

Town of Mason
New Hampshire
Warrant and Budget
2015

The Polls will be open from 11:00AM to 7:00PM at Mason Town Hall. To the inhabitants of the Town of Mason, in the County of Hillsborough, in said State, qualified to vote Town affairs:

You are hereby notified to come to the polling place at the Mason Town Hall, 7 Meetinghouse Hill Rd, at 11:00 AM on Tuesday, March 10th, 2015, for the election of Town officers pursuant to Article 1 of this Warrant. To choose the following Town offices:

Article 01: To choose all necessary Town Officers for the ensuing terms.

Selectmen	3 years
Town Clerk/Tax Collector	3 years
Treasurer	3 years
Library Trustee	3 years
Trustee of Cemeteries	3 years
Trustee of Trust Funds	3 years

And to cast your ballots pursuant to Article 2 regarding adopting the provisions of RSA 40:13 (known as SB 2), as petitioned. Article 2 was reviewed at a public hearing on February 24, 2015

Article 02: To see if the Town will vote to adopt the provisions of RSA 40:13 (known as SB 2) to allow official ballot voting on all issues before the Town. By petition. 3/5 vote required.

The polls will be open continuously until 7:00PM when they shall close. You are hereby notified also to meet at Mason Elementary School at 9:00AM on Saturday, the 14th day of March, 2015, to act upon Articles of this Warrant.

Article 03: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Seventy Six Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$76,500) for the purpose of purchasing a backhoe at a cost of One Hundred Five Thousand Dollars (\$105,000) less trade in credit of Twenty Eight Thousand, Five Hundred Dollars (\$28,500) for the Mason Highway Department and to authorize the issuance of a five (5) year bond in accordance with the provisions of the Municipal Finance Act (RSA 33) in the amount of Seventy Six Thousand, Five Hundred Dollars (\$76,500) and to authorize the municipal officials to issue and negotiate such bond and to determine the rate of interest thereon. Recommended by the Selectmen. (2/3 ballot vote required)

Article 04: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of One Million Six Hundred Twenty Nine Thousand, Twenty One Dollars (\$1,629,021), which represents the operating budget, or take any other action relative thereto. Said sum is exclusive of all Special or Individual Articles addressed. Recommended by the Selectmen. (Majority vote required)

Article 05: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the amount of Forty Five Thousand Dollars (\$45,000) to purchase and equip a police cruiser with the funding as follows: Thirty Six Thousand Dollars (\$36,000) from the Police Cruiser Capital Reserve Fund, created for this purpose and the balance of Nine Thousand Dollars (\$9,000) to come from general taxation, or take any other action relative thereto. Recommended by the Selectmen. (Majority vote required.)

Article 06: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000) for the repair and maintenance of the Town's paved roads, or take any other action relative thereto. Recommended by the Selectmen. (Majority vote required)

Article 07: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000) to be added to the Fire Department Building Reserve Fund previously established. Recommended by the Selectmen. (Majority vote required.)

Article 08: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Twenty Thousand Four Hundred Ninety Six Dollars (\$20,496) for the purchase of 4 Scott AP75 Airpacks with face pieces for the Fire Department. Recommended by the Selectmen. (Majority vote required)

Article 09: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Two Thousand Three Hundred and Ninety-Two (\$2,392) for the purpose of purchasing one (1) Scott RIT Airpack. Recommended by the Selectmen (Majority vote required)

Article 10: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Four Thousand Seven Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$4,750) for the purchase of 5 SCBA Carbon Fiber Bottles. Recommended by the Selectmen. (Majority vote required)

Article 11: To see if the Town will vote to establish a 250th Anniversary Celebration Expendable Trust Fund per RSA 31:19-a, for the 250th Town anniversary celebration in 2018 and to raise and appropriate Two Thousand Dollars (\$2,000) to put in the fund, with this amount to come from taxation; further to name the Selectmen as agents to expend from said fund. Recommended by the Selectmen.

Article 12: To see if the Town will authorize the Board of Selectmen to take all reasonable and prudent actions to oppose the proposed Northeast Energy Direct high pressure gas pipeline, lateral line, and appurtenances, and all reasonable and prudent actions necessary to mitigate the impact thereof on the land and people of the Town of Mason. Such actions may include but are not limited to participating directly in all Federal and State regulatory processes related to such pipeline project, joining in coalition with the selectmen of other affected New Hampshire towns in opposing or mitigating the effects of the proposed project, and hiring legal professionals and consultants to advise and appear on behalf of the Town of Mason in regulatory and/or judicial proceedings related thereto. This authorization shall remain in effect until rescinded by a vote of the town meeting. Recommended by the Board of Selectmen.

