

# North Hampton School District North Hampton, New Hampshire Warrant 2023 with Minutes

Madam Moderator Burns called the meeting to order at **7:00** PM. Community attendance consisted of approximately 16.

Moderator asked the School Board Vice-Chair Katelyn Belanger to lead us in the Pledge of Allegiance. Kate thanked those dedicated staff members who are retiring at the end of the school year.

Madam Moderator then introduced the Supervisors of the Checklist; Jane Morse, Kevin Murphy, and Joanne Knox, along with Susan Buchanan, School Clerk/Town Clerk/Tax Collector.

She introduced the School Board Vice-Chair Katelyn Belanger, Lisa Gagalis, Michael Gendre, Marianne von Jess, and Business Administrator Matt Ferreira. School Administration included Principal Susan Snyder, Assistant Principal Deena Jensen, Curriculum Coordinator Rebecca Carlson, Superintendent Meredith Nadeau, and legal counsel, Robert Cassasa.

She introduced the Budget Committee; Chair Rick Stanton, George Chauncey, Sean Dionne, Frank Ferraro, Andrew Raucci, and James Sununu.

She thanked John Savastano, Troy Klidas for broadcasting, plus Stuart Spooner for set up of the room.

Madam Moderator reviewed the Moderator's Rules.

To the inhabitants of the School District of the Town of North Hampton in the County of Rockingham in the State of New Hampshire qualified to vote in school district affairs are hereby notified and warned that the two sessions of the Annual School District Meeting will be held as follows:

## **First Session of Annual Meeting (Deliberative Session):**

Date: Tuesday, February 7, 2023

Time: 7:00PM

Location: North Hampton School Gymnasium

Details: To explain, discuss, debate and possibly amend the following warrant articles

## **SNOW DATE (Deliberative Session):**

Date: Wednesday, February 8, 2023

Time: 7:00PM

Location: North Hampton School Gymnasium

## **Second Session of Annual Meeting (Official Ballot Voting)**

Date: Tuesday, March 14, 2023

Time: 8:00AM – 7:00PM

Location: North Hampton School Gymnasium

Rick Stanton opened the Budget Committee Meeting.

### **Election of Officers:**

School Board member, 3 year term, vote for one:

Wendy Wallus

## **Article 01 Operating Budget**

Shall the School District 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 or as amended by vote of the first session, for the purposes set forth therein, totaling \$9,773,661? Should this article be defeated, the default budget shall be \$9,689,510 which is the same as last year, with certain adjustments required by previous action of the School 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. (Majority vote required.)  
NOTE: Warrant Article #1 (operating budget) does not include appropriations in any other warrant articles.

Recommended by the School Board: 3-0;

Recommended by the Budget Committee: 9-0

## **North Hampton School District Warrant - Page 2**

Lisa Gagalis moved to place Article 1 on the floor for discussion. Seconded by Katelyn Belanger

Matt Ferreira addressed the Operating Budget. He thanked the School Board for their hard work and reviewed the budget.

Ann Marie Banfield asked how many students were placed out of district and the name of the schools.

Matt responded that it is 2 students attending Monarch School.

Ann Marie Banfield asked if the school check registry is online.

Matt responded, no.

Tim Failey asked if the reduction in the retirement benefits line item will reduce benefits that retirees receive.

Matt responded, no.

Tim Failey noted that administration are receiving a cost of living adjustment in relation to inflation, but if the Collective Bargaining Agreement (CBA) passes, teachers will receive less, essentially taking a pay cut in relation to inflation.

Matt agreed, but explained that because the CBA is a negotiated 3 year agreement and must be passed by multiple towns to take effect, it does not always match inflation.

Ann Marie Banfield asked for confirmation regarding the salaries of the guidance councilor and school nurse, noting that these positions do not work the entire year.

Matt confirmed that these positions work the same number of days as teachers.

Madam Moderator noted Article 01 will appear on the official ballot as presented.

Lisa Gagalis moved to restrict reconsideration of Article 1, seconded by Katelyn Belanger.

Motion passed by show of hands.

### **Article 02 Seacoast Education Association Collective Bargaining Agreement**

To see if the School District will vote to approve the cost items included in the collective bargaining agreement reached between the North Hampton School Board and the Seacoast Education Association for the following increases and reductions in salaries and benefits at the current staffing levels:

Year	Estimated Salary Increase	Estimated Health/ Dental Insurance Costs	Estimated Salary Driven Benefits Increase	TOTAL Estimated Costs
2023-24	\$197,247	\$2,256	\$54,855	\$255,357
2024-25	\$156,565	\$600	\$43,322	\$200,487
2025-26	\$136,798	\$600	\$37,852	\$175,250
2026-27	\$137,725	\$600	\$38,109	\$176,434

and further to raise and appropriate the sum of \$255,357 for the 2023-24 school 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 in accordance with the current collective bargaining agreement. (Majority vote required.)

