

TOTAL BALLOTS CAST 2485



ABSENTEE
OFFICIAL BALLOT
ANNUAL TOWN ELECTION
EXETER, NEW HAMPSHIRE
MARCH 12, 2019

BALLOT 1 OF 4

Arline J. Keller
TOWN CLERK

INSTRUCTIONS TO VOTERS

- A. TO VOTE, completely fill in the OVAL to the RIGHT of your choice(s) like this: ●
- B. Follow directions as to the number of candidates to be marked for each office.
- C. To vote for a person whose name is not printed on the ballot, write the candidate's name on the line provided and completely fill in the OVAL.

<p style="text-align: center;">FOR MODERATOR</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Vote for not Two Year Term more than ONE</p> <p>PAUL SCAFIDI 1844 ●</p> <p style="text-align: center;">(Write-in) ○</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">FOR TRUSTEES OF THE LIBRARY</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Vote for not Three Year Term more than THREE</p> <p>SUSAN DRINKER 1847 ●</p> <p>LINDA TOBER 1563 ●</p> <p>BARBARA YOUNG 1587 ●</p> <p style="text-align: center;">(Write-in) ○</p> <p style="text-align: center;">(Write-in) ○</p> <p style="text-align: center;">(Write-in) ○</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">FOR TRUSTEE OF THE ROBINSON FUND</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Vote for not Seven Year Term more than ONE</p> <p>BILL PERKINS 1849 ●</p> <p style="text-align: center;">(Write-in) ○</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">FOR SELECTMEN</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Vote for not Three Year Term more than TWO</p> <p>NIKO PAPAKONSTANTIS 1323 ●</p> <p>DARIUS THOMPSON 829 ○</p> <p>JORDAN DICKENSON 487 ○</p> <p>JULIE GILMAN 1435 ●</p> <p style="text-align: center;">(Write-in) ○</p> <p style="text-align: center;">(Write-in) ○</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">FOR TRUSTEES OF THE LIBRARY</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Vote for not One Year Term more than ONE</p> <p>PAULA SEARS 1744 ●</p> <p style="text-align: center;">(Write-in) ○</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">FOR TRUSTEE OF SWASEY PARKWAY</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Vote for not Three Year Term more than ONE</p> <p>DWANE STAPLES 1308 ●</p> <p>S. M. WINTER 442 ○</p> <p style="text-align: center;">(Write-in) ○</p>
		<p style="text-align: center;">FOR TRUSTEE OF THE TRUST FUNDS</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Vote for not Three Year Term more than ONE</p> <p>DONNA LEROY 1752 ●</p> <p style="text-align: center;">(Write-in) ○</p>

ARTICLES

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: Removing the definition of fertilizer in Article 2, and adding it under Articles 9.2 Aquifer Protection and 9.3 Shoreland District for ease of access. Setting type, rate and annual fertilizer limits in the Aquifer Protection and Shoreland Districts, providing temporary waiver provisions for heavy use turf, restoration and the establishment of new landscaping. The intent of this amendment is to set standards for fertilizer use by allowing some flexibility to maintain heavy use turf areas while minimizing the potential for nitrogen and phosphorus runoff.

1812
YES ●
NO ○
430

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: To amend the Shoreland District Use Regulations removing striked language and adding language in italics as indicated below:

9.3.4. B. Use Regulations:

Maximum Lot Coverage: Impervious surfaces, shall not cover more than ten percent (10%) of any lot or portion thereof within the Shoreland Protection District ~~adjacent to the shoreline of the Exeter River, Squamecott River, Dearborn Brook, Water Works Pond, and Fresh River as defined in 9.3.3,~~ unless a Conditional Use Permit is granted by the Planning Board under the terms of Article 9.3.4.G.2 Exeter Shoreland Protection District Ordinance – Conditional Use.

The intent of this amendment is to eliminate ambiguity in the language and align the ordinance with the way the Planning Board has consistently applied it in the past.

