

Draft Articles for 2024 Warrant

ARTICLE : (Operating budget) 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 for the purposes set forth therein, Fourteen Million Eight Hundred Fourteen Thousand Three Hundred Seventy Dollars (**\$14,814,370**). Should this article be defeated the default budget shall be [REDACTED] which is the same as the last year, with certain adjustments required by previous action of the Town of Conway or by law, or the governing body may hold one special meeting in accordance with RSA 40:13 X and XVI, to take up the issue of a revised operating budget only. NOTE: This operating budget warrant article does not include appropriation contained in ANY other warrant article. **Recommended by the Board of Selectmen (5-0-0). Recommended by the Budget Committee (0-0-0).**

ARTICLE: To see if the town will vote to approve the cost items of a three-year COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT FOR THE CALENDAR YEARS 2024-2026 BETWEEN THE TOWN OF CONWAY AND AFSCME #93, LOCAL 859, DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS which calls for a one-time market adjustment of \$1.00 per hour commencing after the approval of this article. The proposed contract makes changes to the current merit matrix that provides for increases in salaries under the current agreement at the current staffing levels.

Fiscal Year	Estimated Increase
2024	\$43,296
2025	\$64,499
2026	\$64,706

And further to raise and appropriate the sum of Forty-Three Thousand Two Hundred Ninety-six (\$43,296) for the current fiscal year, such sum representing the additional costs attributable to the increase in salaries and benefits required by the new agreement over those that would be paid under the current agreement at current staffing levels. The total compounded cost of the three-year agreement is \$323,590. **Recommended by the Board of Selectmen (5-0-0). Recommended by the Budget Committee (0-0-0).**

ARTICLE: Shall the Town, if article (#) is defeated, authorize the governing body to call one special meeting, at its option, to address article (#) cost items only. **Recommended by the Board of Selectmen (5-0-0). Recommended by the Budget Committee (0-0-0).**

ARTICLE: To see if the town will vote to approve the cost items of a one year COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT FOR THE CALENDAR YEAR 2024 BETWEEN THE TOWN OF CONWAY AND CONWAY POLICE DEPARTMENT which calls for the following increase in salaries and benefits over the costs that would have been paid under the current agreement at the current staffing levels.

Calendar Year	Estimated Increase
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2024

\$68,894

And further to raise and appropriate the sum of Sixty Eight Thousand Eight Hundred Ninety Four Dollars (\$68,894) for the current fiscal year, such sum representing the additional costs attributable to the increase in salaries and benefits required by the new agreement over those that would be paid under the current agreement at current staffing levels.

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen (5-0-0). Recommended by the Budget Committee (0-0-0).

ARTICLE : Shall the Town, if article (#) is defeated, authorize the governing body to call one special meeting, at its option, to address article (#) cost items only. **Recommended by the Board of Selectmen (5-0-0). Recommended by the Budget Committee (0-0-0).**

ARTICLE: (Special – Not included in Budget Appropriation Article #). To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Twelve Thousand Dollars (\$12,000) for the support of **EASTERN SLOPE REGIONAL AIRPORT**. **Recommended by the Board of Selectmen (5-0-0). Recommended by the Budget Committee (0-0-0).**

ARTICLE: (Special – Not included in Budget Appropriation Article #)To see if the Town will vote to amend the **TERMS OF COMPENSATION FOR THE THREE MEMBERS OF THE SUPERVISORS OF THE CHECKLIST** as follows: To increase the Annual Compensation by Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00) each from the current One Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$1,500.00) to Two Thousand Dollars (\$2,000.00) for each Supervisor and include additional compensation of Two Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$250.00) for each Supervisor of the Checklist to be paid for each election held in the Town and fully attended by the Supervisor of the Checklist AND to raise and appropriate the sum of Four Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$4,500.00) to fund this increase for the current fiscal year. In subsequent years this compensation shall be included in the Town’s Operating Budget. **Recommended by the Board of Selectmen (5-0-0). Recommended by the Budget Committee (0-0-0).**

ARTICLE: To see if the Town will vote to increase the **COMPENSATION FOR THE TOWN MODERATOR, ASSISTANT MODERATOR AND/OR MODERATOR PRO TEMPORE** by One Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$150.00) each from the current Fifty Dollars (\$50.00) each to Two Hundred Dollars (\$200.00) each per election, special election and deliberative session held by the Town of Conway for local and state elections AND to raise and appropriate the sum of One Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$1,500.00) to fund this increase for the current fiscal year. In subsequent years this compensation shall be included in the Town’s Operating Budget. **Recommended by the Board of Selectmen (5-0-0). Recommended by the Budget Committee (0-0-0).**

