

304th
Annual Town Report



*For the Year Ending
December 31, 2020*

GENERAL INFORMATION FOR THE TOWN OF STRATHAM

MEETINGS/SCHEDULES

TELEPHONE NUMBERS: (* denotes an emergency number)

FIRE DEPARTMENT (TO REPORT FIRE)	911*
EMS EMERGENCY NUMBER (AMBULANCE)	911*
Fire House business number (not to report fire).....	772-9756
Fire Chief.....	772-8215
POLICE DEPARTMENT (EMERGENCY NUMBER).....	911*
Police Department (business number).....	778-9691
Town Clerk/Tax Collector.....	772-4741
Select Board's Office/Town Administrator.....	772-7391
Planner/Planning Board	772-7391
Department of Public Works.....	772-5550
Building Inspector/C.E.O.....	772-7391
Wiggin Memorial Library.....	772-4346
Historical Society.....	778-0434
Parks & Recreation.....	772-7450
Stratham Memorial School.....	772-5413
Exeter Region Coop. School District (main switchboard)	778-7772
Superintendent, SAU #16.....	775-8653
Mosquito Control.....	734-4144

COMMUNITY INFORMATION: www.strathamnh.gov

TOWN OFFICE HOURS: (closed holidays)

Town Clerk/Tax Collector: Mondays 8:30 am to 7:00 pm; Tuesday–Thursday 8:30 am to 4:00 pm; Fridays 8:00 am to 12:30 pm

Building Department Hours: Monday–Friday - 8:30 AM – 4:00 PM
Please contact our office (603-772-7391 ext. 180) regarding Building Inspector availability and inspection hours

Wiggin Memorial Library: Monday–Thursday 9:30 am to 7:00 pm, Fri. 9:30 am – 6:00 pm
Sat. 9:30 am–3:00 pm

All Other Offices: Monday–Friday 8:30 am to 4:00 pm

HISTORICAL SOCIETY HOURS:
Tuesdays 9 am-11:30 am; Thursdays 2 pm–4 pm; 1st Sunday of month 2 pm–4 pm

STRATHAM TRANSFER STATION HOURS:
Saturdays 9 am–4 pm (Winter (December thru March) 1st and 3rd Saturdays of the month only)

TRASH & RECYCLING COLLECTION: Tuesday through Friday curbside by 7:00 am

See Back Cover for Meetings & Schedules

Select Board's Meetings:	1 st & 3 rd Mondays 7:00 pm (except legal holidays)
Fire Department:	1 st & 3 rd Tuesdays 7:30 pm Business Meeting 2 nd (firefighter) & 4 th (EMS) Tuesdays Training 7:00 pm
Planning Board:	1 st & 3 rd Wednesdays of the month at 7:00 pm
Board of Adjustment:	2 nd & 4 th Tuesdays of the month at 7:00 pm (as needed)
Conservation Commission:	2 nd & 4 th Wednesdays of the month at 7:00 pm
Heritage Commission:	2 nd Wednesday of the month at 7:00 pm
Library Trustees:	3 rd Monday of the month at 6:30 pm at the Library
Recreation Commission:	2 nd Tuesday of the month at 7:00 pm
Stratham Hill Park Association:	4th Monday of the odd months at 6:30 pm
Public Works Commission:	2 nd Thursday of the month at 6:30 pm
Trustees of the Trust Funds:	3 rd Monday of every other month at 5:00 pm at the Library
Stratham Fair Committee:	Saturday mornings (as needed)
Energy Commission:	2 nd Tuesday of the month at 7:00 pm
Technical Review Committee	3 rd Tuesday of the month at 6:00 pm (as needed)
Pedestrian & Cyclist Advocacy Committee	As needed. Check website for details.

Note: Unless noted otherwise, all meetings are in the Municipal Center at 10 Bunker Hill Ave.

**ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
TOWN OF STRATHAM
NEW HAMPSHIRE
BY THE**

Select Board, Town Clerk, Tax Collector,
Town Treasurer, and other Town Departments,
Boards and Commissions,
and Reports of
School Districts and SAU #16

DECEMBER 31, 2020

WITH THE

**VITAL STATISTICS
FOR 2020**

Printed and Bound By:

Kase Printing, Inc.
Hudson, NH
2020

DEDICATION

FIRST RESPONDERS, ESSENTIAL WORKERS, TOWN EMPLOYEES

In this extraordinary year, we dedicate this Town Report not to an individual or a small group, but to all of the first responders, essential workers, and dedicated town employees who kept Stratham safe, healthy, and supported in 2020.

At personal risk and amid tremendous uncertainty, our police department and fire department tracked ever changing protocols, shifted to new practices in safety, and showed up every day without complaint to keep Stratham residents feeling secure in such demanding times. Led by Police Chief Anthony King and Fire Chief Matt Larrabee, our first responders supported the community in other ways as well: riding along with the Easter Bunny in the spring to visit children throughout Stratham, participating in parades on birthdays and special occasions, and organizing a toy drive at the holidays.

The health care workers who practice in our town and surrounding communities continued to provide excellent care all while adjusting to a new reality as well. Many of our doctors, nurses, physician's assistants, technicians and others worked ceaselessly despite demanding and often risky circumstances to ensure residents of Stratham and surrounding communities stayed healthy and safe.

Our teachers, administrators, bus drivers, janitorial and other staff at our local schools navigated extremely complex scheduling decisions, steep learning curves for online instruction, and the challenges of new classroom protocols. Their drive-by graduation ceremonies, book drop-offs, and outdoor gatherings helped students stay feeling connected and engaged. Our teachers and staff at preschools and daycares similarly adjusted to new realities to keep children protected and in person.

Led by Director Lesley Kimball, Stratham's librarians kept us entertained with their weekly newsletters, reached out to the seniors of our town, delivered boxes of books and activities to teenagers stuck at home, and met residents for curbside pickup. Led by Director Seth Hickey, our Recreation Department continued to provide exceptional programming to children and seniors through events such as Zoom art classes and socially distanced exercise classes, and successfully brought back outdoor sports such as soccer and baseball with new safety protocols in place.

What must surely be the most unique Town Meeting in Stratham's 300 plus year history was only made possible by the dedication of the entire town staff, including Department of Public Works Director Nate Mears and the entire DPW, Code Enforcement Officer and Chief Health Officer Shanti Wolph, and Town Administrator David Moore. At similarly extraordinary election days in September and November, Town Clerk Joyce Charbonneau, Deputy Town Clerk Deborah Bakie, Supervisor of the Checklist Melanie McGrail, Town Moderator Dave Emanuel, and Assistant Town Moderator Beth Dupell adjusted to massive changes all while keeping the voters of our town feeling confident in the security of the election. They were helped by more than 70 poll workers who did extraordinary work in challenging circumstances.

During stay at home orders, our trash collectors continued their work keeping our town clean. Stratham restaurants shifted to curbside pick-up, delivery, and outdoor dining. Our grocery store employees managed daunting tasks with continued positivity and diligence to ensure the safety of customers and staff. And so many other essential workers – mechanics, gas station employees, contractors, and more – showed up to their work every day to keep Stratham running, all while facing new and unprecedented challenges.

It is with gratitude that can hardly be described that we dedicate this Town Report to all of the first responders, essential workers, and tremendous employees of our amazing town.

IN MEMORIAM

WALLACE STUART

Wallace Stuart moved to Stratham for the first time in 1961 when his family bought the Stuart Farm, and that same year headed off to Rochester Institute of Technology as a photography major. After graduating, Wally represented New Hampshire as an IFYE (International Farm Youth Exchange) to Venezuela. Through the IFYE organization he became better acquainted with Marlene Scamman, a young Stratham woman who had been an IFYE to the United Kingdom. They married, raised two sons, and established professional careers at Plymouth State University. After retiring they happily returned to Stratham, rejoining many relatives and friends.

Wally was a kind, gentle, and humble man. Wherever he lived, he was active in his community. Recognizing Wally's interest in community service, his cousin Nathan Merrill recruited him to join our Heritage Commission. In addition to serving as treasurer, Wally took a keen interest in the Commission's outreach and education efforts, helping to develop and promote the annual winter public programs and the Commission's Facebook page. Wally's photographic talents were deeply appreciated during a time when several major preservation projects were undertaken. His portfolio documenting numerous Stratham structures and sites--some saved and some regrettably lost--will be a valuable and lasting resource for future historians and residents curious to know what our town looked like in the early 21st century.



IN MEMORIAM
ROGERS JOHNSON

The Stratham community and the entire State of New Hampshire lost an important voice for equality and racial justice with the passing of civil rights leader Rogers Johnson in 2020. In the outpouring of grief following his passing, many in Stratham and beyond noted Rogers' passion and dedication to fairness, equity, practice of civil conversation, and willingness to work with others with differing views or party affiliation.

Rogers was a strong voice for Stratham when he served as a state representative from 2001-2006. During that time he was selected House Majority whip, the first African American to hold this position in the state's history. In addition to supporting his alma mater, Phillips Exeter Academy, he was an active supporter of the Stratham Fair where he volunteered many hours in the announcement booth. He also served in Washington, DC as the Director of Intergovernmental Affairs in the U.S. Department of Education. Most recently, at the state level, Rogers served as Chair of the Governor's Advisory Council on Diversity and Inclusion, as a member of the Governor's COVID-19 Equity Response Team and Commission on Law Enforcement Accountability, Community, and Transparency. In all these capacities he served with dedication and purpose.

Rogers' pursuit of justice and his example of civic engagement at the local, state and national levels are an inspiration to us all to work towards meaningful progress in our world.



SELECT BOARD

Many hands in our community came together this year to ensure life in Stratham continued and we, as a Town, responded effectively to the pandemic health crisis that began in March. In Town government, there is much to celebrate in the efforts put forth and the tremendous dedication shown by the Town employees to continue services, offer them in creative ways, and meet the demands of challenging election and Town meeting seasons.

The end of 2020 saw additional changes in senior staff positions with the retirement of our long-time Assessor Andrea Lewy and departure of Town Planner Tavis Austin. Our new Town Planner Mark Connors began work in early 2021; the future configuration of our Assessing function will be an early priority in 2021. After many years of exemplary service Town Clerk/Tax Collector Joyce Charbonneau will retire in May 2021. As evidenced by her resolve, dedication, and extraordinary commitment to the residents and electoral process shown through the challenges of 2020, Joyce's presence at the Town Offices and service to the Town will be deeply missed.

The Town also implemented the transition to a new curbside collection program brought on by the expiration of our previous contract and driven in part by the disruption in recycling markets worldwide. The planning and preparation for this change included the formation of a resident committee, review of collection and disposal systems, a survey assessing preferences of the community, and finally, a competitive proposal process. We appreciate the hard work of our staff and the cooperation of the residents as we have worked through this transition.

In the coming year, COVID will continue to challenge all of us. We are constantly assessing safety in our various buildings and looking for ways to reintroduce programming that remains impacted by COVID, including senior and recreation programming as well as other gatherings and outreach efforts that build community and encourage participation in Town government.

In 2021, we look forward to making progress on initiatives prioritized in our Master Plan. In this year's Planning Department report you will see reference to planning and zoning work to encourage investment in the many documented historic structures and properties along the Route 33 corridor, including those in various states of disrepair. In addition, through concentrating on the trail systems in Stratham Hill Park, the Parks & Recreation Department along with an ad-hoc committee of residents will begin working on trail management issues in the Park as called for in the Master Plan.

To stay up to date on these priorities and other town business, please be sure you are signed-up for the bi-weekly Select Board newsletter. You can do so by visiting www.strathamnh.gov/subscribe or by e-mailing krichard@strathamnh.gov and asking to have your e-mail address added.

With your support, we look forward to continuing to work on these initiatives and generally finding ways to better serve you.

Michael Houghton, Chair

Joe Lovejoy, Vice Chair

Allison Knab

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RESOURCES FOR KEEPING UP ON TOWN NEWS

Want to know what's happening in Stratham? The Select Board newsletter is sent directly to you via e-mail twice a month. It is a good resource to stay on top of important announcements, updates on Town business, and other highlights important or useful for residents. More resources for staying "on top" of events, notices and other news can be found on this page:

Sign-up for the Select Board Newsletter: <https://www.strathamnh.gov/subscribe>. Or e-mail, krichard@strathamnh.gov and request to be added to the list.

If you want to follow a particular Department, Board or Commission, you can do so by visiting "Subscribe to News" link on the Town homepage.

StrathamNH.gov

Facebook: TownofStrathamNH

POLICE DEPARTMENT



Facebook: Stratham NH Police Department

Twitter: [Strathamnhpd](#)

FIRE DEPARTMENT



Facebook: Stratham Fire Station

WIGGIN MEMORIAL LIBRARY



Facebook: WigginMemorialLibrary

Subscribe to newsletters: library.strathamnh.gov/newsletters

Instagram: WigginLib

Twitter: WigginMemorial

PARKS & RECREATION



Program Registration: Stratham.recdesk.com

Facebook: [Stratham Hill Park](#)

Facebook: [Stratham Recreation](#)

Instagram: [StrathamParksRecreation](#)

Twitter: [StrathamRec](#)

2020 TOWN OFFICERS

ELECTED POSITIONS

SELECT BOARD

Mike Houghton, Chair	term expires 2023
Joseph Lovejoy, Vice Chair	term expires 2022
Allison Knab	term expires 2021

MODERATOR

David Emanuel	term expires 2022
Beth Dupell (appointed assistant)	

TOWN CLERK/TAX COLLECTOR

Joyce Charbonneau	term expires 2023
Deborah Bakie, Deputy (appointed)	
Melanie McGrail, Office Assistant	

SUPERVISORS OF THE CHECKLIST

Cathy Warner	term expires 2026
Melanie McGrail	term expires 2022
Connie Aubin-Adams	term expires 2024

TRUSTEES OF THE TRUST FUNDS

Diane Morgera, Chair	term expires 2021
Mikki Deschaine	term expires 2023
Bev Connolly	term expires 2022

LIBRARY TRUSTEES

Kate Kim, Chair	term expires 2023
Joanne Ward	term expires 2021
Susan Wilbur	term expires 2021
Steve Simons	term expires 2022
Michael Hunter	term expires 2022
Lesley Kimball, Director (appointed)	

CEMETERY TRUSTEES

Colin Laverty, Chair	term expires 2023
June Sawyer	term expires 2022
Richard Goulet – Aug-Dec to fill unexpired term	term expires 2021

APPOINTED POSITIONS

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR

David S. Moore, Town Administrator
Tracy Abbott, Treasurer
Dawna Duhamel, Finance Administrator
Karen Richard, Executive Assistant/Welfare Coordinator

CODE ENFORCEMENT/BUILDING INSPECTOR

Shanti Wolph, Code Enforcement Officer/Building Inspector
Denise Lemire, Land Use Administrative Assistant
Stephanie Gardner, Land Use Project Coordinator – Jan-May

TOWN ASSESSOR

Andrea S. Lewy, Town Assessor
James Joseph, Assessing Assistant

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

Nathaniel Mears, Public Works Director	Timothy Slager
Alan Williams, Foreman	Charles Perkins
Jason Pond, Maintenance Supervisor	Robert Jackson
Doreen Coughlin, Assistant Custodian	Stewart Guay

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Chief Matt Larrabee	Lt. John Dardani
Deputy Chief Josh Crow	Lt. Jeff Denton
Captain Tim Slager	Lt. Rob Izzo
Captain Bryan Crosby	
EMS – Captain Peggy Crosby	
EMS – Lt. June Sawyer	

OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

David Barr, Director
Timothy Copeland, Deputy Director
David Emanuel, Deputy Director

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Chief Anthony King		
Lt. David Pierce	Off. Amanda Bibeau	Off. Brian Holbrook
Det. Sgt. Steven Janvrin	Off. Matthew Callahan	Off. Corey Wynn
Sgt. James “Chris” Call	Off. Michael Doucette	Off. Charles Law
Sgt. John Emerson		William Hart, Prosecutor
Support Staff:		On Call Officer:
Stacey Grella, Admin. Asst. – Jan – Aug.		Off. Ken Gauthier
Katelyn Drago, Admin. Asst. – Sept. – Dec		Off. Kevin O’Neil

HEALTH OFFICER

Shanti Wolph
Matt Larrabee

PLANNING BOARD

Tom House, Chair	term expires 2022
David Canada, Vice Chair	term expires 2023
Michael Houghton, Select Board	
Robert Roseen	term expires 2023
Pamela Hollasch	term expires 2022
Joe Anderson, Alternate (appointed to fill unexpired term)	term expires 2023
Tavis Austin, Town Planner – Jan-Oct.	

BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT

Garrett Dolan, Chair	term expires 2022
Phil Caparso, Vice Chair	term expires 2023
Bruno Federico	term expires 2023
Drew Pierce	term expires 2022
Amber Dagata	term expires 2023
Richard Goulet, Alternate	term expires 2022

CONSERVATION COMMISSION

William McCarthy, Chair	term expires 2021
Brad Jones	term expires 2023
Allison Knab, Select Board	
Robert Keating	term expires 2023
Dan McAuliffe	term expires 2023
William Kenny	term expires 2022
Ana Egana, Secretary	term expires 2023
Tim Copeland, Alternate	term expires 2022
Kyle Saltonstall, Alternate	term expires 2022

RECREATION COMMISSION

Tracy-Lynn Abbott, Chair	term expires 2023
Jeff Simeone, Co-Chair, Secretary	term expires 2022
Joseph Lovejoy, Select Board	
April Mason, Treasurer	term expires 2021
Frank LaSorsa – Jan-Oct	term expires 2023
Sean Kotkowski	term expires 2023
Vacant	term expires 2021
Kate Dardinski (appointed to fill unexpired term)	term expires 2023

BUDGET ADVISORY COMMITTEE 2020

Garrett Dolan	June Sawyer
Beth Dupell	Bruce Scamman
Nathan Merrill	Eric von der Linden

HERITAGE COMMISSION

Nathan Merrill, Chair	term expires 2023
David Canada, Planning Board Rep	term expires 2021
Mike Houghton, Select Board	
Rebecca Mitchell	term expires 2022
Forrest Barker, Treasurer	term expires 2023
Tammy Hathaway, Alternate, Secretary	term expires 2021
Flossie Wiggin, Alternate	term expires 2022
Vacant, Alternate	term expires 2021

PUBLIC WORKS COMMISSION

John Boisvert, Chair	term expires 2022
Joseph Lovejoy, Select Board	
Michael Girard	term expires 2020
Jim Cushman	term expires 2022
Phil Caparso	term expires 2022
Frank Swift, Alternate	term expires 2022

ENERGY COMMISSION

Michael Welty, Chair	term expires 2021
Matt O’Keefe	term expires 2020
Michael Gorman	term expires 2019
Mike Ream	term expires 2020
Charles Case	term expires 2021
Joe Van Gombos, Alternate	term expires 2022

STRATHAM FAIR COMMITTEE

Francisco Marin, Chair	Matt Bartell
John Cushing	Tim Slager
Caren Gallagher	Shelly Blood

TECHNICAL REVIEW COMMITTEE

Tom House, Vice Chair
Jeff Hyland
Lucy Cushman, Chair
Joe Johnson
Rebecca Mitchell, Alternate
Tavis Austin, Town Planner

ROCKINGHAM PLANNING COMMISSION

Lucy Cushman
Pamela Hollasch

LAMPREY REGIONAL COOPERATIVE

Paul R. Deschaine

SOUTHEAST WATERSHED ALLIANCE

Michael Girard

EXETER-SQUAMSCOTT RIVER LOCAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Nathan Merrill
Daniel Coffey

PEDESTRIAN & CYCLIST ADVOCACY COMMITTEE

Andy Gilman, Co-Chair	charge expires 2021
Pamela Hollasch	charge expires 2021
Kate Davis	charge expires 2021
Seth Hickey, Parks & Recreation Director	

CURBSIDE COLLECTION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Tim Copeland	charge expired 2020
Rachel Jefferson	charge expired 2020
Sophie Saltonstall	charge expired 2020
Karen Fuller	charge expired 2020
June Sawyer	charge expired 2020
Nate Mears, D.P.W. Director	Ex-officio
David Moore, Town Administrator	Ex-Officio

**TOWN OF STRATHAM
TOWN ELECTION MINUTES
MARCH 10, 2020**

The ballot clerks and election workers were sworn in at 7:55 am and 1:55 pm. Present were Moderator David Emanuel, Assistant Moderator Beth Dupell, Town Clerk/Tax Collector Joyce Charbonneau, Deputy Town Clerk/Deputy Tax Collector Deborah Bakie, and Select Board Joe Lovejoy, Michael Houghton, and Allison Knab. Supervisors of the Checklist present were Connie Aubin-Adams, and Melanie McGrail. Ballot clerks for the day were: Cheryl Ewart, Diana Alsterberg, Susan Canada, Susan Brett, Dianna Thompson, Roger Thompson, Lois Graham, Liz Chisholm, Patricia Hughes, Karen Cushing, Joan Gough, and Sara Lyn Doran. It was a quiet day with 483 official Election Day ballots cast, with 15 of those being absentee ballots. There was 1 new voter registered on Election Day, making the total number of voters on the Checklist at 6581. This made it a 7.3% turnout for this election.

**Exeter Region Cooperative School District Ballot results for Stratham only are as follows:
(*Denotes the Winner)**

Cooperative School District Budget Committee: For Brentwood for three years, vote for one: Morgan Lois DeYoung, 335*. For Exeter for three years, vote for one: Roy Morrisette 351*. For Kensington for three years, vote for one: Jennifer Ramsay 353*. For Exeter Cooperative School District Moderator, for one year, vote for one: Katherine Miller 363*. Exeter Cooperative School Board: For Exeter for three years, vote for one: David Slifka 341*. For Stratham for three years, vote for one: Travis Thompson 430*. For East Kingston for three years, vote for one: Mary Kathleen (Kathy) McNeill 344*.

Stratham only results:

Article 1: ERCSD Operating Budget

Yes: 311* No: 141

Article 2: Sale of Land

Yes: 378* No: 72

Stratham Memorial School District Ballot results as follows:

(*Denotes the Winner)

School Board Member for three years, vote for two: Carissa Magri 407*. Erin Garcia de Paredes 396*.

Annual Town of Stratham Ballot results as follows:

(*Denotes the Winner)

Select Board for three years, vote for one: Michael Houghton 421*. Cemetery Trustee for three years, vote for one: Colin Laverty 432*. Supervisor of the Checklist for six years, vote for one: Cathy Warner 435*. Town Clerk/Tax Collector for three years, vote for one: Joyce L. Charbonneau 447*. Town Moderator for two years, vote for one: David F. Emanuel 449*. Trustee of the Trust Funds for three years, vote for one: Mikki Deschaine 426*. Library Trustee for three years, vote for one: Kate Kim 429*. Library Trustee for one year, vote for one: Susan Wilbur 429*

Article 2 – Are you in favor of adopting the following amendments to the Town of

Stratham Zoning Ordinance as proposed by the Planning Board?

To see if the Town will amend the Zoning Ordinance, Section II, Subsection 2.1.67 Structure to further clarify the definition as it relates to the permitting requirements and procedures related to septic tank installation.

The Planning Board recommends this article by unanimous vote.

Yes: 374 No: 79*

Article 3 – Are you in favor of adopting the following amendments to the Town of Stratham Zoning Ordinance as proposed by the Planning Board?

