses from the annual budget as a tax supported sewer system, as opposed to one that is supported by billing based upon volume of input into the system. The report should include drafts of potential billing rates in accordance with statutes, the impact, if any, on the difference between billing for sewer changes verses maintaining said system on the property tax base, including the costs of bond payments for sewers by either method of payment, with said sum of \$20,000 to come from the Unassigned Fund Balance. This will be a non-lapsing appropriation per RSA 32:7, VI and shall not lapse until the work is completed or by March 31, 2020, whichever is sooner?

**What it means:** Currently, the cost of processing household waste via the Wastewater Treatment Facility is borne by taxpayers based on the valuation of their property. Those who make more use of the facility (example: restaurants and hotels) pay on the same basis (valuation) as those who use it only minimally (example those whose homes are not connected to the town's sewer system and only use the WWTF as a receiving point when their septic tank is pumped.) The study would evaluate various methods of charging by usage, thus removing the costs from the tax base. It would need to be determined how structural costs (plant upgrades as an example) would be handled as well as how businesses and state facilities would participate.

**Those in favor say:** Having an outside review is a good way to make the transition from a long-standing system to a completely different way to charge for sewer usage. The Town needs to be certain that all costs are covered in a new system, and that it is fair to all residents.

**Those against say:** Those who are against the Article simply question whether it is necessary, or if someone already employed by the Town couldn't figure out all the issues and how best to charge.

**Fiscal Impact:** No tax impact because the dollars would be withdrawn from the Unassigned Fund Balance.

## Article 29: Replenish Conservation Fund - \$40,000

Shall the Town of Hampton vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$40,000 to be placed in the Hampton Conservation Commission Fund; this fund is used to "acquire, maintain, improve, protect or limit the future use of, or otherwise conserve and properly utilize," open spaces and conservation easements in Hampton in accordance with RSA 36-A: Sections 1 through 4, inclusive. Recent acquisitions such as the Batchelder Farm Conservation Easement, have significantly reduced the size of the Fund, and the goal is to return the Fund to adequate levels to enable the Commission to conserve additional lands on behalf of the Town of Hampton?

**What it means:** This fund is a way of saving for opportunities. Voter approval of this Article each year is primarily how the Conservation Commission replenishes the fund it uses to acquire, preserve and maintain open spaces.

**Those in favor say:** Support of conservation land increases recreational opportunities and helps maintain open spaces to mitigate impacts of excess storm water and reduce resultant flooding. The availability of this fund has made possible the Victory Garden, hiking trails, skating on ice pond, etc. A taxpayer at Deliberative Session



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made the point that once open space is gone - it is gone forever. He felt the need to keep the balance of the fund at a level that allows quick action when parcels become available, and he was successful at Deliberative Session in getting the requested funds increased from \$20,000 to \$40,000 to be contributed to the fund in 2018. The Conservation Commission also uses this money for maintenance of town-owned open spaces and this year was able to replace the Ice Pond Dam out of funds previously made available through this Capital Reserve Fund.

**Those against say:** One speaker at Deliberative Session expressed a concern about the cost of contributing to the fund and the potential of escalating requests for the fund in future years.

**Fiscal Impact:** The average Hampton home valued at \$408,000 would bear an increased tax cost of \$4.89 if this Article passes. The tax impact is for this year only. The cost per thousand of property valuation is .012.

### **Article 30: Blacksmith Shop - \$20,000**

Shall the Town of Hampton vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$20,000 for the ongoing maintenance of the Town-owned Historic Blacksmith's Shop located off of Barbour Road, with said sum of \$20,000 to come from the Unassigned Fund Balance. This will be a non-lapsing appropriation per RSA 32:7, VI and shall not lapse until the work is completed or by March 31, 2020, whichever is sooner? NOTE – This structure is in need of a foundation, sill replacements, and replacement of selected siding.

**Those in favor say:** The old blacksmith shop, located at Victory Garden on Barbour Rd, is part of our cultural heritage. Right now, it isn't open to the public because the work that needs to be done makes the building unsafe. If this Article passes, and once the work is completed, the objective would be to open it for the public to appreciate.

**Those against say:** No one spoke against this Article at the Deliberative Session.

**Fiscal Impact:** No tax impact because the dollars would be withdrawn from the Unassigned Fund Balance.

### **Article 31: Replace Exterior Doors – Town Hall - \$15,000**

Shall the Town of Hampton vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$15,000 for the purpose of replacing the exterior doors on the Town Office Building. The doors would be replaced by sliding doors to prevent wind damage that is a continuing problem. Repairs to the doors, mostly from wind damage, has expended the sum of \$11,153 since 2009 and expenses are continuing?

**What it means:** The entry doors to Town Hall would be replaced by sliding doors.

**Those in favor say:** In the long-run, this will save the taxpayers money as the current doors have been costly to repair due to wind damage. It is also a safety issue.

**Those against say:** No one spoke against this Article at the Deliberative Session.

**Fiscal Impact:** The average Hampton home would bear an increased tax cost of \$2.04 if this Article passes.



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## Article 32: Hazardous Waste Collection Day - \$10,000

Shall the Town of Hampton vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$10,000 to conduct a Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day during calendar year 2018; and to authorize the Board of Selectmen (a) to permit the Towns of Hampton Falls and New Castle to participate in said collection day at their own expense; and (b) to apply for, accept and expend for such purposes any funds from the State of New Hampshire, the Federal Government, and any private source as may become available?

