

Town of Milford Warrant & Financials DRAFT Budget and Bond Hearing

January 8, 2024

To the inhabitants of the Town of Milford in the County of Hillsborough, in the State of New Hampshire, qualified to vote in Town Affairs:

You are hereby notified that the Annual Meeting of the Town of Milford will be held, in accordance with RSA 40:13, in said Milford, with the first session (also known as "Deliberative Session") at the Town Hall Auditorium on Saturday, February 3, 2024, at 9:00 am, to transact all business other than voting, and on Tuesday, March 12, 2024, at the Milford High School Gymnasium, for the second session (also known as "Town Vote") for voting by official ballot at the polls on all matters in the warrant as well as officers and other matters to be voted on. The polls will be open on March 12, 2024, at 6:00 a.m. and will not close earlier than 8:00 p.m.

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, the services of an interpreter will be provided as requested. Such requests must be received in the Milford Board of Selectmen's Office, Town Hall, One Union Square, Milford, NH 03055-4240, at least two (2) calendar weeks before the event. The Town will attempt to honor any requests received after this time.

ARTICLE 1 – ELECTION OF OFFICERS

ARTICLE 2 – BALLOT VOTE – ZONING CHANGES

WARRANT ARTICLE 3 - PENNICHUCK BOOSTER PUMP STATION - \$2,700,000 BOND (Project cost offset by \$1,000,000 in American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds and loan forgiveness).

Shall the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$2,700,000 for the purpose of constructing the Nashua Street Water Booster Pump Station. Such sum to be raised by the issuance of serial bonds and notes not to exceed \$2,700,000 under and in compliance with the provisions of the Municipal Finance Act (NH RSA 33:1 et. seq., as amended) and to authorize the Town to issue and negotiate such bonds or notes and to determine the rate of interest thereon. Further, to take such actions as may be necessary to affect the issuance, negotiation, sale and delivery of such bonds or notes as shall be in the best interest of the Town. Additionally, to authorize the Town to apply for, receive, and expend grants or other funds that may reduce the amount to be repaid, and pass any vote relating thereto. Note: As this is for issuance of long-term debt, this vote requires, under State law, 3/5 affirmative vote to pass. This is a Special Warrant Article in accordance with RSA 32. This warrant article is paid for by the wastewater user fees. **The Board of Commissioners supports this Article (0-0). The Budget Advisory Committee supports this Article (0-0).**

WARRANT ARTICLE 4 - TOWN OPERATING BUDGET - \$18,292,635

Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate an operating budget, not including appropriations by special warrant articles and other appropriations voted separately, the amounts outlined in the budget for the purposes set forth herein, totaling **\$18,292,635**. Should this Article be defeated, the default budget shall be **\$18,046,467** which is the same as last year with certain adjustments required by previous actions of the Town, 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. **The Board of Selectmen recommends this Article (0-0). The Budget Advisory Committee recommends this Article (0-0). Voting YES on this article has an estimated tax impact of \$11.94 on an assessed valuation of \$100,000 when compared to voting NO on this article.**

WARRANT ARTICLE 5 - WASTEWATER DEPARTMENT OPERATING BUDGET - \$ 2,204,593

Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$2,204,593** to operate and maintain the Wastewater Treatment Facility and the Sanitary Sewer Collection System, said appropriation to be offset by income received from wastewater user charges, or take any other action relative thereto? Should this Article be defeated, the default budget shall be **\$2,107,269** which is the same as last year, with certain adjustments required by previous actions of the Town, 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. This warrant article is paid for by the wastewater user fees. **The Board of Commissioners recommends this Article (0-0). The Budget Advisory Committee recommends this Article (0-0).**

WARRANT ARTICLE 6 - WATER DEPARTMENT OPERATING BUDGET - \$ 2,711.808

Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$2,711,808** to operate and maintain the Water Department, said appropriation to be offset by income received from the water user charges, or take any other action relative thereto? Should this article be defeated, the default budget shall be **\$2,680,050**, which is the same as last year, with certain adjustments required by previous actions of the Town, 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. This warrant article is paid for by the water user fees. **The Board of Commissioners recommends this Article (0-0). The Budget Advisory Committee recommends this Article (0-0).**

WARRANT ARTICLE 7 - RECONSTRUCTION OF TOWN ROADS - \$ 300,000

Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$300,000** to reconstruct or repair Town roads? This will be a non-lapsing appropriation per RSA 32:7, VI. **The Board of Selectmen recommends this Article (0-0). The Budget Advisory Committee recommends this Article (0-0).** This Article has an estimated tax impact of **\$14.50** on an assessed valuation of **\$100,000**.

WARRANT ARTICLE 8 - WADLEIGH LIBRARY ELECTRICAL SYSTEM SAFETY AND EFFICIENCY UPGRADES - \$ 90,000

Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$90,000** for the purpose of the replacement of the four (4) obsolete and unsafe Federal Pacific electrical panels in the library. Note: \$25,000 will be used from the Wadleigh Library Maintenance and Upkeep Capital Reserve account to offset this cost. This is a Special Warrant Article in accordance with RSA 32. **The Board Library Trustees recommend this Article (7-0). The Board of Selectmen recommends this Article (0-0). The Budget Advisory Committee recommends this Article (0-0).** This Article has an estimated tax impact of **\$3.14** on an assessed valuation of **\$100,000**.

