

**WARRANT FOR THE ANNUAL TOWN MEETING
STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE**

GRAFTON, SS

TOWN OF LYME

To the inhabitants of the Town of Lyme, New Hampshire, who are qualified to vote in Town affairs:

You are hereby notified that the official polls of the Town of Lyme, New Hampshire, will be held at the Lyme Community room/Gymnasium in the Lyme School on Tuesday, March 12th, 2024, at 9:00 AM, to act upon the following subjects:

Polls will open for voting by ballot on Article 1 on Tuesday, March 12th, 2024, at **7:00 AM and will close at 7:00 PM**, unless the Town votes to keep the polls open to a later hour.

ELECTION OF OFFICIALS

ARTICLE 1. To vote by non-partisan ballot for the following Town Officials:

Budget Committee-2 Committee members
Cemetery Commission-1 Commissioner
Library Trustees-3 Trustees
Overseer of Public Welfare-1 Overseer
Planning Board-1 Member
Select Board- 1 Member
Supervisor of Checklist-1 Supervisor
Town Clerk-1 Clerk
Town Moderator-1 Moderator
Trustee of Trust Funds-1 Trustee

**ZONING ARTICLES
COMING
WARRANT ARTICLE # 2**

ARTICLE 2.

TOWN OPERATING BUDGET

ARTICLE 3 . To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of two million eight hundred twenty one thousand four hundred ninty four dollars (**\$2,821,494**) which represents the operating budget as recommended by the Budget Committee.

Said sum does not include appropriations contained in any other warrant articles.

(Majority vote required.) (Recommended by the Select Board by a vote of 3-0.) (Recommended by the Budget Committee by a vote of 10-0.) (To be raised by taxation.)

TO CAPITAL RESERVE FUNDS AND TRUST FUNDS

ARTICLE 4. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate four hundred ten thousand dollars (**\$410,000**) to be added to the following Capital Reserve and Expendable Trust Funds previously established for the purposes for which they were created.

Capital Reserve Funds:

Vehicle Capital Reserve Fund	\$250,000
Heavy Equipment Capital Reserve Fund	\$30,000
Property Reappraisal Capital Reserve Fund	\$5,000
Class V Roads Rehab Capital Reserve Fund	\$5,000
Public Works Facility Capital Reserve Fund	\$80,000
Computer System Upgrade Capital Reserve Fund	\$5,000
Fire Fighting Safety Equipment Capital Reserve Fund	\$20,000
Recreation Facilities Capital Reserve Fund	<u>\$5,000</u>
Capital Reserve Funds Subtotal:	\$400,000

Expendable Trust Funds:

Town Poor Expendable Trust Fund	\$10,000
Expendable Trust Funds total:	\$10,000

Capital Reserve Funds and Expendable Trust Funds Total: \$410,000

These appropriations are **not** included in the total town operating budget warrant article as approved by the Budget Committee. (Majority vote required.) (Recommended by the Select Board by a vote of 3-0.) (Recommended by the Budget Committee by a vote of 10-0.) (To be raised by taxation.)

REPAIRS TO THE EDGELL BRIDGE

ARTICLE 5. To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of six hundred ninety thousand dollars (**\$690,000**) for the purpose of repairing the Edgell Bridge and to fund this appropriation as follows: the withdrawal of **\$250,000** from the Bridge Capital Reserve Fund, **\$188,589** from the unexpended fund balance (which represents \$100,000 in donations received to date as well as \$88,589 in state bridge grant funds); **\$190,000** from taxation, and the balance of **\$61,411** to be raised by additional donations. Should donations above that amount be received, they will be used to lower the amount raised from taxation. (Recommended by the Select Board by a vote of 3-0.) (Recommended by the Budget Committee by a vote of 10-0.) (Some funds to be raised by taxation.)

