

2024 TOWN WARRANT
For the TOWN OF LEE, NEW HAMPSHIRE

FIRST SESSION: To the inhabitants of the Town of Lee, County of Strafford, State of New Hampshire, qualified to vote in Town Affairs, you are hereby notified to meet at the *Mast Way School located on Mast Road, Lee at 9:00 a.m. on Saturday, February 3, 2024.* This session shall consist of explanation, discussion and deliberation of the Warrant Articles numbered 1 through 17. Warrant Articles may be amended subject to the following limitations: (a) Warrant Articles whose wording is prescribed by law shall not be amended, and (b) Warrant Articles that are amended shall be placed on the official ballot for a final vote on the main motion as amended.

SECOND SESSION: To the inhabitants of the Town of Lee, County of Strafford, State of New Hampshire, qualified to vote in Town Affairs, you are hereby notified to meet *at the Lee Public Safety Complex, 20 George Bennett Road, Lee, NH on Tuesday, March 12, 2024.* The Polls will be open from 7:00am-7:00pm.

ARTICLE 1

To choose all necessary Town Officers for the ensuing year:
(To be considered at the March 12, 2024 Ballot Voting)

ARTICLE 2

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of up to One Million Seven-Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$1,700,000) for the purpose of designing, engineering, building and equipping a new Municipal Office Building, which includes site work; and to authorize the issuance of not more than One Million Four-hundred Thousand Dollars (\$1,400,000) of bonds or notes for this project in accordance with the provisions of the Municipal Finance Act RSA 33:1 et seq., as amended; and to authorize the Select Board to apply for, obtain and accept federal, state or other aid, if any, which may be available for said project and to comply with all laws applicable to said project; to authorize the Select Board to issue, negotiate, sell and deliver said bonds and notes and to determine the rate of interest thereon and the maturity other terms thereof; and to authorize the Select Board to take any other actions or to pass any other vote relative thereto; including but not limited to, withdrawing \$300,000 from the Town Buildings Capital Reserve Fund and to further raise and appropriate an additional sum of Thirty Five Thousand Dollars (\$35,000) for the first year's interest payment on the bond. The Select Board recommends this article. Requires a 3/5ths ballot vote majority to pass. *(Estimated tax impact of \$0.03)* **Fiscal Impact Note:** *If the bond is issued in 2025 the estimated 2025 tax rate impact is \$0.03 per \$1,000 valuation (three cents per thousand dollars of valuation). The total of the bond's principal and interest payment over a 20-year period at an interest rate of 3.44% are estimated to be \$1,916,600. The estimated bond schedule shows 2026 payment of \$116,956, which decreases annually to a payment of \$71,204 in 2044.*

ARTICLE 3

Shall the Town of Lee 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 **\$5,598,662**. Should this article be defeated, the default budget shall be **\$5,108,202** which is the same as last year, with certain adjustments required by previous action of the Select Board 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 Select Board recommends this article. Majority vote required. *(Estimated tax rate impact of \$6.05, a \$0.46 increase from prior year)*

ARTICLE 4

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Two Hundred Thousand dollars (\$200,000) to be used for Lee Library renovations. Majority vote required.
(Estimated tax rate impact of \$0.23)

ARTICLE 5

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of One-hundred Seventy Five Thousand dollars (\$175,000) to be deposited into the Fire Equipment Capital Reserve Fund. The Select Board recommends this article. Majority vote required.
(Estimated tax rate impact of \$0.20)

ARTICLE 6

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Two Hundred Thousand dollars (\$200,000) to be deposited into the Town Buildings Capital Reserve Fund. This sum to come from the Unassigned Fund Balance and no amount to be raised from general taxation. The Select Board recommends this article. Majority vote required.
(Estimated tax rate impact of \$0.00)

ARTICLE 7

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Fifty-Thousand dollars (\$50,000) to be deposited into the Highway Equipment Capital Reserve Fund. The Select Board recommends this article. Majority vote required. *(Estimated tax rate impact of \$0.05)*

ARTICLE 8

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Ninety Thousand dollars (\$90,000) to be deposited into the Highway Dept. Road and Bridge Improvement Plan Capital Reserve Fund. The Select Board recommends this article. Majority vote required.
(Estimated tax rate impact of \$0.09)

ARTICLE 9

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Ninety Thousand dollars (\$90,000) to be deposited into the Transfer Station Equipment Capital Reserve Fund. The Select Board recommends this article. Majority vote required.
(Estimated tax rate impact of \$0.09)

