

Town of Exeter
Fact Sheets and Explanatory
Information
Town Warrant 2023



Please Take One

Welcome to the 2023 Town of Exeter Deliberative Session. This year the Town Warrant includes a total of 32 articles to be discussed, debated and possibly amended at this year's session, unless the language of the article is prescribed by law.

The Deliberative Session affords Town residents the ability to directly participate in their town government. Warrant articles include the proposed operating budget for the Town for 2023, along with special, and individual, warrant articles proposed for various initiatives. This year, there are a total of 24 articles that are financial in nature, requesting an appropriation of funds. There are 6 proposed bond articles: articles 3 through 8 on the Town Warrant. These bond articles are for capital projects requiring borrowing and will require 60% vote of the citizens to pass. Article 3 seeks funds for a new police station and fire substation on Continental Drive. Article 4 seeks funding to complete water, sewer, road and drainage improvements in the Westside Drive neighborhood. Article 5 seeks intersection improvement funds to implement traffic solutions at Pine, Front and Linden Streets, as well as Columbus Avenue and Winter Street. Article 6 seeks funds to construct a solar array on the Town landfill property off Cross Road. Article 7 seeks bond funds to continue the Town's groundwater development program begun in 2021. Article 8 seeks funding to replace aged equipment in the Court Street sewer pump station..

Article 9 is a customary article of the slate of Town officers including the Budget Recommendations Committee nominees for 2023.

Articles 10, 11 and 12 are the Town's operating, water, and sewer fund budgets.

Articles 13, 14, 15, 16, 19, and 20 all support Public Works operations. Article 13 seeks funds to replace the vactor truck in the sewer department. Article 14 is an article to do engineering work on sewer capacity rehabilitation. Article 15 would provide funding to repair the Linden Street Bridge. Article 16 would provide funds to replace a 1991 sidewalk tractor for snow/ice operations. Article 19 would replace a Highway Truck (#5, purchased in 2011). Article 20 would provide funds to continue work on the DPW Highway Facility Study. This study would look to create options for a future garage and facility.

Article 17 would appropriate funds to the Parks Improvement Capital Reserve Fund for the purposes of park improvements within the Town.

Articles 18 and 23 are customary articles to fund the Town's Sick Leave Trust Fund and Snow/Ice Deficit Fund.

Article 21 would provide funds to conduct a Downtown Traffic and Parking Analysis.

Article 22 would appropriate \$50,000 to the Town's Conservation Fund, held by the Conservation Commission.

Article 24 would provide funds for a replacement for the Fire Inspector vehicle for the Fire Department.

Article 25 would create a Capital Reserve Fund to assist implementing the Town's ADA transition plan and provide initial funding of \$25,000 for these efforts.

Article 26 would fund the new revolving fund to support the Town Hall. This fund was created by the 2022 Town Meeting and this appropriation of \$5,000 would come from the Town's unassigned fund balance.

Article 27 would appropriate funds into the Swasey Parkway Expendable Trust Fund created by the 2019 Town Meeting. Permit revenues generated from Parkway events are deposited into this fund as a customary article each year.

Article 28 would modify the Town Treasurer from an elected office to an office appointed by the Select Board and Town Manager.

Article 29 would modify the current Cable Television Revolving Fund to allow for a different percentage of the franchise fee to be used to support cable access in Exeter. The current percentage of 50% goes into the general fund, and 50% goes into the cable television fund. The new percentage would be at the Select Board's discretion.

Article 30 would readopt the current veteran's tax credit at \$500. This readoption was required by the state legislature for 2023..

Article 31 is a Citizen's Petition put forward by Dwane Staples regarding keeping Swasey Parkway open to one way traffic.

Article 32 is a Citizen's Petition that would establish a single use plastics ordinance in Exeter.

There is 1 zoning amendment this year (Article 2), and that language is set by law and cannot be amended. Zoning amendments are subject to public hearings at the Planning Board and go onto the ballot as written for a vote on March 14th, 2023.

Overview

Each article will be introduced and read by the Moderator, excepting those that are not subject to amendment. Discussion, if any, will then take place. Amendments that are proposed will be discussed and deliberated at the meeting. Once discussion is complete and articles are finalized, the moderator will declare the item closed.

Questions from the floor on any article can be directed by raising one's hand and asking to be recognized by the Moderator. All questions and comments should go through the Moderator.

The following pages of this brochure include fact sheets and information. We hope you find it a helpful reference document.

Articles that are ultimately amended (or not) will appear on the official ballot for popular vote at the Town Election on Tuesday, March 14th, 2023. Second session voting will take place at the

Talbot Gymnasium at 30 Linden Street. Polls will be open 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. for a final vote on all town and school officers and warrant articles.

Town of Exeter Fact Sheet 2023
Zoning Amendment #1

Article 2 – Zoning Amendment #1:

Article 2 - Zoning Amendment #1: Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment #1 as proposed by the Planning Board for the town zoning ordinance to amend Article 9.4 Floodplain Development Ordinance? The intent of this amendment is to prevent new or expansion of existing septic systems within the special flood hazard area (exceptions are made for cases of system failure), require all new construction within the regulated floodplain be elevated at least two feet above the Base Flood Elevation, incorporate an "Advisory Sea Level Rise (SLR) Risk Areas", and to include minor text modifications.

Description

With funding provided by the NH Dept. of Environmental Services Coastal Program, the Town of Exeter partnered with Rockingham Planning Commission (RPC) to review the Town's floodplain development zoning ordinance for the purposes of strengthening the Town's resilience to increased flooding events and reducing impacts associated with rising sea levels. This review resulted in proposed amendments to Article 9.4 Floodplain Development Ordinance. The purpose of proposed changes are as follows:

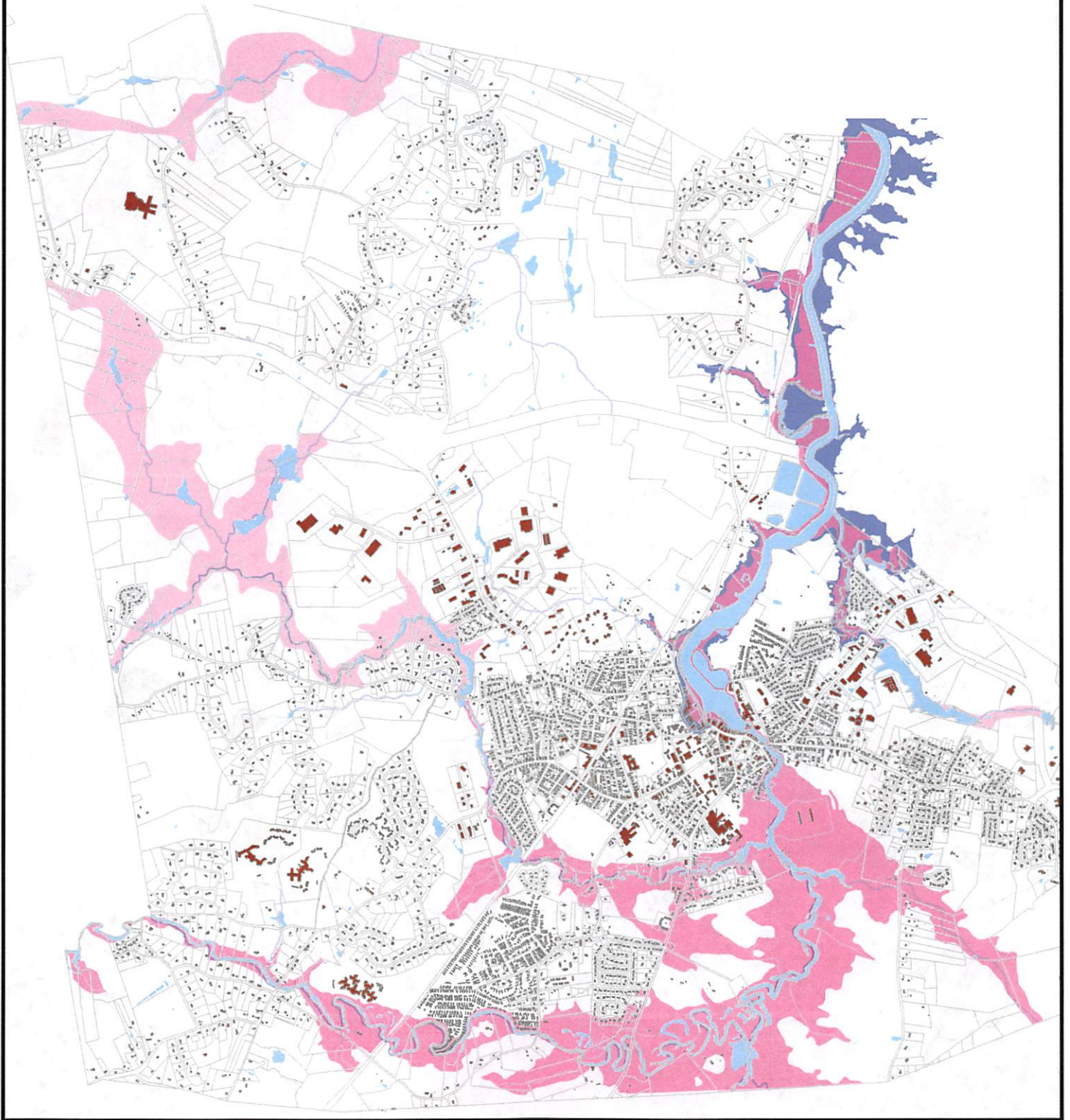
- 1) Prohibit the installation of new septic systems or the expansion of existing septic systems within the special flood hazard area. The ordinance does include exceptions for cases of system failure or malfunction. This change is recommended because increased heavy precipitation events associated with climate change add to the problem of a rising groundwater table. When groundwater tables rise, this can reduce separation distances to the leach field base, compromising the systems' ability to treat bacteria and pathogens in wastewater. Further, leach fields rely on unsaturated soil for proper physical and biochemical treatment of wastewater. Both of these scenarios can create risk of ground and surface water contamination through improper conditions for wastewater treatment. By preventing the installation of new septic systems in the special flood hazard area, we are taking preemptive measures to ensure our community remains resilient in the face of climate change impacts
- 2) Require all new residential and commercial construction, or substantial improvements to existing residential and commercial structures within the special flood hazard area to be elevated such that the lowest floor is at least two feet above the Base Flood Elevation (BFE). The additional height above the base flood elevation provides increased protection to the structure's lowest floor and provides the property owner with savings on their flood insurance policy. Other benefits include less flood damage in the community, less business interruption, quicker recovery, and higher property values. The increased freeboard requirement is a recommendation for Exeter in the Town's 2017 C-RiSE Vulnerability Assessment.
- 3) Incorporate an "Advisory Sea Level Rise (SLR) Risk Areas" into the zoning ordinance to show which areas in town are projected to be impacted by projected sea level rise and storm surge. The purpose of the sea level rise risk areas is to provide the town with an opportunity to educate landowners and the public about potential future risks to property and to encourage any construction within the climate change risk areas to adhere to more stringent building and design standards. The provisions of the SLR risk areas are intended to be advisory at this point in time.

The Sea Level Rise Risk Areas as shown on the accompanying map were delineated by overlaying the moderate sea level rise scenario (4.0 feet by 2100) to the 1% annual chance storm event data based on the 2015 effective Digital Flood Insurance Rate Maps (DFIRM) for Rockingham County. Sea level rise scenarios described in New Hampshire's Coastal Flood Risk Summary – Part 1: Science publication were used for this project.

Identifying areas most vulnerable to sea level rise and storm surge as well as implementing land use policies and regulations to reduce risk from sea level rise are goals identified in the town's master plan (PREPARE Action 2a, 2b & 2c).


- 4) Administrative changes to definitions and existing language to better align Exeter's ordinance to the State's floodplain development model ordinance.

