

TOWN OF NEW DURHAM



VOTER'S GUIDE

SESSION #2 (BALLOT REFERENDUM)

Tuesday, March 14, 2017

New Durham Elementary School

7 Old Bay Road

2017 VOTER GUIDE – TOWN OF NEW DURHAM

To The Residents of New Durham:

The year 2017 marks a unique milestone in that it is the third year the town will experience the Official Ballot Referendum process. In March, 2014 the Town voted to convert from the traditional Town Meeting form of government to the process described in RSA 40:13 commonly known as “SB2”. Historically, New Durham utilized a Town Meeting to finalize decisions on the various issues and budget articles. By passage in 2014 of the SB2 Warrant Article by greater than the required two-thirds vote, the Town must now have all issues voted by the ballot process.

As part of the SB2 process, there are two separate and distinct events that must occur. The first event is Session #1 (the Deliberative Session) in which the voters are presented the Articles on the Warrant as proposed by the Board of Selectmen, the Budget Committee, or petition. The Deliberative Session is led by the Town Moderator similar to the traditional Town Meeting format. Following verbal discussion on these Articles, the attending voters may formulate motion(s) to make changes as allowed by law to the Warrant Articles. Any legally proposed changes are then voted at the Deliberative Session. The Deliberative Session is essentially the same as the traditional Town Meeting except that there is no final vote at the Deliberative Session. The Deliberative Session for the Town of New Durham was February 6, 2017 at 7:00 PM at the New Durham Elementary School.

Following the actions of the Deliberative Session the Board of Selectmen agreed to have Town Administrator create this Voter Guide to convey the actions from the Deliberative Session and develop the final 2017 Voter Guide. This precedes the second of the two distinct events, or Session #2, which is the Ballot Referendum itself. The Ballot Referendum (i.e. Voting Session with ballots) is the final action and decision by the voters on the various issues. During Session #2 voters in New Durham will have the opportunity to cast votes on all Warrant Articles as amended, including the proposed budget as a result of Session #1. This voting will be done within the privacy of the voting booth. Session #2 is on Tuesday, March 14, 2017 and the polls are open from 8:00 AM to 7:00 PM. Absentee ballots can be used for the Ballot Referendum process. Please contact the Town Clerk for more information on absentee ballots if needed.

The Board of Selectmen, Budget Committee, Planning Board, and other Town committees and entities recognize that sometimes lengthy legal language is required by law to write the Warrant Articles. This language can be confusing to voters who have not been actively involved in the debate that created the Article. To help voters have a clearer understanding of each topic we have prepared this Voter Guide. This Voter Guide supplements the Annual Town Report but does not replace that important information. The Annual Town Report for New Durham will be available not later than March 7, 2017. Should you have any questions regarding your town government after reviewing these documents, please contact the Town Administrator [Scott Kinmond at (603) 859-2091] or any of the Board of Selectmen.

Within this Voter Guide you will find estimated tax impact information. This estimated tax impact information will also be listed on the ballot. We have provided it here to give voters an idea of the respective Warrant Article impact on their tax rate if the voters approve the respective Warrant Articles. However, it should be noted that the tax rate indicated in this Voter Guide is not the tax

rate for 2017 as the Town has additional revenue sources that also offset the tax rate. These include such revenues to the Town as motor vehicle registration and other permit and fees. These revenues may make the Town's tax rate lower than shown in this Voter Guide. The tax rate impact shown in this Voter Guide is an estimate based on current information at the time of the printing using information and revenue projections that are available at that time. The actual tax rate is calculated by the New Hampshire Department of Revenue Administration (DRA) and it is not set until around October or November using actual data available at that time.

We urge you to consider the various issues presented in these Warrant Articles for your decision as well as those positions which will be elected within the Town by your vote. Important decisions regarding type and level of service along with the future direction for the Town will be made by you at the polls.

The Board of Selectmen, Budget Committee, and other Town officials and employees want to thank you for your ongoing concern in maintaining and improving the quality and balance of service offered. We appreciate your interest in making informed decisions on these important Town issues and look forward to your participation in these two SB2 Sessions.

