

TOWN OF LEMPSTER BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
**Approved Public Hearing Minutes**  
**February 14, 2023**

**Board Present:** Mary Grenier, Via phone Everett Thurber and Traci Homol  
arrived at 6:48P.M.

Administrative Assistant Robin Cantara

**Others Present:** David Richards, Barbara Richards, Phil Tirrell, Linda Callahan, Joseph Moulton Jr., Scott Goodspeed, Jennifer Gildner-Blinn, Read Gildner-Blinn, Kevin Onnela and Daryl Simino.

Mary called the hearing to order at 6:30 PM.

The Warrant as presented below was read by Mary.

**Article 03      General Town Operations**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,552,095.00 for general municipal operations. This article does not include appropriations contained in special or individual articles addressed separately. The Selectmen recommend this appropriation. (Majority vote required)

Executive	\$85,640.00
Election & Registration	\$75,885.00
Financial Administration	\$15,520.00
Appraisal of Property	\$23,000.00
Legal Expenses	\$20,000.00
Personnel Administration	\$217,700.00
Planning Board	\$15,000.00
General Government Buildings	\$23,500.00
Cemeteries	\$8,500.00
Insurance Property & Liability	\$23,727.00
Contingency	\$25,000.00
Police Budget	\$69,278.00
Ambulance Service	\$12,000.00
Rescue Squad	\$24,245.00
Fire Department	\$78,885.00
Forest Fire	\$6,650.00
Building Inspection	\$2,850.00
Emergency Management	\$2,050.00
Highway Department	\$464,370.00
Street Lights	\$1,020.00
Solid Waste	\$127,550.00
Health Officer	\$2,550.00
Animal Control	\$3,000.00
Health Agencies	\$7,862.00
Direct Assistance	\$7,000.00
Parks & Recreation	\$4,750.00
Library	\$19,000.00
Patriotic Purposes	\$500.00
Conservation Commission	\$5,100.00
Principal Bonds & Notes	\$166,038.00
Interest Bonds & Notes	\$13,925.00

*Mary stated the operating budget is up by 7% due to inflation.*

**Article 04      Town Records Preservation**

To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$2,000.00 to be added to the Town Records Preservation Capital Reserve (CIP 013) previously established. The Selectmen recommend this appropriation. (Majority vote required)

**Article 05      Emergency Communication and Power**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$500.00 to be added to the Emergency Communication and Power Generation Equipment Capital Reserve (CIP 004) previously established. The Selectmen recommend this appropriation. (Majority vote required)

**Article 06      Town Building CR**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$8,000.00 to be added to the Town Building Repair Expendable Trust (CIP 012) previously established. The Selectmen recommend this appropriation. (Majority vote required.)

**Article 07      Emergency Response CR**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$500.00 to be added to the Emergency Response Capital Reserve (CIP 051) previously established. The Selectmen recommend this appropriation. (Majority vote required)

**Article 08      Forest Fire Truck CR**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$5,000.00 to be added to the Forest Fire Truck Capital Reserve Fund (CIP 055) previously established. The Selectmen recommend this appropriation. (Majority Vote Required)

**Article 09      Emergency Water Supply System CR**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$5,000.00 to be added to the Emergency Water Supply System Capital Reserve (CIP 006) previously established. The Selectmen recommend this appropriation. (Majority vote required)

**Article 10      Fire Department Equipment CR**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$15,000.00 to be added to the Fire Department Equipment Capital Reserve (CIP 036) previously established. The Selectmen recommend this appropriation. (Majority vote required)

**Article 11      Rescue Equipment CR**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$2,000.00 to be added to the Rescue Equipment Capital Reserve (CIP 052) previously established. The Selectmen recommend this appropriation. (Majority vote required)

**Article 12      Rescue Squad Truck CR**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$8,500.00 to be added to the Rescue Squad Truck Capital Reserve (CIP 054) previously established. The Selectmen recommend this appropriation. (Majority vote required)

**Article 14      Town Office Information Technology CR**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$3,500.00 to be added to the Town Office Information Technology Capital Reserve (CIP 037) previously established. The Selectmen recommend this appropriation. (Majority vote required)

**Article 15      Town Bridge ET**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$25,000.00 to be added to the Town Bridge and Culverts Expendable Trust (CIP 018) previously established. The Selectmen recommend this appropriation. (Majority vote required)

**Article 16      Town Highway Equipment CR**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$20,000.00 to be added to the Town Highway Equipment Capital Reserve (CIP 026) previously established. The Selectmen recommend this appropriation. (Majority vote required)

**Article 17      Road Reconstruction and Paving CR**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$150,000.00 to be added to the Road Reconstruction and Paving Capital Reserve (CIP 048) previously established. The Selectmen recommend this appropriation. (Majority vote required)