Exeter Floodplain Development Ordinance Amendment



FEMA Flood Hazard Areas

100 Year (1% Annual Chance)

 A No Base Flood Elevation

 AE Base Flood Elevation Determined

Advisory Area

 Sea Level Rise Risk Area (4'+ Storm Surge)

 Waterbodies

 Parcel Boundaries

 Buildings

0 0.5 1 2 Miles





Exeter Floodplain Development Ordinance Amendment




FEMA Flood Hazard Areas

100 Year (1% Annual Chance)

 A No Base Flood Elevation

 AE Base Flood Elevation Determined

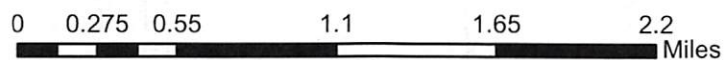
Advisory Area

 Sea Level Rise Risk Area (4'+Storm Surge)

 Waterbodies

 Parcel Boundaries

 Buildings



Town of Exeter Fact Sheet 2023

Article 3

Article 3 - Police Station and Fire Substation (\$16,300,000)

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of sixteen million three hundred thousand and zero dollars (\$16,300,000) for the purpose of design, engineering and "net zero" construction of a new police station and fire substation on Continental Drive, and to authorize the issuance of not more than \$16,300,000 of bonds or notes in accordance with the provisions of the Municipal Finance Act (RSA 33); and further to authorize the Select Board to issue and negotiate such bonds or notes and to determine the rate of interest thereon; and further to authorize the Select Board to apply for, obtain and accept federal, state or other aid, if any, including principal forgiveness, which may become available for this project. Debt service to be paid from the general fund. (Estimated Tax Impact: assuming a 20-year bond at 4.00% interest: .65/1,000, \$65/100,000 of assessed property value). Bond payments would begin approximately one year after issuance.

(3/5 ballot vote required for approval.) Recommended by the Select Board 4-0.

Description

The proposed new Exeter Police Department and Fire substation is located on the corner of Continental Drive and Jillian Lane. The site is relatively flat in the front and slopes up toward the back of the property requiring retaining walls to accommodate the PD and FD secure parking, auto impound, a 2-bay detached garage, and a trash enclosure. A 60' apparatus apron will be provided from the FD substation with direct access to Continental Drive. The proposed two-story building is approximately 23,165 gross square feet (16,285 GSF for the Police Department and 6,880 GSF for the Fire Substation). Visitors will enter the building from the east side of the property under a covered entry entering a two-story vestibule/lobby which will allow natural light into the building. A large Community Room is accessed from the main Lobby allowing flexible day or nighttime use directly from the public lobby. The police officers and staff, and fire crew will enter the building from the rear allowing direct access to their secure departments.

The proposed new Police Station will not necessitate the need for additional staffing since the Exeter Police Department will be able to transition all police sworn and civilian staff entirely into the new Complex.

If the project is approved, the fire department intends to divide our current resources (shifts of 7) to provide staffing at both locations. The plan will be to have a staff of 4 including a Captain and 3 firefighters at our current Court St. location, and a crew of 3 including a Lieutenant and 2 firefighters at the Continental Drive substation. Due to the ongoing support of our residents and taxpayers, we are blessed with enough equipment to safely equip both locations without the need to purchase apparatus or equipment. We intend to move an engine capable of initial attack of any fires in the north and west portions of town and an ambulance. This will leave 3 engines downtown with the ladder truck and an ambulance.

The substation has been designed to support at least one chief level supervisor. During the reorganization after Chief Comeau's retirement, we promoted 2 deputy chief positions (not new employees just reclassified existing positions). These positions will allow us to assign at least 1 deputy chief to the fire sub-station and leave the Chief of Department, Asst. Chief, and Deputy Chief of Prevention assigned to the Court St. station.

There will be no need to hire additional personnel, buy additional apparatus or equipment, or promote any additional supervisors if the new police station/fire sub-station is approved.

Some key features of the building will include:

- A two-stall sally port with a secure entry from the rear of the PD building.
- Secure parking for PD vehicles, PD staff, and FD staff.
- An open-air covered deck located at the rear of the PD second floor provides a quiet place for PD staff to take a break and as a decompression area.
- A two-bay apparatus floor will accommodate a large fire truck, EMS ambulance, work truck and associated FD storage.
- The Firehouse provides decontamination spaces and healthy firefighter living and work areas.

Conceptual drawings of the building are included below.

Sustainability Initiatives

1. The proposed building will meet &/or exceed the current NH energy code
2. The building will be designed with all electrical equipment which will be Net Zero or Passive House ready in the future for solar panels.
3. Sustainable materials, low flow fixtures and LED lights will be used throughout the project.

Financing

This project will be financed by a bond. The bonded amount would be \$16.3 million dollars, amortized over 20 years. Based on a bonded amount of 16.3 million dollars over 20 years at a projected interest rate of 4.00%, the first year debt service payment would be \$1,467,000. This equates to a first year impact of 65 cents per 1,000, or \$196 on a \$300,000 home. The 20th year impact on the same home would be \$113. The average impact over the 20 years is projected at \$155 per year for a \$300,000 home.



1 FRONT MASSING MODEL - 1
PRE3-0.1B



2 FRONT MASSING MODEL - 2
PRE3-0.1B

POLICE DEPARTMENT & FIRE SUBSTATION - OPTION 1B

NEW CONSTRUCTION

TOWN OF EXETER

POLICE DEPARTMENT & FIRE SUBSTATION - CONTINENTAL DRIVE

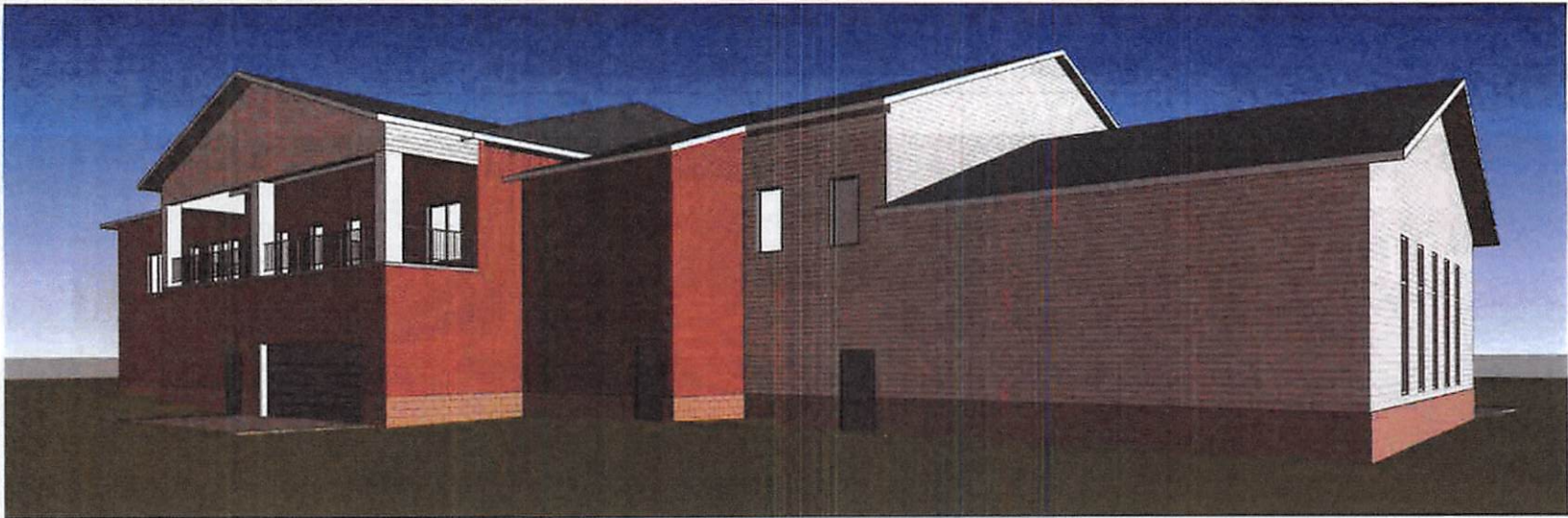
EXTERIOR MASSING

SCALE:

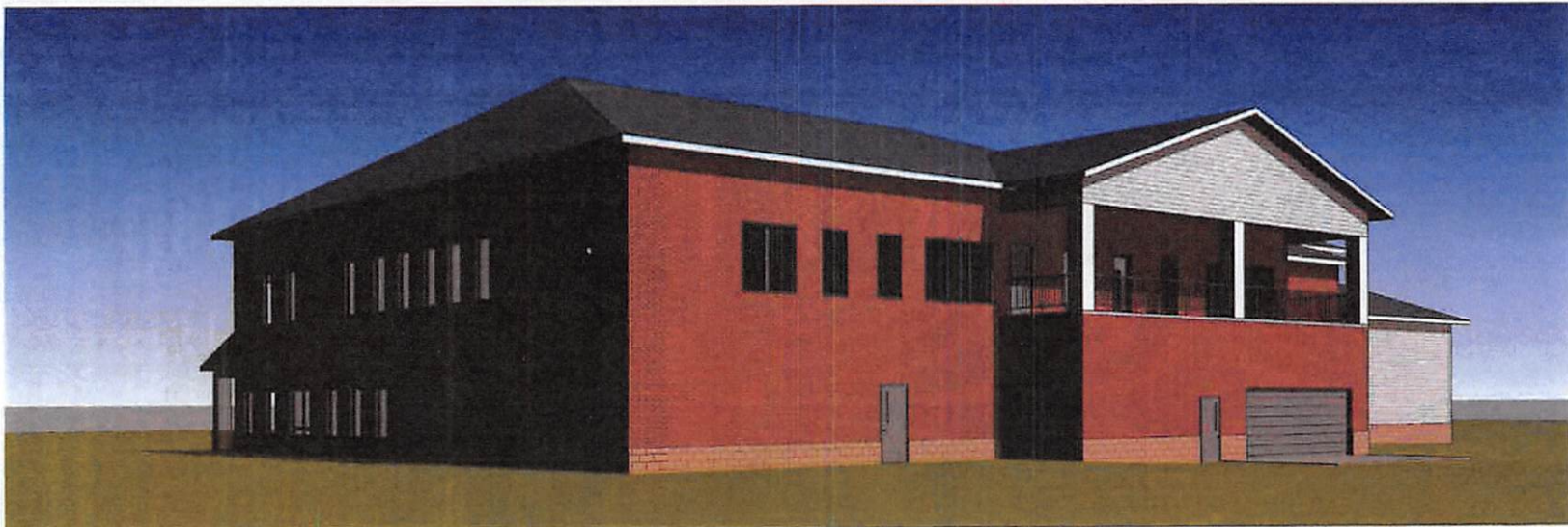


September 2, 2022

LAVALLEE|BRENSINGER ARCHITECTS



1 REAR MASSING MODEL - 1
PRES-0.10



2 REAR MASSING MODEL - 2
PRES-0.10

NEW CONSTRUCTION

TOWN OF EXETER

POLICE DEPARTMENT & FIRE SUBSTATION - CONTINENTAL DRIVE

EXTERIOR MASSING

SCALE:

LAVALLEE|BRENSINGER ARCHITECTS



September 2, 2022

Town of Exeter Fact Sheet 2023

Article 4

Article 4 – Westside Drive Area Reconstruction (\$6,020,000)

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of six million twenty thousand and zero dollars (\$6,020,000) for the purpose of construction of water, sewer and drainage improvements in the Westside Drive area, and to authorize the issuance of not more than \$6,020,000 of bonds or notes in accordance with the provisions of the Municipal Finance Act (RSA 33); and further to authorize the Select Board to issue and negotiate such bonds or notes and to determine the rate of interest thereon; and further to authorize the Select Board to apply for, obtain and accept federal, state or other aid, if any, including principal forgiveness, which may become available for this project. The Town will receive 20% debt forgiveness from NHDES to offset a portion of the cost of this project. Debt service will be paid from the general fund, water fund, and sewer fund. (Estimated Tax Impact: assuming 15 year bond at 4.00% interest: \$.115/1,000, \$11.50/100,000 of assessed property value). Bond payments would begin approximately one year after issuance.