TOWN of NEW DURHAM – TOWN WARRANT 2017

To the inhabitants of the Town of New Durham, in the County of Strafford, in said State of New Hampshire qualified to vote in Town affairs:

You are hereby notified that the Annual Town Meeting of the Town of New Durham will be held on two days as follows:

First Session of Annual Meeting – Deliberative

The first session, the Deliberative Session, of the 2017 Town Meeting shall be held on **Monday, February 6, 2017 at 7:00 P.M.** at the New Durham School Gymnasium, located at 7 Old Bay Road in New Durham, NH. Snow date of February 8, 2017.

Second Session of the Annual Meeting - Voting

The Second Session, the voting on all warrant articles shall be held on **Tuesday, March 14, 2017 from 8:00 A.M. to 7:00 P.M.** in the New Durham School Gymnasium, located at 7 Old Bay Road in New Durham, NH, where there will be voting by official ballot for the election of Town Officers and all warrant articles with any amendments as made at the deliberative session.

ARTICLE 1

To choose all necessary town officers for the ensuing year:

<u>Office:</u>	<u>Term of:</u>	<u>Candidates Running for Office:</u>
(1) Selectman	3 Years	David Bickford Cecile Chase
(2) Budget Committee	3 Years	Theresa Jarvis Cathy Orlowicz
(2) Budget Committee	2 Years	Mark Sullivan Anthony Bonanno Janis Anthes
(2) Budget Committee	1 Year	Aaron Bickford Joan Swenson Ellen Phillips
(1) Cemetery Trustee	1 Year	Denis Martin
(1) Library Trustee	3 Years	William Meyer Laura McCarthy
(1) Library Trustee	1 Year	Lee Newman
(1) Planning Board	3 Years	Robert Craycraft
(1) Trustee of Trust Funds	3 Years	
(1) Zoning Board of Adjustment	3 Years	Stephanie Richard
(1) Zoning Board of Adjustment	2 Years	Joan Martin

Article 2: Are you in favor of the adoption of the amendment to the existing Town Zoning Ordinance as proposed by the Planning Board? The proposed amendment establishes a new “Merrymeeting Watershed Overlay District.”

(Majority vote required)

The Planning Board recommends this article by a 4 to 0 vote.

(Official copies of the proposed Zoning Ordinance is in Appendix 2 and are also available for inspection at the Town Hall, on the Town Web Site and at all voting locations.)

Are you in favor of the adoption of the amendment to the existing Town Zoning Ordinance as proposed by the Planning Board? YES NO

This Article is proposed by the Planning Board and clarifies, modifies, and / or changes current Zoning and Land Use Ordinances. The intent of the proposed new ordinance is to protect the forested slopes in the Merrymeeting watershed in order to maintain water quality in the lake. The new District will ensure the preservation of the abundant wildlife and access to fishing, hunting, hiking, snowmobile trails and the scenic vistas that now exist. The proposal permits minimal impact residential development while simultaneously encouraging the use of the land for forestry and agricultural purposes. Newly created housing will give the lot owner the

ability to have most of the property placed in “current use” to minimize landowner taxes. Lakeside properties provide significant tax revenues to the entire Town, without a significant burden on our schools and other Town resources. The Planning Board developed the specific provisions of the proposed new District at six public meetings and two Public Hearings. The proposal was developed to be in line with the Natural Resources Development Plan and Town Appearance and Character described in New Durham’s Master Plan. A complete Amendment to Zoning Ordinance titled “Merrymeeting Watershed Overlay District” document and map is attached as Appendix 2 and is available at Town Hall or on the Town of New Durham website (www.newdurhamnh.us).

A “Yes” vote would approve the Planning Board’s recommendations to establish a Merrymeeting Watershed Overlay District as part of the Town’s Zoning Ordinance.

A “No” vote would reject the proposed amendment to the Zoning Ordinance and leave the Town of New Durham Zoning Ordinance unchanged.

Article 3: Shall the Town raise and appropriate as an operating budget, not including appropriations by special warrant articles and other appropriations voted separately, the amounts set forth on the budget posted with the warrant or as amended by the vote of the first session, for the purposes set forth therein, totaling \$2,751,234. Should this article be defeated, the default budget shall be \$2,793,117, which is the same as last year, with certain adjustments required by previous action of the Town or by law; or the governing body may hold a special meeting, in accordance with RSA 40:13, X and XVI, to take up the issue of a revised operating budget only.

Majority Vote Required

(Note: Operating Budget & Default Budget includes the Library Budget.)