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE BLOCK GRANT APPROPRIATION

ARTICLE 6. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of ninety-five thousand dollars (**\$95,000**) for the purpose of maintenance, construction and reconstruction of Class IV & V highways with \$95,000 anticipated to come from the State of New Hampshire Block Grant. Said sum does **not** include appropriations contained in any other warrant articles. (Majority vote required.) (Recommended by the Select Board by a vote of 3-0.) (Recommended by the Budget Committee by a vote of 10-0.) (No amount to be raised by taxation.)

WITHDRAWAL FROM THE PUBLIC WORKS FACILITY CAPITAL RESERVE FUND

ARTICLE 7. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of eighty one thousand seven hundred seventeen dollars (**\$81,717**) for the annual payment on the Fire Station, the purchase of which was authorized in 2020; and further to authorize the withdrawal of this amount from the Public Works Facility Capital Reserve Fund.

This appropriation is **not** included in the total town operating budget warrant article as approved by the Budget Committee. (Majority vote required.) (Recommended by the Select Board by a vote of 3-0.) (Recommended by the Budget Committee by a vote of 10-0.) (No amount to be raised by taxation.)

WITHDRAWAL FROM VEHICLE CAPITAL RESERVE FUND

ARTICLE 8. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of eighty two thousand two hundred fifty two dollars (**\$82,252**) for the annual payment on the Fire Truck, the purchase of which was authorized in 2019; and further to authorize the withdrawal of this amount from the Vehicle Capital Reserve Fund. The purchase agreement does not contain an escape clause.

This appropriation is **not** included in the total town operating budget warrant article as approved by the Budget Committee. (Majority vote required.)(Recommended by the Select Board by a vote of 3-0.) (Recommended by the Budget Committee by a vote of 10-0.) (No amount to be raised by taxation.)

WITHDRAWAL FROM HEAVY EQUIPMENT CAPITAL RESERVE FUND

ARTICLE 9. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of one hundred forty four thousand dollars (**\$144,000**) for the purchase of a backhoe as a highway work vehicle and to fund this appropriation by authorizing the withdrawal of such funds from the Heavey Equipment Capital Reserve Fund. This appropriation is **not** included in the total town operating budget warrant article as approved by the Budget Committee. (Majority vote required.) (Recommended by the Select Board by a vote of 3-0.) (Recommended by the Budget Committee by a vote of 10-0.) (No amount to be raised by taxation.)

DISCONTINUE A CLASS VI SECTION BETWEEN SHOESTRAP ROAD AND MAPLE LANE

ARTICLE 10. To see if the town will vote, pursuant to RSA 231:43, to completely discontinue the section of Shoestrap Road that was made subject to gates and bars in 2007, specifically, a small portion of Shoestrap Road of approximately one thousand four hundred fifteen feet (1,415') in length (located approximately one thousand three hundred forty-five feet (1,345') east of River Road to three thousand, one hundred sixty-five feet (3,165') west of Dartmouth College Highway). If passed, the public will no longer have any rights to use the road for any purposes, however, no owner of land shall, without the owner's written consent, be deprived of access over such highway, at such owner's own risk. (Majority vote required.) (Recommended by the Select Board by a vote of 3-0.) (No amount to be raised by taxation.)

***INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATION
SPECIAL REVENUE FUND***

ARTICLE 11 . To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of six thousand seven hundred forty seven dollars (**\$6,747.00**) to sponsor an Independence Day celebration, including but not limited to a parade, picnic, music and family fun and to fund this appropriation by authorizing withdrawal of that sum from the Independence Day Celebration Special Revenue Fund established for this purpose at the 2003 Town Meeting. This appropriation is **not** included in the total town operating budget warrant article as approved by the Budget Committee. (Majority vote required.) (Recommended by the Select Board by a vote of 3-0.) (Recommended by the Budget Committee by a vote of 10-0.) (No amount to be raised by taxation.)

