



## **TOWN of NEW DURHAM**

### **2026 TOWN WARRANT POST DELIBERATIVE SESSION**

To the inhabitants of the Town of New Durham, in the County of Strafford, in said State of New Hampshire qualified to vote in Town affairs:

You are hereby notified that the First Session of the Annual Town Meeting of the Town of New Durham will be held as follows:

#### **First Session of Annual Meeting – Deliberative Session**

The first session, the Deliberative Session, of the 2026 Town Meeting will be held on **Tuesday, February 03, 2026 at 7:00 P.M.** at the New Durham School Gymnasium located at 7 Old Bay Road in New Durham, NH. The snow date will be Wednesday, February 04, 2026 at 7 p.m. at the New Durham School Gymnasium located at 7 Old Bay Road in New Durham, NH.

#### **Second Session of the Annual Meeting - Voting**

The Second Session, the voting on all warrant articles, shall be held on **Tuesday, March 10, 2026 from 7:00 A.M. to 7:00 P.M.** in the New Durham School Gymnasium, located at 7 Old Bay Road in New Durham, NH, where there will be voting by official ballot for the election of Town Officers and all Warrant Articles with any amendments as made at the Deliberative Session.

#### **GOVERNING BODY CERTIFICATION**

We certify and attest that on or before January 26, 2026, a true and attested copy of this document was posted at the place of meeting and at the New Durham Town Hall, the New Durham website, the New Durham Post Office and the New Durham School, and that an original was delivered to the New Durham Town Clerk.

<b>Name</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>Signature</b>
David Swenson	Chairman Board of Selectmen	
Dorothy Veisel	Vice Chairmen Board of Selectmen	
Rudy Rosiello	Selectman	

**ARTICLE 1:** To choose all necessary town officers for the ensuing year:

Number Positions	Committee	Term	Candidate(s) Running for Office
1	Select Board	3 Years	Ken Ross-Raymond Kenneth P. Fanjoy
2	Budget Committee	3 Years 3 Years	Bruce Long Terry A Jarvis Susan DeRoy
1	John Shirley Cemetery Trustee	3 Years	Write-In
1	Library Trustees	3 Years	Samantha Lessard
1	Moderator	2 Years	Linda Callaway Sophia L. Baca
2	Planning Board	3 Years 3 Years	Anne Ross-Raymond Robert Craycraft
1	Supervisors of the Checklist	6 Years	Christopher E. Baca
1	Trustee of Trust Funds	3 Years	Mary Bogart Angela Pruitt
2	Zoning Board of Adjustment	3 Years 3 Years	Write-In Write-in
1	Zoning Board of Adjustment	2 Years	Janis Anthes

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## Article 2 Proposed Zoning Article:

Are you in favor of Amendment #1 to the New Durham Zoning Ordinance as proposed by the Planning Board as follows: Amend the definitions of Duplex, Dwelling, and Dwelling Unit to clarify that occupancy of those types of properties must be permanent and non-transitory; amend the definition of Duplex to clarify that it is a two-family dwelling; and add a definition of Transitory as stays in a dwelling of any type of less than 7 days.

### Majority Vote Required

The Planning Board recommends this article by a **5 to 0** vote.

Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

## Article 3 Proposed Zoning Article:

Are you in favor of Amendment #2 to the New Durham Zoning Ordinance as proposed by the Planning Board as follows: Amend the definition of Minor Subdivision from a subdivision with no potential for future subdivision to one with no prior subdivision for the past 7 years; and to add a requirement that the subdivision does not require the expansion of existing streets.

### Majority Vote Required

The Planning Board recommends this article by a 5 to 0 vote.

Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

#### **Article 4 Proposed Zoning Article**

Are you in favor of Amendment #3 to the New Durham Zoning Ordinance as proposed by the Planning Board as follows: Allow Home Occupations in both the Residential-Recreational-Agricultural District and the Town Center Mixed Use Zoning District by Special Exception issued by the Zoning Board of Adjustment instead of by Home Occupation Permit issued by the Planning Board or its Designee.

#### **Majority Vote Required**

The Planning Board recommends this article **by a 5 to 0 vote.**

Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

#### **Article 5 Proposed Zoning Article**

Are you in favor of Amendment #4 to the New Durham Zoning Ordinance as proposed by the Planning Board as follows: Amend the provisions regarding Accessory Dwelling Units (“ADU”) to comply with state law by reducing the parking requirements from one parking spot per bedroom to one parking spot per ADU; and removing restrictions on detached ADUs.