To see if the Town will amend the Zoning Ordinance, Section III, by amending to Section III, Subsection 3.5.1, and also to amend Section III, Subsection 3.6 *Table of Uses* to clarify the nomenclature and the permitting requirements and procedures for the various permitted land uses of the Zoning Ordinance, and also to amend the *Footnotes to Table 3.6* by adding footnote number 9, to clarify the permitting requirements and procedures for uses within the Industrial Zoning District.

The Planning Board recommends this article by unanimous vote.

Yes: 358 No: 93*

Article 4 – Are you in favor of adopting the following amendments to the Town of Stratham Zoning Ordinance as proposed by the Planning Board?

To see if the Town will amend the Zoning Ordinance, Section IV, by amending to Section IV, Subsection 4.3 (e) *Explanatory Notes*, to clarify the process for waiving the prescriptive height limitations within the zoning districts so permitted by Section IV, Subsection 4.2 *Table of Dimensional Requirements*, as provided by the Zoning Ordinance.

The Planning Board recommends this article by unanimous vote.

Yes: 354 No: 112*

Article 5 – Are you in favor of adopting the following amendments to the Town of Stratham Zoning Ordinance as proposed by the Planning Board?

To see if the Town will amend the Zoning Ordinance, Section V, Section 5.4 Accessory Dwelling Units, Subsection 5.4.2 *Objectives*, 5.4.3 *Regulations*, and 5.4.4 *Additional Regulations* to clarify the permitting requirements and procedures for Accessory Dwelling Units.

The Planning Board recommends this article by unanimous vote.

Yes: 346* No: 122

Article 6 – Are you in favor of adopting the following amendment to the Town of Stratham Zoning Ordinance as proposed by the Planning Board?

To see if the Town will amend the Zoning Ordinance, Section V, Subsection 5.14.4.1 *Exceptions* to modify the maximum height for ground mount installations.

The Planning Board recommends this article by unanimous vote.

Yes: 360* No: 108

Article 7 – Are you in favor of adopting the following amendment to the Town of Stratham Zoning Ordinance as proposed by the Planning Board?

To see if the Town will amend Section XI, Subsection 11.3.2 b and amend Section XI, Subsection 11.5.3.b to further clarify the permitting requirements and procedures for development within the Wetlands Conservation District (Overlay).

The Planning Board recommends this article by unanimous vote.

Yes: 360* No: 110

ARTICLE 8: – Are you in favor of adopting the following amendment to the Town of Stratham Zoning Ordinance as proposed by the Planning Board?

To see if the Town will amend Section XI, Subsection 11.4.1.a and d., add 11.4.1.f, amend 11.4.3, and amend Section XI, Subsection 11.5.3.d to further clarify the permitting requirements and procedures for development within the Wetlands Conservation District (Overlay).

The Planning Board recommends this article by unanimous vote.

Yes: 353* No: 109

The remaining Town of Stratham articles will be voted on July 11, 2020 at the Stratham Memorial School at 9:00 am.

Town Moderator Dave Emanuel declared the meeting come to order at 9:27 am. He checked on tents 1 – 4 to ensure tight communication with the deputy monitors in those tents. Selectman Michael Houghton led the community in the Pledge of Allegiance. Moderator David Emanuel introduced the Select Board: Michael Houghton, Chair, Joseph Lovejoy, Vice Chair, and Allison Knab. He also introduced his Assistant Moderator Beth Dupell and Town Administrator David Moore. Mr Emanuel also introduced additional assistants to help with the ballot counting: Kyle Hollasch, Travis Thompson, and David Black. Mr. Emanuel asked for a moment of silence in

respect for those serving in the Armed Forces and friends and family who could not be with us today. Mr. Emanuel reviewed the Rules of Procedure for Town Meeting.

Article 9 - 2020 Operating Budget

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Seven Million Eight Hundred Sixty Seven Thousand One Hundred Twenty Six Dollars and no cents (\$7,867,126) to defray general town charges for the ensuing year. This article does not include appropriations contained in special or individual articles addressed separately. The select board recommends this article by unanimous vote. Mr. Houghton motioned to move the article. Mr. Lovejoy seconded the motion.

Mr. Houghton proposed a motion to amend the current motion to replace the sum in Article 9, to read as Seven Million, Four Hundred Sixty Thousand One Hundred Forty Nine dollars and no cents (\$7,460,149). Mr. Lovejoy seconded the amendment to Article 9.

Mr. Houghton thanked everyone for their patience and for attending. He went on to explain what the resident's tax dollars are going towards. He explained that we are in the seventh month of our fiscal year. He explained that at the outset of the health crisis, we have worked diligently to maintain an operating budget that is one tenth of one percent over last year's operating budget. Over time our annual growth has averaged 2%. He showed a diagram which illustrated the breakdown by percentages of the Operating Budget. Next, he listed the items driving the budget increases and decreases instituted to manage the pandemic. He cited sources of revenue and the anticipated use of fund balances to reduce the taxable burden on the town.

Bruce Scamman, 3 Blossom Lane, and Chairman of the Budget Advisory Committee listed the Committee Members and thanked these members for their participation, stating that they met more times this year than ever before. He said the Committee originally opposed the budget. However, with the reductions that have been made, they will not oppose it, nor will they oppose the CIP or the Reserve Fund.

Stacey Hall, 11 Pinewood Drive, inquired about the impact of removing the proposed police officer. Mr. Houghton yielded to Police Chief Anthony King. Chief King said that when he was hired, he reviewed his manpower and personnel, and, prior to Covid, he requested one full time officer. However, he stated that we have been making adjustments due to the Covid 19 pandemic. He agreed an additional officer would be beneficial, but they are adjusting.

Mike Cashman spoke in favor of adding an officer, saying that compared to surrounding communities, we are number 2 in calls. He expressed concern for our officers, referring to the Greenland incident.

A resident (not clear on name) spoke in support of putting the additional police position back in the budget.

Mr. Emanuel said there is an amendment on the floor to revise the original article. He explained that this is to revise the amendment to the article. He explained that to add an officer back in, we need to vote this amendment down, then someone would need to propose a revised amendment

with the additional officer. The amendment is to replace the original \$7,460,149. The vote was taken and passed.

John Scheel, 154 Portsmouth Ave. motioned that the town add the additional officer to the budget. Tim Copeland seconded the motion. Mr. Emanuel asked for a dollar amount for one police officer. Mr. Houghton asked to clarify the specific number they would be adding back to the budget.

Pat Abrami commented that he believed amendments needed to be written down.

Mr. Moore explained that we are in the 7th month of our fiscal year. When we budgeted originally we budgeted for a six month position. He stated that the six month position, (salary only), would be \$39,000.

Mr. Scheel motioned to add \$39,000 to the budget for the purpose of an additional police officer. He felt the money would be well spent for the safety of the residents.

Mr. Moore stated the new total, including the officer, would be \$7,499,149. Wanting to manage expectations, Mr. Moore said the hiring and training process would take time. He also stated that, as a technical clarification, in accordance with the rules of Town Meeting and the Municipal Budget Act of the State of NH, the Town Meeting cannot direct a specific expenditure in adding to this gross appropriation amount. The responsibility falls to the Select Board to implement what they are hearing.

The Moderator again stated the amendment as revised would increase the budget by \$39,000. This amendment amends the budget for a new total of \$7,499,149. The motion was seconded by Tim Copeland.

John Demopoulos, Morning Star Dr. questioned the point of order, believing this should be a reconsideration. Mr. Emanuel explained that this is a second amendment to revise the dollar amount of the Operating Budget by \$39,000 for a new total of \$7,499,149.

Jacob Johnson, 7 Union Rd, commented that many people put a lot of thoughtful work into the budget as proposed. He wanted clarification that in subsequent years the additional police officer would be a full year's salary added every year or we would have to reduce the appropriation for the Police going forward. He stated that he didn't think the Police would want just a six month hire. This is a long term deal that we are approving if this additional amendment passes.

The Moderator clarified by saying when Mr. Moore spoke about the six months, the intent was not to hire a six month position. The intent was to amend the salary to reflect the remaining six months of this year.

Mr. Johnson noted that we would have to ask the officer not to come back after six months or refund the position in perpetuity.

Mr. Houghton thanked Mr. Johnson for the clarity. This vote would fund an additional full time officer from now and into the future. The burden for the remaining part of this year would be \$39,000.

Steve Simons, 22 Vineyard Dr, asked for clarification on the total including the officer.

The Moderator said with the proposed amendment the total would be \$7,499,149.

Rachael Jefferson, 8 Fifield Lane, asked how a six month position can be funded without considering benefits. Mr. Moore responded that this was the benefits, payroll taxes, and salary. He stated that for the amount of time remaining in the year, that amount would be sufficient. The action of the town meeting is to provide the appropriation that allows for it to be covered. The Board understands the intent.

Craig Teed, 2 Country Farm Road, thanked the town for freezing expenditures when the pandemic hit. He supports saying yes to Article 9.

Bruno Federico, would like to hear from Chair of the BAC as to their concerns about the original budget. Mr. Emanuel requested that the response remain pertinent to the \$39,000 we are speaking about.

Bruce Scamman said the committee looked at the police position. It was not unanimous to not fund, but almost unanimous. He stated that the thought process was that we added the 11th officer around two years ago and that didn't get fully positioned until last year. We went from 10 to 11 officers a year ago and the committee felt that we needed more time with the 11 officers to determine if it was necessary to add a 12th officer. The committee also held discussions about the number of calls.

John Scheel proposed that we change the amended amount to \$7,499,149. The Police Department ensures our freedoms and we need to support them as much as possible.

Seeing no other speakers, the Moderator moved to vote on Article 9 which would add \$39,000 for a new total of \$7,499,149. Upon hearing the vote, Mr. Emanuel stated that it was a close enough vote that it was unclear to him how that vote stands. He asked everyone in favor of the amendment to Article 9 to increase the operating budget to \$7,499,154 to stand. The Town Clerk, Deputy Town Clerk, and Deputy Moderator counted the standing voters. He then asked those opposed to Article 9 to stand. Those voters were also counted. The amendment to Article 9 failed by a vote of 200 – 143. The Moderator then said the Article before us is back to the amount as originally amended which is \$7,460,149. Seeing no further discussion, he moved to vote on Article 9, the 2020 operating budget - to see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Seven Million, Four Hundred Sixty Thousand One Hundred Forty Nine dollars and no cents (\$7,460,149) to defray general town charges for the ensuing year. This article does not include appropriations contained in special or individual articles addressed separately. The vote was taken. Article 9 passed as amended.

Article 10 – Capital Improvement Program. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Four Hundred Forty Three Thousand Dollars (\$443,000.00) to implement the Capital Improvements Program for 2020 as presented in the Town Report and recommended by the Planning Board. 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 five (5) years from this appropriation per NH RSA 32:7 (VI). The Select Board recommends this Article by unanimous vote. Ms. Knab motioned to accept the article as read. Mr. Houghton seconded the motion. Ms. Knab said that prior to speaking to the motion she is proposing to amend the current motion to replace the sum in Article 10, to read as Three Hundred Sixty Four Thousand dollars and no cents (\$364,000). Mr. Houghton seconded the motion.

Ms. Knab explained that the CIP is a planning vehicle established by state law that helps the Town implement its Master Plan. Our Master Plan identifies development and land use decisions for the town which often includes long term capital investments. This CIP is a tool for managing those investments. The CIP identifies the town's needs over a six year timeline. She noted the line item amounts in the Town Reports have changed. Highlights include a police cruiser replacement and upgrading technology at the Municipal Center, funding towards building and infrastructure, such as a Library space needs assessment, Parks & Recreation improvements, roadway reconstruction, and State Roadway Intersection projects.

Marty Wool, Winnicutt Rd, thanked the Select Board and the Employees for the super job they did in organizing this event. Mr. Wool stated that all areas of our expenditures have been reduced on a well scheduled plan during these uncertain times. The Select Board has done a great job of spreading out the reductions that they think are needed to keep the Town moving forward.

Nancy Hunter, Brown Ave, recognized that she cannot ask for a line item veto. She questioned how \$35,000 could be cut for a Police Dept. vehicle, yet \$15,000 was kept for a Parks & Rec van.

Tedd Tramaloni, 2 Scamman Rd, requested clarification on the information systems computer technology upgrades noting the Voter Information Guide shows a reduction of \$14,000. He asked what the net was and if the Town was buying new technology or not. Mr. Moore responded saying that the intention of the amendment was to reduce workstation replacements published in the Town Report by \$4,000. We ended up at \$15,000 for workstation replacements.

Seeing no other questions or comments on the amendment to Article 10, Mr. Emanuel stated that we will vote on the amendment to Article 10. The amendment is to change the amount to \$364,000. The Amendment passed for Article 10.

The Moderator then went back to the original business for Article 10 as amended. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Three Hundred Sixty Four Thousand Dollars (\$364,000.00) to implement the Capital Improvements Program for 2020 as presented in the Town Report and recommended by the Planning Board. 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 five (5) years from this appropriation per NH RSA 32:7 (VI). Article 10 passed as amended.

Rachel Jefferson, 8 Fifield Lane, motioned to restrict reconsideration of Article 9. Jacob Johnson, 7 Union Rd, seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Article 11 - Appropriate Funds to Several Capital Reserve Funds. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Four Hundred Ninety-Nine Thousand Dollars and no cents (\$499,000.00) to be added to the following capital reserve funds previously established with One Hundred Fifty Thousand (\$150,000) to come from the unassigned fund balance and Three Hundred and Forty Nine Thousand (\$349,000) to be raised through general taxation.

Land Conservation Fund	\$35,000
Fire Department Capital Reserve Fund	\$134,000
Radio Communications Capital Reserve Fund	\$15,000
Historic Preservation Capital Reserve Fund	\$50,000
Highway Vehicle/Equipment Capital Reserve Fund	\$215,000
Town Buildings and Grounds Maintenance Trust	<u>\$50,000</u>
Total	\$499,000

The Select Board recommends this Article by unanimous vote.

Ms. Knab motioned to accept the article as read. Mr. Lovejoy seconded the motion. Ms. Knab said that prior to speaking to the motion, she would like to amend the current motion to replace the first sum in Article 11, to read as Four Hundred Fifty Seven Thousand dollars and no cents (\$457,000). And, to reflect the total funds to be raised (after use of fund balance of \$150,000) to be Three Hundred Thousand Seven Dollars (\$307,000). Mr. Houghton seconded the motion.

Ms. Knab explained that the Capital Reserve Fund is another financial tool to manage large expenses. This avoids a tax spike in any given year. The fund is used to purchase fire trucks and other apparatus, i.e. heavy equipment for the Dept. of Public Works. It is also used to create repositories to respond to potential conservation and historic preservation opportunities. In an effort to be conservative in light of current economic conditions, they have amended the Land Conservation Fund from \$35,000 to \$18,000 and the Historic Preservation Capital Reserve Fund from \$50,000 to \$25,000. The CIP also includes the Radio Communication Capital Reserve Fund, Building Maintenance, Capital projects such as replacing the Municipal Center and DPW salt shed roofs and HVAC improvements.

Mr. Emanuel said that we will vote on the Amendment to Article 11 – to replace the sum in Article 11 as read from \$457,000 to reflect total funds raised after the use of the fund balance to be \$307,000 and to revise the amount of the Land Conservation fund to \$18,000 and the Historic Preservation fund to \$25,000.

Paul Deschaine, Thornhill Rd. made a point of clarification. The appropriation is actually \$457,000 which is the gross amount. You aren't reducing it to \$307,000 which is the net amount. Mr. Emanuel thanked him and read the article again - to replace the first sum in Article

11 to read as \$457,000 and to reflect the total funds to be raised after the use of the fund balance of \$150,000 to be \$307,000 and to revise the amount of the contributions to the Land Conservation Fund to \$18,000 and the Historic Preservation Fund to \$25,000. He then called for a vote on the amendment to the article as just read. The amendment to Article 11 passed as stated.

Paul (last name not clear) asked for clarification as to what the figure was that we are voting on. Mr. Emanuel read the article as amended: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Four Hundred Fifty Seven Thousand dollars and no cents (\$457,000) to be added to the following capital reserve funds previously established with One Hundred Fifty Thousand (\$150,000) to come from the unassigned fund balance and Three Hundred Thousand Seven Dollars (\$307,000) to be raised through general taxation.

Land Conservation Fund	\$18,000
Fire Department Capital Reserve Fund	\$134,000
Radio Communications Capital Reserve Fund	\$15,000
Historic Preservation Capital Reserve Fund	\$25,000
Highway Vehicle/Equipment Capital Reserve Fund	\$215,000
Town Buildings and Grounds Maintenance Trust	<u>\$50,000</u>
Total	\$457,000

The vote was taken in the affirmative and Article 11 as amended passed.

Article 12 – Raise and Appropriate from the EMS Special Revenue Fund. To raise and appropriate from the EMS Special Revenue Fund the sum of Twenty Thousand Dollars and no cents (\$20,000.00) for the following purposes:

2020 EMS/EMT/First Responder Training	\$10,000.00
2020 ALS Services Contract	\$10,000.00

and to further authorize the withdrawal of Twenty Thousand Dollars and no cents (\$20,000.00) from the Stratham Fire Department EMS Special Revenue Fund created for these purposes during the March 17, 2000 Annual Town Meeting and as amended during the March 11, 2005 Town Meeting. No additional funds from general taxation are to be used.

The Select Board recommends this Article by unanimous vote. Mr. Lovejoy motioned to accept the article as read. Ms. Knab seconded the motion. Mr. Lovejoy explained how a special fund was set up years ago to pay for necessary items for the Fire Dept. He then explained how the ALS services contract works, noting the ALS funds are recovered by billing through the providers. Nothing in this article effects taxes. Seeing no questions or comments, the Moderator called a vote on Article 12. Article 12 passed.

Article 13 - Replacement of Jaws of Life for Fire Department. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Thirty Thousand Dollars and no cents (\$30,000.00) for the purpose of purchasing new Jaws of Life and to further authorize the withdrawal of Thirty Thousand Dollars and no cents (\$30,000.00) from the EMS Special Revenue Fund created for

these purposes during the March 17, 2000 Annual Town Meeting and as amended during the March 11, 2005 Town Meeting. No additional funds from general taxation are to be used.

The Select Board recommends this Article by unanimous vote. Mr. Lovejoy motioned to accept the article as read. Ms. Knab seconded the motion. Mr. Lovejoy explained that the Jaws of Life that we have is outdated. We need a device that is compatible for the types of cars we drive today. The funds will come out of the Fire Department Special Fund. This appropriation will not make any changes to resident's taxes. Seeing no questions or comments, the Moderator called a vote on Article 13. Article 13 passed as presented.

Article 14 - Adopt Legislation Authorizing Tax Increment Finance (TIF) Districts. To see if the Town will vote to adopt the provisions of RSA 162-K, Municipal Economic Development and Revitalization Districts, which if adopted will grant the Town (at Town Meeting) authority to establish tax increment financing districts.

The Select Board recommends this Article by unanimous vote. Mr. Lovejoy motioned to accept the article. Mr. Houghton seconded the motion. Mr. Lovejoy said Articles 14 and 15 concern economic development in our community. He then gave a brief history: He stated that many years ago a group was concerned about economic development and eventually the Gateway District was created. The Master Plan, released in 2008, included a vision for the Gateway that would necessitate municipal water and sewer services in the district. Zoning regulations were put in place to implement the Gateway vision. Residents voted overwhelmingly in favor of the Gateway Master Plan in 2010 and 2014. In 2017, a group was created to research if the vision for the Gateway district was still valid. A survey was done which showed the community favored pursuing the Gateway Master Plan, which called for water/sewer with the provision that the developers/owners pay their fair share. A TIF would help drive this process. In 2018 – 2019 a group was assembled and spent months updating the town Master Plan. This was adopted by the Planning Board. The first action item recommended by the Committee was to adopt a TIF district to drive the process. A conservative estimate of what the Gateway implementation could bring is a tripling of value; that is the tax base changing the ratio of commercial vs residential tax assessments from the current 84% residential and 16% commercial to 77% residential and 23% commercial. It would make a significant difference in dollars raised from the commercial sector rather than the residential. The purpose would be to generate an opportunity to reduce what would be continual upward pressure on our residential taxes. Mr. Houghton referred to Market Basket who wanted to build a bigger store, but to do so they would have needed municipal water. That effort failed. Therefore, the valuation in tax increases that it would have brought was a missed opportunity. He described the areas within the Gateway that could be reclaimed and developed. He stated that millions of dollars of new investments could be made there.

Mr. Houghton explained that the creation of a TIF would support economic development, senior services, housing for seniors or young professionals, restaurants and bars, etc. Additional benefits include an environmental design, new architectural standards, and a defined area for development. It would include greenery, pedestrian walkways, protect environmentally sensitive lands, provide implementation of EPA accepted storm water regulations, provide significantly more building density than is possible currently, and would get traffic off of Rt. 108.

He then described what a TIF district is. He explained that it defines a limited district and enables borrowing to finance defined improvements in the district. He stated that we are not asking for any borrowing or funding of any sort today. Any recommendations to borrow funds would come as a new article at a future town meeting, if at all. He described the mechanics stating it would freeze the current assessed values. Any future incremental increases in property tax revenues within the district are captured, and all or a portion of this new revenue could be used to pay for infrastructure improvements (water and sewer) that would enable development within the district. This only applies if something new gets built. If nothing new gets built, nothing gets diverted to the TIF. Once the improvements are paid for, 100% of the property taxes generated in the district go into the Town's General Fund. The purpose is to generate taxation through commercial development to offset what would otherwise be continuing pressure on your residential real estate taxes. He stated that we believe this initiative is community driven. Taxes will continue to grow. Growth and commercial valuations are important. Benefits would go beyond simple economics. He then reviewed the area included in the district.

Mr. Lovejoy addressed the flyer that was sent anonymously to residences through the mail noting it was mailed from Hudson, Wisconsin. He addressed the inaccurate statements contained within the flyer. He explained that the zoning for that area is very specific and doesn't allow for "ugly industrial buildings". His major points were the following: To use one of the few state legislatures sanctioned programs is not "governmental overreach". It is not true that in 2016 voters rejected water/sewer contract. That article only included water. At the time it was suggested it might have passed if sewer was included. The next several bullet points in the flyer refer to fear of borrowing money. Mr. Lovejoy reiterated that we are not asking for any money today. The next point refers to sprawl and desecration of our rural environment. Mr. Lovejoy noted that the very reason for implementing the gateway is to prevent sprawl. It prevents commercial buildings from being interspersed throughout the Town. He urged voters to have an open mind.

Melissa Currier, 53 Depot Rd. thanked Mr. Lovejoy and the Route 108 Corridor Study Committee. She stated that when she first heard of this idea she went to Mr. Lovejoy to learn more about it. He invited her to join the Committee which was exploring the idea and trying to understand it so they could explain to the Town the pros, cons, and the direction the Town should take moving forward. It was a deliberative process. Melissa explained she had to step down from the committee because of personal and professional obligations and she couldn't devote the kind of time they were putting in in researching this. This was a completely thought out process. She reiterated Mr. Lovejoy's point that zoning will guide the architectural design of buildings in the district; and stated that you will not have a Wal-Mart or big box store. She urged the residents to take a look at it from a fiscally conservative perspective. If we do nothing, the property will depreciate over time. At present, we aren't offering anything to potential developers or current owners. If we keep the status quo, the residents will take on more of the tax burden; the commercial will take on less. We have many car dealerships because that is the best use of that space without water/sewer. She went on to say that she is a fiscal conservative and if we do nothing our residential taxes will go up and we'll have a hard time finding anyone to build going forward. It was a deliberative and thoughtful process. She said the Board is recommending this because it is in the best interest of the Town and she concurs.

