

Stratham

The inhabitants of the Town of Stratham in the County of Rockingham in the state of New Hampshire qualified to vote in Town affairs are hereby notified that the Annual Town Meeting will be held as follows:

First Session of Annual Meeting (Official Ballot Voting)

Date: Tuesday, March 11, 2025

Time: 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Location: Stratham Memorial School (39 Gifford Farm Road) Stratham, NH

Details:

Second Session of Annual Meeting (Transaction of All Other Business)

Date: Saturday, March 15, 2025

Time: 9:00 a.m.

Location: Stratham Memorial School (39 Gifford Farm Road) Stratham, NH

Details:

GOVERNING BODY CERTIFICATION

We certify and attest that on or before 2.14.25 a true and attested copy of this document was posted at the place of meeting and at the Town of Stratham and that an original was delivered to The Town Clerk

Name

Position

Signature

Joseph Anderson Select Board Josh Anderson

AMUSON KNAB VICE CHAIR allgmn

MICHAEL HOUGHTON CHAIR Michael Houghton



Article 10 2025 Operating Budget

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of eight million six hundred ninety-three thousand one hundred eighty-five dollars (\$8,693,185) for general municipal operations. This article does not include appropriations contained in special or individual articles addressed separately.

The Select Board unanimously supports this article.

Article 11 Capital Improvements Program

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of seven hundred twenty-seven thousand dollars (\$727,000) to implement the Capital Improvements Program for 2025 as presented in the Town Report. This is a special warrant article which will be non-lapsing until the specific items are completed or obtained but shall in no case be later than December 31, 2030 per NH RSA 32:7 (VI).

The Select Board supports this article by a vote of two to one.

Article 12 Appropriate Funds to Capital Reserve Funds

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Three hundred and eighty-six thousand dollars (\$386,000) to be added to the following capital reserve funds previously established with One hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$150,000) to come from the unassigned fund balance and two hundred thirty-six thousand dollars (\$236,000) to be raised through general taxation.

Fire Department Capital Reserve Fund
\$150,000
Highway Vehicle/Equipment Capital Reserve
Fund \$136,000
Town Building & Grounds Maintenance Trust
\$100,000

Total \$386,000

The Select Board unanimously supports this



article.

Article 13 Modify Purpose of Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Special Revenue Fund

To see if the Town will vote to modify the purpose established at the annual Town Meeting under Article 13 of the 2005 Town Warrant, an amended version of Article 19 of the 2000 Town Warrant, for the Stratham Fire Department EMS Special Revenue Fund to also include ambulance billing contract costs; EMS responder uniforms; and all costs to operate ambulances, including repair, maintenance, fuel costs, and any required inspection/certification fees. Upon passage of this article, the Article will be amended as indicated to read as follows:

To see if the Town will vote to adopt the provisions of NH RSA 31:95-c to restrict One Hundred percent (100%) of the revenues derived from the recovery of Fire Department costs associated with emergency services provided to expenditures for the purpose of purchasing emergency medical equipment and supplies, Fire Department Vehicles and equipment, providing training to Fire Department personnel, ambulance billing contract costs, EMS responder uniforms, and all cost to operate ambulances, including repair, maintenance, fuel, certifications and inspections. Such revenues and expenditures shall be accounted for in a special revenue fund, to be known as the Stratham Fire Department EMS Fund, separate from the General Fund. Any surplus in said fund shall not be deemed part of the General Fund accumulated surplus and shall be expended only after a vote by the legislative body to appropriate a specific amount from said fund for a specific purpose related to the purpose of the fund or source of revenue.

(Two thirds vote required for approval. Ballot vote required.)

The Select Board unanimously supports this article.

Article 14 EMS Special Revenue Fund Ambulance Operating Expenses (new)

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of forty-three thousand five hundred dollars (\$43,500) for the following



purposes with said funds to come from the Stratham Fire Department EMS Special Revenue Fund. These appropriations are contingent on the passing of Article 14:

Ambulance billing contracts	\$10,000
Ambulance equipment maintenance	\$ 9,000
Ambulance repair and maintenance	\$15,000
EMS uniforms	\$ 5,000
Gas and oil	\$ 4,500
Total	\$43,500

No additional funds from general taxation are to be used.

The Select Board unanimously support this article.

Article 15 First Responder, Supplies, Training & ALS Service

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Forty six thousand five hundred dollars (\$46,500) for the following purposes with said funds to come from the Stratham Fire Department EMS Special Revenue Fund.

