### **Select Board Meeting**

### Monday, February 13<sup>th</sup>, 2023, 6:30 p.m. Nowak Room, Town Offices 10 Front Street, Exeter NH 03833

Meeting in the Nowak Room at the Town Office Building. For virtual access, see instructions below.

Watch this meeting on Channel 22, or EXTV Facebook <a href="https://www.facebook.com/ExeterTV">https://www.facebook.com/ExeterTV</a>, or YouTube <a href="https://www.youtube.com/c/ExeterTV98">https://www.youtube.com/c/ExeterTV98</a>.

To access the meeting via Zoom, click this link: <a href="https://exeternh.zoom.us/j/88109700607">https://exeternh.zoom.us/j/88109700607</a>

To access the meeting via telephone, call +1 646 558 8656 and enter Webinar ID 881 0970 0607

Please join the meeting with your full name if you want to speak.

Use the "Raise Hand" button to alert the Chair you wish to speak. On the phone, press \*9.

More access instruction found here: https://www.exeternh.gov/townmanager/virtual-town-meetings

Contact us at extvg@exeternh.gov or 603-418-6425 with any technical issues.

#### **AGENDA**

- 1. Call Meeting to Order
- 2. Board Interviews Human Services Funding Committee, Zoning Board of Adjustment
- 3. Public Comment
- 4. Proclamations/Recognitions
  - a. Swearing In of Sgt. Sonya Robichaud
  - b. Proclamations/Recognitions
- 5. Approval of Minutes
  - a. Regular Meeting: January 30th, 2023
- 6. Appointments
- 7. Discussion/Action Items
  - a. Fire Department EMS Fee Update
  - b. Squamscott River Siphons Project Update
  - c. OmniBallot Update
  - d. Legislative Update Selectwoman Gilman
- 8. Regular Business
  - a. Tax Abatements, Veterans Credits & Exemptions
  - b. Permits & Approvals
  - c. Town Manager's Report
  - d. Select Board Committee Reports
  - e. Correspondence
- 9. Review Board Calendar
- 10. Non-Public Session
- 11. Adjournment

Niko Papakonstantis, Chair Select Board

Posted: 2/10/23 Town Office, Town Website

Persons may request an accommodation for a disabling condition in order to attend this meeting. It is asked that such requests be made with 72 hours notice.

**AGENDA SUBJECT TO CHANGE** 

### **Board Interviews**



## **Town of Exeter**

Town Manager's Office 10 Front Street, Exeter, NH 03833 Interview 2/13/23 6/30 pm

## Statement of Interest Boards and Committee Membership

Committee Selection: Zoning Board of Adjustment
New Re-Appointment Regular Alternate
Name: Theresa Page Email: tpage 818@gmail.com  Address: 46 Lincun St, Exeter 03833 Phone: 614 886 2044  Registered Voter: Yes No
Statement of Interest/experience/background/qualification, etc. (resume can be attached).
Thank you for your consideration of my application to serve as a member of the zoning Board of Adjustment. I was pleased to become a resident of Exeter last year, joining extended family that have long enjoyed all the town has to offer. In considering how to contribute to my new community, the zoning Board of Adjustment stood out as aligning with my interests, the needs of the town, and my skills experience, which are detailed by the resume of this is re-appointment to a position, please list any training sessions you have attended relative to your appointed position.
I understand that: 1. this application will be presented to the Exeter Selectboard only for the position specified above and not for subsequent vacancies on the same board; 2. The Town Manager and Selectboard may nominate someone who has not filed a similar application; 3. this application will be available for public inspection.  After submitting this application for appointment to the Town Manager:  The application will be reviewed and you will be scheduled for an interview with the Selectmen  Following the interview the Board will vote on your potential appointment at the next regular meeting  If appointed, you will receive a letter from the Town Manager and will be required to complete paperwork with the Town Clerk prior to the start of your service on the committee or board.
Signature: Theresa from Date: 219/23

### THERESA PAGE

46 Linden Street ~ Exeter, NH 03833 ~ 614-886-2044 ~ tpage818@gmail.com

#### **EDUCATION**

#### University of Maine School of Law, Portland, ME

Juris Doctorate, May 2010

Magna Cum Laude

Class Standing: 10/77 (Top 13%)

Dean's List each semester

Student Attorney, Cumberland Legal Aid Clinic, May 2009-May 2010

Intern, Maine Federal Defender, June 2008 - December 2008

#### Northwestern School of Law of Lewis & Clark College, Portland, OR

Attended August 2007-May 2008 (transferred to Maine Law)

1st Year Class Standing: Top 30%

Received Honors on 1st Year Moot Court Appellate Brief

Dean's List, determined at conclusion of 1st year

#### Roger Williams University, Bristol, RI

B.A. in English Literature with minor in Business Management, May 2006

Summa Cum Laude

Recipient of Excellence in English Award 2004

Member-Alpha Chi National Honor Society and Sigma Tau Delta English Honor Society Presented and defended thesis at 2006 Sigma Tau Delta Annual Convention, Portland, OR

Dean's List each semester

#### **EXPERIENCE**

J.P. Morgan Private Bank Trusts & Estates, July 2012 - Present

#### Specialty Situations, Executive Director, Feb 2021 - Present; Vice President, Jan 2019 - Feb 2021

Fiduciary specialist responsible for review, analysis, and development of recommended approach to solve complex and challenging issues within trusts and estates. Routinely engage in negotiations with grantors, co-fiduciaries, and current and remainder beneficiaries to facilitate issue resolution, early termination, resignation, judicial action, or other exit of non-core accounts in accordance with relevant governing instruments, state laws, and policies. Partner with leadership of various practice sectors to strategize and facilitate exit of targeted account populations. Primary team member to address accounts with specialized components, including Life Insurance Trusts, Private Foundations, Scholarships, Private Businesses, Real Estate, and International Trust Services. Work with specialty asset teams to facilitate sales of illiquid holdings to reduce investment concentration or position account for closing.

#### Closely Held Asset Management, Vice President, Feb 2015-Jan 2019; Associate, July 2012-Feb 2015

Assess value of closely held business interests to ensure financial planning and wealth transfer objectives are met. Inform beneficiaries of performance following thorough business review and encourage beneficiary input and involvement. Fulfill day-to-day corporate administrative duties. Coordinate on account administration with fiduciary team, real estate and mineral management teams, co-trustees, and legal/tax/valuation professionals. Develop corporate governance frameworks to help reduce beneficiary conflicts and provide support for long-term business survival. NE Regional Manager beginning in February 2015. Member of Board of Managers for partnership holding commercial real estate in Central Midtown, NYC. Draft policies and procedures and provide ad hoc legal research for the team.

#### Law Office of James Bartlett (York, ME), Associate Attorney, September 2010-July 2012

Appellate litigation before the Maine Supreme Judicial Court in family matter and land use cases. Prepare pleadings, motions, and other filings for District and Probate Court. Represent clients in testimonial and non-testimonial hearings, judicial settlement conferences, mediations, depositions, and negotiations. Counsel in family, probate, civil litigation, and misdemeanor criminal cases.

**BAR ADMISSION** - Admitted October 2010 (Maine)

NESDCA (National Entomology Scent Detection Canine Association) - Certified Scent Detection Canine Handler



## **Town of Exeter**

Town Manager's Office 10 Front Street, Exeter, NH 03833 Interview /13/23

## Statement of Interest Boards and Committee Membership

Committee Selection: Loning Board of Adjustments
New Re-Appointment Regular Alternate
Name: Laura Montagno Email: LMONTAGNO@ME.com Address: 34 Auburn St, Fxeter Phone: 603-512-2188
Registered Voter: Yes No No
Statement of Interest/experience/background/qualification, etc. (resume can be attached).
I think it is important for residents to contribute to their Community toyand paying taxes. As a resident for over 25 years, my husband and I have had several experiences with ZBA.  I have tremendous respect for the work the ZBA has done to protect and preserve. Exeter. At the same time, I believe that change is inevitable as long as it is made in a thoughtful manner and has a positive impact on the community of this is re-appointment to a position, please list any training sessions you have attended relative to your appointed position.  Over
I understand that: 1. this application will be presented to the Exeter Selectboard only for the position specified above and not for subsequent vacancies on the same board; 2. The Town Manager and Selectboard may nominate someone who has not filed a similar application; 3. this application will be available for public inspection.  After submitting this application for appointment to the Town Manager:  The application will be reviewed and you will be scheduled for an interview with the Selectmen  Following the interview the Board will vote on your potential appointment at the next regular meeting  If appointed, you will receive a letter from the Town Manager and will be required to complete paperwork with the Town Clerk prior to the start of your service on the committee or board.
Signature: Date: 28 2023

I am currently employed as a Senior Business Amalyst for Easterseals NH. To be successful in my role, I must review and understand State regulations, listen to the needs of my Customers, ask guestions of all interested parties, and clearly document and articulate my conclusions and recommendations. I believe all of these are valuable skills for contributing to the ZBA.



## **Town of Exeter**

Town Manager's Office 10 Front Street, Exeter, NH 03833 Interview: a/13/23 6:50 pm confirmed

## Statement of Interest Boards and Committee Membership

Committee Selection: Human Services Funding Committee			
New Re-Appointment Regular Alternate			
Name: Kothnyn Ryder Email: KTHRMILLS@gmail.com  Address: 12 00 Klands Rd Exeter Phone: 1003 560 8324			
Registered Voter: Yes No Statement of Interest/experience/background/qualification, etc. (resume can be attached).			
Statement of interesty experience, 200 g.			
If this is re-appointment to a position, please list all training sessions you have attended relative to your appointed position.			
I understand that: 1. this application will be presented to the Exeter Select Board only for the position specified above and not for subsequent vacancies on the same board; 2. The Town Manager and Select Board may nominate someone who has not filed a similar application; 3. this application will be available for public inspection.  After submitting this application for appointment to the Town Manager:  The application will be reviewed and you will be scheduled for an interview with the Select Board.  Following the interview the Board will vote on your potential appointment at the next regular meeting.  If appointed, you will receive a letter from the Town Manager and will be required to complete paperwork with the Town Clerk prior to the start of your service on the committee or board.			
Signature:			
To be completed by Select Board upon appointment:  Term Ending: Full: Alternate:			
Date Appointed: Term Ending: Full: Alternate:			

#### KATHRYN Ryder M.Ed., BSN, RN

12 Oaklands Rd Exeter, NH 03833 C: (603) 560-8324

Email: kthrmills@gmail.com

#### **SUMMARY**

- Management and oversight of 12 geographically disbursed primary care health centers/patient centered medical homes, pharmacies, nutrition and physical therapy services
- Portfolio of ~\$25M operating revenue; responsible for account receivable and driving margin
- Recognized as top talent; highly respected, trusted and valued by peers, employees, clients and senior leadership
- · Dedicated to team member engagement, culture, development and growth opportunities

#### **LICENSING AND TECHNOLOGY:**

- Registered Nurse License Number: NH: 063581-21, MA: RN2274217
- Current BLS Certification
- EMR/EHR: Epic, Primesuite, NextGen, OHM Web
- Management of patient portals and marketing efforts
- Directed technology upgrades and EMR conversions including circuit upgrades, hardware replacements, wiring and training plans

#### **EMPLOYMENT HISTORY:**

#### Premise Health

October 2013-Present

Formally, Take Care Health Systems and a division of Walgreens, Premise Health is the nationwide leader in on-site management of health and wellness solutions ranging from Patient Centered Medical Homes to Fitness and Pharmacy for large organizations.

#### **Associate Vice President of Operations Solutions & Services**

January 2022- Present

Responsible for operational education, training and solutioning for complex operation problems. Support the entire organization of 800+ health centers, pharmacies, fitness centers and coaching clients. Projects include: Rolling out provider dispensing across all of our centers where legally responsible, setting up and training on bi-directional immunization interfaces, education and training of Salesforce platform, education of all Product related information to end user sellers, implemented an organizational wide Get Help Now service which provides real time assistance with organizational navigation, support for all SVP's and senior leadership operational initiatives, providing feedback and best practice solutioning to all operational processed within the organization.

#### Sr. Director of Client Operations

January 2017- January 2022

Oversight of several client health care operations include pharmacy management and occupational health. Direct oversight of a Director of Operations with a dedicated portfolio. Management of \$25 million+ of annual revenue. Duties include all client related inquiries, negotiations and dealings. Management of a contract lifecycle, budgeting and P&L processes, implementation of new facilities, lines of service and EMR conversion. Negotiations with payors and ongoing management of customer specific networks. Collaboration with medical leaders to implement clinically and operationally functional workflows. Constant drive to make processes flawless, repeatable, automated and functional. Responsible for hiring, talent development and performance management with a high level of employee referrals. Data analysis and benchmarking to strategize service expansion and pilots.