ARTICLE _____ (Non-Monetary) To see if the Town will vote to amend **CHAPTER 72: HOUSING STANDARDS**, to specify minimum life-safety requirements for Dwellings Units and to allow the inspection and licensing of rental Dwelling Units. The proposed Housing Standard amendments shall apply to single occupancy, Duplex, and Multifamily Dwelling Units. This amendment seeks to, (a) specify the requirements to meet Housing Standards as identified in RSA 48-A, (b) the inspection and

certification of rental compliance process for rental units, (c) the rental unit application process and requirements, (d) associated application fees, (e) the waiver and appeals process (f) renewals of rental licenses, (g) applicable definitions. **Recommended by the Board of Selectmen (5-0-0). Recommended by the Budget Committee (0-0-0).**

ARTICLE _____ (Non-Monetary) To see if the Town will vote to adopt **CHAPTER 197: COMMUNITY REVITALIZATION TAX RELIEF INCENTIVE**. Chapter 197 offers a tax relief incentive for the construction of new Affordable Housing to be taxed at the predevelopment assessed value for a maximum of 10 years, or a maximum of 14 years for projects involving the preservation of historic structures. The language specifies, (a) the minimum monetary investment required, (b) the duration of tax relief, (c) the enforced covenant to protect the public benefit of Affordable Housing, (d) penalties and liabilities of the specified tax relief incentive. **Recommended by the Board of Selectmen (5-0-0). Recommended by the Budget Committee (0-0-0).**

ARTICLE: Shall the Town, pursuant to RSA 72:39-a, vote to **MODIFY THE ELDERLY EXEMPTION FROM PROPERTY TAX** based on assessed value for qualified taxpayers to increase the limits and amounts for eligibility as follows:

- Single income limit from \$28,000 to \$30,000
- Married combined income limit from \$37,000 to \$40,000
- For persons 65 years of age up to 75 years (if eligible) From \$75,000 to \$85,000;
- For a person 75 years of age up to 80 years (if eligible) From \$90,000 to \$100,000
- For persons over 80 years of age (if eligible) From 105,000 to \$115,000
- To modify the maximum asset limit for both individual and married persons From \$75,000 to \$85,000
- (excluding the value of the person(s) residence)
- To qualify, the person must satisfy all of the conditions of RSA 72:39-a&b that pertain to eligibility for this exemption as well as those contained in any other applicable statute including without limitation, that they demonstrate that they have been a New Hampshire resident for at least 3 consecutive years, that they own the real estate individually or jointly, or if the real estate is owned by such persons spouse, that they must have been married to each other for at least 5 years, and that they reside at the property as their primary residence.

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen (5-0-0). Recommended by the Budget Committee (0-0-0).

ARTICLE: Shall the Town, pursuant to RSA 72:37-b, vote to **MODIFY THE DISABLED EXEMPTION FROM PROPERTY TAX** based on assessed value for qualified taxpayers to increase the limits and amounts for eligibility as follows:

- Single income limit from \$22,000 to \$24,000
- Married combined income limit from \$28,000 to \$30,000 for persons who meet all qualifications adjust exemption from \$75,000 to \$85,000;

- In addition, the Asset limit will stay the same at \$50,000 (excluding the value of the person(s) residence).
- To qualify, the person must satisfy all of the conditions of RSA 72:37-b that pertain to eligibility for this exemption as well as those contained in any other applicable statute including without limitation, that they demonstrate that they have been a New Hampshire resident for at least 5 consecutive years, that they own the real estate individually or jointly, or if the real estate is owned by such persons spouse, eligible under Title II or Title XVI of the federal Social Security Act, and that they reside at the property as their primary residence.

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen (5-0-0). Recommended by the Budget Committee (0-0-0).

