

# **TOWN OF NEW DURHAM**



## **VOTER'S GUIDE**

### **SESSION #2 (BALLOT REFERENDUM)**

**Tuesday, March 13, 2018**

**New Durham Elementary School**

**7 Old Bay Road**

# 2018 VOTER GUIDE – TOWN OF NEW DURHAM

To The Residents of New Durham:

In 2014 the Town of New Durham voted to convert from the traditional Town Meeting form of government to the process described in RSA 40:13 commonly known as “SB2”. 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 Warrant Articles, the attending voters at the Deliberative Session may formulate motion(s) to make changes as allowed by law to the Warrant Articles. Any legally proposed changes to the Warrant Articles, within defined New Hampshire state SB2 regulations, 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 5, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. at the New Durham Elementary School. (To view a recording of the Deliberative Session, go to [www.newdurhamnh.us](http://www.newdurhamnh.us), click video, and select archived videos.)

Following the actions of the Deliberative Session this Voter Guide has been prepared to convey the actions from the Deliberative Session and develop the 2018 Voter Guide to provide additional detail to each of the Warrant Articles. The Ballot Referendum (i.e. Voting Session with ballots often referred to as Session #2) 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 and finalized after the Deliberative Session. This voting will be done within the privacy of the voting booth. For the Town of New Durham Session #2 is on Tuesday, March 13, 2018 and the polls are open from 8:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. Absentee ballots can be submitted for the Ballot Referendum (Session #2) 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 may, at times, be confusing to voters who have not been actively involved in the debate that created the Article(s). 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 6, 2018. Should you have any questions regarding your town government after reviewing these documents, please contact the Town Administrator [Scott Kinmond at (603) 859-2091 Ext 106] or any member of the Board of Selectmen.

Within this Voter Guide you will find estimated tax impact information for Articles that have financial or tax impact factors. Where there may be a tax impact The 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 should the voters approve the respective Warrant Article. However, it should be noted that the tax rate indicated in this Voter Guide may not be the final tax rate for 2018 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 additional 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 of this Voter Guide 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 of the fiscal year 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 level of Town services offered. We appreciate your interest in making informed decisions on these important Town issues and look forward to your participation in these SB2 Sessions.

# TOWN of NEW DURHAM – TOWN WARRANT 2018

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 5, 2018 at 7:00 P.M.** at the New Durham School Gymnasium, located at 7 Old Bay Road in New Durham, NH. Should there be a weather related postponement the snow date is 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 13, 2018 from 8:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.** in the New Durham School Gymnasium located at 7 Old Bay Road, 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:

<b>Office:</b>	<b>Term</b>	<b>Candidate(s) Running for Office</b>
(1) Selectman	3 Years	Dorothy Veisel
(1) Budget Committee	3 Years	Ellen Phillips Ken Fanjoy
(1) Budget Committee	1 Year	Joan Swenson
(1) Cemetery Trustee	3 Years	Jennifer Bourassa
(2) Library Trustee	3 Years	William Meyer Robert Montgomery Lee Newman
(1) Moderator	2 Years	Ronald Cook
(1) Planning Board	3 Years	Jeffrey Allard
(1) Supervisor of the Checklist	6 Years	Cheryl Cullimore
(1) Trustee of Trust Funds	3 Years	David Allyn
(1) Zoning Board of Adjustment	3 Years	Arthur W. Hoover

**Article 2:** Are you in favor of Amendment No. 1 to the New Durham Zoning Ordinance as proposed by the Planning Board as follows: Modify Article III by adding definitions of Obsolescence, Remodel, Repair, and Woodlot/Agricultural Lot.

Obsolescence: A reduction in usefulness, desirability or a failure to meet current building codes because of an outdated design feature that cannot be easily changed without incurring an unreasonable expense. (Note: Grandfather status of obsolescence is lost if rebuilding of structure is not completed 2 years after demolition.)

Remodel: Modification of architectural design, color, features, or materials of a building. Remodel does not allow the total demolition of a structure.

Repair: Replacement or mending of parts, existing but in a state of deterioration, with equivalent materials and for the purpose of maintaining their quality. Repair does not allow the total demolition of a structure.

Woodlot or Agricultural Lot: A type of non-residential lot that can be used for sustainable forestry and agricultural practices. Woodlots/Agricultural lots may not meet the minimal standards for designation as a residential lot. No dwellings are permitted on such lots, but campers and camp trailers may be present for a period no longer than 60 days when the land is in active use. Best management practices apply.

**(Majority vote required)**

**The Planning Board recommends this article by a 5 to 0 vote.**

YES

NO

These new definitions are needed to clarify language in the Zoning Ordinance. Recent applications to the Planning Board have indicated that there is some confusion regarding these terms. By explicitly defining them in the Ordinance, we hope to reduce any potential confusion in the future.

