

**THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
TOWN OF SEABROOK
TOWN WARRANT FOR 2024**

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

You are hereby notified to meet in the auditorium of the Seabrook Community Center, U.S. Route 1 (Lafayette Road) on Tuesday, February 6, 2024, at 7:00 o'clock in the evening to participate in the first session of the 2024 Annual Town Meeting.

And, you are hereby notified that the polls will be open in the auditorium of the Seabrook Community Center, U.S. Route 1 (Lafayette Road) on Tuesday, March 12, 2024, at 7:00 o'clock in the forenoon, and you may cast your ballots on the official ballot questions below, until at least 7:00 o'clock in the evening of the same day.

Further, you are notified that the Moderator will process the absentee ballots beginning at 1:00 o'clock in the afternoon on Tuesday, March 12, 2024, pursuant to RSA 659:49.

ARTICLE 1

To select by non-partisan ballot:

- one (1) Selectman and Assessor for a term of three (3) years;
- one (1) Tax Collector for a term of three (3) years,
- two (2) members of the Planning Board for a term of three (3) years;
- two (2) members of the Budget Committee for a term of three (3) years;
- one (1) Trustee of the Library for a term of three (3) years;
- one (1) Trustee of the Trust Funds for a term of three (3) years;
- three (3) Constables for a term of one (1) year;

ARTICLE 2

Reserved for Planning Board

ARTICLE 3

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Eight Million Two Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$8,200,000.00) for the purpose of developing existing water sources, and infrastructure for connecting municipal water sources to the water treatment facility and upgrade the water treatment facility controls and treatment systems, and to authorize the issuance of not more than \$8,200,000.00 of bonds or notes in accordance with the provisions of the Municipal Finance Act (RSA 33) and to authorize the Board of Selectmen and the Town Treasurer to issue and negotiate such bonds or notes and to determine the rate of interest thereon. Further, to authorize the Board of Selectmen to apply for, contract for, accept and expend any Federal, State or other available funds, including from the State Revolving Fund, toward the project that may be available, according to the terms under which they are received, and to borrow in anticipation of the receipt of such aid or the issuance of such bonds or notes as provided by the Municipal Finance Act, (RSA 33), as amended; and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to take any and all actions as may be necessary to carry out the project in the best interests of the Town of Seabrook. This bond will be repaid through the Water Enterprise (3/5th vote required) (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen) (Recommended by the Budget Committee).

NOTE: This project will provide funds to permit 5 new wells on Stard and Weare Road, design and build infrastructure to connect sources to the water treatment facility, upgrade controls and treatment systems to treat new sources. Bond payments would come from water rates. Bond payments would come from sewer

ARTICLE 4

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Six Million Dollars (\$6,000,000.00) for the purpose of beginning the Wastewater Plant Upgrades Phase Two and to authorize the issuance of not more than \$6,000,000.00 of bonds or notes in accordance with the provisions of the Municipal Finance Act (RSA 33) and to authorize the Board of Selectmen and the Town Treasurer to issue and negotiate such bonds or notes and to determine the rate of interest thereon. Further, to authorize the Board of Selectmen to apply for, contract for, accept and expend any Federal, State or other available funds, including from the State Revolving Fund, toward the project that may be available, according to the terms under which they are received, and to borrow in anticipation of the receipt of such aid or the issuance of such bonds or notes as provided by the Municipal Finance Act, (RSA 33), as amended; and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to take any and all actions as may be necessary to carry out the project in the best interests of the Town of Seabrook. This bond will be repaid through the Sewer Enterprise (3/5th vote required) (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen) (Recommended by the Budget Committee).

NOTE: Phase 2 Wastewater Treatment Facility upgrades include, 3 Influent 54-inch screw pump replacements, all 3 Oxidation ditches to be upgraded and repaired to improve energy efficiency, New roofs on 3 buildings and bio solids processes not completed in phase 1. Bond payments would come from sewer rates.

ARTICLE 5

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 vote of the first session, for the purposes set forth therein, totaling Thirty One Million Five Hundred Twenty One Thousand Four Hundred One Dollars (\$31,521,401.00)? Should this article be defeated, the default budget shall be Thirty One Million One Hundred Twenty One Thousand Three Hundred Eighty Three Dollars (\$31,121,383.00) 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 one 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) (Recommended/Not Recommended by the Board of Selectmen) (Recommended by the Budget Committee) (Estimated \$8.986 impact per \$1,000 on the tax rate).

