



**ABSENTEE
OFFICIAL BALLOT
ANNUAL TOWN ELECTION
NEWFIELDS, NEW HAMPSHIRE
MARCH 12, 2024**

Sue E. McKinnon

TOWN CLERK

INSTRUCTIONS TO VOTERS

- A. TO VOTE, completely fill in the OVAL to the RIGHT of your choice(s) like this: ●
- B. Follow directions as to the number of candidates to be marked for each office.
- C. To vote for a person whose name is not printed on the ballot, write the candidate's name on the line provided and completely fill in the OVAL.

<p align="center">SELECT BOARD</p> <p align="center">Vote for not 3 years more than One</p> <p>MARK KASPER <input type="radio"/></p> <p>MICHAEL KESSLER <input type="radio"/></p> <p>_____ <input type="radio"/></p> <p align="center">(Write-in)</p>	<p align="center">CEMETERY TRUSTEE</p> <p align="center">Vote for not 3 years more than One</p> <p>ANN ELLIOTT <input type="radio"/></p> <p>_____ <input type="radio"/></p> <p align="center">(Write-in)</p>	<p align="center">TOWN MODERATOR</p> <p align="center">Vote for not 2 years more than One</p> <p>JOHN M. HAYDEN <input type="radio"/></p> <p>_____ <input type="radio"/></p> <p align="center">(Write-in)</p>
<p align="center">TRUSTEE OF THE TRUST FUNDS</p> <p align="center">Vote for not 3 years more than One</p> <p>ALFRED BOBST <input type="radio"/></p> <p>_____ <input type="radio"/></p> <p align="center">(Write-in)</p>	<p align="center">LIBRARY TRUSTEE</p> <p align="center">Vote for not 3 years more than One</p> <p>JACK R. PARNHAM <input type="radio"/></p> <p>_____ <input type="radio"/></p> <p align="center">(Write-in)</p>	<p align="center">SUPERVISOR OF THE CHECKLIST</p> <p align="center">Vote for not 6 years more than One</p> <p>THOMAS F. MORGAN JR. <input type="radio"/></p> <p>_____ <input type="radio"/></p> <p align="center">(Write-in)</p>

ARTICLES

Rugg Property Acquisition

Article 1. By Citizens Petition: Shall the Town of Newfields vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to acquire +/-101 acres of property located off Piscassic Road near Bassett Lane in the Town of Newfields (a portion of Newfields Tax Map 205 Lot 2) for the purposes of expanding the town-owned Inland Acres Town Forest, and preserving open space, trails, public outdoor recreation, drinking water supplies, and wildlife habitat; to raise and appropriate the sum of up to \$3,700,000 for the acquisition (not to exceed fair market value), which shall be funded by up to \$2.5 million from a Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) loan to the Town (with up to 20% or \$500,000 in principal forgiveness and up to 80% or \$2,000,000 to be repaid by the Town) and \$1.2 million or more in other grants or gifts; to raise and appropriate the sum of up to \$100,000 for planning to be funded by a CWSRF loan that will be 100% forgiven; and to apply for, obtain, accept, and pass through a CWSRF loan and any federal or state grants or private gifts which may be available for said project, in accordance with the terms and conditions in which they are received; and all in collaboration with and facilitated by conservation organizations, that will provide copies of the title, boundary, and environmental assessment, and an appraisal that has passed state and federal review, to the Board of Selectmen prior to the Board's action to accept the property. This approval will not lapse until the property is acquired or by the end of 2025, whichever is sooner. Not recommended by Select Board 0-3. (Requires 3/5 ballot vote)

YES
NO

Operating Budget

Article 2. Shall the Town of Newfields 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 vote of the first session, for the purposes set forth therein, totaling \$2,092,446. Should this article be defeated, the default budget shall be \$1,972,247 which is the same as last year, with certain adjustments required by previous action of the Town of Newfields 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. Select Board recommends the \$2,092,446 as set forth on said budget 3-0.

YES
NO

Reinstate Biweekly Curbside Recycling

Article 3. By Citizens Petition: Shall the Town of Newfields vote to raise and appropriate \$15,000 (fifteen thousand dollars) to continue biweekly curbside recycling. Understanding the importance of being fiscally responsible, we support reducing curbside recycling to every other week instead of weekly. This money is to be utilized solely for the purpose of curbside recycling. Not recommended by Select Board 1-2.

