

**TOWN OF GRANTHAM NEW HAMPSHIRE**  
**TOWN MEETING WARRANT AND BUDGET**  
**YEAR 2020**

SS. STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

SULLIVAN COUNTY

To the inhabitants of the Town of Grantham, in Sullivan County, in the State of New Hampshire, *who are qualified to vote in town affairs*:

You are hereby notified and warned of the Annual Town Meeting of the Town of Grantham to be held at the **Grantham Town Hall, Lower Level, 300 Route 10 South** on **Tuesday, March 10, 2020**, at **6:30 PM.** to act on the following subjects. **Articles 1 through 8** shall be by ballot at the polls, which shall be open from 10:00 AM until 7:00 PM. The remaining articles shall be considered during the business meeting beginning at 6:30 PM.

**ARTICLE 1 – Election of Officers**

**To choose by ballot and major vote for the ensuing years as enumerated:**

Selectman	3 years
Treasurer	3 years
Trustee of Trust Funds	3 years
Trustee of Dunbar Free Library	3 years
Cemetery Trustee	3 years
Moderator	2 years
Supervisor of the Checklist	6 years

**ARTICLE 2 – ZONING CHANGE**

Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 1 as proposed by the Planning Board for the Town Zoning Ordinance as follows: (1) Amending Articles IV-A (Business District) and IV-B (Business Light Industrial Districts) to add solar energy and outdoor wood heating systems as permitted uses by special exception; and, (2) Amending Articles V-A (Rural Residential District One), V-B (Rural Residential District Two), V-C (Rural Residential District Three), and V-D (Central Village District) to add residential solar energy as a permitted use by special exception.

*[Rationale: There are currently no districts in Town where these renewable energy systems are a permitted use, meaning that any resident seeking to construct such a system must go through the difficult process of obtaining a variance. A special exception maintains abutter input into the approval process but makes it easier to obtain approval for renewable energy systems. The complete text of the amendment is on file for public viewing at the Town Offices and on the Town website.]*

Recommended by the Planning Board

### ARTICLE 3 – ZONING CHANGE

Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 2 as proposed by the Planning Board for the Town Zoning Ordinance as follows: (1) Amending Articles IV-A (Business District), IV-B (Business Light Industrial Districts), V-A (Rural Residential District One), V-B (Rural Residential District Two), and V-C (Rural Residential District Three) to require that forestry must be in accordance with Best Management Practices for Forestry published by the New Hampshire Division of Forests and Lands.

*[Rationale: Although State environmental laws apply to forestry in limited ways (e.g., wetlands protection, etc.), an Ordinance provision requiring forestry to be done in accordance with Best Management Practices provides an additional local safeguard against practices such as clear-cutting that have a negative impact on our Town's landscape and natural resources. Prior to the Town's acquisition of the Sawyer Brook Headwaters Parcel, when it was under threat, many residents expressed a desire for greater local protections against clear-cutting of parcels. The complete text of the amendment is on file for public viewing at the Town Offices and on the Town website.]*

Recommended by the Planning Board

### ARTICLE 4 – ZONING CHANGE

Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 3 as proposed by the Planning Board for the Town Zoning Ordinance as follows: Amending Article XIII, A (General Provisions – Sanitary Facilities) and Article VIII (Accessory Dwelling Units) by clarifying the requirement that any structure intended for occupancy must have sanitary facilities and a sewage disposal system.

*[Rationale: The current Zoning Ordinance incorporates a variety of other laws and codes by reference. While it will continue to do so, the amendment will make the requirements of those codes clearer on the face of the Ordinance for the purposes of improving readability and compliance. The complete text of the amendment is on file for public viewing at the Town Offices and on the Town website.]*

Recommended by the Planning Board

### ARTICLE 5 – ZONING CHANGE

Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 4 as proposed by the Planning Board for the Town Zoning Ordinance as follows: Amending Article XIII, F (General Provisions – Removal of Natural Material) to strengthen the Town's excavation regulations governing the clearing, excavation, removal, and filling of lands.