#### **Majority Vote Required**

The Planning Board recommends this article by a 5 to 0 vote.

Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

#### **Article 6 Proposed Zoning Article**

Are you in favor of Amendment #5 to the New Durham Zoning Ordinance as proposed by the Planning Board as follows: Add a definition of short-term rentals as the rental of any dwelling unit for a period of 7-30 consecutive days and allow short term rentals by special exception in all zones where residential housing is permitted. Rentals of less than 7 days will not be permitted.

#### **Majority Vote Required**

The Planning Board recommends this article by a 5 to 0 vote.

Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

**Article 7:** 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 or as amended by the vote of the first session, for the purposes set forth therein, totaling \$4,291,700. Should this article be defeated, the default budget shall be \$4,661,945, which is the same as last year, with certain adjustments required by previous action of the Town or by law; or the governing body may hold a special meeting, in accordance with RSA 40:13, X and XVI, to take up the issue of a revised operating budget only.

#### **Majority Vote Required**

[Note: Operating Budget & Default Budget includes the Library Budget.]

Estimated Tax Rate Impact – 2026 Proposed Budget: \$ 4.388 per \$1,000 assessed valuation.

Estimated Tax Rate Impact – 2026 Default Budget: \$ 4.766 per \$1,000 assessed valuation.

The Board of Selectmen motion to recommend failed by a **1 to 1** vote.

The Budget Committee motion to not recommend this article by a **5 to 1** vote.

Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

**Article 8:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$600,000 for the purposes of a Road Program with said appropriation to be offset by an anticipated \$121,558 from the Highway Block Grant and further offset by the use of \$450,000 from the Town's Unassigned Fund Balance with the remainder to come from general taxation. This special Warrant Article will be a non-lapsing appropriation per RSA 32:7 VI and will not lapse until the Road Program is completed or by December 31, 2030, whichever is sooner.

### **Majority Vote Required**

Estimated 2026 Tax Rate Impact: \$ 0.029 per \$1,000 assessed valuation.

The Board of Selectmen recommends this article by a **2 to 1** vote.

The Budget Committee recommends this article by an **8 to 0** vote.

Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

**Article 9:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$300,000 to be placed in previously established Public Works related **Capital Reserve Fund** as follows with said funds to come from taxation:

Account	Created	2026
Highway Trucks	March 4, 1988, Article #9	\$300,000

### **Majority Vote Required**

Estimated 2026 Tax Rate Impact: \$ 0.307 per \$1,000 assessed valuation.

The Board of Selectmen recommends this article by a **2 to 1** vote.

The Budget Committee motion to recommend failed on a **3 to 5** vote.

Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

**Article 10:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$2,000 to be placed in previously established Public Works related **Capital Reserve Fund** as follows with said funds to come from taxation:

Account	Created	2026
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Vehicle & Equipment Maintenance	March 10, 2010, Article #15	\$2,000
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### **Majority Vote Required**

Estimated 2026 Tax Rate Impact: \$ 0.002 per \$1,000 assessed valuation.

The Board of Selectmen recommends this article by a **2 to 1** vote.

The Budget Committee motion to recommend failed on a **3 to 5** vote.

Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

**Article 11:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$400,000 to be placed in previously established Public Works related **Capital Reserve Fund** as follows with said funds to come from taxation:

Account	Created	2026
Road Reconstruction	March 10, 2010, Article #5	\$400,000

### **Majority Vote Required**

Estimated 2026 Tax Rate Impact: \$ 0.409 per \$1,000 assessed valuation.

The Board of Selectmen recommends this article by a **2 to 1** vote.

The Budget Committee recommends this article by an **8 to 0** vote.

Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

**Article 12:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$0.00 to be placed in previously established Municipal Facility Land related **Capital Reserve Fund** as follows with said funds to come from taxation:

Account	Created	2026
Municipal Facility Land Acquisition	March 13, 2007, Article #8	\$0.00

### **Majority Vote Required**

Estimated 2026 Tax Rate Impact: \$ 0.00 per \$1,000 assessed valuation.

The Board of Selectmen motion to recommend failed by a 1 to 1 vote.

The Budget Committee motion to not recommend this article 5 to 1 vote.

Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

**Article 13:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$100,000 to be placed in previously established Fire Vehicle related **Capital Reserve Funds** as follows with said funds to come from taxation:

Account	Created	2026
Fire Vehicle	March 12, 2003, Article # 11	\$100,000

### **Majority Vote Required**

Estimated 2026 Tax Rate Impact: \$ 0.102 per \$1,000 assessed valuation.

The Board of Selectmen recommends this article by a **2 to 1** vote.

The Budget Committee recommends this article by a **7 to 1** vote.

Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

**Article 14:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$0.00 to be placed in previously established Police Cruiser-related **Capital Reserve Fund** as follows with said funds to come from taxation:

Account	Created	2026
Police Cruisers	March 15, 2000, Article # 7	\$0.00

### **Majority Vote Required**

Estimated 2026 Tax Rate Impact: \$ 0.00 per \$1,000 assessed valuation.

The Board of Selectmen recommends this article by a **2 to 0** vote.

The Budget Committee recommends this warrant article by a **6 to 0** vote.

Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

**Article 15:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$5,000 to be placed in previously established **Capital Reserve Fund** as follows with said funds to come from taxation:

Account	Created	2026
Smith Ballfield Improvements	March 11, 2008, Article #9	\$5,000

### **Majority Vote Required**

Estimated 2026 Tax Rate Impact: \$ 0.005 per \$1,000 assessed valuation.

The Board of Selectmen recommends this article by a **2 to 1** vote.

The Budget Committee motion to recommend failed by a **3 to 5** vote.

Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

**Article 16:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$250,000 to be placed in previously established **Capital Reserve Fund** as follows with said funds to come from taxation:

Account	Created	2026
Public Works Equipment	March 14, 2023, Article #10	\$250,000

### **Majority Vote Required**

Estimated 2026 Tax Rate Impact: \$ 0.256 per \$1,000 assessed valuation.

The Board of Selectmen recommends this article by a **2 to 1** vote.

The Budget Committee recommends this article by a **5 to 3** vote.

Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

**Article 17:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$2,000 to be placed in previously established **Capital Reserve Fund** as follows with said funds to come from taxation:

Account	Created	2026
Library Facilities Improvement	March 13, 2007, Article #7	\$2,000

### **Majority Vote Required**

Estimated 2026 Tax Rate Impact: \$ 0.002 per \$1,000 assessed valuation.

The Board of Selectmen recommends this article by a **2 to 1** vote.

The Budget Committee recommends this article by an **8 to 0** vote.

Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

**Article 18:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,000 to be placed in previously established **Capital Reserve Fund** as follows with said funds to come from taxation:

Account	Created	2026
Library Technology Improvements	March 13, 2007, Article #8	\$1,000

### **Majority Vote Required**

Estimated 2026 Tax Rate Impact: \$ 0.001 per \$1,000 assessed valuation.

The Board of Selectmen recommends this article by a **2 to 1** vote.

The Budget Committee recommends this article by an **8 to 0** vote.

Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

**Article 19:** To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the amount of \$20,000, to be added to the 1772 Meetinghouse Capital Reserve Fund, previously established, for urgently needed structural repair. Further, to direct the New Durham Board of Selectmen to work with the 1772 Meetinghouse Committee to find qualified restoration contractors and complete this work as soon as possible.

Account	Created	2026
1772 Meetinghouse	March 15, 2000, Article #14	\$20,000

### **(Majority vote required)**

Estimated 2026 Tax Rate Impact: \$ 0.020 per \$1,000 assessed valuation.

The Board of Selectmen recommend this article by a **2 to 1** vote.

The Budget Committee recommends this article by a **5 to 3** vote.

Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

**Article 20:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$0.00 to be placed in previously established **Capital Reserve Fund** as follows with said funds to come from taxation:

Account	Created	2026
Public Safety Facilities	March 10, 2010, Article # 17	\$0.00

## **Majority Vote Required**

Estimated 2026 Tax Rate Impact: \$ 0.00 per \$1,000 assessed valuation.

The Board of Selectmen motion to recommend failed by a 1 to 1 vote.

The Budget Committee motion to not reccomend this article by a **6 to 0** vote.

Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

**Article 21:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$10,000 to be placed in previously established **Capital Reserve Fund** as follows with said funds to come from taxation:

Account	Created	2026
Gravel	March 13, 2012, Article #12 Purpose change March 10, 2020, Article #12	\$10,000

## **Majority Vote Required**

Estimated 2026 Tax Rate Impact: \$ 0.010 per \$1,000 assessed valuation.