#### **Director of Client Operations**

January 2014- January 2017

Nationwide management of 6 Primary Care Health & Wellness Centers. Duties include budgeting, reporting, setting and achieving metrics, operational efficiency, team member management and maintenance of client relationship.

#### Health Center Manager

October 2013-January 2014

Day to day management of an on-site Primary Care center for a prestigious organization providing a high level customer service, supervision of various levels of clinical staff and patient care to employees. This role was both clinical and administrative.

#### **Healthy Achievers/The Boon Group**

April 2011-May 2013

The Boon Group is an employee benefits administration company. Healthy Achievers is the wellness division of The Boon Group which provides wellness programs, screenings and immunization services to corporate clients.

#### Health Educator Manager

Supervised in-house and off site employees who provided on site, nationwide, health and wellness services including travel medicine, biometric screening and influenza programs. Policy and procedure writer, editor and proofreader for URAC reaccreditation process and chair of the URAC Quality Management Committee. Designed and implemented orientation program for nursing professionals [viewed or attended by 600+ nurses in one year with a 95% satisfaction rating]. Redesigned an International Business Travel Health Program to include immunizations, emergency procedures, educational materials. Established, implemented and supervised a recruitment department for nursing professionals. Processed and analyzed results of screenings and developed personalized wellness programs.

#### Southern New Hampshire University

September 2010-April 2011

College of Online and Continuing Education

#### **Graduate Academic Advisor**

• Primary contact for a case load of 350 graduate students through the College of Online and Continuing Education. Primary responsibilities include course selection, financial information, career advice, academic support and guidance within the university system.

#### University of Florida

November 2007-July 2009

College of Agricultural and Life Sciences

#### **Undergraduate Academic Advisor**

 Provided academic support to undergraduate biology majors attending the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences (CALS). Maintained up to date student records system, provided assessment of student records for transfer into CALS, maintained CALS biology web site and online advising system, and created documents to assist in advising.

#### Planned Parenthood of Northern New England

July 2006 to October 2007

#### Administrative Health Care Associate

• Acted as the first contact for most Planned Parenthood patients through phone or greeting at the front desk, monitored patient flow, registered and entered all charges appropriate to each patient visit, assisted patients with insurance billing, counseled and educated patients on several aspects of gynecological and sexual health.

#### **EDUCATION**

**Bachelor of Science in Nursing** 

July 2010

Remington College of Nursing, Lake Mary, FL 32746 Accelerated BSN Program Masters of Health Education with Concentration in Health Promotion Plymouth State University, Plymouth, NH 03264

May 2007

Bachelor of Arts Major in Biology, Minor in Philosophy

May 2006

Colby-Sawyer College, New London, NH 03782

#### **COMMITEES AND CONTINUING EDUCATION:**

- Chair of Premise Health Culture Committee:
  - o Implementation of peer learning, development program, social and volunteer events
- Completion of company sponsored Stepping up to Management course
- Selected and completed a competitive company sponsored Leadership 20/20 course
- Completion of SpeakEasy Communication training
- Member of several internal workgroups: On-boarding, Records Retention, Financial Affinity, PRN Focus Group, Power of Presenting, amongst others
- Member of Toastmasters International: Portsmouth Club
- Partner with the Boston Health Center for the Homeless for various volunteering opportunities

## Minutes

### Select Board Meeting Monday January 30, 2023 6:50 PM Nowak Room, Town Offices Draft Minutes

#### 1. Call Meeting to Order

Members present: Julie Gilman, Molly Cowan, Lovey Roundtree Oliff, Niko Papakonstantis, Nancy Belanger, Town Manager Russ Dean, and Assistant Town Manager Melissa Roy were present at this meeting. The meeting was called to order by Mr. Papakonstantis at 6:50 PM.

The Board went downstairs to the Wheelwright Room for an interview.

#### 2. Board Interviews

a. Ryan Jean for the Sustainability Committee

The Board reconvened in the Nowak Room at 7 PM.

#### 3. Public Comment

a. There was no public comment at this time.

#### 4. Proclamations/Recognitions

a. There were no proclamations or recognitions.

#### 5. Approval of Minutes

a. Regular Meeting: January 17, 2023

**MOTION**: Ms. Belanger moved to approve the minutes of January 17, 2023 as presented. Ms. Gilman seconded. Ms. Oliff abstained, as she was not present at the Jan 17 meeting. The motion passed 4-0-1.

#### 6. Appointments

**MOTION**: Ms. Belanger moved to appoint Ryan Jean to the Sustainability Committee as a regular member, term to expire April 30, 2024. Ms. Gilman seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

#### 7. Discussion/Action Items

a. Helpsy Textile Recycling Program Presentation

Jordan Ziese and Terra Hix of Helpsy were present via Zoom. Ms. Zeise answered questions previously asked by the Board. Where do the clothes go? We have a warehouse in Woburn MA that we bring the clothes to. 95% of everything collected is salvageable: 75% is reusable, 20% is recyclable. What are best practices for scheduling pickups? Pickups can be scheduled on the website, and residents can follow a link on the Exeter town website. We ask a minimum of three bags in order to do pickups. Are tax receipts provided? No, Helpsy is not a non-profit. What do they suggest for community outreach? We

suggest hosting a pop-up drive at community events like revolutionary day, household hazardous waste day. We're looking to connect with the Sustainability Committee for social media updates and announcements. Ms. Belanger suggested an Earth Day event. Mr. Papakonstantis suggested putting bins at the transfer station, and asked Mr. Dean to follow up on that idea. Ms. Gilman said she usually donates materials to non-profits. Ms. Ziese said she should feel free to continue to donate items to non-profits, we just don't want materials in the trash. Ms. Hix said Helpsy also donates items to non-profits.

#### b. Single Use Plastics Policy

Conservation and Sustainability Planner Kristen Murphy and Chris Zigmont of the Sustainability Committee were present to discuss the single use plastics ordinance/policy.

Ms. Murphy said it was requested that the committee consider a single-use plastics policy, so she took the ordinance and re-drafted it following the Select Board policy format. The majority of the language is identical. The purpose remains the same. She added Departments and Individuals Affected, specifying that it excludes town streets unless a special permit is issued. She revised the definition of reusable bags to include only those made of cloth, because it's the better option. Trash bags used for disposing of waste are excluded, so it doesn't apply to pet waystations. The length of time to distribute remaining inventory was changed to 12 months. She added an implementation support section that says to direct questions to the Conservation and Sustainability Planner.

Ms. Murphy said DPW told her they may provide recycling bins on request, but this service is contingent on oversight to ensure proper recycling. They don't have the capacity to do compost. Ms. Belanger asked how to do the monitoring part. Would there be a town employee at events? Ms. Murphy said she thought it would function similarly to littering. Monitoring of the bins would be a commitment from the permittee. James Murray could inform permittees when he inspects the events. Ms. Murphy said she's not committing to attend the events. Ms. Oliff said she has faith that if we propose something that promotes the environment, the majority of community members will do the right thing. People in town are vocal when things aren't going well. She's less concerned with how we police it than that we have the pieces of the puzzle in place to support it.

Mr. Papakonstantis said the Board is in support of doing something here, we just have to dot the i's and cross the t's. We would need to have clarification about who on town staff could cite violations. Ms. Gilman asked if DPW staff could look into the recycling. Ms. Murphy suggested having volunteers monitor recycling bins. Mr. Papakonstantis said the point of this is not recycling bins, it's to eliminate plastics.

Mr. Zigmont said the Sustainability Committee voted unanimously to pursue an ordinance instead of a policy because of the issue of enforcement. He

presented a list of things the proposed ordinance would and wouldn't do. He said this has been through several iterations and has received letters of support from the public. Town water is less than 2 pennies per gallon, while bottles of water have both economic and environmental costs. The town spends \$500,000 on recycling. Most items in recycling bins have no market value and end up in landfills. The only major change in this draft is that Departments have until December 31st, 2023 to use their existing supplies instead of 9 months.

Mr. Papakonstantis asked for public comment.

Mary Tegel of 9 Union Street asked about using biodegradable stuff. The Farmer's Market in Eugene Oregon had composting bins. She would like to see the ordinance framed in something lofty, like "doing our town's share of saving the planet" and "aspiring to zero waste." She would like to see more marketing and have certain events be zero waste. She added that she is in favor of passing the ordinance.

Ms. Cowan asked what happens to the Citizens' Petition if we pass the policy. Mr. Dean said if the Board passes an ordinance and the Citizens' Petition passes, and there were differences, the Citizens' Petition would probably prevail. Ms. Cowan said if there's something on the ballot that would supersede what we do here, she'd rather just wait. If the Citizens Petition doesn't pass, we have this work as a starting point. This is just a small subset of what we want to do, but it's what we're allowed to do. We're hurting our food trucks and not other businesses. If the Citizens Petition passes, then we know what the voters want.

Mr. Zigmont said the wording of the Citizens Petition and what we presented tonight should be identical. Mr. Papakonstantis said regarding oversight, the ordinance in the packet is more specific than the petition. Mr. Zigmont said it was just copied and pasted. Something was lost between the Clerk's Office and the warrant. The intention is for them to be identical. Mr. Dean said he will investigate that further.

Ms. Gilman said she would be comfortable letting this go to the voters.

Ms. Belanger said the Board supports this, but we have to make sure other issues, such as Parks and Rec costs, are covered.

Mr. Papakonstantis thanked Ms. Murphy and the Committee for their work on this proposal. It may seem like the Board is moving slowly, but we need to make sure we have the details right. He's confident this will pass with the voters. He would have preferred starting with a policy to be worked into an ordinance once we ironed out the wrinkles. There's a Citizens Petition, so we'll wait and hear from the voters. There are still some unknowns within it. The word "reasonable" will have to be more tightly defined. He's hoping we can work collaboratively to educate.

Ms. Gilman said HB 226 would give towns the authority to regulate singleuse plastics further.

c. NHDES ARPA Cybersecurity Implementation Grant - \$100,000

Mr. Dean said we've had a cybersecurity action plan done for the Water/Sewer areas. This will install hardware and software upgrades, make configuration changes, and implement improvements in security. This is from the State Department of Environmental Services. Stephen Dalton of the DPW was responsible for getting the grant.

**MOTION**: Ms. Belanger moved to accept the State ARPA grant from the NH Department of Environmental Services in the amount of \$100,000 to the Town of Exeter and to authorize the Town Manager to sign the associated paperwork with such agreement on behalf of the Town. Ms. Gilman seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

 d. NHDES Lead Service Line, Sampling Plan, and Replacement Plan Grant -\$50,000

Mr. Dean said this is an NH DES grant for lead work. We were seeking alternate funding to supplement our budget on this. Stephen Dalton of the DPW was responsible for getting this grant as well.

**MOTION:** Ms. Belanger moved to accept the Lead Service Line, Sampling Plan, and Replacement Plan Grant from the NH Department of Environmental Services in the amount of \$50,000 to the Town of Exeter and to authorize the Town Manager to sign the associated paperwork with such agreement on behalf of the Town. Ms. Gilman seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

e. Hazard Mitigation Plan Update Grant - \$9,999.75

Fire Chief Eric Wilking said this is for updating the town's hazard mitigation plan, which is required for FEMA grants and reimbursements for storms. This is a 75/25 grant; we commit \$3333.25, but it's in salaries and time, not money. Ms. Gilman asked how we calculate our contribution, and Chief Wilking said it's "fully loaded," so it includes all salary and benefits such as retirement contributions of anyone working on it. We can offset future grants with any extra work.

