

**Board of Selectmen's Office  
Weare School District  
John Stark Regional School District  
15 Flanders Memorial Road**

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Permit #5**

**BOX HOLDER**

**2015 Sample Ballot & Voting Information Enclosed**

## **Selectmen's Introduction**

The Board of Selectmen is pleased to provide this sample ballot and informational pamphlet to assist voters in making up their minds on the important questions appearing on the Official Ballot for the Second Session of the 2015 Town Meeting. Voting on the Official Ballot will take place on **Tuesday, March 10, 2015** between the hours of **7:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.** at the **Weare Middle School**.

In the pamphlet you will find each article reprinted as it will appear on the ballot. Articles two through eight are followed by recommendations and explanations from the Weare Planning Board. Articles nine through thirty-four are followed by the Board of Selectmen's recommendation, the estimated tax impact, and an explanation of the purpose of the article. Immediately following the purpose statement for each article you will find a recommendation from the Finance Committee.

As you will see there are seven (7) candidates running for two Selectmen's seats. There will be a Meet the Candidates night held on **Tuesday, March 3, 2015 @ 7 PM at the Old Town Hall**. This will be your opportunity to come hear from the candidates as well as ask questions of all the candidates. Refreshments will be available. On **Monday, March 9, 2015 there will be an informal coffee time at 6:30 PM followed by a televised call in program from 7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. to answer your questions concerning the Town Ballot**. You may call **529-7527** that evening with your questions, or you may email questions prior to that evening to **[nbolton@weare.nh.gov](mailto:nbolton@weare.nh.gov)**.

The Board of Selectmen and Town employees appreciate your continued support and participation. Additional information may be requested at the Selectmen's office at 529-7525. Specific questions regarding either the Weare or John Stark school ballot should be addressed to the SAU 24 office at 428-3269.

## **Weare Finance Committee Report**

This report contains Recommendations from the Finance Committee on the Warrant Articles presented to the Town of Weare and two accompanying School Districts for the year

2015 that have a financial impact on the taxpayers. The resulting recommendations come from information provided to the Finance Committee from the Selectmen, Department Heads, School Boards and Superintendent. This has resulted in a series of articles that reflect the needs of the community balanced against the financial impact shared by all taxpayers.

The Finance Committee has worked closely with the various boards to understand the operational and financial impact of the proposed warrant articles included in this mailer. The eleven members of the Finance Committee represent a cross section of our community, although we may all have different views on the various articles, we were able to work together with the various boards to reach a consensus.

If the voters accept our recommendations the anticipated tax rate to the town and school portions would be \$19.81 compared to \$18.73 in 2014. This represents a tax increase of 5.8%, which amounts to \$270.00 on a home assessed at \$250,000. If all Warrant Articles are accepted by the town the tax rate would increase to \$20.54, a 9.6% increase amounting to \$452.50 on a home assessed at \$250,000.

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## **TOWN BALLOT**

### **ARTICLE 1**

**To choose all necessary Town Officers for the ensuing year. (By official ballot)**

#### **FOR SELECTMAN**

Three Year Term

Vote for Two (2)

Frederick W. Hippler  
Christine Ivinjack  
Gregory N. McDowell  
John Jack Meaney  
David S. Recuperero  
Janet C. Wilson  
Thomas S. Clow  
(Write-in)

#### **FOR LIBRARY TRUSTEE**

Three Year Term

Vote for One (1)

LeRoy Marcroft  
(Write-in)

**FOR CEMETERY TRUSTEE**

Three Year Term

Vote for One (1)

William F. Tiffany

(Write-in)

**FOR TRUSTEE OF TRUST FUNDS**

Three Year Term

Vote for One (1)

John L. McCausland

(Write-in)

**FOR BOARD OF FIRE-WARD  
NON-MEMBER FIRE DEPARTMENT**

Three Year Term

Vote of One (1)

Jonathan H. Osborne

(Write-in)

**FOR BOARD OF FIRE-WARD  
MEMBER FIRE DEPARTMENT**

Three Year Term

Vote for One (1)

George P. Beaudette

(Write-In)

**ZONING CHANGE PROPOSALS**

*Articles 2 through 6 are proposed and recommended by the Planning Board, whereas Articles 7 & 8 are petitioned and not recommended by the Planning Board*

**ARTICLE 2**

Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 1 set forth in the town warrant as proposed by the Planning Board for the Town of Weare as follows: To revise Article 19.1.10.1, which is the current provision governing an ‘accessory apartment’, to limit such use to no more than one (1) bedroom. (**Recommended** by the Planning Board)

PURPOSE: The purpose of this amendment is to limit the number of bedrooms in an accessory apartment to one bedroom.

**ARTICLE 3**

Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No.2 set forth in the town warrant as proposed by the Planning Board for the Town of Weare as follows: To revise Article 22.9, by deleting the phrase ‘new homes and commercial buildings’ from that article, which article is a provision dealing with the existing requirement to achieve ‘compatible architectural styles’ on certain structures in several ‘Designated Village Districts’ so that the provision

will now apply to all structures. (**Recommended** by the Planning Board)

PURPOSE: The purpose of this amendment is to make the exterior of structures within the Designated Village District shall be architecturally compatible.