The Board of Selectmen recommends this article by a **2 to 0** vote.

The Budget Committee motion recommend this article failed by a **2 to 4** vote.

Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

**Article 22:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$250,000 to be placed in previously established **Capital Reserve Fund** as follows with said funds to come from taxation:

Account	Created	2026
Public Works Facilities	March 14, 2023, Article # 17	\$250,000

## **Majority Vote Required**

Estimated 2026 Tax Rate Impact: \$ 0.256 per \$1,000 assessed valuation.

The Board of Selectmen motion to recommend this article failed by a 1 to 1 vote.

The Budget Committee motion to recommend this article failed by a 1 to 1 to 4 vote.

Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

**Article 23:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$5,000 to be placed in previously established **Capital Reserve Fund** as follows with said funds to come from taxation:

Account	Created	2026
Shirley Cemetery Improvements	March 10, 2009, Article # 12	\$5,000

**Majority Vote Required**

Estimated 2026 Tax Rate Impact: \$ 0.005 per \$1,000 assessed valuation.

The Board of Selectmen recommends this article by a **2 to 1** vote.

The Budget Committee recommends this article by an **8 to 0** vote.

Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

**Article 24:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$2,000 to be placed in previously established **Expendable Trust Fund** as follows with said funds to come from taxation:

Account	Created	2026
Records Management Fund	March 23, 1999, Article #23	\$2,000

**Majority Vote Required**

Estimated 2026 Tax Rate Impact: \$ 0.002 per \$1,000 assessed valuation.

The Board of Selectmen recommends this article by a **2 to 1** vote.

The Budget Committee motion to recommend this article failed by a **1 to 7** vote.

Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

**Article 25:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$75,000 to be placed in previously established **Expendable Trust Fund** as follows with said funds to come from taxation:

Account	Created	2026
Town Buildings & Improvements Fund	March 15, 2000, Article #15	\$75,000

**Majority Vote Required**

Estimated 2026 Tax Rate Impact: \$ 0.077 per \$1,000 assessed valuation.

The Board of Selectmen recommends this article by a **2 to 1** vote.

The Budget Committee motion to recommend this article failed by a **4 to 4** vote.

Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

**Article 26:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$10,000 to be placed in previously established **Expendable Trust Fund** as follows with said funds to come from taxation:

Account	Created	2026
New Durham Dam Maintenance	March 13, 2018, Article # 13	\$10,000

### **Majority Vote Required**

Estimated 2026 Tax Rate Impact: \$ 0.010 per \$1,000 assessed valuation.

The Board of Selectmen recommends this article by a **2 to 1** vote.

The Budget Committee recommends this article by an **8 to 0** vote.

Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

**Article 27:** To see if the Town will vote to authorize a land swap whereby the Town agrees to convey an approximately 1.5 acre portion of Tax Map 240, Lot 26-04 (currently owned by the Town and controlled by the Conservation Commission by virtue of a gift from the prior owner) to the owner of the adjoining lot, Map 240, Lot 25 (owned by the Michael and Shannon Depierro Living Trust), and in exchange, the Town will receive an approximately 1.5 acre portion of Map 240, Lot 25, said property exchange to be reviewed by the Planning Board as a boundary line or lot line adjustment, as needed, and memorialized by reciprocal conveyances? **Majority Vote Required**

Estimated 2026 Tax Rate Impact: \$ 0.00 per \$1,000 assessed valuation.

Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

**Article 28:** To see if the Town will vote to confirm, pursuant to RSA 31:95-h, III, the ambulance services revolving fund previously established by Article 28 at the 2011 Town Meeting; the original purpose of the fund as stated in Article 28 at the 2011 Town Meeting to remain in full force and effect.

### **Majority Vote Required**

The Board of Selectmen motion to recommend this article failed by a 0 to 1 to 1 vote.

Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_ (for some reason underlines didn't show)

**Article 29:** To see if the Town will vote to modify, pursuant to RSA 31:95-h, III, the police cruiser and police employee contract revolving fund previously established by Article 34 at the 2023 Town Meeting to: (1) add an additional purpose for the use of revolving fund proceeds to include payment of police personnel salaries or benefits, with the original purpose of the fund as stated in Article 34 to remain in full force and effect; and 2) require that 90 percent of all revenues received from details and employee contract payoffs shall be deposited into said revolving fund, with the balance of said revenues to be deposited into the Town's general revenue to offset administrative costs.