ARTICLE: To see if the Town will vote to establish a **CAPITAL RESERVE FUND FOR THE HEALTH REIMBURSEMENT ARRANGEMENT (HRA)**-to fund the deductible reimbursement of the Town's high deductible health insurance plan under the provisions of RSA 35:1 and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to be the agents to expend in accordance with the purpose of the Fund. And further to see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000) to be placed in the **CAPITAL RESERVE FUND FOR THE HEALTH REIMBURSEMENT ARRANGEMENT (HRA)** to be used according to the purposes for which the fund was established. Said funds are to be withdrawn from the Town's Unassigned Fund Balance. No money will come from taxation. **Recommended by the Board of Selectmen (5-0-0). Recommended by the Budget Committee (0-0-0).**

ARTICLE : (Special – Not included in Budget Appropriation Article #). To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Five Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$500,000) to be placed in the **CAPITAL RESERVE FUND FOR INFRASTRUCTURE RECONSTRUCTION** to be used according to the purposes for which the fund was established. **Recommended by the Board of Selectmen (5-0-0). Recommended by the Budget Committee (0-0-0).**

ARTICLE : (Special – Not included in Budget Appropriation Article #). To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Five Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$500,000) to be placed in the **CAPITAL RESERVE FUND FOR HIGHWAY EQUIPMENT** to be used according to the purposes for which the fund was established. **Recommended by the Board of Selectmen (5-0-0). Recommended by the Budget Committee (0-0-0).**

ARTICLE : (Special – Not included in Budget Appropriation Article #). To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Two Hundred Twenty-Five Thousand (\$225,000) to be placed in the **CAPITAL RESERVE FUND FOR SOLID WASTE EQUIPMENT** to be used according to the purposes for which the fund was established. **Recommended by the Board of Selectmen (5-0-0). Recommended by the Budget Committee (0-0-0).**

ARTICLE : (Special – Not included in Budget Appropriation Article #). To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Two Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$200,000) to be placed in the **CAPITAL RESERVE FUND FOR LANDFILL EXPANSION** to be used according to the purposes for which the fund was established. **Recommended by the Board of Selectmen (5-0-0). Recommended by the Budget Committee (0-0-0).**

ARTICLE: (Special – Not included in Budget Appropriation Article #). To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Two Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$200,000) to be placed in the **CAPITAL RESERVE FUND FOR MAINTENANCE OF TOWN BUILDINGS AND FACILITIES** to be used according to the purposes for which the fund was established. **Recommended by the Board of Selectmen (0-0-0). Recommended by the Budget Committee (0-0-0).**

ARTICLE : (Special – Not included in Budget Appropriation Article #). To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Seventy-Five Thousand Dollars (\$75,000) to be placed in the **CAPITAL RESERVE FUND FOR MAINTENANCE OF BUILDINGS AND FACILITIES LEASED BY THE TOWN** to be used according to the purposes for which the fund was established. **Recommended by the Board of Selectmen (5-0-0). Recommended by the Budget Committee (0-0-0).**

ARTICLE : (Special – not included in Budget Appropriation Article #). To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Forty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$45,000) to be placed in the **CAPITAL RESERVE FUND FOR PARKS DEPARTMENT VEHICLES AND EQUIPMENT** to be used according to the purposes for which the fund was established. **Recommended by the Board of Selectmen (5-0-0). Recommended by the Budget Committee (0-0-0).**

ARTICLE : (Special – not included in Budget Appropriation Article #). To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Eighty Thousand Dollars (\$80,000) to be placed in the **CAPITAL RESERVE FUND FOR POLICE VEHICLES** to be used according to the purposes for which the fund was established. **Recommended by the Board of Selectmen (5-0-0). Recommended by the Budget Committee (0-0-0).**

ARTICLE : (Special – not included in Budget Appropriation Article #). To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of One Hundred Twenty Six Thousand Dollars (\$126,000) from the annual cable television franchise fees received to add to the **PUBLIC EDUCATIONAL / GOVERNMENT CABLE TELEVISION (PEG) TRUST FUND**, to support the operations and equipment needs of Public Education and Government broadcasting services. No funds shall be raised by local property taxes to support this Warrant Article. **Recommended by the Board of Selectmen (5-0-0). Recommended by the Budget Committee (0-0-0).**

ARTICLE : (Special – not included in Budget Appropriation Article #). To see if the Town will adopt the provisions of Chapter 149-I of NH RSAs, as it pertains to Sewers, to enable the Town and Selectboard to operate and maintain the sewer system and also the sewer department that will become part of the Department of Public Works on January 1, 2025. **Recommended by the Board of Selectmen (5-0-0). Recommended by the Budget Committee (0-0-0).**

