

**DRAFT WARRANT**  
**FEBRUARY 8, 2024 REVIEW**

*To the inhabitants of the Town of New London in the County of Merrimack and State of New Hampshire, qualified to vote in town affairs:*

**You are hereby notified to meet at the Whipple Memorial Town Hall in New London on Tuesday, March 12, 2024, at 7:00 in the forenoon to act upon the subjects below. By law, the meeting must open before voting starts. Therefore, the meeting and polls will open at 7:00 AM for the consideration of Article 1. At 8:00 in the forenoon, the meeting will recess and the polls will remain open until 7:00 PM. The meeting will reconvene at the Kearsarge Learning Campus Gymnasium in New London on Wednesday, March 13, 2024 at 7:00 PM to act upon Articles 2 -25.**

**ARTICLE 1**

**A.** To choose by ballot all necessary Town Officers for the ensuing year:

1 Selectman	(3-year term)	1 Trustee of Trust Funds	(3-year term)
1 Town Clerk	(3-year term)	3 Budget Committee	(3-year term)
1 Treasurer	(3-year term)	1 Cemetery Commissioner	(3-year term)
1 Moderator	(2-year term)	3 Library Trustees	(3-year term)
1 Supervisor of the Checklist	(6-year term)		

**B.** To vote by ballot on the following amendments to the New London Zoning Ordinance:

1. Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 1 as proposed by the Planning Board for the New London Zoning Ordinance? YES  NO

The Planning Board proposes to amend Article XVIII, Cluster Development. The amendment is intended to allow for small-scale cluster development to in-fill on lots smaller than 5 acres that minimize the environmental impacts of development while maintaining the density allowed by the underlying zone district. As such, the amendment proposes deletion of provision B. General Requirements, 1. Minimum Cluster Size. The amendment reduces the required buffer in the Urban Residential (R-1) to 50 feet.

2. Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 2 as proposed by the Planning Board for the New London Zoning Ordinance? YES  NO

The Planning Board proposes to amend Article XIX, Planned Unit Development. The proposed amendment is intended to allow for small-scale planned unit development to in-fill on lots smaller than 5 acres that minimize the environmental impacts of development while maintaining the density allowed by the underlying zone district. The amendment proposes changing the provision that Planning Unit Developments must connect to the New London-Springfield Water Precinct and modifies the requirement to connect to the New London Sewer System to require sewer connection when the sewer is located within 100 feet of the development.

3. Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 3 as proposed by the Planning Board for the New London Zoning Ordinance? YES  NO

The Planning Board proposes amending Article V, Residential Districts, Section C. Yard Requirements, 2. The proposed amendment seeks to streamline the side yard setbacks for properties in the R-1 District not using water and sewer, and all lots in the R-2 District to an even 20-foot setback.

4. Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 4 as proposed by the Planning Board for the New London Zoning Ordinance? YES  NO

The Planning Board proposes to amend Article II General Provisions, Section 18., Accessory Dwelling Unit and add a definition of Short-Term Rental to Article III, Definitions. The proposed amendment seeks to modify the Accessory Dwelling Unit ordinance with changes that include, but are not limited to, allowing a maximum of 3 bedrooms, up to 1,250 square feet of interior living space, and allowing either an attached or a detached accessory dwelling unit on each property.

5. Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 5 as proposed by the Planning Board for the New London Zoning Ordinance? YES  NO

The Planning Board proposes to amend Article XV Floodplain Overlay District and Article III Definitions. The amendments are proposed to maintain compliance with the National Flood Insurance Program.

6. Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 6 as Petitioned for the New London Zoning Ordinance? YES  NO

The Proposed Amendment, by Petition, seeks to amend Article III Definitions, for Lodging House. The proposal includes, but is not limited to, adding Short Term Rentals and modifying the number of occupants in the definition, require a Conditional Use Permit from the Planning Board and inspections for code compliance by a Town of New London Official. ***The Planning Board DISAPPROVES of the petitioned amendment***

**ARTICLE 2**

To see if the Town will vote to suspend the reading of the individual Articles in the Warrant and to refer to them by number. (Majority vote required)

**ARTICLE 3**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **nine hundred thousand dollars (\$900,000)** for the purpose of (1) purchasing the "McEnrue Trust" property, fronting on Seamans Road, Map 85, Lot 003 (currently assessed for \$435,900) for future Town use as may be determined, with the intent that it will provide protection for town property as it abuts the current Whipple Hall property and the Town Green; and, (2) applying the funds remaining after such purchase for improvements to the Police Department to enhance safety and improve working conditions there. Furthermore, to authorize the issuance of **nine hundred thousand dollars (\$900,000)** of bonds or notes in compliance with the provisions of the Municipal Finance Act (NH RSA 33:1 et.seq.as amended) and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to issue and negotiate such bonds or notes and to determine the rate of interest thereon. Article by Petition Recommendation: ***The Board of Selectmen do not recommend this appropriation; The Budget Committee voted 5-4-1 abstention not to recommend this appropriation.*** (Article by petition) (3/5 Ballot vote required)

**ARTICLE 4**

To see if the Town will vote to keep the Police Station at the current location and not spend more Town resources exploring, planning for, or designing a new police station at an alternative location. (Article by petition)

**ARTICLE 5**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **one million eight hundred seventy-two thousand six hundred ninety-two dollars (\$1,872,692)** for **GENERAL GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS**. ***The Board of Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend this appropriation.*** (Majority vote required)

	<u>FY2024</u>	<u>FY2025</u>
Executive	558,956	<b>400,354</b>
Elections, Registrations & Vitals	127,479	<b>139,028</b>
Financial Administration	424,438	<b>462,980</b>
Reassessment of Property	92,500	<b>95,777</b>
Legal	10,500	<b>15,500</b>

Personnel Administration	131,500	<b>142,836</b>
Planning and Zoning	115,731	<b>142,358</b>
Cemeteries	32,935	<b>30,967</b>
Insurance (not otherwise allocated)	123,000	<b>140,840</b>
Advertising & Regional Associations	19,259	<b>19,597</b>
General Government Buildings	<u>219,925</u>	<u><b>282,455</b></u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$1,856,223</b>	<b>\$1,872,692</b>

**ARTICLE 6**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **two million nine hundred thirty-seven thousand eight hundred forty-five dollars (\$2,937,845)** for **PUBLIC SAFETY**. *The Board of Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend this appropriation.* (Majority vote required)

	<u>FY2024</u>	<u>FY2025</u>
Police Department	1,506,104	<b>1,606,981</b>
Fire Department	629,602	<b>686,246</b>
Firewards	292	<b>435</b>
Emergency Management	16,550	<b>18,600</b>
Communications Department	<u>537,829</u>	<u><b>625,583</b></u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$2,690,377</b>	<b>\$2,937,845</b>

**ARTICLE 7**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **three million two hundred ninety-one thousand four hundred two dollars (\$3,291,402)** for **HIGHWAYS & STREETS & SANITATION**. *The Board of Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend this appropriation.* (Majority vote required)

	<u>FY2024</u>	<u>FY2025</u>
Highway Administration	1,082,168	<b>1,168,108</b>
Highways & Streets/Repair & Maintenance	578,600	<b>592,100</b>
Street Lighting	10,000	<b>12,000</b>
Transfer Station Admin. & Operations	491,333	<b>534,433</b>
Solid Waste Cleanup	17,500	<b>28,000</b>
Sewage Collection & Disposal (Sewer Dept.)	<u>917,923</u>	<u><b>956,761</b></u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$3,097,524</b>	<b>\$3,291,402</b>

**ARTICLE 8**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **three hundred one thousand two hundred fifteen dollars (\$301,215)** for **HEALTH AND WELFARE DEPARTMENTS**. *The Board of Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend this appropriation.* (Majority vote required)