#### ARTICLE 4

Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No.3 set forth in the town warrant as proposed by the Planning Board for the Town of Weare as follows: To add three new sections to Article 3.13, which is the article that governs the conditions under which the planning board may grant Conditional Uses, which three articles provide additional procedural and substantive standards governing the exercise of discretion by the planning board. Said three sections will be numbered Sections 3.13.2, 3.13.3, and 3.13.4 and are entitled ‘Application Procedures’ (Article 3.13.2), ‘Criteria for Granting a Conditional Use Permit’ (Article 3.13.3), and ‘Existing Non-Conforming Uses’ (Article 3.13.4). The full text of each change can be found in the Town Clerk’s office. (**Recommended** by the Planning Board)

PURPOSE: The purpose of this article is to add three new sections to the article that governs conditions under which conditional uses may be granted.

#### ARTICLE 5

Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 4 set forth in the town warrant as proposed by the Planning Board for the Town of Weare as follows: To modify existing Article 30-A.3.1.3, which is a section in the article that governs design standards relating to changes to the exterior of construction on existing dwelling units in the Mt. Dearborn Historic Area Overlay District to clarify that the same applies to changes to such exterior construction and to identify the particular standard of architectural compatibility that would apply to such changes. The full text of each change can be found in the Town Clerk’s office. (**Recommended** by the Planning Board)

PURPOSE: The purpose of this amendment is to govern changes relating to design changes to the exterior of construction on existing dwelling units in the Mt. Dearborn Historic Area Overlay District.

#### ARTICLE 6

Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 5 set forth in the town warrant as proposed by the Planning Board for the Town of Weare as follows:

To modify existing Article 4.1 which is the Definitions section to insert the following definition of the term 'Driveways': 'DRIVEWAY: Shall mean any access to a lot, tract, or parcel of land. Driveways must be located on the frontage that was used to determine the minimum lot size.' Also, to add a new Article in the Zoning Ordinance entitles 'ARTICLE 36 DRIVEWAYS' which article provides procedural and substantive requirements for the construction of driveways. The full text of each change can be found in the Town Clerk's office. (**Recommended** by the Planning Board)

PURPOSE: The purpose of this amendment is to modify the existing definition of driveway and to add a new article entitled Driveways which provide procedural and substantive requirements for the construction of driveways.

#### ARTICLE 7

Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 6 set forth in the town warrant as proposed by PETITION AS FOLLOWS: 'To repeal "Article 34-Sign Ordinance" of the Town of Weare, NH Zoning Ordinance in its entirety'. (By Petition) (**NOT Recommended** by the Planning Board)

PURPOSE: This is a petition article that proposes to eliminate the Sign Ordinance in its entirety.

#### ARTICLE 8

Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 7 set forth in the town warrant as proposed by PETITION AS FOLLOWS: 'To amend the Town of Weare Zoning Map by modifying the zoning of 2 parcels known as Weare Tax Map 404, Lots 136 and 172, and said parcels being located on 166 Shady Hill Road, to change the zoning for Map 404, Lots 136 and 172 from Rural Agricultural [RA] to Residential [R]? (By Petition) (**NOT Recommended** by the Planning Board)

PURPOSE: This is a petition article requesting the change of zoning of a parcel of property from Rural Agricultural to Residential.

#### ARTICLE 9

**Shall the Town raise and appropriate, as an operating budget, not including appropriations by special warrant articles and other appropriations voted separately, the amounts set forth in the budget posted with the warrant or as amended by vote of the first session, for the purposes set forth therein, totaling Five Million Four Hundred Ten Thousand Eight Hundred Sixty-Eight Dollars (\$5,410,868.00)? Should this**

article be defeated, the default budget shall be Five Million Three Hundred Fifteen Thousand Five Hundred Fifty-One Dollars (\$5,315,551.00) which is the same as last year, with certain adjustments required by previous action of the Town or by law; or the governing body may hold one special meeting, in accordance with RSA 40:13, X and XVI, to take up the issue of a revised operating budget only.

Estimated Tax Impact: \$3.30

*Recommended by Board of Selectmen*

PURPOSE: The operating budget is what it costs all departments, boards, and committees to provide services to the community. Among other things it contains employee wages, health insurance, as well as all other insurance costs, vehicle fuel, tires, all utility costs, road salt, and general maintenance costs. The proposed budget represents a difference of 1.8% over the default budget or \$95,317.00. A large portion of the increase over the 2014 budget is due to increased insurance costs including liability, workers compensation, and unemployment compensation. These insurance increases also appear in the default budget. The health insurance costs will be reduced by \$13,405.00 with the passage of the police union contract in article 10.

**NOT RECOMMENDED BY FINANCE COMMITTEE (0-10)** The Finance Committee does not recommend this budget, which reflects a 7.3% increase over the current budget. This is unaffordable by the town of Weare in this economy. Given that the town's liability insurance costs are more than doubling and by themselves contribute a 4.6% increase to the budget, the Finance Committee believes the operating budget needs further cuts to lessen the impact to the taxpayers. Moreover, the proposed budget contains unreasonably large raises for several town employees, ranging from 16% to 33%.