A “Yes” vote would approve the Planning Board’s recommendations to the above stated definitions 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:** Are you in favor of Amendment No. 2 to the New Durham Zoning Ordinance as proposed by the Planning Board as follows: Modify Articles VI and XIV by adding regulations regarding the storage of recreational vehicles to limit the number of recreational vehicles which may be stored on a property depending on lot size and location; require that RVs meet all setback requirements; prohibit the use of RVs for residential or business occupation except during the reconstruction of a home; limit sleeping in RVs to 14 nights per calendar month without a permit; and permit sleeping in RVs from May to October with a permit, provided appropriate septic is provided.

**(Majority vote required)**

**The Planning Board recommends this article by a 5 to 0 vote.**

YES

NO

This ordinance will limit the number of RVs/travel trailers (RVs) that can be stored on a lot based on lot size, particularly smaller lots or lots along the shoreline of waterways. We expanded the time that RVs can be used from 6 days/month to 14 days/month, or longer during the summer with a permit from the Building Inspector. We also require that, while in use, septic must be disposed of properly. We feel that these changes strike a balance between the rights of landowners to own and use travel trailers and RVs, with the best interests of all citizens of the town.

A “Yes” vote would approve the Planning Board’s recommendations to Modify Article VI and XIV relative to RV’s 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 4:** Are you in favor of Amendment No. 3 to the New Durham Zoning Ordinance as proposed by the Planning Board as follows: Modify Article XVIII to add a reference map for the Merrymeeting Lake Watershed Overlay District and clarify that indirect and shielded outdoor lighting is required in that district in order to maintain a dark sky.  
**(Majority vote required)**

**The Planning Board recommends this article by a 5 to 0 vote.**

YES

NO

When this new chapter was added last year, we did not include reference to a specific map that defines the District. We also intended to include language regarding outdoor lighting. These changes correct both of these issues.

A “Yes” vote would approve the Planning Board’s recommendations to modify Article XVIII Merrymeeting Watershed Overlay District relative to clarify indirect and shielded lighting 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 5:** Are you in favor of Amendment No. 4 to the New Durham Zoning Ordinance as proposed by the Planning Board as follows: Modify Articles V and XXI, to regulate woodlots/agricultural lots which may continue to be used for harvesting of timber or agriculture without meeting frontage requirements provided that a 50 foot wide deeded right of way is provided for access to those lots. No houses or camps may be constructed on woodlots, however campers and camp trailers may be present for no longer than 60 days when the land is in active use. A woodlot designation may be removed provided the lot complies with the zoning ordinance.

**(Majority vote required)**

**The Planning Board recommends this article by a 5 to 0 vote.**

YES

NO

These changes to the “Woodlot” language of the Zoning Ordinance are intended to clarify the language, organize it in one place in the Zoning Ordinance and include specific language that describes the process for removing a lot from woodlot status.

A “Yes” vote would approve the Planning Board’s recommendations to modify Articles V and XXI, relative to woodlots 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 6:** Are you in favor of Amendment No. 5 to the New Durham Zoning Ordinance as proposed by the Planning Board as follows: Modify Article XX by increasing the number of permitted off site directional signs per harvesting season for agricultural products from one to four. Permission of the Landowner is needed to place signs on private property.

**(Majority vote required)**

**The Planning Board recommends this article by a 5 to 0 vote.**

YES

NO

This change to the Sign Ordinance have been requested by several farmers in town so they can advertise, attract and direct patrons/visitors to their farm stands.

A “Yes” vote would approve the Planning Board’s recommendations to modify Article XX by increasing the number of permitted off site directional signs for Agricultural products 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 7:** To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen to enter into a long-term lease / purchase agreement in the amount of \$157,000 payable over a term of 3 years for replacement of the Fire Department's Self Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) and to raise and appropriate with the down payment amount of \$51,000 to come from the Fire Department Ancillary Capital Reserve Fund.

**(3/5 ballot vote required)**

Estimated 2018 Tax Rate Impact: \$0.00 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.

YES

NO

Fire Services periodically receive safety standards from the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) which in the past 18 years has had three code changes regarding the Self Contained Breathing Apparatus

(SCBA) used by firefighters. These code related standards are covered in NFPA 1981, 1982, and 2018. These standards recommend that upon an SCBA having 3 or more manufacture’s product code design changes that the unit(s) will need replacement. The New Durham Fire Department currently has eighteen (18) SCBA’s that are nearing 20 years old and the manufacturer has now had 3 product code update changes on these units. The purchase of these new devices will provide New Durham Fire Department personnel with code compliant SCBA’s and minimize the exposure risk to the users and reduce potential liability to the Town.

A “Yes” vote would allow the Select Board to enter a long-term lease / purchase (3 year) for the purchase of 18 self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA’s) for the fire department.

A “No” vote would not allow for the purchase of the self-contained breathing apparatus.

**Article 8:** 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 \$2,899,086. Should this article be defeated, the default budget shall be \$2,769,786, 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 – 2018 Proposed Budget: \$ 4.84 per \$1,000 assessed valuation.

Estimated Tax Rate Impact – 2018 Default Budget: \$ 4.52 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.