	<u>FY2024</u>	<u>FY2025</u>
<b>HEALTH DEPARTMENT</b>		
Health Administration	6,344	<b>6,367</b>
Lake Sunapee Region Visiting Nurse Association	12,566	<b>12,760</b>
Kearsarge Council on Aging	38,500	<b>38,500</b>
New London Hospital Ambulance	197,203	<b>205,091</b>
Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA)	1,500	<b>2,000</b>
<b>WELFARE DEPARTMENT</b>		
Welfare Administration	5,474	<b>5,497</b>
Intergovernmental Welfare (CAP)	6,000	<b>6,000</b>
Welfare/Vendor Payments	<u>16,000</u>	<u><b>25,000</b></u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$283,587</b>	<b>\$301,215</b>

## ARTICLE 9

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **one million thirty-two thousand two hundred sixty-one dollars (\$1,032,261)** for **RECREATION AND CULTURE AND CONSERVATION**. *The Board of Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend this appropriation.* (Majority vote required)

	<u>FY2024</u>	<u>FY2025</u>
Recreation Department	221,113	<b>243,371</b>
Tracy Memorial Library	635,338	<b>709,895</b>
Patriotic Purposes	300	<b>300</b>
Other Culture, History and Archives	19,818	<b>1,000</b>
Conservation Administration	21,878	<b>28,093</b>
Energy Committee	900	<b>900</b>
Housing Commission	16,302	<b>16,302</b>
Other-Care of Trees & Milfoil	<u>31,400</u>	<u><b>32,400</b></u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	\$947,049	<b>\$1,032,261</b>

## ARTICLE 10

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **seven hundred sixty-eight thousand eight hundred eighty-two dollars (\$768,882)** for the payment of **PRINCIPAL AND INTEREST OF LONG-TERM DEBT**. *The Board of Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend this appropriation.* (Majority vote required)

	<u>FY2024</u>	<u>FY2025</u>
Principal -Bonds and Notes	536,573	<b>574,736</b>
Interest - Bonds and Notes	175,231	<b>194,145</b>
Tax Anticipation Note	<u>1</u>	<u><b>1</b></u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	\$711,805	<b>\$768,882</b>

## ARTICLE 11

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **one million dollars (\$1,000,000)** to be placed in previously established **CAPITAL AND NON-CAPITAL RESERVE FUNDS (CRF)**, as follows. *The Board of Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend this appropriation.* (Majority vote required)

	<u>FY2024</u>	<u>FY2025</u>
Sidewalk Project	-0-	<b>50,000</b>
Records Management	-0-	<b>-0-</b>
Computer Maintenance	12,000	<b>-0-</b>
Fire Department Radios	15,000	<b>-0-</b>
Fire Breathing Apparatus	5,000	<b>139,999</b>
Conservation Land Acquisition	25,000	<b>1</b>
Fire Vehicle	105,000	<b>250,000</b>
Gravel Road Upgrades & Paving	-0-	<b>-0-</b>
Town Vehicles & Equip. Repairs	5,000	<b>-0-</b>
Highway Equipment Replacement	130,000	<b>350,000</b>
Police Equipment	5,000	<b>-0-</b>
Tracy Library Improvements	37,500	<b>60,000</b>
Communications Equipment	17,000	<b>-0-</b>
Town Building Maintenance	100,000	<b>150,000</b>
Energy Conservation	15,000	<b>-0-</b>
Sewer Department	<u>10,000</u>	<u><b>-0-</b></u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	\$481,500	<b>\$1,000,000</b>

## ARTICLE 12

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **sixty-thousand dollars (\$60,000)** for the purchase of repairs to Tracy Memorial Library and to authorize funding of this amount by withdrawal of **sixty thousand (\$60,000)** from the

Tracy Memorial Library Maintenance Fund previously established for that purpose. *The Board of Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend this appropriation.* (Majority vote required)