**What it means:** The Town previously had a fund to run the Hazardous Waste Collection Day, but the fund is now depleted. If Hampton residents wish to continue this event, it needs to be funded. Hampton Falls and New Castle would be invited to participate at their cost.

**Examples of Hazardous Waste:** Products such as paint thinner, spot remover, oven cleaner, furniture polish, drain opener, pool chemicals and hair spray are considered hazardous because they contain chemicals that are corrosive, explosive, reactive, flammable or toxic. Products containing mercury, including thermometers, thermostats, electrical switches and relays, fluorescent light bulbs, button cell batteries.

**Those in favor say:** Hazardous Waste Collection Day assures that hazardous materials are not left on the street or thrown in the trash. The town has applied for a Household Hazardous Waste Grant from NHDES to supplement the program. In prior years, the cost was \$20,000 but with offsets, this year will be half that.

**Those against say:** No one spoke against this Article at Deliberative Session.

**Fiscal Impact:** The average Hampton home valued at \$408,000 would bear an increased tax cost of \$1.22 if this Article passes. The tax impact is for this year only. The cost per thousand of property valuation is .003.

## Article 33: Petition the State of NH to Dredge Hampton/Seabrook Harbor

Shall the Town of Hampton vote to petition the State of New Hampshire, the United States Congress, the United States Army Corps of Engineers and the New Hampshire Port Authority to undertake the following with federal funds: a) to dredge Hampton/Seabrook Harbor, b) to restore the south shoreline of the Hampton River that has eroded some 120 feet of shoreline, west of the Hampton Harbor Bridge, and c) to construct an addition to the previous impervious barrier on both sides of Middle Ground, so called, separating the Blackwater River from Seabrook Harbor and the Hampton River to preserve the Middle Ground clam beds and to stop erosion of the Middle Ground and the silting of Hampton and Seabrook Harbors?

**What it means:** The Town will pursue all methods to encourage the various named entities to dredge the harbor as a way of restoring shoreline, helping to restore clam beds and making it easier for commercial and recreational boats to pass. Here is a link to a [Hampton Union article](#) discussing the issue.

**Those in favor say:** The silting in the harbor has progressed to a point where at low tide, boats have a difficult time getting through the harbor. A portion of Hampton's tax base is dependent upon boating activities.



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**Those against say:** No one spoke against this Article at the Deliberative Session.

**Fiscal Impact:** No tax impact.

## Article 34: Allow Keno in Hampton

Shall we allow the operation of keno games within the town?

**What it means:** State legislation has been passed allowing Keno to be played in NH towns. The proceeds will be distributed to municipalities throughout the state to offset the costs of all-day kindergarten. Towns do not need to approve keno to be qualified for the grants. Businesses that host Keno can keep up to 8 percent of the revenue generated, in addition to the extra sales of drinks and food boosted by increased customer participation.

**Those in favor say:** Why not allow the game to be played in Hampton, and gain the revenue from those who might otherwise go elsewhere to play?

**Those against say:** Portsmouth City Council recently voted against allowing the playing of Keno, and North Hampton did not put it on the ballot, deciding to wait and more carefully evaluate the pros and cons. The downside might be said to be the social issues that accompany any gaming activity, as well as a distrust of whether the educational funding will be reliably and equitably distributed to municipalities going forward.

**Fiscal Impact:** No tax impact.

## Article 35: Expand Veterans Tax Credit

Shall the Town of Hampton vote to adopt the provisions of the All Service Veterans' Tax Credit contained in RSA 72:28-b in accordance with the provisions of RSA 72:27-a that provides for a \$500 annual tax credit that is the same amount as the optional veterans tax credit under RSA 72:28 that has already been adopted by the Town. A person shall qualify for the all veterans' tax credit if the person is a resident of this state who served not less than 90-days on active service in the armed forces of the United States and was honorably discharged, or an officer honorably separated from service, or the spouse or surviving spouse of said resident, provided that Title 10 training for active duty by a member of a national guard or reserve shall be included as service under this paragraph; provided however that the person is not eligible for and is not receiving a credit under RSA 72:28 or RSA 72:35?

**What it means:** Currently, a qualifying veteran (or surviving spouse) can claim a \$500 credit against property taxes by way of service in specific wars or armed conflicts. RSA 72:28-b, which would be adopted in Hampton if Article 35 passes, provides that credit to all veterans with at least 90 days service time and an honorable discharge, regardless of whether they were engaged in armed conflict.

**Those in favor say:** All who spoke at Deliberative Session were in favor of this Article, stating that it is another way to support our veterans.



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**Those against say:** No one spoke against Article 35 at Deliberative Session.

**Fiscal Impact:** The property tax base will be slightly reduced to the degree that Veterans take advantage of the tax credit (which must be applied for). However, there will be no direct impact to taxpayers if this Article passes.

## **Article 36: Amending the Entertainment Activities Ordinance**

Shall the Town of Hampton vote to amend Entertainment Activities Ordinance Chapter 149 of the Code of the Town of Hampton as follows:

Section 149-15. A. (1) by striking the items in the box labeled Day/Night and substituting therefore the following: 12Noon to 11PM\* Monday through Thursday 75 dB

Section 149-15. A. (1) by striking the items in the box labeled Late Night and substituting therefore the following 11PM to 11:59 PM Friday, Saturday, Sunday, and legal holidays defined in RSA 288, 75 dB

Section 149-16. Police Attendance. by removing the figures 30% in the last line and substituting the figures 50% so that the last line in Section 149:16 reads "Payment for services of these personnel shall be borne by the licensee at current wage rates, plus 50%.