1903
YES ●
NO ○
326

TURN BALLOT OVER AND CONTINUE VOTING

ARTICLES CONTINUED

Article 4

Zoning Amendment #3: Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment #3 as proposed by the Planning Board for the town zoning ordinance, as follows: To rezone the area presently identified as the Professional/Technology Park (PP) zoning district to Corporate Technology Park (CT). The intent of this ordinance is to change the PP zoning district to CT that will allow additional commercial uses to encourage the commercial development of this area.

1697
YES
NO
451

Article 5

Zoning Amendment #4: Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment #4 as proposed by the Planning Board for the town zoning ordinance, as follows: Deleting "Assisted Living Facility" from the Permitted Principal use column in Table 4.2 Schedule I: Permitted Uses in the C-3 Epping Road Highway Commercial zoning district? The intent of this ordinance is to prohibit Assisted Living facilities in the C-3 Epping Road Highway Commercial zoning district. Assisted Living facilities would still be allowed in four other zoning districts in Exeter.

1794
YES
NO
787

Article 6

Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of four million five hundred five thousand eight hundred and eighty five dollars (\$4,505,885) for the design and construction of renovations and repairs, including furniture, fixtures, replacement of the HVAC system, and equipment, of the Exeter Public Library, and to authorize the issuance of not more than \$4,505,885 of bonds or notes in accordance with the provisions of the Municipal Finance Act (RSA 33); and further to authorize the Select Board to issue and negotiate such bonds or notes and to determine the rate of interest thereon. Debt service will be paid from the general fund. (Estimated Tax Impact: assuming 15 year bond at 2.93% interest: .21/1,000, \$21.18/100,000 of assessed property value). Bond payments would begin approximately one year after issuance. (3/5 ballot vote required for approval.) Recommended by the Select Board 5-0.

1610
YES
NO
785
6790

Article 7

Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of two hundred and fifty thousand dollars (\$250,000) for the purpose of creating final design and engineering plans for the Recreation Park Development Project. This project will include community input, surveying, and preliminary design of the Recreation Park followed by a final design proposal supported by the Recreation Advisory Board. Included will be construction documentation to initiate a multi-phased renovation and expansion of the Recreation Park at 4 Hampton Road, and authorize the issuance of not more than (\$250,000) of bonds or notes in accordance with the provisions of Municipal Finance Act (RSA 33), and authorize the Select Board to issue and negotiate such bonds or notes and determine the rate of interest thereon. Debt service will be paid from the general fund. (Estimated Tax Impact: assuming 5 year bond at 2.22% interest: .030/1,000, \$3.05/100,000 assessed property value). Bond payments would begin approximately one year after issuance. (A 3/5 ballot vote required for approval.) Recommended by the Select Board 4-1.

1447
YES
NO
880
6290

Article 8

Shall the town raise and appropriate the sum of three hundred twenty-five thousand and zero dollars (\$325,000) for the purpose of design and engineering costs for utility improvements including water, sewer, roads and drainage in the Summer/Salem Street, Park Street, and Warren Avenue areas, and authorize the issuance of not more than (\$325,000) of bonds or notes in accordance with the provisions of Municipal Finance Act (RSA 33), and authorize the Select Board to issue and negotiate such bonds or notes and determine the rate of interest thereon. Debt service to be shared by the water, sewer and general funds. (Estimated Tax Impact: assuming 5 year bond at 2.22% interest: .0004/1,000, \$0.37/100,000 assessed property value). Bond payments would begin approximately one year after issuance. (A 3/5 ballot vote required for approval.) Recommended by the Select Board 5-0.