YES

NO

Article 8 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 2017 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 proposed 2018 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 the tax rate impact would be \$4.84 per \$1,000 assessed valuation for the proposed 2018 budget or \$4.52 per \$1,000 assessed valuation for the 2018 Default Budget. It should be understood the tax rate shown is **not** the final tax rate for 2018 as the actual tax rate will be set by the NH Department of Revenue Administration in late 2018 and would also include any



Special Warrant Articles that are passed. This rate will be used for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tax billing for 2018 Taxes and the 1<sup>st</sup> Tax billing in 2019. The tax rate setting in October-November is done in conjunction with the Select Board and the Department of Revenue Administration. At this time the Select Board will look at actual revenues collected during 2018 and the current Town's Fund Balance amount. The Board can apply fund balance to lower the tax rate but would use the fund balance guidelines established in 2014 to retain sufficient reserves to operate the Town services.

The 2018 Town Operating Budget as proposed by the Budget Committee is higher than the 2017 Approved Town Operating Budget by \$147,852 or 5.1%. The 2018 Default Operating Budget is higher than the 2017 approved Town Operating Budget by \$18,552 due to required and/or contracted Town obligations for 2018. The difference between the proposed 2018 Operating Budget and the 2018 Default Operating Budget is \$129,300 or thirty-two cents \$0.32 per \$1,000 assessed valuation. Table 1 & Table 2, shown below, highlight the key contributing factors attributed to the changes in this year's (2018) budget compared to the 2017 Budget. The full departmental 2018 Operating Budget and Default Budget are attached in Appendix 1. Appendix 1 also shows the New Durham Tax Rate Trend for the past 12 years and illustrates the point that the Town's operating budget over the past five years has gone down while the school portion of the New Durham tax rate has dramatically increased.

A "Yes" vote approves the proposed 2018 Operating Budget for town operating expenses.

A "No" vote would reject the proposed 2018 Operating Budget and require the Town to use the 2018 Default Budget for Town operating expenses.

<b>TABLE 1</b>	
<b>2018 Operating Budget –</b>	
<b>Selected Key Contributing Factors to 2018 Budget Changes from 2017 Budget</b>	
1	Wage adjustments in past 1 - 2 years to make all Town employees wage levels market competitive
2	Negotiated health benefit cost increase to be minimal
3	Fully staffed safety, Town Hall, & public works department; full year of 5th FT Police Officer
4	Reduced legal fees as all outstanding lawsuit cases settled in 2017
5	Increased assessing costs due to elimination of the Revaluation CRF
6	Slight increase in PB, ZBA related accounts - better economy; increased appeals, planned contractual work
7	Increased maintenance (mowing) costs in cemeteries & ballfield
8	Improved Code Enforcement Office structure / coverage / resources

9	Elimination of longevity pay making it part of the employee's hourly wage; improved benefit to the employee; more transparent wage info to the taxpayer
10	Enhanced Parks / Rec programming

<b>Table 2</b> <b>Changes 2018 Proposed Operating Budget Vs. 2017 Budget –</b> <b>Selected Accounts</b>		
<b>Account</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Key Changes 2018 vs. 2017 Budget</b>
4130	Executive	Moved part time finance person to full time and moved costs to Account 4150; Reduced part time hours
4140	Election / Registration	Additional election costs in 2018; Wage adjustments
4150	Finance Office	Increased wage costs due to full time finance person; Reduced outside contractor hours
4152	Assessing	Increased revaluation costs due to voter's elimination of CRF in 2017
4153	Legal	Reduced legal fees as all outstanding lawsuits settled
4195	Cemeteries	Increased maintenance (mowing) costs
4210	Police	Full year with 5th full time officer; Higher associated benefits costs, i.e. healthcare, etc.
4312	Highway	Increased overtime budget (weather dependent); Some additional equipment maintenance costs
4415	Other Agencies	Increased contributions from taxpayer to charitable / non-profit entities
4520	Parks / Recreation	Increased costs for ballfield maintenance (mowing)
4589	Other Cultural / Recreational	Moved Boodey Farmstead to this account from 4130; Increased costs for Boodey Farmstead septic plans, etc.

**Note: See Appendix 1 for Comparison of 2018 Proposed Operating Budget Vs. 2018 Default Budget Vs. 2017 Budget. The detail table in Appendix 1 describes the dollar amount for each of the Town's operating departments, total changes on the above respective accounts and all other operating budget accounts. Appendix 1 also**

**contains a graph showing the past twelve year Tax Rate Trends for New Durham.**

**Article 9:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$381,700 for the purposes of a Road Program with \$114,700 to come from Highway Block Grant Aid, \$209,000 to come from taxation, and the remainder of \$58,000 to come from the Road Construction Capital Reserve Fund.

**Majority Vote Required**

Estimated 2018 Tax Rate Impact: \$ 0.51 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.