**What it means:** Passage of Article 36 would change the days and hours at which establishments could play music or any other entertainment above the noted decibels. It also increases the costs for businesses to utilize police detail when such additional support is deemed necessary.

**Those in favor say:** This is a good compromise between allowing the businesses to thrive and contribute to the tax base, while allowing their residential neighbors to enjoy their homes in peace.

**Those against say:** The ordinance would cause the entertainment businesses at the beach to essentially shut down after 11 pm. Considering that many of the businesses are only open for a limited number of months, removing hours of operation represents a significant revenue cutback for the owners, the employees and the bands or other entertainment sources. It will also reduce after-show options for those who attend an event at the Casino. Those who are against this Article point to Articles 39 or 40 as viable alternatives.

**Fiscal Impact:** No direct tax impact.

## **Article 37: Establish Town Forest By-laws**

Shall the Town of Hampton vote to adopt the following Town Forest Bylaws pursuant to RSA 31:39, I (a) and RSA 31:39, III, the Town of Hampton hereby ordains as follows:

### **I. PURPOSE**

The purposes of these Bylaws are:

- A. To maintain the Town Forest, in perpetuity, as open space for the enjoyment and education of the public.



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- B. To ensure the following benefits of the Town Forest:
  1. Protection of natural resources and wildlife habitat.
  2. Provision for traditional low-impact outdoor recreation and nature-based educational activities.
  3. Provision for other special uses of the Forest when and where appropriate.

## II. APPLICABILITY

These Bylaws shall apply to the Town-owned parcels listed in Table 1 below as well as to any additional parcels acquired hereafter by the Town as additions to the Town Forest.

Table 1 – Town-owned Parcels in the Town Forest

Map	Lot	Year	Name	Acres
59	2	1999	Barbour Rd Rear	3.70
59	1	2016	Off Barbour Rd	0.90
60	11	1991	Off Barbour Rd	15.00
75	1	1991	Barbour Rd Rear	4.00
75	4	1969	Off Woodland Rd	5.00
76	15	1992	11 Munsey Dr.	5.85
92	1	1998	Twelve Shares	19.00
92	2	1991	75 Barbour Rd	25.14
93	1	1991	Barbour Rd Rear	3.00
96	3	2007	205 Woodland Rd	12.89
110	3-C	2008	Barbour Rd	23.00
<b>Total</b>				<b>117.48</b>

## III. ACCESS HOURS

The Town Forest shall be open daily from one hour before sunrise to one hour after sunset. These access hours shall not apply to hunting by hunters holding valid NH Hunting Licenses during applicable hunting seasons.

## IV. PERMITTED USES

The following activities and uses are permitted within the Town Forest:

- A. Pedestrian uses, including but not limited to hiking/walking/running, bird watching, cross-country skiing and snowshoeing. Items carried in by hikers and other users must be carried out.
- B. Hunting in accordance with New Hampshire laws, rules, and regulations.
- C. Bicycling on non-motorized bicycles, but only on trails approved for that use by the Town Forestry Committee.
- D. Trail construction, repair, and management activities approved by the Town Forestry Committee.
- E. Forest and wildlife management activities approved by the Town Forestry Committee.
- F. Walking or running of leashed pet(s). All pet waste shall be removed and properly disposed of by the person(s) accompanying the animal.

## V. PROHIBITED USES

The following activities are prohibited within the Town Forest:

- A. Dumping of rubbish, waste, cigarette butts, leaves, brush, paper, or other materials and substances.
- B. Removal of or damage to any structure, signage, stonewalls, plants or other natural features.
- C. Construction or erection, other than by or for the Town Forestry Committee, of permanent tree stands, tent plat forms, or other structures.
- D. Target shooting or any other discharge of a firearm other than what is permitted in Section IV-B.
- E. Building and lighting of campfires.





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- F. Operation of Off-Highway Recreation Vehicles (OHRV) or motorized vehicles, except motorized wheelchairs and emergency vehicles.
- G. Uses for commercial purposes.
- H. The possession, consumption, or use of controlled substances or alcoholic beverages.
- I. Walking or running of unleashed pet(s).

## VI. OTHER USES

The following uses are allowed within the Town Forest with prior written approval from the Town Forestry Committee upon such terms as the Committee prescribes:

- A. Public functions/educational events
- B. Maple sugar sap collection
- C. Overnight camping

## VII. PENALTY

Violators who engage in any of the Prohibited Uses listed in Section V – Prohibited Uses, as well as those who fail to obtain prior written approvals for the uses set forth in Section VI – Other Uses, are subject to the penalties set forth below and the funds received in payment of such penalties shall ensure to the Forest Maintenance Fund in accordance with RSA 31:39, III.

First Offense	- \$100
Second Offense	- \$500
Third and succeeding offenses	- \$750

## VIII. SEVERABILITY

If any provision in these Bylaws is held to be invalid or unconstitutional by any court of competent jurisdiction, such holding shall not affect or invalidate any other provision in these Bylaws unless the purposes of these Bylaws cannot be achieved in the absence of the invalid provision.