1774
YES
NO
523
7790

Article 9

To choose all other necessary Town Officers, Auditors or Committees for the ensuing year. BUDGET RECOMMENDATIONS COMMITTEE: David Beavens, Nancy Belanger, Elizabeth Canada, Don Clement, Daniel Gray, Nicholas Gray, Robert Kelly, Judy Rowan, Christine Souter, Corey Stevens, Tia Chin Tung. MEASURER OF WOOD & BARK: Doug Eastman, FENCE VIEWER: Doug Eastman, WEIGHER: Jay Perkins

1905
YES
NO
220

Article 10

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 \$19,066,857. Should this article be defeated, the default budget shall be \$18,920,969, which is the same as last year, with certain adjustments required by previous action of the Town of Exeter or by law, or the governing body may hold one special meeting, in accordance with RSA 40:13, X and XVI, to take up the issue of a revised operating budget only. (Estimated Tax Impact: -.11/1,000 assessed property value, \$11.00/100,000 assessed property value). (Majority vote required) Recommended by the Select Board 4-1.

1543
YES
NO
713

GO TO NEXT BALLOT AND CONTINUE VOTING



**ABSENTEE
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BALLOT 2 OF 4

Christine J. Keller
TOWN CLERK

ARTICLES CONTINUED

Article 11

Shall the Town of Exeter raise and appropriate as a water operating budget, not including appropriation by special warrant articles and other appropriations voted separately, the amounts set forth on the budget posted with the warrant or as amended by vote of the first session, for the purposes set forth therein, totaling \$3,253,033. Should this article be defeated, the water default budget shall be \$3,294,537 which is the same as last year, with certain adjustments required by previous action of the Town of Exeter or by law. (Majority vote required) Recommended by the Select Board 5-0.

1945
YES
NO
375

Article 12

Shall the Town of Exeter raise and appropriate as a sewer operating budget, not including appropriation by special warrant articles and other appropriations voted separately, the amounts set forth on the budget posted with the warrant or as amended by vote of the first session, for the purposes set forth therein, totaling \$2,817,866. Should this article be defeated, the default budget shall be \$2,462,004 which is the same as last year, with certain adjustments required by previous action of the Town of Exeter or by law. (Majority vote required) Recommended by the Select Board 5-0.

1718
YES
NO
591

Article 13

Shall the Town approve the cost items included in the three year collective bargaining agreement reached between the Select Board and the Exeter Firefighters Association, which calls for the following increased salaries and benefits at the current staffing levels:

Year	Estimated Salary/Benefits Increase	Health Premium Savings
FY19	\$26,456	(\$3,790)
FY20	\$25,250	(\$6,100)
FY21	\$16,544	(\$6,100)

And further, to raise and appropriate the sum of twenty two thousand, six hundred and sixty six dollars (\$22,666) for the 2019 fiscal year, such sum representing the additional costs attributable to the increase in salaries and benefits over those of the appropriation at current staffing levels, minus anticipated health insurance premium savings. (Majority vote required) Recommended by the Select Board 5-0.

1847
YES
NO
489

Article 14

Shall the Town approve the cost items included in the three year collective bargaining agreement reached between the Select Board and the SEIU (Service Employees International Union) Local 1984 covering Public Works and Administrative/Clerical employees, which calls for the following increased salaries and benefits at the current staffing levels:

Year	Water/Sewer Fund	General Fund	Total	Health Plan Savings
FY19	\$21,501	\$38,828	\$60,329	(\$16,287)
FY20	\$14,389	\$19,239	\$33,628	(\$16,287)
FY21	\$13,105	\$20,771	\$33,876	(\$16,287)

And further, to raise and appropriate the sum of forty four thousand and forty-two dollars (\$44,042) for the 2019 fiscal year, such sum representing the additional costs attributable to the increase in salaries and benefits over those of the appropriation at current staffing levels. The amounts raised will be \$27,773 (General Fund), and \$16,269 (Water/Sewer Funds). These appropriations are net of expected health insurance savings in each fund. (Majority vote required) Recommended by the Select Board 5-0.

1706
YES
NO
591

Article 15

Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of sixty thousand dollars (\$60,000) to be added to the Sidewalk Repair and Replacement Capital Reserve Fund previously established. This sum to come from general taxation. (Estimated Tax Impact: .0343/1,000, \$3.43/100,000 assessed property value. (Majority vote required) Recommended by the Select Board 5-0.

