

**State of New Hampshire
County of Carroll, Town of Freedom
2024 TOWN WARRANT**

To the Inhabitants of the Town of Freedom in the County of Carroll in said state, qualified to vote in Town Affairs:

You are hereby notified that the 2024 Annual Town Meeting of the Town of Freedom will be held in two separate sessions. The first session will be held at the Freedom Town Hall on Tuesday, **March 12, 2024**, for voting by Official Ballot for the election of Town Officers and for the adoption of Zoning Amendments. The polls will open at 9:00 a.m. and close at 7:00 p.m. unless there is a vote to keep the polls open to a later hour. The ballots will be counted after the polls close.

The second session of the Town Meeting will be held at the Freedom Elementary School on **Saturday, March 16, 2024**, beginning at 9 a.m., at which all other warrant articles will be presented, discussed, and acted upon.

Article 1 (To vote by Official Ballot):

To choose all necessary Town Officers for the ensuing year.

Article 2 (To vote by official ballot):

(Planning Board vote 7-0-0)

Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 1 as proposed by the Planning Board to amend Table 304.5 and Section 304.6.3.2 to allow the Code Enforcement Officer to approve erosion and sedimentation control plans requiring no other action by the Zoning Board.

Article 3 (To vote by official ballot):

(Planning Board vote 7-0-0)

Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 2 as proposed by the Planning Board which adds Sections 104, 202 and 906.A, and amends Section 2402, #64 to define storage containers and portable structures as structures subject to setback, lot coverage, and building permit requirements. Any such Structures existing at the time this article passes may be continued.

Article 4 (To vote by official ballot):

(Planning Board vote 7-0-0)

Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 3 as proposed by the Planning Board to amend Section 1107.2 to change the width of manufactured homes from fifteen ft. (15) to fourteen ft. (14).

Article 5 (To vote by official ballot):

(Planning Board vote 7-0-0)

Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 4 as proposed by the Planning Board to amend Section 310.1.6 to define the total lot area for condominiums as the limited common area for the unit.

Article 6 (To vote by official ballot):

(Planning Board vote 7-0-0)

Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 5 as proposed by the Planning Board to add Section 805.1.4 to comply with RSA 153:5, VI on the issuance of driveway permits.

Article 7:

(Selectmen Recommend 2-1-0)

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of One Million Six Hundred Dollars (\$1,600,000) (gross budget) for the design, construction, and original equipping of renovations and improvements to the Town Offices at 33 Old Portland Road, with One Million Five Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$1,500,000) of such sum to be raised through the issuance of bonds or notes under and in compliance with the provisions of the Municipal Finance Act (RSA Chapter 33) and with the remaining One-Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$100,000) to be withdrawn from the Municipal Land and Building Capital Reserve Fund; to authorize the Select Board to issue, negotiate, sell and deliver such bonds or notes and determine the rate of interest thereon and the maturity and other terms thereof; to authorize the Select Board to apply for, obtain and accept any federal, state, other aid or private grants for this project and take any other action necessary to carry out this vote, including acquisition and/or conveyance of any necessary utility easements to support the project? 3/5 Ballot Vote required

Article 8:

(Selectmen Recommend 1-1-1)

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of One Million Six Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$1,600,000) (gross budget) for the design, construction, and original equipping of a new Town Office at 50 Eaton Road, with One Million Five Hundred Dollars (\$1,500,000) of such sum to be raised through the issuance of bonds or notes under and in compliance with the provisions of the Municipal Finance Act (RSA Chapter 33) and with the remaining One-Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$100,000) to be withdrawn from the Municipal Land and Building Capital Reserve Fund; to authorize the Select Board to issue, negotiate, sell and deliver such bonds or notes and to determine the rate of interest thereon and the maturity and other terms thereof; to authorize the Select Board to apply for, obtain and accept any federal, state, other aid or private grants for this project and take any other action necessary to carry out this vote, including acquisition and/or conveyance of any necessary utility easements to support the project? 3/5 Ballot Vote required

Article 9:

(Selectmen Recommend 3-0-0)

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$3,502,664 (Three Million Five Hundred Thousand Two Thousand Six Hundred Sixty-Four dollars) for general municipal operations. This article does not include appropriations contained in special or individual articles addressed separately. (Majority vote required)

Article 10:

(Selectmen Recommend 3-0-0)

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$120,000 (One Hundred Twenty Thousand dollars) for the annual appropriation for the library. (Majority vote required)

Article 11:

(Selectmen Recommend 3-0-0)

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$49,532 (Forty-Nine Thousand, Five-Hundred-Thirty-Two dollars) for the purpose of continuing planned site improvements and updates at the Transfer Station. Funds to come from unassigned fund balance from monies not yet expended from 2022's Article 20. (Majority vote required)