Estimated Tax Rate Impact- 2017 Proposed Budget: \$ 4.59 per \$1,000 assessed valuation.

Estimated Tax Rate Impact- 2017 Default Budget: \$ 4.69 per \$1,000 assessed valuation.

The Board of Selectmen recommends this article by a **3** to **0** vote.

The Budget Committee recommends this article by a **7** to **0** vote.

To raise and appropriate operating budget of \$2,751,234

YES NO

Article 3 provides appropriations for the total operating budget for the Town of New Durham. It does not include funds for Special Warrant Articles, Capital Reserve Funds, Expendable Trust Funds, or the Road Program often understood to be paving and pavement repair. The table on the following page provides details and explanations by account where variances occur from the 2016 Town Operating Budget.

The Tax Rate Impact shown in the Warrant wording is the tax rate after projected non-property tax revenues are deducted from the total operating budget. New Durham has estimated non-property tax revenues such as motor vehicle registration, various permits and licenses, etc. which are used to offset the Town's tax rate. If only the Operating Budget amount were used without applying these non-property tax revenues to calculate the tax rate impact the tax rate impact would be \$4.59 per \$1,000 assess valuation for the proposed 2017 budget or \$4.69 per \$1,000 assessed evaluation for the 2017 Default Budget. It should be understood the tax rate shown is not the tax rate for 2017 as the actual tax rate will be set by the NH Department of Revenue Administration in late 2017. This rate will be used for the 2nd Tax billing for 2017 Taxes and the 1st Tax billing in 2018.

The Proposed 2017 Town Operating Budget as proposed by the Budget Committee is lower than the 2016 Approved Town Operating Budget by \$45,374 or 1.65%. The 2017 Default Operating Budget is lower than the 2016 Approved Town Operating Budget by \$3,491. The difference between the Proposed 2017 Operating Budget and the 2017 Default Operating Budget is \$41,883 or ten cents \$.10 per \$1,000 assessed valuation. The full departmental operating Budget and Default Budget are attached in Appendix 1.

A "Yes" vote approves the Proposed 2017 Operating Budget for town operating expenses.

A "No" vote would reject the Proposed 2017 Operating Budget and use the 2017 Default Budget for Town operating expenses.

Article 4: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Three Hundred and Thirty Thousand Dollars (\$330,000) for the purposes of a **Road Program** with One Hundred Eleven Thousand Dollars (\$111,000) to come from Highway Block Grant Aid, One Hundred Sixty Two Thousand Dollars (\$162,000) to come from the Road Construction Capital Reserve Fund, and the remainder of Fifty-Seven Thousand Dollars (\$57,000) to come from taxation."

Majority Vote Required

Estimated Tax Rate Impact: \$ 0.14 per \$1,000 assessed valuation.

The Board of Selectmen recommends this article by a **2** to **1** vote.

The Budget Committee recommends this article by a **7** to **0** vote.

To raise and appropriate stated sum for the purpose of Road Program

YES

NO

Road Program is often understood to be the road construction capital reserve fund and is used for paving and pavement repair. This Article would raise and appropriate a net amount of \$ 57,000 after the Highway Block Grant and Capital Reserve amounts have been applied to the total of \$330,000. The following work by the New Durham Public Works Department is to maintain and upgrade the Town's

roads and is enabled by this Warrant Article. The planned paving and pavement repairs for 2017 are as follows:

Miles	Road	Type of Work	Estimated Cost
0.6	Birch Hill Rd	Reclaim & Repave	\$94,750
.427	Brackett Rd	Reclaim & Repave	\$ 58,296
1.15	Old Bay Rd	Repair Shim & Overlay	\$124,713
1.00	Davis Crossing Rd	Chip Seal	\$30,000
3.00	Crack Sealing	Crack Sealing	\$15,000
1.00	T0 Be Determined	Repair Shim	\$ 16,967
	Contingency	Paving escalator	\$7,241
7.00	Total Miles of Road	Total Estimated Cost	\$ 330,000

A “Yes” vote would allow the Town of New Durham to continue to appropriately maintain and upgrade various roads within the Town.

A “No” vote could cause continued degradation of the various roads within the town and could jeopardize utilization of the state’s Highway Block Grant to New Durham.

Article 5: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of One Hundred and Seventy Thousand, dollars (\$ 170,000) to be placed in previously established **Capital Reserve Funds** as follows, with said funds to come from taxation.