(3/5 ballot vote required for approval.) Recommended by the Select Board 4-0.

Description

The Westside Drive area has significant sewer inflow/infiltration (I/I) issues and asbestos cement (AC) water mains that are nearing their useful lifespan. The I/I, extraneous non-sanitary sewer flows, comes mostly from the private portion of the sewer system. In this neighborhood, homeowners have a difficult time removing the flows from the sewer service because of the high groundwater, low permeability soils, and lack of available drainage systems. In FY20, the town approved \$100,000 for the planning and concept design for this project. Included in that \$100,000 was a \$75,000 NHDES SRF loan with 100% forgiveness. The planning and conceptual report is finished and can be found on the town website. In FY22 the town approved \$330,715 for the design of the project which included \$99,215 in State ARPA funds and \$23,150 in forgiveness.

The \$6,020,000 estimate was calculated during the planning effort. The roadways are wider than necessary which contributes excess stormwater due to impervious surfaces. Additional drain lines will be constructed to help mitigate the high groundwater and I/I issues. The AC water main, installed in the mid-1960s, has experienced corroded service connections with 10 water main breaks over the last 15 years and will be replaced. This project will reduce I/I, improve water system reliability, and reconstruct the roadway.

Financing

This project will be financed by a bond. The bonded amount would be \$6.02 million dollars, amortized over 15 years. Based on a bonded amount of 6.02 million dollars over 15 years at a projected interest rate of 4.00%, the first year debt service payment would be \$642,133. Of this amount, \$257,600 would be charged to the general fund, \$292,800 to the water fund, and \$91,733 to the sewer fund. This equates to a first year impact of 11.5 cents per 1,000, or \$34.50 on a \$300,000 home. The 15th year impact on the same home would be \$22.50 as interest is paid down. The water fund and the sewer fund would pay debt service on the water and sewer parts of the project.

Town of Exeter Fact Sheet 2023
Article 5

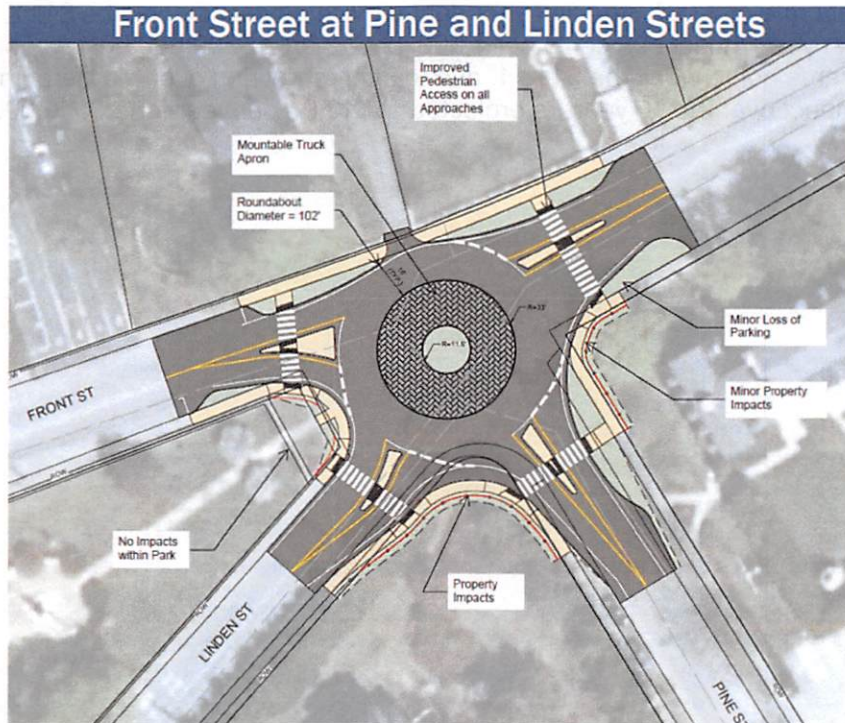
Article 5 – Intersection Improvements (\$798,000)

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of seven hundred ninety eight thousand and zero dollars (\$798,000) for the purpose of making intersection improvements to the Pine Street, Linden Street, and Front Street intersection, and the Railroad Avenue, Winter Street and Columbus Street intersection, and to authorize the issuance of not more than \$798,000 of bonds or notes in accordance with the provisions of the Municipal Finance Act (RSA 33); and further to authorize the Select Board to issue and negotiate such bonds or notes and to determine the rate of interest thereon; and further to authorize the Select Board to apply for, obtain and accept federal, state or other aid, if any, including principal forgiveness, which may become available for this project. Debt service will be paid from the general fund. (Estimated Tax Impact: assuming 10 year bond at 4.00% interest: .050/1,000, \$5.00/100,000 of assessed property value). Bond payments would begin approximately one year after issuance.

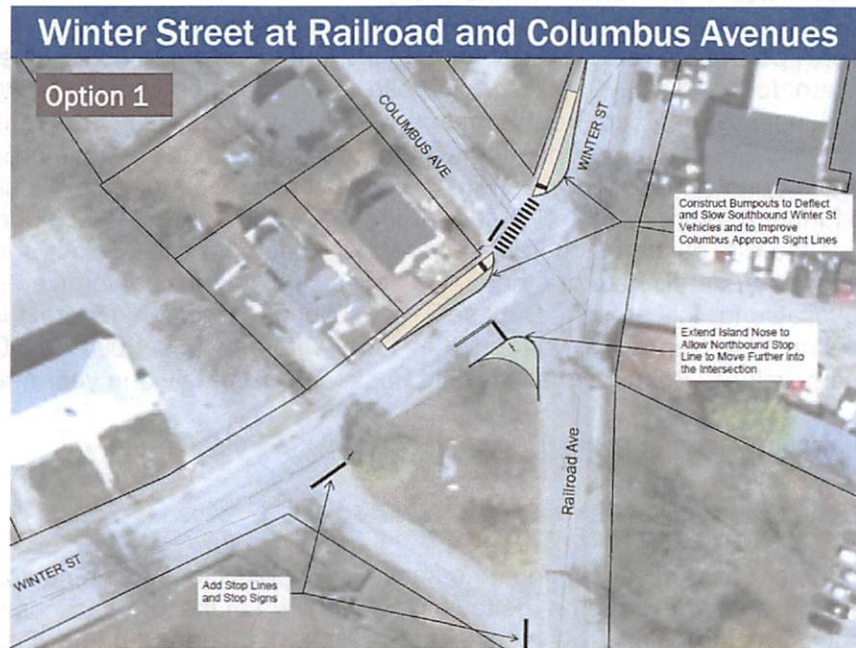
(3/5 ballot vote required for approval.) Recommended by the Select Board 4-0.

Description

A warrant in FY19 for \$50,000 studied four intersections for possible improvements. The entire analysis and sketches can be found on the town website. Two of the intersections are proposed for improvements. The largest improvement is for the Pine St, Linden St and Front St intersection for \$720,000. The proposed improvement creates a roundabout with the following benefits: 1) slows Front St traffic 2) improves access from Pine and Linden Streets 3) improves pedestrian access and 4) expected to reduce crash severity if accidents occur. There are some property impacts which will need to be addressed during project design.



The Railroad Ave, Winter St and Columbus Ave intersection modifies the edge of pavement to add additional sight lines at stop locations. The estimate for this portion of the project is \$78,000.



Financing

This project will be financed by a bond. The bonded amount would be \$798,000 dollars, amortized over 10 years. Based on a bonded amount of \$798,000 dollars over 10 years at a projected interest rate of 4.00%, the first year debt service payment would be \$111,720. This equates to a first year impact of 5 cents per 1,000, or \$15 on a \$300,000 home. The 10th year impact on the same home would be \$11.11, due to interest retiring over the life of the bond. The average impact over the 10 years is projected at \$13.04 per year for a \$300,000 home.

Town of Exeter Fact Sheet 2023
Article 6
Solar Array Landfill Property

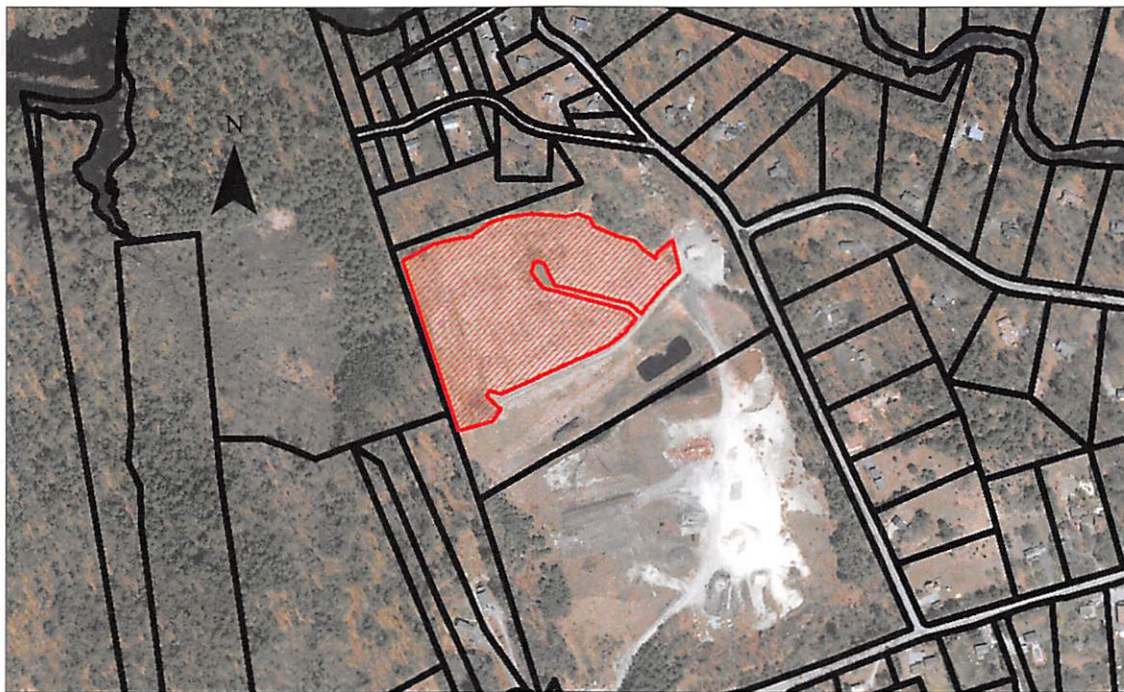
Article 6 – Solar Array Landfill Property (\$1,609,645)


To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of one million six hundred nine thousand six hundred and forty five dollars (\$1,609,645) to be added to Article 4 of the 2021 Town Meeting, for the purpose of constructing a solar array on Town owned land described as Map 98 Lot 3, and Tax Map 100 Lot 4, and authorize the issuance of not more than \$1,609,645 of bonds or notes to be added to \$3,617,629 in bonding authority approved by Article 4 of the 2021 Town Meeting, all in accordance with the provisions of the Municipal Finance Act (RSA 33); and further to authorize the Select Board to issue and negotiate such bonds or notes and to determine the rate of interest thereon; and further to authorize the Select Board to apply for, obtain and accept federal, state or other aid, if any, including principal forgiveness, which may become available for this project. Debt service will be paid by the revenue generated by selling the power and Renewable Energy Certificates and the proceeds from the 30% Solar Investment Tax Credit. (Estimated Tax Impact: none, assuming revenues and assuming a 20-year bond at 4.00% interest). Bond payments would begin approximately one year after issuance.

(3/5 ballot vote required for approval.) Recommended by the Select Board 4-0.

Description

General Description: The Town would construct a 1.77-Megawatt solar array on Town-owned property on top of the landfill on Cross Rd. The Town would own and maintain the system in order to maximize the benefits of the system to the Town.



 potential solar array area

This proposal did go before the voters in March 2021 where it received overwhelming support. After the vote, there were delays with the interconnection study coupled with inflation that made the project less viable from a financial standpoint. However, in August of 2022, the US government passed the Inflation Reduction Act that provided a 30% Investment Tax Credit for municipalities to construct renewable energy systems. This credit makes the project viable again as the additional funds being requested are mostly offset by the tax credit. If this vote is successful, the town does not anticipate the delays that occurred after the last vote since all preliminary work has now been completed.

