

EXETER TOWN WARRANT – 2007

To the inhabitants of the Town of Exeter, in the County of Rockingham, in said State, qualified to vote on Town affairs. You are hereby notified to meet at the Town Hall, Front Street in said Exeter on Saturday, February 3, 2007 at 9:00 AM for the purpose of transacting all business other than voting by official ballot and, thereafter, to meet on Tuesday, March 13, 2007, between 7:00 AM and 8:00 PM at the Seacoast School of Technology Talbot Gymnasium, on Linden Street in said Exeter, to elect officers, vote on zoning articles and to vote on all warrant articles from the first session by official ballot.

Article 1: To choose the following: 2 Selectmen for a 3-year term; 3 Trustees of the Library for a 3-year term; 1 Trustee of Trust Funds for a 3-year term; 1 Trustee of the Robinson Fund for a 7-year term; and 1 Trustee of Swasey Parkway for a 3-year term.

Selectman: Paul Binette 1034
Robert “Bob” Eastman 1043*
Julie Gilman 1086*

Trustee of Robinson Fund: Joanna Pellerin 1469*

Trustee of Swasey Parkway: Lara Bricker 1494*

Trustee of Town Trust Funds: Sandra Parks 1407*

Trustees of Library Committee: Betsey M. Crespi 1295*
John Henson 1307*
Barbara Young 1352*

Article 2: Zoning Amendment #1: Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment #1 as proposed by the Planning Board for the Town Zoning Ordinance as follows: Amend Article 3, Section 3.2 Zoning Map by rezoning tax map parcels #55-67 (Seacoast Credit Union site at 109 Epping Road) and Tax Map Parcel #55-69 (adjacent strip of property along Industrial Drive) from I-Industrial to C-2, Highway Commercial.

Yes: 1518*

No: 255

Article 3: Zoning Amendment #2: Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment #2 as proposed by the Planning Board for the Town Zoning Ordinance as follows: Amend Article 9, Section 9.1.8.C of the Town Zoning Ordinance by updating the article reference for the ‘prime’ wetlands report, to read as follows: “Nov. 2005 Exeter Prime Wetland Mapping Report.”

Yes: 1581*

No: 186

Article 4: To choose all other necessary Town Officers, Auditors or Committees for the ensuing year.

Article 5: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$485,000 for the purpose of replacing the sewer pump station at Langdon Avenue, and to authorize the issuance of not more than \$485,000 of bonds or notes in accordance with the provisions of the Municipal Finance Act (RSA 33) and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to issue and negotiate such bonds or notes and to determine the

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rate of interest thereon; furthermore, to authorize the Board of Selectmen to accept any state or federal grants related to the project. A 3/5 ballot vote is required for passage. (The Board of Selectmen recommends this appropriation).

Yes: 1440*

No: 405

Article 6: Shall the Town of Exeter raise and appropriate as an operating budget, not including appropriation by special warrant articles and other appropriations voted separately, the amounts set forth on the budget posted with the warrant or as amended by vote of the first session, for the purposes set forth therein, totaling \$18,229,800. Should this article be defeated, the operating budget shall be \$17,452,167, which is the same as last year, with certain adjustments required by previous action of the Town of Exeter or by law, or the governing body may hold one special meeting, in accordance with RSA 40:13, X and XVI, to take up the issue of a revised operating budget only. (The Board of Selectmen recommends this appropriation).

Yes: 1144*

No: 667

Article 7: To see if the Town will vote to approve the financial terms of the Collective Bargaining Agreement between the Town of Exeter and the Exeter DPW/Town Office Association from January 1, 2006 through December 31, 2010. The 5-year agreement includes annual step increases of 3% and cost of living adjustments effective July 1, 2007 and July 1, 2009. Employee contributions to health insurance will increase annually to 3%, 5%, 8%, 10%, and 12% as a result of the new contract. The estimated dollar value of these contributions is \$185,000.