#### ARTICLE 10

**Shall the Town approve the cost items contained in the one (1) year collective bargaining agreement reached between the Board of Selectmen and the *American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees (AFSCME)* Union for the Police Department Employees, which calls for the following increases in salaries and benefits at the current staffing level:**

<b>Fiscal Year</b>	<b>Estimated Increase</b>
<b>2015</b>	<b>\$ 10,771.00</b>

**and further to raise and appropriate the sum of Ten Thousand Seven Hundred Seventy-One Dollars (\$10,771.00) 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. This agreement provides for the Police Department Employees to be covered by the same health insurance plan as all other Town Employees and to contribute 5% to the premiums, as do all other employees.**

Estimated net tax impact = \$0.01

***Recommended by Board of Selectmen***

**PURPOSE:** This article covers the costs associated with a one year collective bargaining agreement with the union for police department employees. It represents a 2% COLA and 3.5% step increases for those who are eligible. The agreement includes a change in health plans that will result in \$13,405.00 in savings to the town in 2015 and \$26,810.00 in savings per year for subsequent years. The estimated increase in the article represents the net cost to the town for 2015. There are also some major language changes in the new contract that will greatly benefit the town and should help control overtime costs.

**RECOMMENDED BY FINANCE COMMITTEE (10-0)** The Finance Committee recommends this contract. In addition to clarifying managerial authority, the contract provides a 2% cost-of-living increase, plus, for some officers, a 3.5% step increase. The police have agreed to a lower-cost health insurance plan and to contribute 5% of its premiums. If this contract is not replaced by a new contract and remains in effect in the second and subsequent years, it will be approximately revenue-neutral to town taxpayers.

### **ARTICLE 11**

**Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of Thirteen Thousand Two Hundred Twenty-Five Dollars (\$13,225.00) to be used for raises for non-union Town and Library personnel? If approved, this addition would become part of the annual budget.**

Estimated tax impact = \$ 0.02

***Recommended by Board of Selectmen***

**PURPOSE:** This article provides a pool of money for the Selectmen to use to make salary adjustments for non-union personnel. The amount was calculated by applying a modest 2% to the total cost of non-union salaries. The distribution of this money will likely be determined based on individual employee's annual reviews, and distributed according to merit.

**RECOMMENDED BY FINANCE COMMITTEE (8-3)** This contract provides for raises of between 0 and 4%. The Finance Committee believes this is a responsible recognition of the service these personnel, not covered under union contracts, provide to the community.

### **ARTICLE 12**

**Shall the Town authorize the Board of Selectmen to enter into a five (5) year financing agreement in the amount of Two Hundred Thirty Thousand Dollars (\$230,000.00) for the purpose of lease purchasing a new ambulance and related equipment for the Fire Department, and to raise and appropriate the sum of Forty-Nine Thousand Seven Hundred Seventy-Eight Dollars (\$49,778.00) for the first year's payment for that purpose, or to take any other action in relation thereto. This lease agreement will contain an escape clause.**

Estimated tax impact= \$0.06

*Recommended by the Board of Selectmen*

PURPOSE: Weare currently has two ambulances, a 2010 four wheel drive ambulance stationed at the south Weare station, and a 2003 rear wheel drive ambulance with nearly eighty thousand miles, and nearly thirty five hundred hours on the engine. This article if passed would replace the 2003 ambulance with a four wheel drive ambulance.

**NOT RECOMMENDED BY FINANCE COMMITTEE (0-11)** The town has two ambulances. This article would replace an 11-year old ambulance, which has 78,000 miles and 4,350 engine hours on it. While a new ambulance would minimize operational costs for vehicle maintenance and repairs, the Finance Committee does not feel a compelling case has been made to replace this vehicle now.

### **ARTICLE 13**

**Shall the Town raise and appropriate up to the sum of Zero Dollars (\$00.00) to be added to the amount of revenue received each year from ambulance billing services that is deposited into the previously established EMT/Firefighter Revolving Fund for the purpose of funding additional hours of per diem EMT/Firefighters for ambulance coverage? This would bring the total annual amount deposited into the revolving fund to \$90,000.00.**

Estimated tax impact= \$0.00

*Recommended by Board of Selectmen*

PURPOSE: This article was amended to zero dollars at the deliberative session, there is not enough revenue generated from ambulance billing to support the request of thirty four thousand dollars.

**NOT RECOMMENDED BY FINANCE COMMITTEE (0-11)** The Finance Committee believes that per diems for EMTs and firefighters should be appropriated in the budget rather than from the revolving fund, which was established to purchase ambulances and fire trucks.

#### ARTICLE 14

**Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of Fifty-Two Thousand Two Hundred Dollars (\$52,200.00) to be added to the previously established Capital Reserve Fund called the Fire Department Communications Fund? It is anticipated that this money will provide in-vehicle repeaters for fire vehicles; a reconfiguration and upgrade of antennas on Mine Hill and special adaptors in police vehicles for better contact with Bow Dispatch.**

Estimated tax impact= \$0.06

*Recommended by Board of Selectmen*

PURPOSE: The purpose of the expenditure in this article is to greatly improve the communication capability of safety services in the town in emergency situations. Because of the hilly terrain in the town, there are many “dead spots” where radio transmissions are difficult or impossible. The equipment described in the article will eliminate many of these dead spots and greatly improve communication for the fire, police, and highway departments.