## IX. REFERENCES

- A. For questions about these Bylaws and about uses of the Town Forest, please contact the Hampton Conservation Commission (603-929-5808)
- B. Please report any reckless or dangerous behavior to the Hampton Police Department (603-929-4444)

**What it means:** Open spaces on town-owned land known as “Twelve Shares” were designated as a Town Forest via voter approval of a Warrant Article in 2015. The By-Laws in Article 37, if passed by the voters, would specify permitted and non-permitted uses of the Town Forest.

**Those in favor say:** Setting out these basic rules is being done with the intention of making the Town Forest safe for all residents to enjoy.

**Those against say:** An attendee at Deliberative Session spoke against the prohibition of target shooting on town land. He proposed an amendment to remove that restriction, but the amendment was defeated.

**Fiscal Impact:** No tax impact.



# In The Know Hampton. A Thinking Voter's Resource.

## Article 38: Modify Fence Height Restrictions in Deeds for Former Town Lots

Upon Petition of at least twenty-five (25) legal voters of the Town of Hampton, New Hampshire, to see if the Town will vote to modify all fence height restrictions in deeds for former Town-leased lots to allow fences to be a maximum of four-feet high (matching the height of trash and recycling bins distributed by the Town and required for Town collection).?

**What it means:** The Town previously owned lots near the ocean that were leased and then ultimately sold to individual homeowners. These lots carried with them certain restrictions, including a maximum fence height of three feet. Much more recently, the town has distributed trash and recycling bins that are 4 feet tall. The petitioner is requesting that the fence height restriction be changed to 4 feet so that if homeowners wish to increase the height of their fence to hide the trash and recycling bins on non pick-up days, they may do so without applying to the Board of Selectmen for release of the deed restriction.

**Those in favor say:** Allowing homeowners with homes on former Town-owned leased land to erect a 4 foot high fence without the current administrative process would encourage more of these homeowners to do so. This would be a boon to the aesthetics of the neighborhoods where those lots exist. According to the petitioner, the deed-changing process could be managed in a number of ways.

**Those against say:** There did not seem to be objection to the idea of 4-foot fencing per se, but more to the fact that the lots need to be considered on a case-by-case basis, and that the deeds need to be changed individually. (The latter point was disputed by the proponent who feels there should be ways of accomplishing the objective.)

**Fiscal Impact:** No tax impact.

## Article 39: Amend Entertainment Activity Code and Licensing Requirements

UPON PETITION of Bryan Provencal and at least twenty-five (25) registered voters of the Town of Hampton, New Hampshire, to see if the Town will vote to amend Chapter 149 of the Code of the Town of Hampton: Entertainment Activities, as follows:

1. § 149-2. Purpose

ADD: "The longstanding commercial nature of the Business/Seasonal (BS) and the Business/Seasonal 1 (BS1) zones have always included and shall likely continue to include the providing of entertainment activity to many visitors who annually come to Hampton Beach. These beach businesses are the economic engine for the Town and the requirement of annual entertainment license for these zones is an unnecessary burden on those operators. The entertainment activity in these zones can be effectively and efficiently regulated by the hours of operation and the sound levels set forth in this ordinance and by the Hampton Police Department, when necessary."

2. § 149-5. License Required

ADD: However, no license hereunder shall be required by operators engaged in entertainment activities within the Business/Seasonal (BS) and the Business/Seasonal 1 (BS1) zoning districts."

3. § 149-9. Hours restricted



## In The Know Hampton. A Thinking Voter's Resource.

ADD: "The using, operating, or permitting of an entertainment activity, either inside or outside, in the BS or the BS1 zones shall not be allowed between the hours of 1:00 a.m. and 12:00 noon on any day of the week."

4. § 149-13A. Complaints, additional restrictions, or conditions  
"This section shall not apply to entertainment activity in the BS and the BS1 Zones."

5. § 149-15. Noise standards applied  
C. Noise Levels

ADD: "For entertainment activity in the BS or the BS1 zones, it shall be unlawful for an operator to emit or cause to be emitted any noise beyond the boundaries of his/her/its property in excess of eighty (80) decibels (db) measured in the A scale between 12:00 noon and 12:00 midnight and in excess of sixty (60) decibels (db) between 12:00 midnight and 1:00 a.m.

For determining the noise levels for entertainment activity in the BS and in the BS1 zones, the point at which the sound readings shall be taken and recorded shall be at those points which are located fifty (50) feet from the operator's property lines."

6. § 149-16 Police Attendance

This section is intended to and shall hereafter be applicable to both licensed operators of entertainment activity and to operators of entertainment activity within the BS and the BS1 zones."

7. § 149-19 Violations and penalties

This section is intended to and shall hereafter be applicable to both licensed operators of entertainment activity and to operators of entertainment activity within the BS and the BS1 zones."

**What it means:** This Article is offered as an alternative to Article 36. It is put forward to strike a balance between the desire of some people to enjoy peace and quiet in the evenings and the desire of others to enjoy music at beach establishments in the roughly 6 months that the Beach area businesses are active. This article slightly changes the decibels allowed but more importantly changes the hours that music can be played. A chart below the discussion of Article 40 lays out the specifics of what is changing. Article 39 also removes the requirement for an Entertainment Activity license, and makes the Police Department the responsible party for enforcement (as opposed to the Board of Selectmen or other departments.)

**Those in favor say:** Approval of this article allows people who go to the Casino for a show to have a place for after-show activities and music. It gives the businesses, employees and entertainers an extra hour of revenue generating time, which is critical to a business which can only operate within a fairly short season. By supporting the businesses, it also protects Hampton's important tax base. The businesses already need to maintain rigorous standards for their liquor license. The additional burden of maintaining an Entertainment Activities license is simply not necessary when the noise standards can be enforced via the Police Department (who are generally the ones involved in the evenings anyway.)