Kyle, (last name not clear) stated that from the time Stratham was first settled has been a great little town. He takes this legacy seriously. He stated that we are the current stewards of Stratham. He said that he is young and has a vested interest in Stratham's future. He supports the article. He wants the area turned into something new and useable; he doesn't want to see it continue to fall down. He wants to see thoughtful, tasteful, development in that area, not more car dealerships or cheap chain restaurants. He wants to see something walkable and useful. He wants the town to be financially stable and continue to pay its bills in 50 years. Employees and volunteers have put a lot of work into this project. He has reviewed the work and it checks out. Engineers, development experts, and economic gurus all with decades of experience say this is a good idea. He stated it is how we stay special and strong. He concluded that this will keep our taxes from skyrocketing and without a doubt, this is a great idea.

Tim Roche, Chelsea Way, said the TIF is a long term proposition. He stated that this is the part that is overlooked. Everyone is talking about next year's taxes. Mr. Roche said he has been a planner for 20 years. Looking down the road he sees an older demographic, an aging population, few younger folks that are interested in being here. If you plan to remain in town you will need to shift that tax burden away from the residents and towards the commercial. This is the best opportunity we have to explore and try to take advantage of that opportunity. He asked if you are going to vote no, you've got to come up with a real plan to generate revenue, not just stopping spending. This Town will need a full time fire department. He stated that you wanted another police officer today and you will need more down the road. Residential development isn't stopping; you will need funds to cover those services. If you want to pay for it out of commercial taxes, vote yes so we can at least understand what we are up against.

David Canada, Bunker Hill Ave., representing the Stratham Heritage Commission, said that at their March 2020 meeting, the Heritage Commission voted unanimously to support the TIF district because it relates directly to their mission. It is a first step in the long process of bringing public utilities to the Gateway corridor. This will enable new development and redevelopment of existing sites in this core section of town which is already unrecognizably altered from its historic appearance. The old homes, barns, and fields that once dotted the landscape are long gone. Eventual placement of municipal utilities will allow for expanded use of the existing commercial land and provide a future tax base without harming historic resources that remain in the rest of the town. Secondly, focusing on development investment in the Gateway will help alleviate development pressure on the rest of the town which still maintains its agrarian character. Finally, focusing development in the gateway will help prevent future sprawl up on Portsmouth Ave. This is especially important to us as a Commission because Stratham's oldest, most historic street still contains over 60 historic homes, farmsteads, civic buildings, and cultural sites. We urge you to support this article.

Rob Roseen, 9 Greta's Way, expressed gratitude for the opportunity to come together in this type of town government to discuss in a respectful manner different viewpoints. He felt it was important to recognize the changing economic climate which has been going on for some time. Recent issues of the pandemic is stressing businesses more. We have a struggling business district. One reason for that is lack of services. It is important to recognize that a TIF doesn't increase the tax burden; it is designed to do the opposite. He used local examples of Exeter, Durham, and Dover. A TIF district is the best way to finance development. Opponents are

concerned about economic uncertainty but any economic plan has uncertainty. The TIF Plan is what you are doing and how you are doing it. A TIF plan can be adjusted at any time based on economic climate and conditions. That area has been teetering on the edge of failure for many years. He is on the Planning Board and said that many of the landowners have considered pulling out. We almost lost Staples; the owner had to cut their rent. We do have Starbucks and Chipotle, but these will only happen to a limited degree unless we offer utilities and services.

Lester Cuff, 50 Stratham Heights Rd, stated that he has lived here for 34 years and he supports growth. He stated that he didn't send out the propaganda. He doesn't support the TIF at this time for the following reasons. He said the Town seems to focus on raising revenue but we could also cover property taxes by reducing the operating cost. A good example is the solar panels on the Police Station. He talked about the money being saved because of the panels. He suggested putting solar panels on schools and asked that the Select Board look at renewable energy. He cited the benefits of solar energy.

Gregg Pruitt, 132 Portsmouth Ave., stated that he was a four year resident from Oklahoma City. TIFs are used there successfully. However, we knew who would get the benefits, and how the project would go. TIFs work fantastically, but he has concerns with Stratham attempting this. They were recruited here under the guise of historic preservation of the Town Center of Stratham and now he feels duped. The Town has allowed gross overdevelopment of the Town Center. It is a poor time for our Town to start looking at ways to develop. He stated that he has concerns over the small groups that approve these things. He said he noticed Frying Pan Lane residents have been successful in stopping overdevelopment. He speculated that the reason the Gateway was proposed only to Frying Pan Lane was so that more residential homes could be built there. He feared the development would forever erase our sunsets.

John Dinopolos, Morning Star Drive, said he grew up in Dover. That's why he lives here. He invited people to go to Dover and said it would change their mind about development here. He stated that no one's mind would be changed by anything anyone was saying today. He called for a vote.

Ben Zaimes, Doe Run Lane, stated that he was a 13 year resident and said he'd first like to address the economic impact of passing a TIF and second, address the impact on the community. Tax revenue collected on the incremental value of land after that land depreciates post infrastructure. So worth \$1 million, put in water/sewer, makes the land worth \$1.5 million. The extra \$500,000 is used to pay off the infrastructure cost. Nothing would go into the General Fund. The land associated with the TIF district is valued at approximately \$70 million. He used the recently implemented TIF in Exeter as a comparison. He said that that Exeter land, however, was completely undeveloped prior to implementing the TIF. After development in Exeter, the value of the land went up 27%. If we were to follow the same logic, it would go to \$85.6 million. The additional tax revenue would generate \$338,000 in tax revenue of which Stratham would get \$64,000. He believes the cost to secure a bond for sewer/water at the low end would be \$30 million. The annual payment over 30 years would be \$1.5 million. We'd collect \$338,000 which wouldn't be enough to pay back the bond. You could argue the land could increase 50% but that still wouldn't get us there. The historic increase of our net operating budget is 1.2%. In order to cover the difference in revenue generated vs expense associated with

bond, it would go up 15%. He fears the burden will fall to the residents. The tax revenue generated from this proposed development would go towards paying the loan, not into paying for schools, police, etc. It would also go to paying the businesses which doesn't help the residents. He doesn't believe we would be in control of the development of infrastructure. He thinks that development would lead to congested roads and would block sunsets. He also believes the developers would build what they want. Developers, landowners, and businesses that come in would get the benefits and we would be left footing the bill. Zoning laws are in place but we would be at the mercy of paying back a loan so he fears we would change the zoning to accommodate the developers.

Paul Reppucci, Willowbrook Ave, stated he has been here 12 years in October. He moved here from a busy place for the cute little town, and the great residents. He's owned property in a few places and has never seen taxes go down. He stated that the Great Bay College has been vacant for years and no one is interested in it. They are proposing a TIF, but where are the contractors today? Where are the people that want to build? Affordable housing was mentioned. That brings cars, congestion, people, crime. Infrastructure costs will increase if we put in big box stores. Traffic lights, intersections, sidewalks will all be a cost to the taxpayers. Businesses are coming slowly – we now have Starbucks. Will our small fire and police departments, as wonderful as they are, be able to handle a BJ's? He stated that we will need a full time Fire Dept. He also stated that we just voted down the additional police officer. If we put in a movie theater, kids will be jumping the border and coming here. Crime will rise. Water and sewer will require a new department, with at least two employees that would have to include salaries, benefits, and vehicles. He concluded that there are hidden costs in this proposal.

Pat Abrami, 9 Tall Pines Dr. opposes Article 14. A no vote on 14 makes a vote on 15 moot. TIFs are a decades old concept for towns to use as tools. The NH Office of Energy and Planning literature discusses the risk of TIFs to taxpayers. Other municipalities have over promised resulting in increases in taxes and reduction in services because of assumptions and promises that could not be met. The goal of a TIF is to attract developers. We have 82 lots and almost as many owners with nearly all lots with existing structures. Will developers find this an attractive area? He thinks not... Exeter's TIF is a developers dream. Here we have 82 owners who they'll have to negotiate with. A developer can do what he wants. The consultant's report contains information about financing a TIF; we are not talking about bonding here, but we will have to. The bonds are backed by the developers, not the residents. A TIF will create a baseline of assessed values. Because our TIF is spread out, he suspects it will take a decade to complete. He believes nothing will happen to stop organic growth. An example is Chipotle. If a TIF is approved, the value of Chipotle will accrue to the TIF and not the General Fund which could help offset values. He stated that there are many negative impacts on voting yes. He respects the work that was done researching the TIF but he must respectfully vote no. Mr. Abrami asked the chair if the vote is no on 14 will we vote on 15. Mr. Emanuel said that he will request the people to vote no on 15 if 14 is voted down. Mr. Abrami then requested a ballot vote and presented the petition with the required signatures.

Heidi Hansen, Strawberry Lane, thanked the committee for the research they've done. She is not in support because she said we are at the cusp of a national recession. This is not the time to enter into a speculative venture. Residential property taxes will go up whether or not we have

water and sewer in the district. There is no guarantee that development will take the burden off the taxpayers. She feels it is a risky investment. She further stated that she is worried about consequences with a dense district, such as traffic. It will change the character of the town. She does not support the creation of a TIF.

Sophie Robinson Saltonstall said she has a letter from Stratham Farms and also a personal appeal. The letter from the Stratham Farms supports creation of a TIF district. They recognize the benefits of a TIF. The farms that remain have weathered and adapted to shifting markets, politics, etc. She stated the following: 1. TIF will shift tax pressure from residential agriculture to commercially zoned districts. Controlling future property tax growth would benefit the long term future of farms and homeowners. 2. The recently adopted Master Plan calls for investment in the Gateway district to focus developmental growth in that core area and avoid sprawling of the commercial zone towards Greenland in order to build the tax base. Development will require water and sewer infrastructure. Focusing growth in the Gateway will avoid development pressure on the Town's unprotected farm land. 3. Diversified mixed use of the commercial and residential area is likely to bring new customers to our farms. New mixed use development could bring marketing and sales opportunities for Stratham farmers, such as year-round Farmers Markets and new restaurants that source local, fresh ingredients. For these reasons and more, they support the creation of the TIF and encourage everyone to vote yes on Articles 14 and 15. The letter was signed by Kyle and Sophie Saltonstall of Saltonstall Farm, Nathan and Judy Merrill of Stuart Farm, Barker's Farm, Scamman Farm and the MacDonalds.

Sophie went on to make a personal appeal. She is the third generation on the Saltonstall farm. The town has changed considerably since her mom grew up here. Due to the generational nature of her family in Stratham, she often thinks about the long term impact of her actions. The TIF is a long term project which will benefit her generation and the next. She is currently thinking a lot about the next generation because she is pregnant with her first child. We should be thinking about the future of our town. She stated she would be ashamed to pass down failing infrastructure to her children. The TIF is a wonderful opportunity to be future thinking. It's been studied by professionals. It can be a positive impact on future generations. She asked everyone to please join her in voting yes. She concluded with her hopes that her daughter finds Stratham to be as warm, welcoming and community oriented as she has found it to be.

Lucy Cushman, 159 Winnicutt Rd, stated that as she is looking around, she has probably been in town longer than anyone. She remembers when the Gateway was fields. She stated that she has been on the Gateway Committee and the 108 Committee and she supports the TIF. All we are voting on is if we allow the town to have a TIF. Nothing more. All this debate is way ahead of itself. They are not asking for any money today. Article 15 just defines the area. If nothing is built, and nothing goes into the TIF, nothing happens. If something does happen, it will come back to the Town to make a decision. Zoning doesn't allow for big box stores or cinemas. The only way zoning changes is if the Town votes for it. Traffic will always be there. She appreciates Mr. Cuff's dedication to solar energy but solar panels will not pay the taxes that will be hitting the town in years to come. Chipotle and Starbucks went in, but with a massive addition to the leach field. She asked if that is the best use of prime commercial land. She used Ocean State as an example saying it isn't particularly attractive, and neither is the crumbling parking lot in front of it. Is that what you want? She stated that it is time for us to move forward.

She is 72. She will not see a benefit, but many of you will. She sincerely hopes that you will vote yes. She reiterated that it simply says we can have a TIF, nothing more. What you have been hearing today is rhetoric and fear. There is never a good time to do anything. Lucy concluded with that it is time for Stratham to take a step forward into the future.

Nancy Hunter, Brown Ave, stated she wanted to reiterate what Lucy just said. She stated that we are not spending any money today. We are simply setting up a “let’s call it a savings account if somebody does renovation”. It’s the tax money on the renovation. We’re not doing a bond, we’re not starting water and sewer. They’ve already spent thousands of dollars on study after study for 12 years. Either stop now or start a TIF to put their money into it and not our money.

Jay Nesvold, 7 Bittersweet Lane, moved to call the question.

Bruce Scamman, 3 Blossom Lane, wanted to make two points. The potential for a sewer district which is the environmental and best way to move forward. We have a commercial district. They flow sewerage out of all those buildings. The only way to make it better for the environment is to have it go through a treatment plant so we are not contaminating local streams and brooks. Parkman Brook runs right next to that leach field next to Starbucks and Chipotle. The bigger issue is, he was at the school district meeting and looking at the tax rates of where the SAU16 tax bill goes. Stratham was the least taxed out of any of the 6 school districts. The worst was Brentwood. Brentwood hasn’t done a lot of the things we’ve done. We should take a look back at what previous Stratham residents have done. Back in the 80’s they started the Industrial Park. There was a lot of talk then about how Stratham would be full of industrial buildings. That has brought down our taxes and kept us where we are. There were people against doing conservation easements due to the big initial investment. We put a lot of land under conservation easements; and less houses were built. That’s the second thing we did. He looks at this the same way. We, as Stratham residents, looking to the future, just as previous residents had looked to the future. Start a TIF district so our children can live here and afford the taxes, and not end up like Brentwood that has a 10% tax rate increase every year.

Nate Merrill, 73 College Rd, asked everyone to please support this. He stated that it is very important that we are looking long term. He further stated that our forbearers planned for growth of the town in certain spots and that’s what I want to see for the next generation. We’ve worked on this for a long time. We’ve reached out to the community. We’ve tried to be as inclusive as possible. There’s been a huge amount of thought that’s gone into this. I encourage you to vote yes.

Wayne Scales, 21 Rollins Farm Dr., stated that he is not opposed to economic development. We are seeing some of it with 110 Grill, Starbucks and Chipotle. There is no evidence to believe this development will not continue without a TIF. He moved here from Illinois around 5 years ago. TIFs were widely used there. Studies show municipalities grow more slowly after adoption of a TIF. Overall municipal growth is sacrificed to encourage the development of blighted areas. What’s the answer to other areas that become blighted at the expense of a TIF district? Is it more TIFs? In many parts of the country, the answer is yes and that is a slippery slope. For this reason, he is against this Article.

John Scheel, 154 Portsmouth Avenue, spoke in opposition. He believes it will be a Pandora's Box once it is approved. He thinks that Market Basket could afford to put in a new grocery store if it wanted to. This Town has changed but not at the rapid rate as the rest of the country. To compare pictures of Stratham with Portsmouth or Dover is outrageous. Those communities are totally despoiled. Portsmouth has eradicated their water view. The new development on Dover Point is only half full. As far as tying into Exeter water, he doesn't trust Exeter's Water Board. Last year they doubled their water rates to their own citizens. We would be at risk of losing our aquifers. We moved here knowing it was a septic system. We knew what we were buying. He would urge you to vote no on the TIF proposal.

Judy Merrill, 73R College Rd, stated that she is not a public person, she is usually very quiet. Today's meeting has her running through quite a few emotions. It brings her back to the Master Plan meeting in 1996 when her grandfather-in-law was the chair of the committee. She sat in the back of the room and watched people and how they acted and reacted to each other. Today she sat back and listened and watched. She was listening to the speakers and heard people around her laughing, cheering, muttering, talking about what the speaker is saying. As she looked around she sees very few young people. At that meeting years ago, there were many people 40 years and younger. The demographics have changed. She married a lifelong resident 30 years ago. She has read the town reports. Back then, births outweighed the deaths. This community is aging. Who will be there to take care of us? Who will work in the ambulance, fire dept., stores? Many people say they moved here 5, 10 years ago. She stated that things have changed a lot in the 30 years she's been here. Back at the '96 meeting, her neighbor spoke and said, we didn't want you, but here you are. We couldn't stop you from coming here. Many good things have come of that. She's met many wonderful people in this town. People are devoted and care about each other. That has not changed. She stated that it sums up by one thing: we need to look at the demographic. Ask yourselves who will take care of us when we get older? This is not a quaint town compared to 30 years ago. Now there's a lot of traffic and congestion, it's all relative to your perspective. She concluded with that we can't stop development.

Seeing no other speakers, the Moderator moved to vote on Article 14 to adopt legislation authorizing Tax Increment Finance (TIF) Districts. To see if the Town will vote to adopt the provisions of RSA 162-K, Municipal Economic Development and Revitalization Districts, which if adopted will grant the Town (at Town Meeting) authority to establish tax increment financing districts. The Select Board recommends this article by unanimous vote.

Mr. Lovejoy spoke again to urge the residents to vote in favor of the article. He again explained that they are not asking for any money. Mr. Houghton spoke of the wonderful opportunity to plan the future of our Town. He stated that in the past, the Town voted wisely, to implement zoning regulations which would enable future development of the Gateway. This provides the town with a tool to manage future growth. Not long after that, similar measures were taken up to regulate the Town Center and the Professional Residential District. The development you have seen is consistent with the regulations you approved. This gives us an opportunity to build a plan that aligns with the vision you all have voted on and approved. Mr. Houghton stated that we have not been meeting to come up with a way to try and fool you. This TIF program is a planning tool that enables the potential for future development. This gives us the opportunity to be able to sit down with developers about the possibility of developing property on the 82 pieces

of land in the Gateway district. When they develop a plan, we come back to you and say do you want to do this? This is the process. This is not a nefarious set of activities by people not mindful of the issues we confront in this community day in and day out. We have a track record of behaving responsibly. Mr. Houghton stated that he has lived here for 15 years and there has been three new properties built in the Business District. He stated that there is little organic growth happening. He went on to state that we have a decision about whether we provide tools to direct the future of this Town. The notion that we will come forward with a bond request is silly. This is a fiscally responsible plan to benefit the taxpayers. Despite the emotion and misinformation, this is what the process is. Zoning and Code won't allow the liquor store to move to the Market Basket plaza. Voting for the TIF enablement in this Town would allow us to set aside potential money to be used for potential infrastructure. He concluded with the hope that you will vote in the affirmative on this Article.

Mr. Emanuel read Article 14 and instructed the residents to write their vote on the yellow ballot card. The deputy moderators collected the ballots as they moved through the crowd with the ballot boxes.

The deputy moderators collected the ballots as they moved through the crowd with the ballot boxes. 133 Yes 251 No. Article 14 failed.

ARTICLE 15: Route 108 Corridor Tax Increment Finance (TIF) District

To see if the Town will vote to:

(a) establish a municipal economic development and revitalization district in accordance with RSA 162-K: 5, which district is as shown on a map entitled "Town of Stratham Tax Increment Finance District (TIF)," dated February 20, 2020 and which generally runs along Route 108 from its intersection with Route 101 to the Town Center, including 82 properties along the Route 108 corridor. The district will have the name, "Route 108 Corridor Tax Increment Finance (TIF) District."

(b) Adopt the provisions of the "Route 108 Corridor Tax Increment Finance (TIF) District Development Program and Financing Plan" dated February 20, 2020 in accordance with RSA 162-K:6 and RSA 162-K: 9; and

(c) Authorize the Select Board to appoint the District Administrator in accordance with RSA 162-K: 13 and to create a five member Advisory Board in accordance with RSA 162-K: 14, with the Advisory Board membership to be determined by the Select Board.

The Select Board recommends this Article by unanimous vote.

Mr. Emanuel read Article 15 and polled for a verbal vote, motion failed.

The Moderator stated that because Article 15 is tied to Article 14, and Article 14 did not pass, Article 15 is null and void, and we will move to Article 16.

Jay Nesvold moved to restrict reconsideration of Article 14, motion seconded. Motion to restrict reconsideration of Article 14 voted on and passed.

Ben Zaimes moved to restrict reconsideration of Article 15, Greg Pruitt seconded it. Motion to restrict reconsideration of Article 15 voted on and passed.

ARTICLE 16: - 79-E Community Revitalization Tax Relief Incentive. To see if the Town will vote to adopt the provisions of RSA 79-E relative to Community Revitalization Tax Relief Incentive Programs, enabling the Select Board to grant Community Revitalization Tax Incentives for all of the areas and structures permitted by RSA 79-E. Failure of this article to pass shall not affect the authority to grant Community Revitalization Tax Relief Incentive Programs in the limited areas described in a similar warrant article adopted by the Town in 2014. The Select Board recommends this Article by unanimous vote.

Mr. Houghton motioned to support Article 16. Ms. Knab seconded the motion. Mr. Houghton explained that the 2019 Master Plan identifies several goals for the preservation of historic buildings and landscapes. The Town has a number of architecturally significant structures and this provides options and incentives to restore and rehabilitate that stock, allowing owners to preserve and retain it. This was adopted for the Town Center. This Article extends that opportunity across all of Stratham for all historic properties. Along with the Select Board, the Heritage Commission also recommends this article unanimously.

The Select Board recommends this Article by unanimous vote.

Seeing no comments or questions, Moderator Emanuel read Article 16, the vote was taken in the affirmative and Article 16 passed.

ARTICLE 17: - Modifications of Elderly Exemption from Property Tax

To see if the Town will vote to modify the provisions of RSA 72:39-a for elderly exemption 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, \$125,000; for a person 75 years of age up to 80 years, \$145,000; for a person 80 years of age or older \$165,000. To qualify, the person must have been a New Hampshire resident for at least 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 \$36,000 if single or, if married, a combined net income of less than \$60,000; and own net assets not in excess of \$200,000 excluding the value of the person's residence.

The Select Board recommends this Article by unanimous vote.

Select Board Chair Michael Houghton moved to accept the article as read. Select Board Member Lovejoy seconded the motion. Select Board Chair Houghton spoke to the motion.

Select Board Chair Houghton stated that this Article deals with the elderly population property values that are excluded for taxation. Essentially it increases the exemption to \$25,000 within each age group beginning at the age of 65. The affected impact to the town is currently \$85,000, this would an increase to \$103,000. Mr. Houghton stated that this Article is warranted and appreciates the support.

Seeing no comments or questions, Moderator Emanuel read Article 17, the vote was taken in the affirmative and Article 17 passed.

ARTICLE 18: - Modification to Veteran's Tax Credit

To see if the Town will vote to modify the Veterans' Tax Credit in the Town of Stratham, in accordance with RSA 72:28, II from its current tax credit of \$500 per year to \$600 per year.

The Select Board recommends this Article by unanimous vote.

Select Board Member Knab moved to accept this article as read. Select Board Member Lovejoy seconded the motion. Select Board Member Knab spoke to the motion.