**Article 18      Grader CR**

To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$30,000.00 to be added to the Grader Capital Reserve (CIP 057) previously established. The Selectmen recommend this appropriation. (Majority vote required)

**Article 19      Long Pond Wharf**

To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$30,000.00 for the purpose of removing and replacing 90 feet of the existing log bumper on the Long Pond Wharf with non- treated logs. The Selectmen recommend this appropriation. (Majority vote required)

**Article 20      Transfer Station Equipment CR**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$2,000.00 to be added to the Transfer Station Equipment Capital Reserve (CIP 021) previously established. The Selectmen recommend this appropriation. (Majority vote required)

**Article 21      Professional Assistance Contingency**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$5,000.00 to be added to the Professional Assistance Contingency Capital Reserve (CIP 058). The Selectmen recommend this article. (Majority vote required)

*Previously established was added.*

**Article 22      Landfill Closure CR**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,000.00 to be added to the Landfill Closure Capital Reserve (CIP 022) previously established. The Selectmen recommend this appropriation. (Majority vote required)

**Article 23      New Cemetery CR**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,000.00 to be added to the New Cemetery Capital Reserve (CIP 023) previously established. The Selectmen recommend this appropriation. (Majority vote required)

**Article 24 Elderly Exemption**

Shall the town MODIFY the provisions of RSA 72:39-a for elderly exemption from property tax in the Town of Lempster, based on assessed value, for qualified taxpayers, to be as follows: for a person 65 years of age up to 75 years, \$40,000.00; for a person 75 years of age up to 80 years, \$60,000.00; for a person 80 years of age or older \$80,000.00. To qualify, the person must have been a New Hampshire resident for at least 3 consecutive years, own the real estate individually or jointly, or if the real estate is owned by such person's spouse, they must have been married to each other for at least 5 consecutive years. In addition, the taxpayer must have a net income of not more than \$20,000.00 or, if married, a combined net income of less than \$28,000.00; and own net assets not in excess of \$70,000.00 excluding the value of the person's residence. (Majority vote required)

**Article 25 Optional Veteran's Tax Credit**

Shall the town READOPT the OPTIONAL VETERANS TAX CREDIT in accordance with RSA 72:28, II, for an annual tax credit on residential property of \$300.00? (Majority vote required)

**Article 26 Resolution by Petition**

To see if the Town will vote to adopt the following resolution, to read as follows: Be it resolved that the Select Board shall, pursuant to RSA 31:41-a, motor vehicle race tracks, make bylaws, with the advice of the Planning Board, relating to the regulation and licensing of motor vehicle race tracks within the limits of the Town of Lempster.

**Article 27 Any other business**

To transact any other business that may legally come before this Town Meeting.

**Public Participation:**

(Article 25) Barbara Richards asked if the Veteran's Credit was for the Optional or the All Veteran's Credit. It was explained that there was a change to the RSA requiring the Town to readopt the optional exemption or amount would return to \$50.00; it is not to adopt the All Veteran's Exemption.

(Article 24) Barbara Richards wanted to know what the change to the Elderly Exemption was; there was a change to the income levels only.

Scott Goodspeed inquired what will be the effect on the taxes with the increase in the Elderly Exemption; Mary explained there is no way of knowing who will qualify. Scott asked what brought the change about; it was placed on the Warrant by a request from a resident, but the increase for allowable income was only increased by \$2,000.00, not the amount the resident requested. Everett explained that anything tangible was an asset including antique vehicles. Lempster currently only has 3 residents that qualify for the Elderly Exemption.

(Article 19) Phil Tirrell asked what the bid on Long Pond Wharf was and who it was from; the quote was received from Paul Manson, Village Forge for \$34,500.00. Monies appropriated plus encumbered funds from last year for \$5,000.00 will cover the cost if the article passes. Phil inquired if it covered everything, Daryl stated everything but the backfill. Phil feels that it is a good deal.

The issue of why residents are not receiving the 1% discount on property taxes paid within 10 days was brought up by Scott Goodspeed and Kevin Onnela; Mary stated it could possibly be brought up under Article 27- Any other business.

(Article 26) Scott inquired if the petitioned article on the Drift Track was going to be a ballot vote; Mary explained it is not up to the Selectmen, Everett explained that petitioned articles are the responsibility of the petitioner; the Selectman must include them on the Warrant as presented. The Moderator and Town Attorney decides if an article is legally binding.

Any additional changes made to the Warrant, will have to be made at Town Meeting.

Mary closed the hearing at 7:02 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Robin Cantara  
Administrative Assistant