**Those against say:** People who come to the beach and rent houses want to be able to get some rest at night. Playing of music late into the night even at lower levels is disruptive and may drive people away.



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**Fiscal Impact:** No tax impact.

## **Article 40: Alternate Amendment of Entertainment Activities Code**

UPON PETITION of Bryan Provencal and at least twenty-five (25) registered voters of the Town of Hampton, New Hampshire, to see if the Town will vote to amend Chapter 149 of the Code of the Town of Hampton: Entertainment Activities, as follows:

(In the event that you agree that there must be changes to the regulations of Entertainment Activities at the Beach, but cannot agree with the entire foregoing Warrant Article # 39).

8. § 149-9. Hours restricted

ADD: "The using, operating, or permitting of an entertainment activity, either inside or outside, in the BS or the BS1 zones shall not be allowed between the hours of 1:00 a.m. and 12:00 noon on any day of the week."

9. § 149-15. Noise standards applied

D. Noise Levels

ADD: "For entertainment activity in the BS or the BS1 zones, it shall be unlawful for an operator to emit or cause to be emitted any noise beyond the boundaries of his/her/its property in excess of eighty (80) decibels (db) measured in the A scale between 12:00 noon and 12:00 midnight and in excess of sixty (60) decibels (db) between 12:00 midnight and 1:00 a.m.

For determining the noise levels for entertainment activity in the BS and in the BS1 zones, the point at which the sound readings shall be taken and recorded shall be at those points which are located fifty (50) feet from the operator's property lines."

**What it means:** The main difference between Article 40 and Article 39 is that Article 40 maintains the current Entertainment Activities License. The changes to the hours and decibel levels are the same.

**Those in favor say:** The people in favor of Article 39 have the same favorable things to say about Article 40. Please see that statement. They offer Article 40 for those who agree that the beach needs to be able to provide entertainment, but also feel that the licensing and enforcement procedures should remain as they are currently.

**Those against say:** The people against Article 39 have the same issues with Article 40. Please see that statement.

**Fiscal Impact:** No tax impact.

**The following chart** provides a summary of the current Entertainment Activities ordinances and how they would change with Articles 33, 39 and 40.



# In The Know Hampton. A Thinking Voter's Resource.

NOISE STANDARDS FOR ENTERTAINMENT ACTIVITIES				
	Current	Article 36	Article 39	Article 40
<b>License for Entertainment Activities</b>	Required	Same as Current	Eliminated for BS and BS1 Zones only	Same as Current
<b>Enforcement</b>	Bd of Selectmen, Police, Fire, Building or Health Depts.	Bd of Selectmen, Police, Fire, Building or Health Depts.	Police Dept.	Bd of Selectmen, Police, Fire, Building or Health Depts.
<b>Days/Hours of Noise Restriction</b>	Noon - 11 PM No higher than 75 dB (A)	Noon - 11 PM Mon-Thurs No higher than 75 dB (A)	Noon - midnight Mon-Sun No higher than 80 dB (A)	Noon - midnight Mon-Sun No higher than 80 dB (A)
	11 PM to 1 AM No higher than 50 dB (A)	11 PM - Midnight Fri - Sun No higher than 75 dB (A)	Midnight -1 AM Mon-Sun No higher than 60 dB (A)	Midnight -1 AM Mon-Sun No higher than 60 dB (A)
<b>Measurement Proximity</b>	Measured at nearest lot line	Measured at nearest lot line	Measured 50 ft from operator's property.	Measured 50 ft from operator's property.
<b>Police Detail Cost</b>	Wages + 30%	Wages + 50%	Wages + 30%	Wages + 30%

## Article 41: Christmas Parade \$3,000

On the petition of John Nyhan and at least 25 Hampton registered voters, shall the Town of Hampton raise and appropriate \$3,000 to pay to Experience Hampton, Inc., the organizer of the 2010 to 2017 Hampton Christmas Parades, to help defray the expenses of the 2018 Christmas Parade and related activities?

**What it means:** This is an annual donation to Experience Hampton to help fund the Christmas parade in town.

**Those in favor say:** The parade involves many groups within town, including businesses, schools and local officials. The total cost of the parade is \$15,000, of which the taxpayers are being asked to absorb a small fraction.

**Those against say:** No one spoke against this Article at Deliberative Session.

**Fiscal Impact:** The average Hampton home valued at \$408,000 would bear an increased tax cost of \$.41 if this Article passes. The cost per thousand of property valuation is .001.

## Article 42: Grist Mill Dam - \$100,000

On Petition of Kim Grondin and 25 or more registered voters, to see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$100,000 for the purpose of providing the additional funding needed to complete the reconstruction and associated activities of the Grist Mill Dam, also known as Mill Pond Dam. The sum of \$100,000 of this amount is to come from the Town's Unassigned Fund Balance. This will be a non-lapsing appropriation per RSA 32:7, VI and shall not lapse until the work is completed or by March 31, 2020, whichever is sooner?

Note: The additional funding is requested as the original value of the project was based on an opinion of cost



## In The Know Hampton. A Thinking Voter's Resource.

from preliminary plans completed over five years ago. Competitive Bids have been received for the reconstruction of the Dam and are based on actual field conditions and a fully engineered design. The State of New Hampshire Dam Bureau required the Town of Hampton to either repair or remove the existing dam or face daily fines for not complying with the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services Letter of Deficiency dated July 11, 2012. If this warrant article does not pass, a future warrant article will be required with additional money to meet the requirements of the State.