The Town would issue a bond to construct the array. As set forth in the Exeter Landfill Cash Flow created by ReVision Energy and available at <https://www.exeternh.gov/elections/article-6-solar-array-landfill-property>, the project would be cash positive from Year 1. The Town also hired an independent third party, Competitive Energy Services (CES), to conduct its own cash flow for the project that can also be found on the link above.

It is anticipated that the Town will initially sell the Renewable Energy Credits (RECS) to offset costs, and will stop selling the RECS when it is desirable to do so, at which time the Town will use them to offset municipal greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. This project will supply approximately 92% of the Town's municipal operations electricity use according to the GHG Emissions Inventory conducted by the Town in 2020.

This project was reviewed by both the Energy Committee and Sustainability Committee. A member from each of these committees was on the interview panel when reviewing proposals. Both of these committees are in full support of this project.

Financing

This project will be financed by a bond. The bonded amount would be \$5,227,274 million dollars, amortized over 20 years. Based on the bonded amount over 20 years at a projected interest rate of 4.0%, the first-year debt service payment would be \$384,631.97. The financing plan for this project includes annual revenues and renewable energy credits to offset the amount of debt service, resulting in no tax impact. At year 20, once the bond is fully paid, all revenues from solar array would revert back to the Town.

Town of Exeter Fact Sheet 2023
Article 7

Article 7 – Groundwater Source Development (\$500,000)

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000) for the purpose of continuing efforts to develop groundwater sources in the town, and to authorize the issuance of not more than \$500,000 of bonds or notes in accordance with the provisions of the Municipal Finance Act (RSA 33); and further to authorize the Select Board to issue and negotiate such bonds or notes and to determine the rate of interest thereon; and further to authorize the Select Board to apply for, obtain and accept federal, state or other aid, if any, including principal forgiveness, which may become available for this project. Debt service to be paid from the Water Fund.

(3/5 ballot vote required for approval.) Recommended by the Select Board 4-0.

Description

Additional groundwater sources are necessary to supplement the existing three groundwater sources (Stadium, Gilman and Lary Lane Wells) and the surface water sources (Exeter River & Exeter Reservoir) in accordance with the Town's Integrated Management Plan for water supply and to meet projected demands. Hydrogeologists and engineers working for the Town have identified a potential groundwater source near Drinkwater Road. A test production well indicates a 400 gallon per minute well is possible. A Large Groundwater Withdrawal Application has been submitted to NHDES for approval as land owner discussions continue. A gravel packed production well will be constructed with previously approved funds once the state permit and landowner permission are received. The \$500,000 request is to design a well house and raw water transmission line from this location to the Lary Lane Water Treatment Plant (WTP). The Lary Lane WTP was originally designed with additional space so that future water sources can be treated.

Financing

This project will be financed by a bond. The bonded amount would be \$500,000 dollars, amortized over 10 years. Based on a bonded amount of \$500,000 over 10 years at a projected interest rate of 4.00%, the first year debt service payment would be \$70,000. Debt service would be paid by the Water Fund.



Stadium Well pumping station

Town of Exeter Fact Sheet 2022

Article 8

Water Fund Budget

Article 8 – Court Street Sewer Pump Station Equipment Replacement (\$400,000)

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of four hundred thousand dollars (\$400,000) for the purpose of replacing aged equipment at the Court Street sewer pump station, and to authorize the issuance of not more than \$400,000 of bonds or notes in accordance with the provisions of the Municipal Finance Act (RSA 33); and further to authorize the Select Board to issue and negotiate such bonds or notes and to determine the rate of interest thereon; and further to authorize the Select Board to apply for, obtain and accept federal, state or other aid, if any, including principal forgiveness, which may become available for this project. Debt service to be paid from the Sewer Fund.

(3/5 ballot vote required for approval.) Recommended by the Select Board 4-0.

Description

Court Street Pump Station, constructed in 1985, conveys an average of 225,000 gallons of sewerage per day. The three existing 20 hp Paco pumps, originally rated at 1350 gallons per minute, have exhausted their useful life. The pumps frequently break down and parts are no longer readily available. Many of the necessary new parts have to be built and machined from scratch. The three new replacement pumps would be more energy efficient and sized properly to handle current and future sanitary sewer flows.



Financing

This project will be financed by a bond. The bonded amount would be \$400,000 dollars, amortized over 5 years. Based on a bonded amount of \$400,000 over 5 years at a projected interest rate of 4.00%, the first year debt service payment would be \$96,000. Debt service would be paid by the Sewer Fund.

Town of Exeter Fact Sheet 2023

Article 9

Choose Town Officers

Article 9

To choose all other necessary Town Officers, Auditors or Committees for the ensuing year.

Description

The slate of nominees for the 2023 Budget Recommendations Committee, Fence Viewer, Measurer of Wood and Bark, and Weigher, will be presented under this article.

Tax Impact of Project

No tax impact.

Town of Exeter Fact Sheet 2023
Article 10

Article 10 – 2023 Operating Budget

Shall the Town of Exeter raise and appropriate as an operating budget, not including appropriation 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 \$21,287,697. Should this article be defeated, the default budget shall be \$21,049,573, which is the same as last year, with certain adjustments required by previous action of the Town of Exeter 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: .43/1,000 assessed property value, \$43/100,000 assessed property value).

(Majority vote required) Recommended by the Select Board 4-0.

Description

Article 10 of the Town Warrant is the 2023 General Fund Operating Budget request. As Exeter is an “SB2” Town there are two numbers on the warrant. The first is the Operating Budget recommended by the Select Board. The second number is the “default budget” which cannot be amended. The default budget goes into effect if the Operating Budget is voted down at the polls on March 14th, 2023. The 2023 proposed Operating Budget is 3.08% higher than the 2022 budget. The dollar differential is \$636,974.

The detail of the 2023 Operating Budget is contained on the MS636 form, which outlines all purposes for funding in 2023 for the General Fund, the Water Fund, Sewer Fund, and other proposed warrant articles. The General Fund is the Town’s main operating fund and pays for all Town operations. The Police, Fire, and Public Works budgets make up approximately 67% of the total 2023 General Fund budget of \$21,287,697. In 2022, these departments also made up approximately 67% of the budget request.

<u>Fund</u>	<u>2023 Default Budget</u>	<u>2023 Operating Budget</u>	<u>% Increase over Default</u>
General	21,049,573	21,287,697	1.13%

<u>Fund</u>	<u>2022 Operating Adjusted Budget</u>	<u>2023 Operating Budget</u>	<u>% Increase over 2022</u>
General	20,650,723	21,287,697	3.08%

As noted above, the Town’s Operating Budget request for 2023 is a 3.08%, or \$636,974 increase over the approved Operating Budget for 2022.

The table below shows the year over year budget increases/(decreases) for each program area over the three year period:

Function	FY21 Adopted	FY22 Budget	FY23 Proposed	% '23/'22
General Government	1,157,515	1,239,834	1,295,456	4.5%
Finance	691,833	711,863	696,787	-2.1%
Planning & Building	533,540	568,675	584,861	2.85%
Economic Development	147,302	153,114	159,558	4.2%
Police	3,403,634	3,530,920	3,698,315	4.7%
Fire	3,784,396	3,883,095	4,081,513	5.1%
Communications/Health	497,006	578,982	588,980	1.7%
Public Works – Gen Fund	4,345,531	4,494,655	4,589,058	2.1%
Maintenance - Garage	1,214,664	1,249,359	1,284,329	2.8%
Welfare/Human Services	179,840	181,657	183,416	1.0%
Parks/Recreation	580,176	640,116	602,375	-5.9%
Other Culture/Recreation	33,500	34,000	34,000	0%
Public Library	1,081,267	1,124,643	1,172,320	4.2%
Debt Service/Capital	1,775,086	1,784,835	1,733,763	-2.9%
Benefits/Taxes/Fixed Costs	465,795	474,975	582,966	22.7%
Total General Fund	19,891,082	20,650,723	21,287,697	3.08%

Town Budget and Warrant Process

- August – September: Town Departments prepare preliminary budget and submit to Town Manager.
- September: Town Manager submits preliminary budget to Select Board and Budget Recommendations Committee, along with Capital Improvement requests.
- October: Town receives annual health insurance rating and budget is adjusted.
- October – November: Budget Recommendations Committee and subcommittees (Police/Fire, General Government, Rec/Library/Human Services, DPW General, DPW Water/Sewer) meet with departments, review budgets, and make recommendations on budget and capital improvement program. All meetings are open to the public. Minutes and streamed meetings available to the public.
- December: Select Board receives recommendations of BRC and discusses budget. Select Board finalize budget for proposal to Deliberative Session and Town voters after January public hearing.
- Saturday, February 4th, 2023, 9:00 a.m.. – Town Deliberative Session, discussion of warrant articles. Amendments for articles that are able to be amended are discussed. Registered voters can participate.
- Tuesday, March 14th, 2023 – Town vote on Operating Budgets and Warrant Articles. Talbot Gym, Linden Street, Exeter, 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. – voting on all Town and school articles.

FY23 Budget Format – Town Warrant

- Three separate Operating Budget warrant articles. General Fund, Water Fund, and Sewer Fund (2023 articles 10, 11 and 12).
- Warrant articles for Operating Budget in required format under RSA 40:13.
- Each Operating Budget has its own default budget (should the budget article be voted down, default budget goes into effect).
- Financial articles (bonds, individual, and special warrant articles) stand alone for separate vote on warrant.
- Budget forms MS636 and MSDTB reflect DRA approved format.

FY23 Budget Commentary – Wage/Benefit Categories

Wages – Budgeted wages in the FY23 budget include a step adjustment of 2.50% plus a 2.0% COLA adjustment for all eligible non union employees, and 2.50% step increases for three unions. In addition, all three collective bargaining agreements now include incentives, career enhancement payouts, and shift differential (police only). The overall increase in General Fund wages for FY23 is budgeted at \$537,484, or 5.90%.

Insurance – The budgeted insurance increase for FY23 is 1.88%, or \$43,481. This is based on the FY23 rates set by HealthTrust, which includes a 1.5% plan decrease in insurance premiums. Plan changes account for the necessary budgetary adjustments (as opposed to the premium increases). It also includes dental, life, and long term disability insurance.

Retirement Costs – Group 1 and Group 2 retirement costs are increasing 3.35%, or \$67,468, in the proposed FY23 budget. Contribution rates will decrease halfway through the FY23 budget year: Group 1 employees from 14.06% to 13.53%, Group 2 employees (Police) from 33.88% to 31.28%, and Group 2 employees (Fire) from 32.99% to 30.35%.

FY23 General Fund Budget Discussion

FY23 budget request is \$21,287,697, a 3.08% increase, or \$636,974 over the FY22 adjusted budget of \$20,650,723. The Town budget makes up approximately 23% of overall property tax bill.

The Operating Budget includes the following Town Departments and functions:

General Government (Executive/Legislative, Human Resources, Town Clerk/Elections, Legal, Transportation, Information Technology, Trustees of Trust Funds, Town Moderator),

Finance/Treasurer/Tax Collection/Assessing,

Planning, Building, Economic Development, Land Use Boards,

Police, Animal Control, Communications, Fire/EMS, Emergency Management, Health,

DPW General Fund (Administration & Engineering, Highways/Streets, Snow Removal, Solid Waste, Street Lights, Stormwater), DPW Maintenance, DPW Town Buildings (Utilities, Maintenance, Projects), DPW Mechanics/Garage,

Welfare/Human Services Agency Grants,

Parks/Recreation, Other Culture/Recreation,

Public Library,

Debt Service & Capital,

Benefits and Taxes.

FY23 General Fund Budget Notes

Expenses

- Largest three Town Departments are Police, Fire/EMS, and Public Works. These three functions make up approximately 66% of the total General Fund.