#### **ARTICLE 13**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **one hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$150,000)** for the purchase of a one-ton dump truck with a sander and plow and to authorize funding of this amount by withdrawal of **one hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$150,000)** from the Highway Equipment Capital Reserve Fund previously established for that purpose. *The Board of Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend this appropriation.* (Majority vote required)

#### **ARTICLE 14**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **three hundred forty-one thousand dollars (\$341,000)** for the purchase of a six-wheel dump truck with a sander and plow and to authorize funding of this amount by withdrawal of **three hundred forty-one thousand dollars (\$341,000)** from the Highway Equipment Capital Reserve Fund previously established for that purpose. *The Board of Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend this appropriation.* (Majority vote required)

#### **ARTICLE 15**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **twenty-two thousand six hundred dollars (\$22,600)** for the purpose of cemetery maintenance and to authorize funding this appropriation by withdrawal of **twenty-two thousand six hundred dollars (\$22,600)** from the General Cemetery Maintenance Capital Reserve Fund previously established for that purpose. *The Board of Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend this appropriation.* (Majority vote required)

#### **ARTICLE 16**

To see if the Town will raise and appropriate the sum of **fifty-five thousand dollars (\$55,000)** for the purchase of a fire utility vehicle and to authorize funding of this amount by withdrawal of **fifty-five thousand (\$55,000)** from the Fire Vehicles Replacement Capital Reserve Fund previously established for that purpose. *The Board of Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend this appropriation.* (Majority vote required)

#### **ARTICLE 17**

To see if the Town will raise and appropriate the sum of **one hundred thirty-two thousand three hundred three dollars (\$132,303)** for the payment of the lease/purchase agreement entered into by a vote of Town Meeting in 2022 for the replacement of Fire Engine #2 and to authorize funding of this amount by withdrawal of **one hundred thirty-two thousand three hundred three dollars (\$132,303)** from the Fire Vehicles Replacement Capital Reserve Fund previously established for that purpose. *The Board of Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend this appropriation.* (Majority vote required)

#### **ARTICLE 18**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000)** for the purpose of replacement of the main plant ventilation equipment in the sewer department and to authorize funding of this amount by withdrawal of **fifty thousand (\$50,000)** from the Sewer Department Capital Reserve Fund previously established for that purpose. *The Board of Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend this appropriation.* (Majority vote required)

#### **ARTICLE 19**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **thirty thousand dollars (\$30,000)** and place such funds in the Conservation Land Acquisition Capital Reserve Fund previously established for that purpose. (Article by petition) *The Board of Selectmen do not recommend this appropriation by a vote of 2-1; the Budget Committee recommends this appropriation by a vote of 7-1.* (Majority vote required)

#### **ARTICLE 20**

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to negotiate the sale of town owned property, listed as Map 132 lot 12, that abuts I-89 and the Sutton townline. The property consists of 2.1 acres, more or less, and is landlocked. The proceeds of the sale to be deposited into the town's general fund to reduce taxes. (Majority vote required)

**ARTICLE 21**

To see if the Town will vote to discontinue the DPW Capital Reserve Fund and the GIS Capital Reserve Fund previously established. Said funds and accumulated interest to date of withdrawal are to be transferred to the town's general fund. (Majority vote required)

**ARTICLE 22**

To see if the Town will appoint the Selectmen agents to expend the following funds:

- General Cemetery Maintenance Fund established in 1983
- Sewer Department Capital Reserve Fund established in 2007
- Sidewalk Capital Reserve Fund established in 1996
- Transfer Station Improvement Funnd established in 2002

(Majority vote required)

**ARTICLE 23**

To see if the Town will vote, pursuant to RSA 41:11-a, II, to renew the lease of the Elkins Post Office to the United States Postal Service for a period of five years, beginning on January 1, 2025, upon such terms and conditions as the Board of Selectmen deem prudent and in the best interests of the Town. (Majority vote required)

**ARTICLE 24**

To hear the reports of agents, auditors, and committees heretofore chosen, to pass any vote relating thereto, and to transact any other business that may legally come before said meeting. (Majority vote required)