**What it means:** The Grist Mill Dam was originally approved by voters for minor repairs in 2012 at a cost of \$34,000. Later in 2012, the Town received a notice of deficiency from the state that required either decommissioning or reconstruction by the Town. In 2014, the voters agreed to decommission (deconstruct) it at a cost of \$400,000. The following year, a group of concerned citizens put forward a Warrant Article to rescind the deconstruction decision along with its funding but instead to raise \$650,000 to restore it. That funding was approved by the voters, but unfortunately, with the passage of time and with new engineering studies, the money raised with the latest appropriation was insufficient. The latest request for \$100,000 along with the earlier funding will allow the Town to complete the reconstruction of the Grist Mill dam.

**Those in favor say:** The Grist Mill is a critical part of our Town's heritage. It, along with the Blacksmith Shop, the two fish houses, the cooper shop and the school house on the Tuck museum grounds are the last of the early historic buildings left around. Once they are gone, they are gone forever. From a financial standpoint, if the Town does not proceed at this point - it will likely require additional funding to go back to the deconstruction plan. Some of the appropriated funds have already been spent on the engineering work to date. So the requested funds not only preserve an historic landmark, it is also the least expensive way forward.

**Those against say:** The taxpayers have already contributed to maintaining it. If more dollars are required, could the group of concerned citizens not raise the remaining balance privately? (There is also a lack of clarity about who owns the pond and dam. It had been generally believed that they are privately owned but more recent research indicates no conveyance of the pond and the dam to any party other than the Town of Hampton.)

**Fiscal Impact:** No tax impact in 2018 because the dollars would be taken from the Unassigned Fund Balance.

### **Article 43: Change Parking Configuration on Second Street**

On petition of Norman R. Hurley and 25 or more registered voters, shall the Town vote to move the fire lane from the south side of Second Street to the north side of Second Street.

**Background:** There are a maximum of three (3) on-street parking places on the north side of Second Street. The property owners on the north side of the street have adequate off-street parking.

There is a maximum of seven (7) on-street parking places on the south side of Second Street. The property owners on the south side of Second Street do not have adequate parking. The Planning Board approved a subdivision on the south side of Second Street to allow two condominiums in one single-family dwelling and allowed parking in what is now the fire lane.



## In The Know Hampton. A Thinking Voter's Resource.

This Article would resolve a public safety issue that occurs when the residents of the condominium park in the fire lane, and vehicles also park on the north side of the street.

**What it means:** Second Street is a very short, narrow road that runs between Kings Highway and Ocean Blvd. If vehicles park on both sides of the street, the remaining center passage is quite difficult to navigate. There is a fire lane on the south side of the street where cars are not allowed to park in order to allow emergency response vehicles to access the homes on that street and to have room to turn around when necessary. However, given the configuration of parking assigned to a nearby condo, people do park there for extended periods, causing a potential safety issue. The police have been called, but the issue continues.

**Those in favor say:** The petitioner (who lives on the north side of the street) has suggested that moving the fire lane to the north side of the street will allow those who live in the condo on the south side to have more room to park legally and would increase the likelihood that the fire lane would remain clear for everyone's benefit.

**Those against say:** There is no need to change to what has been working for residents for years. The Fire Chief evaluated the situation and decided there was no need for a change now, but he agreed to take another look at the situation when the season begins and traffic in the area increases.

**Fiscal Impact:** No tax impact.

### Article 44: Limit Salary Increases of Non-Unionized Employees Except for Via Warrant

On the petition of Sunny Kravitz and at least 25 Hampton registered voters, we request that a Warrant be placed on the 2018 Town Meeting of Hampton for the following:

Shall the voters of Hampton vote on all non-union wage and/or benefit increase that exceed the annual Social Security Cost of Living Adjustment.

For a number of years the Board of Selectmen has voted during the fall to grant wage and benefit increases to a few not elected non-union employees. In the future all such increases must be approved in a Warrant Article by the-tax payers of Hampton.

**What it means:** Some Town Hall employees do not belong to a union and are not elected. Those employees receive wage increases via an evaluation and recommendation process that culminates with a vote by the Board of Selectmen. The petitioner is asking that any such increases that are above the Cost of Living Adjustments afforded to Social Security recipients be placed as additional Warrant Articles rather than being approved by Town Boards.

**Those in favor say:** This would give voters more control over personnel costs for this group of employees.

**Those against say:** There are 31 full and part-time employees who can be described as non-union and non-elect-



## In The Know Hampton. A Thinking Voter's Resource.

ed. Their circumstances, evaluations, seniority and wage status will all be different and probably could not be incorporated into a single Warrant Article. So this would involve several Warrant Articles, but the voters would have no way of knowing who is deserving of what increase. In 2015, one Town employee tried asking for a wage increase by way of a Warrant Article. That Article was defeated and comments at the time were that even if you agree that the employee deserves a raise, the ballot is not the way to do it. With regard to that issue, a Letter to the Hampton Union commented that personnel administration should not take place in the ballot box.