And further raise and appropriate the sum of \$82,608 for the 2006 and 2007 fiscal years, such sum representing the additional costs attributable to the increase in salaries and benefits over those of the appropriation at current staffing levels. (The Board of Selectmen recommends this appropriation).

Year	Contract Increase	(General Fund, Water Fund, Sewer Fund)
FY06	\$45,540	
FY07	\$37,068	
FY08	\$38,214	
FY09	\$39,360	
FY10	\$40,541	

Yes: 1327*

No: 481

Article 8: To see if the Town will vote to establish a public safety detail revolving fund in accordance with RSA 31-95-h for the purpose of funding public safety details (police and fire details paid for by private entities) within the Town. All revenues received for such services shall be deposited into the fund, and the money shall accumulate from year to year, and shall not be considered part of the town's general fund unreserved fund balance. The town treasurer shall have custody of all moneys in the fund and shall pay out the same only upon order of the governing body and no further approval is required by the legislative body to expend. Such funds may be expended only for the purpose for which the fund was created. This article will not impact the tax rate.

Yes: 1344*

No: 431

Article 9: To see if the Town will vote to establish a special fund under RSA 31:95-c for the purpose of accepting revenue and making associated expenditures associated with inspectional services provided by

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the Town for projects approved by the Planning Board. The town treasurer shall have custody of all moneys in the fund and shall pay out the same only after a vote by the legislative body for a specific amount for a specific purpose relating to the purpose of the fund or revenue source. This article will not impact the tax rate.

Yes: 1341*

No: 400

Article 10: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, through special warrant article, the sum of \$90,000 for Phase I engineering of the Downtown Restoration Project. These funds will provide for final design and engineering work for downtown improvements along Front Street between the Bandstand and Court Street. This process will include public input and final design approval from the Board of Selectmen. (The Board of Selectmen recommends this appropriation.)

Yes: 1038*

No: 801

Article 11: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, through special warrant article, the sum of \$50,000 for the next phase of the Exeter River Study project. This phase will include updating plans to make modifications to the Great Dam in order to meet the 50-year flood requirement as required by the NH Department of Environmental Services. (The Board of Selectmen recommends this appropriation).

Yes: 1409*

No: 445

Article 12: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$50,000 to the Arterial Shoulder Capital Reserve Fund established under Article 25 of the 2006 Town Meeting, for the purpose of creating bike paths, improving and widening road shoulders and linking sidewalks with bike paths. (The Board of Selectmen recommends this appropriation.)

Yes: 1245*

No: 581

Article 13: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, through special warrant article, the sum of \$59,000 for the purpose of making masonry repairs at the Exeter Public Library. (The Board of Selectmen recommends this appropriation).

Yes: 1464*

No: 390

Article 14: To see if the Town will vote to establish a Capital Reserve Fund under the provisions of RSA 35:1 for the purpose of ongoing vehicle replacement for the Fire, Police, Public Works, General Government, and Parks & Recreation Departments, to name the Selectmen as agents of this fund, and further authorize the Selectmen to expend from the fund.

Yes: 1198*

No: 593

Article 15: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$65,000 to be placed in the Capital Reserve Fund established by Article 14 for the following purposes:

Item	Amount
1. Replace 1984 Forestry Truck - Fire Dept. 2008	\$25,000
2. Refurbish Engine #4 – Fire Dept. 2008	\$40,000

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The above appropriations represent approximately 50% of the total project cost, with the remaining share to be requested in FY08. (The Board of Selectmen recommends this appropriation).

Yes: 1328*

No: 508

Article 16: To see if the Town will vote to establish a Capital Reserve Fund under the provisions of RSA 35:1 for the purposes of culvert replacement and drainage improvements town wide, to name the Selectmen as agents of said fund, and further authorize the Selectmen to expend from the fund.

Yes: 1273*

No: 512

Article 17: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$135,000 to be placed in the Capital Reserve Fund established by Article 16 for the following purposes:

Item	Amount
1. Swasey Parkway Culvert Replace/Rehabilitation 2008	\$65,000
2. Water Street Culvert Replace/Rehabilitation 2008	\$70,000

The above appropriations represent approximately 50% of the total project cost, with the remaining share to be requested in FY08. (The Board of Selectmen recommends this appropriation).