*[Rationale: The Town's excavation regulations were last updated on Oct. 12, 1983. The amendment contains exceptions to allow for ordinary activities and is concerned principally with large scale removal or placement of fill to safeguard against erosion, abutter impacts, and negative visual impacts. The amendment requires that clearing, excavation, removal, and filling of lands occur according to a plan approved by the Planning Board. The complete text of the amendment is on file for public viewing at the Town Offices and on the Town website.]*

Recommended by the Planning Board

## **ARTICLE 6 – ZONING CHANGE**

Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 5 as proposed by the Planning Board for the Town Zoning Ordinance as follows: Amending Article XIV (Signs) to allow for certain temporary signs of limited duration and adding a revised definition of “Sign” to Article XIX (Definitions).

*[Rationale: These changes will provide a more precise definition of “sign” to increase the clarity of the Ordinance. The Town is attempting to strike a balance between an Ordinance that provides for traffic safety and reduction of visual clutter in Town. To that end, the amendment more clearly defines the kinds of temporary signs that may be displayed without a permit and for what duration. The complete text of the amendment is on file for public viewing at the Town Offices and on the Town website.]*

Recommended by the Planning Board

## **ARTICLE 7 – ZONING CHANGE**

Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 6 as proposed by the Planning Board for the Town Zoning Ordinance as follows: (1) Amending Articles XIX (Definitions) to revise the Ordinance definitions of “junk” and “junk yard” by incorporating definitions provided in New Hampshire State Law. This would add “two (2) or more unregistered recreation vehicles... or trailers... that are no longer intended or in condition for legal use on the public highways” to items currently defined as junk.

*[Rationale: Many residents have expressed their support for the Town’s code enforcement efforts to get property owners to clean up large accumulations of junk on several properties. Based upon feedback the Town received from code enforcement subjects, the definitions above seek to more clearly explain what is prohibited. The complete text of the amendment is on file for public viewing at the Town Offices and on the Town website.]*

Recommended by the Planning Board

## **ARTICLE 8 – ZONING CHANGE**

Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 7 as proposed by the Planning Board for the Town Zoning Ordinance as follows: Making technical and grammatical updates to reflect changes in state laws, agency names, etc.

*[The complete text of the amendment is on file for public viewing at the Town Offices and on the Town website.]*

Recommended by the Planning Board

## ARTICLE 9 – General Government

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of one million, three hundred seventy-six thousand, seven hundred ten dollars (**\$1,376,710**) to defray the cost of **General Government** operations. This article does not include appropriations contained in special or individual articles addressed separately. Recommended by the Selectmen (Majority vote required)

Account Title	Budget 2019/2020	Proposed 2020/2021	Change Increase or (Decrease)
Selectmen's Office	\$257,195	\$266,835	\$9,640
Town Clerk/Tax Collector	\$125,538	\$136,648	\$11,110
Supervisors of the Checklist	\$9,000	\$14,258	\$5,258
Financial Administration	\$45,200	\$46,200	\$1,000
Tax Maps/Assessing	\$41,000	\$41,000	\$0.00
Legal	\$40,000	\$45,000	\$5,000
Personnel Administration	\$633,000	\$620,496	(\$12,504)
Planning Board	\$5,050	\$5,600	\$550
Zoning Board of Adjustment	\$2,550	\$2,550	\$0
General Government Buildings	\$129,690	\$136,741	\$7,051
Cemeteries	\$19,800	\$19,600	(\$200)
Insurance (Property & Liability)	\$33,781	\$36,641	\$2,860
Regional Associations	\$4,100	\$4,141	\$41
Other General Government	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$0.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$1,346,904</b>	<b>\$1,376,710</b>	<b>\$29,806</b>

## ARTICLE 10 – Public Safety

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of eight hundred fifty-four thousand, three hundred twenty-three dollars (**\$854,323**) to defray the cost of **Public Safety** operations. This article does not include appropriations contained in special or individual articles addressed separately. Recommended by the Selectmen (Majority vote required)

Account Title	Budget 2019/2020	Proposed 2020/2021	Change Increase or (Decrease)
Police Department	\$543,131	\$530,479	(\$12,652)
EMS Department	\$136,646	\$141,504	\$4,858
Fire Department	\$141,474	\$150,280	\$8,806
Building Inspection	\$12,000	\$18,000	\$6,000
Emergency Management	\$10,000	\$14,060	\$4,060
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$843,251</b>	<b>\$854,323</b>	<b>\$11,072</b>