ARTICLE : (Special – not included in Budget Appropriation Article #). To see if the Town will adopt the provisions of Chapter 38 of NH RSAs as it pertains to water, to enable the Town and Selectboard to acquire, operate, and maintain the existing Conway Village Fire District plant for water and also the water department that will become part of the Department of Public Works on January 1, 2025. **Recommended by the Board of Selectmen (5-0-0). Recommended by the Budget Committee (0-0-0).**

ARTICLE : (Special – not included in Budget Appropriation Article #). To see if the Town will vote to create the Conway Water System Improvement and Maintenance Capital Reserve Trust Fund, effective January 1, 2025, by accepting and utilizing the remaining balance as of the effective date in the existing

Conway Village Fire District trust fund created for such purpose, and to name the Board of Selectmen Agents to Expend from said Trust Fund for the purpose that it was originally intended by the Conway Village Fire District: water system improvements and maintenance. (This article is not an article to raise and appropriate any new funds.) (Balance of Trust Fund as of 12/31/2023 \$111,477.54) **Recommended by the Board of Selectmen (5-0-0). Recommended by the Budget Committee (0-0-0).**

ARTICLE : (Special – not included in Budget Appropriation Article #). To see if the Town will vote to create the Conway Sewer Projects and Maintenance Expendable Trust Fund, effective January 1, 2025, by accepting and utilizing the remaining balance as of the effective date in the existing Conway Village Fire District trust fund created for such purpose, and to name the Board of Selectmen Agents to Expend from said Trust Fund for the purpose that it was originally intended by the Conway Village Fire District: sewer projects and maintenance not related to the Force Main Project. (This article is not an article to raise and appropriate any new funds.) (Balance of Trust Fund as of 12/31/2023 \$98,681.77) **Recommended by the Board of Selectmen (5-0-0). Recommended by the Budget Committee (0-0-0).**

ARTICLE : (Special – not included in Budget Appropriation Article #). To see if the Town will vote to create the Conway Sewer Debt Expendable Trust Fund, effective January 1, 2025, by accepting and utilizing the remaining balance as of the effective date in the existing Conway Village Fire District trust fund created for such purpose, and to name the Board of Selectmen Agents to Expend from said Trust Fund for the purpose that it was originally intended by the Conway Village Fire District: Phase I & II debt off-set. (This article is not an article to raise and appropriate any new funds.) (Balance of Trust Fund as of 12/31/2023 \$392,257.66) **Recommended by the Board of Selectmen (5-0-0). Recommended by the Budget Committee (0-0-0).**

ARTICLE : (Special – not included in Budget Appropriation Article #). To see if the Town will vote to create the Conway Force Main Asset Replacement Expendable Trust Fund, effective January 1, 2025, by accepting and utilizing the remaining balance as of the effective date in the existing Conway Village Fire District trust fund created for such purpose, and to name the Board of Selectmen Agents to Expend from said Trust Fund for the purpose that it was originally intended by the Conway Village Fire District: Short Term Asset Replacement related to the Force Main project. (This article is not an article to raise and appropriate any new funds.) (Balance of Trust Fund as of 12/31/2023 \$150,929.01) **Recommended by the Board of Selectmen (5-0-0). Recommended by the Budget Committee (0-0-0).**

ARTICLE : (Special – not included in Budget Appropriation Article #). To see if the Town will vote to create the Conway Water & Sewer Equipment Capital Reserve Trust Fund, effective January 1, 2025, by accepting and utilizing the remaining balance as of the effective date in the existing Conway Village Fire District trust fund created for such purpose, and to name the Board of Selectmen Agents to Expend from said Trust Fund for the purpose that it was originally intended by the Conway Village Fire District: purchasing water and sewer equipment. (This article is not an article to raise and appropriate any new funds.) (Balance of Trust Fund as of 12/31/2023 \$149,047.39) **Recommended by the Board of Selectmen (5-0-0). Recommended by the Budget Committee (0-0-0).**

ARTICLE : (Special – not included in Budget Appropriation Article #). To see if the Town will vote to create the Conway Fire & Rescue Capital Reserve Trust Fund, effective January 1, 2025, by accepting and utilizing the remaining balance as of the effective date in the existing Conway Village Fire

District trust fund created for such purpose, and to name the Board of Selectmen Agents to Expend from said Trust Fund for the purpose that it was originally intended by the Conway Village Fire District: purchasing fire/rescue equipment. (This article is not an article to raise and appropriate any new funds.) (Balance of Trust Fund as of 12/31/2023 \$281,701.35) **Recommended by the Board of Selectmen (5-0-0). Recommended by the Budget Committee (0-0-0).**