No rationale is provided for tying wage increases of working people to the increases of retired people on a fixed income. People receiving Social Security get an increase every time the Cost of Living Adjustment is positive. Town employees often go years without getting any increase at all. Further, payroll deductions on the part of working men and women is what supports the current beneficiaries of Social Security. There is no guarantee that workers currently paying in to the Social Security will ever be able to collect from the system themselves. It is important that they save for their own retirement, and they need appropriate increases to be able to do that.

**Fiscal Impact:** No direct tax impact.

### **Article 45: Construction of Sidewalk Where There Is None Now - \$520,000**

(As Petitioned) Shall the town of Hampton vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$520,000 for the construction of an Americans with Disability Act (ADA) compliant six-foot sidewalk on the West side of Mace Road including installation of ADA compliant ramps and crosswalks connecting Mill Road to High Street.

**What it means:** The petitioners who put forward this article are asking for just over a half-mile of sidewalk to be installed along Mace Rd. There are already sidewalks along 2 portions of a large triangle including Mill Road and High Street. But Mace Road, used by many families to access Five Corners Park, Marston School and Hampton Academy as well as to jog and ride bikes, does not have a sidewalk.

**Those in favor say:** DPW has assisted with identifying the engineering requirements and the cost estimate for the project. No property would need to be taken by eminent domain, because the Town already owns the land necessary to complete the work. In fact, the homes along the route would likely have improved "curb appeal" because there would be a sidewalk separating them from a highly-utilized vehicular roadway. The project is about the safety of the townspeople and especially the children who use the road daily.

**Those against say:** Although there does not seem to be any disagreement that this would be an improvement for the town and for the area, those who are against it point to either the cost or other pressing priorities in town.

**Fiscal Impact:** The average Hampton home valued at \$408,000 would bear an increased tax cost of \$63.63 if this Article passes. The tax impact is for this year only. The cost per thousand of property valuation is .156.

### **Article 46: Remove and/or Trim Dead or Dying Trees in Town Cemeteries - \$50,000**





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On the petition of MaryRae Preston and at least 25 registered voters, shall the Town of Hampton raise and appropriate the sum of \$50,000 to remove and/or trim dead or dying trees in the Hampton cemeteries for health, safety, and aesthetic purposes.

**What it means:** The Town of Hampton owns cemeteries in town, the largest of which are the High Street cemetery and the Pine Grove cemetery. There are many trees, and quite a few are dead or dying or have large branches that are compromised. The Trustees put forward Article 46 because they feel that it is a basic maintenance obligation of the Town and that the hazard exists for visitors, cars passing by and neighboring homes (especially true of Pine Grove).

**Those in favor say:** The cemeteries are on town-owned land and we need to address this safety issue.

**Those against say:** No one spoke against this Article at Deliberative Session.

**Fiscal Impact:** The average Hampton home valued at \$408,000 would bear an increased tax cost of \$6.12. The cost per thousand home valuation is .015.

### Article 47: Lend Support for Offshore Wind Power

By petition of the following registered voters of Hampton, to be placed on the 2018 Town warrant, shall the Town express its support to Governor Sununu for New Hampshire to join Massachusetts and Maine and study the feasibility of developing offshore wind power in the Gulf of Maine? The Town will provide written notice urging Governor Sununu to request the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) to form an intergovernmental task force. A bipartisan NH legislative committee studied the potential for offshore wind in 2014 and recommended the establishment of this task force. Floating wind turbines located offshore in federal waters and barely seen from land, combined with other renewable energy will move NH to 100% renewable energy by 2050. The building of offshore wind farms will bring a significant number of jobs and revenue to New Hampshire.

**What it means:** Wind power has the potential to help the state move towards renewable energy. Once a tower is built, it takes a couple of years to recover the investment, but after that, the wind produces what amounts to almost free electricity. That can last for about 20 to 25 years until the turbines need to be replaced. There is no cost to the town for the study, but a study is required before any further planning can be done. The study will be managed by the Bureau of Ocean Engineering Management at the invitation and request of Governor Sununu. If Article 47 is approved, Hampton will communicate to the Governor to ask that he request the study.

**Those in favor say:** Wind energy is a good alternative to natural gas pipelines and bringing in hydroelectric power from Quebec, Canada. The petitioned warrant article asks the state to look into offshore wind power development. There is no commitment.

**Those against say:** Those against the study point to the challenges of a relative neophyte industry and the high up-front costs of establishing wind farms.

**Fiscal Impact:** No Tax Impact.



# In The Know Hampton. A Thinking Voter's Resource.

## **Article 48: Prohibit Smoking on Town Beaches**

To the Selectmen of Hampton: The undersigned legal voters of the Town of Hampton NH request you to insert in the warrant for the next Town meeting the following article:

Prohibit Smoking on all Town Beaches in Hampton

**What it means:** The petitioners are asking the Town to disallow smoking on town-owned beaches.

**Those in favor say:** Breathing second-hand cigarette smoke and catching cigarette butts between your toes can ruin a family day at the beach. The petitioners want to send a message that for the sake of everyone, smoking should be disallowed at the beach.

**Those against say:** The beaches for the most part are state-owned, so the state (not the Town) would need to change the rules.

**Fiscal Impact:** No Tax Impact.

## **Article 49: One Sky Community Services - \$5,100**

We, the undersigned residents of Hampton, Petition the Town of Hampton to place on the warrant the request to see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the amount of \$5,100 to support One Sky Community Services in their efforts to provide vital support and services to those individuals with developmental and intellectual disabilities who reside in the Town of Hampton, in the Town's 2018 budget.