Yes: 1197*

No: 630

Article 18: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, through special warrant article, the sum of \$65,000, to perform a health risk assessment and to remediate lead existing in a stream on Town owned property off Portsmouth Avenue, currently leased by the Exeter Sportsmen's Club. (The Board of Selectmen recommends this appropriation).

Yes: 1059*

No: 772

Article 19: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, through special warrant article, the sum of \$50,000, to be added to the previously established Town Retirement Sick Leave Expendable Trust Fund. (The Board of Selectmen recommends this appropriation).

Yes: 995*

No: 799

Article 20: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, through special warrant article, the sum of \$12,726, for support of the Rockingham Community Action Program, an agency providing a range of support services to residents including but not limited to health insurance counseling, emergency food and fuel assistance, and job training. (The Board of Selectmen recommends this appropriation).

Yes: 1529*

No: 308

Article 21: On petition of Amanda Cole and others "To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$11,500 for the purpose of defraying the cost of services provided to the Town of Exeter and its residents by Big Brothers/Big Sisters of the Greater Seacoast." (The Board of Selectmen recommends this appropriation).

Yes: 1398*

No: 438

Article 22: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, through special warrant article, the sum of \$11,000 for support of Child and Family Services, Inc., an agency providing counseling and support services for families. (The Board of Selectmen recommends this appropriation).

Yes: 1510*

No: 337

Article 23: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, through special warrant article, the sum of \$7,500 for support of the Seacoast Hospice, an agency providing support services for those families suffering through a terminally ill diagnosis. (The Board of Selectmen recommends this appropriation).

Yes: 1647*

No: 215

Article 24: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, through special warrant article, the sum of \$6,500 for support of the Rockingham Nutrition & Meals on Wheels program, a non-profit agency dedicated to promoting the health, well-being and independence of older and disabled adults throughout Rockingham County. (The Board of Selectmen recommends this appropriation).

Yes: 1681*

No: 185

Article 25: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, through special warrant article, the sum of \$6,300, for the support of the Richie McFarland Children's Center, an agency providing developmental instruction to children under the age of 3. (The Board of Selectmen recommends this appropriation).

Yes: 1488*

No: 361

Article 26: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, through special warrant article, the sum of \$5,800, for the support of Lamprey Health Care, an agency providing medical and transportation services. (The Board of Selectmen recommends this appropriation).

Yes: 1476*

No: 355

Article 27: By petition, "Shall the voters modify the elderly exemptions from property tax in the Town of Exeter, based on assessment for qualified taxpayers, to be as follows: for a person 65 years of age and up to the age of 74 years \$152,250; for a person 75 years of age up to 79 years \$183,750; for a person 80 years of age and up \$236,250"?

To qualify the person must have been a resident of Exeter, New Hampshire for at least three (3) years, preceding April 1 of the year in which the exemption is claimed, own the real estate individually or jointly, or if such person's spouse owns the real estate, they must have been married for at least five (5) years. In addition, the taxpayer must have a net income of not more than \$40,425; or if married, a combined net income of not more than \$51,975; and own net assets not in excess of \$194,250; excluding the value of the person/s residence.

Yes: 1144*

No: 673

Article 28: On petition of George St. Amour and others, "To see if the voters of the Town of Exeter, New Hampshire will vote to require that property within the Town of Exeter be revaluated in accordance

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with Chapter 75 (Appraisal of Taxable Property) of the New Hampshire Statutes. Said statutes requiring a complete revaluation every five (5) years. Further this article shall require that said revaluation be conducted only by a 'professional' real estate appraisal firm."

Yes: 933*

No: 784

Article 29: On petition of Dawn Perkins and others, "To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$40,000 toward the completion of the Swasey Parkway Pavilion. The committee has raised in donations and in-kind services a total of \$130,000.