Ms. Knab spoke to the Article and stated that this Article is in response to an RSA that went into effect in 2018 from \$500 to \$750. Stratham currently has 362 veterans that are accessing this credit. This would increase the total amount of the credit by \$31,000 bringing the total credit to \$234, 200 for 2020 which has a .15 impact per taxed property.

Seeing no further comments of questions, Moderator Emanuel read Article 18, the vote was taken in the affirmative and Article 18 passed.

ARTICLE 19: Multi-Sport Park Construction

This warrant article is placed by petition of voters in the Town of Stratham.

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Three Hundred Thousand Dollars and no cents (\$300,000.00) for the purpose of constructing a concrete recreational facility (Multi-Sport Park) on the southerly portion of the Municipal Center parcel at 10 Bunker Hill Avenue and to authorize the Select Board to accept \$10,200 in donations already raised towards this project (a total of \$289,800 to come from general taxation). This special warrant article will be a non-lapsing appropriation per NH RSA 32:7 and will not lapse until the stated purpose is completed or obtained, but shall in no case be later than five (5) years from this appropriation per NH RSA 32:7 (VI)

The Select Board vote to recommend this article was two in favor and one against.

Select Board Member Lovejoy moved to accept this article as read. Select Board Member Knab seconded the motion. Select Board Member Lovejoy spoke to the motion.

Mr. Lovejoy motioned to move the article. Ms. Knab seconded the motion.

Select Board Member Lovejoy stated as this is a Petition Article and the Board will Yield to Petitioners.

Ms. Knab read a letter presented by the Petitioners: Due to the COVID-19 virus and the impact

on the community, our Committee is withdrawing our request for support for the warrant article for the skate park for this year's 2020 Town Meeting. Our group is committed to creating a designated park for skateboarders, bikers and scooters. If you have any questions you can reach us at our email at 03sk885@gmail.com

James Scamman stated he did not support the Article but he does support a skate park in Town and feels that two parks are needed, one for each age group.

Jan Teague stated that she cannot put three hundred thousand dollars towards the skate park given where we currently are with our economics.

Seeing no further comments or questions, Mr. Emanuel read Article 19, and the vote was taken. Article 19 failed.

Jay Nesvold moved to restrict reconsideration on Article 19, James Scamman Jr. seconded it. Motion to restrict reconsideration of Article 19 voted on and passed.

ARTICLE 20: New Hampshire Resolution for Fair Redistricting

By petition of 25 or more eligible voters of the Town of Stratham to see if the Town will urge that the New Hampshire General Court, which is obligated to redraw the maps of political districts within the state following the 2020 census, will do so in a manner that ensures fair and effective representation of New Hampshire voters. That in order to fulfill this obligation of the New Hampshire General Court shall appoint an independent redistricting commission that draws the new district maps in a way that does not rely on partisan data such as election results or party registration or favor particular political parties or candidates.

The record of the vote approving this article shall be transmitted by written notice from the Select Board to the Town of Stratham's state legislators and to the Governor of New Hampshire informing them of the instructions from their constituents within 30 days of the vote.

The Select Board recommends this Article by unanimous vote.

Select Board Member Knab motioned to accept the article. Select Board Chair Houghton seconded the motion.

Select Board Member Knab stated that as this is a Petition Article the Board will Yield to the Petitioners.

Representative Altschiller spoke in favor of the Article and stated that this is an election and census year. She further went on to say that whichever party gains control in the upcoming election will get the privilege of redrawing the election district map. She stated that the Article is a clear statement from Stratham that voters should pick their elected officials and that lawmakers

should not be picking their voters. The Town of Stratham supports fair electoral maps, and that we want to put an end to gerrymandered districts in our state and that we support a non-partisan independent redistricting commission that would do this work in the open with public oversight and input. It would put an end to political partisans drawing maps behind closed doors with no transparency or accountability. Representative Altschiller continued by urging voters to vote yes to send a clear message to Concord that voters should pick their lawmakers and not the other way around.

Charles Currier spoke and said we are in one of the most Democratic states in the United States and we have over four-hundred elected representatives to our state legislature. An opportunity like this to turn that decision making process to two-hundred majority votes in favor for a committee of fifteen people defies logic.

Representative Abrami stated that the House and Senate have already passed the bill. He continued on by stating that the only thing that can happen is if the Governor vetoes it and then it would be turned back to the House and Senate for a vote. He further stated in terms of redistricting that there are four-hundred state representatives in this state with a voice and with a commission and they are arbitrarily picked. State representatives and State Senate seats are very hard to gerrymander.

Representative Lovejoy stated that the bill that passed by the legislature that is on the way to the Governor's desk does call for a fifteen member committee, five chosen by the majority party and five by the minority, those ten select the next five. No one on the Committee can be a lobbyist or representative and there is specific criteria in the legislation process. Representative Lovejoy concluded by stating that there is considerable opportunity to gerrymander the New Hampshire Senate seats and the Executive Council.

Representative Altschiller stated that the House Senate Districts are combined in a way that have been gerrymandered. Representative Altschiller continued by saying that this Article is needed to send a message from our Town that regardless of which party is in power we believe districts should be decided on based on the fairness of voters and not the fairness to the law makers. This would allow the public to provide their input which right now does not exist. Representative Altschiller concluded with urging voters to say yes to this non-binding resolution to show that Stratham believes in fairness in drawing electoral maps.

Roger Stephenson stated that he supports the Article, adding that people and not politicians should have a voice in redistricting.

Representative Abrami stated that whichever party is in control will control that redistricting and urged voters to vote their conscience.

Seeing no further questions or comments, Moderator Emanuel read Article 20, and the vote was taken. The vote was unclear and a hand count was taken. The Town Clerk and Deputy Town Clerk counted the hand votes. Article 20 passed 144 yes 66 no.

ARTICLE 21: Other Business

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

Martin Wool thanked all the employees for their hard work in making everyone comfortable and keeping everyone safe.

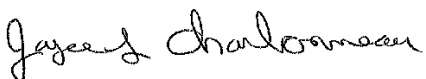
Select Board Chair Michael Houghton thanked everyone for all the hard work to complete this Town Meeting and making everything run smoothly and easy.

Seeing no further comments or questions, Moderator Emanuel entertained a motion to close the meeting.

Melissa Currier made a motion to close the meeting. Peter Mason seconded the motion.

Seeing no other business before the Town, Moderator Emanuel adjourned the meeting at 1:58 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,


Joyce L. Charbonneau, Town Clerk


Deborah Bakie, Deputy Town Clerk


Karen Richard, Administrative Executive Assistant

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

THE POLLS WILL BE OPEN FROM 7 AM TO 7 PM

To the inhabitants of the Town of Stratham in the County of Rockingham, in said State, qualified to vote in Town Affairs.

You are hereby notified and warned to meet at the Stratham Municipal Center on Tuesday, on the ninth day of March, 2021, next at seven o'clock in the forenoon, to act upon the following subjects:

Article 1: To choose all necessary Town Officers for the year ensuing.

Article 2: Are you in favor of the following amendment to the Town of Stratham Zoning Ordinance as proposed by the Planning Board?

To amend the Zoning Ordinance, Section III, by deleting Subsection 3.8, *Gateway Commercial Business District*, in its entirety and replacing it with an amended Subsection 3.8, *Gateway Commercial Business District*, in order to eliminate site plan requirements that are dependent upon the existence of public water and sewer infrastructure.

3.8 GATEWAY COMMERCIAL BUSINESS DISTRICT (REV. 3/11, 3/13, 3/16, 3/17)

3.8.1 Authority:

- a. The action of the Town of Stratham, New Hampshire in the adoption of this Ordinance is authorized under RSA 674:21.II Innovative Land Use Controls and RSA 674:16 Grant of Power.
- b. This Ordinance was adopted to promote the health, safety, and general welfare of the Town of Stratham and its citizens, including protection of the environment, conservation of land, energy and natural resources, reduction in vehicular traffic congestion, more efficient use of public funds, health benefits of a pedestrian environment, preservation of community character, education and recreation, reduction in sprawl development, and improvement of the built environment.
- c. This Section was adopted as one of the instruments of implementation of the public purposes and objectives of the Town's Master Plan. This Ordinance is declared to be in accord with the Master Plan, as required by RSA 674:2.

3.8.2 Applicability:

- a. This Ordinance shall establish the Gateway Commercial Business District (the "District" or "GCBD"). The boundaries of the District are shown on the plan entitled "Gateway Commercial Business District, Town of Stratham, New Hampshire" and dated December 22, 2009 (as amended). (Rev. 3/13)
- b. The provisions of the GCBD shall be mandatory for development projects within the Gateway Commercial Business District. Development projects submitted for approval under this zoning district shall be subject to applicable requirements of the Subdivision and Site Plan Review Regulations of Stratham. (Rev. 3/13)
- c. When in conflict, the provisions of the GCBD shall take precedence over those of other ordinances, regulations, and standards except the Local Health and Safety Ordinances and Building Codes. (Rev. 3/13)

- d. Section 3.8.10 Definitions of Terms contains regulatory language that is integral to the GCBD. Those terms not defined in Section 3.8.10 or in Section II of the Zoning Ordinance shall be accorded their commonly accepted meanings. In the event of conflicts between definitions in the Zoning Ordinance and the GCBD, those of the GCBD shall take precedence.
- e. The requirements of Section 3.8.8 Development Standards and Tables are an integral part of the GCBD and are legally binding. Unless otherwise noted, other diagrams and illustrations that accompany this ordinance are provided for guidance purposes and as recommended examples.
- f. If in conflict, numerical requirements shall take precedence over graphic illustrations.

3.8.3 Purpose and Intent:

- a. The purpose of the Gateway Commercial Business District is to enhance the economic vitality, business diversity, accessibility, and visual appeal of Stratham's Gateway Commercial Business District, in a manner that is consistent with the landscape and architecture of the Town's agricultural tradition.
- b. The intent of the GCBD is to foster development of a vibrant mixed-use district with a cohesive street layout and architectural character that includes commercial, residential, and civic uses and integration of open spaces, transit, bicycle, and pedestrian accommodations. The requirements of the GCBD are based primarily on building form, placement and function, site design, and the overall built environment including streetscapes, landscaping, and outdoor spaces and facilities.
- c. Development in the Gateway Commercial Business District shall incorporate the following:
 - i. Wherever possible, natural infrastructure and visual character derived from topography, woodlands, farmlands, riparian corridors, and other environmental features shall be retained;
 - ii. Infill development and redevelopment shall be encouraged;
 - iii. Development contiguous to adjacent zoning districts shall be organized to complement and be compatible with the existing pattern of development and the natural landscape;
 - iv. Network of existing and proposed streets shall be designed for access to Portsmouth Avenue and local connector roads, disperse traffic to and from the District, and reduce traffic volumes;
 - v. Transportation corridors shall be planned and reserved in coordination with proposed land uses;
 - vi. Greenways shall be used to define and connect developed areas and provide public spaces and enhance view sheds to adjacent conservation lands;
 - vii. Development shall integrate a framework of transit, pedestrian, and bicycle systems that provide accessible alternatives to the automobile;
 - viii. Use of on-street parking shall be emphasized;
 - ix. Architectural and landscape design suited to a traditional New England appearance shall be applied; and
 - x. Public gathering and public use spaces shall be established and connections made throughout the District in a manner and location that will encourage use and promote safety and security.

3.8.4 The Regulating Plan:

- a. The purpose of this Ordinance is to enable, encourage, and implement the ***following plans Regulating Plan*** and general requirements.
- b. For the purposes of the delineation, the Gateway Commercial Business District and the location and boundaries of Special Districts are hereby established as shown on a map entitled "Regulating Plan for the Gateway Commercial Business District of the Town of Stratham, New Hampshire" (the "Regulating Plan") dated December 22, 2009 and hereby incorporated as part of this ordinance.

i. Note that the Regulating Plan identifies three special districts that comprise the Gateway Commercial Business District. For the purposes of zoning regulation, this Ordinance regulates the Gateway as one district. The Regulating Plan maintains the three distinct special districts in order to memorialize the original intent of the district.

~~*e. The Regulating Plan for the GCBD shall identify the extent of Zones within the District where specific provisions shall apply. Following are general descriptions of these zones (refer to Section 3.8.8 for detailed requirements for each zone):*~~

- ~~*i. Central Zone — for the purpose of providing non-residential uses, mixed uses and multi-family uses in a primarily dense development pattern with wide streets in a grid-like network, and dedicated public spaces;*~~
- ~~*ii. Outer Zone — for the purpose of providing non-residential uses and residential uses in a moderate density and residential development pattern with narrower local streets and dedicated public and open spaces; and*~~
- ~~*iii. Open Space Zone — for the purpose of providing, scenic beauty and view sheds, natural resource protection, land conservation, and passive recreational opportunities.*~~

3.8.5 District Character:

- a. Development in the Gateway Commercial Business District should incorporate the following concepts to preserve and complement elements of the agricultural and historic tradition of Stratham and local and regional village character:
 - i. Comprised of compact, pedestrian-oriented development;
 - ii. Mixed use pattern of development where development specializing in a single use should be the exception;
 - iii. Where ordinary activities of daily living should be located within walking distance of residential areas, allowing independence to those who do not drive;
 - iv. Within mixed use and residential neighborhoods, a range of housing types and price levels shall be provided to accommodate diverse ages and incomes; Workforce housing is encouraged within the District to promote a variety of housing choices;
 - v. A range of Open Space including parks, squares, and playgrounds shall be distributed within neighborhoods and throughout the District;
 - vi. Expansion and provision of public transportation facilities that promote use and access is encouraged;
 - vii. Provide improved visibility and access to and use of conservation lands, where appropriate; and
 - viii. Provide opportunities for agriculture and agritourism as defined in Section II, Definitions, 2.1.6 (Rev. 3/16)

~~*3.8.6 — The Board of Selectmen will hereby create a Technical Review Committee (“TRC”) comprised of the Town Planner, a member of the Heritage Commission, and three (3) members and two (2) alternates appointed by the Board of Selectmen and recommended by the Planning Board. The TRC shall process applications for development within the District for the purpose of determining compliance with the provisions of the Ordinance. The TRC may consult with other committees, commissions, and professionals for review and comment on applications within the District. Any cost associated with professional review shall be the responsibility of the applicant. The TRC review of any application shall be deemed equivalent to a Preliminary Consultation with the Planning Board, however, applicants may also submit for Preliminary Consultation.*~~

~~Should any construction, site work, or development be commenced without an approved Conditional Use Permit, Subdivision, Site Plan approval, or any should a violation of an approved Development Plan or Conditional Use Permit occur, the Planning Board or the Town Planner has the right to require the property owner to stop, remove, and/or mitigate the violation, or seek the appropriate appeal process to gain compliance. (Rev. 3/17)~~

~~a. Review Process (Rev 3/17):~~

- ~~i. Projects that do not require a Conditional Use Permit shall be evaluated for compliance with this ordinance by the TRC, and then be processed by the Planning Board as required under the Subdivision and/or Site Plan Review Regulations of Stratham. Such applications should follow the submission requirements of a Site Plan Review Application.~~
- ~~ii. For those development applications within the District that include a request for a deviation from the requirements of this ordinance, a complete Site Plan Review Application shall be accompanied with a Conditional Use Permit Application that includes a narrative description of the deviation(s) and a site plan illustrating proposed deviation from any requirement within this ordinance. Deviation from the requirements of this Ordinance shall only be permitted by grant of a Conditional Use Permit issued by the Planning Board. A Conditional Use Permit is a decision that would permit deviation from or reduction in a specific provision(s) of this Ordinance but that is otherwise generally consistent with the provisions of Section 3.8.3 Purpose and Intent (See 3.8.6 a. iii).~~

3.8.6 Conditional Use Permit

- a. The Planning Board shall have the authority to grant or deny a request for a Conditional Use Permit, pursuant to the provisions of RSA 674:16 and RSA 674:21. A Conditional Use Permit, for relief from the requirements of this Ordinance, after proper public notice and public hearing where the Planning Board finds that an application complies with standards 1. and 2. below.
 - 1. Consistent with the Gateway Business District Master Plan, including but not limited to:
 - a. Both public and private buildings and landscaping shall contribute to the physical definition of streetscapes and public spaces; and
 - b. Development shall adequately accommodate automobiles and emergency vehicles, while respecting the pedestrian and the spatial form of public spaces; and
 - c. Design of streets and buildings shall reinforce safe environments, but not at the expense of accessibility and efficient traffic flow; and
 - d. Architecture and landscape design shall complement climate, topography, community character, and building practice; and
 - e. Open space and public gathering places shall be provided as locations that reinforce the identity and activity of the District and the community; and
 - f. New development and redevelopment shall be otherwise consistent with the intent and purpose of this ordinance; and
 - g. Does not unduly impact adjacent properties and uses in the District.
 - 2. Improves public safety within the District and/or in adjacent zoning districts; or provides environmental and natural resource protection; or provides a measureable public benefit (such as increased public space, open space or public amenities).
- iv. The granting or denial of a Conditional Use Permit by the Planning Board may be appealed to the Superior Court, as provided for in RSA 677:15. A Planning Board decision on the issuance of a Conditional Use Permit cannot be appealed to the Zoning Board of Adjustment (RSA 676:5

iii).

3.8.7 Building and Site Design Standards:

a. Purpose:

In order to provide for harmonious and aesthetically pleasing development in the built environment [RSA 674:44,II(b)], ~~the TRC (refer to Section 3.8.6)~~ and the Planning Board will apply the following Building and Site Design Standards in its review of all applications in the District.

b. Intent:

Maintaining the quality and character of the community is dependent upon the quality and character of the architecture and development that is allowed to occur. Poorly planned and executed development detracts from the character and function of the built environment, while well-planned development enhances community character, quality of life, and value of the surrounding properties and the community overall.

Design standards are a tool to help guide development and redevelopment assuring that community priorities are an integral part of the design process. Design Standards, implemented as part of the application review and approval process, are a set of design principles that offer a positive direction for building and site level design. The guidelines and interpretations are based upon maintaining and enhancing the character of the community. They are not intended to specify any particular architecture or style.

Design Standards address a wide range of design issues including such elements as: pedestrian and traffic circulation, building mass and scale, architectural details, signs, landscaping, lighting, open space, and natural features. When integrated, these elements will create a project that is functional, attractive, and an asset to the community.

c. Building and Site Design Evaluation:

The evaluation of the following factors will inform ~~the TRC and~~ the Planning Board's decisions on whether proposed site and building designs achieve the purpose and intent of these Design Standards and of this Ordinance. The Planning Board shall develop a GCBD guidance document to further illustrate and provide details of the design standards stated below. This document shall be utilized by applicants when designing projects within the District.

- i. Within a development project, site design elements should be compatible with small New England Village character and the town's agricultural history.
- ii. Building architecture should demonstrate the cohesive planning of the development and present a clearly identifiable, attractive design feature and appearance throughout. It is not intended that buildings be totally uniform in appearance or that designers and developers be restricted in their creativity. Rather, cohesion, and identity can be demonstrated in harmonious building style, scale or mass; consistent use of facade materials; similar ground level detailing, color or signage; consistency in functional systems such as roadway or pedestrian way surfaces, signage, or landscaping; public amenities; the framing of outdoor open space and linkages, or a clear conveyance in the importance of various buildings and features on the site.
- iii. Building architecture should be designed to provide an attractive appearance. Franchise or corporate style architecture and/or highly contrasting color schemes are strongly discouraged. If proposed, such building styles should be substantially modified to create a project that complements the small New England Village character. All architectural details should be related to an overall architectural design approach or theme.
- iv. Diversity of architectural design is encouraged. Buildings that are characteristic of a historic period are encouraged, particularly if a building style or the site is historically appropriate for the community or necessary for architectural harmony.

- v. Multiple buildings on the same site should be designed to create a cohesive visual relationship, as well as efficient circulation and access for pedestrians and vehicles. Accessory buildings should be designed to complement the primary building and/or use on the site in design and material expression.
 - vi. Building placement should take best advantage of solar orientation, climatic and other environmental conditions, should encourage safety and use of adjacent public spaces and public open spaces, and should minimize the impact of activity and light upon and from the project.
 - vii. Buildings adjacent to public open space should generally be oriented to that space, with access to the building opening onto the public open space.
 - viii. Implementation of Low Impact Development techniques is strongly encouraged, including, but not limited to, storm water management practices, alternative surfacing materials, building and site design elements, and landscaping features.
 - ix. The practice of creating structures and using processes that are environmentally responsible and resource-efficient throughout a building's life-cycle from siting to design, construction, operation, maintenance, renovation, and deconstruction are strongly encouraged.
 - x. All electrical utilities shall be located underground.
- d. Internal Drive Aisle/Thoroughfare Connection Standards
- i. Thoroughfare intersections and on-street parking shall be setback a minimum of 100 feet from Portsmouth Avenue.
 - ii. ~~In the Central Zone,~~ Thoroughfares shall be laid out in a grid-like pattern and may be composed of angular, rectangular, or square configurations that define blocks.
 - iii. Thoroughfares shall provide the following streetscape elements: sidewalks, pedestrian crossings, planting strips, street trees, and lighting. ~~Bike lanes shall be provided on Boulevards, Avenues, and Streets shown on the Regulating Plan and as detailed in Section 3.8.8.b and Section 3.8.8.c for additional standards for required and recommended streetscape elements. Pedestrian/Bike lanes and accommodations shall be encouraged.~~
 - iv. Thoroughfares that incorporate commons and squares are encouraged to provide public parks and spaces and add visual form and interest to the development. Roundabouts may also be incorporated when necessary to enhance traffic flow and safety.
 - v. Other new thoroughfares shall be aligned as closely as possible at right angles to the roadway network shown on the Regulating Plan and spaced according to the needs of the development serviced, traffic demand and safety.
- e. Landscaping Standards:
- The following landscaping standards shall apply to all development:
- i. Following are requirements for implementation of buffers:
 - 1. A minimum 30-foot vegetated buffer shall be provided between proposed development and adjacent residential zoning districts outside the GCBD;
 - 2. Street trees and other plantings shall be placed within the building setback on the lot or right of way of Portsmouth Avenue;
 - 3. A 30-foot vegetated buffer where a residential use abuts a non-residential use or a mixed-use development ~~in the Outer Zone.~~
 - ii. Buffers shall be established or maintained at a density that attenuates year round the impact of activity and light on adjacent properties.

- iii. Use of native species of trees, shrubs, groundcover, and decorative plants in all landscaping is strongly encouraged.
 - iv. A landscaping plan, including a maintenance plan and agreement, shall be approved as part of the review and approval process as stated in the Site Plan Review (Section V.5.2) and Subdivision Regulations.
- f. Lighting Standards:
- i. Street, building and site lighting shall not adversely impact surrounding uses and residential projects, and be designed with ~~no~~ minimal light spilling or reflecting into adjacent properties and with protection of the night sky. Such lighting shall not blink, flash, oscillate, or be of unusually high intensity of brightness, except for purposes of providing emergency services or to protect public safety.
 - ii. Energy efficient exterior lighting and streetlights shall be provided.
 - iii. Lighting of the site shall be adequate at ground level for the protection and safety of the public in regard to pedestrian access and vehicular circulation. This shall include, but not be limited to sidewalks, crossings, parking areas, and other public spaces.
 - iv. Refer to additional lighting requirements in Section 3.8.8, Tables b.5 and c.6.
 - v. Unless otherwise stated, lighting shall comply with the standards of the Site Plan Review Regulations, Section V.5.8.
- g. Parking Standards:
- i. On-street parking shall provide short-term parking for patrons of shops and businesses. On street parking to service residential areas is recommended.
 - ii. Parking for mixed use developments shall provide long term and shared parking by multiple uses and users.
 - iii. Delivery and other service related areas for mixed use and non-residential uses can be located at the front, rear, or sides of buildings, or within designated portions of parking areas. Loading docks and service areas shall not face a public frontage. Delivery and service vehicles are encouraged to utilize rear alleys for building access.
 - iv. Parking structures shall comply with the dimensional requirements and design standards of principal buildings, but must adhere to applicable architectural scale, form, and detailing. Below ground and multi-story parking structures are encouraged.
 - v. Refer to additional parking requirements in Section 3.8.8, Tables b.6 and c.7.
 - vi. Parking in the District shall comply with the requirements of Section V.5.9 of the Site Plan Regulations.