Account	Established	2017
Police Cruiser	March 15, 2000, Article #7	\$12,500
1772 Meeting House Restoration	March 15, 2000, Article #14	\$10,000
Fire Truck	March 12, 2003, Article #11	\$50,000
Highway Equipment	March 15, 2006, Article #12	\$7,000
Purchase of Solid Waste Facilities Equipment	March 10, 2010, Article #14	\$5,000
Public Safety Facilities Improvements	March 10, 2010, Article #17	\$5,000
Municipal Facility Land Acquisition	March 13, 2007, Article #8	\$5,000
Fire Department Ancillary Equipment	March 10, 2015, Article #5	\$5,000
Library Facilities	March 13, 2007, Article #7	\$13,000
Smith Ballfield & Equipment	March 13, 2007, Article #9	\$7,500
Road Reconstruction	March 10, 2010, Article #5	\$50,000
Total		\$170,000

Majority Vote Required

Estimated Tax Rate Impact: \$ 0.42 per \$1,000 assessed valuation.

The Board of Selectmen recommends this article by a **3 to 0** vote.

The Budget Committee recommends this article by a **7 to 0** vote.

To raise and appropriate \$170,000 and place in previously established Capital Reserve Funds

YES

NO

Passage of this Warrant Article places monies in the respective Capital Reserve Fund sufficient monies as proposed by the Board of Selectmen. The Board of Selectmen and Budget Committee used information provided by the Town's Advisory Capital Improvement Program Committee (CIP), and Planning Board to create the Warrant Article. The funding in this Warrant Article is required to construct or purchase needed capital equipment or facilities consistent with the growth and development of the Town.

It should be noted that at the Deliberative Session there was amendment made to change the warrant article by adding \$50,000 to the appropriation, and adding the Highway Truck Capital Reserve Account as the fund to receive the increase. This amendment was reviewed by Legal and the Department of Revenue Administration and was disallowed.

A "Yes" vote would raise and appropriate \$170,000 to the respective Capital Reserve Funds and continue to allow for needed capital facilities or equipment replacement consistent with the growth and development of the town.

A "No" vote would not continue the funding contribution to the above stated Capital Reserve Funds for 2017.

Article 6: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Sixty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$65,000) to be placed in previously established **Expendable Trust Funds** as follows, with said funds to come from taxation.

Account	Established	2017
Computer & Office Maintenance	March 13, 1996, Article #11, Revised March 9, 2011, Article #26	\$10,000
Accrued Benefits Liability	March 13, 1996, Article #16	\$25,000
Town Buildings & Improvements	March 15, 2000, Article #15	\$30,000
Total		\$65,000

Majority Vote Required

Estimated Tax Rate Impact: \$ 0.16 per \$1,000 assessed valuation.

The Board of Selectmen recommends this article by a **3 to 0** vote.

The Budget Committee recommends this article by a **7 to 0** vote.

To appropriate \$65,000 placed in previously established Expendable Trust Funds

YES

NO

This Expendable Trust Fund request provides for ongoing needs in both computer systems originally established in 1996 and to meet unforeseen expenses in accrued benefits should a town employee leave town employment where the Town would be required to pay accrued benefits but that expense would not be initially budgeted. This year's contribution to the Town Buildings will allow for building energy upgrades, for cost saving paybacks of 2-3 years on lighting and 5-6 years of heating.

A "Yes" vote would raise and appropriate \$65,000 and allocate that to the placed in the previously established Expendable Trust Fund.

A "No" vote would not allocate any funds to the previously established Expendable Trust Fund potentially causing a significant decline in the balance of that fund and may impede appropriate updates in IT equipment and software for Town operations, and the inability to make cost saving energy upgrades to the facilities.

Article 7: To see if the Town will vote to change the purpose of the existing "Fire Trucks" Capital Reserve Fund (CRF), to the "Fire Vehicles" Capital Reserve Fund, and designate the Board of Selectmen as agents to expend.

Two-Thirds Vote Required

The Board of Selectmen recommends this article by a **3** to **0** vote.

Are you in favor of changing the Fire Trucks Capital Reserve Fund name to Fire Vehicles?