1705
YES
NO
657

Article 16

Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of one hundred eighty-seven thousand eight hundred and eighteen dollars (\$187,818) to replace the town's 695 streetlights and fixtures (average lifespan 5.8 years) with energy efficient LED lights (average lifespan 28.9 years). The sum raised will be paid back to the town's general fund through electric rebates and future anticipated energy savings. The projected payback for this project is five years. After the payback period the project will result in energy cost savings of approximately \$30,000 per year. This sum (\$187,818) to come from unassigned fund balance. (Majority vote required) Recommended by the Select Board 5-0.

2042
YES
NO
327

TURN BALLOT OVER AND CONTINUE VOTING

ARTICLES CONTINUED

Article 17

Shall the Town authorize the Select Board to enter into a 5-year lease/purchase agreement for \$174,959 for the purpose of lease/purchasing a hook lift style dump truck for the Exeter Water/Sewer Department to replace a 2008 truck to be transferred to the Highway Department, and to raise and appropriate the sum of forty-one thousand seven hundred eighty dollars (\$41,780), which represents the first of 5 annual payments for that purpose. This lease/purchase will contain an escape (non-appropriation) clause. This sum to come from water and sewer fees. (Majority vote required) Recommended by the Select Board 5-0.

1571
YES
NO
717

Article 18

Shall the Town raise and appropriate, through special warrant article, the sum of one hundred fifty three thousand four hundred and fifty one dollars (\$153,451), for the purpose of making upgrades to the Town's public safety dispatch system. This sum to come from general taxation. (Estimated Tax Impact: .088/1,000, \$8.77/100,000 assessed property value). (Majority vote required) Recommended by the Select Board 5-0.

1614
YES
NO
621

Article 19

Shall the Town establish a capital reserve fund under RSA 35:1 known as the "Parks Improvements Fund" for the purpose of making capital improvements to town parks including but not limited to Kids Park, Townhouse Common, Gilman Park, Founders Park, Recreation Park and others, and to raise and appropriate the sum of one hundred-thousand (\$100,000) to be placed in this fund and further the Select Board shall be named agents of the fund and be authorized to make expenditures from the fund. (Estimated Tax Impact: .057/1,000, \$5.71/100,000 assessed property value). (Majority vote required) Recommended by the Select Board 4-1.

1525
YES
NO
744

Article 20

Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000) to be added to the Sick Leave Expendable Trust Fund previously established. This sum to come from unassigned fund balance. (Estimated Tax Impact: None. No amount to be raised by taxation). No tax impact. (Majority vote required) Recommended by the Select Board 5-0.

1620
YES
NO
595

Article 21

Shall the Town raise and appropriate, through special warrant article, the sum of fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) for the purpose of conducting a facility, staffing and data analysis of all public safety operations: to include police, fire, EMS and dispatch. This sum to come from general taxation. (Estimated Tax Impact: .029/1,000, \$2.86/100,000 assessed property value). (Majority vote required) Recommended by the Select Board 5-0.

1342
YES
NO
873

Article 22

Shall the Town raise and appropriate, through special warrant article, the sum of thirty five thousand dollars (\$35,000), for the purpose of conducting and creating an ADA improvements plan for town facilities and infrastructure including roads, sidewalks, and other pedestrian safety improvements. This sum to come from general taxation. (Estimated Tax Impact: .020/1,000, \$2.00/100,000 assessed property value). (Majority vote required) Recommended by the Select Board 5-0.

1531
YES
NO
701

Article 23

Shall the Town raise and appropriate, through special warrant article, the sum of fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) for the purpose of conducting and creating an intersection improvement proposal with preliminary designs, to improve intersections and intersection areas, including Pine/Front/Linden Street, Front Street/Water Street, Clifford Street/Water Street, Winter Street/Columbus Avenue/Railroad Avenue, and others. This sum to come from general taxation. (Estimated Tax Impact: .029/1,000, \$2.86/100,000 assessed property value). (Majority vote required) Recommended by the Select Board 5-0.