MOTION: Ms. Belanger moved to accept the Emergency Management performance grant from NH Homeland Security and Emergency Management in the amount of \$9,999.75 for the required five year update to the national hazards mitigation plan. and to further authorize the Town Manager to sign the associated paperwork with such agreement on behalf of the Town. Ms. Gilman seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

The Select Board, in a majority vote, accepted the terms of the Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities as presented in the amount of \$9999.75 for updating the local hazard mitigation plan. Furthermore, the Board acknowledged that the total cost of this project will be \$13,333.00, in which the town will be responsible for a 25% match (\$3,333.25). Town Manager Russ Dean is authorized to sign all documents related to the grant.

f. Omniballot Update

Mr. Papakonstantis said a year ago, the Board authorized funds to purchase the OmniBallot apparatus, but it has not yet been purchased. Mr. Dean said in January of last year, there were some issues raised about the proposed contract with Democracy Live/OmniBallot by Primex and the Mitchell Municipal Group. This product is considered by the Secretary of State as an "accessibility machine," not a "ballot machine." If it were a ballot machine, it would have required a bond. The moderator felt there were too many issues associated. Democracy Live came back this year for a meeting on Jan 25. We also called the Concord City Manager and had correspondence with the Town Moderator and Concord City Clerk. We can no longer order less than 100 units, but Democracy Live is working on providing a single test unit for us. Mr. Papakonstantis said we'd be the first NH town after Concord to have this product, so maybe by selling us one machine it would help the product spread throughout the State. Mr. Dean said Concord has had no problems with the Democracy Live system. The city has no contract. They bought 10 tablets and pay a fee each year. The city did not have to get approval from the BLC because the Commission has no jurisdiction over ballot marking systems. He's continuing to work with Democracy Live regarding the OmniBallot system.

#### 8. Regular Business

a. Tax Abatements, Veterans Credits and Exemptions

**MOTION**: Ms. Gilman moved to approve a tax abatement for 110/2/33 in the amount of \$133.83 for tax year 2022. Ms. Belanger seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

**MOTION**: Ms. Gilman moved to approve a Solar Exemption for 11/18/22 in the amount of \$15,500 for tax year 2023. Ms. Belanger seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

**MOTION**: Ms. Gilman moved to approve a Solar Exemption for 81/30 in the amount of \$13,000 for tax year 2023. Ms. Belanger seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

**MOTION:** Ms. Gilman moved to approve a Veterans Credit for 81/30, 72/83, and 81/19 in the amount of \$500 each for tax year 2023. Ms. Belanger seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

**MOTION**: Ms. Gilman moved to approve a Disability Exemption for 95/64/96 in the amount of \$125,000 for tax year 2023. Ms. Belanger seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

**MOTION**: Ms. Gilman moved to approve an Elderly Exemption for 72/17/6 in the amount of \$183,751 for tax year 2023. Ms. Belanger seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

**MOTION**: Ms. Gilman moved to approve an Elderly Exemption for 64/105/45 in the amount of \$152,251 for tax year 2023. Ms. Belanger seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

**MOTION**: Ms. Gilman moved to approve an Elderly Exemption for 104/79/604 in the amount of \$236,251 for tax year 2023. Ms. Belanger seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

**MOTION**: Ms. Gilman moved to approve an Elderly Exemption for 103/13/17 in the amount of \$152,251 for tax year 2023. Ms. Belanger seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

#### b. Permits & Approvals

Deputy Fire Chief Jason Fritz was present to discuss a street request. PEA has asked the town to approve a private way as part of PEA's new project at Gilman Lane. PEA will maintain the road. Regarding access, there will be a gate for vehicle traffic, but pedestrian traffic will be allowed.

MOTION: Ms. Belanger moved to accept Stuckey Place as a new private way, located off Gilman Lane. Ms. Gilman seconded. Ms. Oliff abstained. The motion passed 4-0-1.

Mr. Dean said a writ of possession has been procured on a mobile home, and the town can't collect taxes. This is for 2021 and 2022. It includes the principal and interest.

**MOTION:** Ms. Belanger moved to abate the real estate tax principal and interest due for 104/80/1 for tax years 2021, 2022 for \$4,413.74. Ms. Gilman seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

#### c. Town Manager's Report

- i. We have received the signed Acceptance of Service form back from the Director of Charitable Trust. We should have a revised proposed draft decree back tomorrow. Attorney Mitchell was optimistic that the process would be complete before too long. Regarding the Citizens' Petition, his understanding is that if this process is completed by the Court prior to the vote on March 14th, what's done is done. If it's not complete, the Citizens Petition article could take effect. Ms. Cowan said 63% of the town voted for this and we've put it in motion. The Citizens' Petition shouldn't stop anything.
- ii. The siphons project at Swasey is underway. There was an issue with the gyro device in the drill and we had to order a new one. It was expected to be delivered this afternoon.
- iii. Preparations are being made for Deliberative Session. He should be finished tomorrow. Deliberative is on Saturday at the HS at 9 AM.

#### d. Select Board Committee Reports

- i. Ms. Oliff had no report.
- ii. Ms. Cowan had no report.
- iii. Ms. Gilman attended a Heritage Commission meeting. We pay dues to the National Alliance of Preservation Commissions, so we have access to their learning tools and resources. She also discussed several State bills.
- iv. Ms. Belanger attended a Planning Board meeting on Jan 26. There was a unanimous recommendation for Article 2 on amending the flood plain ordinance. There was discussion on replacement of the Zoning

- ordinances. For workforce housing, the Housing Advisory Committee has discussed having oversight and yearly reporting.
- v. Mr. Papakonstantis attended a Swasey Park Trustees meeting, where they talked about the recent flooding and discussed pruning trees.
- e. Correspondence
  - i. A memo from Attorney Mitchell on the single use plastics ordinance.

#### 9. Review Board Calendar

- a. Deliberative Session is Saturday Feb 4. The All-Boards meeting is Feb 8 at 6 PM at the Library. The next Board meetings are Feb 13, Feb 27, and March 6.
- b. Ms. Belanger said the Board received a letter from Darren Winham on Town of Exeter business outreach that should be added to the next packet.

#### 10. Non-Public Session

a. There was no non-public session at this time.

#### 11. Adjournment

**MOTION:** Ms. Belanger moved to adjourn. Ms. Gilman seconded. The motion passed 5-0 and the meeting adjourned at 9:05 PM.

Respectfully Submitted, Joanna Bartell Recording Secretary **Squamscott River Siphons Project Update** 

### TOWN OF EXETER **MEMORANDUM**

TO:

Select Board

FROM:

Town Manager

RE:

**Sewer Siphons** 

DATE:

February 10<sup>th</sup>, 2023

Drilling for the Sewer Siphons project began on December 21, 2022, and has encountered several obstacles since beginning the process. The initial estimate of five days of drilling per barrel, outlined in the bid specifications, has now exceeded a month. This memo serves to update the Select Board on the project's progress and challenges.

The project began on the Mill side of the river; however, after multiple attempts to drill were unsuccessful on the Mill side, the contractors suggested switching to the Swasev side looking for better conditions. Since switching to the Swasey side of the river, the project continued to face significant drilling related challenges. The project had to stop multiple times to address these challenges as new or different equipment was required to be brought on-site. The main challenge has been drilling through more ledge than expected. In addition, the initial equipment used was too heavy for the softer soils encountered on the Swasey side, so the drill team had to drill at an increased depth and encountered mostly ledge, which requires different equipment and presents new challenges. As of February 10<sup>th</sup>, the project has drilled 450 feet out of the required 800 feet. The drilling situation has been improving in the last 2 weeks. Work has only been conducted when temperatures permit.

After meeting with the engineering and construction teams, the Town understands that the project will likely need to be altered from its initial design due to the issues encountered. It is unclear at this time what the outcomes will be regarding timing. budget, and product. The Town Manager's office, Department of Public Works staff, and all contractors have been working diligently over the last few weeks to understand the scope of the various issues and what changes might be necessary to move the project forward in a timely manner, and at an updated cost, that the Town can support.

The project team has approved two changes that will aid in making educated decisions about the pathway forward. These include a mapping machine to identify additional ledge, and a conductor barrel to guarantee the same spot is hit by the driller after drilling and pulling the drill out. This should eliminate some of the "hit and miss" nature of the drilling.

The Town expects to have more answers in the coming two weeks and will present the Board with options after project changes are discussed. Wright Pierce will also be present on Monday night to answer questions about the project to date.

## Fire Department EMS Fee Update



### EXETER FIRE DEPARTMENT

20 COURT STREET • EXETER, NH • 03833-3792 • (603) 773-6131 • FAX 773-6128 www.exeternh.gov

Advanced Life Support / EMS - Fire Suppression - Health Department - Emergency Management

#### INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

TO:

RUSS DEAN, TOWN MANAGER

FROM:

ERIC WILKING, CHIEF OF DEPARTMENT 2023 AMBULANCE TRANSPORT RATES

SUBJECT:

DATE:

JANUARY 27, 2023

CC

SELECT BOARD

Russ, we recently had a meeting with Comstar to discuss Medicare rate adjustments for ambulance transports. The last significant Medicare adjustment was in 2021, and the last time we have discussed ambulance rates with the select board was 2013. At that meeting in 2013 the board approved a formula for ambulance transports that set Exeter's billable rate at (Medicare Rate + 30%).

During our meeting with Comstar they shared industry averages and best billing practices. In addition, Comstar discussed recent negotiations with private insurance companies in Maine and the state legislature, that concluded with an agreement to pay for ambulance transportation service at Medicare + 100%.

Both Advanced Life Support (ALS) and Basic Life Support (BLS) patient transports in Exeter have seen a dramatic growth since we emerged from the COVID pandemic of 2020 and early 2021. Our calls for ambulance service increased to a record 2,342 in 2022 with billable transports at 1,571. 68% of patient transports in Exeter are at the allowable Medicare rate, leaving 32% or 489 billed to commercial insurance companies like Anthem BC, Matthew-Thornton, Cigna, etc...

I propose we update our ambulance transportation rates to Medicare + 100%. If we use the previous year as a look to potential future revenue, the federally approved Medicare rate will provide approximately \$44,000 in increased revenue in 2023. An increase to Medicare + 100% will also result in an estimated \$112,000 in revenue to the Ambulance Revolving Fund from private/commercial insurance companies. The cost to provide ambulance service and transportation to our residents increases annually, so keeping pace with approved billing rates must follow in order for the fire department to provide the quality care our resident have come to expect and deserve.

I have provided the Comstar activity tracking report for the previous 12 months and the 2023 Rate Change Form. Additionally, I have provided side-by-side comparison sheets for each type of billable transport showing where Exeter is in relationship to other NH Comstar clients. As you can see, even with the proposed increase to Medicare + 100%, Exeter remains near the very bottom of the list in each category, and well below the average bundled rate provided on the rate change form.

I look forward to presenting the proposal and answering any questions you or the select board may have at the February 13 select board meeting.

# ACTIVITY TRACKING REPORT BY PAYOR GROUPS

Company IS TOWN OF EXETER FIRE DEPARTMENT; AND Trip Date IS BETWEEN 01/01/2022 AND 12/31/2022; AND Show All

1/26/2023 TOWN OF EXETER FIRE DEPARTMENT **Total Transports** Total Charges Total Allowable Total Collected Percent Collected % of Revenue Blue Cross 137 \$76,289.51 \$83,604.15 85.73% 10.91% \$65,404.25 Medicaid 128 \$29,043.92 82.54% \$75,974.18 \$23,973.64 4.00% Medicare 1,082 \$646,456.48 \$497,499.76 \$440,557.05 88.55% 73.51% Other Insurance 119 \$69,067.21 77.66% \$72,917.56 8.95% \$53,638.94 Sub Total > 1,466 878,952.37 \$671,900.40 \$583,573.88 86.85% 97.37% Total Transports Total Charges Total Allowable Total Collected Percent Collected % of Revenue Veterans Administration 11 \$6,676.46 \$6,676.46 \$6,147.38 92.08% 1.03% Facilities and Providers 3 \$1,946.52 0.00% 0.00% \$1,946.52 \$0.00 Sub Total > 14 \$8,622.98 \$8,622.98 \$6,147.38 71.29% 1.03% **Total Transports** Total Charges Total Allowable Total Collected Percent Collected % of Revenue 100% Self Pay - Insured 58 \$34,844.82 \$34,245.71 \$8,713.88 25.45% 1.45% 100% Self Pay - Uninsured 33 \$20,132.05 \$875.84 4.35% 0.15% \$20,132.05 Sub Total > 91 \$54,976.87 \$54,377.76 \$9,589.72 17.64% 1.60% Grand Total > 1,571 \$942,552.22 \$734,901.14 \$599,310.98 81.55%