- Personnel Requests – There are 2 new personnel requests in the FY23 budget. One position is in Human Resources (PT Assistant), and one position is in the Public Works Department – GIS Manager.

FY23 General Fund Revenue Projections

- Motor vehicle permit revenue at \$3,150,000.
- Estimated land use change tax of \$50,000.
- Estimated department income \$980,900 (blue bag fees, brush dump fees, transfer station permit fees)
- EMS fund transfer of \$216,750 forecast.
- Interest income decrease from FY22 to \$20,000.
- Use of Fund Balance of \$800,000 to lower tax rate (planned)
- Total revenues applicable to budget - \$7,742,150
- Total Budget Estimate: \$21,287,697
- Total Taxes Estimated to be raised by 2023 budget: \$13,545,547 (2023 budget of \$21,287,697 - \$7,742,150 in estimated revenues = \$13,545,547).
- Total Taxes Raised by 2022 budget: \$12,892,010 (including warrant articles)
- Budget as presented represents a .43/1,000 increase in town tax rate (see additional slide, \$6.05 vs. \$5.46 in FY22)
- FY22 town tax rate of \$5.96/1,000 includes warrant articles approved in 2022, veterans credits, and overlay for abatements.

Default Budget

- Budget goes into effect if Operating Budget is not approved
- Does not effect voting on separate warrant articles
- Definition of default budget in RSA 40:13; amended by state legislature in 2018.
- Certain contractual increases can no longer be counted due to new default definition
- Default budget form is MSDTB
- FY23 default budget: \$21,049,573
- Default budget is prior year budget minus one time expenditures plus obligations committed in prior years

General Fund Budget Summary – Town Operations

Article 10, Town Warrant

FY23 Proposed Budget: 3.08% over FY22 budget

FY23 Default Budget: \$21,049,573 – 1.93% over FY22 adjusted budget

FY22 Adjusted Budget: \$20,650,723

Budget Increase over FY22: 3.08%

Dollar increase over FY22: \$636,974

FY23 Operating Budget Tax Impact: \$6.05/1,000*

FY23 Default Budget Tax Impact: \$5.94/1,000*

*Overlay and Veterans Credits add 21 cents to final rate.

Tax Rate Projection Including Overlay/Vets Credits: \$6.26/1,000

2022 Town Tax Rate: \$5.96/1,000

Assumes 1% increase in net taxable valuation in 2023

Latest sales to assessment ratio is 79%

Town of Exeter Fact Sheet 2023
Article 11

Article 11 – 2023 Water Fund Budget

Shall the Town of Exeter raise and appropriate as a water operating budget, not including appropriation 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 \$4,549,370. Should this article be defeated, the water default budget shall be \$4,391,224, which is the same as last year, with certain adjustments required by previous action of the Town of Exeter or by law.

(Majority vote required) Recommended by the Select Board 4-0.

Description

The FY23 Water Fund Budget is a 6.78% increase, or \$288,939 over the FY22 Water Fund Budget.

The Water Fund Budget pays for operations and maintenance on the Town's public water system, which serves approximately 75% of the population. The Town takes water from the Exeter River for its surface water supply, via a pump station in Gilman Park. The system also includes a series of groundwater wells and the Lary Lane groundwater plant. The Town operates three major distribution tanks (Epping Road, Cross Road, Fuller Lane), and the water system has a distribution pipeline of approximately 65 miles of water mains.

<u>Budget Category</u>	<u>FY22</u>	<u>FY23</u>	<u>% Chg</u>	<u>\$\$ Chg</u>
Administration	\$445,520	\$515,961	15.8%	70,441
Billing	192,092	194,578	1.3%	2,486
Distribution	894,623	1,003,750	12.2%	109,128
Treatment	851,625	928,713	9.1%	77,088
Debt Service	1,323,021	1,431,038	8.2%	108,017
<u>Capital Outlay</u>	553,550	475,330	-14.1%	-78,220
Total Budget	\$4,260,431	\$4,549,370	6.78%	288,939

FY23 Water Fund Budget Notes

Highlights

- Water Fund programs: Administration, Billing & Collection, Water Distribution, Water Treatment, Debt Service, Capital Outlay.
- Water Administration. Includes administrative personnel allocation of DPW and General Government, property insurance allocation, public notices budget. Increases include

\$25,000 for consulting to commence lead service line replacement plan, \$10,000 for wage classification/market adjustments. FY23 Budget: \$515,961.

- **Water Billing.** Includes 50% of the water/sewer billing personnel, billing software costs, phone/internet support, finance department allocation, town audit allocation. FY23 Budget: \$194,578.
- **Water Distribution** – includes 50% distribution system personnel (technicians), system maintenance (up \$32,000), tank maintenance contracts (down \$43,623), road repairs (up \$15,000) meter replacements (up \$48,000), natural gas and electric costs of pump station, pump station maintenance, GIS software (up 21,000). FY23 Budget: \$1,003,750.
- **Water Treatment** – includes operator costs for the Surface and Groundwater Treatment Plants. Includes Lagoon cleaning (down \$7,000), equipment maintenance, lab supplies and equipment (up \$5,000), lab testing (up \$8,000), chemicals (up \$30,000), natural gas and electricity to run plants. FY23 Budget: \$928,713.
- **Debt service** – Debt payments on major capital projects. Epping Road Water Tank, Salem Street Utilities Improvements, Lary Lane Groundwater Plant, Washington Street Water Line Replacement and Groundwater Exploration program. FY23 Budget: \$1,431,038..
- **Capital outlay** – Water system capital needs identified in CIP including filter/clarifier replacement and maintenance contract, Stadium well rehabilitation. FY23 Budget: \$475,330.

Budget Overview

<u>Fund</u>	<u>2023 Default Budget</u>	<u>2023 Budget</u>	<u>% Increase over Default</u>
Water Fund	\$4,391,224	\$4,549,370	3.48%

<u>Fund</u>	<u>2022 Operating Adjusted Budget</u>	<u>2023 Operating Budget</u>	<u>% Increase over 2022</u>
Water Fund	\$4,260,431	\$4,549,370	6.78%

Water Fund Revenues

The Water Fund Budget is paid for by fees and other revenues collected from users of the public water system, who are billed on a quarterly basis. The Select Board adjusted water rates in May, 2021 and these rates went into effect with bills issued after the July 1, 2021 billing (the July bill).

The latest water rates are as follows: Tier 1: \$9.32 per 1,000 gallons, Tier 2: \$11.66 per 1,000 gallons, Tier 3: \$13.98 per 1,000 gallons. Gallon tiers are: Tier 1 – up to 21,000 gallons, Tier 2, 21,001 to 105,000 gallons, Tier 3, 105,001 gallons and above. Rates are based on quarterly consumption. Service fees are \$43 per quarter to cover administration and billing costs.

Town of Exeter Fact Sheet 2023
Article 12

Article 12 – 2023 Sewer Fund Budget

Shall the Town of Exeter raise and appropriate as a sewer operating budget, not including appropriation 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 \$7,432,301. Should this article be defeated, the default budget shall be \$7,194,062, which is the same as last year, with certain adjustments required by previous action of the Town of Exeter or by law.

(Majority vote required) Recommended by the Select Board 4-0.

Description

The FY23 Sewer Fund Budget is an increase of \$35,307, or .48%, over the FY22 Sewer Fund Budget.

The Sewer Fund Budget pays for operations and maintenance on the Town's sewer system. The Town's sewer system serves approximately 75% of the population and includes a Wastewater Facility located at 13 Newfields Road, a Main Pump Station located behind 277 Water Street, a siphon system that goes under the Squamscott River from Jady Hill to the Main Pump Station, and miles of sewer lines, lift stations, and pump stations.

The FY23 Sewer Fund Budget reflects the fourth full year of operation of the new Wastewater Treatment Facility on Newfields Road. These costs are in the Treatment and Debt Service portions of the FY23 sewer budget. Due to known costs in electricity and biosolids handling/processing, these budgets have been adjusted accordingly.

Budget Category	2022	2023	\$\$ Chg	% Chg
Administration	\$477,909	\$525,196	\$47,287	9.9%
Billing	188,867	191,001	2,134	1.1%
Collection System	747,297	806,498	59,201	7.9%
Treatment	1,436,471	1,634,617	198,146	13.8%
Debt Service	4,305,495	4,209,659	-95,836	-2.2%
Capital Outlay	240,955	65,330	-175,625	-72.9%
Total Budget	\$7,396,994	\$7,432,301	\$35,307	.48%

FY23 Sewer Fund Budget Notes

Highlights

- Sewer Fund programs: Administration, Billing & Collection, Sewer Collection, Sewer Treatment, Debt Service, Capital Outlay.
- Sewer Administration – includes administrative personnel allocation of DPW and General Government. Includes allocation for consulting personnel and fixed assets. \$10,000 for wage classification/market adjustments. FY23 Budget: \$525,196.
- Sewer Billing – includes 50% of the water/sewer billing personnel, billing software agreement costs, town audit allocation. FY23 Budget: \$191,001.

- Sewer Collection – Includes collection system personnel (technicians), I and I abatement, pipe relining program, road repairs (up \$15,000), manhole maintenance, pump and control maintenance, electricity for pump and lift stations (up \$23,000). FY23 Budget: \$806,498.
- Sewer Treatment – includes operating and maintenance costs for the new Wastewater Treatment Facility. Three operators, one senior operator, one chief operator, equipment maintenance increase of \$50,000, chemicals increase of \$60,000, natural gas increase of \$10,000, electricity increase of \$30,000, lab testing increase of \$15,000 due to EPA permit. FY23 Budget: \$1,634,617.
- Debt service – Debt payments on major capital projects. WWTF, Lagoon Sludge Removal, Salem Street Utility Project, Lincoln Street improvements. FY23 Budget: \$4,209,659.
- Capital Outlay – Sewer camera inspection replacement, WWTF flume epoxy coating, dredge of Clemson Pond. FY23 Budget: \$65,330.

<u>Fund</u>	<u>2023 Default Budget</u>	<u>2023 Budget</u>	<u>% Increase over Default</u>
Sewer Fund	\$7,194,062	\$7,432,301	3.21%

<u>Fund</u>	<u>2022 Operating Adjusted Budget</u>	<u>2023 Operating Budget</u>	<u>% Increase over 2022</u>
Sewer Fund	\$7,396,994	\$7,432,301	.48%

As noted above, the Town's Sewer Fund Budget request for 2023 is a increase of .48%, or \$35,307 increase over the approved FY22 Sewer Fund Budget.

Sewer Fund Revenues

The Sewer Fund Budget is paid for by fees and other revenues collected from users of the public sewer system, who are billed on a quarterly basis. Sewer rates are reviewed regularly by the Water/Sewer Advisory Committee and Select Board. In 2021, rates were adjusted by the Select Board.

The new sewer rates in May 2021 were adjusted as follows: Tier 1: \$16.34 per 1,000 gallons, Tier 2: \$20.42 per 1,000 gallons, Tier 3: \$24.51 per 1,000 gallons. Gallon tiers are: Tier 1 – up to 21,000 gallons, Tier 2, 21,001 to 105,000 gallons, Tier 3, 105,001 gallons and above. Rates are based on quarterly water use. Residents who do not have public sewer but have public water are charged a flat rate based on the number of bedrooms in their homes. These residents have the option to tie into the public system however have chosen not to do so. Service fees are \$41.00 per quarter to cover administration and billing costs.

Town of Exeter Fact Sheet 2023

Article 13

Article 13 – Vector Truck Replacement (\$548,369)

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board to enter into a 7-year lease/purchase agreement for \$548,369 for the purpose of lease/purchasing a replacement for a vector truck in the Public Works Sewer Department, and to raise and appropriate the sum of one hundred thousand two hundred seventy three dollars (\$100,273), which represents the first of 7 annual payments (a total of \$636,108) for this purpose. This lease/purchase will contain an escape (non-appropriation) clause. This sum to come from sewer funds.

(Majority vote required) Recommended by the Select Board 4-0.

