

**2023 TOWN OF LITCHFIELD WARRANT
STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE**

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

You are hereby notified that the first session of the annual meeting of the Town of Litchfield will be held at Campbell High School, 1 Highlander Court, in said Litchfield on **February 4 , 2023 at 10:00 a.m.** for explanation, discussion and debate of each warrant article. Warrant articles may be amended at this session per RSA §40:13, IV. You are hereby notified that the second session of the annual meeting of the Town of Litchfield will be held at Campbell High School, 1 Highlander Court, in said Litchfield on **March 14, 2023 at 7:00 o'clock** in the forenoon for the choice of Town Officers elected by official ballot to vote on questions required by laws to be inserted on the official ballot and to vote on all warrant articles from the first session on official ballot per RSA §40:13, VIII. The polls for the election of Town officers and other action required to be inserted on said ballot will be open on said date at 7:00 o'clock in the forenoon and will not close earlier than 7:00 o'clock in the evening.

ARTICLE 1 - ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Selectmen	2 Positions	Three (3) Year Term
Budget Committee	3 Positions	Three (3) Year Term
Cemetery Trustee	1 Position	Three (3) Year Term
Library Trustee	2 Positions	Three (3) Year Term
Library Trustee	1 Position	One (1) Year Term
Trustees of Trust Fund	1 Position	Three (3) Year Term
Town Clerk/Tax Collector	1 Position	Three (3) Year Term

ARTICLE 2 - ZONING AMENDMENT No. 2 Demolition Review Ordinance

Amend Section 1040.00, Demolition Review Ordinance, to make the ordinance applicable to buildings that are 60 years old or older rather than to buildings built prior to 1960.

Amend Section 1042.00, Demolition Review Ordinance, to read as follows (language to be

added is shown in italics, language to be removed is shown in strikethrough):

1042.00 Criteria

Any building or part of a building in the Town of Litchfield will fall under the terms of this article where:

- a. The proposed demolition is greater than five hundred (500) square feet of gross floor area;

AND

- b. The building was constructed ~~prior to 1960~~ 60 years or earlier at time of submission of Demolition Permit Application.

Recommended by the Planning Board (5-0-0)

ARTICLE 3 - OPERATING BUDGET

Shall the Town 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 in the budget posted with the warrant or as amended by the vote of the first session, for the purposes set forth therein, totaling **\$7,673,829**. Should this article be defeated, the default budget shall be **\$7,716,898** which is the same as last year with certain adjustments required by previous action of the Town of Litchfield 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 2023 tax rate impact: **\$0.11**.

Recommended by Board of Selectmen (4-1-0)

Recommended by Budget Committee (7-1-0)

ARTICLE 4 - AMENDING THE TAX CAP

Shall we adopt the provisions of RSA 32:5-b, and amend the tax cap whereby the budget committee shall not submit a recommended budget that increases the amount to be raised by local taxes, based on the prior fiscal year's actual amount of local taxes raised, by no more than **5%** rather than the existing \$175,000. Estimated 2023 tax rate impact **\$0.00**

Recommended by Board of Selectmen (5-0-0)

Recommended by Budget Committee (5-4-0)

ARTICLE 5 - HUMAN SERVICES AND HEALTH AGENCIES

Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$20,600** to support Human Services and Health Agencies providing services to the Town of Litchfield. Estimated 2023 tax rate impact: **\$0.02**

Recommended by Board of Selectmen (5-0-0)

Recommended by Budget Committee (9-0-0)

ARTICLE 6 - FIRE ENGINE PURCHASE

Shall the Town vote to "raise and appropriate" the sum of **\$656,899** for the purpose of purchasing a fire engine with equipment and attachments for the Fire Department and to utilize funds received from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) for this purpose. Estimated 2023 tax rate impact: **\$0.00**

Recommended by Board of Selectmen (4-0-0)

Recommended by Budget Committee (9-0-0)

ARTICLE 7 - PROPERTY REVALUATION EXPENDABLE TRUST FUND

Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate **\$25,000** to be placed in the Property Revaluation Expendable Trust Fund as previously established? This sum to come from the unassigned fund balance and no amount to be raised from new taxation. Estimated 2023 tax rate impact: **\$0.00**.