### Ambulance Billing Service

8 Turcotte Memorial Drive, Rowley, MA01969 Ph: 800-742-3001 FAX: 978-356-3721

# TOWN OF EXETER FIRE DEPARTMENT

## 2023 Rate Change Form

2023 Medicare Fee Schedule Allowed Amounts	Avg Bundled Comstar Top 50	Current Rates	New Rates Effective On:
\$428.60	\$1,619.00	\$508.08	857,20
\$267.87	\$1,619.00	\$485.68	535.74
\$321.45	\$2,419.00	\$576.75	642,90
\$508.96	\$2,419.00	\$603.34	1,017,92
\$736.66	\$3,551.00	\$873.25	1,473,32
\$870.59	\$3,999.00	\$960.57	1,741.18
\$8.40	\$38.00	\$10.50	16,80
	Date		
	Fee Schedule Allowed Amounts \$428.60 \$267.87 \$321.45 \$508.96 \$736.66 \$870.59	Fee Schedule Allowed Amounts         Avg Bundled Comstar Top 50           \$428.60         \$1,619.00           \$267.87         \$1,619.00           \$321.45         \$2,419.00           \$508.96         \$2,419.00           \$736.66         \$3,551.00           \$870.59         \$3,999.00           \$8.40         \$38.00	Fee Schedule Allowed Amounts         Avg Bundled Comstar Top 50         Current Rates           \$428.60         \$1,619.00         \$508.08           \$267.87         \$1,619.00         \$485.68           \$321.45         \$2,419.00         \$576.75           \$508.96         \$2,419.00         \$603.34           \$736.66         \$3,551.00         \$873.25           \$870.59         \$3,999.00         \$960.57           \$8.40         \$38.00         \$10.50

Printed Name -- Authorized Signer

Title -- Authorized Signer

Please scan and email completed Rate Change form to: ratechange@comstarbilling.com

## Basic Life Support - Non-Emergency Transportation

Client	BLS Non Emer BR
Gilent	1,619.00
	1,619.00
	1,619.00
	1,553.00
	1,477.00
	1,477.00
	1,450.00
	1,403.00
	1,400.00
	1,293.00
	1,293.00
	1,200.00
	1,200.00
	1,200.00
	1,137.00
	1,100.00
	984.12
	982.24
	960.00
	938.30
	896.45
	894.69
	885.00
	868.00
	860.00
	800.00
	800.00
	779.24
	750.00
	711.00
	694.08
	670.30
	664.00
	650.00
	610.08
	610.00
	600.00
	596.89
	500.00
EXETER - Current Rate	485.68
LALIEN - Cullent Nate	477.10
	400.00
	383.70
	348.96
	293.75
	246.89
AVED 4 0 E	4004.04
AVERAGE	\$921.31

Client	BLS Non Emer BR
Ollelit	1,619.00
	1,619.00
	1,619.00
	1,553.00
	1,477.00
***************************************	1,477.00
***************************************	1,450.00
	1,403.00
	1,400.00
	1,293.00
	1,293.00
	1,200.00
	1,200.00
	1,200.00
	1,137.00
	1,100.00
	984.12
	982.24
	960.00
	938.30
	896.45
	894.69
	885.00
	868.00
	860.00
	800.00
	800.00
	779.24
	750.00
	711.00
	694.08
	670.30
	664.00
	650.00
	610.08
	610.00
	600.00
	596.89
Exeter - Proposed Rate	535.74
	500.00
	477.10
	400.00
	383.70
	348.96
	293.75
	246.89
AVERAGE	\$921.31

## Basic Life Support - Emergency Transportation

Client	BLSEmer BR
	1,619.00
	1,619.00
	1,619.00
	1,619.00
	1,553.00
	1,477.00
	1,477.00
	1,450.00
	1,403.00
	1,400.00
	1,376.00
	1,293.00
	1,293.00
	1,258.95
	1,248.72
	1,200.00
	1,200.00
	1,200.00
	1,200.00
	1,150.00
	1,137.00
	1,115.00
	1,000.00
	1,000.00
	984.12
	982.24
	960.00
	929.92
	896.45
	894.69
	885.00
	876.00
	871.46
	868.00
	800.00
	791.50
	775.00
	762.00
	750.00
	694.08
Water State of the	
	670.30
	664.00
	613.94
	610.08
	600.00
	600.00
	596.89
	558.34
	525.00
EXETER - Current Rate	508.08
	475.50
	468.75
	395.02
VERAGE	\$998.38

Client	BLSEmer BR
Offerit	1,619.00
	1,619.00
	1,619.00
	1,619.00
	1,553.00
	1,477.00
	1,477.00
	1,450.00
	1,403.00
	1,400.00
	1,376.00
	1,293.00
	1,293.00
	1,258.95
	1,248.72
	1,200.00
	1,200.00
	1,200.00
	1,200.00
	1,150.00
	1,137.00
	1,115.00
	1,000.00
	1,000.00
	984.12
	982.24
	960.00
	929.92
	896.45
	894.69
	885.00
	876.00
	871.46
	868.00
EXETER - Proposed Rate	857.20
	791.50
	775.00
	762.00
	750.00
	694.08
	670.30
	664.00
	613.94
	610.08
	600.00
	600.00
	596.89
	558.34
	525.00
	508.08
	475.50
	468.75
	395.02
	555.02
AVERAGE	\$998.38

## Advanced Life Support - Non-Emergency Transportation

Client	ALS Non Emer BR
	2,419.00
	2,329.00
	2,329.00
	2,234.00
	2,150.00
	2,099.00
	1,900.00
	1,893.00
	1,823.84
	1,800.00
	1,635.68
	1,486.00
	1,462.22
	1,400.00
	1,380.00
	1,372.55
	1,230.84
	1,223.08
	1,200.00
	1,200.00
	1,153.00
	1,115.00
	1,114.00
	1,089.12
	1,032.00
	940.00
	800.00
	656.70
	650.00
EXETER - Current Rate	576.75
	504.80
	475.00
	418.76
	352.50
AVERAGE	\$1,336.61

Client	ALS Non Emer BR
	2,419.00
	2,329.00
	2,329.00
	2,234.00
	2,150.00
	2,099.00
	1,900.00
	1,893.00
	1,823.84
	1,800.00
	1,635.68
	1,486.00
	1,462.22
	1,400.00
	1,380.00
	1,372.55
	1,230.84
	1,223.08
	1,200.00
	1,200.00
	1,153.00
	1,115.00
	1,114.00
	1,089.12
	1,032.00
	940.00
	800.00
	656.70
	650.00
EXETER Proposed Rate	642.90
	504.80
	475.00
	418.76
	352.50
AVERAGE	\$1,336.61

## Advanced Life Support (1) - Emergency Transportation

Client	ALCA Emar DD
Client	ALS1 Emer BR
	2,420.00
	2,419.00
	2,419.00
	2,419.00
	2,419.00
	2,329.00
	2,329.00
	2,234.00
	2,150.00
	2,099.00
	2,099.00
	2,079.56
	2,000.00
	1,900.00
	1,893.00
	1,850.00
	1,823.84
	1,800.00
_	1,800.00
	1,650.00
	1,635.68
	1,634.00
	1,600.00
	1,500.00
	1,500.00
	1,500.00
	1,486.00
	1,483.46
	1,462.22
	1,380.00
	1,372.55
	1,298.50
	1,270.87
	1,230.84
	1,223.08
	1,200.00
	1,200.00
	1,185.00
	1,153.00
	1,133.43
	1,104.28
	1,100.00
	1,100.00
	1,089.12
	1,021.76
	800.00
	800.00
	729.05
	663.03
	625.00
EXETER - Current Rate	603.34
	557.50
	469.09
AVERAGE	\$1,514.02

Client	ALS1 Emer BR
	2,420.00
	2,419.00
	2,419.00
	2,419.00
	2,419.00
	2,329.00
	2,329.00
	2,234.00
	2,150.00
	2,099.00
	2,099.00
	2,079.56
	2,000.00
	1,900.00
	1,893.00
	1,850.00
	1,823.84
	1,800.00
	1,800.00
	1,650.00
	1,635.68
	1,634.00
	1,600.00
e .	1,500.00
	1,500.00
	1,500.00
	1,486.00
	1,483.46
	1,462.22
	1,380.00
	1,372.55
	1,298.50
	1,270.87
	1,230.84
	1,223.08
	1,200.00
	1,200.00
	1,185.00
	1,153.00
	1,133.43
EXETER - Proposed Rate	1,017.92
	1,100.00
	1,100.00
	1,089.12
	1,021.76
	800.00
	800.00
	729.05
	663.03
	625.00
	603.34
	557.50
	469.09
	712
AVERAGE	\$1,514.02

## Advanced Life Support (2) Emergency Transportation

Client	ALS2 Emer BR
	3,571.00
	3,551.00
	3,551.00
	3,551.00
	3,551.00
	3,420.00
	3,420.00
	3,391.00
	3,350.00
	3,194.00
	3,194.00
	3,000.00
	2,978.81
	2,932.00
	2,900.00
	2,881.68
	2,725.00
	2,650.00
	2,500.00
	2,500.00
	2,387.27
	2,366.00
	2,335.00
	2,250.00
	2,188.98
	2,174.00
	2,146.54
	2,100.00
	2,071.86
	2,028.00
	2,000.00
	1,912.56
	1,842.98
	1,832.43
	1,800.00
	1,759.00
	1,745.50
	1,640.48
	1,638.00
	1,631.73
	1,600.00
	1,597.50
	1,550.00
	1,522.14 1,350.00
	1,350.00
	1,200.00
	1,100.00
	1,055.19
	950.34
EXETER - Current Rate	873.25
	806.25
	750.00
	678.95
AVERAGE	\$2,220.67

Client	ALS2 Emer BR
Cheff	3,571.00
	3,551.00
	3,551.00
	3,551.00
	3,551.00
	3,420.00
	3,420.00
	3,391.00
	3,350.00
	3,194.00
	3,194.00
	3,000.00
	2,978.81
	2,932.00
	2,900.00
	2,881.68
	2,725.00
	2,650.00
	2,500.00
	2,500.00
	2,387.27
	2,366.00
	2,335.00
	2,250.00
	2,188.98
	2,174.00
	2,146.54
	2,100.00
	2,071.86
	2,028.00
	2,000.00
	1,912.56
	1,842.98
	1,832.43
	1,800.00
	1,759.00
	1,745.50
	1,640.48
	1,638.00
	1,631.73
	1,600.00
	1,597.50
	1,550.00
	1,522.14
EXETER - Proposed Rate	1,473.32
	1,200.00
	1,100.00
	1,055.19
	950.34
	873.25
	806.25
	750.00
	678.95
	2.3.00
AVERAGE	\$2,220.67

## Specialty Care Transportation (Inter-facilty Transfers)

Client	SCT
	4,094.00
	4,000.00
	3,999.00
	3,999.00
	3,999.00
	3,908.00
	3,908.00
	3,834.00
	3,400.00
	3,169.86
	3,169.00
	3,125.00
	3,000.00
	2,796.00
	2,700.00
	2,583.58
	2,548.50
	2,536.16
	2,500.00
	2,421.15
	2,405.00
	2,254.36
	2,248.50
	2,016.54
	1,954.00
	1,945.00
	1,795.68
	1,695.14
	1,350.00
	1,050.00
EXETER - Current Rate	960.57
	953.75
	802.39
AVERAGE	\$2,640.04

Client	SCT
	4,094.00
	4,000.00
	3,999.00
	3,999.00
	3,999.00
	3,908.00
	3,908.00
	3,834.00
	3,400.00
	3,169.86
	3,169.00
	3,125.00
	3,000.00
	2,796.00
	2,700.00
	2,583.58
	2,548.50
	2,536.16
	2,500.00
	2,421.15
	2,405.00
	2,254.36
	2,248.50
	2,016.54
	1,954.00
	1,945.00
	1,795.68
EXETER - Proposed Rate	1,741.18
	1,350.00
	1,050.00
	960.57
	953.75
	802.39
AVERAGE	\$2,640.04

## Ambulance Ground Transportation (Loaded Mileage)

Client	MLG
	38.00
	38.00
	38.00
	38.00
	37.3
	36.12
	36.12
	36.00
	35.05
	35.08
	35.00
	34.00
	33.9
	32.00
	30.25
	30.00
	30.00
	29.00
	27.00
	25.00
	25.00
	25.00
	22.72
	22.00
	20.03
	20.00
	20.00
	18.81
	18.75
	18.75
	18.42
	18.29
	18.23
	18.00
	18.00
	18.00
	16.60
	16.25
	15.00
	15.00
	15.00
	15.00
	14.98
	14.50
	12.03
	12.00
	11.44 10.74
EVETED Comment Date	
EXETER - Current Rate	10.50
	10.00
	9.89
	9.48
	0.00
AVERAGE	\$22.68

Client	MLG
	38.00
	38.00
	38.00
	38.00
	37.31
	36.12
	36.12
	30.12
	36.00
	35.05
	35.05
	35.00
	34.00
	33.91
	32.00
	30.25
	30.00
	30.00
	29.00
	27.00
	25.00
	25.00
	25.00
	22.72
	22.00
	20.03
	20.00
	20.00
	18.81
	18.75
	18.75
	18.42
	18.29
	18.23
	18.00
	18.00
	18.00
EXETER - Proposed Rate	16.80
	16.25
	15.00
	15.00
	15.00
	15.00
	14.98
	14.50
	12.03
	12.00
	11.44
	10.74
	10.50
	10.00
	9.89
	9.48
	0.00
AVERAGE	\$22.68

### **OmniBallot Update**

# TOWN OF EXETER MEMORANDUM

TO:

Select Board

FROM:

Town Manager

RE:

Democracy Live/OmniBallot Update

DATE:

February 13<sup>th</sup>, 2023

We have had a group of staff working on the OmniBallot issue. Myself, Town Clerk Andie Kohler, and Senior Executive Assistant Pam McElroy. Below are the key points regarding Democracy Live/OmniBallot.