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 an additional tax amount of \$209,000 and combine that with the 2018 New Hampshire Highway Block Grant to New Durham, and use of the New Durham Road Capital Reserve amounts for a total of \$381,700. During 2018, the Town will also use the remaining SB38 additional Highway Block Grant monies (\$96,000) which were received in 2017 for the use of road maintenance. The table below is the projected road construction, pavement preservation, and road maintenance projects for 2018, which includes the use of the 2017 SB38 HBG funds. In other words, the table below is the currently planned road related projects for 2018 that include the \$381,700 from approval of this Warrant Article combined with the \$96,000 received from the 2017 NH SB38 funding for a total of \$477,700 planned road spending in 2018 for New Durham. These projects are dependent upon approval of this Warrant Article, project pricing, and bid results. The project list is subject to change based on conditions and other factors during 2018.

<b>Miles</b>	<b>Road</b>	<b>Type of Work</b>	<b>Estimated Cost</b>
	130 So. Shore Rd	Culvert Replacement	\$232,000
1.9	Ham Road	Repair Shim & Overlay	\$128,700
0.64	Old Bay Rd	1” Overlay	\$32,000
1.00	Davis Crossing Rd	Rubber Chip Seal	\$35,000
0.85	Tash Road	Rubber Chip Seal	\$35,000
	Total Estimated Cost		\$ 477,700

A “Yes” vote would allow the Town of New Durham to continue road construction and maintenance of the roads within the Town.

A “No” vote could cause continued degradation of the various roads within the town.

**Article 10:** To see if the town will vote to adopt RSA 41:14-a, to allow the Selectmen by majority vote to acquire or sell land, buildings or both; provided, however, they shall first submit any such proposed acquisition or sale to the planning board and to the conservation commission for review and recommendation by those bodies. This article will remain in effect until rescinded by majority vote.

[Note: After the Selectmen receive the recommendation of the Planning Board and the Conservation Commission or both exist, they shall hold 2 public hearings at least 10 but not more than 14 days apart on the proposed acquisition or sale; provided, however, upon the written petition of 50 registered voters presented to the Selectmen, prior to the Selectmen's vote, the proposed acquisition or sale will be inserted in an article in the warrant for the next Town Meeting.]

**(Majority vote required)**

The Board of Selectmen Recommends the article by a **3 to 0** vote.

YES

NO

The article is asking to adopt the NH State Revised Statutes Annotated (RSA) 41:14-a which would give the Town's Governing Body (Board of Selectmen) the authority to accept gifts of real property (i.e. land and or buildings) and to purchase or sell land and / or buildings on behalf of the Town. The State Law comes with some checks and balances, whereas the Select Board prior to accepting, buying, or selling such real properties must: 1) Have the proposed acceptance, purchase, or sale reviewed by the Planning Board and Conservation Commission. 2) Hold two (2) public hearings on the proposal(s). It should also be noted that the Legislative Body (i.e. registered voters) have a right anytime during the process to submit a petition with 50 registered voter names to the governing body requesting the gift, purchase, or sale be placed on the Town's Annual Warrant for consideration by the Legislative Body. The adoption of RSA 41:14-a allows for greater flexibility with potential gifts of real property or the ability to participate in negotiations relative to the purchase or sale of properties for the Town's future use(s).

A "Yes" vote would adopt the State Law for the use by the governing body relative to the acceptance, purchase or sale of real property.

A "No" vote would not adopt the State Law and any and all gifts, purchases or sales of real property must be brought before the Legislative Body.

**Article 11:** To see if the Town will vote to accept a gift of real property being a 42' x 42' barn for use by the Boodey Farmstead Project, said barn being a gift to the Town of New Durham.

**(Majority vote required)**

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

Estimated 2018 Tax Rate Impact: \$ 0.00 per \$1,000 assessed valuation.

YES

NO

The Boodey Farmstead Committee, a Town committee, has been offered a donation of "real property", that being a building, and the Town, as of the 2018 Session #2, has not yet adopted NH State RSA 41-14-a. Therefore, the acceptance of this real property donation requires that such gifts of real property be presented to the Legislative Body (voters) for approval.

A "Yes" vote will authorize the acceptance of the barn structure, a real property.

A “No” vote will not allow the acceptance of the barn, a real property, as a gift.

**Article 12:** To see if the town will vote to establish a Boodey Farmstead Project Capital Reserve Fund under the provisions of RSA 35:1 for the design and construction of the Zechariah Boodey Farmstead project and to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,000 to be deposited into that fund. Further, to name the Board of Selectmen as agents to expend from said fund.

**(Majority Vote Required)**

Estimated 2018 Tax Rate Impact: \$0.002 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 **6 to 0** vote. (1 abstention)

YES

NO

The Article was created to allow for the potential for municipal funds to be assigned to the Boodey Farmstead Project by means of placing taxpayer money into a Capital Reserve Fund (CRF). It should be noted that the Boodey Farmstead Committee also has a fundraising account from various non-tax derived donations, but these funds cannot be comingled with municipal contribution funds under municipal account practices. The Article also raises \$1,000 through taxation to initially fund the CRF account.

A “Yes” vote will authorize the creation of the Boodey Farmstead Project Capital Reserve Fund for that purpose and to deposit \$1,000 into the account for this purpose.

A “No” vote will disallow the creation of the Boodey Farmstead Capital Reserve Fund and would disallow the appropriation of \$1,000.