**Majority Vote Required**

The Board of Selectmen recommends this article by a **2 to 1** vote.

Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

**Article 30 Petition regarding Fire Chief**

To see if the Town will vote to establish the annual compensation of the appointed Part-time position of Fire Chief for the Town of New Durham not to exceed Forty Thousand Dollars (\$40,000) in 2026. For the purposes of this article the Fire Chief shall remain a part-time position. The position shall not be converted to a full-time position except by vote at town meeting. The Fire Chief shall live within a 20-minute response time to the station and receive only benefits available to part-time employees as outlined by The Town of New Durham Human Resources Manual for New Durham Part-Time Employees. The appointment will follow the Town of New Durham Appointment Policy, and the term will be effective through March 31 of the last year of any 3-year appointment. In order to ensure that the position compensation is adequately adjusted, any compensation adjustment will be determined by Select Board approval by December 31 of the second year of the term and not to exceed the average employee merit raise up to 5% and average employee market adjustment not to exceed up to 5%, with one raise per term of not more than 10% total within a 3-year term. Additionally, any outstanding agreements or contracts that are contrary to this article shall be immediately nullified upon passage.

**By Petition. Majority vote required.**

Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

**Article 31 Petition for a Budget Cap**

Shall we adopt the provisions of RSA 32:5-g and implement a budget cap whereby the select board (or budget committee) shall not submit a recommended budget that is higher than \$1,995.00 dollars per resident expenditure times the current town population plus an annual increase for inflation using index CPI-U for the Boston-Cambridge-Newton MA-NH area published by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics as of October 1.

Requires a 3/5ths ballot vote of the town. By Petition

**The Board of Selectmen's motion to recommend this article failed by a 0 to 2 vote.**

Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

### **32 Elderly Exemption**

Shall the town modify the provisions of RSA 72:39-a for elderly exemption from property tax in the town of New Durham, based on assessed value, for qualified taxpayers, to be as follows: for a person 65 years of age up to 75 years, \$155,000; for a person 75 years of age up to 80 years, \$183,000; for a person 80 years of age or older, \$225,000. To qualify, the person must have been a New Hampshire resident for at least 3 consecutive years, own the real estate individually or jointly, or if the real estate is owned by such person's spouse, they must have been married to each other for at least 5 consecutive years. In addition, the taxpayer must have a net income of not more than \$40,000 or, if married, a combined net income of less than \$80,000; and own net assets not in excess of \$75,000 excluding the value of the person's residence. **By Petition (Majority vote required)**

**The Board of Selectmen recommends this article by a 2 to 0 vote.**

Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

### **Article 33 School Voucher Standards**

Shall we call on our legislators to protect taxpayers by requiring the Education Freedom Account program to provide fiscal and educational performance reports comparable to those required of public schools, and by limiting eligibility to families with demonstrated financial need? This question is raised because state legislators recently removed all income limits from the Education Freedom Account program (vouchers), expanding it beyond its original purpose. These changes added tens of millions of dollars in costs while the program provides limited public information on how funds are spent or if educational standards are being met. The voucher program is projected to cost \$110 million over the next two years, with no new revenue sources identified. This directs public funds to private education without reducing the expenses public schools are constitutionally required to cover, increasing pressure on local property taxes. Be it further resolved that the New Durham Municipal Authority shall send the results of this vote to the Governor and all members of the General Court representing New Durham within thirty (30) days of this vote. Majority vote required

Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

**Article 34 : To conduct any other business which may legally come before the Town.**

Given under our hands and seal, this 22nd day of January, in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand Twenty-Six.

We hereby certify that on this 26th day of January, 2026, we had posted an attested copy of the warrant at the place of Meeting within named and a like copy at the New Durham Town Hall, a public place in said Town.

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David W. Swenson, Chair

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Dorothy Veisel, Vice Chair

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Rudy Rosiello, Selectman

Town of New Durham, NH

**Final / Posted on January 26, 2026** \_\_\_\_\_ **By:** \_\_\_\_\_

Posted: New Durham School – Polling Place  
New Durham Town Hall & Website  
New Durham Post Office

01/26/2026