

Town of Nelson  
New Hampshire  
Warrant and Budget  
2016

To the inhabitants of the town of Nelson in the County of Cheshire in the state of New Hampshire qualified to vote in town affairs are hereby notified and warned of the Annual Town Meeting will be held as follows:

Date: Tuesday, March 8, 2016  
Time: 7:00 PM  
Location: Nelson Town Hall  
Details: Polls will open at 11:00 AM and close at 7:00 PM  
Business Meeting will start at 7:00 PM

**Article 01: Choose necessary Town Officers for the year ensuing**

To Choose necessary Town Officers for the year ensuing.

This article appears on the Official Ballot.

**Article 02: Hold 2 sessions for the Annual Town Meeting**

To see if the Town will vote to approve having 2 sessions for the annual town meeting in this town, the first session for choice of town officers elected by an official ballot and other action required to be inserted on said official ballot and the second session, on a date set by the selectmen, for transaction of other business. The Selectmen recommend this article 3-0.

This article appears on the Official Ballot.

**Article 03: Amend Zoning Ordinance**

To see if the Town will vote to amend the Zoning Ordinances by changing Article 3:2 as follows:

From: 3:2 There shall be a minimum of 50 foot setback of any structure from the Street Line.

To: 3:2a There shall be a minimum of 50 foot setback of any structure from the Street Line.

3:2b Fences and retaining walls shall be set back behind the Street Line as defined in Article 14

3:2c No fences or retaining walls shall be constructed in such a way as to block sight lines along any town road so as to create a hazard for the passage of pedestrians and/or vehicles.

The Selectmen recommend this article 3-0.

This article appears on the Official Ballot.

#### **Article 04: Amend Zoning Ordinance**

To see if the Town will vote to amend the Zoning Ordinances by changing Article 5:1.2 as follows:

From: 5:1.2 Exclusions: Dog houses, garden sheds, or other utilitarian structures less than 100 square feet shall not require a building permit, however such structures must abide by the setback requirements defined in this ordinance.

To: 5:1.2 Exclusions: Detached structures such as dog houses, garden sheds, or other utilitarian structures, not used for dwelling, having an area of less than 100 square feet, shall not require a building permit, however such structures must abide by the setback requirement defined in this ordinance.

The Selectmen recommend this article 3-0.

This article appears on the Official Ballot.

#### **Article 05: To defray the Town charges for the year ensuing**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$535,951 for general municipal operations for the year ensuing. This article has offsetting funds in the amount of \$55,376 to be expended toward principal payments for the Library Lower Level and Town Hall debt service, said funds to be transferred from the Library Renovation Expendable Reserve account (\$17,745), the Town Hall Renovation Expendable Reserve account (\$10,407), and the Library and/or Town Hall Expendable Reserve account (\$27,224) created from private donations for that purpose. This article has anticipated additional offsetting revenue of \$178,810. The Selectmen recommend this appropriation 3-0.

#### **Article 06: Support of Town Library**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$35,257 for the support of the Town library, \$27,306 to be raised by taxes and \$7,951 to come from Library Memorial Funds, gifts, grants, and other sources. The Selectmen recommend this appropriation 3-0.

#### **Article 07: Purchase and installation of Utility Shed**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$8,000 for the purchase and installation of a new utility shed to be used for the storage of Town owned equipment, tools, and supplies used by the Sexton. The Selectmen recommend this appropriation 3-0.

#### **Article 08: Funding of various social service agencies which provide assistance to Nelson residents**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$5,061 for support of social service agencies which provide assistance to Nelson residents. The agencies chosen to receive funds are: American Red Cross (\$350), The Community Kitchen Inc. (\$1,000), Home Health Care Service (\$550), Meals on Wheels (\$250), Monadnock Family Services (\$911), Southwestern Community Services (\$500), Monadnock Region Child Advocacy Center (\$1,000), and Casa for Children (\$500). In 2015, \$5,216 was paid in support of these social service agencies and Nelson residents were provided over \$54,555 in food, services and direct assistance. The Selectmen recommend these appropriations 3-0.

#### **Article 09: Repair, clean and restore damaged headstones in Nelson and Munsonville Cemeteries**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$15,000 to repair, clean and restore damaged headstones in the Nelson and Munsonville cemeteries. The Selectmen recommend this appropriation 3-0.

**Article 10: Purchase and installation of Solar PV for the Library roof**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$35,000 for the purchase and installation of a grid-tied solar photovoltaic system to be installed on the south facing roof of the Olivia Rodham Memorial Library. The Selectmen recommend this appropriation 3-0.

**Article 11: Add funds to Town Buildings Capital Reserve Fund**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$25,000 to be added to the Town Buildings Capital Reserve Fund previously established. No withdrawals may be made from the fund except by vote of the town. The Town Buildings Capital Reserve Fund balance as of 12/31/2015 was approximately \$33,140. The Selectmen Recommend this appropriation 3-0.

**Article 12: Authorize Conservation Commission to expend funds to “Qualified Organizations”**

To see if the Town will vote to adopt the provisions of RSA 36-A:4-a I (b) to authorize the Conservation Commission to expend funds for contributions to "qualified organizations" for the purchase of property interests, or facilitating transactions related thereto, where the property interest is to be held by the qualified organization and the town will retain no interest in the property. The Selectmen do not recommend this article 3-0.

**Article 13: Add funds to Milfoil Prevention Expendable Trust Fund**

To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$5,000 to be added to the Milfoil Prevention Expendable Trust Fund previously established. The fund balance as of 12/31/2015 was approximately \$26,420. The Selectmen recommend this appropriation 3-0.