MILFOIL TREATMENT FOR POST POND

ARTICLE 12. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of thirty seven thousand fourty five dollars (**\$37,045**) for milfoil treatment of Post Pond, with eighteen thousand five hundred and twenty three dollars (**\$18,523**) to be funded through a grant from the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services; nine thousand and eighty seven dollars (**\$9,087**) to come from the Unassigned Fund Balance and nine thousand four hunred and thirty five dollars (**\$9,435**) to be funded by the

withdrawal of this amount from the Conservation Fund. This will be a non-lapsing appropriation per RSA 32:7, VI and will not lapse until the milfoil problem is resolved or by December 31, 2027, whichever is sooner.

This appropriation is **not** included in the total town operating budget warrant article as approved by the Budget Committee. (Majority vote required.) (Recommended by the Select Board by a vote of 3-0.) (Recommended by the Budget Committee by a vote of 10-0.) (No amount to be raised by taxation.)

WITHDRAWAL FROM THE CEMETERY MAINTENANCE GIFTS AND DONATIONS FUND

ARTICLE 13. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of fifteen thousand nine hundred ninety-one dollars (**\$15,991**) to be used towards funding maintenance of the Town Cemeteries and to authorize funding this appropriation by the withdrawal of such sum from the Cemetery Maintenance Gifts and Donations Fund (established by the Select Board on January 5, 2000).

This appropriation is **not** included in the total town operating budget warrant article as approved by the Budget Committee. (Majority vote required.) (Recommended by the Select Board by a vote of 3-0) (Recommended by the Budget Committee by a vote of 10-0.) (No amount to be raised by taxation.)

STANDARD AND OPTIONAL VETERANS' TAX CREDIT (RSA 72:28)

ARTICLE 14. Shall the town vote to readopt the provisions of RSA 72:28, Optional Veterans' Tax Credit? If readopted, the credit will apply to every resident of this state who is any person who is 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; (b) 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. If adopted, the credit granted will be \$500.00, which is the amount adopted by the town in 2023 (Majority vote required.) (Recommended by the Select Board by a vote of 3-0) (No amount to be raised by taxation.)

NOTE: This article is required because the legislature expanded the eligibility criteria for this credit to include individuals who have not yet been discharged from service in the armed forces.

ALL VETERANS' TAX CREDIT (RSA 72:28-b)

ARTICLE 15. Shall the Town vote to readopt the provisions of RSA 72:28-b, All Veteran's Tax Credit? If readopted, the credit will be available to any resident who is 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 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 or state active duty by a member of the 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. If adopted, the credit granted will be \$500.00, the same amount as the optional veterans' tax credit voted by the Town under RSA 72:28. (Majority vote required.) (Recommended by the Select Board by a vote of 3-0) (No amount to be raised by taxation.)

NOTE: This article is required because the legislature expanded the eligibility criteria for this credit to include individuals who have not yet been discharged from service in the armed forces.

LYME COMMUNITY POWER ELECTRIC AGGREGATION PLAN

ARTICLE 16. “To see if the Town will vote to adopt the Lyme Community Power Electric Aggregation Plan, finalized January 12, 2024 by the Lyme Electrical Aggregation Committee and to further authorize the Select Board to develop and implement Lyme Community Power, and to take all action in furtherance thereof, pursuant to New Hampshire Statute Section 53-E. (Majority vote required.) (Recommended by the Select Board by a vote of 3-0.) (Recommended by the Energy Committee by a vote of 5-0.) (No amount to be raised by taxation.)

REPORTS OF AGENTS, AUDITORS & COMMITTEES

ARTICLE 17. To hear reports of Agents, Auditors, or Committees or other officers heretofore chosen, and to pass any vote relating thereto. (Majority vote required)

OTHER BUSINESS

ARTICLE 18. To transact any other business that may be legally brought before this Town Meeting.

Given under our hands and seal of the Town of Lyme this 9th day of February 2023.

Town of Lyme

Select Board

Judith Brotman, Chair

Benjamin Kilham

David Kahn

Recording of Warrant:

This Warrant and return of Warrant has been duly recorded in the Office of the Town Clerk of Lyme, New Hampshire, this 13th day of February 2023.

Patricia G. Jenks, Town Clerk