1565
YES
NO
703

Article 24

Shall the Town raise and appropriate, through special warrant article, the sum of forty thousand dollars (\$40,000) for the purpose of addressing items related to a Letter of Deficiency from the NHDES on Pickpocket Dam. This sum to come from general taxation. (Estimated Tax Impact: .023/1,000, \$2.29/100,000 assessed property value). (Majority vote required) Recommended by the Select Board 5-0.

1479
YES
NO
722

Article 25

Shall the Town transfer the amount of \$173,774 from the town's current non-spendable general fund balance to the capital projects fund balance to eliminate the Great Bridge project deficit from 2001. This project has been completed. This article will not impact the unassigned fund balance. (Majority vote required) Recommended by the Select Board 5-0.

1854
YES
NO
367

GO TO NEXT BALLOT AND CONTINUE VOTING



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BALLOT 3 OF 4

Andrea J. Kohler
TOWN CLERK

ARTICLES CONTINUED

Article 26

Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of fifty-thousand dollars (\$50,000) to be added to the Snow and Ice Deficit Non-Capital Reserve Fund previously established. This sum to come from unassigned fund balance. (Estimated Tax Impact: None. No amount to be raised by taxation). (Majority vote required) Recommended by the Select Board 5-0.

1881
YES
NO
433

Article 27

Shall the Town establish an expendable trust fund under RSA 31:19-a to be accounted for in a fund separate from the general fund, to be known as the "Swasey Parkway Fund." This fund shall be for the purpose of making capital improvements to and maintenance of the Swasey Parkway, and to raise and appropriate the sum of twenty four-thousand dollars (\$24,000) from unassigned fund balance to be transferred to this fund and to include any and all permit fees for use of the Swasey Parkway to be assigned to this fund, and further the Swasey Trustees shall be named agents of the fund and be authorized to make expenditures from the fund. (Estimated Tax Impact: None. No amount to be raised by taxation). (Majority vote required) Recommended by the Select Board 5-0.

1935
YES
NO
393

Article 28

"Call to Prevent Nuclear War" Resolution/Warrant Article

Whereas nine nations together have over 14,000 nuclear weapons in their arsenals, most far more destructive than the two that killed hundreds of thousands in Japan in 1945;
Whereas detonation of even a small number of these weapons could have catastrophic human and environmental consequences (called "Nuclear Winter") affecting everyone on the planet;
Whereas the United States maintains hundreds of nuclear missiles in underground silos on hair-trigger alert, to be launched within minutes with great risk of an accidental, mistaken or unauthorized launch;
Whereas the United States reserves the right to use nuclear weapons first, making a nuclear war more likely;
Whereas the U.S. president has the sole and unchecked authority to order the use of nuclear weapons;
Whereas over the next 30 years, the United States plans to spend an estimated \$1.7 trillion to replace its entire nuclear arsenal;
Whereas the United States, as well as Britain, China, France and Russia, are obligated under the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) to take concrete steps toward eliminating their nuclear arsenals;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Town of Exeter calls upon the U.S. government to spearhead a global effort to prevent nuclear war by:
• Renouncing the option of using nuclear weapons first;
• Ending the sole, unchecked authority of any president to launch a nuclear attack;
• Taking U.S. nuclear weapons off hair-trigger alert;
• Cancelling the plan to replace its entire arsenal with enhanced weapons, and
• Actively pursuing a verifiable agreement among nuclear-armed states to eliminate their nuclear arsenals.

1654
YES
NO

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that our Selectboard will send copies of this resolution with a record of its adoption vote to Governor Sununu and to all members of our Congressional Delegation.

Recommended by the Select Board 5-0.