Description

This article would provide funding to replace the existing Water/Sewer vehicle sewer vector truck #67. The current truck was originally purchased in 2014 for \$369,000. The recommended useful life for this vehicle is 8 years according to the Town of Exeter vehicle replacement schedule (VRS). The majority of vehicle repairs have been routine maintenance, although excessive wear due to abrasion in the tank has resulted in the replacement of the deflector plate. The vehicle should be replaced prior to the need for a costly tank replacement.

This vehicle is the main Water & Sewer vehicle used during everyday activities, including water & sewer breaks.



Cost Impact of Project

Due to the cost of this equipment, a lease/purchase is the preferred method of financing. The assumptions for this lease/purchase are a 7-year lease/purchase, at 4.00% interest. Annual principal payments are projected at \$78,338, and total interest over the 7-year period would be \$87,739. These assumptions presume equal principal payments over the seven year period.

This request is on a warrant article because under our form of government (SB2) all lease/purchases need to be funded in the initial year via a separate warrant article. In subsequent years, the costs are included in the Town's budget.

The lease/purchase agreement will also contain an "escape clause" not obligating the Town in subsequent years if the equipment is not funded in subsequent years. This is standard language for lease/purchase agreements.

Town of Exeter Fact Sheet 2023
Article 14

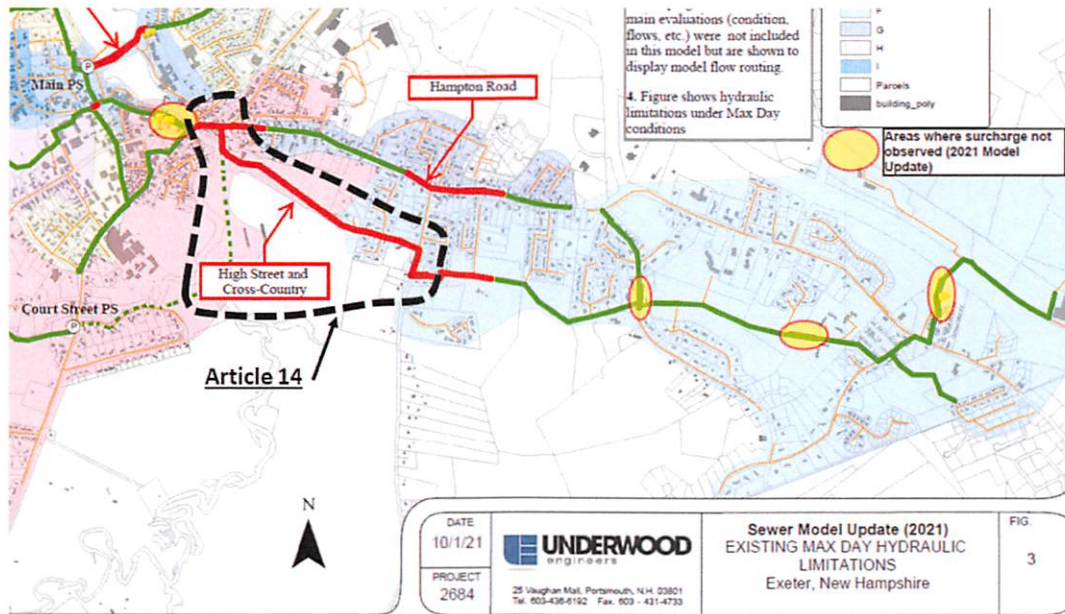
Article 14 – Sewer Capacity Rehabilitation (\$380,000)

To see if the Town will raise and appropriate, through special warrant article, the sum of three hundred eighty thousand dollars (\$380,000), for the purpose of engineering services related to sewer capacity rehabilitation. This sum to come from sewer funds.

(Majority vote required) Recommended by the Select Board 4-0.

Description

The High St and Cross-Country sewer main is currently at capacity. This phase of the project is for a design to increase capacity in this sewer route. The design will increase the pipe size on High St for 550 ft to a 24-inch pipe, upgrade the sewer from Gilman Ln to 18-inch for 2,100 ft and perform pipe lining to remove inflow and infiltration for 2,500 ft to Drinkwater Rd.



Tax Impact of Project

This project is paid for via the Sewer Fund, therefore there is no tax impact.

Town of Exeter Fact Sheet 2023
Article 15

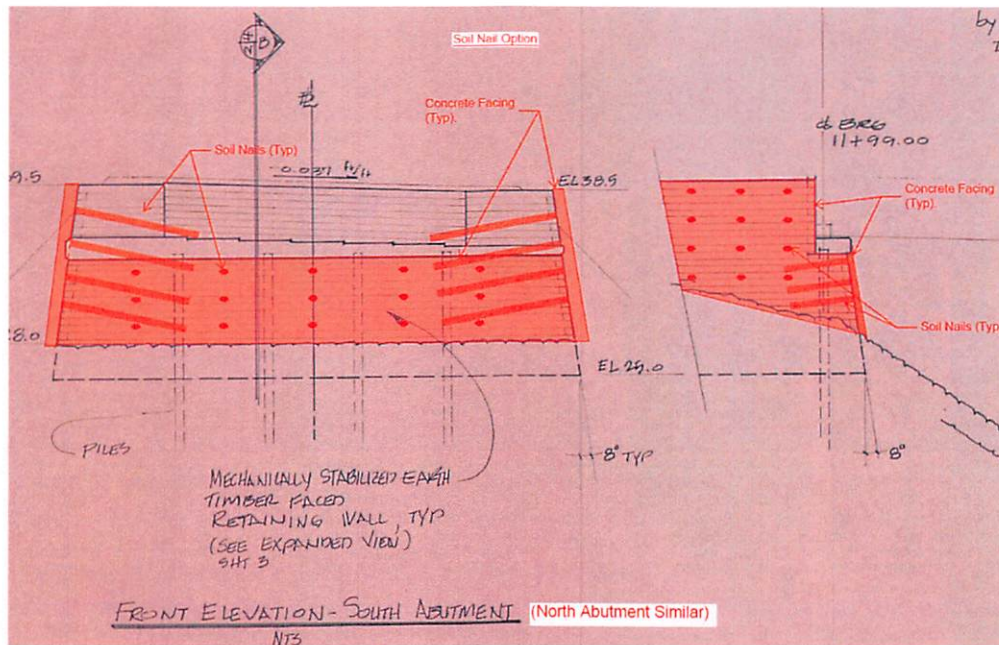
Article 15 – Linden Street Bridge Rehabilitation (\$295,000)

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of two-hundred ninety five thousand dollars (\$295,000) for the purpose of making repairs and rehabilitation of the Linden Street bridge. This sum to come from taxation. (Estimated Tax Impact: .132/1,000, \$13.17/100,000 assessed property value). The Select Board has designated this a special warrant article.

(Majority vote required) Recommended by the Select Board 4-0.

Description

The existing timber bridge over the Exeter River was built in 1993. Abutments and wingwalls are showing signs of settlement and bulging. The stacked timber abutment is deteriorating and exhibits signs of splitting around the rebar connections contributing to settlement at the bridge approaches. A consultant recommends installing soil nails and a cast-in-place concrete face to the abutment. The bridge guardrails will be upgraded to AASHTO crash worthy bridge rail. The project estimate for design, permitting and construction is \$605,000. NHDOT bridge repair funds of \$310,000 is available to offset the cost of the project, leaving a required town appropriation of \$295,000.



Tax Impact of Project

This project has a one-time tax impact of 13.17 cents of assessed value, \$13.17 per 100,000 of assessed value, and \$39.50 for a \$300,000 home. The total estimated project cost is \$605,000. The Town is in receipt of Bridge Aid from the State of New Hampshire in the amount of \$310,000. This amount will be applied to fund the balance of the project.

Town of Exeter Fact Sheet 2023

Article 16

Article 16 – Sidewalk Tractor #57 Replacement (\$177,705)

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board to enter into a 5-year lease/purchase agreement for \$177,705 for the purpose of lease/purchasing a replacement for a sidewalk tractor in the Public Works Department, and to raise and appropriate the sum of forty thousand two hundred eighty six dollars (\$40,286), which represents the first of 5 annual payments (a total of \$191,939) for this purpose. This lease/purchase will contain an escape (non-appropriation) clause. This sum to come from general taxation. (Estimated Tax Impact: .018/1,000, \$1.80/100,000 assessed property value).

(Majority vote required) Recommended by the Select Board 4-0.

Description

This article would provide funding to replace the existing Highway Sidewalk Tractor #57 with a rubber tired vehicle. This machine is a 1991 model and is 32 years old. Sidewalk tractors are key pieces of equipment used to keep sidewalks clear of snow and ice. Parts on older models are extremely hard to find and frequent breakdowns decrease response time and cause delays



to sidewalk clearing efforts in the winter. The price for this replacement was developed as a base model plus costs for strobe lights and miscellaneous parts.

Tax Impact of Project

Due to the cost of this equipment, a lease/purchase is the preferred method of financing. The assumptions for this lease/purchase are a 5-year lease/purchase, at 2.67% interest. Annual principal payments are projected at \$35,541, and total interest over the 5-year period would be \$14,234. These assumptions presume equal principal payments over the five year period.

This request is on a warrant article because under our form of government (SB2) all lease/purchases need to be funded in the initial year via a separate warrant article. In subsequent years, the costs are included in the Town's budget.

The lease/purchase agreement will also contain an "escape clause" not obligating the Town in subsequent years if the equipment is not funded in subsequent years. This is standard language for lease/purchase agreements.

Town of Exeter Fact Sheet 2023

Article 17

Article 17 – Appropriate to Capital Reserve Fund – Parks Improvements (\$100,000)

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of one-hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000) to be added to the Parks Improvement Capital Reserve Fund previously established. This sum to come from unassigned fund balance. (Estimated Tax Impact: None. No amount to be raised by taxation).

(Majority vote required) Recommended by the Select Board 4-0.

Description

The Parks Improvement Capital Reserve Fund is an important tool in the revitalization of the parks system. The fund has already created a huge impact on the aging park system with improvements to various parks in a variety of ways such as renovations, safety enhancements, as well as correcting vital aesthetics and crucial large-scale maintenance projects. The department has a number of projects anticipated for 2023 including the painting of the Daniel R Healy Pool, renovation to the Gilman and Park St Common ballfields, tennis court crack repair, Park St Common irrigation installation, Townhouse Common lighting and electrical upgrades as well as various smaller improvements such as benches, picnic tables and fence replacement. The parks system has a long list of deferred maintenance projects that need to be completed over the next several years to restore the park system.

The fund has already allowed the department to complete over 41 different projects in town ranging from bench replacement to the Park St Common playground replacement. None of these improvements would have been possible without the support of the residents and establishment of the Parks Improvement Capital Reserve Fund.

The advantage to a capital reserve fund over conventional funding for individual projects is the fund will not lapse, giving the Department time to work with the Recreation Advisory Board to design and vet projects with the public, for maximum benefit. Under normal conditions, funding lapses on December 31st, giving the Department little time once a project is approved in March, to design and implement. As an example, a project may be delayed due to scheduling conflict, such as the tree work down at the recreation park. The work was approved in November but due to conflicts, the work will be completed in February. The flexibility of a capital reserve fund allowed us the opportunity to complete projects in multiple years. Another advantage of the capital reserve fund is the ability to "rollover" any savings from projected project costs into the next year. As improvements are finished and assessed, the annual monetary request is likely to stabilize as various projects are completed.

Tax Impact of Project

This appropriation is proposed to be funded via the Town's General Fund unassigned fund balance, therefore there is no impact on the tax rate.

Town of Exeter Fact Sheet 2023
Article 18

Article 18 – Appropriate to Sick Leave Trust Fund (\$100,000)

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000) to be added to the Sick Leave Expendable Trust Fund previously established. This sum to come from the unassigned fund balance. (Estimated Tax Impact: None. No amount to be raised by taxation).

(Majority vote required) Recommended by the Select Board 4-0.