**ARTICLE 11 – Reinstatement of 5<sup>th</sup> Full-time Police Officer**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of one hundred two thousand, three hundred forty-two dollars (**\$102,342**) for the costs associated with the reinstatement of the 5<sup>th</sup> Full-time Police Officer. Recommended by the Selectmen (Majority vote required)

**ARTICLE 12 – Police Cruiser**

To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$35,000 for the purchase of a new Police Cruiser, and to convert the existing 2015 Dodge Charger to an alternate police duty use vehicle and to permit the Selectmen to dispose of the existing 2014 Dodge Charger by “trade in” allowance, by sale or as deemed in the best interest of the Town of Grantham. Recommended by the Selectmen (Majority vote required)

**ARTICLE 13 – Utility Task Vehicle**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$50,000 for the purpose of purchasing and upfitting of a Utility Task Vehicle. Recommended by the Selectmen (Majority vote required)

**ARTICLE 14 – Fire Department Washer/Extractor Machine**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$10,000 for the purchase and installation of a washer/extractor machine for the Fire Department. Recommended by the Selectmen (Majority vote required)

**ARTICLE 15 – Public Works**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of eight hundred forty-seven thousand, nine hundred dollars (**\$847,900**) to defray the cost of **Public Works** operations. This article does not include appropriations contained in special or individual articles addressed separately. Recommended by the Selectmen (Majority vote required)

<b>Account Title</b>	<b>Budget 2019/2020</b>	<b>Proposed 2020/2021</b>	<b>Change Increase or (Decrease)</b>
Highway Administration	\$252,345	\$264,010	\$11,665
Highway Maintenance	\$178,700	\$205,700	\$27,000
Street Lights	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$0.00
Transfer Station	\$153,798	\$168,690	\$14,892
Waste Disposal	\$200,000	\$200,000	\$0.00
Landfill Monitoring	\$6,500	\$6,500	\$0.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$794,343</b>	<b>\$847,900</b>	<b>\$53,557</b>

**ARTICLE 16 – Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day**

To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$15,000 to defray the cost of holding a household hazardous waste collection day for Grantham residents only. Recommended by the Selectmen (Majority vote required)

**ARTICLE 17 – Health and Welfare**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of forty-five thousand, five hundred dollars (**\$45,500**) to defray the cost of **Health and Welfare** operations. This article does not include appropriations contained in special or individual articles addressed separately. Recommended by the Selectmen (Majority vote required)

<b>Account Title</b>	<b>Budget 2019/2020</b>	<b>Proposed 2020/2021</b>	<b>Change Increase or (Decrease)</b>
Health	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$0.00
Boarding Animals	\$700	\$700	\$0.00
Community Services	\$18,800	\$18,800	\$0.00
Town General Assistance	\$25,000	\$25,000	\$0.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$45,500</b>	<b>\$45,500</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>

<b>Community Agencies:</b>	<b>Budget 2019/2020</b>	<b>Proposed 2020/2021</b>	<b>Change Increase or (Decrease)</b>
Lake Sunapee VNA	\$6,500	\$6,500	\$0
Newport Food Pantry	\$500	\$500	\$0
Sullivan County Nutrition Services	\$300	\$300	\$0
Kearsarge Area COA	\$3,900	\$3,900	\$0
Southwestern Community Services	\$900	\$900	\$0
West Central Services	\$3,700	\$3,700	\$0
Public Health Council of the Upper Valley	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$0
Visiting Nurse & Hospice of VT/NH	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$0
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$18,800</b>	<b>\$18,800</b>	<b>\$0</b>

**ARTICLE 18 – Culture and Recreation**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of three hundred eight thousand, eight-hundred ninety dollars (**\$308,890**) for **Culture and Recreation**. This article does not include appropriations contained in special or individual articles addressed separately. Recommended by the Selectmen (Majority vote required)