Recommended by Board of Selectmen (4-1-0)

Recommended by Budget Committee (8-1-0)

ARTICLE 8 - FIRE WEEKEND COVERAGE

Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$24,320** to fund the fire station approximately 32 hours per weekend effective April 1, 2023. These hours would be filled with on call firefighters therefore there would be no associated benefits or other related costs. Estimated 2023 tax rate impact: **\$0.02**.

Recommended by Board of Selectmen (5-0-0)

Recommended by Budget Committee (9-0-0)

ARTICLE 9 - GENERAL ASSISTANCE EXPENDABLE TRUST FUND

Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate **\$10,000** to be placed in the General Assistance Expendable Trust Fund as previously established? This sum to come from the unassigned fund balance and no amount to be raised from new taxation. Estimated 2023 tax rate impact: **\$0.00**

Recommended by Board of Selectmen (5-0-0)

Recommended by Budget Committee (9-0-0)

ARTICLE 10 - FIRE VEHICLE AND EQUIPMENT REPAIR EXPENDABLE TRUST FUND

Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate **\$40,000** to be placed in the Fire Vehicle and Equipment Repair Expendable Trust Fund as previously established? This sum to come from the unassigned fund balance and no amount to be raised from new taxation. Estimated 2023 tax rate impact: **\$0.00**

Recommended by Board of Selectmen (5-0-0)

Recommended by Budget Committee (9-0-0)

ARTICLE 11 - PUBLIC WORKS EXPENDABLE TRUST FUND

Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$60,000** to be placed in the Public Works Expendable Trust Fund as previously established? This sum to come from the unassigned fund balance and no amount to be raised from new taxation. Estimated 2023 tax rate impact: **\$0.00**

Recommended by Board of Selectmen (5-0-0)

Recommended by Budget Committee (9-0-0)

ARTICLE 12 - ADDITIONAL ASSISTANT LIBRARIAN HOURS

Shall the Town vote to increase the weekly hours of the Assistant Librarian #2 position from 8 hours per week to 24 hours per week effective April 1, 2023 for an estimated annual wage, benefit and other related costs of **\$13,312** and further vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$9,920** for wage, benefit and other related costs for the period of April 1, 2023 to December 31, 2023. Estimated 2023 tax rate impact: **\$.01**.

Wages & Benefits	2023	2024
Wages	\$9,215	\$12,366
SSI	\$571	\$767
Medicare	\$134	\$179
<i>Total</i>	<i>\$9,920</i>	<i>\$13,312</i>

Not Recommended by Board of Selectmen (2-3-0)

Not Recommended by Budget Committee (3-6-0)

ARTICLE 13 - STREET DISCONTINUANCE

Class VI Road Discontinuance

To see if the Town will vote to completely discontinue Parcel 20-18 Road, a Class VI road. If discontinued, the owners of property abutting the road will continue to have private rights to use the road to access their property.

Recommended by Board of Selectmen (5-0-0)

ARTICLE 14 - VETERANS TAX CREDIT

Optional Veterans' (72:28,II)

Shall the Town of Litchfield Readopt the OPTIONAL VETERANS' TAX CREDIT in accordance with RSA 72:28, II, for an annual tax credit on residential property of \$750? (Majority vote

required)

NOTE: This article is required because the legislature expanded the eligibility criteria for this credit to include individuals who have not yet been discharged from service in the armed forces.

Recommended by Board of Selectmen (5-0-0)

ARTICLE 15 - VETERANS TAX CREDIT

All Veterans' (72:28-b)

Shall the Town of Litchfield readopt the ALL VETERANS' TAX CREDIT in accordance with RSA 72:28-b, for an annual tax credit on residential property which shall be equal the same amount as the standard or optional veterans' tax credit voted by the the Town of Litchfield under RSA 72:28? (Majority vote required)

NOTE: This article is required because the legislature expanded the eligibility criteria for this credit to include individuals who have not yet been discharged from service in the armed forces.

Recommended by Board of Selectmen (5-0-0)


GIVEN UNDER OUR HANDS AT SAID LITCHFIELD THIS 23th DAY OF JANUARY 2023



Steven J. Webber, Chairman



F. Robert Leary Sr., Vice Chairman



Kevin A. Lynch



Richard W. Lascelles



Kimberly M. Queenan

Litchfield Board of Selectmen