YES

NO

At the March 2003 Town Meeting the voters established a Fire Truck Capital Reserve fund under the provisions of RSA 35:1 for the purpose of providing for the replacement of fire trucks for the New Durham Fire Department. They also named the Board of Selectmen as agents to expend. In 2015-2016 the Board of Selectmen were faced with replacing the Fire Command vehicle, and at that time were advised that an expenditure for such a purpose under the existing Fire Truck CRF would not be allowable, and that the name should be changed to fire vehicles, which would allow for the CRF to be used for vehicles, such as a command car, utility vehicle etc.

A "Yes" vote would allow the name to be changed on the capital reserve account, broadening the use from "trucks" to "vehicles."

A "No" vote would keep the name as Fire Truck and restrict its use to Fire Trucks only.

Article 8: To see if the Town will vote to discontinue the Revaluation Capital Reserve Account (CRF) that was created by Article 12, at the March 15, 2000 Town Meeting. Said funds, with accumulated interest to date of withdrawal, are to be transferred to the Town's General Fund.

Majority Vote Required

The Board of Selectmen recommends this article by a **2** to **1** vote.

The Revaluation Capital Reserve Account was created at the March 2000 Town Meeting for the purpose of providing the future revaluation of the municipality, with the Board of Selectmen as Agents to expend. This Article is a request to close out the Revaluation Capital Reserve Account, and return the funds of approximately \$153,000 to the General Fund. These funds could be used to lower the tax rate at tax rate setting, or used to fund other warned projects via the unreserved fund balance. Revaluation used to be done every 5 years, this brought about the Capital Reserve account creation. The revaluation process is now done on a cyclical process (percentage of parcels annually) which prepares for the 5 year revaluation of assessed property values.

A “Yes” vote close the revaluation Capital Reserve Account, returning the money to the General Fund.

A “No” vote would retain the Revaluation Capital Reserve Account and the funds within.

Article 9: To conduct any other business which may legally come before the Town.

Given under our hands and seal, this the 27th day of January, 2017 in the year of our Lord Two Thousand and Seventeen.

We hereby certify that on this the 27th day of January, 2017, we had posted an attested copy of the warrant at the place of Meeting within named and a like copy at the New Durham Town hall, a public place in said Town.

David Bickford, Chair

Gregory Anthes, Selectman

David Swenson, Selectman

APPENDIX 1

The 2017 New Durham Operating Budget with some explanatory detail is presented in Article 3 of this Voter Guide. However, the total New Durham 2017 Budget may also include various Capital Equipment Fund and Expendable Trust Fund expenditures depending on the voter's decisions for Articles 4, 5, and 6. The Voter Guide provides additional detail for each of these Articles.

To provide the voter with additional summary information for the 2017 New Durham budget, the following table is presented showing the expected expenditures for the Operating Budget (as a total number) along with projected Capital Reserve Fund and Expendable Trust Fund expenditures for New Durham in 2017.

2017 Operating Budget

<u>Account #</u>	<u>Acct Name</u>	<u>2016 Budgeted</u>	<u>2017 Dept. Request</u>	<u>BOS</u>	<u>BC</u>	<u>% Diff between BC & 2016 Budgeted</u>	<u>% Diff between BC & 2016 Budgeted</u>
4130	Executive Office	\$212,845	\$223,051	\$222,373	\$222,373	4.28%	\$9,528
4140	Elections & Registrations	\$118,770	\$100,072	\$100,072	\$100,072	-18.68%	-\$18,698
4150	Financial Administration	\$111,050	\$99,671	\$100,471	\$100,471	-10.53%	-\$10,579
4152	Assessing	\$41,522	\$43,705	\$43,705	\$43,705	4.99%	\$2,183
4153	Legal	\$40,000	\$25,000	\$30,000	\$30,000	-33.33%	-\$10,000
4155	Personnel Administration	\$118,250	\$38,764	\$38,803	\$38,803	-204.74%	-\$79,447
4191	Planning Board	\$4,711	\$4,025	\$3,075	\$3,075	-53.20%	-\$1,636
4192	Zoning Board	\$1,276	\$751	\$1,001	\$1,001	-27.47%	-\$275
4194	General Gov't Buildings	\$20,891	\$27,406	\$27,656	\$27,656	24.46%	\$6,765
4195	Cemetery	\$3,115	\$2,480	\$5,200	\$4,000	22.13%	\$885
4196	Insurance	\$52,000	\$52,000	\$52,000	\$52,000	0.00%	\$0
4199	Other General Govt	\$2,800	\$7,676	\$7,800	\$7,800	64.10%	\$5,000
4210	Police Dept	\$505,244	\$501,939	\$488,079	\$501,120	-0.82%	-\$4,124
4220	Fire Dept	\$218,980	\$221,145	\$220,995	\$220,995	0.91%	\$2,015
4240	Building Inspector	\$30,360	\$32,070	\$32,070	\$32,070	5.33%	\$1,710
4290	Emergency Management	\$802	\$753	\$753	\$753	-6.51%	-\$49
4291	Forestry	\$8,060	\$12,999	\$13,499	\$13,499	40.29%	\$5,439
4312	Highway Dept	\$784,517	\$830,537	\$829,556	\$829,556	5.43%	\$45,039
4324	Solid Waste	\$237,508	\$246,392	\$246,392	\$246,392	3.61%	\$8,884
4411	Health Officer	\$2,601	\$2,355	\$2,355	\$2,355	-10.45%	-\$246
4415	Other Agencies	\$5,050	\$5,042	\$3,042	\$6,500	22.31%	\$1,450
4441	Welfare	\$17,573	\$12,708	\$12,208	\$12,208	-43.95%	-\$5,365
4520	Recreation	\$57,305	\$56,656	\$61,182	\$61,182	6.34%	\$3,877
4583	Town Historian	\$550	\$175	\$175	\$175	-214.29%	-\$375
4589	Culture and Recreation	\$515	\$515	\$515	\$515	0.00%	\$0