ARTICLE : (Special – not included in Budget Appropriation Article #). To see if the Town will vote to create the Conway Ambulance Capital Reserve Trust Fund, effective January 1, 2025, by accepting and utilizing the remaining balance as of the effective date in the existing Conway Village Fire District trust fund created for such purpose, and to name the Board of Selectmen Agents to Expend from said Trust Fund for the purpose that it was originally intended by the Conway Village Fire District: purchasing, repairing, rehabilitating, and remounting ambulances. (This article is not an article to raise and appropriate any new funds.) (Balance of Trust Fund as of 12/31/2023 \$141,343.58) **Recommended by the Board of Selectmen (5-0-0). Recommended by the Budget Committee (0-0-0).**

ARTICLE : Shall the Town re-adopt the **“ALL VETERANS” PROPERTY TAX CREDIT UNDER RSA 72:28-B.** If amended the tax credit will change from \$500 to \$750. It will be available to any resident, or the spouse of any resident, who (a) served no less than 90 days on active service in the armed forces of the United States and was honorably discharged or was an officer honorably separated from service, or an officer who continues to serve or the spouse or surviving spouse of such resident, provided that training for active duty or state active duty by a member of the national guard or reserve shall be included as service under this paragraph and (b) is not eligible for and not receiving the credit for veterans who served in a qualifying war or armed conflict or for veterans with a service-connected disability. If amended the credit will be in the amount of \$750, which is the same amount as the credit for a veteran who served in a qualifying war or armed conflict. If the credit is amended, any person desiring to claim the credit will be required to file an application with the assessors by April 15 of the tax year. This article shall take effect for the 2024 tax year. Submitted by the Assessor. **Recommended by the Board of Selectmen (5-0-0). Recommended by the Budget Committee (0-0-0).**

ARTICLE: Shall the Town amend the **“OPTIONAL VETERAN” PROPERTY TAX CREDIT UNDER RSA 72:28**

72:28 Standard and Optional Veterans' Tax Credit. –

If amended the optional veteran’s tax credit will be available to every resident of this state who is (a) a veteran, as defined in RSA 21:50, and served not less than 90 days on active service in the armed forces of the United States in any qualifying war or armed conflict listed in this section, and continues to serve or was honorably discharged or an officer who continues to serve or was honorably separated from service; or the spouse or surviving spouse of such resident, provided that training for active duty by a member of the national guard or reserve shall be included as service under this subparagraph;

Every resident of this state who was terminated from the armed forces because of service-connected disability; or the surviving spouse of such resident; and

(c) The surviving spouse of any resident who suffered a service-connected death.

V. Service in a qualifying war or armed conflict shall be as follows:

(a) "World War I" between April 6, 1917 and November 11, 1918, extended to April 1, 1920 for service in Russia; provided that military or naval service on or after November 12, 1918 and before July 2, 1921, where there was prior service between April 6, 1917 and November 11, 1918 shall be considered as World War I service;

(b) "World War II" between December 7, 1941 and December 31, 1946;

- (c) "Korean Conflict" between June 25, 1950 and January 31, 1955;
- (d) "Vietnam Conflict" between December 22, 1961 and May 7, 1975;
- (e) "Vietnam Conflict" between July 1, 1958 and December 22, 1961, if the resident earned the Vietnam service medal or the armed forces expeditionary medal;
- (f) "Persian Gulf War" between August 2, 1990 and the date thereafter prescribed by Presidential proclamation or by law; and
- (g) Any other war or armed conflict that has occurred since May 8, 1975, and in which the resident earned an armed forces expeditionary medal or theater of operations service medal.

If amended the credit will be in the **amount of \$750**, the optional veterans' tax credit shall be subtracted each year from the property tax on the veteran's residential property. However, the surviving spouse of a resident who suffered a service-connected death may have the amount subtracted from the property tax on any real property in the same municipality where the surviving spouse is a resident. If the credit is amended, any person desiring to claim the credit will be required to file an application with the assessors by April 15 of the tax year. If amended, this article shall take effect for the 2024 tax year. Submitted by the Assessor. **Recommended by the Board of Selectmen (5-0-0). Recommended by the Budget Committee (0-0-0).**