3.8.8 DEVELOPMENT OF STANDARDS AND TABLES (REV. 3/16)

a. Permitted Uses by Zone

Type of Use	Central-Gateway Zone	Outer Zone	Open Space Zone
Agriculture and Forestry	<u>By Conditional Use Permit Permitted</u> Agriculture and agritourism as defined in Section II, Definitions, 2.1.6 <i>See footnote 5. Agricultural structures greater than four hundred (400) square feet require a Conditional Use Permit from the Planning Board. (Rev. 3/16)</i>	<u>Permitted</u> Agriculture and agritourism as defined in Section II, Definitions, 2.1.6 (Rev. 3/16)	See Footnote
Civic/ Institutional	<u>By Conditional Use Permit</u> Includes private schools, nursery through college schools; day care facilities; senior citizen centers; outpatient clinics and treatment facilities; non-profit lodges and fraternal organizations; place of worship including customary ancillary facilities; public utilities; and municipal buildings	<u>Permitted</u> Includes private schools, nursery through college schools; day care facilities; senior citizen centers; outpatient clinics and treatment facilities; non-profit lodges and fraternal organizations; place of worship including customary ancillary facilities; public utilities; and municipal buildings	By Conditional Use Permit; see Footnote
Commercial	<u>Permitted</u> Includes retail sales and service, business and professional services, banking and lending institutions, food service/bar/entertainment, special promotional sales and displays, conference centers, movie and performance theatres, indoor entertainment complex, <u>By Conditional Use Permit</u> Includes self-storage facilities, light manufacturing facilities ³ , and veterinary hospitals	<u>Permitted</u> Includes retail sales and service, business and professional services, banking and lending institutions, food service/bar/entertainment, special promotional sales and displays, conference centers, movie and performance theatres, indoor entertainment complex, <u>By Conditional Use Permit</u> Includes self-storage facilities, light manufacturing facilities ³ , and veterinary hospitals	Not Permitted
Drive-through Service	<u>Not Permitted CUP</u>	Not Permitted	Not Permitted
Food Service/Bar/ Entertainment¹	Permitted	By Conditional Use Permit	Not Permitted
Mixed Use²	Permitted	Permitted	Not Permitted
Open Space/Conservation	See #4	See #4	Permitted
Residential – single-family, two-family	Not Permitted	<u>Permitted</u> Includes single-family (1 unit), two-family (2 units), workforce housing, manufactured housing, home occupations, accessory apartments	Not Permitted
Residential – multi-family and other residential uses	<u>By Conditional Use Permit</u> Includes multi-family (3-8 units), workforce housing, manufactured housing, home occupations, accessory dwelling units, bed and breakfast inns, hotels, motels, and hostels	<u>Permitted</u> Includes multi-family (3-8 units), workforce housing, manufactured housing, home occupations, accessory dwelling units, bed and breakfast inns, hotels, motels, hostels, and open space cluster developments	Not Permitted
Recreational	<u>By Conditional Use Permit</u> Includes public parks and playgrounds; passive, non-motorized recreation; natural resource management and research	<u>Permitted</u> Includes forestry, wildlife, timber preserves, reservoirs; public parks and playgrounds; commercial riding stables and riding trails; recreational camping parks, recreational areas, and residential tent camping; passive, non-motorized recreation; natural resource management and research	Permitted
Other Uses not listed	By Conditional Use Permit	By Conditional Use Permit	By Conditional Use Permit; See #4

¹ **Light Manufacturing Facility*** includes facilities that produce and sell artisanal products derived from materials such as paper, wood, metal and ceramic, food products, and fine art.

² **Food Service/Bar/Entertainment** includes all food service and entertainment related uses such as restaurants, dinner theatres, bars, pubs, cafes, and coffee shop/diners.

³ **Mixed Use** includes Residential and Commercial and/or Professional Business uses in combination in one or several structures; non-residential use shall comprise >50% of the gross floor area.

⁴ Uses may be permitted according to the terms and restrictions of any open space designated on a specific property.

⁵ Agricultural buildings four hundred (400) square feet and smaller do not require a Conditional Use Permit from the Planning Board. Agricultural buildings greater than four hundred (400) square feet are subject to a Conditional Use Permit (CUP). Agricultural buildings requiring a CUP are not required to have engineered plans. The Planning Board is authorized to request studies prepared by professional consultants if the planning Board determines that such studies are necessary to render a decision regarding the CUP. (Rev. 3/16)

b. **Central Zone** Design Standards and Roadways

Dimensional Requirements		
Elements	Standard	Description
Block	8,000 S.F. minimum 30,000 S.F. maximum	Block with thoroughfare frontage on no less than two sides; Minimum area dependent on Soil-Based Lot Sizing*
Building Footprint (non-residential and mixed use)	15,000 S.F. maximum	Minimum area dependent on Soil-Based Lot Sizing*
Multi-Family (3-8 units)	8,000 S.F. maximum building footprint	Minimum area dependent on Soil-Based Lot Sizing*
Frontage Buildout	60% min / 80% maximum	
* Unless innovative sewage treatment facilities are proposed or public water and wastewater services are available, all developments shall meet the standards set forth in the Stratham Subdivision Regulations Section 4.3 Soil-Based Lot Size Determination (as amended).		

TABLE 2.

Building Height		Setbacks – Principal Structures	
Principal Structure ¹ (maximum)	3 stories 40 feet maximum height	Frontage (from street or lot line)	0 minimum 15 maximum
Principal Structure ¹ (minimum)	1.5 stories	Side or Secondary Frontage (from street or lot line)	10 minimum 0 feet if secondary frontage ²
¹ Principal Structures include: (1) uses served by single and multiple structures and (2) parking structures			
² The minimum building/structure front setback requirement for properties fronting Portsmouth Avenue shall be ten (10) feet from the State Right-Of-Way or twenty (20) feet from the edge of pavement, whichever is greater. (Rev. 3/13)			
First Floor Height	14 feet minimum required for non-residential; 10 feet minimum required for residential	Rear (from street or lot line)	10 feet minimum 0 feet if secondary frontage
		Note: Individual buildings on a lot or block may be connected, with no separation between or setback from one another.	

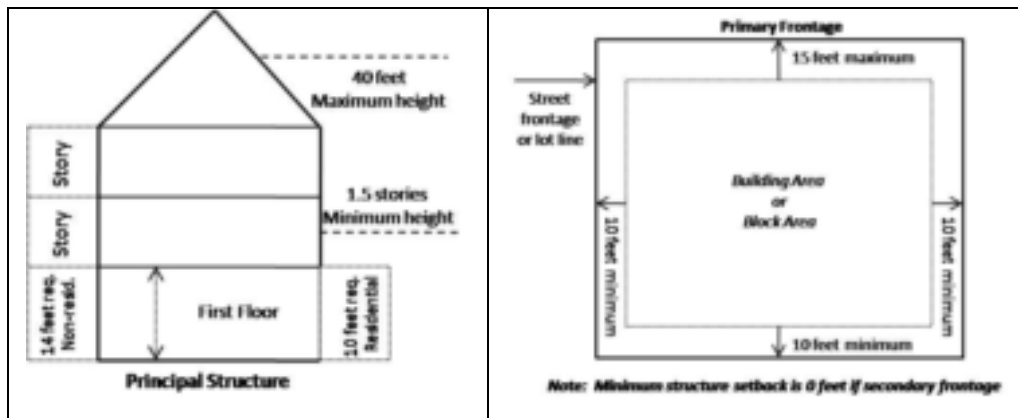


TABLE 3.

Accessory structures shall be limited to the following:	
Type of Use	Dimensional Requirements
Commercial, Businesses and Other Non-Residential Uses	1.5 stories maximum height 8 feet minimum first story height 400 S.F. maximum footprint
Civic, Recreational, Public Facilities or Transportation Uses	No restrictions on dimensional requirements.

TABLE 4.

Streetscape Standards		
Roadway Type	Right of Way Width	Description
Boulevard	72 feet minimum 94 feet maximum	Two-way traffic flow is required.
Avenue	72 feet minimum 76 feet maximum	One-way traffic flow is permitted.
Street (per Regulating Plan)	51 feet minimum 55 feet maximum	Two-way traffic flow is required.
Street (proposed local)	51 feet minimum 55 feet maximum	One-way traffic flow is permitted; sidewalks required on one side of street.
Alley	12 feet maximum	One-way traffic flow is required.

TABLE 5.

Streetscape Elements		
Element	Standards	Description
Planting Strip	5-foot minimum width (as shown on roadway cross-sections)	Refer to Site Plan Review Regulations Section V.5.2 for landscaping requirements.
Setback	Combined 13 feet minimum/20 feet maximum	Composed of sidewalk and planting or street buffer strip with granite curbing.

Crossings	6 feet minimum width, 10 feet maximum width Required at street intersections and permitted at mid-block	Within an individual block or development, shall be composed consistently of similar materials and may include brick, pavers, stamped concrete, porous pavement; all sidewalks shall have granite curbing against a thoroughfare. Differentiate with use of non-asphalt materials, striping and accent paving or materials.
Street Trees	1 per 25 ¹ linear feet of right of way	Located within the Planting Strip or Street Buffer Strip.
Lighting	1 per 25 ¹ linear feet of right of way	Along all sidewalks, New England traditional fixtures with downcast illumination; lighting placement shall alternate with street tree placement.
Seating	Encouraged	In public spaces (such as pocket parks and gardens) and at street intersections.
Shelters (transit, school bus stops)	Optional	Painted or coated metal frame or natural materials.
Trash Receptacles	Required	Secured and covered at street intersections or mid-block.
Bicycle Racks	Required	At transit stops/shelters, public spaces, parking areas.

¹ For trees and lighting located along Portsmouth Ave. (SR 108), the spacing shall be AVG 30' for trees and AVG 60' for lighting. The Planning Board shall determine the final number and location of each element based upon review by qualified professionals and in coordination with NHDOT. (Rev 3/17)

TABLE 6.

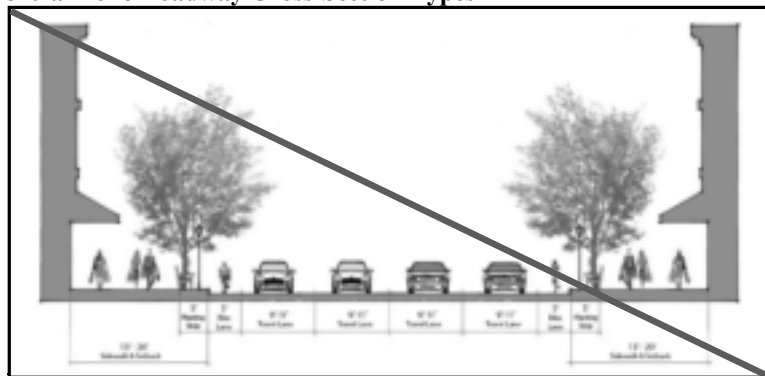
Parking Area Design Standards		
Element	Standards	Description
Medians	Located between opposing parking isles and at periphery.	Shall incorporate for use as a storm water management best management practice, wherever feasible; vegetation shall be appropriate for wet/dry conditions and salt tolerant.
Islands	Located at end of parking isles and at entrance/exit.	Used primarily as screening and landscaping areas comprised mostly of trees, shrubs, and groundcovers that are drought and salt tolerant.
Placement	Located at rear or side of buildings, and interior of blocks.	

TABLE 7.

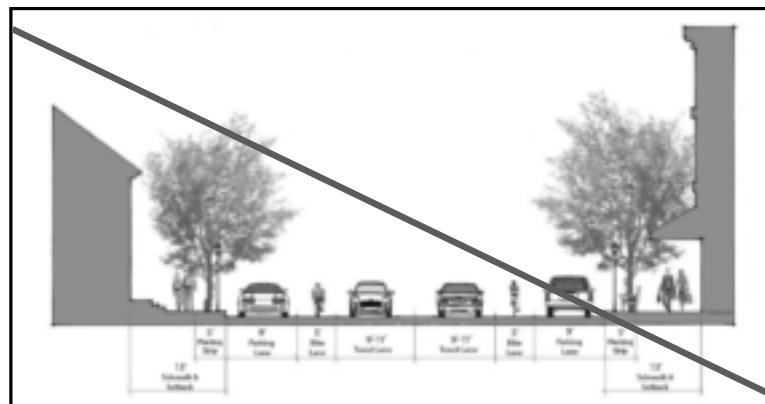
Public Space and Open Space Standards	
Public Space	<p>Developments shall include a minimum of 15 percent of the total area dedicated to public spaces. Public space calculations shall not include lands within required thoroughfare cross sections and other proposed streets.</p> <p>Public space shall include facilities and landscapes that promote outdoor activities and enjoyment.</p>

<p>Open Space</p>	<p>Developments of 1 acre or greater shall include a minimum of 15 percent of the total area dedicated to open space. Open space shall not include lands within required thoroughfare cross sections and other proposed streets. Open space shall be no less than 1 acre of contiguous area or the entire 15 percent area requirement whichever is less; open space requirement can be transferred elsewhere within the Central Zone by designating the minimum open space requirement on another property.</p> <p>Open Space may include septic reserve areas, well protection areas, and LID storm water management features (i.e. natural areas such as bio retention areas, vegetated buffers and rain gardens).</p> <p>Open space shall consist of natural areas, or created natural areas such as gardens, landscaped areas and parks, where the public may gather, recreate and enjoy scenic views.</p>
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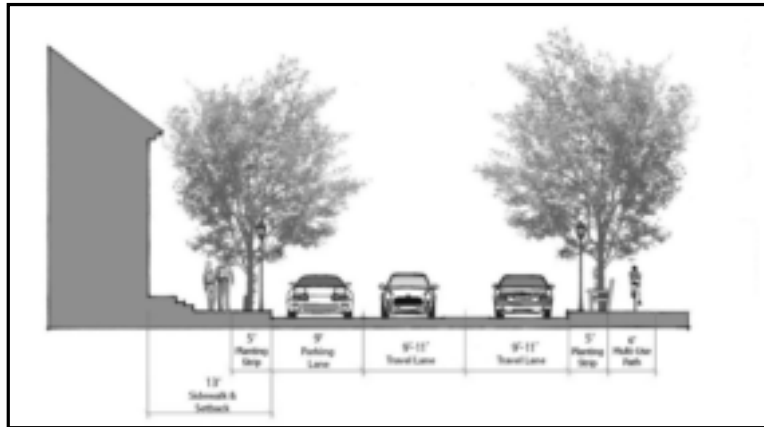
Figure 1. Central Zone Roadway Cross-Section Types



Boulevard (minimum width 72 feet; maximum width 94 feet)



Avenue (minimum width 72 feet; maximum width 76 feet)



Street (required per Regulating Plan; Minimum width 51 feet; maximum width 55 feet)

Street Thorough (60' right-of-way)

c. Outer Zone Design Standards and Roadways

TABLE 1.

Dimensional Requirements		
Footprint, Block or Lot	Area	Description
Multi-Family (3-8 units)	8,000 S.F. maximum building footprint 40,000 S.F. maximum block	Block with frontage on no less than two sides; Minimum area dependent on Soil Based Lot Sizing*
Single Family (1 unit)	6,000 S.F. minimum lot	Minimum area dependent on Soil Based Lot Sizing*
Two Family (2 units)	15,000 S.F. minimum lot	Minimum area dependent on Soil Based Lot Sizing*
Building Footprint (non-residential and mixed use)	10,000 S.F. maximum footprint	Minimum area dependent on Soil Based Lot Sizing*
* Unless innovative sewage treatment facilities are proposed or public water and wastewater services are available, all developments shall meet the standards set forth in the Stratham Subdivision Regulations Section 4.3 Soil Based Lot Size Determination (as amended).		
Frontage Buildout	70% maximum	Includes Principal and Accessory Structures

TABLE 2.

Building Height			
Principal Structure (non-residential, mixed use, and multi-family)	2.5 stories maximum 35 feet maximum height 14 feet minimum required for non-residential	Principal Structure (single-family and two-family)	2.0 stories maximum;

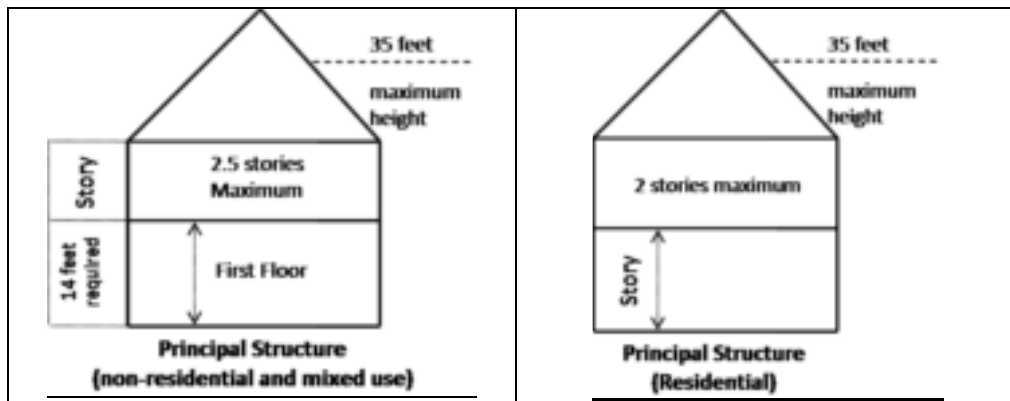


TABLE 3.

TABLE 3:

Setbacks – Principal Structures

Principal Structure

(non-residential, mixed use)

Frontage	0 feet minimum/25 feet maximum
Side	25 feet minimum 0 feet if secondary frontage
Rear	10 feet minimum 0 feet if secondary frontage

Principal Structure

(single-family, two-family, multi-family)

Frontage	8 feet minimum/25 feet maximum
Side	10 feet minimum
Rear	10 feet minimum

Note: individual buildings on a lot or block may be connected, with no separation between or setback from one another.

Primary Frontage of block or lot
(Non-residential or Mixed Use)

Diagram illustrating setbacks for a non-residential or mixed-use block or lot. The buildable area is defined by setbacks: Frontage (0 feet minimum to 25 feet maximum), Side (25 feet minimum), and Rear (10 feet minimum). The diagram shows a rectangular lot with a central 'Buildable Area' and setbacks indicated by arrows and text.

Note: Minimum structure setback is 0 feet if secondary frontage

Primary Frontage of lot (residential)

Diagram illustrating setbacks for a residential lot. The buildable area is defined by setbacks: Frontage (8 feet minimum to 25 feet maximum), Side (10 feet minimum), and Rear (10 feet minimum). The diagram shows a rectangular lot with a central 'Buildable Area' and setbacks indicated by arrows and text.

TABLE 4.

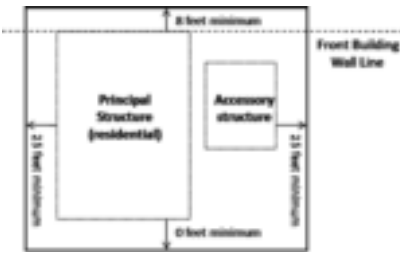
Setbacks – Accessory Structures	
<i>Type of Use</i>	<i>Dimensional Requirements</i>
Commercial, Businesses and Other Non-Residential Uses	1.5 stories maximum height 8 feet minimum first story height 400 S.F. maximum footprint
Residential Uses	1.5 stories maximum height 8 feet minimum first story height 400 S.F. maximum footprint Shall be setback behind the front building wall of principal structure (see diagram below).
Civic, Recreational, Public Facilities or Transportation Uses	No restrictions on dimensional requirements.
<p>Description</p> 	

TABLE 5.

Outer Zone Streetscape Standards		
<i>Roadway Type</i>	<i>Right of Way Width</i>	<i>Description</i>
Street (per Regulating Plan)	51 feet minimum 55 feet maximum	Two-way traffic flow is required.
Street (proposed local)	51 feet minimum 55 feet maximum	Two-way traffic flow is required; sidewalks required on one side of street.
Alley	12 feet maximum	One-way traffic flow is required.

TABLE 6.

Streetscape Elements		
<i>Element</i>	<i>Standards</i>	<i>Description</i>
Planting Strip	5-foot minimum width (as shown on roadway cross-sections)	Refer to Site Plan Review Regulations Section V.5.2.) for landscaping requirements.

Setback	Combined 14 foot min, 20 foot max	Composed of sidewalk and planting strip or street buffer strip with granite curbing.
Crossings	6 foot minimum width; 10 foot maximum width Required at street intersections and permitted at mid block	Within an individual block or development, shall be composed consistently of similar materials and may include brick, pavers, stamped concrete, porous pavement; all sidewalks shall have granite curbing against a thoroughfare; sidewalks recommended on both sides of street (except when serving only residential development). Differentiate with use of non asphalt materials, striping and accent paving or materials.
Street Trees	1 per 25 linear feet	Refer to Site Plan Review Regulations Section V.5.2.; street tree placement shall alternate with lighting placement.
Lighting	1 per 25 linear feet of right of way	Along all sidewalks, New England traditional fixtures with downcast illumination; lighting placement shall alternate with street tree placement
Seating	Encouraged	At public spaces (such as pocket parks and gardens) and at street intersections.
Shelters	1,000 linear feet of right of way	Painted or coated metal frame or natural materials.
Trash Receptacles	Optional	Secured and covered at street intersections or mid block.
Bicycle Racks	Required	At transit stops/shelters, public spaces, public parking areas.

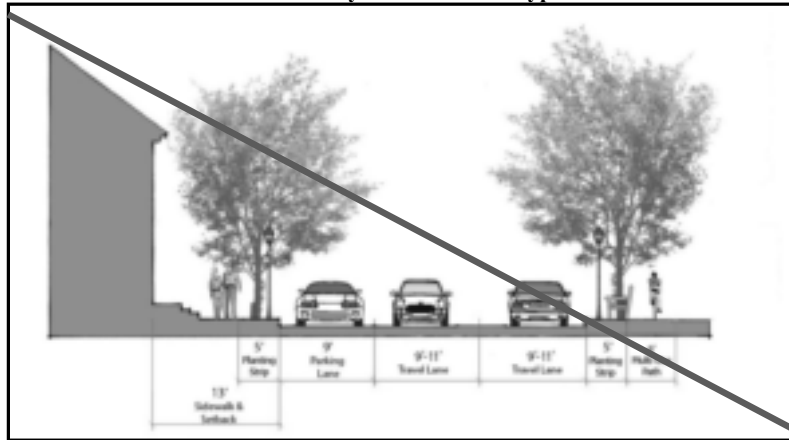
TABLE 7.