4612	Conservation	\$1,861	\$1,845	\$1,795	\$1,795	-3.68%	-\$66
4711-4721-4723	BONDS	\$76,294	\$67,732	\$67,733	\$67,733	-12.64%	-\$8,561
Sub- Total TOWN OPERATING BUDGET		\$2,674,450	\$2,617,464	\$2,612,505	\$2,627,804	-1.78%	-\$46,646

**Library
Trustees**

4550	Library	\$122,158	\$124,930	\$124,379	\$123,430	1.03%	\$1,272
Total- TOWN OPERATING BUDGET & LIBRARY		\$2,796,608	\$2,742,394	\$2,736,884	\$2,751,234	-1.65%	-\$45,374

<u>Dept Account #</u>	<u>Dept Acct Name</u>	<u>2016 Budgeted</u>	<u>2017 Dept. Request</u>	<u>2017 Board of Selectmen</u>	<u>2017 Budget Committee</u>
ROAD MAINT	Article #4	\$300,000	\$340,000	\$330,000	\$330,000
Capital Reserves	Article #5	\$241,800	\$325,300	\$170,000	\$170,000
Expendable Trusts	Article #6			\$65,000	\$65,000
Special articles	Article #9	\$14,000			
CRF Withdrawals	Article #4	\$0		\$162,000	\$162,000
TOTAL w/ Operating FUNDS		\$3,352,408	\$3,407,694	\$3,301,884	\$3,316,234
REVENUE (ie: Mv Registrations, rooms & meals, timber tax etc)		\$1,123,670	\$841,890	\$886,194	\$886,194
Property Taxation		\$2,242,738	\$2,565,804	\$2,253,690	\$2,268,040
2016 Property Values- Tax Rate Impact		\$405,998,008			