NOTE: This operating budget warrant article does not include appropriations contained in **ANY** other warrant articles.

ARTICLE 6

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Fifty-Three Thousand-Five Hundred Dollars (\$53,500.00) for the funding of four new chapters of the Master Plan as recommended by the Planning Board. These chapters would be “Transportation,” “Natural & Historical Resources,” “Future Land Use,” and “Implementation.” Master Plan updates should be undertaken every ten years. This sum will come from the unassigned fund balance. This will be a non-lapsing appropriation per RSA 32:7, VI and will not lapse until the project is completed or in four (4) years (December 31, 2028), whichever occurs first. This is a special warrant article. (Majority vote required) (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen) (Recommended by the Budget Committee) (No impact on the tax rate).

NOTE: An up-to-date Master Plan is a legal prerequisite for a zoning ordinance and associated land use regulations. Seabrook’s current Master Plan was formally adopted by the Planning Board in February 2011. NH statutes recommend updates to the plan “every 5 to 10 years” (see RSA 674:3). This article is recommended by the Planning Board. Two chapters of the new Master Plan were funded and started last year. These four chapters would complete the new Master Plan.

ARTICLE 7

To see if the Town will vote to approve the cost items included in the collective bargaining agreement reached between the Board of Selectmen and the Seabrook Professional Firefighters Association for the period April 1, 2024 through March 31, 2026; and furthermore to raise and appropriate the sum of Zero Dollars (\$0) for fiscal year 2024, such sum representing the additional costs attributable to the increase in salaries and benefits required by the new agreement over those that would be paid at current staffing levels. (Majority vote required) (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen) (Recommended by the Budget Committee) (No impact on the tax rate).

NOTE: There would be no cost of living increase, or any other cost increase, for either of the two years covered by this contract. This contract contains an evergreen clause. (Majority vote required) (No impact on the tax rate).

ARTICLE 8

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Four Hundred Ten Thousand Dollars (\$410,000.00) for improvements to Town streets and sidewalks consisting of pavement overlays, adjustments to associated structures, crack-sealing repairs, and design of drainage improvements. Said appropriation will be offset by an anticipated One Hundred Sixty-Thousand Eight Hundred Dollars (\$160,800.00) from the Highway Block Grant; Eighty Thousand Dollars (\$80,000.00) from the Transportation Improvement Special Revenue Fund and the remainder to come from general taxation. This will be a non-lapsing appropriation per RSA 32:7, VI and will not lapse until the projects are completed or in two (2) years (December 31, 2026), whichever occurs first. This is a special warrant article. (Majority vote required) (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen) (Recommended by the Budget Committee) (Estimated \$0.049 impact per \$1,000 on the tax rate).

NOTE: This article is included in the Capital Improvement Plan submitted to the Planning Board. This article funds the annual maintenance of town roads.

ARTICLE 9

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Three Hundred Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$325,000.00) for the purchase and equipping of a new trash packer for the Public Works Department Trash Division, and to authorize the sale or trade of the existing packer truck, which it will replace. This will be a non-lapsing appropriation per RSA 32:7, VI and will not lapse until the project is completed or in two (2) years (December 31, 2026), whichever occurs first. This is a special warrant article. (Majority vote required) (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen) (Recommended by the Budget Committee) (Estimated \$0.093 impact per \$1,000 on the tax rate).

NOTE: This article is included in the Capital Improvement Plan submitted to the Planning Board. This truck would replace the existing 2008 trash packer (Truck 76) vehicle that is beyond its useful life and has increased maintenance costs. The truck is used for curbside trash collection and is essential for maintaining the current high level of curbside trash pickup.

ARTICLE 10

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Ninety-Thousand Dollars (\$90,000.00) to be added to the existing Fire Department Self Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) and Turnout Gear Capital Reserve Fund previously established and to name the Board of Selectmen as agents to expend from said fund. This is a special warrant article. (Majority vote required) (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen) (Recommended by the Budget Committee) (Estimated \$0.026 impact per \$1,000 on the tax rate).