- 1. OmniBallot told the Town they are only selling units in a total of 100 per purchase. However, after a request from the Town Manager, OmniBallot agreed to work with the Town to provide one unit for testing purposes at the March 14, 2023 elections. This was based on the fact the Town had worked with OmniBallot last year in an attempt to implement their system in Exeter, and we would be one of the only Town's in New Hampshire to use the system (Concord being the other).
- 2. Andie Kohler, Town Clerk, possesses headphones, a keyboard, and a printer from the One4All system used by the state. Andie was instrumental in working with the state to get their permission to use the printer for our local election.
- 3. The printer was verified with OmniBallot.
- 4. Working again with OmniBallot, they have agreed to provide a tablet to the Town. This tablet will be sent locked down with a test Exeter 2021 election ballot. We will test some printing from the OmniBallot tablet.
- 5. It is our hope that the system will be able to be used for the March 14, 2023 Town Election.

Thank you to all who have had a hand in working to make this happen.

### Legislative Update - Selectwoman Gilman



## Hearings Bulletin #7: February 10, 2023



House Science, Technology and Energy, LOB, Room 304 Feb 13				
<u>HB 558</u>	Title: relative to electric microgrids and electric grid resiliency.  Public Hearing 09:00 AM			
<u>HB 523</u>	Title: relative to net energy metering limits for individual and business customers. Public Hearing 10:30 AM			
<u>HB 524</u>	Title: relative to regional greenhouse gas initiative funds.  Public Hearing 02:30 PM			
<u>HB 298</u>	Title: relative to placement of personal wireless service facilities.  Executive Session 03:00 PM			
Senate Co Feb. 14	ommerce, SH, Room 100			
<u>SB 145</u>	Title: relative to New Hampshire housing champion designation for municipalities and making appropriations therefor.  Hearing 09:30 AM			
SB 202	Title: relative to establishing a homeownership innovations fund in the New Hampshire housing finance authority.  Hearing 09:45 AM			

Feb. 14	ection Law and Municipal Affairs, LOB, Room 103			
SB 222	Title: relative to the definition of broadband infrastructure as a revenue-producing facility eligible for municipal revenue bonds.  Hearing 09:00 AM			
SB 223	Title: relative to supervisors of the checklist.  Hearing 09:15 AM			
SB 224	Title: relative to housing opportunity zones and inclusionary zoning.  Hearing 09:30 AM			
SB 158	Title: relative to absentee ballot outer envelopes.  Hearing 09:45 AM			
<u>Senate Fi</u> Feb. 14	nance, SH, Room 103			
SB 115	Title: relative to making an appropriation to the department of health and human services for the purpose of funding vaccine administration through public health departments.  Hearing 02:45 PM			
<u>Senate Ju</u> Feb. 14	diciary, SH, Room 100			
SB 255	Title: relative to the expectation of privacy.  Hearing 02:30 PM			
Senate H Feb. 15	ealth and Human Services, LOB, Room 101			
SB 242	Title: relative to Medicaid direct certification.  Hearing 10:30 AM			
Senate Ex Feb. 15	xecutive Departments and Administration, SH, Room 103			
SB 205	Title: relative to a cost of living adjustment in the state retirement system.  Senate Standing Committee 9:45 AM			

House W Feb. 15	ays and Means, LOB, Room 202-204			
HB 297	Title: relative to the state's dedicated funds review.  Executive Session 10:00 AM			
<u>HB 569</u>	Title: relative to the state education property tax and the low and moderate income homeowners property tax relief program.  Executive Session 10:00 AM			
<u>HB 568</u>	Title: relative to assessing all state adequate education and local education costs through the state education warrant.  Public Hearing 11:45 AM			
== <b>REVI</b> 9 Feb. 15	SED==House Executive Departments and Administration, LOB, Room 306-308			
HB 278	Title: relative to special duty hours worked by retired police members in the retirement system.  Public Hearing 10:30 AM; Public Hearing on non-germane Amendment # 2023-0334h 10:35AM			
<u>HB 461</u>	Title: relative to elimination by political subdivision employers of a group II retirement position.  Public Hearing 11:15 AM			
HB 436	Title: relative to group II retirement under transition provisions in the retirement system.  Executive Session 1:00 PM			
HB 559	Title: establishing a state retirement plan group for new state employee members of the retirement system.  Public Hearing 02:00 PM (see bill docket)			
House M Feb. 15	unicipal and County Government, LOB, Room 301			
HB 236	Title: relative to condominium conversions under water and waste disposal laws and municipal ordinances.  Executive Session 10:30 AM			
HB 467	Title: relative to public playground accessibility.  Executive Session 10:30 AM			
HB 202	Title: relative to property tax abatements.  Executive Session 10:30 AM			

HB 265	Title: relative to municipal property tax relief for installation of fire suppression system Executive Session 10:30 AM			
HB 423	Title: relative to accessory dwelling unit uses allowed by right.  Executive Session 10:30 AM			
HB 313	Title: relative to the reductions from the default budget for official ballot town meetings. Executive Session 10:30 AM			
<u>HB 485</u>	Title: establishing deputy animal control officers.  Executive Session 10:30 AM			
HB 433	Title: providing that property tax exemptions granted prior to a home sale shall not be applied to the new homeowner.  Executive Session 10:30 AM			
HB 335	Title: relative to notice of tax lien on real estate subject to a lien for old age assistance.  Executive Session 10:30 AM			
<u>HB 51</u>	Title: relative to requiring towns and school districts use warrant articles for lobbying agents.  Executive Session 10:30 AM			
HB 294	Title: enabling municipalities to adopt a child tax credit.  Executive Session 10:30 AM			
HB 477	Title: to prohibit municipal inspections of owner-occupied units of multi-unit housing.  Executive Session 10:30 AM			
HB 154	Title: relative to the adoption of public health ordinances by municipalities.  Executive Session 10:30 AM			
<u>HB 177</u>	Title: relative to the definition of qualified structures under the community revitalization tax relief incentive.  Executive Session 10:30 AM			
HB 526	Title: regulating the use of temporary traffic control personnel.  Executive Session 10:30 AM			
HB 636	Title: relative to required education for zoning board of adjustment members.  Executive Session 10:30 AM			

House H Feb. 15	ealth, Human Services and Elderly Affairs, LOB, Room 201-203		
HB 431	Title: permitting qualifying patients and designated caregivers to cultivate cannabis for therapeutic use.  Executive Session 1:00 PM		
HB 611	Title: relative to eligibility criteria for the therapeutic cannabis program.  Executive Session 1:00 PM		
HB 610	Title: expanding the definition of providers who can certify patients of the therapeutic cannabis program.  Executive Session 1:00 PM		
HB 554	Title: relative to treatment alternatives to opioids.  Executive Session 1:00 PM		
<b>==REVI</b> Feb. 15	SED==House Commerce and Consumer Affairs, LOB, Room 302-304		
HB 373	Title: relative to billing for ambulance services.  Executive Session 1:15 PM		
House H Feb. 16	ealth, Human Services and Elderly Affairs, LOB, Room 201-203		
HB 575	Title: relative to vaccine and pharmaceutical products purchased, promoted, or distributed by the state and its political subdivisions.  Public Hearing 10:30 AM		
HB 217	Title: establishing a committee to study the effects of fluoride on fetuses and children.  Public Hearing 01:30 PM		
Feb. 16	Public Hearing 01:30 PM		
House Co Feb. 16 HB 106 HB 474	Public Hearing 01:30 PM  iminal Justice and Public Safety, LOB, Room 202-204  Title: relative to extreme risk protection orders.		

House Ju Feb. 16	diciary, SH, Room Reps Hall			
HB 652	Title: relative to nonpublic sessions under the right to know law.  Public Hearing 03:00 PM			
Senate Ho Feb. 16	ealth and Human Services, LOB, Room 101			
SB 241	Title: relative to graduated public assistance programs.  Hearing 09:00 AM			
SB 239	Title: relative to the use of harm reduction services to treat alcohol and substance abuse. <b>Hearing 09:15 AM</b>			
House Ed Feb. 16	ducation, LOB, Room 205-207			
HB 649	Title: repealing the collection of the state education property tax.  Public Hearing 10:00 AM			
House Sc Feb. 16	ience, Technology and Energy, LOB, Room 206-208			
<u>HB 159</u>	Title: relative to the default service rate for electricity.  Hearing 10:00 AM			
<u>HB 605</u>	Title: relative to solar generation under the renewable portfolio standards.  Executive Session 1:00 PM			
<u>HB 263</u>	Title: requiring notification to renewable energy customer-generators of issues related to renewable energy credits.  Executive Session 1:00 PM			
HB 257	Title: relative to telephone carrier of last resort obligations.  Executive Session 1:00 PM			
HB 251	Title: relative to the cost of compliance with disclosure of electric renewable portfolio standards.  Executive Session 1:00 PM			

HB 443
Title: establishing a commission to study the withdrawal of New Hampshire from ISO New England.

Executive Session 1:00 PM

Ноиза Ми	unicipal and County Covernment I OP Press 201 202
Feb. 16	unicipal and County Government, LOB, Room 301-303
<u>HB 236</u>	Title: relative to condominium conversions under water and waste disposal laws and municipal ordinances.  Executive Session 10:30 AM
<u>HB 467</u>	Title: relative to public playground accessibility.  Executive Session 10:30 AM
<u>HB 202</u>	Title: relative to property tax abatements.  Executive Session 10:30 AM
<u>HB 265</u>	Title: relative to municipal property tax relief for installation of fire suppression systems.  Executive Session 10:30 AM
<u>HB 423</u>	Title: relative to accessory dwelling unit uses allowed by right.  Executive Session 10:30 AM
HB 313	Title: relative to the reductions from the default budget for official ballot town meetings. Executive Session 10:30 AM
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<u>HB 51</u>	Title: relative to requiring towns and school districts use warrant articles for lobbying agents.  Executive Session 10:30 AM
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<u>HB 154</u>	Title: relative to the adoption of public health ordinances by municipalities. <b>Executive Session 10:30 AM</b>			
HB 177	Title: relative to the definition of qualified structures under the community revitalization tax relief incentive.  Executive Session 10:30 AM			
HB 526	Title: regulating the use of temporary traffic control personnel.  Executive Session 10:30 AM			
HB 636	Title: relative to required education for zoning board of adjustment members. Executive Session 10:30 AM			
==REVIS Feb. 17	ED==House Criminal Justice and Public Safety, LOB, Room 202-204			
HB 360	Title: an act legalizing cannabis for persons 21 years of age or older. Executive Session 09:00 AM			
<u>HB 596</u>	Title: prohibiting the use of racial profiling in law enforcement activities and in sentencing.  Executive Session 09:00 AM			
<u>HB 107</u>	Title: relative to employment restrictions for registered sex offenders.  Executive Session 09:00 AM			
HB 653	Title: prohibiting personal recognizance bail for violent crimes.  Executive Session 09:00 AM			
HB 624	Title: relative to federal immigration checkpoints.  Executive Session 09:00 AM			
<u>HB 400</u>	Title: relative to certain assault offenses, bail eligibility for commission of certain assault offenses, and making a false report to a law enforcement officer.  Executive Session 09:00 AM			