Proposed Operating Budget and Default Operating Budget Compared to 2016

Account #	Acct Name	2016 Budgeted	2017 Dept. Request	BOS	BC	Default
4130	Executive Office	\$212,845	\$223,051	\$222,373	\$222,373	\$212,976
4140	Elections & Registrations	\$118,770	\$100,072	\$100,072	\$100,072	\$121,151
4150	Financial Administration	\$111,050	\$99,671	\$100,471	\$100,471	\$111,952
4152	Assessing	\$41,522	\$43,705	\$43,705	\$43,705	\$44,278
4153	Legal	\$40,000	\$25,000	\$30,000	\$30,000	\$40,000
4155	Personnel Administration	\$118,250	\$38,764	\$38,803	\$38,803	\$94,114
4191	Planning Board	\$4,711	\$4,025	\$3,075	\$3,075	\$4,711
4192	Zoning Board	\$1,276	\$751	\$1,001	\$1,001	\$1,276
4194	General Gov't Buildings	\$20,891	\$27,406	\$27,656	\$27,656	\$20,891
4195	Cemetery	\$3,115	\$2,480	\$5,200	\$4,000	\$3,115
4196	Insurance	\$52,000	\$52,000	\$52,000	\$52,000	\$52,000
4199	Other General Govt	\$2,800	\$7,676	\$7,800	\$7,800	\$2,800
4210	Police Dept	\$505,244	\$501,939	\$488,079	\$501,120	\$510,758
4220	Fire Dept	\$218,980	\$221,145	\$220,995	\$220,995	\$225,321
4240	Building Inspector	\$30,360	\$32,070	\$32,070	\$32,070	\$30,360
4290	Emergency Management	\$802	\$753	\$753	\$753	\$802
4291	Forestry	\$8,060	\$12,999	\$13,499	\$13,499	\$8,060
4312	Highway Dept	\$784,517	\$830,537	\$829,556	\$829,556	\$789,436
4324	Solid Waste	\$237,508	\$246,392	\$246,392	\$246,392	\$238,293
4411	Health Officer	\$2,601	\$2,355	\$2,355	\$2,355	\$2,601
4415	Other Agencies	\$5,050	\$5,042	\$3,042	\$6,500	\$5,050
4441	Welfare	\$17,573	\$12,708	\$12,208	\$12,208	\$17,573
4520	Recreation	\$57,305	\$56,656	\$61,182	\$61,182	\$57,712
4583	Town Historian	\$550	\$175	\$175	\$175	\$550
4589	Culture and Recreation	\$515	\$515	\$515	\$515	\$515
4612	Conservation	\$1,861	\$1,845	\$1,795	\$1,795	\$1,861
4711-4721-4723	BONDS	\$76,294	\$67,732	\$67,733	\$67,733	\$72,803
Sub- Total TOWN OPERATING BUDGET		\$2,674,450	\$2,617,464	\$2,612,505	\$2,627,804	\$2,670,959
				Library Trustees		
4550	Library	\$122,158	\$124,930	\$124,379	\$123,430	\$122,158
Total- TOWN OPERATING BUDGET & LIBRARY		\$2,796,608	\$2,742,394	\$2,736,884	\$2,751,234	\$2,793,117

APPENDIX 2

MERRYMEETING WATERSHED OVERLAY DISTRICT

A. Purpose and Authority

The Merrymeeting Lake Watershed is unique and of special ecological importance. It cradles Merrymeeting Lake almost in its entirety and is the only source of surface water and groundwater to it. There is currently minimal development on the ridges and slopes above the Shorefront Conservation Overlay District. Appropriate development of these uplands is important for the protection of public waters, the wildlife in the Lake and its surrounds, as well as in preserving the natural topography, drainage patterns, vegetative cover and wildlife habitats, while simultaneously permitting development that is harmonious with nature. As such, this ordinance promotes the safety, health and welfare of the community.

In its Master Plan, the Town of New Durham identifies the preservation of scenic vistas, such as its lakes and ponds, forested hills and mountains as being of primary importance. These resources contribute significantly to the Town's rural character.

Preservation of open lands through conservation is one means of protecting the Merrymeeting Lake Watershed. It is also a goal of this Overlay District to maintain undeveloped land by encouraging landowners to take advantage of New Hampshire's agricultural and forestry programs and the current use law. This will ensure the economic viability of agricultural and timberlands as a means of conserving open space.

The provisions of this Article are authorized by Grant of Power RSA674:17; Purposes of Zoning Ordinance RSA 674:21 and Innovative Land Use Controls RSA 674:21.

B. District Boundary

This ordinance is applicable to development of land within the Merrymeeting Watershed which lies in the Residential/Recreational/Agricultural District and/or the Steep Slopes Overlay District and which is outside the Shorefront Conservation Overlay District. The Watershed incorporates, but is not limited to the lake facing slopes, ridges and skylines of Mount Eleanor, Birch Ridge, Mount Jesse, Devil's Den Mountain, Caverly Mountain, Owl's Head, Mount Bet and Mount Molly. The limits of the watershed are delineated in a topographic map posted on the Town's website and is also available from the Land Use Office. It is incorporated into this ordinance, by reference and shown on the attached maps.