**Article 13:** To see if the town will vote to establish a Town of New Durham Dam Maintenance Expendable Trust Fund per RSA 31:19-a, for the maintenance of the Town's dams and to raise and appropriate the sum of \$35,000 to be deposited in that fund with this amount to come from taxation; further to name the Board of Selectmen as agents to expend from said fund.

**(Majority vote required)**

Estimated 2018 Tax Rate Impact: \$0.08 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.

YES

NO

The Article would create a new Expendable Trust Fund (ETF) for the purpose of Dam Maintenance in New Durham. The Town operates two (2) permitted dams in New Durham - Downing Dam and March Pond Dam. These dams are inspected every 2 years by the NH

Department of Environmental Services Dam Bureau. During these inspections, should there be deficiencies identified, the responsibility and liability for the correction of any identified deficiencies is placed upon the Town. The creation of a Dam Maintenance Expendable Trust Fund is to place funds in the trust to correct these deficiencies and / or provide identified maintenance functions as needed for the operation of the dams under the NHDES operating guidelines. The Article also asks that an amount from the taxpayers of \$35,000 through taxation be raised to fund this ETF account. It should be noted that the Town has inspection deficiencies from the 2016 inspection of the Downing Dam which will require an estimated \$30,000 in maintenance / repair costs. The cost to resolve these deficiencies would come from this account if the legislative body approves its creation and funding amount. The Town, in preparation for these repairs, has already expended approximately \$14,000 in engineering costs for permitting, watershed calculations, and design and these costs were part of prior year's operating expenses. The approval of this Warrant Article would provide a means to better manage the cost of current and future deficiencies that will require ongoing maintenance.

A "Yes" vote will create the Dam Maintenance Expendable Trust account and will deposit \$35,000 into the account for the purpose of maintenance of the Town Dams.

A "No" vote will disallow the creation of the Dam Maintenance Expendable Trust Fund and the needed funding would not be available.

**Article 14:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$233,000 to be placed in previously established **Capital Reserve Funds** as follows with said funds to come from taxation:

<b>Account</b>	<b>Established</b>	<b>2018</b>
Highway Equipment	March 15, 2006, Article #12	\$20,000
Highway Trucks	March 4, 1988, Article #9	\$35,000
Library Facilities	March 13, 2007, Article #7	\$2,500
Vehicle & Equipment Maintenance	March 10, 2010, Article #15	\$10,000
Milfoil	March 9, 2009, Article #7	\$5,000
Solid Waste Facilities Improvement	March 10, 2010, Article #14	\$2,000
Solid Waste Equipment	March 10, 2010, Article #14	\$10,000
Police Cruiser	March 15, 2000, Article #7	\$12,000
Smith Ball Field & Equipment	March 13, 2007, Article #9	\$1,500
1772 Meetinghouse Restoration	March 15, 2000, Article #14	\$5,000

<b>Account</b>	<b>Established</b>	<b>2018</b>
Fire Truck	March 12, 2003, Article #11	\$40,000
Public Safety Facilities Improvements	March 10, 2010, Article #17	\$5,000
Road Reconstruction	March 10, 2010, Article #5	\$75,000
Fire Department Ancillary Equipment	March 10, 2015, Article #5	\$10,000
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$233,000</b>

**Majority Vote Required**

Estimated 2018 Tax Rate Impact: \$ 0.57 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.

YES

NO

Passage of this Warrant Article places monies in the respective Capital Reserve Funds (CRF) with an amount sufficient as proposed by the Board of Selectmen and Budget Committee to sustain these funds as needed for ongoing and future use. 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 this Warrant Article. The funding in this Warrant Article is required to provide needed capital equipment or facilities improvements consistent with the growth and development of the Town.

A “Yes” vote would raise and appropriate \$233,000 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 2018.

**Article 15:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$35,500 to be placed in previously established **Expendable Trust Funds** as follows with said funds to come from taxation:

<b>Account</b>	<b>Established</b>	<b>2018</b>
Computer Systems & Office Equipment	March 13, 1996, Article #11, Revised March 9, 2011, Article #26	\$7,500
Accrued Benefits Liability	March 13, 1996, Article #16	\$10,000
Records Management	March 23, 1999, Article #23	\$6,000
Town Buildings & Improvements	March 15, 2000, Article #15	\$12,000
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$35,500</b>

**Majority Vote Required**

Estimated 2018 Tax Rate Impact: \$ 0.09 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.

YES

NO

This Expendable Trust Fund request provides money for ongoing maintenance projects and also funds benefit liabilities that may be required for unexpected Town obligations. There are maintenance projects for Town Buildings i.e. door access security, video security, window replacements, or unforeseen maintenance expenses i.e. heating system failure which would utilize respective ETF's. For 2018, the computer and office equipment maintenance projects include replacement of the Town Hall and Police Department computer network servers.