YES
NO

VOTE BOTH SIDES OF BALLOT

ARTICLES CONTINUED

Study of Rugg Property Acquisition

Article 4. By Citizens Petition: To see if the voters of Newfields, NH support the future purchase of approximately 101 +/- acres of land (Rugg property) located off Piscassic Road near Bassett Lane (a portion of Newfields Tax Map 205, Lot 2) for the purpose of expanding the Town owned "Inland Acres Town Forest". The approximate cost of acquisition to the Town of Newfields is \$3,700,000 less any grant(s) to include a long-term interest-bearing bond that may be floated by the Town of Newfields. To request that the Select Board review the project, including evaluation of funding options (bonds and grants), the ramifications of Exeter failing to purchase what would then become a landlocked 47 acres +/- plot that is surrounded by Newfields and Exeter conserved forest thus resulting in a de-facto expansion of the Exeter Town Forest at "no cost" to Exeter. The Select Board will also determine the divisibility (or lack thereof) of the entire parcel and said impact on the viability of the project. All other considerations shall be considered. The Board shall report to the Town its findings as to purchase considerations. For clarity, the landowner was not consulted on and does not support this warrant article. If it passes and Warrant Article 4 is interpreted to supersede Article 1, the landowner will not continue with the sale to the town. The Select Board unanimously abstained from voting on the amended warrant article.

YES

NO

Future Purchase of Fire Truck Capital Reserve

Article 5. Shall the Town of Newfields raise and appropriate the sum of \$50,000 to be added to the Fire Truck Capital Reserve Fund previously established, for the future purchase of a new fire truck. Recommended by Select Board 3-0. (Majority vote required)

YES

NO

Fire Department Equipment Capital Reserve

Article 6. Shall the Town of Newfields raise and appropriate the sum of \$2,000 to be added to the Fire Department Equipment Capital Reserve Fund, previously established? Recommended by Select Board 3-0. (Majority vote required)

YES

NO

Non-Lapsing Fire Truck Payment

Article 7. Shall the Town of Newfields raise and appropriate the sum of \$200,000 for the purpose of providing the funds for the final payment for a new fire truck to be funded by \$200,000 from the December 31, 2023 fund balance. This appropriation will have no impact on property taxes. This scheduled Warrant Article will be a non-lapsing appropriation per RSA 32.7 section VI. It will not lapse until the fire truck purchase is completed or by December 31, 2027, whichever is sooner. Recommended by Select Board 3-0. (Majority vote required)

YES

NO

175th Town Celebration

Article 8. Shall the Town of Newfields raise and appropriate the sum of \$5,000 for the 175th Town Celebration festivities? Recommended by Select Board 3-0. (Majority vote required)

YES

NO

ZONING BALLOT FOR 2024

Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 1 as proposed by the planning board for the town zoning ordinance as follows;

Add the following definition of "right of way" to Article II, Definitions to become number 2.1.29. Subsequent definitions will be re-numbered.

"Right-of-way" means and includes all present and proposed town, state and federal roads and highways and the land on either side of same as covered by statutes to determine the widths of rights-of-way. The land on each side of the road or highway is owned by the appropriate governmental body. For the purposes of the Newfields zoning ordinance right of way and public street mean the same thing.

YES

NO

Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 2 as proposed by the planning board for the town zoning ordinance as follows;

Add the following definition of "setback" to Article II, Definitions to become number 2.1.32. Subsequent definitions will be re-numbered.

"Setback" means the distance between the nearest portion of a building and a lot or right-of-way line, whichever is closer.

YES

NO

Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 3 as proposed by the planning board for the town zoning ordinance as follows;

Remove section 4.8 Conversion of Existing Residential Structures in its entirety

YES

NO

Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 4 as proposed by the planning board for the town zoning ordinance as follows:

Added the following language to section 4.14.4.1.1:

The proposed use must conform to the dimensional requirements of a single-family lot and meet all existing requirements. If the proposed use is to be located on a legally existing non-conforming lot the applicant must prove that the proposed ADU does not create greater dimensional non conformity.

YES

NO

VOTE BOTH SIDES OF BALLOT