647

Article 29

By citizens petition, shall we adopt the provisions of RSA 32:5-b, and implement a tax cap whereby the governing body shall not submit a recommended budget that increases the amount to be raised by local taxes, based on the prior fiscal year's actual amount of local taxes raised, by more than 30%? (3/5 vote required) Not recommended by the Select Board 0-5.

705
YES
NO
1526

TURN BALLOT OVER AND CONTINUE VOTING

ARTICLES CONTINUED

Article 30

We, the undersigned registered voters of the Town of Exeter, NH, request that the following and fully attached article be placed on the 2019 Town Warrant:

On the petition of Maura Fay and other registered voters of Exeter, in an effort to protect the health and safety of its residents by asserting a right to clean air, water, and soil, and a right to a healthy ecosystem, to see if the Town will vote the following:

Shall the Town of Exeter adopt the "Right to a Healthy Climate Ordinance" to protect the health, safety and welfare of the residents and ecosystems of Exeter, New Hampshire, by establishing a Community Rights-Based Ordinance recognizing that all residents and ecosystems of Exeter possess the right to a healthy climate free from activities that would infringe that right, and calls for constitutional changes to further secure these rights?

Right to a Healthy Climate Ordinance

Establishing a Community Rights-Based Ordinance for Exeter, New Hampshire, That Prohibits Activities and Projects that would Violate Rights Secured by the Ordinance

Preamble

We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all people are created equal, that they naturally are endowed with certain unalienable rights that among these are life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. That to secure these rights, the people institute governments, which derive their just powers from the consent of the governed.

Further, that whenever any form of government becomes destructive of these ends, it is the right of the people to alter or abolish it, and to institute new government, laying its foundation on such principles and organizing its powers in such form, as to them shall seem most likely to effect their safety and happiness.

This right of self-government, as stated in the Declaration of Independence, is natural, fundamental, and unalienable. It is also secured to us by the United States Constitution and the Constitution of the State of New Hampshire.

Pursuant to that right of self-government, if our current system of local government infringes our rights, we, the people of Exeter, have the right to alter or replace that system with one that secures and protects human rights and ecosystem rights, as long as the new system does not infringe other rights protected for us by state or federal law.

Exeter is situated where the Exeter River feeds the tidal Squamscott River and lies fully within the coastal Piscataqua River Watershed which includes the sub-watersheds of the Great Works River and the five rivers flowing into the unique and sensitive estuary within Great Bay: the Bellamy, Oyster, Lamprey, Squamscott, and Winnicut; covering over a thousand square miles in New Hampshire, Maine, and Massachusetts and comprising an ecosystem upon which hundreds of thousands of people and countless species depend for health, drinking water, and survival.

It is our legislative determination that certain corporate activities are detrimental to our rights, health, safety, and welfare. These activities include but are not limited to: the runoff from commercial use of fertilizers, the intentional or unintentional dumping of toxic waste, and the physical deposition, emission, leakage, disposal, or placement of toxins into the land, air or waterways from extraction, transportation, processing, storage, conveyance, and depositing of waste from fossil fuel exploration and development.

As we are purportedly constrained by state and federal law, which courts interpret to require us to accept such harmful corporate activity, we the people of Exeter are unable under our current system of local government to secure human rights and ecosystem rights by banning said activity.

Therefore, we deem it necessary to alter our system of local government, and we do so by adopting this Right to a Healthy Climate Ordinance.

Section 1 - Statements of Law

(a) Right of Self-Government. All residents of Exeter possess a right of self-government, which includes, but is not limited to, the following rights: first, the right to a system of local government founded on the consent of the people of the municipality; second, the right to a system of local government that secures their rights; and third, the right to alter any system of local government that lacks consent of the people or fails to secure and protect the people's and ecosystems' rights, health, safety, and welfare. Any action to annul, amend, alter, or overturn this Ordinance shall be prohibited unless such action is approved by a prior Town vote at which a majority of the residents of the Town vote to approve such action.