A "Yes" vote would raise and appropriate \$35,500 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 Funds potentially causing a significant decline in the balance of that fund and may impede required maintenance projects larger than the day-to-day operations, delay critical updates in IT equipment and software for Town operations, and impair the ability to make cost saving energy upgrades to the Town's facilities. Additionally, insufficient funds in any one of these ETF's may cause additional future negative tax impacts.



**Article 16:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of (\$5,000) for the purposes of funding contributions to Health & Other Agencies i.e. Cornerstone VNA, Strafford County CAP and Homemaker of Strafford County etc., with this sum to come from authorizing the withdrawal of Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000) from the JC Shirley Timber Trust (Trust Fund #28). Said trust established for the purpose to “benefit of the Town of New Durham for such lawful purposes as the Town may direct at its annual meeting.” **Majority Vote Required**

Estimated 2018 Tax Rate Impact: \$ 0.00 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.

YES

NO

This Article is requesting authorization from the legislative body to enable the withdrawal of \$5,000 from the interest on the JC Shirley Timber Trust. The JC Shirley Trust requires such requests for withdrawals to be authorized by the Legislative Body (voters). The requested funds will be utilized to assist with the funding of Health & Other Agencies funding requests for the benefit of New Durham residents. This request follows the requirements of the JC Shirley Trust and is consistent with the intent of the provisions of the will and use of the money from that established Trust.

A “Yes” vote would allow the withdrawal of \$5,000 from the JC Shirley Timber Trust

A “No” vote disallow the withdrawal of any funds from the JC Shirley Timber Trust in 2018 and the loss of revenue will incur additional tax impact with higher taxes to the taxpayer.

**Article 17:** To see if the Town will vote to adopt the provisions of RSA 72:28-b, All Veterans’ Tax Credit? If adopted, the credit will be available to any resident, or the spouse or surviving spouse of any resident who served not less than 90 days on active service in the armed forces of the United States and was honorably discharged or an officer honorably separated from services and is not eligible for or receiving a credit under RSA 72:28 or RSA 72:35. If adopted, the credit granted will be \$500.00 the same amount as the standard or optional veterans’ tax credit voted by the Town of New Durham under RSA 72:28.

**(Majority vote required)**

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

YES

NO

During the 2016 NH Legislative Session, HB430 was passed, resulting in an amendment to RSA 72:28 entitled "72:28-b All Veteran's Tax Credit" effective August 8, 2016. The statute taken directly from the legislature reads as follows:

**72:28-b All Veterans' Tax Credit.**

- I. A town or city may adopt or rescind the all veterans' property tax credit granted under this section by the procedure in RSA 72:27-a.
- II. The credit granted under this section shall be the same as the amount of the standard or optional veterans' tax credit in effect in the town or city under RSA 72:28.
- III. The all veterans' tax credit shall be subtracted each year from the property tax on the veteran's residential property.
- IV. A person shall qualify for the all veterans' tax credit if the person is a resident of this state who served not less than 90 days on active service in the armed forces of the United States and was honorably discharged or an officer honorably separated from service; or the spouse or surviving spouse of such resident, provided that Title 10 training for active duty by a member of a national guard or reserve shall be included as service under this paragraph; provided however that the person is not eligible for and is not receiving a credit under RSA 72:28 or RSA 72:35.

A "Yes" vote would expand the Veterans' Tax Credit benefit as outlined above.

A "No" vote would keep the Veterans' Tax Credit benefit as is and would not expand the benefits as stated above.

**Article 18:** To conduct any other business which may legally come before the Town.

Given under our hands and seal, this 29<sup>th</sup> day of January, in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand Eighteen.

We hereby certify that on this 29th day of January, 2018, 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 W. Swenson, Select Board Chair

Cecile Chase, Select Board Vice Chair

Rodney Doherty, Selectman  
Town of New Durham, NH

## **APPENDIX 1**

The 2018 New Durham Operating Budget with some explanatory detail is presented in Article 8 of this Voter Guide. However, the total New Durham 2018 Budget may also include various Capital Equipment Fund, Expendable Trust Fund and new Capital Reserve and Expendable Trust Funds or expenditures depending on the voter's decisions for Articles 9.

The Voter Guide provides additional detail for each of these Articles. To provide the voter with additional summary information for the 2018 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 2018.