**RECOMMENDED BY FINANCE COMMITTEE (10-1)** The Finance Committee believes this improves communication between dispatch and Weare. These funds will serve to eliminate the many “dead” zones in police, fire, and DPW communications and allow town employees to operate in greater safety and provide more efficient service to town residents.

#### ARTICLE 15

**Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of Twenty Thousand Dollars (\$20,000.00) to be added to the previously established Capital Reserve Fund called the Fire Equipment Fund? It is anticipated that this money will purchase a new washer/extractor and dryer for the fire fighters protective clothing.**

Estimated tax impact= \$0.02

*Recommended by Board of Selectmen*

PURPOSE: Approval of this article would provide proper equipment for cleaning firefighters' protective clothing. The clothing becomes contaminated with harmful chemicals at the scene of a fire and needs proper care to fully protect the firemen and prolong the life of the gear.

**RECOMMENDED BY FINANCE COMMITTEE (10-1)** This town has invested in protective gear for the firefighters and should take steps to preserve it. This new, industrial-grade equipment is specifically designed for safe removal of chemicals from the protective gear.

### **ARTICLE 16**

**Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of Four Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$450,000.00) for road reconstruction and resurfacing of roads? Of the \$450,000.00, the sum of Two Hundred Forty Thousand Five Hundred Forty Dollars (\$240,540.00) is anticipated to be received from Highway Block Grant Funds from the State of New Hampshire (pursuant to RSA 235) with Two Hundred Nine Thousand Four Hundred Sixty Dollars (\$209,460.00) to be raised by taxation.**

Estimated tax impact= \$0.25

*Recommended by Board of Selectmen*

PURPOSE: This is an article that appears annually and covers the cost of road reconstruction and resurfacing work to be completed by the Department of Public Works in 2015. The town receives an offset through the New Hampshire block grant which reduces the amount needed to be raised through taxation.

**RECOMMENDED BY FINANCE COMMITTEE (10-1)** This is the usual article funding the highway department's road maintenance work. The Finance Committee supports the article. Taking advantage of the state block grant helps reduce the cost to the taxpayers.

### **ARTICLE 17**

**Shall the Town authorize the Board of Selectmen to enter into a five (5) year financing agreement in the amount of Three Hundred Forty Thousand Dollars (\$340,000.00) for the purpose of lease purchasing a new road grader and related equipment for the Highway Department, and to raise and appropriate the sum of up to Seventy-One Thousand Four Hundred Fifty-Eight Dollars (\$71,458.00) for the first year's payment for that**

**purpose. This lease agreement will contain an escape clause.**

Estimated tax impact= \$ 0.09

***Recommended by Board of Selectmen***

PURPOSE: This article asks the voters to purchase a new grader for the town. We have 40 miles of dirt roads in town and this is a much needed piece of equipment in the DPW fleet. This is a 5 year lease with a \$71,458 per year payment.

**RECOMMENDED BY FINANCE COMMITTEE (10-1)** The Finance Committee believes it is important to maintain the roads in our town. The current John Deere grader is at the end of its useful life and should be sold while it still has significant value remaining.

### **ARTICLE 18**

**Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of One Hundred Ninety-Six Thousand Dollars (\$196,000.00) to be added to the previously established Capital Reserve Fund called the Highway Truck and Equipment Replacement Fund? It is anticipated that this money will be expended for the purchase of a new or used plow truck for the Highway Department, representing replacement of existing vehicles.**

Estimated tax impact= \$ 0.24

***Recommended by Board of Selectmen***

PURPOSE: This article is to raise \$196,000 to be added to the capital reserve fund called the Highway Truck and Equipment Replacement fund. This will be used to purchase one new or used plow truck for the Highway Department.

**NOT RECOMMENDED BY FINANCE COMMITTEE (10-1)** The Finance Committee does not recommend this article because the need for this truck is not as pressing as the need for other capital improvements such as the grader, and this year will be a particularly difficult one for taxpayers.

### **ARTICLE 19**

**Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000.00) for the purpose of having professional construction documents drawn up that would take us through the design development stage for a new DPW facility?**

Estimated tax impact= \$0.03

***Recommended by Board of Selectmen***

**PURPOSE:** This article is for professional fees to design and prepare Design Development drawings for a DPW garage, but it is a critical first step in getting that building built. The level of detail in a Design Development package will allow relatively accurate construction cost estimates to be done in time for a specific warrant article next year that has a real cost, and a real building design, so that taxpayers will know what we'll be getting for our money.

**NOT RECOMMENDED BY FINANCE COMMITTEE (1-10)** The town has twice voted down the highway garage. The town is clearly not yet ready to support this structure. Spending \$25,000 to draw up plans will not contribute to the town's decision.

**ARTICLE 20**

**Shall the Town establish a Transfer Station Improvement Capital Reserve Fund under the provisions of RSA 35:1 for the purpose of making improvements at the Transfer Station and to raise and appropriate the sum of Forty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$45,000.00) to be placed in this fund. Further, to name the Board of Selectmen as agents to expend from said fund, or to take any other action in relation thereto.**

Estimated tax impact = \$0.05

***Recommended by Board of Selectmen***

**PURPOSE:** The purpose of this fund will pay for safety improvements to the Transfer Station grounds.

**NOT RECOMMENDED BY FINANCE COMMITTEE (0-11)** The Finance Committee does not recommend this article. Placing money in a capital reserve fund without a stated purpose is contrary to the "pay as you go" strategy that the town has taken over the past few years.