NOTE: This article is included in the Capital Improvement Plan submitted to the Planning Board. This article would allow the Town to begin saving for the mandatory purchase of turnout gear for Firefighters and mandatory purchase of SCBA breathing equipment, estimated to be due in 2025. The combined cost is estimated at \$280,000.00. The current balance of this fund is \$226,200. Turnout gear was purchased from this fund in 2021.

ARTICLE 11

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Sixty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$65,000.00) for the purpose of cleaning, rehabilitation and long-term well and equipment maintenance for seven (7) bedrock wells and five (5) gravel pack wells. This will be a non-lapsing appropriation per RSA 32:7, VI and will not lapse until the project is completed or in two (2) years (December 31, 2026), whichever occurs first. This is a special warrant article. (Majority vote required) (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen) (Recommended by the Budget Committee) (This amount would be paid for from water rates).

NOTE: This article is included in the capital improvement plan submitted to the Planning Board. These wells provide the Town its drinking water. This work is required to prevent permanent damage to these wells and to maintain maximum pumping capacity.

ARTICLE 12

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Seventy-Five Thousand Dollars (\$75,000.00) to be added to the existing Water Capital Reserve Fund previously established and to designate the Board of Selectmen as agents for the fund. This is a special warrant article. (Majority vote required) (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen) (Recommended by the Budget Committee) (This amount would be paid for from water rates.)

NOTE: This article is included in the Capital Improvement Plan submitted to the Planning Board. The Water Capital Reserve Fund has been used to fund water exploration and land acquisition to ensure that Seabrook has adequate water resources for the future. With the successful identification of a new water supply, future costs will include the piping of the water to the Seabrook water facility. The contribution to the Water Capital Reserve Fund is a down payment on those costs.

ARTICLE 13

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of One Hundred Ten Thousand Dollars (\$110,000.00) for the purchase and equipping of a one-ton dump truck for the Public Works Department Highway Division, and to authorize the sale or trade of the existing one-ton Ford F350 dump truck, which it will replace. This will be a non-lapsing appropriation per RSA 32:7, VI and will not lapse until the project is completed or in two (2) years (December 31, 2026), whichever occurs first. This is a special warrant article. (Majority vote required) (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen) (Recommended by the Budget Committee) (Estimated \$0.022 impact per \$1,000 on the tax rate).

NOTE: This article is included in the Capital Improvement Plan submitted to the Planning Board. This truck would replace a Ford F350 (Truck 49) vehicle that is beyond its useful life and has increased maintenance costs. The truck is used for plowing, sanding, and other vital tasks performed by the Seabrook DPW.

ARTICLE 14

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Two Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$250,000.00) for the upgrading the outdoor lighting at Veterans Park, including the placement of new poles, for the Public Works Department Parks Division. This will be a non-lapsing appropriation per RSA 32:7, VI and will not lapse until the project is completed or in two (2) years (December 31, 2026), whichever occurs first. This is a special warrant article. (Majority vote required) (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen) (Recommended by the Budget Committee) (Estimated \$0.040 impact per \$1,000 on the tax rate).

NOTE: This article is included in the Capital Improvement Plan submitted to the Planning Board. This lighting and the support poles are well beyond their useful life. A failure to upgrade these support poles and lighting may prevent the outdoor lighting that allows for recreational use of Veterans Park at night.

ARTICLE 15

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of One Hundred Forty Thousand Dollars (\$140,000.00) for the purchase and equipping of a tractor/loader for the Public Works Department Highway Division, and to authorize the sale or trade of the existing 1999 tractor/loader, which is well beyond its useful life, which it will replace. This vehicle is used for snow plowing and beach raking. This will be a non-lapsing appropriation per RSA 32:7, VI and will not lapse until the project is completed or in two (2) years (December 31, 2026), whichever occurs first. This is a special warrant article. (Majority vote required) (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen) (Recommended by the Budget Committee) (Estimated \$0.014 impact per \$1,000 on the tax rate).

NOTE: This article is included in the Capital Improvement Plan submitted to the Planning Board. The existing 1999 John Deere tractor/loader is beyond its useful life and has begun to incur major costs for repair.

ARTICLE 16

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Fifty-Thousand Dollars (\$50,000.00) to be added to the existing Police Department Equipment Capital Reserve Fund previously established? This is a special warrant article. (Majority vote required) (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen) (Recommended by the Budget Committee) (Estimated \$0.003 impact per \$1,000 on the tax rate).