<b>Account Title</b>	<b>Budget 2019/2020</b>	<b>Proposed 2020/2021</b>	<b>Change Increase or (Decrease)</b>
Recreation	\$85,300	\$87,696	\$2,396
Dunbar Free Library	\$215,352	\$220,444	\$5,092
Archives	\$1,500	\$750	(\$750)
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$302,152</b>	<b>\$308,890</b>	<b>\$6,738</b>

**ARTICLE 19 – Conservation, Debt Principal, Debt Interest, and Tax Anticipation Note Interest**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of one hundred fifty-seven thousand, six hundred two dollars (\$157,602) for **Conservation, Debt Principal, Debt Interest, and Tax Anticipation Note Interest**. This article does not include appropriations contained in special or individual articles addressed separately. Recommended by the Selectmen (Majority vote required)

<b>Account Title</b>	<b>Budget 2019/2020</b>	<b>Proposed 2020/2021</b>	<b>Change Increase or (Decrease)</b>
Conservation Commission	\$3,000	\$3,750	\$750
Town Hall Bond/Interest	\$74,808	\$73,425	(\$1,383)
Library Bond/Interest	\$59,406	\$57,356	(\$2,050)
Fire Department SCBA Lease	\$37,197	\$0.00	(\$37,197)
Police Cruiser Lease (2018)	\$22,971	\$22,971	\$0.00
Highway 1-Ton Lease	\$20,955	\$0.00	(\$20,955)
Tax Anticipation Notes Interest	\$100	\$100	\$0.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$218,437</b>	<b>\$157,602</b>	<b>(\$60,835)</b>

**ARTICLE 20 – Capital Reserve and Expendable Trust Funds**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of three hundred ninety-three thousand dollars (\$393,000) to be placed in previously established Capital Reserve and Expendable Trust Funds, as listed below with said funds to come from Unassigned Fund Balance. This article does not include appropriations contained in special or individual articles addressed separately. Recommended by the Selectmen (Majority vote required)

<b>Account Title</b>	<b>Budget 2019/2020</b>	<b>Proposed 2020/2021</b>	<b>Change Increase or (Decrease)</b>
Highway Equipment CRF	\$100,000	\$250,000	\$150,000
Transfer Station Equipment CRF	\$25,000	\$25,000	\$0.00
Library Building Repair CRF	\$15,000	\$15,000	\$0.00
Town Building Maintenance CRF	\$7,000	\$10,000	\$3,000
Fire Department Apparatus CRF	\$50,000	\$50,000	\$0.00
Police Vehicles CRF	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$0.00
Road Improvement ETF	\$5,000	\$20,000	\$15,000
Town Office Equipment CRF	\$3,000	\$2,000	(\$1,000)
Municipality Revaluation CRF	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$0.00
Town Clerk/Tax Collector Equipment CRF	\$0.00	\$1,000	\$1,000
Town Emergency Repair ETF	\$5,000	\$0.00	(\$5,000)
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$230,000</b>	<b>\$393,000</b>	<b>\$163,000</b>

**ARTICLE 21 – Establish Library Technology and Office Equipment Expendable Trust Fund**

To see if the Town will vote to establish a Library Technology and Office Equipment Expendable Trust Fund per RSA 31:19-a, for the purpose of maintaining, upgrading, and purchasing new technology and office equipment for the library and its patrons, as well as the associated costs for technology consultations and support, and to raise and appropriate \$5,000 to put in the fund to come from Unassigned Fund Balance; further to name the selectmen as agents to expend from said fund. Recommended by the Selectmen (Majority vote required)

**ARTICLE 22 – Establish Public Safety Technology Infrastructure Expendable Trust Fund**

To see if the town will vote to establish a Public Safety Technology Infrastructure Expendable Trust Fund per RSA 31:19-a, for the purpose of purchasing or repairing the Records Management System (RMS), and the Computer Aided Dispatch system (CAD) and other ancillary equipment, software, or cloud-based subscription services related to these systems for the Police, Fire, and EMS Departments and to raise and appropriate \$15,000 to put in the fund to come from Unassigned Fund Balance; further to name the selectmen as agents to expend from said fund. Recommended by the Selectmen (Majority vote required)