## Comparison of 2018 Proposed Operating Budget Vs. 2018 Default Budget Vs. 2017 Budget

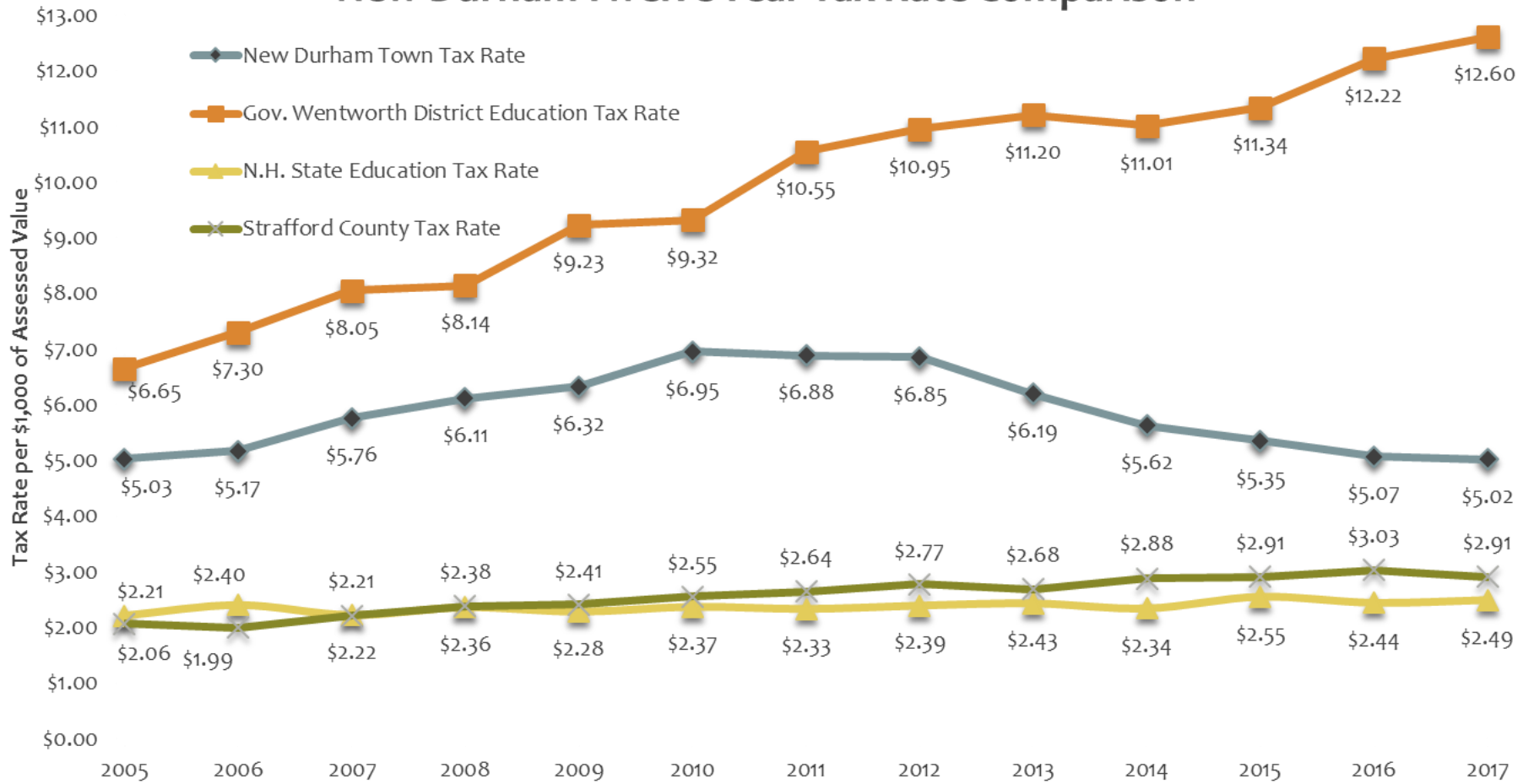
Dept Account #	Dept Acct Name	2017 Budgeted	2018 Dept. Request	BOS	BOS % Diff	17-18 App. \$ Diff	BC	17-18 App. % Diff	17-18 App. \$ Diff	Default
4130	Executive Office	\$222,373	\$198,467	\$197,877	-12.38%	-\$24,496	\$197,877	-12.38%	-\$24,496	\$224,505.00
4140	Elections & Registrations	\$100,072	\$107,894	\$107,641	7.03%	\$7,569	\$107,641	7.03%	\$7,569	\$101,897.00
4150	Financial Administration	\$100,471	\$116,437	\$116,437	13.71%	\$15,966	\$116,437	13.71%	\$15,966	\$100,471.00
4152	Assessing	\$43,705	\$44,328	\$64,392	32.13%	\$20,687	\$64,392	32.13%	\$20,687	\$43,705.00
4153	Legal	\$30,000	\$25,000	\$20,000	-50.00%	-\$10,000	\$20,000	-50.00%	-\$10,000	\$30,000.00
4155	Personnel Administration	\$38,803	\$32,931	\$37,081	-4.64%	-\$1,722	\$37,081	-4.64%	-\$1,722	\$22,638.00
4191	Planning Board	\$3,075	\$5,476	\$5,076	39.42%	\$2,001	\$5,076	39.42%	\$2,001	\$3,075.00
4192	Zoning Board	\$1,001	\$1,351	\$1,351	25.91%	\$350	\$1,351	25.91%	\$350	\$1,001.00
4194	General Govt Buildings	\$27,656	\$36,849	\$26,724	-3.49%	-\$932	\$26,724	-3.49%	-\$932	\$27,656.00
4195	Cemetery	\$4,000	\$9,340	\$8,840	54.75%	\$4,840	\$8,840	54.75%	\$4,840	\$4,000.00
4196	Insurance	\$52,000	\$52,031	\$52,031	0.06%	\$31	\$52,031	0.06%	\$31	\$52,000.00
4199	Other General Govt	\$7,800	\$7,601	\$7,601	-2.62%	-\$199	\$7,601	-2.62%	-\$199	\$7,800.00
4210	Police Dept	\$501,120	\$585,478	\$583,868	14.17%	\$82,748	\$583,868	14.17%	\$82,748	\$521,514.00
4220	Fire Dept	\$220,995	\$238,421	\$224,863	1.72%	\$3,868	\$224,863	1.72%	\$3,868	\$220,995.00
4240	Building Inspector	\$32,070	\$31,426	\$31,426	-2.05%	-\$644	\$31,426	-2.05%	-\$644	\$32,070.00
4290	Emergency Management	\$753	\$1,052	\$1,052	28.42%	\$299	\$1,052	28.42%	\$299	\$753.00
4291	Forrestry	\$13,499	\$13,538	\$13,538	0.29%	\$39	\$13,538	0.29%	\$39	\$13,499.00
4312	Highway Dept	\$829,556	\$854,360	\$854,360	2.90%	\$24,804	\$854,360	2.90%	\$24,804	\$835,983.00
4324	Solid Waste	\$246,392	\$243,388	\$243,388	-1.23%	-\$3,004	\$243,388	-1.23%	-\$3,004	\$246,536.00