Over the past two and one-half years costs continue to skyrocket faster than capital can be raised. In an effort to provide the Town with this lasting architectural landmark we ask for the appropriation of \$40,000 in order to complete the railings and granite. It is the committee hope to finish in time for the 2007 Concert Series." (The Board of Selectmen recommends this appropriation).

Yes: 1037*

No: 737

Article 30: On petition of Sheila Groonell and others, "To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate through special warrant article the sum of \$1,500 for support of AIDS Response Seacoast, a nonprofit agency that provides:

- 1) Prevention education and outreach to youth and targeted high risk populations; and
- 2) Support services to maximize the health and quality of life of the men, women and children infected and affected by HIV/AIDS." (Three of the five members of the Board of Selectmen recommend this appropriation).

Yes: 1156*

No: 600

Article 31: On petition of Catherine Edison and others, "To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$2,000 for the purpose of funding New Generation Shelter, which houses seven pregnant or parenting women at a time, from Exeter and surrounding communities, and provides counseling, parenting education, life skills, transportation to partnering agencies, and aftercare to all residents. For more information, visit www.newgennh.com or call 603-436-4989." (The Board of Selectmen recommends this appropriation).

Yes: 1343*

No: 432

Article 32: On petition of Margery Prazar and others, "To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, through special warrant article, the sum of \$3,500 to help Families First continue to provide health care and family services to Exeter residents." (The Board of Selectmen recommends this appropriation).

Yes: 1380*

No: 359

Article 33: On petition of Peter Aten and others, "To see if the Town will go on record in support of effective actions by the President and the Congress to address the issue of climate change which is increasingly harmful to the environment and economy of New Hampshire and to the future well being of the people of Exeter.

These actions include:

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1. Establishment of a national program requiring reductions of U.S. greenhouse gas emissions while protecting the U.S. economy.
2. Creation of a major national research initiative to foster rapid development of sustainable energy technologies thereby stimulating new jobs and investment.

In addition, the Town of Exeter encourages New Hampshire citizens to work for emission reductions within their communities, and we ask our Selectmen to consider the appointment of a voluntary energy committee to recommend local steps to save energy and reduce emissions.

The record of the vote on this article shall be transmitted to the New Hampshire Congressional Delegation, to the President of the United States, and to declared candidates for those offices.”

Yes: 1356*

No: 427

Article 34: On petition of James May and others, “Whereas, we the citizens and residents of Exeter have repeatedly sustained flood damage to their properties over the past years and as recently as the Mother’s Day flood; and Whereas, a responsibility of the Town is to provide for the health and safety of its citizens; and Whereas, the Town of Exeter has an additional responsibility as the private owner of the Great Dam, Pickpocket Dam and Colcord Pond Dam to regulate water levels of the Exeter and Little Rivers to insure the safety and property of the citizens living near these dams and the rivers there upon; and Whereas, numerous citizens have filed complaints regarding at least 50 areas of obstructions, trees and debris clogging the river channels and affecting flowage; and Whereas the Town has proposed only the sum of \$10,000 for river tree maintenance within the 2007 Town Budget; We the undersigned request that the Town vote to authorize and appropriate the sum of \$25,000 for the year 2007 for the maintenance of and the removal of obstructions, trees and debris from the river systems of Exeter to alleviate potential flooding and to preserve the environment.” (Two of five Selectmen recommend this appropriation).

Yes: 961

No: 985*

Article 35: To transact any other business which may legally come before this meeting.

Given under our hands and seal this _____th day of January, 2007.

Paul Binette, Chairman

Robert Eastman, Vice-Chairman

Joseph Pace, Clerk

William Campbell

Lionel Ingram

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We certify that on the 29th of January, 2007, we caused a true copy of the within warrant to be posted at the Exeter Town Hall on Front Street, the Exeter Public Library at Founder's Park and the Town Clerk's Office, 10 Front Street.

Given under our hands and seals this 29th day of January, 2007.

Paul Binette, Chairman

Robert Eastman, Vice-Chairman

Joseph Pace, Clerk

William Campbell

Lionel Ingram