Article 12:

(Selectmen Recommend 3-0-0)

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$150,000 (One Hundred Fifty Thousand dollars) for the purpose of crushing gravel. \$96,305 (Ninety-Six Thousand Three Hundred Five dollars) to come from unassigned fund balance for monies allocated from FEMA for 2023 and the remainder \$53,695 (Fifty-Three Thousand Six Hundred Ninety-Five dollars) to be raised by taxation. (Majority vote required)

Article 13:

(Selectmen Recommend 3-0-0)

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$125,000 (One Hundred Twenty-Five Thousand dollars) for the purpose of Huckins Road reconstruction to include excavation, drainage, install gravel, reclaim existing asphalt and install winter binder pavement. \$96,305 (Ninety-Six Thousand, Three Hundred Five dollars) to come from unassigned fund balance. (For FEMA money allocated in 2023). \$28,695.00 (Twenty-Eight Thousand Six-Hundred Ninety-Five dollars) to come from taxation. (Majority vote required)

Article 14:

(Selectmen Recommend 3-0-0)

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$120,000 (One hundred Twenty- Thousand dollars) to repave town roads. (Majority vote required)

Article 15:

(Selectmen Recommend 3-0-0)

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$65,000 (Sixty-Five Thousand dollars) to seal coat town roads. (Majority vote required)

Article 16:

(Selectmen Recommend 3-0-0)

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$32,000 (Thirty-Two Thousand dollars) to crack seal town roads. (Majority vote required)

Article 17:

(Selectmen Recommend 3-0-0)

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$155,000 (One Hundred Fifty-Five Thousand dollars) for the purpose of installing a precast concrete box culvert rise on Watson Hill Road. \$40,000 (Forty Thousand dollars) to come from Highway Drainage Structure Improvement Fund Capital Reserve Fund. The remaining \$115,000 (One Hundred Fifteen Thousand dollars) to be raised by taxation. (Majority vote required)

Article 18:

(Selectmen Recommend 3-0-0)

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$216,400 (Two-Hundred Sixteen Thousand Four-Hundred dollars) for the purpose of purchasing a new loader for the highway department with \$62,500 (Sixty-Two Thousand Five Hundred dollars) for a trade in value and \$50,000 (Fifty-Thousand dollars) to come from the Highway Equipment Capital Reserve Fund. The remainder of \$103,900 (One Hundred Three Thousand Nine-Hundred dollars) to come from taxation. (Majority vote required)

Article 19:

(Selectmen Recommend 3-0-0)

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$58,000 (Fifty-Eight Thousand dollars) for the purpose of purchasing a new police cruiser with \$40,000 (Forty-Thousand dollars) to come from the Police Department Equipment Fund. The remainder of \$18,000 (Eighteen- Thousand dollars) to be raised by taxation. (Majority vote required)

Article 20:

(Selectmen Recommend 3-0-0)

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$48,600 (Forty-Eight Thousand Six- Hundred dollars) for dredging and dry hydrant installation at the fire pond on Watson Hill Rd. \$30,600 (Thirty Thousand- Six Hundred dollars) to come from unassigned fund balance for funds that were not expended last year. The remainder \$18,000 (Eighteen-Thousand dollars) to be raised by taxation. (Majority vote required)

Article 21:

(Selectmen Recommend 3-0-0)

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$3,500 (Three Thousand Five-Hundred dollars) for the purpose of repairing the chimney at the Town Hall. Funds to be raised by taxation. (Majority vote required)

Article 22:

(Selectmen Recommend 3-0-0)

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$12,000 (Twelve Thousand dollars) for the purpose of repairing the roof at the Village Fire Station. Funds to be raised by taxation. (Majority vote required)

Article 23:

(Selectmen Recommend 3-0-0)

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$30,000 (Thirty Thousand dollars) for the purpose of a town revaluation. Funds to be raised by taxation. (Majority vote required)

Article 24:

(Selectmen Recommend 3-0-0)

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$5,000 (Five Thousand dollars) for the purpose of a controlled burn of the pine barrens in the Town Forest for the ensuing year with said funds to come from the Town Forest Maintenance Fund. This project was delayed from previous years and the FAC/FCC has applied for a grant to cover \$1,500 (One-Thousand Five Hundred dollars) of this total expense. If this grant is not received the total amount of \$5,000 (Five Thousand dollars) will be required. (Majority vote required)

Article 25:

(Selectmen Recommend 3-0-0)