2025 New Equipment	
\$15,000	
2025 EMS Supplies	
\$16,500	
2025 EMS/EMT/First Responder Training	
\$10,000	
2025 ALS Services Contract	\$
5,000	
Total	\$46,500

No additional funds from general taxation are to be used.

The Select Board unanimously supports this article.

Article 16 EMS Special Revenue Fund – SVFD Equipment

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of seventy two thousand dollars (\$72,000) for the following purposes, with said funds to come from the EMS Special Revenue Fund:

Self-Contained Breath Apparatus Compressor



\$47,000		
Lucas Autopulse Device		
\$25,000		
	Total	\$72,000

No additional funds from general taxation are to be used.

The Select Board unanimously supports this article.

Article 17 Veterans Credit Adjustment

To see if the Town will vote to modify the Veteran's Tax Credit in accordance with RSA 72:28, II from its current tax credit of \$600 per year to \$750 per year, where \$750 is the maximum permitted in state law.

Submitted by petition.

Article 18 Modification to Elderly Exemptions RSA 72:39-a

To see if the Town will vote to modify the provisions of RSA 72:39-a for elderly exemptions from property tax in the Town of Stratham, based on assessed value, for qualified taxpayers, to be as follows:

for a person 65 years of age up to 75 years, \$213,000
for a person 75 years of age up to 80 years, \$247,000 and
for a person 80 years of age or older \$281,000

To qualify, the person: must have been a New Hampshire resident for at least three (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 \$56,500 or, if married, a combined net income of less than \$75,000; and own net assets not in excess of \$275,000 excluding the value of the person's residence.

The Select Board unanimously supports this article.

Article 19 Adoption of Disabled Exemption RSA 72:37-b



Shall the town adopt the provisions of RSA 72:37-b, Exemption for the Disabled from property tax, based on assessed value for qualified taxpayers to be \$150,000. To qualify the person must have been a New Hampshire resident for at least 5 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 for at least 5 consecutive years. In addition the taxpayer must have a net income of not more than \$56,500 or if married, a combined net income of not more than \$75,000, and own net assets not in excess of \$275,000 excluding the value of the person's residence. Adoption of this article shall include adoption of RSA 72:37-b, I-a, providing that after his or her 65th birthday, a person who would otherwise be eligible for the disabled exemption shall remain eligible for an exemption in the amount of the disabled exemption or the elderly exemption, whichever is greater.

The Select Board unanimously supports this article.

Article 20 Modify amount of Blind Exemption

Shall the town increase the value of the blind exemption in Stratham to \$150,000 from the State minimum of \$15,000?

Select Board unanimously supports this article.

Article 21 Adopt Deaf Exemption RSA 72:38-b

To see if the Town will adopt the provisions of RSA 72:38-b for an exemption for the deaf or severely hearing-impaired persons as follows: the exemption from assessed value for qualified taxpayers shall be \$150,000. To qualify, the person must: meet the definition of a "deaf person or person with severe hearing impairment" under RSA 72:38-b (II); must be a resident of the State of New Hampshire for at least five (5) consecutive years prior to April 1 in which the exemption is sought; must occupy the property as his/her principal place of abode; must own the property (as defined in RSA 72:27(VI) individually or jointly, or if owned by a spouse, they must have been married for at least (5) consecutive years; had in the calendar year preceding April 1 a net income of all sources of not more than \$56,500 if single and \$75,000 if married; and own net assets not in excess of \$275,000, excluding the value of the



person's residence as described in RSA 72:38-b(III).

The Select Board unanimously supports this article.

Article 22 Adoption of Stratham Recreation Expendable Trust

To see if the Town will vote to establish a Stratham Recreation Expendable Trust Fund per RSA 31:19-a,IV to hold in trust gifts, legacies and devises made to the Town for the purpose of both specific and generally designated recreation purposes; and to further name the Select Board as agent to expend. The Select Board shall approve expenditures based on the intent of the donor when specified with receipt of the gift.

The Select Board unanimously supports this article.

Article 23 Stevens Park Improvements

To see if the Town of Stratham will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of (\$625,000) for the purpose of constructing improvements to Stevens Park, such improvements to include parking, drainage, and additional recreation facilities. Improvements may be phased in accordance with funding availability. This sum to come from unassigned fund balance (\$650,000). No additional funding is to be raised from taxation. This is a special warrant article per RSA 32:3 VI (d) and RSA 32:7 V.

The Select Board unanimously supports this article.

Article 24 Other business

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