**ARTICLE 21**

**Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of One Hundred Five Thousand Dollars (\$105,000.00) to be added to the previously established Capital Reserve Fund called the Transfer Station Equipment Replacement Fund? It is anticipated that this money will be expended for the purchase of a new trash trailer.**

Estimated tax impact = \$0.13

***Recommended by Board of Selectmen***

**PURPOSE:** This article will add money to the

Transfer Station Replacement Equipment Fund to purchase a new trash trailer to replace the one we currently have that has outlived its useful life. The condition of our current trailer is beyond reasonable repair, and has to be road worthy as it carries our trash to an offsite location out of town.

**RECOMMENDED BY FINANCE COMMITTEE (9-1-1)** A replacement trash trailer is necessary. The floor of the current trailer is cracked from use and road stress.

### **ARTICLE 22**

**Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of Sixty-Seven Thousand Eight Hundred Dollars (\$67,800.00) to be added to the previously established Capital Reserve Fund called the Transfer Station Equipment Replacement Fund? It is anticipated that this money will be expended for the purchase of a new skid steer.**

Estimated tax impact = \$0.08

*Recommended by Board of Selectmen*

PURPOSE: This article will add money to the same Transfer Station Replacement Equipment Fund to purchase a new Skid Steer to replace the one we currently use for almost everything at the Transfer Station now.

**NOT RECOMMENDED BY FINANCE COMMITTEE (0-10-1)** This is a secondary priority, according to the Capital Improvement Plan subcommittee. In a year where so many other expensive capital assets are being acquired, this one is not affordable.

### **ARTICLE 23**

**Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of Seven Thousand Dollars (\$7,000.00) for the purpose of recruiting and hiring a part time transfer station attendant for Saturday coverage?**

Estimated tax impact = \$0.01

*Recommended by Board of Selectmen*

PURPOSE: This warrant article will allow the town to hire a part time person to work Saturdays at the Transfer Station. Right now we have DPW staff fill in which either takes them away from DPW projects or sometimes adds overtime.

**RECOMMENDED BY FINANCE COMMITTEE (7-3-1)** This article creates a position at the transfer station for a part-time

attendant on Saturdays that will reduce overtime in the department.

#### **ARTICLE 24**

**Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000.00) to be added to the previously established Capital Reserve Fund called the Police Cruiser Fund? It is anticipated that this money will be used to purchase one (1) four wheel drive (SUV) police cruiser.**

Estimated tax impact = \$0.06

***Recommended by Board of Selectmen***

**PURPOSE:** This article if passed, would replace a 2008 Ford Crown Victoria Police cruiser with 162,000 miles, which is no longer being manufactured, with a Ford SUV four wheel drive Interceptor Police cruiser. The price includes the cost of the vehicle and all equipment installed.

**RECOMMENDED BY FINANCE COMMITTEE (11-0)** This article will allow replacement of a 2008 cruiser with over 162,000 miles on it with a four-wheel drive SUV cruiser. The formerly preferred Ford Crown Victoria police interceptors are no longer manufactured. The difference in purchase price between the SUV and a sedan is approximately \$3,000. The police chief has recommended the SUV as the vehicle of choice because it provides sufficient storage capacity for police equipment vital to handling independent calls in a rural environment. The rural roads and winter driving conditions also favor the SUV. Gas mileage has also been improved in these models. A portion of the appropriation is for replacement of interior fittings.

#### **ARTICLE 25**

**Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of Sixty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$65,000.00) to be added to the previously established Capital Reserve Fund called the Recreational Development and Improvement Fund? It is anticipated that this money will be expended for the purpose of expanding parking; improving drainage; and expanding and improving the soccer field at Bolton Memorial Park.**

Estimated tax impact= \$0.08

***Recommended by Board of Selectmen***

PURPOSE: These funds will be used to create 150 new parking spots at Bolton field, create a new drainage system to help alleviate erosion from water runoff and expand the lower soccer field to make it regulation size. Currently parking is very limited and the entrance driveway becomes nearly impassable with cars parked on both sides.

**NOT RECOMMENDED BY FINANCE COMMITTEE (2-8-1)** The proposed article would pay for expanded parking, an expanded soccer field, and improved drainage at Bolton Field. The Finance Committee agrees that parking can at times be limited, and having a regulation-size soccer field would be desirable. However, in today's budget climate the town has more urgent needs. Regulation-size fields are in place at the high school, and Bolton Field is adequate for youth programs.

### ARTICLE 26

**Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of Fifteen Thousand Dollars (\$15,000.00) for the purpose of hiring consultants to determine the need for and affordability of library expansion in a manner that will provide a cost effective building plan. If passed this article will not lapse until December 31, 2017 or the amount is expended, whichever comes first.**

Estimated tax impact= \$0.02

*Recommended by Board of Selectmen*

PURPOSE: As indicated in the article itself, passage would allow for the hiring of consultants to determine the need for and affordability of library expansion in a manner that would provide a cost effective building plan.