Description

The Town established a Sick Leave Trust Fund in 1989 to fund sick leave buyouts when an employee retires. The current benefit allows employees to buy back 50% of their accrued sick leave at retirement. The fund needs to be replenished annually to meet retirement obligations each year. This fund currently has a balance of approximately \$ 47,385 after the distribution of \$53,704 for 2021 sick leave obligations paid.

Tax Impact of Project

This appropriation is proposed to be funded via the Town's General Fund unassigned fund balance, therefore there is no impact on the tax rate.

Town of Exeter Fact Sheet 2023

Article 19

Article 19 – Highway Truck Replacement (\$53,558)

To see if the Town will raise and appropriate, through special warrant article, the sum of fifty three thousand five hundred and fifty eight dollars (\$53,558), for the purpose of purchasing a replacement for Highway Truck #5, purchased in 2011. This replacement is for an existing ½ ton truck to a 1/2 ton F150 4X4 with a plow package. This vehicle is primarily used for everyday activities, and one of the departments on call trucks. It is used with vehicle-mounted arrow board during traffic control operations. It is also used to transport manually operated snow blowers to clear cross walks, building approaches, ramps, train station, and Lincoln Street. This sum to come from unassigned fund balance. (Estimated Tax Impact: None. No amount to be raised by taxation).

(Majority vote required) Recommended by the Select Board 4-0.

Description

Replace the existing Highway Ford F150 4x2 Truck #5 with a F150 4 x 4 with plow package if available. The truck was originally purchased in 2011 for \$16,925. The recommended useful life is 8 years according to the Town of Exeter Vehicle Replacement Schedule (VRS) and is currently delayed by 4 years for replacement.

This vehicle is one of the Highway Department vehicles used during everyday activities, and one of the department's on call trucks. It is used with vehicle mounted arrow board during traffic control operations. It is also used to transport manually operated snow blowers to clear cross walks, building approaches, ramps, train station and Lincoln Street. This vehicle currently has over 100,000 miles on it.



Tax Impact of Project

This appropriation is proposed to be funded via the Town's General Fund unassigned fund balance, therefore there is no impact on the tax rate.

Town of Exeter Fact Sheet 2023
Article 20

Article 20 – Public Works Facility Garage (\$50,000)

To see if the Town will raise and appropriate, through special warrant article, the sum of fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000), for the purpose of design work on a new garage at the Public Works Complex on Newfields Road. This sum to come from unassigned fund balance \$25,000, water funds \$12,500, and sewer funds \$12,500). (Estimated Tax Impact: None. No amount to be raised by taxation). The Select Board has designated this a special warrant article.

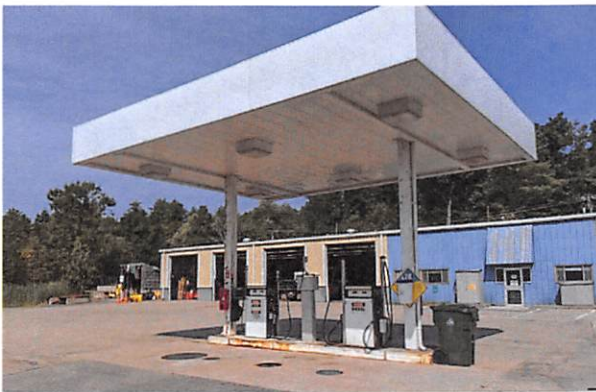
(Majority vote required) Recommended by the Select Board 4-0.

Description

The Highway/Mechanics Garage was constructed in 1969. The 50+ year old facility does not meet current building code for snow load and has inadequate ventilation. Space is lacking for adequate meeting space, and locker rooms (lacks a women's locker room altogether), storm/emergency management, storage of vehicles and equipment room for maintenance of certain fire apparatus. The condition of the fuel island is also a concern with canopy deterioration, outdated pumps and dated electronics.

In FY19 and FY20 Lassel Architects conducted an analysis of the existing facility and performed the programming for a new facility. The report is on the town website. In FY21 a survey of the recently obtained parcel next to the DPW site was undertaken. At the same time wetlands were delineated.

The proposed \$50,000 expenditure is to develop a facility site layout, including the adjacent parcel, with a possible new facility and site circulation. A conceptual development budget for the building facility and site considerations will be prepared. Also included in this figure is a comprehensive study of DPW operations to fully identify current and future operational staffing needs as suggested by the Facilities Committee.



Tax Impact of Project

This appropriation is proposed to be funded via the Town's General Fund unassigned fund balance, therefore there is no impact on the tax rate. The remaining amounts of the appropriation will be paid for by the Water Fund and the Sewer Fund.

Town of Exeter Fact Sheet 2023
Article 21

Article 21 – Downtown Parking, Pedestrian, and Traffic Analysis (\$50,000)

To see if the Town will raise and appropriate, through special warrant article, the sum of fifty-thousand dollars (\$50,000), for the purpose of conducting a traffic and parking, traffic and pedestrian analysis in the downtown area to include a portion of Front Street, Water Street, String Bridge, Franklin Street, Bow Street, Chestnut Street, Center Street, and other streets in the general downtown area. This sum to come from unassigned fund balance. (Estimated Tax Impact: None. No amount to be raised by taxation).

(Majority vote required) Recommended by the Select Board 4-0.

Description

Contract a qualified consultant to perform a comprehensive traffic and parking analysis of Exeter's Downtown District. The consultant will provide a comprehensive review of all existing parking, public and private, in our downtown. This will assess who uses the parking (residents, business customers, etc.) and what time of day the parking is being used. The consultant will also assess current downtown traffic patterns, use, congestion times, choke points and any identifiable stimuli that affect flow. As a first step to the analysis, the consultant will review and consider all previous studies available regarding parking, traffic and pedestrian use patterns in the downtown. The consultant will provide potential solutions to improve traffic, parking and pedestrian flow challenges and the likely impact on our community should the solutions be implemented. The consultant will create a downtown parking management plan as one of the deliverables that will identify viable solutions that can be implemented over time.

Rationale:

To allow and inspire responsible commercial growth of downtown, Exeter must analyze and consider traffic, parking, and pedestrian use patterns. Existing businesses have consistently identified traffic flow/congestion and parking as major obstacles to their current operations and expansion opportunities. Potential businesses seeking to locate in downtown express traffic and parking as their key roadblock. With recent public investments in the downtown (new sidewalks, infrastructure, bridges, etc.), Exeter has seen increased vibrancy and interest in the downtown.

This project is also listed in the 2018 Master Plan that states "Conduct traffic and parking studies for the Downtown and prioritize recommendations. Evaluate traffic flow and pedestrian movement to and through Downtown to understand final destinations and impacts on local businesses. Develop a parking management plan with a 6-year schedule for implementation."

Tax Impact of Project

This appropriation is proposed to be funded via the Town's General Fund unassigned fund balance, therefore there is no impact on the tax rate.

Town of Exeter Fact Sheet 2023
Article 22

Article 22 – Conservation Fund (\$50,000)

To see if the Town will raise and appropriate, through special warrant article, the sum of fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000), to be added to the Conservation Fund established pursuant to RSA 36-A:5. These funds will be used for purposes consistent with the Conservation Fund including the purchase of interests in real property to be held for conservation purposes. This sum to come from unassigned fund balance. (Estimated Tax Impact: None. No amount to be raised by taxation).

(Majority vote required) Recommended by the Select Board 4-0.

Description

Conservation land acquisition is often opportunistic. It comes in various forms ranging from donations or bargain sales, to full appraised value purchase. Having a viable conservation fund enables the Conservation Commission to take advantage of opportunities as they occur and makes leveraging grant dollars possible by providing matching funds. All options require some funds to move them forward. This is even true for land donations which require due diligence regarding costs such as property surveys, title insurance, legal counsel deed review, and recording fees.

Exeter's land protection priorities are guided by our local Natural Resource Inventory as well as the 2021 Coastal Conservation Plan. These documents use data to prioritize areas for conservation that will ensure the protection of wildlife and habitat, water resources, and to support climate resiliency. In addition, we include local priorities such as public access to open spaces, locations suitable for passive recreation, and preservation of large tracts of land.

Land conservation also provides numerous economic benefits. It increases the property value, provides recreation opportunities that can draw visitors to local businesses from other towns, and also provides free ecosystem services such as absorbing atmospheric carbon dioxide, protecting and encouraging groundwater recharge, and providing flood storage and protection.

A viable conservation fund will assist in meeting both economic and environmental goals set forth in the master plan to ensure preservation of our most sensitive resources. If approved, this would raise our Conservation Fund balance to \$150,000.

Tax Impact of Project

This appropriation is proposed to be funded via the Town's General Fund unassigned fund balance, therefore there is no impact on the tax rate.

Town of Exeter Fact Sheet 2023
Article 23

Article 23 – Appropriate to Non-Capital Reserve Fund – Snow and Ice Deficit (\$50,000)

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of fifty-thousand dollars (\$50,000) to be added to the Snow and Ice Deficit Non-Capital Reserve Fund previously established. This sum to come from the unassigned fund balance. (Estimated Tax Impact: None. No amount to be raised by taxation).

(Majority vote required) Recommended by the Select Board 4-0.

Description

Article 23 of the 2010 Town Warrant established a reserve fund for snow and ice budget deficits. Due to the timing of the fiscal year, which ends December 31st, it is always difficult to forecast snow and ice spending. Overspending the snow/ice budget (a necessity) can put pressure on other budgets at fiscal year-end. Each storm has variability and depending on the type, length, and severity of storm, snow and ice budgets can be exhausted and easily overspent. This emergency fund allows the Select Board to approve withdrawals in years the snow and ice budget is overspent. Once the fund reaches an approximate balance of \$100,000, the fund is re-examined for further appropriations, with appropriations proposed to ensure adequate snow and ice reserves exist in the event of a bad winter. Adequate funding of this reserve also allows the Town to maintain near level funding with the general fund snow and ice budget year over year. Adding \$50,000 to the snow/ice deficit fund will result in a starting balance of \$119,630 for FY23.

Tax Impact of Project

This appropriation is proposed to be funded via the Town's General Fund unassigned fund balance, therefore there is no impact on the tax rate.

Town of Exeter Fact Sheet 2023
Article 24

Article 24 – Fire Inspector Vehicle (\$49,313)

To see if the Town will raise and appropriate, through special warrant article, the sum of forty nine thousand three hundred and thirteen dollars (\$49,313), for the purpose of purchasing and equipping a replacement for Fire Department Inspector vehicle. This purchase would replace a 2012 Jeep Patriot with a hybrid Ford Explorer. The vehicle will be used for incident command. This sum to come from unassigned fund balance. (Estimated Tax Impact: None. No amount to be raised by taxation).

(Majority vote required) Recommended by the Select Board 4-0.

Description

This project would replace a 2012 Jeep Patriot with a new Hybrid Ford Explorer. We have explored the use of electric and/or hybrid vehicles and believe the vehicle used by the fire inspector to be an ideal candidate for our first hybrid. The current vehicle currently serves as the vehicle for the fire inspector and is used occasionally to transport firefighters and equipment to emergency incidents and training activities. The Ford Explorer, the same as used by the Exeter Police as a patrol car, should provide enough space to fit 4 personnel with all associated protective equipment & turnout gear.

Rationale. This replacement was deferred in 2022. The 11 year old vehicle is too small to accommodate necessary equipment and turnout gear used by the fire inspector. It is also becoming more difficult to predict service and maintenance needs. This vehicle receives a Mercury Fleet Study score of 28, which indicates “Qualifies for Replacement” with odometer mileage of 58,221. With any older vehicle unexpected costs in addition to routine maintenance always has the potential to be higher than budgeted in the operating portion of the budget. Cost as documented is \$42,000 for the vehicle, plus lighting and a radio console for \$7,313.

Tax Impact of Project

This appropriation is proposed to be funded via the Town's General Fund unassigned fund balance, therefore there is no impact on the tax rate.