## **Tax Abatements, Veterans Credits & Exemptions**

Veterans Cro	edit		
Map/Lot/Unit	Location	Amount	Tax Year
72/58	10 High St	500.00	2023
87/3/65	15 Wyndbrook Cir	500.00	2023
72/2/3	12R Front St #102	500.00	2023
Disability Ex	: :emption		A CONTRACTOR OF THE PARTY OF TH
Map/Lot/Unit	Location	Amount	Tax Year
65/124/35	105 Portsmouth Ave #35	125,000	2023
95/64/188	9 Hilton Ave	125,000	2023
104/79/1012	1012 Camelot Dr	Denied	2023
95/64/80	9 Wanda Ln	125,000	2023
95/64/342	43 Alder St	125,000	* * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * *
Elderly Exen	nption		
Map/Lot/Unit	Location	Amount	Tax Year
63/163	4 Walnut St	236,251	2023
72/117/9	1 River St	236,251	2023
73/233	9 School St	236,251	2023
80/6/41	2 Liberty Ln	236,251	2023
104/79/516	516 Canterbury Dr	236,251	2023
87/14/20A	20 First St Pinecrest Pk	236,251	2023
73/136	6 Morrow St	236,251	2023
28/5	26 Old Town Farm Rd	236,251	2023
104/79/954	900A Maid Marion Rd	183,751	2023
65/56	29 Haven Ln	236,251	2023
63/120	11 Hale St	236,251	2023
95/64/148	28 Morton St	183,751	2023
95/64/297	47 Hilton Ave	152,251	2023
95/64/349	4 Sumac St	152,251	2023
32/12/22	22 Beech Hill MHP	236,251	2023
68/6/825	8 Sterling Hill Ln #825	152,251	2023
104/79/134	134 Robinhood Dr	236,251	2023
30/7/2	3 Lexington Ave.	236,251	2023
104/79/219	219 Robinhood Dr	236,251	2023
68/6/421	4 Sterling Hill Ln #421	236,251	2023
104/79/132A	132A Robinhood Dr	236,251	2023
104/79/616	616 Canterbury Dr	183,751	2023
87/8/B-11	B-11 E&H Co-op	152,251	2023
104/79/208	208 Robinhood Dr	183,751	2023

## **Permits And Approvals**



## TOWN OF EXETER, NEW HAMPSHIRE

10 FRONT STREET • EXETER, NH • 03833-3792 • (603) 778-0591 •FAX 777-1514 www.exeternh.gov

TO:

RUSSELL DEAN, TOWN MANAGER

FROM:

COREY STEVENS, FINANCE DIRECTOR

SUBJECT:

WAIVER OF INTEREST ON LATE PROPERTY TAX PAYMENTS

DATE:

JANUARY 26, 2023

In light of the recent settlement agreement between The Riverwoods Company and the Town of Exeter regarding property values for Map/Lots 97-23, 80-18, 98-37, I would request that interest and fees in the amount of \$1,187.67 that have accrued between January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023, and the date the property taxes were paid be waived.

## Correspondence

#### Housing Champions Hearing Scheduled

On Tuesday, February 14, at 9:30 a.m. in State House 100. the Senate Commerce Committee will hold a public hearing on SB 145, the Housing Champions Bill. NHMA, in conjunction with our Housing Champion Coalition Partners, have been barnstorming the State House to build support for the bill. In an op-ed published in several places, the Coalition advocated for the <u>completely voluntary</u> program that would provide <u>new</u> resources and funding to municipalities that participate.

As stated in the op-ed, "New Hampshire has the opportunity to serve as a national model on how to address the housing issue. We can model how to build more housing while protecting our beautiful natural resources. We can add homes to a community and protect its rural character. We can bring communities into the process to proactively envision their future. And we can make sure that our state government is supportive by providing resources where needed."

The Housing Champion Program would offer carrots to communities interested in tackling the housing shortage by ensuring that they can access the technical assistance they need as well as the infrastructure funding needed to support more housing. The funding provided in SB 145 would give Housing Champion Certified communities access to funding for updating their master plans, water and sewer, sidewalks, and a whole lot more.

As that a continuous deficient sare better than sticks – especially in New Hampshire. The Housing that a continuous deficient sare better than sticks – especially in New Hampshire. The Housing that a continuous deficient same takes the long view by letting towns and cities decide if they want to continue by the continuous decide in the continuo

We think this is the smart solution to tackling the housing shortage. It incentivizes all the interested parties – municipalities, businesses, housing advocates, and the state – to work together to solve the problem, and we know that this partnership could serve as a model for the rest of the country to follow.

#### Anti-Lobbying Bill Set for Executive Session

On Wednesday, February 15, at 10:30 a.m. in LOB 301-303, the House Municipal and County Government Committee will hold an executive session on HB 51, the anti-lobbying bill. An executive session, which occurs after the public hearing, is when the committee votes on a recommendation for the bill. Members still have time to email all committee members and urge them to vote to recommend the bill as Inexpedient to Legislate.

#### Valentine's Day Budget Address

The House and Senate will meet in joint session on Tuesday, February 14 at 1:00 p.m. to hear the governor present his operating and capital budget proposals for the upcoming biennium, which begins July 1, 2023, and ends June 30, 2025. The governor's priorities and key goals for the next two years will be communicated to the legislature as they begin their deliberations on the state budget. The governor's address will be streamed live through the General Court website, and we encourage local officials to tune in.

As we wrote in *Bulletin #2*, the governor communicated strong recognition of and support for New Hampshire's long history of local control in his 2023 Inaugural address. With state revenues strong and the levil lature *renewing its vows* to cities and towns on the Meals & Rooms tax distribution in 2021, on the North Control of the west libraring carefully for a *continued commitment* to local government the state of and fiscal policy proposals. The House will also convene separately that same day at the first of action committee recommendations on bills with a fiscal impact. This is because February the first day to report house bills with a fiscal impact, which must go to their second committee—which will assess both the policy and the financial impact of the proposed legislation as the state budget is developed.

#### Broadband Everywhere

On Tuesday, February 14, at 9:00 a.m. in LOB 103. the Senate Election Law and Municipal Affairs Committee will hear testimony on SB 222. This bill would expand the broadband bonding opportunities in municipalities where commercial providers have been unwilling to invest. Municipalities would no longer have to determine that an area is "unserved" by broadband before taking out bonds for broadband expansion.

#### 2023 NHMA Legislative Bulletin 07

February 10, 2023

Inside this Issue

Anti-Lobbying Bill

**Budget Address** 

Broadband

Immunity Bill

4-Plex Bill

Ex Officio Bill

**Senate Retirement Contribution** 

House Retirement Contribution

**Hearing Schedule** 

**NHMA Events** 

# GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS CONTACT INFORMATION

Margaret M.L. Byrnes Executive Director

Natch Greyes

Government Affairs Counsel

Katherine Heck
Government Finance Advisor

Jonathan Cowal
Municipal Services Counsel

Timothy W. Fortier
Communications Coordinator

Pam Valley
Administrative Assistant



25 Triangle Park Drive Concord NH 03301 603.224.7447 governmentaffairs@nhmunicipal.org Since 2018 significant legislation has been signed into law to allow municipalities to borrow money for the purpose of expanding this essential infrastructure and this bill will enable complete build out, even if the area is considered "served" by the old definition. This is particularly timely with the state actively working to address middle and last mile broadband service and digital equity using federal funds to incentivize the build out. The state plan includes comprehensive mapping of New Hampshire which will shed light on the unserved and underserved areas of state. The mapping process is an extensive undertaking, and we are expected to have this information before the legislative session has concluded in 2023. With federal funds being awarded to New Hampshire for broadband expansion projects over the next five years and the passage of the Broadband Matching Fund Initiative Chapter 280 (SB 445), municipalities would have more financial tools and broader authority to borrow money to ensure equitable access to the internet for all residents and businesses. If you are interested in this issue, please attend the hearing on Tuesday or contact members of the committee.

#### Immunity Bill Recommended Inexpedient to Legislate

On Wednesday, the House Judiciary Committee voted to recommend HB 647, a bill that would have overhauled governmental immunity and opened the state and municipalities to increased lawsuits, as Inexpedient to Legislate on a bipartisan, 16-3 basis. We are pleased with that result and want to thank our members who reached out to their representatives to explain the problems with this bill and thank the committee members who voted against the bill.

The bill will now move to the full House for a vote. It is possible that there may be an effort by the bill's supporters to overturn the committee recommendation. We understand that leadership would be against such efforts, and we believe the House is likely to adopt the committee's recommendation and kill the bill.

#### "Ultimately, it Comes Down to an Issue of Local Control"

On Thursday, the House Municipal and County Government Committee voted to recommend HB 44, the four-plex bill, as Ought to Pass as amended, 11-9. The amendment alters the requirements relative to parking and changes the effective date to 2024. It has not yet been publicly released.

HB 44 is a similar to last year's HB 1177 and would require that local legislative bodies permit by right certain single-family lots in residential districts to be used for up to four residential units. While there are numerous concerns about the bill, as one committee member stated in the debate, "Ultimately, it comes down to an issue of local control." Municipalities are empowered to create local zoning regulations because they know what will work and what will not work for their own citizens.

We are hopeful that HB 44 will follow the fate of HB 1177 and fail to make it out of the House. Please contact your representatives and let them know how HB 44 would impact your community and ask them to vote against the committee's recommendation.

#### No Recommendation on Budget Committee Membership Bill

On Thursday, the **House Municipal and County Government Committee** placed HB 123, which would remove the ability of *ex officio* members of the budget committee (*i.e.* select board and school board members) to vote on matters before the budget committee. on the calendar without recommendation. The vote split along party lines, and it is not yet clear what will happen when a vote is taken on the House floor. NHMA opposes this bill as it contradicts the role and purpose of an *ex officio* board member.

#### Committee Recommends Restoration of State Retirement Contribution!

The Senate Finance Committee voted Ought to Pass this week on SB 114, the NHMA policy bill that would restore a portion (7.5 percent) of the state. contribution toward the retirement costs of teachers, police, and firefighters. The vote was unanimous and represents a huge step in the right discrete would continue to ease some of the financial pressure felt at the local level since the contribution was eliminated in 2013. At the hearing, the heard testimony from municipal officials about the importance of restoring a portion of the state retirement contribution for teachers, police, and firefighters, and the positive impact of last session's one-time payment that led to direct tax reductions for their property taxpaying constituents.

Supporters noted that the retirement contribution was a commitment the state had made to local governments as an incentive to join the retirement system. and that when the state retirement contribution was lowered from 35% to 30% in 2010, then to 25% in 2011, it was intended to just be a temporary measure to help the state weather the recession.

Yesterday, the full Senate adopted the committee's recommendation of Ought to Pass in a unanimous roll call vote—but then voted immediately to lay the bill on the table. This strategy preserves the bill for later consideration, such as inclusion in the state budget trailer bill, HB 2. It is very important that senators hear from municipal officials about the importance of restoring a portion of the state retirement contribution for teachers, police, and firefighters, and what a continued retirement cost reduction will mean to the local tax base. Please contact your senator and urge them to take **SB 114** off the table and restore a portion of the state retirement contribution for teachers, police, and firefighters. Information for every Senate member is available here. (If you are not sure who your senator is, use the "Who's My Senator?" tool available here.)

#### House Finance Amends Retirement Bill

After lengthy discussion and several failed amendments, the House Finance Committee, Division I unanimously voted to significantly amend HB 50, an NHMA policy bill that would have reduced costs for political subdivisions by requiring the state to pay 7.5 percent of their employer retirement contributions for teachers, police, and firefighters. As amended, HB 50 would appropriate \$50 million in fiscal year 2024 for the purpose of reducing the retirement system's unfunded actuarial accrued liability (UAAL) determined under RSA 100-A:16, II. For fiscal year 2022, NHRS reported an unfunded liability of \$5.69 billion in the actuarial valuation. Current actuarial valuations estimate that the unfunded liability accounts for more than 75 percent of current employer rates which are borne solely by the participating employers and local taxpayers. The intent of the amendment on HB 50 is to pay down the UAAL on a more aggressive schedule, resulting in lowered future employer contribution rates and promoting a solvent, fiscally healthy, and financially sustainable defined benefit plan.

#### Hearing Schedule

Please click here to find a list of hearings next week on bills that NHMA is tracking. Please note that the linked PDF only covers hearings selected next week. For the most up-to-date information on when bills are scheduled for a hearing, please use our live bill tracker.