**NOT RECOMMENDED BY FINANCE COMMITTEE (0-10-1)** The Finance Committee does not believe that the town is ready to expand the library at this time, and spending \$15,000 on plans to expand the library would not be practical.

### ARTICLE 27

**Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of Twenty Thousand Dollars (\$20,000.00) for cemetery improvements and fund this appropriation by authorizing the withdrawal of said sum from Cemetery Trust Funds Cy Pres Account?**

Estimated tax impact = \$ 0.00

*Recommended by Board of Selectmen*

PURPOSE: Cy Pres funds are used to make improvements to the interior grounds of the

cemeteries. Since these funds are not raised through taxation, there is no tax impact.

**RECOMMENDED BY FINANCE COMMITTEE (11-0)** These funds are used to make improvements and repairs to the town's cemeteries. The appearance of our cemeteries is an important element in the character of our community. This is funded with a withdrawal from cemetery trust funds and has no tax impact.

#### **ARTICLE 28**

**Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of Six Thousand Dollars (\$6,000.00) to cover the costs of the Town's participation in one (1) local Household Hazardous Waste Collection in 2015? This warrant article has been designated by the Board of Selectmen as a Special Warrant Article so that the funds, if approved, may not be transferred for any other purposes.**

Estimated tax impact = \$0.01

*Not Recommended by Board of Selectmen*

PURPOSE: Passage of this article will allow the Transfer Station to hold a hazardous waste collection day. This collection day allows for the proper disposal of items such as oil based paint, stains, poisonous cleaning supplies, pesticides and fluorescent bulbs.

**RECOMMENDED BY FINANCE COMMITTEE (10-0-1)** This is the usual warrant article to have a scheduled day, once per year, to collect hazardous waste at the transfer station. The Finance Committee believes this is important to preserve the quality of our land and water in Weare.

#### **ARTICLE 29**

**Shall the Town raise and appropriate the non-transferable sum of Six Thousand Dollars (\$6,000.00) for the purpose of purchasing fireworks for the 2015 Weare Patriotic Celebration? This warrant article has been designated by the Board of Selectmen as a Special Warrant Article so that the funds, if approved, may not be transferred for any other purposes.**

Estimated tax impact = \$0.01

*Recommended by Board of Selectmen*

PURPOSE: The Weare Patriotic Celebration Committee puts on our town celebration in July each year. This \$6,000 helps to pay for the cost of the fireworks display which is an important part of the celebration. The carnival company will not set up rides for the celebration if there are no fireworks to draw in a crowd.

**NOT RECOMMENDED BY FINANCE COMMITTEE (4-7)** In the past, the Finance Committee has not supported this article. Providing fireworks is not a critical function to the town.

### **ARTICLE 30**

**Shall the Town modify the Veteran's Tax Credit in accordance with RSA's 72:27a and 72:28, II from its current tax credit of Four Hundred Dollars (\$400.00) per year to Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00)?**

Estimated tax impact = \$0.04

*Recommended by Board of Selectmen*

PURPOSE: This Article if passed would increase the veteran's tax credit one hundred dollars. This credit would apply to those veterans who served during time of war or conflict as defined by RSA section 72:28.

**NOT RECOMMENDED BY FINANCE COMMITTEE (0-9-2)** Approving this tax credit increase would cost the town an additional \$30,000 to \$40,000 annually.

### **ARTICLE 31**

**Shall the Town authorize the Board of Selectmen to negotiate/enter into a ten (10) year renewable lease with the Weare Historical Society for what were formerly the Gordon Brown barns on East Road (Tax Map 203-94) for \$1 per year for cold storage of Society artifacts?**

*Recommended by Board of Selectmen*

PURPOSE: In 2014 the Town of Weare, through a donation from the Charles and Ethel Eastman Fund and Cy Pres cemetery funds, purchased land on East Road for an expansion of Center Square Cemetery and the establishment of an area for green burials (scattering ashes). As part of the agreement with the seller, the Weare Historical Society was to be allowed the use of a barn on the property. This article would allow the Board of Selectmen to enter into a ten year renewable lease with the

### **ARTICLE 32**

**Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of Twenty Thousand Dollars (\$20,000.00) to allow the Conservation Commission to secure contracted services with the Town's Licensed Forester to prepare forest management plans; secure contracted services for the Town Forest maintenance, and fund this appropriation by**

**authorizing the withdrawal of that sum from the Town Forest Account?**

Estimated tax impact = \$ 0.00

***Recommended by Board of Selectmen***

PURPOSE: In order to properly manage the town owned forest land, a licensed forester must be hired to prepare a management plan. Passage of this article would allow the Conservation Commission to engage the services of a licensed forester for that purpose. Money to pay for that service would come from the Town Forest Account, and any money earned from a timber harvest would go back into that same account.

**RECOMMENDED BY FINANCE COMMITTEE (11-0)** The Finance Committee believes that managing the town's forests is a wise use of resources to the continuing benefit of the town.