Parking Area Design Standards		
Element	Standards	Description
Medians	Located between opposing parking isles and at periphery	Shall incorporate for use as a storm water management best management practice, wherever feasible; vegetation shall be appropriate for wet/dry conditions and salt tolerant.
Islands	Located at end of parking isles and at entrance/exit	Used primarily as screening and landscaping areas comprised mostly of trees, shrubs and groundcovers that are drought and salt tolerant.
Placement	Located at rear or side of buildings, and interior of blocks	

TABLE 8.

Public and Open Space Standards	
Public Space	Developments shall include a minimum of 15 percent of the total area dedicated to public spaces. Public space calculations shall not include lands within required thoroughfare cross sections and other proposed streets. Public space shall include facilities and landscapes that promote outdoor activities and enjoyment.
Open Space	<p>Developments of 1 acre or greater shall include a minimum of 15 percent of the total area dedicated to open space. Open space shall not include lands within required thoroughfare cross sections and other proposed streets. Open space shall be no less than 1 acre of contiguous area or the entire 15 percent area requirement whichever is less.</p> <p>Open Space may include septic reserve areas, well protection areas, and LID storm water management features (i.e. natural areas such as bio retention areas, vegetated buffers and rain gardens). Open space shall consist of natural areas, or created natural areas such as gardens, landscaped areas and parks, where the public may gather, recreate and enjoy scenic views.</p>
Greenway Trail (optional)	Developments may provide a Greenway Trail through the property with connections provided to trails on adjacent properties or open space areas. Greenway Trails shall be a minimum of 8 feet in width and surfaced to provide universal access.

FIGURE 1. Outer Zone Roadway Cross Section Type



Street (required per Regulating Plan; Minimum width 51 feet; maximum width 55 feet)

Note: Multi Use Paths may abut the street frontage or meander through a property providing the path enters and exits the property via the street frontage *OR* connects to a multi-use path on an adjacent property.

d. Open Space Zone

TABLE 1.

<i>Standard</i>	<i>Description</i>
<i>District Boundary</i>	Comprises all conservation lands and open space lands designated as part of development within the District (as amended) including both publicly accessible and privately owned lands.
<i>Permitted Uses</i>	Uses may be permitted according to the terms and restrictions of any open space designated by any easement implemented on a specific property; where permitted uses may include passive, non motorized recreation; natural resource management and research; and commercial agriculture and forestry.
<i>Access</i>	All development shall provide public access to designated open space within the District.
<i>Location and Connectivity</i>	Lands designated as open space shall be connected preferably by being contiguous from one lot to another lot or within a development, or secondarily by walking paths, designated public spaces or sidewalks. The goal of locating open space is to create a contiguous greenway that provides pedestrians and bicyclists opportunity to move throughout the District. The open space greenway will provide an alternative to vehicle travel for both residents and visitors.
<i>Character and Features</i>	Existing natural areas may be preserved and maintained as open space. Open space may also be newly established through the creation of parks, gardens, ponds and other natural areas and/or features. Open space shall be maintained or established to provide opportunity for the public—both residents and visitors—to gather, recreate outdoors, and enjoy scenic views and landscapes.

3.8.9 Architectural and Site Design Standards

a. Building Exterior Features:

- i. Building facades shall be compatible in scale, mass, and form with adjacent structures and the development pattern of the surrounding area (assuming the adjacent structures are generally in compliance with these design standards).
- ii. Exterior building design and detail on all elevations shall be coordinated with regard to color, types of materials, number of materials, architectural form, and detailing to achieve harmony and continuity of design.
- iii. Paint colors, excluding signage and awnings, shall be limited to a reasonable number and range of palette to achieve consistency of style and character with adjacent development.
- iv. Where appropriate, architectural details and richly detailed designs are encouraged to provide variation and creative designs. All features and details should be of a style consistent with the overall design scheme and in proportion with the building and adjacent structures.

- v. Rear and side building walls, if visible from public streets and spaces or neighboring properties, shall be designed with similar detailing and materials and be compatible with the principal façade(s) of the building. All elevations and cross-sections of a building shall be shown on a site plan.
- vi. To avoid long unbroken or unadorned wall planes, building facades and walls should not extend beyond 50 – 75 feet without including changes of wall plane that provide strong shadow or visual interest.
- vii. Exterior materials shall be durable and of high quality. Excessively vibrant colors, sharply contrasting colors, and highly reflective materials are not compatible with the traditional New England character. ~~Architectural elements visible to the public but not detailed on the plans shall be finished in a material compatible with other exterior colors and materials.~~ All architectural elements of all facades must be submitted with an application.
- viii. Pedestrian level storefronts shall employ non-reflective glass or light gray tinted glass to enhance the visibility of the displayed merchandise from the outside.
- ix. Window and door openings on the front façade shall occupy a total of no less than 20% and no more than 70% of the gross square footage of that façade. The size and placement of windows should be commensurate with architectural style of the buildings and landscape elements in the development.
- x. All windows and doorways shall be encased with wood or simulated wood trim; decorative trim is preferred. Aluminum windows shall be finished to match the proposed trim color of the building.
- xi. True divided light windows and shutters are encouraged. Shutters shall be sized such that when closed they cover the window.
- xii. All vents, gutters, downspouts, flashing, electrical conduits, etc., shall be painted to match the color of the adjacent building surface, unless being used expressly as trim or accent element.
- xiii. Material or color changes generally should occur at a change of plane. Piecemeal embellishment and frequent changes in color or material should be avoided.
- xiv. The visibility of rooftop equipment shall be minimized by grouping all plumbing vents, ducts, and rooftop mechanical equipment away and screened from public view at ground level. Wall or ground mounted equipment shall be screened fully from public view with walls, fences or vegetation. No air conditioning, ventilating, or other mechanical or electrical equipment, except for lighting fixtures, may project more than four (4) inches beyond the face of a wall facing a public street or space.
- xv. Awning covers designed for shade and for entryways shall be made of fabric or simulated fabric-like material that match or complement paint colors used on the building. Brightly illuminated and franchise type awnings are not acceptable.
- xvi. Franchise or corporate style architecture and/or highly contrasting color schemes are strongly discouraged. If used, such buildings shall be designed to create a project that is consistent with traditional New England village character.
- xvii. Fences in the traditional historic New England style and materials (i.e. picket, split rail, wrought iron, brick, stone) shall be used. Chain link security fences may be allowed only where necessary for safety or security, but their use is generally discouraged.

- xviii. The following building materials shall be used and combined to create a consistent, attractive, and cohesive building design:
 - 1. Natural Brick (painted brick is not recommended, as it tends to require frequent maintenance);
 - 2. Natural Stone (such as, but not limited to, fieldstone, granite, limestone and marble);
 - 3. Terra cotta and/or cast stone which simulate natural stone);
 - 4. Split-face Block/Concrete Masonry Unit (CMU) and painted concrete block or panels as appropriate for side and rear elevations;
 - 5. Natural wood and/or cement-based artificial wood siding; and
 - ~~6. Glass; and~~
 - ~~7. Non-decorative cinder block (limited to walls not visible from a public street).~~
- b. Roof Lines, Styles and Materials:
 - i. Sloped roofs are highly preferred. Gabled and hipped roofs should have a slope of greater than 4/12 (18°), but less than 14/12 (49°).
 - ii. Gambrel and Mansard roofs are acceptable for appropriately sized structures.
 - iii. Standing seam, copper roofing, asphalt, and slate shingles are preferred. Photovoltaic (PV) panel roof materials, which “simulate” traditional roofing materials, are acceptable. Metal roofs that face the street are discouraged, unless architecturally blended with the facade.
 - iv. Flat roofs are strongly discouraged unless to allow the creation of a “green roof” as a Low Impact Development (LID) technique. Where used, they should have a parapet wall at the façade with cornice elements and facing all thoroughfares.
- c. Site Design:
 - i. Traditional New England Village planning principles (“Traditional Neighborhood Design”) are used to create a village center consisting of dense mixed use and commercial areas organized around public spaces and bordering residential neighborhoods.
 - ii. All roadways shall ~~provide a pedestrian and bicycle friendly layout and be designed~~ as a complete street that addresses the needs and safety of all users. Layout shall incorporate landscaping and lighting elements.
- d. Land Use and Housing:
 - i. Mixed Uses in the Central Zone and Outer Zone shall provide commercial retail stores and shops, food service/bar/entertainment establishments, and professional offices and businesses on the first floor of buildings, with professional office and businesses, light commercial (such as artisanal manufacturing) and residential uses optionally on the upper floors.
 - ii. Residential neighborhoods should include a mix of housing types, sizes and styles, and provide public gathering and/or recreational spaces or areas for use by residents, businesses, visitors and the community.
 - iii. Developments shall provide a viable mix of residential and non-residential uses to promote living and employment opportunities in the style of a Traditional New England Village.

- b. Landscaping:
 - i. Landscaping shall be an integral component of site design to provide visual interest, scenic and aesthetic beauty, maintain natural vegetation and landscape features, and maintain or create greenways throughout the District.
 - ii. ~~Traditional New England Village landscaping shall include street trees, large shade trees, groups of plantings, box planters along streets, and pocket gardens and parks.~~ Low shrubs and flowering plants soften lines of buildings and help screen parking lots and utilities.
 - iii. Landscaping shall include street trees, large shade trees, groups of plantings, box planters along streets, and pocket gardens and parks.
 - iv. Landscaping shall be integrated with LID practices, general storm water management, and parking lot and roadway designs.
 - v. Landscaping should consider use of native species of trees, shrubs, ground cover and flowering plants.
 - 1. For all development within the Central and Outer Zones of the District, a Landscaping Plan shall be prepared and submitted following the requirements of this ordinance and Section V-5.2.N of the Site Plan Regulations.
- f. Transportation Network and Access:
 - i. ~~The Central Zone shall incorporate a grid pattern of Boulevards, Avenues, and Streets as well as squares or loop roads around central open spaces or public spaces.~~
 - ii. ~~The Outer Zone shall incorporate grids of local and neighborhood streets, loop roads, access roads and alleys.~~
 - i. New roads, streets, or internal thoroughfares shall connect to the existing transportation network within the District and adjacent zoning districts to provide efficient traffic patterns and site access, ~~and provide for public safety~~. Development shall provide potential future connections to adjacent properties and not prevent or preclude these connections.
- g. Open Space and Recreation:
 - i. All development in the District is required to provide a percentage of open space. These open spaces shall be located to provide connections between existing open spaces (both within the outside the District), visual interest, scenic vistas and view sheds, diversity in the developed landscape, preserve natural resources and features, provide gathering spaces for community uses, civic uses and outdoor activities.
 - ii. Existing conservation lands within the District and beyond its periphery provide natural areas for passive recreation by residents, visitors and the public, and provide extensions of the required open space areas within the District.

3.8.10. DEFINITIONS of Terms

This Subsection provides definitions for terms in this Ordinance that are technical in nature or that otherwise may not reflect a common usage of the term.

- a. Accessory Structure: An Outbuilding or with an Accessory Use to the Principal Structure.
- b. Bicycle Lane: A dedicated lane for cycling within a moderate-speed vehicular Thoroughfare, demarcated by striping.

- c. Block: The aggregate of private Lots, Passages, Rear Alleys and Rear Lanes, circumscribed by Thoroughfares or Streets.
- d. Boulevard: A Thoroughfare designed for high vehicular capacity and moderate speed, traversing an urbanized area.
- e. Civic: The term defining not-for-profit organizations dedicated to arts, culture, education, recreation, government, transit, and municipal parking.
- f. Civic Building: A building operated by not-for-profit organizations dedicated to arts, culture, education, recreation, government, transit, and municipal parking, or for use approved by the legislative body.
- g. Civic Space: An outdoor area dedicated for public use. Civic Space types are defined by the combination of certain physical constants including the relationships among their intended use, their size, their landscaping and adjacent buildings.
- h. Curb: The edge of the vehicular pavement or edge of a sidewalk or setback that may be raised or flush, and often incorporates a drainage system.
- i. Density: The number of dwelling units within a standard measure of land area.
- j. Disposition: The placement of a building on its Lot.
- k. Driveway: A vehicular lane within a Lot for the purpose of providing access from a thoroughfare.
- l. ***Drive-through Service: A business (such as a bank or restaurant) that is designed so that customers can be served while remaining in their vehicles.***
- m. Elevation: An exterior wall of a building not along a Frontage Line. See: Facade.
- n. Facade: The exterior wall of a building that is set along a Frontage Line. See Elevation.
- o. Frontage: The area between a building Facade and the vehicular lanes, inclusive of its built and planted components. Frontage is divided into Private Frontage and Public Frontage.
- p. Frontage Line: A lot line bordering a Public Frontage.
- q. Greenway: An Open Space Corridor in largely natural conditions or re-established vegetated and/or forested conditions, which may include trails for bicycles and pedestrians.
- r. Infill: Noun - New development on land that had been previously developed, including most Greyfield and Brownfield sites and cleared land within urbanized areas. (Verb- to develop such areas.)
- s. Lot Width: The length of the Principal Frontage Line of a Lot.
- t. Low Impact Development: Low Impact Development (LID) incorporates sustainable land development approaches that begin with a site planning process that first identifies critical natural drainage systems and other landscape hydrologic functions. LID techniques include: maintaining natural drainage flow paths, minimizing land clearance, clustering buildings, and reducing impervious surfaces. A series of small storm water best management practices (BMP's) that preserve the natural features and hydrology of the land are used instead of the conventional methods of collecting, conveying, and discharging runoff off the site.
- u. Mixed Use: Multiple functions within the same building or in multiple buildings on a lot.

- v. Office: Premises available for the transaction of general business but excluding retail, artisanal and manufacturing uses.
- w. Open Space: Land intended to remain undeveloped.
- x. Park: ~~A Civic Space type that is a natural preserve available for unstructured recreation.~~ An area of natural, semi-natural, or planned space designated for human enjoyment and/or the protection of wildlife or natural habitats.
- y. Parking Structure: A building containing one or more Stories of parking above grade.
- z. Path: A pedestrian way traversing a Park or rural area, with landscape matching the contiguous Open Space, ideally connecting directly with the Sidewalk network.
- aa. Principal Building: The main building on a Lot, usually located toward the Frontage.
- bb. Principal Entrance: The main point of access for pedestrians into a building.
- cc. Principal Frontage: The Frontage designated to bear the address and Principal Entrance to the building, and the measure of minimum Lot width. See Frontage.
- dd. Private Frontage: The privately held Layer between the Frontage Line and the Principal Building Facade.
- ee. Public Frontage: The area between the Curb of the vehicular lanes and the Frontage Line.
- ff. Public Space: Lands that are dedicated for public use but that are privately owned and maintained which may include squares, plazas, greens, civic spaces, paths, trails, alley, park,
- gg. Rear Alley: A vehicular way located to the rear of Lots or Blocks providing access to service areas, parking, and Outbuildings and that may contain utility easements. Rear Alleys should be paved from building face to building face, with drainage by inverted crown at the center or with roll Curbs at the edges.
- hh. Rear Lane: A vehicular way located to the rear of Lots providing access to service areas, parking, and Outbuildings and containing utility easements. Rear Lanes may be paved lightly to Driveway standards. The streetscape consists of gravel or landscaped edges, has no raised Curb, and is drained by percolation.
- ii. Regulating Plan: A Zoning Map that shows the boundaries of the Gateway Commercial Business District and Zones within it, and other areas subject to or potentially subject to regulation.
- jj. Secondary Frontage: On corner Lots, the Private Frontage that is not the Principal Frontage.
- kk. Sidewalk: The section of the Public Frontage dedicated exclusively to pedestrian activity.
- ll. Square: A Civic Space type designed for unstructured recreation and Civic purposes, spatially defined by building Frontages and consisting of Paths, lawns and trees, formally disposed.
- mm. Story: A habitable level within a building, excluding an attic or raised basement.
- nn. Street: A local urban Thoroughfare of low speed and capacity.
- oo. Thoroughfare: A way for use by vehicular and pedestrian traffic and to provide access to Lots and Open Spaces, consisting of Vehicular Lanes and the Public Frontage.

- pp. Traditional New England Village: Development patterns that are civic-oriented, pedestrian-friendly, economically vibrant and diverse, environmentally sustainable, and evoke a unique sense of place that emulates the agricultural tradition of Stratham.

The Planning Board recommends this article by unanimous vote.

Article 3: Are you in favor of the following amendment to the Town of Stratham Zoning Ordinance as proposed by the Planning Board?

To amend the Zoning Ordinance, Section III, by deleting Subsection 3.9 *Town Center District* in its entirety and replacing it with an amended Subsection 3.9 *Town Center District*, in order to eliminate site plan requirements that are dependent upon the existence of public water and sewer infrastructure.

3.9 TOWN CENTER DISTRICT (Adopted 3/14; Rev. 3/16)

3.9.1 Authority:

- a. The action of the Town of Stratham, New Hampshire in the adoption of this Ordinance is authorized under RSA 674:21.II Innovative Land Use Controls and RSA 674:16 Grant of Power.
- b. This Ordinance was adopted to promote the health, safety, and general welfare of the Town of Stratham and its citizens, including protection of the environment, conservation of land, energy and natural resources, reduction in vehicular traffic congestion, more efficient use of public funds, health benefits of a pedestrian environment, preservation of community character, education and recreation, reduction in sprawl development, and improvement of the built environment.
- c. This Section was adopted as one of the instruments of implementation of the public purposes and objectives of the Town's Master Plan. This Ordinance is declared to be in accord with the Master Plan, as required by RSA 674:2.

3.9.2 Applicability:

- a. This Ordinance shall establish the Town Center District (the "District"). The boundaries of the District are shown on the Official Town Zoning Map (as amended) and the on the map entitled "Town of Stratham, NH, Town Center District Regulating Plan" (the "Town Center Regulating Plan") dated December 2013 (as amended) and hereby incorporated as part of this ordinance.
- b. The provisions of the Town Center District shall be mandatory for development projects within the District. Development projects submitted for approval under this zoning district shall be subject to applicable requirements of the Subdivision and Site Plan Review Regulations of Stratham.
- c. When in conflict, the provisions of the District shall take precedence over those of other ordinances, regulations, and standards except the Local Health and Safety Ordinances and Building Codes.
- d. Section 3.8.10 Definitions of Terms contains regulatory language that is integral to the District. Those terms not defined in Section 3.8.10 or in Section II of the Zoning Ordinance shall be accorded their commonly accepted meanings. In the event of conflicts between definitions in the Zoning Ordinance and the District, those of the District shall take precedence.
- e. The requirements of Section 3.9.8 Development Standards and Tables are an integral part of the District and are legally binding. Unless otherwise noted, other diagrams and illustrations that accompany this ordinance are provided for guidance purposes and as recommended examples.
- f. If in conflict, numerical requirements shall take precedence over graphic illustrations.

3.9.3 Purpose and Intent:

- a. To enhance the economic vitality and business diversity. Create a critical mass of businesses and activity in the Town Center that further establishes the area as a focal point provide a unique shopping, service based businesses, recreational, and cultural experience in the region.
- b. To provide a traditional pattern of development that supports a diverse range of uses, public spaces, and walkable streets culminating in an integrated rural New England town center and civic focal point.
- c. To promote traditional small town center building and site development patterns with an interconnected pattern of streets, alleys, and lanes, which provides for safe and efficient vehicular and pedestrian travel at a scale consistent with the small, rural town center setting, and which provides for the connection of those streets to existing and future developments;
- d. To protect environmental resources, preserve and protect scenic vistas, historic and archeological buildings and sites, conservation and agricultural areas, and unique natural features of the landscape and district;
- e. To provide for pedestrian and bicycle travel throughout the development through the creation of sidewalks, paths, and bicycle paths;
- f. To promote the use of neighborhood greens, pocket parks, landscaped streets, and access to green space to provide space for recreation and social activity, and to provide visual enjoyment;
- g. To preserve and enhance the rural, small town character of New England towns through architectural and streetscape design that replicates in scale and character the best examples of traditional neighborhood design from the historic towns and villages of New England and to create and clearly delineate public and private spaces to enhance the quality of life and aesthetic quality of both the residents of the development and the town as a whole;
- h. To provide a mix of housing styles, types, and sizes, to accommodate households of all ages, sizes, and incomes;
- i. To provide buildings and spaces for civic assembly and neighborhood activities that promote the development of social networks and community and provide a visual focal point for the village subdivision.
- j. Development in the Town Center District shall incorporate the following:
 - i. Wherever possible natural infrastructure and visual character derived from topography, woodlands, farmlands, riparian corridors, and other environmental features shall be retained;
 - ii. Adaptive reuse, infill development and redevelopment shall be encouraged. New construction should reinforce the historic significance of the District and be compatible with the context of the existing historically significant structures identified in the Regulating Plan;
 - iii. Development contiguous to adjacent zoning districts shall be organized to complement and be compatible with the existing pattern of development and the natural landscape;
 - iv. Network of existing and proposed streets shall be designed for access to Portsmouth Avenue, College Road, Winnicutt Road, and local connector roads, disperse traffic to and from the District, and reduce traffic volumes;
 - v. Transportation corridors shall be planned and reserved in coordination with proposed land uses;
 - vi. Greenways shall be used to define and connect developed areas and provide public spaces and enhance view sheds to adjacent conservation lands;

- vii. Development shall integrate a framework of transit, pedestrian, and bicycle systems that provide accessible alternatives to the automobile;
- viii. Use of on-street parking shall be allowed;
- ix. Architectural and landscape design suited to a traditional New England rural and village appearance shall be applied; and
- x. Public gathering and public use spaces shall be established and connections made throughout the District in a manner and location that will encourage use and promote safety and security.

3.9.4 The Regulating Plan:

- a. The purpose of this Ordinance is to enable, encourage, and implement the following plans and general requirements.
- b. For the purposes of the delineation, the Town Center District and the location and boundaries are hereby established as shown on the Official Town Zoning Map (as amended) and the on the map entitled "Town of Stratham, NH, Town Center District Regulating Plan" (the "Town Center Regulating Plan") dated December 2013 (as amended) and hereby incorporated as part of this ordinance.