**ARTICLE 23 – Establish Fire-EMS Department Equipment/Maintenance Capital Reserve Fund**

To see if the town will vote to establish a Fire-EMS Department Equipment/Maintenance Capital Reserve Fund per RSA 35-1, for the purpose of purchasing and maintaining safety equipment for the Fire and EMS Departments, and to raise and appropriate \$5,000 to put in the fund to come from Unassigned Fund Balance; further to name the selectmen as agents to expend from said fund. Recommended by the Selectmen (Majority vote required)

**ARTICLE 24: Inserted by Petition A TOWN RESOLUTION To PROMOTE LEGISLATION To CREATE UNIVERSAL, HIGH QUALITY, READILY ACCESSIBLE and AFFORDABLE HEALTHCARE For AMERICANS**

WHEREAS, there is legislation in the US Congress which would work towards UNIVERSAL HEALTH INSURANCE to assure AFFORDABLE, HIGH QUALITY, READILY ACCESSIBLE medical care and

WHEREAS current costs of prescription drugs, equipment and hospital services are UNAFFORDABLE and UNSUSTAINABLE in our country, and such services, including primary and preventative care; emergency services; dental and vision care; and long-term care are essential for the HEALTH of our CITIZENRY and

WHEREAS fellow Grantham residents have experienced BANKRUPTCY due to medical bills, unheard of in any other developed nation, and many do not fill prescriptions or defer needed medical care due to unjustifiable costs and unaffordable deductions and

WHEREAS ABSENCE of UNIVERSAL, READILY ACCESSIBLE and AFFORDABLE INSURANCE contributes to inability to intervene early with and obtain medical care for opioid addiction, depression and other medical conditions which have reduced US life expectancy in recent years, and

WHEREAS the duration and quality of life for the residents of Grantham will improve since all can access ongoing care, instead of waiting until there is a medical emergency that could disrupt their lives and further burden local resources;

WHEREAS the Town of Grantham and its associated School Districts currently spend 25,944\$/year for private health insurance premiums for a teacher's family, and Health Insurance just for town employees represents 8% of total budget, our taxpayer costs would potentially be reduced via alternative lower cost, comprehensive national health insurance programs.



BE IT RESOLVED that the voters of Grantham New Hampshire enthusiastically support legislation that furthers UNIVERSAL, HIGH QUALITY, READILY ACCESSIBLE and AFFORDABLE HEALTHCARE For AMERICANS, and instruct Grantham's congressional representatives to work towards immediate enactment of legislation that assures appropriate and efficient health care for all residents of the United States.

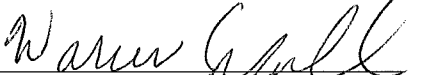
IF A MAJORITY of voters support the question, the Select Board shall immediately send a written notice to Grantham's US congressional delegation informing them of the instructions of their constituents within 30 days of the vote.

**ARTICLE 25 – End of Meeting**

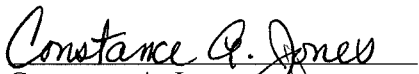
To hear the reports of agents, officers, and committees heretofore chosen, to pass any vote relating thereto, and to transact any other business that may legally come before said meeting. Recommended by the Selectmen (Majority vote required)

Given under our hands and seal this 19<sup>th</sup> day of February 2020.

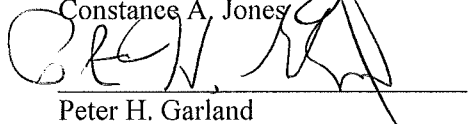
Grantham Board of Selectmen



G. Warren Kimball, Chair



Constance A. Jones



Peter H. Garland

## CERTIFICATE OF POSTING

February 19<sup>th</sup>, 2020

I hereby certify that on the 19<sup>th</sup> day of February 2020, a true attested copy of the within warrant was posted at the place of the meeting within named Grantham Town Hall, and posted a like copy at the Grantham Town Office, and the Dunbar Free Library, all being a public place in said town. In addition, the warrant was posted on the Town's website at [www.granthamnh.net](http://www.granthamnh.net).

Melissa M. White  
Melissa M. White, Town Administrator