**ARTICLE 33**

**Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of One Hundred Forty Thousand Dollars (\$140,000.00) for Conservation Commission expenditure toward the purchase of new town forest land, and fund this appropriation by authorizing the withdrawal of that sum from the Town Forest Account?**

Estimated tax impact = \$ 0.00

***Recommended by Board of Selectmen***

PURPOSE: Funds appropriated in this article would go toward the purchase of conservation land should an appropriate parcel become available in 2015. Readily available funds often make the difference as to whether a purchase is possible. The money would be withdrawn from the Town Forest Account with no money raised through taxes. If no parcel becomes available in 2015, the funds will remain in the Town Forest Account for future consideration and must be re-appropriated in subsequent years.

**RECOMMENDED BY FINANCE COMMITTEE (10-0-1)** The Finance Committee believes that purchasing land to add to the town forest serves the purpose of this fund and helps foster the traditional rural character of our community. The article has no tax impact.

**ARTICLE 34**

Shall the Town authorize the Board of Selectmen to study a "Noise Ordinance", which regulates unreasonable noise, and that this ordinance after two (2) public hearings will be brought before the Town for a vote.

***Recommended by Board of Selectmen***

PURPOSE: The creation of this proposed ordinance did not originate from the Board of Selectmen, rather it is as a result of multiple complaints received from citizens in search of relief. When complaints are brought to the Weare PD regarding noise, people are told by law enforcement that there exists no law to enforce. This article would allow the Board of Selectmen to work on a noise ordinance to be brought before the voter's next year.

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## **WEARE SCHOOL BALLOT**

### **FOR SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER**

Three Year Term

Vote for Two (2)

Donny Guillemette

Susan Morin

(Write-in)

### **FOR SCHOOLDISTRICT MODERATOR**

Three Year Term

Vote for One (1)

(Write-in)

#### **ARTICLE 1**

Shall the District receive the reports of agents, auditors, committees and officers chosen, as printed in the Annual Report? (Majority vote required.)

#### **ARTICLE 2**

Shall the District set the salaries of the School Board and the compensation for any other officers of the District as printed in the 2014-2015-2016 Budget? (THIS WARRANT ARTICLE IS SUPPORTED BY THE SCHOOL BOARD.) (Majority vote required.) (The 2015-2016 amount is included in Article #3, the operating budget.)

#### **ARTICLE 3**

**Shall the District raise and appropriate as an operating budget, not including appropriations by special or separate warrant articles and other appropriations voted separately, the amounts set forth on the budget posted with the warrant or as amended by vote of the first session, for the purposes set forth therein, totaling \$14,605,903 (Fourteen Million, Six Hundred Five Thousand, Nine Hundred Three Dollars)? Should this article be defeated, the default budget shall be \$14,510,583 (Fourteen Million, Five Hundred Ten Thousand, Five Hundred Eighty Three Dollars), which is the same as last year, with certain**

**adjustments required by previous action of the District or by law, or the governing body may hold one special meeting, in accordance with RSA 40:13, X and XVI, to take up the issue of a revised operating budget only. (THIS WARRANT ARTICLE IS SUPPORTED BY THE SCHOOL BOARD.) (Majority vote required.)**

PURPOSE: The only monetary request above the default budget is \$95,320, which represents salary and benefits for a non-union teacher with administrative duties to oversee the newly created upper elementary school. The school board supports the creation of an upper elementary school as the most educationally sound, fiscally responsible, and timely solution to the significant space needs issue at Center Woods Elementary School. This position is needed in order to effectively implement this solution.

**RECOMMENDED BY FINANCE COMMITTEE (10-0)** This budget reflects the creation of an upper and lower elementary school to deal with the expanding service needs for individual students. This proposed budget includes all necessary staff to operate and maintain the new organization. The Finance Committee believes this is the most cost-effective solution to relieve overcrowding at Center Woods while better utilizing available space at Weare Middle School. The proposed budget is less than 1% higher than the default budget.

#### ARTICLE 4

**Shall the Weare School District vote to raise and appropriate the amount of \$25,000 (Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars) of any surplus remaining at the close of the current fiscal year, to be added to the Special Education Expendable Trust Fund, previously established in March 2009, for the purpose of emergency Special Education? (THIS WARRANT ARTICLE IS SUPPORTED BY THE SCHOOL BOARD.) (This appropriation is in addition to Warrant Article #3, the operating budget.) (Majority vote required.)**

PURPOSE: The school board believes it is in the best interest of the district to prepare for unanticipated special education costs.

**RECOMMENDED BY FINANCE COMMITTEE (10-0)** The Finance Committee believes it is prudent to add a reasonable amount from any surplus to this existing trust fund in order to offset unexpected special education expenses.

**ARTICLE 5**

**Shall the Weare School District vote to raise and appropriate the amount of \$25,000 (Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars) of any surplus remaining at the close of the current fiscal year, to be added to the School Building Maintenance Expendable Trust Fund, previously established in March 2001, for the purpose of major building repairs and improvements? (THIS WARRANT ARTICLE IS SUPPORTED BY THE SCHOOL BOARD.) (This appropriation is in addition to Warrant Article #3, the operating budget.) (Majority vote required.)**

PURPOSE: The school board believes that it is financially responsible to have adequate funds to address unanticipated maintenance issues for our aging buildings.