C. Definitions

1. Skyline: For the Merrymeeting Watershed, the Skyline is the ridge line along which the surface of the earth and sky appear to meet when viewed from most vantage points from Merrymeeting Lake or from the public roads that surround it.
2. Ridge: The elongated crest at the point of intersection between two opposite slopes on a side of a hill not having the characteristics of a skyline

3. Watershed: An area of land bounded peripherally by a divide and draining ultimately into a body of water.

D. Uses and Limitations

The intent of this Overlay District is to promote conservation of open lands, and in addition, maintenance of open space by providing landowners with a means to receive income through cultivation of crops and forest products while taking advantage of New Hampshire's current use law, RSA79-A.

Uses permitted include those permitted in the underlying districts and applicable Overlays with the following limitations:

1. The minimum residential lot size shall be twelve (12) acres. This lot size was chosen to provide a minimum area of 2 acres for a dwelling and outbuildings, and to provide ten acres that may be placed in Current Use according to RSA79-A.
2. Development shall be limited to single family homes with or without an attached ancillary dwelling unit as described in New Hampshire RSA 674:71-73.
3. The skyline will be preserved as a natural vegetative growth area and no structure or building or part of a building shall intrude into the skyline.
4. Within subdivisions, trees may only be cut along the skylines of the Merrymeeting Lake Watershed Overlay District for the purpose of forest management under the supervision of a licensed forester. The intent of this Limitation is to preserve skylines to the extent possible while allowing necessary tree cutting to maintain a healthy forest.
5. Notwithstanding any language to the contrary in any other regulation or ordinance, an Open Conservation Subdivision will not be permitted in this Overlay District.
6. Only indirect and shielded outdoor lighting shall be used. Flood lighting is not permitted.

E. Design Requirements and Guidelines

All proposed residential structures shall meet the following design guidelines:

1. Clear cutting of a 24 foot wide corridor is permitted for the construction of a single driveway up to 12 feet in width.
2. Corridors for utilities may be established as necessary for the provision of these services.
3. Except for driveway and utility lines, a minimum vegetative buffer of 25 feet shall be maintained around the entire lot line.
4. The lot boundaries between adjacent lots, if possible should not be continuous from one lot to another, but should be offset if possible. The specific intent of this provisions is to avoid as much as possible continuous strips of clearing or of

vegetative buffers of adjacent lots.

5. Buildings shall use natural land formations and existing vegetation to screen them from view from public roads and waters to the extent practicable.

F. Plans

Building and grading plans will be provided by the applicant as per the regulations of underlying districts. Landscaping plans will be required and will pay special attention to existing/proposed vegetation adjacent to buildings to address visibility and screening purposes, the preservation of natural vegetation of land with slopes of greater than 15%, and the protection by vegetative buffers of surface and ground water.

G. Agriculture and Forestry

1. Forestry management and timber harvesting are permitted according to RSA 227, with implementation of best management practices as recommended in the document "Best Management Practices for Forestry: Protecting New Hampshire's Water Quality" (2005, as amended) by the University of New Hampshire Cooperative Extension.
2. Agriculture is permitted according to RSA 21:34-a and 432:33, with implementation of best management practices as recommended in the document "Manual of Best Management Practices for Agriculture in New Hampshire" (2002, as amended) distributed by the NH Department of Agriculture, Division of Regulatory Services.

H. Previous Uses




Land in this Overlay District, which has previously been used in timbering or agriculture, may be subdivided or developed within this Overlay district. A Management Plan for vegetation regrowth must be approved by the Planning Board.

I. Special Exception

1. Commercial development may be permitted by the Zoning Board of Appeals. As long as the commercial proposal meets the purposes and needs of this District and the requirements of the underlying districts, a Conditional Use Permit may be issued by the Planning Board and may have lesser dimensional requirements.
2. Whenever an existing lot of record has a lot configuration, topography, drainage or other site characteristics preventing full compliance with the use requirements of this article, and when the proposed development maintains the spirit of this ordinance, and meets the provisions in respect to lot size and vegetative buffer requirements to the maximum extent possible, the Applicant may be granted a Special Exception by the Zoning Board of Adjustment.

Merrymeeting Lake Watershed Overlay and 300ft Lakeshore Buffer

Legend

-  Merrymeeting Lake Watershed Overlay District Boundary
-  300ft Lakeshore Buffer
-  Municipal Tax Parcels

Tax Parcel data from NH Grant
New Hampshire Parcel Mosaic
Updated 2016
Downloaded October 24, 2016