**Article 14: Create an irrevocable Expendable Trust for Conservation Commission**

To see if the Town will vote to create an irrevocable Expendable Trust Fund under the provisions of RSA 31:19-a, to be known as The Nelson Conservation Commission Irrevocable Expendable Trust Fund for the purpose of funding costs associated with the acquisition, care, maintenance, protection, improvement, and/or public use of Conservation/recreational land in the Town of Nelson, to raise and appropriate the sum of \$100,000 to be placed into said fund, said funds being a portion of the grant received from the Land and Water Conservation Fund Program exclusively for these purposes. Furthermore, to name the Conservation Commission as agents to expend. The Selectmen recommend this article 3-0.

**Article 15: Support of the 250th Celebration Committee**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,000 for the proper expenses of the 250th Celebration Committee appointed by the Selectmen in 2015. Expenses may include all costs associated with planning and preparing for the celebration including commissioning commemorative items for public purchase. The Selectmen recommend this article 3-0.

#### **Article 16: Operating Budget for the Fire Department**

To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$88,077 for the proper expenses of the Fire Department and Rescue Squad. The Selectmen recommend this appropriation 3-0.

#### **Article 17: Funding for fighting forest fires with anticipated reimbursement**

To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$500 for the purpose of fighting forest fires. This sum to come as reimbursement from the NH State Fire Warden and no amount will be raised through taxation. The Selectmen recommend this appropriation 3-0.

#### **Article 18: Add funds to Fire Equipment Capital Reserve Fund**

To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$50,000 to be added to the Fire Equipment Capital Reserve Fund previously established for the purpose of Fire Apparatus purchases for the Fire Department. No withdrawals may be made from this Fund except by vote of the Town and upon recommendation of the Fire Chief. The Fire Equipment Capital Reserve Fund balance as of 12/31/2015 was approximately \$116,973. The Selectmen recommend \$25,000 for this appropriation 3-0.

#### **Article 19: Purchase and installation of 3 dry hydrants (2 new and 1 replacement)**

To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$15,000 for the purchase and installation of 3 Dry Hydrants (2 new and 1 replacement). The Selectmen recommend this appropriation 3-0.

#### **Article 20: Purchase of Forest Firefighting equipment**

To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$2,500 for the purchase of Forest Firefighting equipment. The Selectmen recommend this appropriation 3-0.

#### **Article 21: Proper expenses of the Emergency Management Department**

To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$4,000 for the proper expenses of the Emergency Management Department. The Selectmen recommend this article 3-0.

#### **Article 22: Proper expenses of the Health Officer**

To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$300 to fund the proper expenses of the Nelson Health Officer. The Selectmen recommend this article 3-0.

#### **Article 23: Proper expenses of the Police Department**

To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$60,400 for the proper expenses of the Police Department. The Selectmen recommend this appropriation 3-0.

**Article 24: Add funds to Police Equipment Capital Reserve Fund**

To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$5,000 to be added to the Police Equipment Capital reserve fund previously established. No withdrawals may be made from this fund except by vote of the Town and with the recommendation of the Police Chief. The Police Equipment Capital Reserve Fund balance as of 12/31/2015 was approximately \$5,172.

The Selectmen recommend this appropriation 3-0.

**Article 25: Fund special patrols or details performed by the Nelson Police Department**

To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$4,000 for the purpose of patrols or details performed by the Nelson Police Department for the State of New Hampshire, Cheshire County Sheriff's Department, other municipalities or authorized private entities. The total sum to come from offsetting grants and/or revenues received for said patrols and details and no amount to be raised through taxation. The Police Chief recommends this appropriation. The Selectmen recommend this appropriation 3-0.

**Article 26: Proper Expenses for maintenance of Highways and Bridges**

To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$297,700 for the proper expenses for maintenance of highways and bridges for the ensuing year. \$32,000 anticipated revenue coming during 2016 from Highway Block Grant Aid. The Selectmen recommend this appropriation 3-0.

**Article 27: Establish Expendable Trust Fund per RSA 31:19-a for Bridge Repair or Replacement**

To see if the town will vote to establish a Nelson Bridge Repair or Replacement Expendable Trust Fund per RSA 31:19-a, for the purpose of funding extensive repairs or replacement of bridges in the Town of Nelson and to raise and appropriate \$15,000 to be put into the fund, with this amount to come from taxes; further to name the Selectmen as agents to expend from said fund. The Selectmen recommend this article 3-0.

**Article 28: Add funds to Highway Equipment Capital Reserve Fund**

To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$25,000 to be added to the Road Equipment Capital Reserve Fund previously established. No withdrawals may be made from this fund except by vote of the Town upon recommendation of the Road Equipment Committee. The Road Equipment Capital Reserve Fund balance as of 12/31/2015 was approximately \$101,808. The Selectmen recommend this appropriation 3-0.

**Article 29: Establish Emergency Highway Equipment Expendable Trust Fund naming Selectmen as agents to expend with conditions**

To see if the town will vote to establish an Emergency Expendable Trust Fund per RSA 31:19-a, for the purpose of funding emergency extensive repairs to Town Highway Equipment not sufficiently provided for in the general budget. Further, to raise and appropriate \$10,000 to be put into the fund, with this amount to come from taxes; further to name the Selectmen as agents to expend from said fund upon receiving majority agreement of the Selectmen, Road Agent, and Highway Equipment Committee at a duly posted public meeting.

The Selectmen recommend this article 3-0.