3.9.5 District Character (Rev. 3/16):

- a. Development in the Town Center District should incorporate the following concepts to preserve and complement elements of the historic character of Stratham Town Center:
 - i. Provide for a traditional pattern of development that supports a diverse range of uses, public spaces, and walkable streets culminating in an integrated town center and civic focal point.
 - ii. Mixed use pattern of development where development specializing in a single use should be the exception;
 - iii. Where ordinary activities of daily living should be located within walking distance of residential areas, allowing independence to those who do not drive;
 - iv. Within mixed use and residential developments, a range of housing types and price levels shall be provided to accommodate diverse ages and incomes; Workforce housing is encouraged within the District to promote a diversity of housing choices;
 - v. A range of open space including pocket parks, squares, and playgrounds shall be distributed within neighborhoods and throughout the District;
 - vi. Preservation and enhancement of historically and architecturally significant structures, landmarks, and archeological sites as identified in the Regulating Plan;
 - vi. Expansion and provision of public transportation facilities that promote use and access is encouraged;
 - vii. Provide improved visibility and access to and use of conservation lands, where appropriate; and
 - viii. Provide opportunities for agriculture and *agritourism*, as defined in Section II, Definitions, 2.1.6 (Rev. 3/16)

3.9.6 Review and Permitting Process (Rev. 3/18):

~~*The Board of Selectmen will hereby create a Technical Review Committee ("TRC") comprised of the Town Planner, a member of the Heritage Commission, and three (3) members and two (2) alternates appointed by the Board of Selectmen and recommended by the Planning Board. The TRC shall process applications for development within the District for the purpose of determining compliance with the provisions of the Ordinance. The TRC may consult with other committees,*~~

~~commissions, and professionals for review and comment on applications within the District. Any cost associated with professional review shall be the responsibility of the applicant. The TRC review of any application shall be deemed equivalent to a Preliminary Consultation with the Planning Board, however, applicants may also submit for Preliminary Consultation.~~

~~Should any construction, site work, or development be commenced without an approved Conditional Use Permit, Subdivision, Site Plan approval, or should a violation of an approved Development Plan or Conditional Use Permit occur, the Planning Board or the Town Planner has the right to require the property owner to stop, remove, and/or mitigate the violation, or seek the appropriate appeal process to gain compliance. (Rev. 3/18)~~

~~a. Review Process (Rev 3/18):~~

~~i. Projects that do not require a Conditional Use Permit shall be evaluated for compliance with this ordinance by the TRC, and then be processed by the Planning Board as required under the Subdivision and/or Site Plan Review Regulations of Stratham. Such applications should follow the submission requirements of a Site Plan Review Application.~~

~~ii. For those development applications within the District that include a request for a deviation from the requirements of this ordinance, a complete Site Plan Review Application shall be accompanied with a Conditional Use Permit Application that includes a narrative description of the deviation(s) and a site plan illustrating proposed deviation from any requirement within this ordinance. Deviation from the requirements of this Ordinance shall only be permitted by grant of a Conditional Use Permit issued by the Planning Board. A Conditional Use Permit is a decision that would permit deviation from or reduction in a specific provision(s) of this Ordinance but that is otherwise generally consistent with the provisions of Section 3.8.3 Purpose and Intent (See 3.8.6 a. iii).~~

a.. The Planning Board shall have the authority to grant or deny a request for a Conditional Use Permit, pursuant to the provisions of RSA 674:16 and RSA 674:21.A Conditional Use Permit, for relief from the requirements of this Ordinance, after proper public notice and public hearing where the Planning Board finds that an application complies with standards 1. and 2. below.

1. Consistent with the Gateway Business District Master Plan, including but not limited to:
 - a. Both public and private buildings and landscaping shall contribute to the physical definition of streetscapes and public spaces; and
 - b. Development shall adequately accommodate automobiles and emergency vehicles, while respecting the pedestrian and the spatial form of public spaces; and
 - c. Design of streets and buildings shall reinforce safe environments, but not at the expense of accessibility and efficient traffic flow; and
 - d. Architecture and landscape design shall complement climate, topography, community character, and building practice; and
 - e. Open space and public gathering places shall be provided as locations that reinforce the identity and activity of the District and the community; and
 - f. New development and redevelopment shall be otherwise consistent with the intent and purpose of this ordinance; and
 - g. Does not unduly impact adjacent properties and uses in the District.
2. Improves public safety within the District and/or in adjacent zoning districts; or provides environmental and natural resource protection; or provides a measureable public benefit (such as increased public space, open space, or public amenities).

- i. The granting or denial of a Conditional Use Permit by the Planning Board may be appealed to the Superior Court, as provided for in RSA 677:15. A Planning Board decision on the issuance of a Conditional Use Permit cannot be appealed to the Zoning Board of Adjustment (RSA 676:5 iii).

3.9.7 Building and Site Design Standards:

a. Purpose:

In order to provide for harmonious and aesthetically pleasing development in the built environment [RSA 674:44,II(b)], ~~the Technical Review Committee (refer to Section 3.9.6) and~~ the Planning Board will apply the following Building and Site Design Standards in its review of all applications in the District.

b. Intent:

- i. Maintaining the quality and character of the Town Center is dependent upon the quality and character of the architecture and development that is allowed to occur. Poorly planned and executed development detracts from the character and function of the built environment, while well-planned development enhances community character, quality of life, and value of the surrounding properties and the community overall.
- ii. Design standards are a tool to help guide development and redevelopment assuring that community priorities are an integral part of the design process. Design Standards, implemented as part of the application review and approval process, are a set of design principles that offer a positive direction for building and site level design. The guidelines and interpretations are based upon maintaining and enhancing the character of the Town Center.
- iii. Design Standards address a wide range of design issues including such elements as: pedestrian and traffic circulation, building mass and scale, architectural details and building materials, signs, landscaping, lighting, open space, and natural features. When integrated, these elements will create a project that is functional, attractive, and an asset to the community.

c. Building and Site Design Evaluation:

The evaluation of the following factors will inform the Technical Review Committee and the Planning Board's decisions on whether proposed site and building designs achieve the purpose and intent of these Design Standards and of this Ordinance. The Planning Board shall develop a Town Center District guidance document to further illustrate and provide details of the design standards stated below. This document shall be utilized by applicants when designing projects within the District.

- i. The Town Center District shall be designed in a pattern of interconnecting streets and alleys, defined by buildings, street furniture, landscaping, pedestrian ways, and sidewalks. The layout should be suited to the existing topography and other natural and/or historic features of the area.
- ii. Within a development project, site design elements should be compatible with a traditional New England Village character and the Town Center's heritage and historic function within the community.
- iii. Building architecture should demonstrate the cohesive planning of the development and present a clearly identifiable, attractive design feature and appearance throughout. It is not intended that buildings be totally uniform in appearance or that designers and developers be restricted in their creativity. Rather, cohesion and identity can be demonstrated in harmonious building style, scale or mass; consistent use of facade materials; similar ground level detailing, color or signage; consistency in functional systems such as roadway or pedestrian way

surfaces, signage, or landscaping; public amenities; the framing of outdoor open space and linkages, or a clear conveyance in the importance of various buildings and features on the site.

- iv. Building architecture should be designed to provide an attractive appearance. Franchise or corporate style architecture and/or highly contrasting color schemes are strongly discouraged. If proposed, such building styles should be substantially modified to create a project that complements the traditional New England Village character. All architectural details should be related to an overall architectural design approach or theme.
 - v. Diversity of architectural design, massing, scale, context, and fenestration is encouraged. Buildings that are characteristic of a historic period are encouraged, particularly if a building style or the site is historically appropriate for the Town Center or necessary for architectural harmony.
 - vi. The historic character of building/structures will be retained and preserved. The removal of distinctive materials or alteration of features will be avoided. Further, new additions, exterior alterations, or related new construction will not destroy historic materials, features, and spatial relationships that characterize historically significant structures. The new work shall be differentiated from the old and will be compatible with the historic materials, features, size, scale and proportion, and massing to protect the integrity of the property and its environment.
 - vii. Multiple buildings on the same site and attached buildings should be designed to create a cohesive visual relationship, as well as efficient circulation and access for pedestrians and vehicles. Accessory buildings should be designed to complement the primary building and/or use on the site in design and material expression.
 - viii. Building placement should take best advantage of solar orientation, climatic and other environmental conditions, should encourage safety and use of adjacent public spaces and public open spaces, and should minimize the impact of activity and light upon and from the project.
 - ix. Buildings adjacent to public open space should generally be oriented to that space, with access to the building opening onto the public open space.
 - x. Implementation of Low Impact Development techniques is strongly encouraged, including, but not limited to, storm water management practices, alternative surfacing materials, building and site design elements, and landscaping features.
 - xi. The practice of creating structures and using processes that are environmentally responsible and resource-efficient throughout a building's life-cycle from siting to design, construction, operation, maintenance, renovation, and deconstruction are strongly encouraged.
 - xii. All electrical utilities shall be located underground.
- d. Street and Streetscape Standards:
- i. Streets shall be laid out in a grid-like pattern to increase the access to and depth of the district and to define blocks.
 - ii. Streets shall provide the following streetscape elements: sidewalks, pedestrian crossings, planting strips, street trees, and lighting. Bike lanes are encouraged on streets shown on the Regulating Plan and as detailed in Section 3.9.8 Figures 1 and 2. See Section 3.9.8 Table 6 for additional standards for required and recommended streetscape elements.
 - iii. Streets that incorporate commons and squares are encouraged to provide public parks and spaces and add visual form and interest to the development. Roundabouts may also be incorporated when necessary to enhance traffic flow and safety.

- iv. Other new streets shall be aligned as closely as possible at right angles to the roadway network shown on the Regulating Plan and spaced according to the needs of the development serviced, traffic demand and safety.
 - v. Sidewalks. All developments shall provide or contribute to the development and construction of sidewalks to serve the development site. The width of the sidewalk shall be consistent with the prevailing pattern in the immediate neighborhood, provided that no new sidewalk shall be less than six feet wide. Crosswalks shall be clearly marked with diagonal-striped paint and electronic signals where applicable. Where feasible, crosswalks should be constructed of a contrasting material to the street surface, such as brick.
 - vi. Each non-residential or mixed-use development are strongly encouraged to contain one or more public spaces. These spaces should be designed to encourage community interaction and may include but are not limited to playgrounds, bandstands, picnic areas, central greens, open plazas with appropriate street furniture, or gardens with pedestrian access and seating. The overall dimensions of the public spaces may vary depending on existing site conditions and individual site designs.
- e. Landscaping Standards:
- The following landscaping standards shall apply to all development:
- i. Following are requirements for implementation of buffers:
 - 1. A minimum 20-foot vegetated buffer shall be provided between proposed development and adjacent residential zoning districts outside the Town Center District.
 - 2. Street trees and other plantings shall be placed within the building setback on the lot or right of way of Portsmouth Avenue and newly constructed streets within the District.
 - ii. Buffers shall be established or maintained at a density that attenuates year round the impact of activity and light on adjacent properties.
 - iii. Use of native species of trees, shrubs, groundcover, and decorative plants in all landscaping is strongly encouraged.
 - iv. A landscaping plan, including a maintenance plan and agreement, shall be approved as part of the review and approval process as stated in the Site Plan Review (Section V.5.2) and Subdivision Regulations.
- f. Lighting Standards:
- i. Street, building, and site lighting shall not adversely impact surrounding uses and residential projects, and be designed with no light spilling or reflecting into adjacent properties and with protection of the night sky. Such lighting shall not blink, flash, oscillate, or be of unusually high intensity of brightness, except for purposes of providing emergency services or to protect public safety.
 - ii. Energy efficient exterior lighting and streetlights shall be provided.
 - iii. Lighting of the site shall be adequate at ground level for the protection and safety of the public in regard to pedestrian access and vehicular circulation. This shall include, but not be limited to sidewalks, crossings, parking areas, and other public spaces.
 - iv. Street lighting shall be consistent throughout the district and in accordance with the design established by the Town.
 - v. Refer to additional lighting requirements in Section 3.9.8, Table 6.
 - vi. Unless otherwise stated, lighting shall comply with the standards of the Site Plan Review Regulations, Section V.5.8.

g. Parking Standards:

- i. On-street parking shall provide short-term parking for patrons of shops and businesses. On street parking to service residential areas is recommended.
- ii. Parking for mixed use developments shall provide long term and shared parking by multiple uses and users.
- iii. Delivery and other service related areas for mixed use and non-residential uses can be located at the front, rear, or sides of buildings, or within designated portions of parking areas. Loading docks and service areas shall not face a public frontage. Delivery and service vehicles are encouraged to utilize rear alleys for building access.
- iv. Refer to additional parking requirements in Section 3.9.8, Table 7.
- v. Parking in the District shall comply with the requirements of Section V.5.9 of the Site Plan Regulations.

h. Pedestrian and Bicycle Access:

- i. Direct pedestrian and bicycle connections between mixed-use development and residential areas are required. Such connections include connections between sidewalks and walking paths, connections between bike paths in the residential area and the mixed-use development, connections from residential areas to parking areas within the District, and connections to adjacent neighborhoods that have sidewalks or paths. In all cases, bicycles shall not be allowed on and a clear delineation shall be made between bicycle paths and sidewalks through appropriate signage. In the residential areas and in paths within the conservation area and recreational trails, bicycles and pedestrians may share the same path. In winter months, designated sidewalks and pedestrian/bicycle paths shall be cleared of snow and ice except in conservation and recreational trail areas, where paths may be used for winter recreation to include cross country skiing and snowshoeing. Where feasible, bicycle and pedestrian access shall be provided to existing bus stop, or other mass transit.

3.9.8 DEVELOPMENT OF STANDARDS AND TABLES

a. Permitted Uses

Type of Use	Town Center District
Agriculture and Forestry	<u>Permitted</u> Includes crop production; customary accessory uses; forestry (tree farming, commercial timbering, non-commercial harvesting of forest products); community gardening.
Civic/ Institutional	<u>Permitted</u> Includes schools, nursery through college schools; day care facilities; senior citizen and community centers; outpatient clinics and treatment facilities; non-profit lodges and fraternal organizations; place of worship including customary ancillary facilities; public utilities; and municipal buildings.
Commercial	<u>Permitted</u> Includes retail sales and service; personal and commercial services; professional office; banking and lending institutions; food service/bar/entertainment; special promotional sales and displays; conference centers, movie and performance theatres, indoor entertainment complex.
Drive-through Service	<u>Not Permitted By Conditional Use Permit</u>
Food Service/Bar/ Entertainment¹	By Conditional Use Permit
Mixed Use²	Permitted
Open Space/Conservation	See #3
Residential – single-family, two-family	<u>Permitted</u> Includes single-family (1 unit), Two-family (2 units), workforce housing, manufactured housing, home occupations, accessory dwelling units.
Residential – multi-family and other residential uses	<u>Permitted</u> Includes multi-family (3-8 units), workforce housing, manufactured housing; home occupations; accessory dwelling units; bed and breakfast inns, hotels, motels, hostels; and open space cluster developments.
Recreational	<u>Permitted</u> Includes forestry, wildlife, timber preserves, reservoirs; public parks and playgrounds; natural resource management and research.
Other Uses not listed	By Conditional Use Permit.

¹ Food Service/Bar/Entertainment includes all food service and entertainment related uses such as restaurants, dinner theatres, bars, pubs, cafes, and coffee shop/diners, permitted mobile food vendors, and farm stands.

² Mixed-Uses includes Residential and Commercial and/or Professional Business uses in combination in one or several structures; non-residential use shall comprise >50% of the gross floor area.

³ Uses may be permitted according to the terms and restrictions of any open space designated on a specific property.

b. Town Center District Design Standards and Roadways

TABLE 1.

Dimensional Requirements		
<i>Footprint, Block or Lot</i>	<i>Area</i>	<i>Description</i>
Single Family (1 unit) Two-Family (2 units)	15,000 S.F. minimum lot	Minimum area dependent on Soil-Based Lot Sizing*
Multi-Family (3-8 units)	8,000 S.F. maximum building footprint 15,000 S.F. minimum lot	Minimum area dependent on Soil-Based Lot Sizing*
Building Footprint (non-residential and mixed use)	10,000 S.F. maximum footprint 15,000 S.F. minimum lot	Minimum area dependent on Soil-Based Lot Sizing*
Residential, Mixed Use, and Non-Residential	40,000 S.F. maximum block size	Block with frontage on no less than two sides; Minimum area dependent on Soil-Based Lot Sizing*
* Unless innovative sewage treatment facilities are proposed or public water and wastewater services are available, all developments shall meet the standards set forth in the Stratham Subdivision Regulations Section 4.3 Soil-Based Lot Size Determination (as amended).		
Frontage Buildout	70% maximum	Includes Principal and Accessory Structures

TABLE 2.



Building Height			
Principal Structure (non-residential, mixed use, and multi-family)	2.5 stories maximum 35 feet maximum height 14 feet minimum required for non-residential	Principal Structure (single-family and two-family)	2.0 stories maximum;
 <p>Principal Structure (non-residential and mixed use)</p>		 <p>Principal Structure (Residential)</p>	

TABLE 3.

Setbacks – Principal Structures	
<i>Principal Structure (non-residential, mixed use)</i>	<i>Principal Structure (single-family, two-family, multi-family)</i>

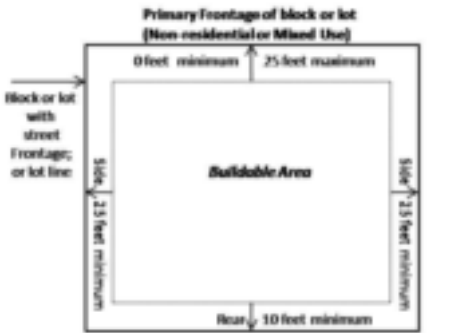
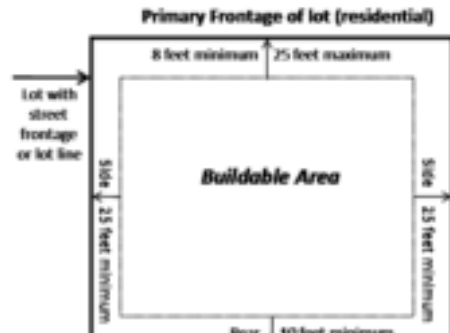
Frontage	0 feet minimum/25 feet maximum	Frontage	8 feet minimum/25 feet maximum
Side	25 feet minimum 0 feet if secondary frontage	Side	10 feet minimum
Rear	10 feet minimum 0 feet if secondary frontage	Rear	10 feet minimum
			

TABLE 4.

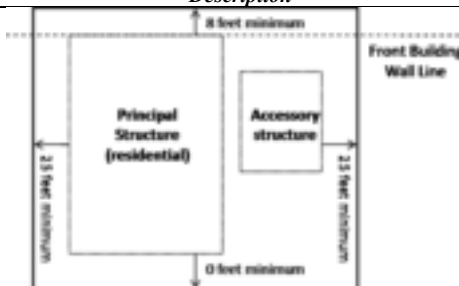
Setbacks – Accessory Structures	
Type of Use	Dimensional Requirements
Commercial, Businesses and Other Non-Residential Uses	4.5 2 stories maximum height 8 feet minimum first story height 400 S.F. maximum footprint
Residential Uses	1.5 2 stories maximum height 8 feet minimum first story height 400 S.F. maximum footprint Shall be setback behind the front building wall of principal structure (see diagram below).
Civic, Recreational, Public Facilities or Transportation Uses	No restrictions on dimensional requirements.
Description	
	

TABLE 5.

Town Center District Streetscape Standards		
<i>Roadway Type</i>	<i>Right of Way Width</i>	<i>Description</i>
Street (proposed local)	50 feet minimum 54 feet maximum	Two-way traffic flow is required; sidewalks required on one side of street.
Street (proposed local)	36 feet minimum 38 feet maximum	One-way traffic flow is required; sidewalks required on one side of street.
Alley	12 feet maximum	One-way traffic flow is required.

TABLE 6.

Streetscape Elements		
<i>Element</i>	<i>Standards</i>	<i>Description</i>
Planting Strip	5-foot minimum width (as shown on roadway cross-sections)	Refer to Site Plan Review Regulations Section V.5.2. for landscaping requirements.
Setback	Combined 14 foot min, 20 foot max	Composed of sidewalk and planting strip or street buffer strip with granite curbing.
Crossings	6 foot minimum width, 10 foot maximum width Required a “t” street intersections and permitted at mid-block	Within an individual block or development, shall be composed consistently of similar materials and may include brick, pavers, stamped concrete, porous pavement; all sidewalks shall have granite curbing against a thoroughfare; sidewalks recommended on both sides of street (except when serving only residential development). Differentiate with use of non-asphalt materials, striping and accent paving or materials.
Street Trees	1 per 25 linear feet	Refer to Site Plan Review Regulations Section V.5.2.; street tree placement shall alternate with lighting placement.
Street Lighting	1 per 25 linear feet of right of way	Along all sidewalks, New England traditional fixtures with downcast illumination in accordance with the design established by the Town; lighting placement shall alternate with street tree placement.
Seating	Encouraged	At public spaces (such as pocket parks and gardens) and at street intersections.
Shelters	1,000 linear feet of right of way	Painted or coated metal frame or natural materials.
Trash Receptacles	Optional	Secured and covered at street intersections or mid-block.
Bicycle Racks	Required	At transit stops/shelters, public spaces, public parking areas.

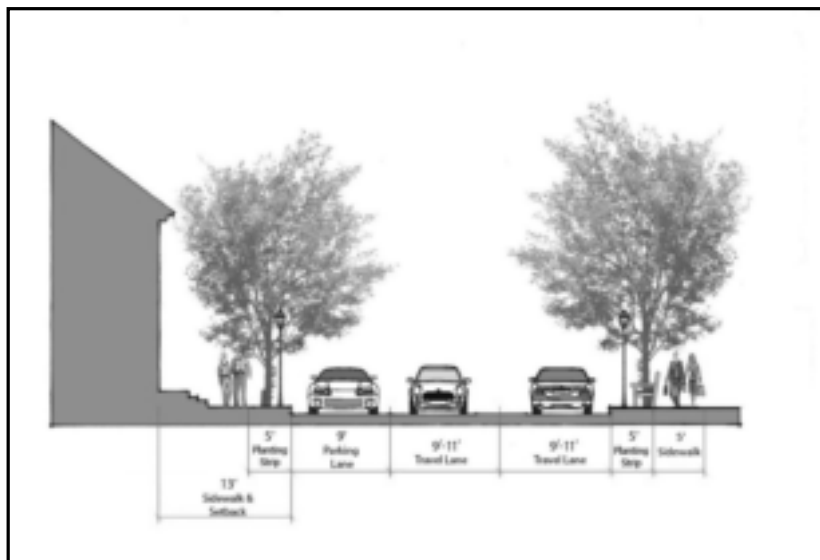
TABLE 7.

Parking Area Design Standards		
<i>Element</i>	<i>Standards</i>	<i>Description</i>
Medians	Located between opposing parking isles and at periphery	Shall incorporate for use as a storm water management best management practice, wherever feasible; vegetation shall be appropriate for wet/dry conditions and salt tolerant.
Islands	Located at end of parking isles and at entrance/exit	Used primarily as screening and landscaping areas comprised mostly of trees, shrubs and groundcovers that are drought and salt tolerant.
Placement	Located at rear or side of buildings, and interior of blocks	

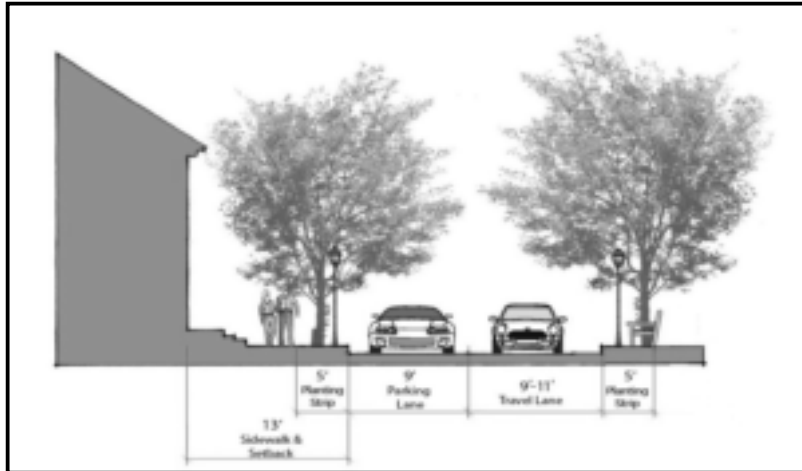
TABLE 8.