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$6,700 (Six Thousand Seven- Hundred dollars) for a licensed forester to oversee the administration of forestry activities in the Town Forest for the ensuing year with said funds to be withdrawn from the Town Forest Maintenance Fund. Prior year expenditures were \$6,673.78 (Six Thousand Six-Hundred Seventy-Three dollars and Seventy-Eight cents) Conservation Commission recommends this appropriation 4-0. (Majority vote required)

Article 26:

(Selectmen Recommend 3-0-0)

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$5,000 (Five-Thousand dollars) for mowing, culvert replacement, and general maintenance activities in the Town Forest for the ensuing year with said funds to be withdrawn from the Town Forest Maintenance Fund. Prior years expenditures were \$26.22 (Twenty-six dollars and Twenty-Two cents). Conservation Commission recommends this appropriation 4-0. (Majority vote required)

Article 27:

(Selectmen Recommend 3-0-0)

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$37,000 (Thirty-Seven Thousand dollars) for the repair and reconstruction of formerly Jackman Ridge Road located within the Town Forest with said funds to be withdrawn from the Town Forest Maintenance Fund. Prior years expenditures were \$0 as work was not completed in that period. Conservation Commission recommends this appropriation 4-0. (Majority vote required)

Article 28:

(Selectmen Recommend 3-0-0)

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$44,330 (Forty-Four Thousand Three- Hundred Thirty dollars) for milfoil treatment in Danforth Ponds and other lakes and streams needed. The sum of \$22,165 (Twenty-Two Thousand One-Hundred Sixty-Five dollars) comes from the Exotic Aquatic Weed Control Project Grant. The remainder of \$22,165 (Twenty-Two Thousand One-Hundred Sixty-Five dollars) is to be raised by taxation. (Majority vote required)

Article 29:

(Selectmen Recommend 3-0-0)

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$10,000 (Ten Thousand dollars) to be added to the Transfer Station Equipment Capital Reserve Fund previously established. (Majority vote required)

Article: 30:

(Selectmen Recommend 3-0-0)

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$10,000 (Ten Thousand dollars) to be added to the Town Infrastructure Capital Reserve Fund previously established. (Majority vote required)

Article: 31:

(Selectmen Recommend 3-0-0)

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$10,000 (Ten Thousand dollars) to be added to the Public Safety Building Capital Reserve Fund previously established. (Majority vote required).

Article: 32:

(Selectmen Recommend 3-0-0)

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$10,000 (Ten Thousand dollars) to be added to the Police Department Equipment Capital Reserve Fund previously established. (Majority vote required)

Article: 33:

(Selectmen Recommend 3-0-0)

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$10,000 (Ten Thousand dollars) to be added to the Library Expendable Trust Fund previously established. (Majority vote required).

Article: 34:

(Selectmen Recommend 3-0-0)

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$10,000 (Ten Thousand dollars) to be added to the Highway Equipment Capital Reserve Fund previously established. (Majority vote required).

Article: 35:

(Selectmen Recommend 3-0-0)

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$10,000 (Ten Thousand dollars) to be added to the Highway Drainage Capital Reserve Fund previously established. (Majority vote required.)

Article: 36:

(Selectmen Recommend 3-0-0)

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$10,000 (Ten Thousand dollars) to be added to the Town Hall/Office Capital Reserve Fund previously established. (Majority vote required.)

Article 37:

(Not recommended by Selectmen 0-0-3)

(Submitted by Petition) To ask the Town of Freedom, NH if they would vote in favor to raise and appropriate the sum of \$4,000 (Four-Thousand dollars) to help subsidize a portion of the rent during the winter months for the Freedom Village Store a not-for-profit organization (501c4) so they can stay open January-April, and expand the range and availability of grocery items local residents need and want in the winter when winter conditions can make it hard to get to the larger markets.


Article 38:

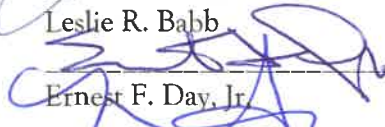
To transact any other business that may legally come before this meeting.

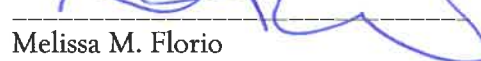
Given our hands and seal this 05th day of February in the year of the Lord Two Thousand Twenty-Four.

Town of Freedom

By Its Board of Selectmen:



Leslie R. Babb


Ernest F. Day, Jr.


Melissa M. Florio

State of New Hampshire
County of Carroll, ss

Personally, appeared the above-named Leslie R. Babb, Ernest F. Day, Jr., and Melissa M. Florio, or a majority of them, Selectmen of the Town of Freedom, and took oath that the foregoing is true and accurate to the best of their knowledge and belief.

Before me, 
Stacy Bolduc, Notary Public My Commission Expires:

Feb 19, 2024