ARTICLE 10

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of not more than Eighty Thousand dollars (\$80,000) for the purchase of radio infrastructure to include a Tait TB9400 100w VHF Repeater-P25, Simulcast Enabled Antenna System and a GPS Disciplined Simulcast Master Oscillator to assist the fire department in communications from the fire ground to dispatch, other mutual aid agencies, and within the department, and to authorize the withdrawal of this amount from the Fire Equipment Capital Reserve Fund. The Select Board recommends this article. Majority vote required. *(Estimated tax rate impact of \$0.00)*

ARTICLE 11

To see if the Town will vote to establish a Solar Energy System Capital Reserve Fund under the provisions of RSA 35:1 for the purchase of solar energy systems and to raise and appropriate the sum of Thirty-five Thousand dollars (\$35,000) to be placed in said fund. Further, to name the Select Board as agents to expend from said fund. The Select Board recommends this article. Majority Vote Required. *(Estimated tax rate impact of \$0.04)*

ARTICLE 12

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Thirty Thousand dollars (\$30,000) to be deposited into the Fire Ponds and Cisterns Capital Reserve Fund. The Select Board recommends this article. Majority vote required. *(Estimated tax rate impact of \$0.03)*

ARTICLE 13

To see if the Town will vote to establish a Cemetery Fencing Capital Reserve Fund under the provisions of RSA 35:1 for the purchase of replacement cemetery fencing and to raise and appropriate the sum of Twenty-five Thousand dollars (\$25,000) to be placed in said fund. Further, to name the Select Board as agents to expend from said fund. The Select Board recommends this article. Majority Vote Required. *(Estimated tax rate impact of \$0.03)*

ARTICLE 14

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Twenty Thousand dollars (\$20,000) to be deposited into the Internal Service Expendable Trust Fund for Accrued Benefits. The Select Board recommends this article. Majority vote required. *(Estimated tax rate impact of \$0.02)*

ARTICLE 15

To see if the Town will vote to establish a contingency fund for Fiscal Year 2025 for unanticipated expenses that may arise and further to raise and appropriate Twenty Thousand dollars (\$20,000) to go into said fund. This sum to come from the Unassigned Fund Balance and no amount to be raised from general taxation. Any appropriation left in the fund at the end of the year will lapse to the general fund. The governing body shall annually publish a detailed report of all expenditures from the fund. The Select Board recommends this article. Majority vote required. *(Estimated tax rate impact of \$0.00)*

ARTICLE 16

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Ten Thousand dollars (\$10,000) to be deposited into the Revaluation Capital Reserve Fund. The Select Board recommends this article. Majority vote required. *(Estimated tax rate impact of \$0.01)*


ARTICLE 17

To see if the Town will vote to lease, through the Select Board and under the provisions of RSA 41:11, the Annex Building located at 13 Mast Road to the Lee Historical Society, a private and independent not-for-profit organization, herein after referred to as the Historical Society. The Select Board shall reserve the right to discontinue this agreement with 30 days' notice in the event the building and grounds are needed for municipal, governmental, transportation, or other reasons as required in the interests of the public good. The Select Board shall require no rent or lease payment for use of the building. The Select Board, at its discretion, may require cost sharing for electrical, heating, and cooling utilities with 60 days' notice to the Historical Society. The Select Board shall provide basic landscaping service and snow removal. Other provisions, to be included in the lease at the Select Board's discretion. The Select Board recommends this article. Majority vote required. *(Estimated tax rate impact of \$0.00)*

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

GIVEN UNDER OUR HANDS THIS 22 DAY OF JANUARY 2024

We certify and attest that on or before January 29, 2024, we posted a true and attested copy of the within Warrant at the place of meeting, and like copies at Lee Town Offices, and delivered the original to the Town Clerk.



Scott Bugbee, Selectman



Katrin Kasper, Chair




Rebecca Hawthorne, Vice-Chair

Town of Lee Select Board

State of New Hampshire, County of Strafford, Lee, NH

Personally appeared, Katrin Kasper, Rebecca Hawthorne and Scott Bugbee who subscribed to the foregoing instrument before me, Denise Duval, Notary Public, this 22 day of January 2024.



Denise Duval, Notary Public

Denise A Duval
NOTARY PUBLIC
State of New Hampshire
My Commission Expires 9/6/2028