**RECOMMENDED BY FINANCE COMMITTEE (10-0)** The Finance Committee believes it is prudent to add a reasonable amount from any surplus to this existing trust fund in order to offset unexpected maintenance costs for our two school buildings.

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**JOHN STARK SCHOOL  
BALLOT**

**FOR SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER**

At Large  
Three Year Term

Deb Urbaitis  
(Write-in)

**FOR SCHOOL MODERATOR**

Three Year Term  
Vote for One

(Write-in)

**ARTICLE 1**

Shall the John Stark Regional School District receive the reports of agents, auditors, committees and other officers chosen, as printed in the Annual Report, or to take any other action in relation thereto? (Majority vote required.)

**ARTICLE 2**

Shall the John Stark Regional School District set the salaries of the School Board and compensation of any other agents of the District as printed in the 2015-2016 Budget, or to take any other action in relation thereto? (THIS WARRANT ARTICLE IS SUPPORTED BY

THE SCHOOL BOARD.) (Majority vote required.)  
(The 2015-2016 amount is included in Article #3, the operating budget.)

### ARTICLE 3

**Shall the John Stark Regional School District raise and appropriate, as an operating budget, not including appropriations by special or separate warrant articles and other appropriations voted separately, the amounts set forth on the budget posted with the warrant or as amended by vote of the first session, for the purposes set forth therein, totaling \$13,225,368 (Thirteen Million, Two Hundred Twenty Five Thousand, Three Hundred Sixty Eight Dollars)? Should this article be defeated, the default budget shall be \$13,228,258 (Thirteen Million, Two Hundred Twenty Eight Thousand, Two Hundred Fifty Eight Dollars), which is the same as last year, with certain adjustments required by previous action of the District or by law or the governing body may hold one special meeting, in accordance with RSA 40:13, X and XVI, to take up the issue of a revised operating budget only. (THIS WARRANT ARTICLE IS SUPPORTED BY THE SCHOOL BOARD.) (Majority vote required.)**

**RECOMMENDED BY FINANCE COMMITTEE (10-0)** The Finance Committee believes the School Board has proposed a budget that maintains the quality of education at John Stark. The proposed budget is \$3,000 lower than the default budget.

### ARTICLE 4

**Shall the John Stark Regional School District raise and appropriate the amount of \$70,000 (Seventy Thousand Dollars) of any surplus remaining at the close of the current fiscal year, to be added to the John Stark School District Expendable Roof Fund as established in March 1994, for the purpose of providing for any future upgrading, maintenance or repair of the roof? (THIS WARRANT ARTICLE IS SUPPORTED BY THE SCHOOL BOARD.) (This appropriation is in addition to Warrant Article #3, the operating budget.) (Majority vote required.)**

**RECOMMENDED BY FINANCE COMMITTEE (10-0)** In anticipation of replacing the school roof in the next several years, the Finance Committee recommends the passage of this article, as smaller annual payments are easier on the taxpayer than a large lump sum.

**Bring it to the Polls!!  
VOTING GUIDE**

**Town Warrant**

<b>Article 2</b>	<b>Y N</b>	<b>Article 19</b>	<b>Y N</b>
<b>Article 3</b>	<b>Y N</b>	<b>Article 20</b>	<b>Y N</b>
<b>Article 4</b>	<b>Y N</b>	<b>Article 21</b>	<b>Y N</b>
<b>Article 5</b>	<b>Y N</b>	<b>Article 22</b>	<b>Y N</b>
<b>Article 6</b>	<b>Y N</b>	<b>Article 23</b>	<b>Y N</b>
<b>Article 7</b>	<b>Y N</b>	<b>Article 24</b>	<b>Y N</b>
<b>Article 8</b>	<b>Y N</b>	<b>Article 25</b>	<b>Y N</b>
<b>Article 9</b>	<b>Y N</b>	<b>Article 26</b>	<b>Y N</b>
<b>Article 10</b>	<b>Y N</b>	<b>Article 27</b>	<b>Y N</b>
<b>Article 11</b>	<b>Y N</b>	<b>Article 28</b>	<b>Y N</b>
<b>Article 12</b>	<b>Y N</b>	<b>Article 29</b>	<b>Y N</b>
<b>Article 13</b>	<b>Y N</b>	<b>Article 30</b>	<b>Y N</b>
<b>Article 14</b>	<b>Y N</b>	<b>Article 31</b>	<b>Y N</b>
<b>Article 15</b>	<b>Y N</b>	<b>Article 32</b>	<b>Y N</b>
<b>Article 16</b>	<b>Y N</b>	<b>Article 33</b>	<b>Y N</b>
<b>Article 17</b>	<b>Y N</b>	<b>Article 34</b>	<b>Y N</b>
<b>Article 18</b>	<b>Y N</b>		

**Weare School District**

<b>Article 1</b>	<b>Y N</b>	<b>Article 4</b>	<b>Y N</b>
<b>Article 2</b>	<b>Y N</b>	<b>Article 5</b>	<b>Y N</b>
<b>Article 3</b>	<b>Y N</b>		

**John Stark Regional School District**

<b>Article 1</b>	<b>Y N</b>	<b>Article 3</b>	<b>Y N</b>
<b>Article 2</b>	<b>Y N</b>	<b>Article 4</b>	<b>Y N</b>