#### All A Upcoming Events

Mar. 1	2023 Regional Legislative Preview in Keene – 6:00 p.m.		
Mar. 15	Webinar: Cybersecurity for Government Leaders - 12:00 - 1:00		
Apr. 5	Webinar: Succeeding at Tax Deeding - 12:00 - 1:00		
Apr. 6	Local Officials Workshop (hybrid) – 9:00 – 4:00		

Please visit www.nhmunicipal.org for the most up-to-date information regarding our upcoming events. Click on the Events& Training tab to view the calendar.

For more information, please call NHMA's Workshop registration line: (603) 230-3350.

## All-Boards Meeting Feb 8, 2023 6 - 9 PM

# Exeter Public Library Community Room 4 Chestnut Street, Exeter NH

Board, Committee, and Commission Members Present: Select Board members Niko Papakonstantis, Nancy Belanger, Julie Gilman, and Molly Cowan; Planning Board Chair Langdon Plumer and members John Grueter and Gwen English; River Advisory Committee Chair Richard Huber; Energy Committee member Lew Hitzrot; Swasey Parkway Trustee Dwane Staples, Historic District Commission member Grayson Shepherd; Heritage Commission member Jay Myers; Sustainability Advisory Committee Chair Chetana Parmer and member Ryan Jean; Rec Advisory members Bob Dudra, Mike Wissler, and Nick Nordin; Conservation Commission Chair Andrew Koff and members Don Clement and Trevor Mattera; and Budget Recommendation Committee Chair Bob Kelly.

Town Staff Present: Town Manager Russ Dean, Assistant Town Manager Melissa Roy, Senior Executive Assistant Pam McElroy, Sustainability and Natural Resources Planner Kristen Murphy, Town Planner Dave Sharples, Parks and Rec Director Greg Bisson, Building Inspector Doug Eastman, IT Director Andy Swanson, and William Tapley of EXTV.

#### 1. Welcome and Introductions

Mr. Papakonstantis called the meeting to order at 6:03 PM. He said the last All-Boards meeting was in 2015. The Select Board wants to work with the boards, commissions, and committees, particularly with the Advisory committees, and be a better resource to them. How can we cross-pollinate and better work together?

#### 2. Review of All-Boards Meeting Process

- Mr. Dean said the All-Boards meeting is rooted in communications. We want to get the rules out and establish a chain of communication between the Select Board and Committees. How do we best work together as a group?
- Mr. Papakonstantis said our town runs through our volunteers. He encouraged board, committee and commission members to reach out to the Select Board or town staff with any questions.
  - Ms. Belanger and Ms. Gilman thanked the volunteers for their work for the town.
- Ms. Cowan said points of contention in town could be worked out with better communication and collaboration. Sometimes our roles and responsibilities are in conflict with one another, so how can we best address that?
- Mr. Papakonstantis said one Select Board goal this year was to look at Committees and identify areas that could be worked on. All Select Board reps are part of other committees and bring a report back into the Select Board. We're looking to put together a template for the Select Board to present committee work in a uniform fashion.

#### 3. Master Plan Oversight Committee Report

Mr. Sharples said the Master Plan was done in 2018. It was created with input from almost 1,000 people. There's an action agenda at the end with 67 items to address. The three-member Master Plan oversight committee is a subcommittee of the Planning Board and ensures that action agenda is being implemented. Major initiatives that have happened include a revised flood plain ordinance done with the RPC and Kristen Murphy, and a townwide zoning ordinance update that you'll see more about in the coming year - it wasn't ready for the warrant this year. Of the 67 action items, at least 50 have been completed or are being worked on. It may be time to think about doing the Master Plan process again.

#### 4. Ideas to Improve Intra Board Communications

Mr. Papakonstantis said the Select Board has been working on trying to improve communication around town. It's tough to find the best way to communicate. For example, the Sustainability Advisory would like to meet with the Energy Committee or Conservation Commission on new initiatives.

Ms. English asked if there could be a posting to board members that would outline the events and projects reviewed by each board. She often doesn't know about things to be discussed until they've come and gone. Ms. Gilman said we tried something like that with the land use boards - the Planning Department sent out an email of all the agendas for the land use boards. Mr. Clement said some towns such as Durham do a weekly or biweekly town newsletter. We do it with the EXTV Biweekly Report, but it's hard to reach people on all the different mediums. Mr. Grueter said everything you need is available on the website. Ms. English said you have to navigate through the system to see each one separately.

Ms. Parmar suggested that the Chairs of the different boards could meet once a quarter to see what was going on and what was coming up. Mr. Papakonstantis said it can be hard to find the time, but it's worth trying.

Mr. Hitzrot said Renay Allen [who was not present] suggested a monthly email newsletter that would go to each board with a paragraph of what they're working on that month. Ms. Gilman said the format we come up with for Select Board reports could be a helpful thing for the different Boards.

Mr. Papakonstantis said EXTV does a good job of posting the Exeter Biweekly Report on Facebook, and there's also a post where they list the town meetings for the week. Would our website have the capacity to absorb that video? Mr. Tapley said we link to all the videos from the meetings tab on the website. Mr. Papakonstantis said he'd like to see the report front and center on the website.

Mr. Clement said the problem with going to the website or social media is that people have to go there. It's more effective to push it out to them. Ms. Belanger said the town has three different emails, and we're looking to merge them into one user-friendly source. Mr. Dean said we're talking about doing that now. Ms. Gilman said we should allow people subscribe to an email. Mr. Hitzrot said if the goal is inter-committee communication, short is better than long. Mr. Wissler said on the launch page of the town website, we could have a "this week in town" feature.

Mr. Mattera said it makes sense to have thoughtful planning as to who the audience actually is and how we can reach out to them. Communication is all-encompassing, and when you start drilling down to audiences, some communications are going to be effective and some are not. If we could go to an agreed-upon place where all the information is, it's effective for board members, but for the public it's not going to be as effective.

Mr. Tapley said Bob Glowacky [who was not present] had been doing a Select Board recap every week, but recently it's been "meeting minutes," which covers more meetings but is just a minute and has some clips. They work well as reels on Instagram.

Ms. English suggested we have a bulletin board outside near the Town Office building with the information about which Boards are meeting and what they're discussing.

Mr. Papakonstantis said he agrees that there are two initiatives: inter-committee communication and public communication. Mr. Grueter said the website has agendas and minutes. Mr. Papakonstantis said it's more a question of ease of access. You have to put in some time and effort but the information is there. Ms. Roy said she met with Mi Swanson about the website allowing the public to subscribe to the agendas for certain boards. Mr. Swanson said Bob Glowacky is working on an email newsletter which would be similar. Mr. Papakonstantis mentioned that in Shrewsbury, the Town Manager is doing a podcast. Mr. Dean said he can prioritize these ideas and if there are costs or inhouse personnel needed, he can bring that forward to the Board.

Ms. Gilman said there was an idea that the Chairs of boards could go to different boards and introduce their work, but it never happened. Mr. Eastman said it appears that according to the RSA, the Heritage Commission and HDC could be one group. Would it make sense to combine them? Ms. Gilman said we would have to go to Town Meeting for that, since those boards were established by Town Meeting. Mr. Myers said it's worth discussing, because having enough volunteers is a problem that the Heritage Commission is facing. Ms. English asked how we can get the word out to the public that there's a need for volunteers. Mr. Papakonstantis said we've talked to people, put out pamphlets at voting and library, and the information is on the town website. We take that seriously. When people contact the Select Board, we talk to them about volunteering. The issue is that it's a huge time commitment. We've talked about childcare and other solutions.

Ms. Cowan said childcare at the Town Offices is virtually impossible. During Covid, we got more volunteers and people watching the meetings because they could sit at home. We're trying to loosen it up at the State house so that more people can Zoom in. Since we've had to meet in person, the number of volunteers has dwindled.

Ms. Parmar suggested having a table at town events such as TEAM festivals or the Independence Festival with someone from the committees or the Select Board to talk about volunteering. Mr. Papakonstantis said TEAM is a private group, but we could ask. Ms. Gilman said we once had a volunteer fair at Town Hall. Ms. Belanger asked if we could have volunteer pamphlets at the Town Hall entry area when there are events there. Ms. McElroy said yes, that's town property. Mr. Eastman said current volunteers should call their friends.

Mr. Wissler asked what's the best thing a citizen/voter can do to make Zoom meetings law. Ms. Gilman said she would like to update the town website to show you all the things you can do to communicate using the General Court's website. You can email committee members or the whole House, or go online and there's a thing at the bottom of the webpage that says "remote testimony." To hear about bills happening, you have to go look. She tries to highlight the ones that she can at Select Board meetings. Ms. Cowan said the Zoom bill is HB 254, and was sponsored by Alexis Simpson, our State Rep. Testimony is over but you can still email the House.

Mr. Sharples said 91-A requires that you have to have a quorum physically present unless there's an emergency, but a member of the public body may participate remotely when it's not "reasonably practical" to attend. Mr. Papakonstantis said when someone is participating remotely, all votes have to be a roll call.

Ms. Parmar said doing meetings remotely would reduce the carbon footprint.

#### 5. Review of Board Training Needs

Mr. Papakonstantis asked Mr. Dean to walk through posting, meetings, and 91-A procedures. Mr. Dean said 91-A compliance is paramount. There are a number of court cases where 91-A was not complied with and there were penalties for the community. He described a flow chart from the packet on what constitutes a meeting. It's easy to conduct business with "sequential communications", and that's a violation. All meetings must have proper notice and be open to the public. There's no requirement in the Right to Know law that a board must approve its draft minutes, but it's a near-universal practice to review the minutes. Ms. Gilman said after 60 or 90 days, if the committee doesn't meet, the minutes are deemed approved automatically. Mr. Dean discussed non-public sessions and different reasons for going into non-public; they must be gone into with a roll call vote. Ms. Belanger said 91-A training is available every year.

Ms. McElroy said if there's a holiday or weekend, or if she's out of the office, the notification email for posting a meeting may not be received in time. A couple days' notice is preferable. Ms. Belanger said if the meeting is not posted, you can't have the meeting. She would like committees to go over their meeting dates at the end of year or beginning of the year. Mr. Papakonstantis said you don't need 24 hours to cancel a meeting; if you schedule you can cancel it that day. Ms. McElroy said she supports having the meetings for an entire year, because potential volunteers may want to look at the calendar to see when the meeting is each month.

Mr. Dean said depending on the time of the meeting, the Town Offices building may not be accessible. We need to ensure the meeting can be opened. Mr. Jean said as a member of the public, he would use the calendar to see when meetings were occurring. That was invaluable. He's passionate about the subject, but if he didn't know when the meetings were he couldn't show up. Sometimes he had moved his schedule around to attend but the meeting was canceled with no notification. He was a little put off. Ms. Belanger said we're trying to do better, and at least put notices on the door. Mr. Grueter said it's also on the website if it's canceled. Mr. Jean asked if the meeting can it be rescheduled at the same time it's canceled. Mr. Papakonstantis said it would need a 24 hour posting. Ms. Belanger said a lack of quorum can happen at the last minute. Mr.

Eastman said for ZBA and Planning Board, a rescheduled date is usually determined at the time of cancellation.

Mr. Papakonstantis said members can tell town staff about scheduling and have them communicate with the other Board members, not reply all. Mr. Plumer said there can be no discussion between meetings. Mr. Koff asked if we can email about planning a meeting. Ms. Belanger said it's not good practice. She mentioned that Ms. Murphy did a survey with different times for Conservation Commission rescheduling. Mr. Koff said it's not clear what is and isn't able to be provided. We need to communicate at some level through email because not everyone can come to every meeting. Email is an important tool for rescheduling meetings and communicating about events, but not things we're actually deciding. Mr. Papakonstantis said he heard during a 91-A training that if a quorum of a board start discussing town business, they've violated 91-A. Ms. Cowan said the point of 91-A is not to conduct business. Mr. Bisson said a Doodle Poll can give out specific dates and times and people can reply when they can make it.

Mr. Dean said people should avoid "replying all." That's a recipe for a problem. If you're scheduling a meeting, it can devolve into other business, and that's sequential communications. Town staff can herd the members. Mr. Hitzrot said the Community Power Aggregation Committee has no staff member. He sends out a draft agenda to members prior to the meeting, is that a violation? Mr. Dean said no, as long as they're not replying all. Mr. Hitzrot asked if it's ok if they're just replying to the Chair. Ms. McElroy said if they're referencing something in the agenda that's a problem; just the schedule or adding items to the agenda is not a problem. Mr. Clement said "reply all" is the death knell of 91-A. Even with scheduling, members should only reply to the Chair. Ms. Murphy said you can reply to staff as well.