4411	Health Officer	\$2,355	\$2,368	\$2,368	0.55%	\$13	\$2,368	0.55%	\$13	\$2,355.00
4415	Other Agencies	\$6,500	\$9,296	\$7,346	11.52%	\$846	\$7,346	11.52%	\$846	\$6,500.00
4441	Welfare	\$12,208	\$12,888	\$12,888	5.28%	\$680	\$12,888	5.28%	\$680	\$12,208.00
4520	Recreation	\$61,182	\$70,862	\$70,862	13.66%	\$9,680	\$70,862	13.66%	\$9,680	\$61,581.00
4583	Town Historian	\$175	\$325	\$325	46.15%	\$150	\$325	46.15%	\$150	\$175.00
4589	Culture and Recreation	\$515	\$7,600	\$5,000	89.70%	\$4,485	\$5,000	89.70%	\$4,485	\$515.00
4612	Conservation	\$1,795	\$1,795	\$1,795	0.00%	\$0	\$1,795	0.00%	\$0	\$1,795.00
4711-4721-4723	BONDS	\$67,733	\$71,200	\$71,200	4.87%	\$3,467	\$71,200	4.87%	\$3,467	\$71,129.00
<b>Sub- Total TOWN OPERATING BUDGET</b>		<b>\$2,627,804</b>	<b>\$2,781,700</b>	<b>\$2,769,330</b>	<b>5.11%</b>	<b>\$141,526</b>	<b>\$2,769,330</b>	<b>5.11%</b>	<b>\$141,526</b>	<b>\$2,646,356</b>
							<b>Library Trustees</b>			
4550	Library	\$123,430	\$129,756	\$129,756	4.88%	\$6,326	\$129,756		\$6,326	\$123,430.00
<b>Total- TOWN OPERATING BUDGET &amp; LIBRARY</b>		<b>\$2,751,234</b>	<b>\$2,911,455</b>	<b>\$2,899,086</b>	<b>5.10%</b>	<b>\$147,852</b>	<b>\$2,899,086</b>	<b>5.10%</b>	<b>\$147,852</b>	<b>\$2,769,786</b>
ROAD MAINT	Article #9	\$330,000	\$628,700	\$381,700	13.54%	\$51,700	\$381,700	13.54%	\$51,700	\$381,700
CRF-ETF	Article #14 & 15	\$235,000	\$236,560	\$268,500	12.48%	\$33,500	\$268,500	12.48%	\$33,500	\$268,500
Capiatl Outlay Projects	Articles #12 & 13	\$14,000		\$36,000	61.11%	\$22,000	\$36,000	61.11%	\$22,000	\$36,000
<b>TOTAL w/ FUNDS</b>		<b>\$3,330,234</b>	<b>\$3,776,715</b>	<b>\$3,585,286</b>	<b>7.11%</b>	<b>\$255,052</b>	<b>\$3,585,286</b>	<b>7.11%</b>	<b>\$255,052</b>	<b>\$3,455,986</b>
<b>REVENUE</b>		<b>\$1,123,670</b>	<b>\$1,721,761</b>	<b>\$1,131,761</b>	<b>0.71%</b>	<b>\$8,091</b>	<b>\$1,131,761</b>	<b>0.71%</b>	<b>\$8,091</b>	<b>\$1,131,761</b>
Taxation		\$2,206,564	\$2,054,954	\$2,453,525	10.07%	\$246,961	\$2,453,525	10.07%	\$246,961	\$2,324,225

**2017 New Durham Property Values – Basis for Tax Rate Impact Calculations**

**\$408,217,101**

# Tax Rate Trends – New Durham

## New Durham Twelve Year Tax Rate Comparison



**END OF  
NEW DURHAM  
2018 VOTER GUIDE**