**What it means:** One Sky Community Services helps people with disabilities to get the training they need to live purposeful lives. The amount of \$5,100 was determined by multiplying the number of served adults from Hampton (51) times \$100 (a portion of what it costs to provide work training). If the voters agree to support this organization in 2018, they will be added to the list of agencies supported via the Social Services Warrant Article in 2019.

**Those in favor say:** Our communities are best served when all individuals contribute at their highest levels. This agency assists people with developmental disabilities to acquire the skills they need to get jobs and to live fulfilling lives.

**Those Against say:** No one Spoke against this article at Deliberative Session.

(Article 49 is the final article on the main ballot for 2018.)

**See printable checklist for recording your voting selections on the next page.**



**2018 Hampton Town Meeting Tuesday March 13th**

**You at Windmont High School on Tues. 3/13 from 7 AM to 8 PM.  
You may bring this also with you when time in the ballot booth.**

**Candidates for Office - circle your choice. You may also write in a candidate.**

	Term	# of Positions	# of Candidates	Candidate Names				
Selectman	3 Yrs	2	3	Timothy Jones	Brendan McNamee	Byron Provost	Jim Waddell	MaryLouise Woolley
Town Moderator	3 Yrs	1	1	Robert Cassano				
Supervisor of Checklist	3 Yrs	1	1	No One Declared				
Tax Collector	3 Yrs	1	1	Tanya Bennett				
Trustee of Tr. Funds	3 Yrs	3	3	Nancy Andrews	John C. Blitzer	Russell J. MacLellan		
Library Trustee	3 Yrs	2	2	Jayakrishi Ahluwalia	Elizabeth S. Kenock			
Planning Board	3 Yrs	2	2	Tracy Griesick	Mark J. Dixon			
Cemetery Trustee	3 Yrs	1	2	Mary Blackwell	Lisa Pines			
Budget Committee	3 Yrs	2	3	Sandy Kravitz	Michael Plovitis	Brian Warburton		
Zoning Board	3 Yrs	2	2	Norma Collins	Bill O'Brien			

**For the balance of the articles, circle if you are choosing to vote "yes" or "no".**

Article	Text	Yes	No
1	Swing- New Personal Service Establishment Category	Yes	No
2	Swing- New Day Care Center Category of Business	Yes	No
4	Swing- Clarification of Professional Office in residential districts	Yes	No
5	Swing- Provide further clarification for Accessory Dwelling Units	Yes	No
6	Swing- Professional Office to double the required lot size- new construction	Yes	No
7	Upgrade to Wastewater Treatment Facility	Yes	No
8	Operating Budget	Yes	No
9	\$1,000,000 from Reserve Fund for Street Repairs and Reconstruction	Yes	No
10	Collective Bargaining Agreement with Town Employees in Local 630	Yes	No
11	Collective Bargaining Agreement with Fire Supervisory Association	Yes	No
12	Collective Bargaining Agreement with Public Employees Association	Yes	No
13	Two DFW Trucks - \$666,000/\$124,000 Loans	Yes	No
14	Warrant Repairs and Parking Overlap	Yes	No
15	Deed Improvement-Capital Reserve Fund	Yes	No
16	Human Services Approver-\$172,621	Yes	No
17	Girls Hampton Playground and Track Field Parking	Yes	No
18	Fire Department Software, Computers and Communication Equipment	Yes	No
19	Decorative Street Lighting at Hampton Street	Yes	No
20	Study and Report on Beach Erosion	Yes	No
21	Police Recruits Fund \$75,000	Yes	No
22	Preliminary Design Storm Water Drainage System for Beach Area	Yes	No
23	Utility Hiding Track for Fire Department	Yes	No
24	Wood Yard Drive Driveway for DFW	Yes	No
25	Landing Road-Deed with Repairs	Yes	No
26	Assistant Town Clerk	Yes	No
27	P/T Personnel	Yes	No
28	Study the Method of Charging for Power	Yes	No
29	Regional Conservation Fund	Yes	No
30	Wickham's Shop	Yes	No
31	Replace Interior Doors - Town Hall	Yes	No
32	Eliminate Waste Collection Day	Yes	No
33	Petition the State of NH to Bridge Hampton/Dunstable Border	Yes	No
34	Case in Hampton	Yes	No
35	Special Veterans Tax Credit	Yes	No
36	Amending the Entertainment Activities Ordinance	Yes	No
37	Establish Town Forest Bylaws	Yes	No
38	Monthly Fence Height Restrictions in Woods for Former Town Lots	Yes	No
39	Annual Entertainment Activity Code and Licensing Regulations	Yes	No
40	Alternate Amendment of Entertainment Activities Code	Yes	No
41	Christmas Parade	Yes	No
42	Grid Mill Run - \$100,000	Yes	No
43	Change Parking Configuration on Percival Street	Yes	No
44	Limit Salary Increases of Non-Unioned Employees Except for The Warrant	Yes	No
45	Construction of Sidewalk When There is None Now	Yes	No
46	Remove and/or Tilt Road or Other Road in Town Center	Yes	No
47	Land Survey for Offshore Wind Power	Yes	No
48	Prohibit Smoking on Town Beaches	Yes	No
49	One-Block Commercial Vehicle Loading	Yes	No

REMEMBER TO VOTE ON MARCH 13TH. YOU CAN BRING YOUR NOTES WITH YOU TO THE BALLOT BOOTH TO SAVE TIME. THANKS FOR BEING A THINKING HAMPTONITE.