Recommended by the School Board: 5-0; Recommended by the Budget Committee: 6-2

NOTE: In order for this article to be adopted, it must be approved by the voters of the school districts of Hampton Falls, North Hampton, Seabrook, South Hampton and the voters of the Winnacunnet Cooperative School District (which includes Hampton voters).

Michael Gendre moved to place Article 2 on the floor for discussion, Seconded by Marianne von Jess.

Matt Ferreira explained the Collective Bargaining Agreement, stressing that it must be passed by all 4 towns and on the Winnacunnet Ballot.

## ***North Hampton School District Warrant - Page 3***

Tim Failey noted that even if this passes, teachers will receive a 5% increase, 2% less than COLA.

Madam Moderator noted Article 2 will appear on the official ballot as presented.

Michael Gendre moved to restrict reconsideration of Article 2, seconded by Marianne von Jess.

Motion passed by show of hands.

### **Article 03 School Resource Officer**

To see if the School District will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$115,000 for the purpose of providing a School Resource Officer to serve the North Hampton School. (Majority vote required)

Recommended by the School Board: 4-0; Recommended by the Budget Committee: 7-2

Marianne von Jess moved to place Article 3 on the floor for discussion. Seconded by Lisa Gagalis.

Matt Ferreira explained the Article 3.

Ann Marie Banfield expressed concern that the salary is high compared to other areas such as Manchester; and questioned why an officer can not be shared with other towns.

Matt explained that the salary used in the article is an average and includes all associated benefits whereas the salary quoted for Manchester is a starting salary and does not include benefits.

Brian Belanger expressed support for the article and the importance of a full-time officer.

Tim Failey asked if NHS had a SRO in the past and if so, why was the practice stopped.

James Sununu commented that to the best of his knowledge the school never had a dedicated officer and the practice was stopped due to other department requirements.

Donna McCay stated that Mike Olivera used to be the school officer under the DARE program.

Tim Failey asked if a private services was considered rather than the PD, and if the town can raise the funds if the article fails.

Matt noted that a private service had not be considered.

Rick Stanton stated that by state law, no means no and therefore a failure of the articles prevents going forward.

Madam Moderator noted Article 3 will appear on the official ballot as presented.

Marianne von Jess moved to restrict reconsideration of Article 3, seconded by Lisa Gagalis.

Motion passed by show of hands.

### **Article 04 Long Term Maintenance**

To see if the School District will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$75,000 to carry out long term maintenance work in the North Hampton School building and grounds. Anticipated projects include, but are not limited to: replacement of gym exterior doors and repairs to rubber playground surface. This will be a non-lapsing appropriation per RSA 32:7, VI and will not lapse until the projects are completed or June 30, 2026, whichever is earlier. (Majority vote required.)

Recommended by the School Board: 3-0; Recommended by the Budget Committee: 9-0

Katelyn Belanger moved to place Article 4 on the floor for discussion. Seconded by Marianne von Jess.

Matt Ferreira explained the Article 4.

## ***North Hampton School District Warrant - Page 4***

Seeing no comments or questions, Madam Moderator noted Article 4 will appear on the official ballot as presented.

Katelyn Belanger moved to restrict reconsideration of Article 4, seconded by Marianne von Jess.  
Motion passed by show of hands.

### **Article 05 Building Maintenance Expendable Trust**

To see if the School District will vote to raise and appropriate \$50,000 to be added to the existing Building Maintenance Expendable Trust Fund, with up to \$50,000 to be funded from the June 30, 2023 unassigned fund balance available for transfer on July 1, 2023. No additional amount to be raised from taxation. (Majority vote required.)

Recommended by the School Board: 3-0; Recommended by the Budget Committee: 9-0

Lisa Gagalis moved to place Article 5 on the floor for discussion. Seconded by Katelyn Belanger.

Matt Ferreira explained the Article 5.

Seeing no comments or questions, Madam Moderator noted Article 5 will appear on the official ballot as presented.

Lisa Gagalis moved to restrict reconsideration of Article 5, seconded by Katelyn Belanger.  
Motion passed by show of hands.

### **Article 06 Discontinue Technology Expendable Trust**

To see if the School District will vote to discontinue the Technology Expendable Trust Fund created in 2014. Said funds, with accumulated interest to date of withdrawal, are to be transferred to the district's general fund. (Majority vote required.)

Recommended by the School Board: 3-0; Recommended by the Budget Committee: 8-0

Michael Gendre moved to place Article 6 on the floor for discussion. Seconded by Marianne von Jess.

Matt Ferreira explained the Article 6.

Tim Failey asked what will happen to any dollars remaining in the fund.

Matt responded that they will be returned to the general fund, but there is very little money in the fund.

Madam Moderator noted Article 6 will appear on the official ballot as presented.

Michael Gendre moved to restrict reconsideration of Article 6, seconded by Marianne von Jess.  
Motion passed by show of hands.

With no other business, Madam Moderator adjourned the meeting at 8:45 pm.  
Respectfully submitted,



Susan M. Buchanan  
School Clerk  
February 9, 2023