Article 13: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Eighty Thousand Dollars (\$80,000) to be expended at the discretion of the Board of Selectmen in opposition to the proposed Northeast Energy Direct high pressure gas pipeline, lateral line, and appurtenances, and/or to minimize the impact thereof on the land and people of the Town of Mason, including but not limited to expenditures for legal representation and consultants, land use planning and zoning consultation, public information purposes, administrative and court filing fees, participation in multi-town coalitions, and any and all other expenses reasonably related to opposing said pipeline project and/or mitigating the effects thereof. This will be a non-lapsing appropriation per RSA 32-7, VI and will not lapse until December 31, 2018. Recommended by the Board of Selectmen.

Article 14: To see whether the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen to take action to release restrictive covenants that have been placed on Map B, Lot 24, so that the owners may construct lawful improvements on this parcel, and, further, to authorize the Selectmen to convey any interest in said property necessary to facilitate the same, for such consideration and on such terms and conditions as the Selectmen deem prudent and in the best interest of the Town.

Article 15: To see if the Town will urge; That the New Hampshire State Legislature shall join more than 500 municipalities and 16 other states, including all other New England states, in calling upon Congress to move forward a Constitutional Amendment that 1) clarifies that constitutional rights were established for people, not corporations, unions, or other artificial entities and, 2) guarantees the right of our elected representatives and of the American people to safeguard fair elections through authority to regulate political spending; That the New Hampshire Congressional delegation shall support such a constitutional amendment; That the New Hampshire State Legislature shall support such an amendment when it is approved by Congress and sent to the State for ratification; That the record of the vote approving this article shall be transmitted by written notice to Mason's Congressional delegation, and to Mason's State Legislators, and to the Governor of New Hampshire, and to the President of the United State, informing them of the instructions from their constituents, by the Town of Mason's Office of the Selectmen within 30 days of the vote. (as petitioned)

Article 16: To see if the Town will vote to discontinue the practice of paying for any medical and dental benefits for any town employee that is not currently and actively employed full time by the Town of Mason and to rescind and discontinue paying for anyone receiving this benefit.

To be determined by a ballot vote. (as petitioned)

Article 17: To see if the Town will vote to require any town employee that receives medical and dental benefits to contribute 20 percent towards the cost of medical and dental benefits: effective immediately.

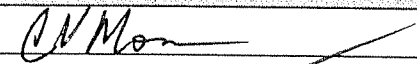

To be determined by a ballot vote. (as petitioned)

Article 18: Shall the Town of Mason vote to adopt the provisions of RSA 72:61 through 72:64 inclusive, which provide for an optional property tax exemption from the property's assessed value, for property tax purposes, for persons owning real property, which is equipped with photo voltaic (solar energy systems), intended for use at the immediate site. Such property tax exemption shall be in the amount equal to 100% of the assessed value of qualifying equipment under this statute. From the New Hampshire Office of Energy and Planning:
"The goal of the exemption is to create a tax neutral policy within a municipality that neither increases an individual's property tax, nor decreases the municipality's property tax revenues. By implementing it as a tax neutral policy, homeowners do not have a disincentive of higher property taxes for installing a renewable energy system, since there is no net reduction in municipal tax revenues, other taxpayers in a municipality are not affected" (as petitioned)

Article 19: The gravel part of Starch Mill Road shall be restored to the width, grade, and appearance of five years ago. Excess piles of gravel and other material shall be removed. Drainage shall be restored such that most water flows into the woods and drainage streams adjacent to the road rather than running in canals in the road. Landowners and abutters shall be consulted by the highway department as to the prior condition, and the road shall be restored according to their recollection and wishes. Lawns, woods, and other property adjacent to the road shall also be restored. If this requires restoration of loam, plantings, etc., it shall be done by the highway department in accordance with landowners' recollection and guidance. (as petitioned)

Given under our hands, <<DATE>>

We certify and attest that on or before February 23, 2015, we posted a true and attested copy of the within Warrant at the place of meeting, and like copies at 16 Darling Hill Rd, and delivered the original to the Town Clerk.

Printed Name	Position	Signature
Charles V. Moser	Selectman	
Bernard J. D'Grady	Selectman	
LOUISE M. LAVOIE	Selectman	