



TOWN of NEW DURHAM

2026 TOWN WARRANT

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.

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

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

Committee	Incumbent	Term Length
Selectboard	David Swenson	1-3yr term
Budget Committee	Susan DeRoy Terry Jarvis	2-3yr terms
Jonh C. Shirley Cemetery Trustees	Stephanie Mackenzie	1-3yr term
Library Trustees	Rachel Lamontagne	1-3yr term
Moderator	Linda Callaway	1-2yr term
Planning Board	Anne Ross-Raymond Robert Craycraft	2-3yr terms
Supervisors of the Checklist	Christopher Baca	1-6yr term
Trustees of the Trust Funds	Angela Pruitt	1-3yr term
Zoning Board of Adjustments	Bill Meyer Terry Jarvis Jon Sheckler	2-3yr terms 1-2yr term

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 \$4,800,331. 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: \$ 4.905 per \$1,000 assessed valuation.

Estimated Tax Rate Impact – 2026 Default Budget: \$ 4.766 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 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
Vehicle & Equipment Maintenance	March 10, 2010, Article #15	\$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 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 \$40,000 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	\$40,000

Majority Vote Required

Estimated 2026 Tax Rate Impact: \$ 0.041 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 **4 to 4** 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 \$10,000 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	\$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 motion to recommend failed on a **0 to 8** 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 on 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 \$150,000 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	\$150,000

Majority Vote Required

Estimated 2026 Tax Rate Impact: \$ 0.153 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 **4 in favor, 3 opposed, 1 abstained** vote.

Yes _____ No _____

Article 21: 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
Gravel	March 13, 2012, Article #12 Purpose change March 10, 2020 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 22: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$100,000 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	\$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 **5 to 3** 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 failed on 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 failed on a **4 to 4** vote so Budget Committee did not recommend.

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**

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

Yes _____ No _____

Article 28: To see if the Town will vote to modify, pursuant to RSA 31:95-h, III, the ambulance services revolving fund previously established by Article 28 at the 2011 Town Meeting by adding an additional purpose for the use of fund proceeds, to include payment of ambulance personnel including but not limited to paramedics and advanced EMT's; the original purpose of the fund as stated in Article 28 to remain in full force and effect.

Majority Vote Required

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

Yes _____ No _____

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, and establish that the Fire Chief shall live within a 15-minute response time to the station and receive benefits not to exceed those 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 the Select Board with Budget Committee 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

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 (not less than \$13,400) or, if married, a combined net income of less than \$80,000 (not less than \$20,400); and own net assets not in excess of \$75,000 (not less than \$35,000) excluding the value of the person's residence. By Petition (Majority vote required)

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

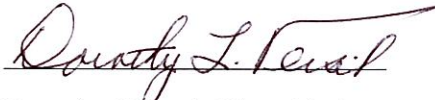
Yes _____ No _____

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 26 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.

David W. Swenson, Chair



Dorothy Veisel, Vice Chair



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