NOTE: This article is included in the Capital Improvement Plan submitted to the Planning Board. This article would allow the Town to begin saving for the purchase of police equipment, due in 2025. The equipment will include replacement of firearms, tasers, protective vests, and digital equipment for cruisers. The combined cost is estimated at \$205,000.00. The current balance in this fund is \$72,896.

ARTICLE 17

To see if the Town will authorize the Board of Selectmen to enter into a five-year lease/purchase agreement in the amount of Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000.00) for the acquisition and equipping of a multi-passenger bus for the Recreation Department, and to raise and appropriate the sum of Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000.00) for the first year's payment for that purpose. This lease/purchase agreement contains an escape clause. (Majority vote required) (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen) (Recommended by the Budget Committee) (Estimated \$0.003 impact per \$1,000 on the tax rate).

NOTE: This article is included in the Capital Improvement Plan submitted to the Planning Board. This bus would enable the Recreation Department to serve additional children, facilitating additional participation for field trips, recreational outings, and other recreational activities requiring transportation.

ARTICLE 18

To see if the Town will vote to create eight (8) new full-time firefighter positions within the Fire Department, and to raise and appropriate the sum of Nine Hundred Fifty-Two Thousand Five Hundred (\$952,500) in salary and benefits to fund these positions. If approved, the appropriations for these positions will become part of the annual operating budget in subsequent years. This is a special warrant article. (Majority vote required) (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen) (Recommended by the Budget Committee) (Estimated \$0.274 impact per \$1,000 on the tax rate).

NOTE: The hiring of these eight (8) firefighters in 2024 would be for nine (9) months. In subsequent years it will be for twelve (12) months at a cost of One Million Two Hundred Seventy Thousand Dollars (\$1,270,000) The additional firefighters would reduce overtime costs by an estimated \$400,000 annually. The last addition of firefighters occurred in 2003.

ARTICLE 19

Shall the Town of Seabrook accept a Forty Thousand Dollar (\$40,000) donation from the Friends of Seabrook Community, F.O.S.C., a duly constituted 501-C3 based in Seabrook New Hampshire and authorize the Board of Selectmen to utilize those funds to create a Nature Trail which will be a minimally invasive walking and exercise trail with an observation deck looking over the marsh at 240-248 Lower Collins Street. The donation will fund the creation of the nature trail in full. FOOSC will be responsible for all future maintenance costs. (Majority vote required) (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen) No impact on the tax rate.

NOTE: This donation will allow for the creation of a passive recreation area that will allow Seabrook residents to recreate and enjoy the great outdoors.

ARTICLE 20

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Eleven Thousand Dollars (\$11,000.00) for Rockingham County Nutrition Program (Meals on Wheels), a human services organization for the purpose of providing a ready hot meal and safety services for those in need, on an ongoing basis to elderly residents. This is a special warrant article. (Majority vote required) (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen) (Recommended by the Budget Committee) (Estimated \$0.002 per \$1,000 on the tax rate).

ARTICLE 21

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Six Thousand Dollars (\$6,000.00) for Greater Seacoast Community Health (d/b/a Families First Health & Support Center), a human services organization for the purpose of targeting and assisting people who face risk factors such as poverty, homelessness, single parenthood, mental illness, uninsured, lack of medical/dental care, substance abuse, etc. This is a special warrant article. (Majority vote required) (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen) (Recommended by the Budget Committee) (Estimated \$0.002 impact per \$1,000 on the tax rate).

ARTICLE 22

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Seven Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$7,500.00) for Waypoint (formerly Child & Family Services), a human services organization for the purpose of providing a range of home and community-based family support and counseling programs designed to tackle problems before they reach a crisis and provides treatment during a crisis to stabilize the family. Waypoint has merged with Richie McFarland. This is a special warrant article. (Majority vote required) (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen) (Recommended by the Budget Committee) (Estimated \$0.002 impact per \$1,000 on the tax rate).

ARTICLE 23

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Eight Thousand Dollars (\$8,000.00) for Seabrook Community Table, a human services organization for the purpose of providing a free home-cooked meal to those having financial problems, families, and the elderly. This is a special warrant article. (Majority vote required) (Recommend by the Board of Selectmen) (Recommended by the Budget Committee) (Estimated \$0.002 impact per \$1,000 on the tax rate).