(b) Right to a Healthy Climate. All residents of Exeter possess a right to a stable and healthy climate system capable of sustaining human societies, which shall include the right to be free from all corporate activities that infringe that right, including but not limited to the runoff from commercial use of fertilizers, the intentional or unintentional dumping of toxic waste, and the physical deposition, emission, leakage, disposal, or placement of toxins into the land, air, or waterways from extraction, transportation, processing, storage, conveyance, and depositing of waste from fossil fuel exploration and development.

ARTICLE 30 CONTINUED ON NEXT BALLOT

GO TO NEXT BALLOT AND CONTINUE VOTING



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BALLOT 4 OF 4

Andrea J. Kohler
TOWN CLERK

ARTICLES CONTINUED

ARTICLE 30 CONTINUED

(c) Right of Ecosystems and Natural Communities. All residents of Exeter possess the right to clean air, water, and soil, which shall include the right to be free from all corporate activities that release toxic contaminants into the air, water, and soil, including but not limited to the runoff from commercial use of fertilizers, the intentional and unintentional dumping of toxic waste, and the physical deposition, emission, leakage, disposal, or placement of toxins into the land, air, or waterways from extraction, transportation, processing, storage, conveyance, and depositing of waste from fossil fuel exploration and development.

(d) Rights of Ecosystems and Natural Communities. Ecosystems and natural communities within Exeter possess the rights to naturally exist, flourish, regenerate, and evolve; rights to restoration, recovery, and preservation; rights to a stable and healthy climate system capable of sustaining ecosystems and natural communities; rights to clean air, water, and soil; and which also shall include, but not limited to, the right to be free from all corporate activities that infringe these rights, including but not limited to the runoff from commercial use of fertilizers, the intentional and unintentional dumping of toxic water, and the physical deposition, emission, leakage, disposal, or placement of toxins into the land, air, or waterways from extraction, transportation, processing, storage, conveyance, and depositing of waste from fossil fuel exploration and development.

(e) Right to Protection from Government and Corporate Interference. All residents of Exeter and the Town of Exeter, as well as ecosystems and natural communities within Exeter, possess the right to enforce this Ordinance free of interference from corporations, other business entities, and governments. That right shall include the right to be free from ceiling preemption, because this Ordinance expands rights and legal protections for people and nature above those provided by less-protective state, federal and international laws.

Section 2 - State and Federal Constitutional Changes

Through the adoption of this Ordinance, the people of Exeter call for amendment of the New Hampshire Constitution and the federal Constitution to expressly secure the inherent right of local self-government, free from governmental restriction, ceiling preemption, and nullification by corporate "rights."

Once adopted at Town Meeting, the Ordinance is effective immediately and signed and dated by the town selectmen in accordance with NH RSA 31:128.

The Select Board voted 2-2-1 regarding recommendation of this article.

1176
YES
NO
1007

Article 31

By petition of the following registered voters of Exeter, to be placed on the Town Warrant:

Shall the town create a Sustainability Office to achieve cost savings for the town and enhance community health through optimal use of water and energy resources.

The town will create a Sustainability Office that will:

(a) Coordinate closely with all town Departments, Boards, Commissions, and Committees to ensure long-term sustainability of natural resources. Ensure that water and energy resources, uses, quality, and impacts are considered in every relevant decision-making process that impacts the town or its people. A Sustainability Office representative will serve on the Technical Review Committee.

(b) Serve as a public source of information, and create and maintain a user-friendly link from the Exeter town website for all permits, studies and forums related to water and energy resources, risks, issues and impacts.

(c) Provide public outreach, and host an annual community forum addressing water and energy resources, explaining how recent studies and tools are being used, and communicating progress on water and energy related action items from the Exeter Master Plan.

The Sustainability Office would require up to \$45,000 in 2019, anticipated to be recouped through cost savings to the town.

Recommended by the Select Board 3-2.

1409
YES
NO
8660

YOU HAVE NOW COMPLETED VOTING THIS BALLOT