Town of Exeter Fact Sheet 2023

Article 25

Article 25 -- ADA CRF and Study (\$25,000)

To see if the Town will vote to establish a non capital reserve fund under RSA 35:1-c for the purpose of implementing the Town's ADA Transition Plan under the jurisdiction of the Code Enforcement Officer, and to raise and appropriate the sum of twenty five-thousand dollars (\$25,000) to be placed in this fund and further the Select Board shall be named agents of the fund and be authorized to make expenditures from the fund. This sum to come from the unassigned fund balance. (Estimated Tax Impact: None. No amount to be raised by taxation).

(Majority vote required) Recommended by the Select Board 4-0.

Description

The Town approved a warrant article in 2019 for the purpose of conducting and creating an American Disability Act (ADA) improvements plan for town facilities and infrastructure including roads, sidewalks, and other pedestrian safety improvements. This plan has been completed and includes a list of projects that will improve accessibility for all users. This Capital Reserve Fund will be established to fund these improvements over time.

Tax Impact of Project

This appropriation is proposed to be funded via the Town's General Fund unassigned fund balance, therefore there is no impact on the tax rate.

Town of Exeter Fact Sheet 2023
Article 26

Article 26 – Town Hall Revolving Fund (\$5,000)

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of five thousand dollars (\$5,000) to be added to the Town Hall Revolving Fund previously established. This sum to come from the unassigned fund balance. (Estimated Tax Impact: None. No amount to be raised by taxation).

(Majority vote required) Recommended by the Select Board 4-0.

Description

This article proposes funding the revolving fund created by the 2022 Town Meeting. This fund acts as the financial mechanism for capital improvements and maintenance of the Town Hall. The fund can receive revenue from multiple sources, and expend that revenue toward stated improvements. The current balance in the fund as of 12/31/22 is \$14,723.99. The Town currently has three other revolving funds: Recreation, Fire/EMS, and Cable TV Access.

Tax Impact of Project

This appropriation is proposed to be funded via the Town's General Fund unassigned fund balance, therefore there is no impact on the tax rate.

Town of Exeter Fact Sheet 2023
Article 27

Article 27 – Appropriate to Trust Fund – Swasey Parkway (\$3,900)

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of three thousand nine hundred and zero dollars (\$3,900) to be added to the Swasey Parkway Expendable Trust Fund previously established. This sum to come from unassigned fund balance. This amount is equivalent to the amount of permit fees collected during the prior year for use of the Swasey Parkway. (Estimated Tax Impact: None. No amount to be raised by taxation).

(Majority vote required) Recommended by the Select Board 4-0.

Description

The Swasey Maintenance Fund was established in 2019 as an expendable trust fund. This fund holds permit fees that are raised each year for use of the parkway. The fund is currently owed \$3,900 from the General Fund. This article would effectuate the fund transfer. The balance in the Swasey Parkway Expendable Trust Fund as of 12/31/2022 was \$33,069.95.

Tax Impact of Project

This appropriation is proposed to be funded via the Town's General Fund unassigned fund balance, therefore there is no impact on the tax rate.

Town of Exeter Fact Sheet 2023
Article 28

Article 28 – Treasurer Appointment

To see if the town will vote to change the office of Town Treasurer from an elected position to an appointed position in accordance with RSA 41:26-e. Such appointment shall be made in accordance with RSA 669:17-d upon recommendation of the Town Manager with approval of the Select Board. Such appointment shall be made in writing and shall include the compensation to be paid. If approved, the person holding the elected office shall continue to hold such office until the next annual town election following the vote.

(Majority vote required) Recommended by the Select Board 4-0.

Description

The Town Treasurer has been an elected office for many years. This position is part-time and is paid a stipend of \$8,864 per year. This is despite the position being responsible for over \$70 million dollars in cash revenues each year. The Town has been fortunate to be served in recent years by Treasurer Sue Penny. The intent of this article is to make the position appointed so that 1) the Town will be guaranteed to be served by a qualified individual; 2) the appointment can be made without a term, allowing the Treasurer to serve as long as they are willing. This is a very important position within the Town's Financial Administrative structure and this will bring further stability to the office and the Finance Department.

Tax Impact of Project

No tax impact.

Town of Exeter Fact Sheet 2023

Article 29

Article 29 – CATV Fund Amendment

Shall the Town amend the cable access revolving fund, established pursuant to RSA 31:95-h by Article 37 of the 2010 Town Warrant, as follows: “revenues received from cable franchise fees will be deposited into the fund in an amount determined by the Town Manager or governing body annually, and the money in the fund shall be allowed to accumulate from year to year, and shall not be considered part of the town’s general fund unreserved fund balance. The Town Treasurer shall have custody of all moneys in the fund, and shall pay out the same only upon order of the Town Manager or governing body and no further approval is required by the legislative body to expend. Such funds may be expended only for the purpose for which the fund was created.”

(Majority vote required) Recommended by the Select Board 4-0.

Description

The current CATV fund is split 50%/50% between the Cable Fund and the General Fund, in terms of revenue allocation. This amendment would allow flexibility to place more of a % into the CATV fund. In recent years as the CATV operations of the Town have continued to try to keep pace with needs, there has been a recognized need for more revenue to support operations. The Town plans to make periodic evaluations and determine quarterly how much in additional revenue is needed to make the CATV fund whole.

Tax Impact of Project

The tax impact of this article is undetermined. There may be a tax impact depending on how much in cable franchise revenue is returned to the cable television access revolving fund and away from the general fund, however it is expected the impact will be minimal.

Town of Exeter Fact Sheet 2023
Article 30

Article 30 – Readopt Veterans Credit

Shall the Town readopt the optional veteran's tax credit in accordance with RSA 72:28, II, for an annual tax credit on residential property of \$500.

(Majority vote required) Recommended by the Select Board 4-0.

Description

The NHDRA opined that each community would need to re-establish its veteran's tax credit program at the 2023 Town Meeting. This article would re-establish the credit at the current amount, which is \$500 on a residential property, for a qualifying veteran.

Tax Impact of Project

The impact of the veteran's credit program is factored into the Town's share of the tax rate. In FY22, this impact amounted to approximately 13 cents per 1,000 of assessed valuation.

Town of Exeter Fact Sheet 2023

Article 31

Article 31 – Shall the Town vote: On the Petition of Dwane Staples and other registered voters of the town of Exeter, NH, to see if the town will vote to authorize and direct the Exeter Select Board to keep the roadway in Swasey Parkway completely open to motorized pleasure vehicles with travel being in a one way direction as it currently exists. This will keep the Swasey Parkway as an area that can be fully accessed by all without creating hardships for those with mobility issues, allow motorized vehicles in the roadway so that we will still be able to keep and enjoy the Farmers Market that has been a tradition in the Parkway for many years and will also allow motorized vehicles to be able to use the roadway for events and pavilion concerts. This will still allow the roadway in Swasey Parkway to be closed for events but will ensure that the above mentioned items will still be able to be enjoyed by all citizens in the area.

Description

Citizen's Petition

Town of Exeter Fact Sheet 2023

Article 32

Article 32 – By Petition of Chris Zigmont and others, Shall the Town vote to create an ordinance to limit the distribution and subsequent disposal of single-use plastics through reduction and limits on all town property.

This ordinance WOULD;

- Prohibit the distribution (selling or giving) of single use plastic bags, single use plastic food service containers, and single use polystyrene containers on town property including town buildings and parks, by anyone including town staff, organizations, or permittees
- Give all affected parties through December 31, 2023 to use existing inventory and identify acceptable alternatives
- Provide guidance on selecting suitable alternatives
- Provide exceptions to Human Services and Emergency Services
- Provide Parks and Recreation extended time to find suitable alternatives for the Pool concession
- Deliver enforcement in the form of assistance for sourcing acceptable products, a written warning for a second violation, and refusal of permitting for a third violation in the case of a vendor

This ordinance WOULD NOT

- Prohibit packaging materials for food safety, such as plastic wrap for meat, or perishable products, added at a local business site or processing facility
- Prohibit single use compostable products
- Prohibit reusable plastic bags
- Prohibit products where alternatives do not exist, until such times as alternatives are identified
- Prohibit individuals/staff/citizens from using and consuming prohibited containers brought to town property for personal consumption

The full ordinance text is attached below the signature pages

DISTRIBUTION OF SINGLE-USE PLASTIC BAGS, FOOD SERVICE PRODUCTS, AND POLYSTYRENE FOOD CONTAINERS ON TOWN PROPERTY

24.00 PURPOSE:

The Town of Exeter recognizes that limiting the distribution and subsequent disposal of single-use plastics through reduction is necessary to protect human health, to preserve the natural environment, and to promote sustainable and ethical practices regarding material waste.

24.01 DEFINITIONS

For the purpose of this Section, the following definitions apply:

2401.01 Distribution: The act of selling, providing or supplying products for use by customers or intended recipients at a point of sale, gathering, event, or activity.

2401.02 Human Service Organization: An organization focused on providing services to people in order to help them stabilize their lives and find self-sufficiency through guidance, counseling, treatment, and/or the provision of basic needs

2401.03 Reusable Bag: a bag specifically designed for re-use, capable of being used one hundred and sixty (160) times and has stitched or woven handles. Reusable bags include woven reusable plastic bags.

2401.04 Single-Use Compostable Food Service Products: a bag, bottle, food container, cup, utensil, straw or other similar food service product that is composed of one hundred percent (100%) Polylactic Acid (typically derived from plant-based starch such as corn) and provided by a vendor to a customer for the purpose of transporting or consuming food.

2401.05 Single-Use Plastic Bag: a bag that is made predominantly of polyethylene plastic derived from petroleum and provided at the check stand, cash register, point of sale or other point of departure for the purpose of transporting food or other goods. Trash bags used for disposing of waste are excluded.

2401.06 Single-Use Plastic Food Service Products: a bottle, food container, cup, utensil, straw or other similar food service product that is made predominantly of polyethylene plastic derived from either petroleum or natural gas, and provided by a vendor to a customer for the purpose of transporting or consuming food.

2401.07 Single-Use Polystyrene Container: a container or cup composed of synthetic aromatic hydrocarbon polymers that is made from the monomer styrene (often called Styrofoam) and provided by a vendor to a customer for the purposes of transporting food.

24.02 DISTRIBUTION OF SINGLE USE PLASTICS ON TOWN PROPERTY

No person shall distribute a prohibited single use disposable item at any town facility, town property, town-managed or sponsored event, or activity authorized through special permits issued under the authority of the Town of Exeter Select Board unless otherwise allowed under EXCEPTIONS 24.03

Prohibited Single Use Disposables:

1. Single-Use Plastic Bags
2. Single-Use Plastic Food Service Products
3. Single-Use Polystyrene Containers

24.03 PRODUCT EXCEPTIONS:

1. Reusable Bags
2. Single-Use Compostable Food Service Products
3. Packaging materials required for food safety reasons added at the site of the business or a processing facility. Examples: wrapping around meats, seafood, lettuce mix or other perishable products.
4. Products where alternatives to prohibited items do not exist, until an alternative is identified.

24.04 ORGANIZATIONAL EXCEPTIONS

1. All town departments/vendors may distribute their remaining inventory through December 31, 2023
2. Items used by emergency responders or human service non-profit organizations.
3. Prohibited Single Use Containers brought by staff/customers themselves
4. Exeter Parks and Recreation Department will work with the Sustainability Committee to develop a transition plan, implementing acceptable alternatives as they are identified with an objective of meeting financial and sustainability goals.

24.05 OVERSIGHT AND ENFORCEMENT

Subject to the exceptions above, the following shall apply:

1. Reports of non-compliance with this ordinance will be directed to the Conservation and Sustainability Planner who will work with the permittee/Town Department to find replacement products.
2. If reasonable replacements have been identified but infractions continue, the Town considers this a violation of this ordinance, and written warning will be issued. Town Departments will meet with the Town Manager and Conservation and Sustainability Planner to seek alternative solutions to achieve compliance with this ordinance.
3. Upon a second or subsequent infraction of this ordinance, the Town interprets this as a direct violation of the vendor permit and cause for refusal to approve use permit.

Description

Citizen's Petition