ARTICLE 24

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Eight Thousand Dollars (\$8,000.00) for Chucky's Fight, a human services organization for the purpose of providing guidance for loved ones/family members with substance abuse or mental health issues by providing guidance into treatments centers, mentorship, and community service hours that are supervised. This is a special warrant article. (Majority vote required) (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen) (Recommended by the Budget Committee) (Estimated \$0.002 impact per \$1,000 on the tax rate).

ARTICLE 25

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Fourteen Thousand Six Hundred Sixty-Nine Dollars (\$14,669.00) for Southern NH Services operating as the Community Action Council, a human services organization for the purpose of supporting low-income individuals and families with direct services, preventing more families from falling into poverty and/or homelessness, and assisting at-risk families in finding long-term solutions to their economic needs. This is a special warrant article. (Majority vote required) (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen) (Recommended by the Budget Committee) (Estimated \$0.004 impact per \$1,000 on the tax rate).

ARTICLE 26

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.00) for Seabrook Lions Club, a human services organization for the purpose of serving the elderly and children, the blind and deaf and/or the impoverished to help make their lives easier. This is a special warrant article. (Majority vote required) (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen) (Recommended by the Budget Committee) (Estimated \$0.001 impact per \$1,000 on the tax rate).

ARTICLE 27

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Eighteen Thousand Dollars (\$18,000.00) for Seacoast Youth Services, a human services organization for the purpose of providing programs to school aged children. This is a special warrant article. (Majority vote required) (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen) (Recommended by the Budget Committee) (Estimated \$0.004 impact per \$1,000 on the tax rate).

ARTICLE 28

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Three-Thousand Two Hundred Dollars (\$3,200.00) for Transportation Assistance for Seacoast Citizens, a human services organization that serves the senior population through a volunteer program utilized to meet many community needs. This is a special warrant article. (Majority vote required) (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen) (Recommended by the Budget Committee) (Estimated \$0.001 impact per \$1,000 on the tax rate).

ARTICLE 29

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Twenty-Nine Thousand Dollars (\$29,000.00) for Cross-Roads, a human services organization for the purpose of housing homeless individuals. This is a special warrant article. (Majority vote required) (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen) (Recommended by the Budget Committee) (Estimated \$0.008 impact per \$1,000 on the tax rate).

ARTICLE 30

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Two Thousand Four Hundred Dollars (\$2,400.00) for One Sky Community Services, a human services organization for the purpose of providing resident services supporting families and children that have developmental disabilities. This is a special warrant article. (Majority vote required) (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen) (Recommended by the Budget Committee) (Estimated \$0.001 impact per \$1,000 on the tax rate).

ARTICLE 31

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to negotiate a lease of Town owned land for the purpose of installing, operating and maintaining a communications facility or facilities and related equipment, and to further authorize the Board of Selectmen, to so lease the areas, with any such lease to have a total term of not less than thirty (30) years, with the minimum yearly rent to be paid to the Town for the first year of each such lease in the amount of \$140,000, inclusive of host community fees, and with such additional, commercially reasonable lease terms as may be negotiated and agreed-upon by the Board of Selectmen. The subject land is owned by the Town of Seabrook and located at xxxx Street, Seabrook, NH, shown as Tax Map x, Parcel x and further described in a deed recorded at the Rockingham County Registry of Deeds in Book xxxx, Page xxxx. This is a special warrant article. (Majority vote required) (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen).

Given under our hands and seals the ____ day of January, 2024.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN:

Theresa A. Kyle, Chairman

Harold Eaton, Vice Chairman

Srinivasan Ravikumar, Clerk

A true copy of warrant, ATTEST:

Theresa A. Kyle, Chairman

Harold Eaton, Vice Chairman

Srinivasan Ravikumar, Clerk

We hereby certify that we gave notice to the inhabitants, within named, to meet at the time and place and for the purposes within named, by posting an attested copy of the within Warrant at the place of meeting within named, and a like attested copy at the Post Office and the Town Hall, being public places in said Town of Seabrook this ____ day of January, 2023.

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
Rockingham, ss

January ____, 2024

Personally appeared the above named Selectmen of the Town of Seabrook and swore that the above was true to the best of their knowledge and belief.

Before me,

Justice of the Peace/Notary Public
My commission expires: 6/6/23