WARRANT ARTICLE 9 - SOCIAL SERVICES - \$40,000

Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$40,000**, for the purpose of providing funding to Social Service agencies for Milford residents as proposed by the Social Services Committee and submitted to the Board of Selectmen? This is a Special Warrant Article in accordance with RSA 32. **The Board of Selectmen recommends this Article (0-0). The Budget Advisory Committee recommends this Article (0-0).** This Article has an estimated tax impact of **\$1.93** on an assessed valuation of **\$100,000**.

WARRANT ARTICLE 10 - NON-EMERGENCY COMMUNITY TRANSPORTATION BUS SERVICES – \$32,000

Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$32,000** for the purpose of providing the Town's share of funding to the Souhegan Valley Transportation Collaborative (SVTC) in order to continue operating a regional, non-emergency, wheelchair-accessible transportation service providing rides within the designated service area to seniors, people with disabilities, and the general public? **The Board of Selectmen recommends this Article (0-0). The Budget Advisory Committee recommends this Article (0-0).** This Article has an estimated tax impact of **\$1.55** on an assessed valuation of **\$100,000**.

WARRANT ARTICLE 11 - INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY INFRASTRUCTURE CAPITAL RESERVE - \$20,000

Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$20,000** to be placed in the Information Technology Infrastructure Capital Reserve Fund? The Board of Selectmen has the authority to expend from this fund. The \$20,000 adds to the Information Technology Infrastructure Capital Reserve Fund approved by voters in 2021. The current available balance in this capital reserve account as of August 31, 2023 is approximately \$41,186.59. **The Board of Selectmen recommends this Article (0-0). The Budget Advisory Committee recommends this Article (0-0). This Article has an estimated tax impact of \$0.97 on an assessed valuation of \$100,000.**

WARRANT ARTICLE 12 - SUMMER BAND CONCERTS SUPPORT - \$9,000

Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$9,000** for the purpose of holding the annual summer evening Band Concerts (bands, sound system, crossing detail)? This is a Special Warrant Article in accordance with RSA 32. This is a non-lapsing article until 12/31/25. **The Board of Selectmen recommends this Article (0-0). The Budget Advisory Committee recommends this Article (0-0). This Article has an estimated tax impact of \$0.43 on an assessed valuation of \$100,000.**

WARRANT ARTICLE 13 - MEMORIAL, VETERANS & LABOR DAY PARADES AND RECOGNITION SUPPORT - \$8,000

Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$8,000** for the purpose of town support relative to the observance of Memorial, Veterans, and Labor Day Parades? These funds shall be used to cover parade costs incurred by Public Works, Police Departments, and other Town departments, and to purchase flags to be placed on the graves of veterans 30 days before Memorial Day and removed 30 days after Veterans Day. Departmental support costs and materials associated with the provision of these services will be charged against this appropriation. This is a Special Warrant Article in accordance with RSA 32. This is a non-lapsing article until 12/31/25. **The Board of Selectmen recommends this Article (0-0). The Budget Advisory Committee recommends this Article (0-0). This Article has an estimated tax impact of \$0.39 on an assessed valuation of \$100,000.**

WARRANT ARTICLE 14 - ANNUAL LABOR DAY PARADE SUPPORT - \$6,000

Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$6,000** for the purpose of funding bands, musicians and other allied expenses directly attributed to the annual Labor Day Parade? This is a Special Warrant Article in accordance with RSA 32. **The Board of Selectmen recommends this Article (0-0). The Budget Advisory Committee recommends this Article (0-0). This Article has an estimated tax impact of \$0.29 on an assessed valuation of \$100,000.**

WARRANT ARTICLE 15 - DISCONTINUE OSGOOD POND CAPITAL RESERVE TRUST FUND - \$0

Shall the Town vote to discontinue the Osgood Pond Capital Reserve Trust Fund created in 1997 with a current balance of .88, per RSA 35:16-a. Said funds, with accumulated interest to date of withdrawal, are to be transferred to the municipality's general fund. This is a housekeeping Warrant Article. This fund is no longer utilized, and has not been for some time. **The Board of Selectmen recommends this Article (0-0). The Budget Advisory Committee recommends this Article (0-0). This article has no tax impact.**

WARRANT ARTICLE 16 - CONSERVATION LAND FUND - \$30,000 By Petition

Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Thirty Thousand (\$30,000) Dollars for the purpose of adding it to the Conservation Fund created in accordance with RSA 36-A, said fund being allowed to accumulate from year to year and to be available for the acquisition of property, conservation easements and other RSA 36-A allowable purposes, or take any other action relative thereto? Contributions further the protection of the town's natural resources. This is a Special Warrant Article in accordance with RSA 32. **The Board of Selectmen recommends this Article (0-0). The Budget Advisory Committee recommends this Article (0-0). This Article has an estimated tax impact of \$1.45 on an assessed valuation of \$100,000.**