Mr. Huber asked what happens if you violate 91-A. Mr. Dean said it could invoke a lawsuit and the town could pay a financial penalty. The Court could also invalidate an action by a committee.

Mr. Jean asked if 91-A training is mandated. Ms. Gilman said we can't mandate it. Ms. McElroy said the volunteer agreement packet includes the 91-A information. Mr. Papakonstantis said the Select Board is working on setting up onboarding criteria for committees.

Mr. Dean said there's a cheat sheet to Robert's Rules in the packet. In a meeting, if you're looking to do something, Robert's Rules shows you how to make the proper motion. Mr. Grueter said there must be a motion and second before any discussion. Ms Belanger said after the gavel closes the meeting, there shouldn't be any continuing conversation of anything that was discussed in the meeting.

Mr. Wissler said that if there's something in a meeting that you think needs a vote, take a vote. Ms. Belanger said town staff can also clarify when a vote is necessary.

Mr. Papakonstantis said Mr. Dean can work on ideas about communicating, both with the committees and the public.

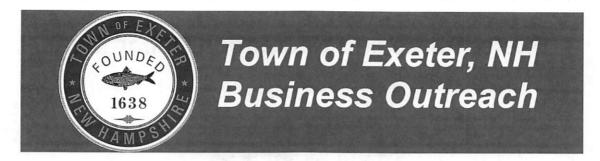
#### 6. Schedule Follow-Up Meeting

Mr. Papakonstantis said he didn't want to schedule the next meeting yet, but perhaps it could be in the fall.

## 7. Adjournment

Mr. Papakonstantis moved to adjourn. Mr. Plumer seconded. The motion passed unanimously and the meeting was adjourned at 7:49 PM.

Respectfully Submitted, Joanna Bartell Recording Secretary View this email in your browser



#### Dear Exeter Business:

Happy Friday everyone! The deadline to submit an application to the Local Restaurant Infrastructure Investment Program has been extended to 4:00 PM on March 15, 2023. Exeter Parks and Recreation Department is seeking to establish a scholarship fund for their summer camp program. The Department is also seeking sponsorships for their Exeter Vibe Summer Concert Series. The Exeter Area Chamber of Commerce is hosting their annual Economic Forecast next Thursday, February 2<sup>nd</sup>. The Chamber also is putting on their now annual Eat Local Burger Bowl from February 10 through 19. Please see more details on all of these items below.

# Local Restaurant Infrastructure Investment Program

If you own a local New Hampshire restaurant, your business may be able to receive up to \$15,000 to help offset COVID-related equipment and technology costs through the Local Restaurant Infrastructure Investment Program. Don't wait because the application period closes at 4:00 PM EST on March 15, 2023. For restaurants that applied and were awarded a sum less than the \$15,000 cap, you can reapply for additional awards up to the cap amount.

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# **Exeter Parks and Recreation Department**



## Summer Camp Scholarship Fund

From Parks and Recreation Director, Greg Bisson

Exeter Parks and Recreation is looking to establish a scholarship fund for our summer camp. As you may not be aware, all the Parks and Recreation programs have been established to be self-funded, which they need to break even or make a small amount of revenue. We have an established partnership with the AreUin program, in which we offer scholarships to anyone enrolled with AreUin for various programs except summer camp. Our seasonal programs are easy to absorb these scholarship requests. Unfortunately, our larger programs, such as summer camp, where every registration goes toward the camp expenses, need more wiggle room in the budget to offer scholarships. In recent years, Camp expenses have gone up, requiring the department to raise the rates for the summer camp. The cost is \$1,200 per year to send a child to summer camp. \$1,200 may sound high, but Exeter Parks and Recreation is still one of the lowest summer camps on the seacoast. If we were to break it down, it comes to \$150 per week or \$3.75 per hour for child care. Unfortunately, not

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We have tried to develop a scholarship program and have been fortunate to have a few organizations and private residents step up to pay the registration fee for a child or two each summer camp, but we need more. In speaking with our Human Services Director, Pam McEvoy, there are several families she works with that would benefit greatly from an opportunity to send their children to summer camp. We hope you will support us in this effort to create a scholarship fund and sponsor a child to attend summer camp. All businesses and organizations will be recognized for their generosity. If your business or organization is interested in contributing towards camp scholarships, contact Greg Bisson at 603-773-6151 or <a href="mailto:Gbisson@exeternh.gov">Gbisson@exeternh.gov</a>.

### **Exeter Vibe Summer Music Series Sponsorship**

From Parks and Recreation Director Greg Bisson

The Town of Exeter has always loved music and supported it. The pandemic showed us more that people need outdoor live music in their lives. Exeter Parks and Recreation is looking to expand upon live music in Exeter. Traditionally, the Summer Concert Series is a series of FREE Concerts on Swasey Parkway, hosted and coordinated by the Town of Exeter and Exeter Parks & Recreation. The series was started in 1972 and continues to entertain the residents of Exeter. Last year, Exeter Parks and Recreation and TEAM partnered to offer a new Tuesday Night, Tune and Fork night at Townhouse Common with live music and food trucks. We hope to bring back Exeter Kid's Concert will also be making a return in 2023 with 2 Concerts. These are costly events that are currently underfunded. The town has supported the typical summer concert series but EPRD needs assistance to expand it to the music in Exeter. This is an excellent way to market your business in front of one of Exeter's well-attended community events!

Sponsorship Level Information

## Exeter Area Chamber of Commerce

The 2023 Economic Forecast will discuss New Hampshire's economy, its impact on the Exeter area, and how to best position and prepare your business for the year ahead.

More information and to register:

2023 ECONOMIC FORECAST



#### Exeter Chamber to Host Economic Forecast Event

#### Eat Local Burger Bowl Feb 10-19.

The Eat Local Burger Bowl was created to celebrate the creativity and deliciousness of restaurants in the Exeter Area. Held between Friday, February 10 through Sunday, February 19, the Eat Local Burger Bowl will answer the question of who makes the best burger in the Exeter Area.

More info (including who has already signed up) and to register: 2023 BURGER BOWL.

The Town of Exeter, NH would like to thank all of the small businesses in Exeter for bringing vibrancy to our community. As always, feel free to contact me for assistance at your convenience. I wish you, your families and your colleagues

Sincerely,

Darren Winham
Economic Development Director
Exeter, NH
603.773.6122 cell
dwinham@exeternh.gov





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Russ Dean <rdean@exeternh.gov>

## **ZBA Appointments**

Sharon Cuddy Somers <ssomers@dtclawyers.com>

Fri, Feb 10, 2023 at 10:16 AM

To: Russ Dean <rdean@exeternh.gov>, Justine Vogel <jvogel@trwg.org>

Cc: Doug Eastman < deastman@exeternh.gov>

It is our hope that the appointments can actually be made on the same meeting as the interview. As you know, we intend to file a motion to rehear regarding the ZBA decision of Jan 17 and will request that the ZBA take up that motion at their March meeting on March 21. If the new members are appointed on Monday evening, then they will have that much more time to become familiar with the application materials so that they can participate in the decision on March 21 as to whether or not to grant the motion to rehear. We appreciate the assistance of staff, particularly Doug Eastman, and the Select Board in addressing this matter.

Sharon Cuddy Somers, Esquire

DTC Lawyers

Donahue, Tucker & Ciandella, PLLC
16 Acadia Lane

Exeter, NH 03833-4924

Phone (603) 778-0686 Ext. 1508

Fax (603) 772-4454

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From: Russ Dean <rdean@exeternh.gov> Sent: Friday, February 10, 2023 10:08 AM To: Justine Vogel <ivogel@trwg.org>

Cc: Sharon Cuddy Somers <ssomers@dtclawyers.com>; Doug Eastman <deastman@exeternh.gov>

Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Re: ZBA Appointments

[Quoted text hidden]



## The State of New Hampshire

## **Department of Environmental Services**



#### Robert R. Scott, Commissioner

February 2, 2023

Daniel J. Tinkham EGGI P.O. Box 1578 Meredith, NH 03253 transmitted via email to: daniel.tinkham@gza.com

Subject:

Public Hearing - Large Groundwater Withdrawal Permit - Preliminary Application

CWS Exeter; Town of Exeter PWS ID: 0801010

GPW4; NHDES#DR005398

Dear Mr. Tinkham:

Pursuant to RSA 485-C:21 III, the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) has received a request for a public hearing on the Preliminary Application for a large groundwater withdrawal permit for Town of Exeter in Exeter, New Hampshire. A public hearing has been scheduled for Wednesday, February 22nd, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. at the town of Kensington's Town Hall located at 95 Amesbury Road in the town of Kensington.

Pursuant to RSA 485-C:21, IV, the applicant is required to publish notices of the hearing twice in two different weeks, with the last publication occurring seven days before the hearing. Each time, the notice of the hearing must be published in both a newspaper of general circulation in the municipality and in a newspaper of general circulation throughout the state. Furthermore, the notice of the hearing must be posted in two public places in the town of Kensington. A model "Notice of Public Hearing" for publication and posting is enclosed for your use.

As the public hearing on the Town of Exeter's large groundwater withdrawal Preliminary Application is scheduled for February 22, 2023, the applicant must meet the following public notification deadlines:

REQUIREMENT	DATE REQUIRED
Newspaper Notification No. 1 Publish a notice of the public hearing in both a newspaper of general circulation in the town of Kensington and in a newspaper of general circulation throughout the state.	Must be published on or before February 8, 2023
Newspaper Notification No. 2 (must occur exactly 7 days prior to the hearing) Publish a notice of the public hearing in both a newspaper of general circulation in the town of Kensington and in a newspaper of general circulation throughout the state.	Must be published <b>on</b> February 15, 2023
Posting of Notice of Public Notification  Post a notice of the public hearing in at least two public places in the town of Kensington.	Must be posted <b>on or before</b> February 15, 2023

February 2, 2023 Page 2 of 2

Public Hearing – Large Groundwater Withdrawal Permit – Preliminary Application

CWS Exeter: Town of Exeter; PWS ID: 0801010

GPW4; NHDES#DR005398

Daniel J. Tinkham, EGGI

The applicant is required to submit copies of the newspaper publications, and to provide documentation to NHDES describing where the notice of the hearing was posted.

it was have any questions about this letter or any other community well siting issues, please contact me at 71-8866 or largegw@des.nh.gov.

Regards,

**David Hisz** 

RaidBligg

**Drinking Water and Groundwater Bureau** 

Russ Dean, Steve Dalton; (Town of Exeter) ec:

Kathleen Felch; (Town Administrator - Kensington)

Mark Leighton; (Phillips Exeter Academy)

Andrew Koff, Stephen Roy; (NHDES)

### NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING FOR AN APPLICATION FOR A LARGE GROUNDWATER WITHDRAWAL PERMIT

## PRODUCTION WELL SITE TOWN OF EXETER DRINKWATER RD, EXETER, NH

In accordance with RSA 485-C:21, V-a., the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) received a request for a Public Hearing for the proposed large groundwater withdrawal at the TOWN OF EXETER'S PRODUCTION WELL SITE located on DRINKWATER RD in EXETER, New Hampshire. This law requires that upon receiving such a request from a municipality or supplier of water within the potential impact area of a proposed large groundwater withdrawal. NHDES shall conduct a Public Hearing within 30 days of the request. The municipality and suppliers of water within the potential impact area of the proposed large groundwater withdrawal may submit comments to NHDES relative to the proposed withdrawal within 45 days after the Public Hearing.

A Public Hearing will be held at the Kensington Town Hall located at 95 Amesbury Road in Kensington, New Hampshire on Wednesday February 22, 2023 at 6:00 P.M.

Any questions regarding the proposed withdrawal should be directed to Daniel J. Tinkham of Emery & Garrett Groundwater Investigations, at P.O. Box 1578, Meredith, New Hampshire, 03253: Email: daniel.tinkham@gza.com or 603-279-4425. Questions regarding the large groundwater withdrawal permitting process should be directed to David Hisz at (603) 271-8866 or <a href="mailto:largegw@des.nh.gov">largegw@des.nh.gov</a> or New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services, 29 Hazen Drive, P.O. Box 95, Concord, NH 03302-0095.