Public and Open Space Standards	
Public Space	Developments shall include a minimum of 15 percent of the total area dedicated to public spaces. Public space calculations shall not include lands within required thoroughfare cross-sections and other proposed streets. Public space shall include facilities and landscapes that promote outdoor activities and enjoyment.
Open Space	<p>Developments of .49 acre or less shall include a minimum of 10 percent of the total area dedicated to open space. Developments of .5 acre or greater shall include a minimum of 15 percent of the total area dedicated to open space. Open space shall be contiguous and not include lands within required thoroughfare cross-sections and other proposed streets. Open space requirement can be transferred elsewhere within the Town Center District by designating the minimum open space requirement on another property.</p> <p>Open Space may include septic reserve areas, well protection areas, and LID storm water management features (i.e. natural areas such as bio retention areas, vegetated buffers and rain gardens). Open space shall consist of natural areas, or created natural areas such as gardens, landscaped areas and parks, where the public may gather, recreate and enjoy scenic and/or historic views.</p>
Greenway Trail (optional)	Developments may provide a Greenway Trail through the property with connections provided to trails on adjacent properties or open space areas. Greenway Trails shall be a minimum of 8 feet in width and surfaced to provide universal access.

FIGURE 1. Town Center District Roadway Cross-Sections



Street – Two Way Travel (required per Regulating Plan; Minimum width 51 feet; maximum width 55 feet).



Street – One Way Travel (required per Regulating Plan; Minimum width 36 feet; maximum width 38 feet).

3.9.9 Architectural and Site Design Standards

a. Building Exterior Features:

- i. Building facades shall be compatible in scale, mass, and form with adjacent structures and the development pattern of the surrounding area (assuming the adjacent structures are generally in compliance with these design standards).
- ii. Exterior building design and detail on all elevations shall be coordinated with regard to color, types of materials, number of materials, architectural form, and detailing to achieve harmony and continuity of design.
- iii. Paint colors, excluding signage and awnings, shall be limited to a reasonable number and range of palette to achieve consistency of style and character historically significant structures and with adjacent development
- iv. Where appropriate, architectural details and richly detailed designs are encouraged to provide variation and creative designs. All features and details should be of a style consistent with the overall design scheme and in proportion with the building and historically significant structures.
- v. Rear and side building walls, if visible from public streets and spaces or neighboring properties, shall be designed with similar detailing and materials and be compatible with the principal facade(s) of the building. All elevations and cross-sections of a building shall be shown on a site plan.
- vi. To avoid long unbroken or unadorned wall planes, building facades and walls should not extend beyond 50 feet without including changes of wall plane that provide strong shadow or visual interest.
- vii. Exterior materials shall be durable and of high quality. Excessively vibrant colors, sharply contrasting colors, and highly reflective materials are not compatible with the traditional New England Village character. Architectural elements visible to the public, but not detailed on the plans shall be finished in a material compatible with other exterior colors and materials.

- viii. Pedestrian level storefronts shall employ non-reflective glass or light gray tinted glass to enhance the visibility of the displayed merchandise from the outside.
- ix. Window and door openings on the front façade shall occupy a total of no less than 20% and no more than 70% of the gross square footage of that facade. The size and placement of windows should be commensurate with architectural style of the buildings and landscape elements in the development.
- x. All windows and doorways shall be encased with wood or simulated wood trim; decorative trim is preferred. Aluminum windows shall be finished to match the proposed trim color of the building.
- xi. True divided light windows and shutters are encouraged. Shutters shall be sized such that when closed they cover the window.
- xii. All vents, gutters, downspouts, flashing, electrical conduits, etc., shall be painted to match the color of the adjacent building surface, unless being used expressly as trim or accent element.
- xiii. Material or color changes generally should occur at a change of plane. Piecemeal embellishment and frequent changes in color or material should be avoided.
- xiv. The visibility of rooftop equipment shall be minimized by grouping all plumbing vents, ducts, and rooftop mechanical equipment away and screened from public view at ground level. Wall or ground mounted equipment shall be screened fully from public view with walls, fences or vegetation. No air conditioning, ventilating, or other mechanical or electrical equipment, except for lighting fixtures, may project more than four (4) inches beyond the face of a wall facing a public street or space.
- xv. Awning covers designed for shade and for entryways shall be made of fabric or simulated fabric-like material that match or complement paint colors used on the building. Brightly illuminated and franchise type awnings are not acceptable.
- xvi. Franchise or corporate style architecture and/or highly contrasting color schemes are strongly discouraged. If used, such buildings shall be designed to create a project that is consistent with traditional New England Village character.
- xvii. Fences in the traditional historic New England Village style and materials (i.e. picket, split rail, wrought iron, brick, stone) shall be used. Chain link security fences may be allowed only where necessary for safety or security, but their use is not permitted.
- xviii. The following building materials shall be used and combined to create a consistent, attractive, and cohesive building design:
 - 1. Natural wood and/or cement-based artificial wood siding.
 - 2. Glass.
 - 3. Natural Brick (painted brick is not recommended, as it tends to require frequent maintenance).
 - 4. Natural Stone (such as, but not limited to, fieldstone, granite, limestone and marble).
- b. Roof Lines, Styles and Materials:
 - i. Sloped roofs are required. Gabled and hipped roofs should have a slope of greater than 4/12 (18°), but less than 14/12 (49°).
 - ii. Gambrel and Mansard roofs are acceptable for appropriately sized structures and access streets.

- iii. Standing seam, copper roofing, asphalt, and slate shingles are preferred. Photovoltaic (PV) panel roof materials, which “simulate” traditional roofing materials, are acceptable. Metal roofs that face the street are discouraged, unless architecturally blended with the facade.
 - iv. Flat roofs are not allowed.
- c. Site Design:
 - i. Traditional New England Village planning principles (“Traditional Neighborhood Design”) are used to create a town center consisting of mixed use and commercial areas organized around public spaces and bordering residential neighborhoods.
 - ii. All roadways shall provide a pedestrian and bicycle friendly layout and incorporate landscaping and lighting elements.
- d. Land Use and Housing:
 - i. Mixed Uses in the Town Center District shall provide commercial retail stores and shops, food service/bar/entertainment establishments, and professional offices and businesses on the first floor of buildings, with professional office and businesses, and residential uses optionally on the upper floors.
 - ii. Residential neighborhoods should include a mix of housing types, sizes and styles, and provide public gathering and/or recreational spaces or areas for use by residents, businesses, visitors and the community.
 - iii. Developments shall provide a viable mix of residential and non-residential uses to promote living and employment opportunities in the style of a Traditional New England village.
- e. Landscaping:
 - i. Landscaping shall be an integral component of site design to provide visual interest. Wherever possible, preserve desirable scenic and aesthetic beauty, maintain natural vegetation and landscape features, and maintain or create greenways throughout the District.
 - ii. Traditional New England Village landscaping shall include street trees, large shade trees, groups of plantings, box planters along streets, and pocket gardens and parks. Low shrubs and flowering plants soften lines of buildings and help screen parking lots and utilities.
 - iii. Landscaping shall be integrated with LID practices, general storm water management, and parking lot and roadway designs.
 - iv. Landscaping should consider use of native species of trees, shrubs, ground cover and flowering plants. For all development within the Town Center District, a Landscaping Plan shall be prepared and submitted following the requirements of this ordinance and Section V-5.2.N of the Site Plan Regulations.
- f. Transportation Network and Access:
 - i. The District shall incorporate a grid-pattern, Streets, loop roads, squares, access roads, and alleys, around open spaces or public spaces.
 - ii. The Town Center District shall incorporate grids of local and neighborhood streets.
 - iii. New roads and streets shall connect to the existing transportation network within the District and adjacent zoning districts to provide efficient traffic patterns and site access, and provide for public safety. Development shall provide potential future connections to adjacent properties and not prevent or preclude these connections.

- g. Open Space and Recreation:
- All development in the District is required to provide a percentage of open space. These open spaces shall be located to provide connections between existing open spaces (both within the outside the District), visual interest, scenic vistas and view sheds, diversity in the developed landscape, preserve natural resources and features, provide gathering spaces for community uses, civic uses and outdoor activities.
 - Existing conservation lands within the District and beyond its periphery provide natural areas for passive recreation by residents, visitors and the public, and provide extensions of the required open space areas within the District.

3.9.10 Definitions of Terms

Please refer to Section 3.8.10 for definitions and terms in the Section.

The Planning Board recommends this article by unanimous vote.

Article 4: Are you in favor of the following amendment to the Town of Stratham Zoning Ordinance as proposed by the Planning Board?

To amend the Zoning Ordinance, Section III, Subsection 3.6 *Table of Uses* to clarify the nomenclature and permitting requirements and procedures for permitted land uses and to add Footnote Number 10, to clarify the permitting requirements and procedures for light manufacturing uses.

3.6 TABLE OF USES: (Rev. 3/13, 3/14, 3/16, 3/17,3/20)

USES:	ZONING DISTRICT								
	R/A	MAH	PRE	TC	G CBD CZ	G CBD OZ	SC	CLIO	IND
A. RESIDENTIAL USES:									
1. Single-Family Dwelling.	P	P	P	P	X	P	X	X	X
2. Two-Family Dwelling.	P	P	P	P	X	P	S/C	X	X
3. Multi-Family Dwelling in accordance with Section 5.8 of this Ordinance.	X	X	C	P	C	P	C	C	X
4. Cluster Developments by conditional use permit in accordance with Section VIII of this Ordinance. (Rev. 3/99) Also Senior Housing as set forth in Section 5.7 (3/05)	C	X	C	P	C	P	C	X	X
5. Workforce and Elderly Affordable Housing in accordance with Section 5.8 of this Ordinance.	C	X	C	P	C	P	C	C	X
6. Manufactured Housing;	P	P	X	P	C	P	X	X	X
7. Mobile Homes; in accordance with Section IX of this Ordinance.	X	P	X	X	X	X	X	X	X

8. Home Occupations in accordance with Sections 2.1.27, 5.13 (3/10)	S/C	S/C	S/C	P	C	P	X	X	X
9. Accessory Dwelling Units in accordance with Section 5.4. (Rev. 3/90, 3/05, 3/17, 3/18)	P	P	P	P	X	P	X	X	X

B. TEMPORARY RESIDENTIAL USES	-								
1. Overnight and Day Camps, Cottage Colonies, Vacation Resorts, and similar Recreational Facilities.	S/C	S/C	X	X	C	P	X	X	X
2. Bed and Breakfast Inns.	S/C	S/C	S/C	P	C	P	P	P	X
3. Hotels, Motels, and Hostels. (Rev. 3/98)	X	X	X	P	C	P	P	C	X

C. OUTDOOR/ RECREATIONAL USES:	-								
1. Forestry, Wildlife, Timber Preserves, Reservoirs, and Nature Study areas.	P	P	P	P	C <u>P</u>	P	P	P	P
2. Public Parks and Playgrounds.	P	P	P	P	C <u>P</u>	P	P	S/C	S/C
3. Commercial Riding Stables and Riding Trails.	S/C	S/C	X	X	X	P	X	X	X
4. Historic Building or Site open to public.	P	P	P	P	C <u>P</u>	P	P	P	P
5. Recreational Camping Parks, Recreational Areas, Residential Tenting and Recreational Vehicles.	S/C	S/C	X	X	C <u>P</u>	C	X	X	X

D. AGRICULTURAL/ FORESTRY USES:									
1. Farming including Dairying, Livestock, Animal and Poultry Raising, Tilling of Soil, Horticulture, Crop Production, including customary accessory uses.	P	P	P	P ¹	C <u>P</u>	P	P	P	P
2. Tree Farming, Commercial Timbering, Non-commercial Harvesting of Forest Products.	P	P	X	P ¹	C <u>P</u>	P	P	P	S/C

3.6 TABLE OF USES: (CONTINUED)

USES:	ZONING DISTRICT								
E. INSTITUTIONAL USES:	R/A	MAH	PRE	TC	GCBD	GCBD OZ	SC	CLIO	IND
1. Private Schools, Nursery through College.	S/C	S/C	X	P	C	P	S/C	S/C	S/C
2. Day-Care Facilities. (Rev. 3/95)	S/C	S/C	S/C	P	C	P	S/C	C	S/C
3. Senior Citizen Centers.	S/C	S/C	S/C	P	C	P	X	C	X
4. Non-profit Lodges and Fraternal Organizations.	S/C	S/C	X	P	C	P	X	X	S/C
5. Hospitals, Clinics, Nursing Homes and Rehabilitation Centers.	X	X	X	P	C	P	S/C	S/C	S/C
6. Funeral Home or Parlor.	X	X	X	P	C	P	S/C	S/C	X
7. Place of worship plus customary ancillary facilities. (Rev. 3/89)	S/C	S/C	P	P	C	P	X	X	C ⁹
8. Cemetery.	P	P	P	P	C	P	X	X	X
9. Public Utilities.	S/C	S/C	S/C	P	C	P	S/C	S/C	S/C
10. Municipal Buildings.	P	P	P	P	C	P	P	P	P

F. COMMERCIAL USES:									
1. Retail Sales. (Rev. 3/13)	X	X	C ²	P	P	P	P	P	S/C
2. Personal Services. (Rev. 3/13)	X	X	X	P	P	P	P	P	P
3. Commercial Services. (Rev. 3/13)	X	X	X	P	P	P	P	P	P
4. Professional Office. (Rev. 3/13)	X	X	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
5. Banks & Lending Institutions.	X	X	S/C	P	P	P	P	P	P
6. Restaurants.	X	X	X	P	P	€	P	P	C ⁹
7. Filling Stations, Service Stations.	X	X	X	X	C	€	X	X	X
8. Motor Vehicle Dealerships, Repair Garages, Body Shops, Paint Shops. (Rev. 3/99)	X	X	X	X	C	€	X	X	X
9. Veterinary Hospitals.	X	X	X	P	C	€	P	P	X
10. Kennels, with a minimum lot size of five acres and a structure setback of a minimum of 100 feet from all lot lines.	S/C	X	X	X	C	€	S/C	S/C	X
11. Airports, Runways, Control Towers, Administration Buildings, Hangars.	X	X	X	X	X	✕	X	X	X

<u>12. Drive-through services</u>	<u>X</u>	<u>X</u>	<u>X</u>	<u>C</u>	<u>C</u>		<u>X</u>	<u>X</u>	<u>X</u>
13. Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Animals. (Rev. 3/97)	S/C	X	P	X	X	X	X	X	X

3.6 TABLE OF USES: (CONTINUED) USES:	ZONING DISTRICT								
F. COMMERCIAL USES:	R/A	MAH	PRE	TC	GCBD CZ	GCBD OZ	SC	CLIO	IND
14. Adult Uses. (Adopted 3/93)	X	X	X	X	S/C ⁵	S/C⁵	S/C ⁵	X	X
15. Special Promotional Sales & Displays ⁶ . (Adopted 3/96)	X	X	X	P	P	P	P	P	X
16. Self-Storage or Warehousing. (Adopted 3/99)	X	X	X	X	C ⁷	C⁷	C ⁷	C ⁷	X
17. Conference Center. (Adopted 3/09)	X	X	X	P	P		P	X	X
18. Movie Theater, Indoor Entertainment Complex. (Adopted 3/09)	X	X	X	P	P	P	P	X	X

G. INDUSTRIAL USES:									
1. Manufacturing, Assembly, Fabricating Operations.	X	X	X	X	C	C	X	C	P
2. Research and Development, Corporate, and Business Offices.	X	X	X	P	C	C	P	P	P
3. Warehousing and Wholesaling Operations.	X	X	X	X	C	C	S/C	C	P
4. Freight and Trucking Terminals.	X	X	X	X	C	C	S/C	C	S/C
5. Bulk Storage and Distribution of Goods, except Fuels.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	C	P
6. Bulk Storage of Fossil Fuels.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
7. Earth Products Removal subject to the provisions of Section X.	P	P	X	X	C	C	P	P	P
8. Commercial Sawmills.	X	X	X	X	X	X	S/C	X	S/C
9. Junk Yards, Recycling Centers.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	S/C
10. Special Promotional Sales & Displays ⁶ . (Adopted 3/96)	X	X	X	P	P	P	P	P	X
11. Light Industrial. (Adopted 3/98)	X	X	X	X	X	X	P ⁸	P	P
12. Light Manufacturing Facility¹⁰	<u>X</u>	<u>X</u>	<u>X</u>	<u>C</u>	<u>C</u>		<u>C</u>	<u>C</u>	<u>P</u>

FOOTNOTES TO TABLE 3.6:

10. Light Manufacturing Facility includes facilities that produce and sell 1) artisanal products derived from materials such as paper, wood, metal and ceramic, food products, and fine art, or 2) light manufacturing determined by the Board to not have negative impacts on traffic, circulation, or similar neighborhood impacts.

The Planning Board recommends this article by unanimous vote.

Article 5: Are you in favor of the following amendment to the Town of Stratham Zoning Ordinance as proposed by the Planning Board?

To amend the Zoning Ordinance, Section XVI, Section 16.5.3 *Historic Demolition Review Procedure*, by adding Subsection 16.5.3 d. to clarify the permitting requirements and procedures of the Demolition Review Committee.

d. In the event of a change of property ownership or expiration of a demolition permit, full compliance with Section 16.5 shall be required.

The Planning Board recommends this article by unanimous vote.

Article 6: Are you in favor of the following amendment to the Town of Stratham Building Ordinance as proposed by the Planning Board?

To amend the Building Ordinance, *Preamble: Authority*, to correct a statutory reference by deleting Chapter 674:51 and replacing it with Chapter 675:3, VII.

PREAMBLE: AUTHORITY Pursuant to the authority vested in towns by Chapter 674:5 675:3, VII, as amended, and all other enabling statutes and laws, and to provide for safety, health, and public welfare in the Town of Stratham, the following Ordinance is hereby enacted by the voters of the Town of Stratham, New Hampshire, in the official town meeting convened on March 14, 2014. The Building Code was amended during March 1984, 1990, 1991, 1992, 1994, 1995, 1999, 2002, 2008, and 2014. This Building Code replaces in its entirety the Building Code enacted on March 12, 1957 and the several amendments thereto.

The Planning Board recommends this article by unanimous vote.

Article 7: Are you in favor of the following amendment to the Town of Stratham Building Ordinance as proposed by the Planning Board?

To amend the Building Ordinance, Article IV, Section 4.2 *Third Party Professionals* to clarify that the Town is not responsible for costs associated with necessary third-party reviews.

~~*4.2 Third Party Professionals: Subject to the approval of the Board of Selectmen, the The Code Enforcement Officer may require the engagement of third-party professionals for the purpose of verifying the code compliance and/or the inspection of a design plan, building, or structure requiring the practice of a licensed professional. The cost of such service shall be shall be incorporated as part of the permit fee structure approved by the Board of Selectmen and be borne by the applicant. The permit fee includes a maximum of two (2) code compliant reviews and two*~~

~~(2) inspections by the third party professional. If required by the Code Enforcement Officer,~~
~~additional~~ Third-party reviews and/or inspections will be assessed at the third party professional's hourly rate. The cost of such service shall be borne by the applicant in addition to the original permit fee amount.

The Planning Board recommends this article by unanimous vote.

THE FOLLOWING ARTICLES WILL BE VOTED ON **SATURDAY MARCH 27, 2021 AT 9:00 A.M.** AT
THE EXETER HIGH SCHOOL AT 1 BLUE HAWK DRIVE, EXETER, NH 03833 *****

ARTICLE 8: 2021 Operating Budget

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Seven million eight hundred forty four thousand three hundred and twenty-five dollars (\$7,844,325) to defray general town charges for the ensuing year. This article does not include appropriations contained in special or individual articles addressed separately.

The Select Board recommends this Article by unanimous vote.

ARTICLE 9: Capital Improvements Program

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Four hundred ninety-nine thousand dollars (\$499,000) to implement the Capital Improvements Program for 2021 as presented in the Town Report and recommended by the Planning Board. 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 five (5) years from this appropriation per NH RSA 32:7 (VI).

The Select Board recommends this Article by unanimous vote.

ARTICLE 10: Appropriate Funds to Several Capital Reserve Funds

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Four hundred thousand dollars and (\$400,000) 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 thousand fifty dollars (\$250,000) to be raised through general taxation.

Fire Department Capital Reserve Fund	\$110,000
Radio Communications Capital Reserve Fund	\$15,000
Historic Preservation Capital Reserve Fund	\$50,000
Highway Vehicle/Equipment Capital Reserve Fund	\$125,000
Town Buildings and Grounds Maintenance Trust	<u>\$100,000</u>
Total	\$400,000

The Select Board recommends this Article by unanimous vote.

2021 Town Meeting Warrant

ARTICLE 11: Appropriate Funds for an Additional Police Officer

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Forty-four thousand seven hundred ninety-five dollars (\$44,795) for the purpose of hiring an additional full-time police officer for the Town of Stratham. Said sum includes pay and benefits for six (6) months of 2021 (the 12-month total annualized cost is \$89,590). If approved, the amount raised will be incorporated into the police department pay and personnel administration budgets for accounting purposes.

The Select Board recommends this Article by unanimous vote.

ARTICLE 12: Appropriation for the Accrued Benefits Liability Expendable Trust

To see if the Town shall vote to appropriate Fifteen thousand dollars (\$15,000) to be deposited into the Accrued Benefits Liability Expendable Trust.

The Select Board recommends this Article by unanimous vote.

ARTICLE 13: Raise and Appropriate from the EMS Special Revenue Fund

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Twenty thousand dollars (\$20,000) for the following purposes:

2021 EMS/EMT/First Responder Training	\$10,000
2021 ALS Services Contract	\$10,000

and to further authorize the withdrawal of Twenty thousand dollars (\$20,000) from the Stratham Fire Department EMS Special Revenue Fund created for these purposes during the March 17, 2000 Annual Town Meeting and as amended during the March 11, 2005 Town Meeting. No additional funds from general taxation are to be used.

The Select Board recommends this Article by unanimous vote.

ARTICLE 14: Raise and Appropriate from the EMS Special Revenue Fund: Equip.

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of One hundred twelve thousand five-hundred dollars (\$112,500) for the following purposes:

Thermal Imaging Cameras	\$12,500
2021 Radio Replacements	\$100,000

2021 Town Meeting Warrant

and to further authorize the withdrawal of One hundred twelve thousand five-hundred dollars (\$112,500) from the Stratham Fire Department EMS Special Revenue Fund created for these purposes during the March 17, 2000 Annual Town Meeting and as amended during the March 11, 2005 Town Meeting. No additional funds from general taxation are to be used.

The Select Board recommends this Article by unanimous vote.

ARTICLE 15: Lapse of Automated Curbside Collection Funding

To see if the Town shall vote to lapse the 2019 appropriation of \$365,000 (Warrant Article #14) intended to fund a transition to a curbside collection program. Lapsed funds become part of the Town's unassigned fund balance.

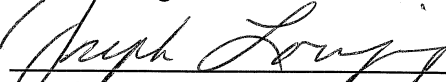
The Select Board recommends this Article by unanimous vote.

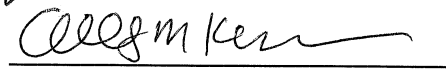
ARTICLE 16: To transact any other business that may legally come before this meeting.

Given under our hands and seal, this 17th day of February in the year of our Lord two thousand twenty one.

Select Board of Stratham, NH


Michael Houghton

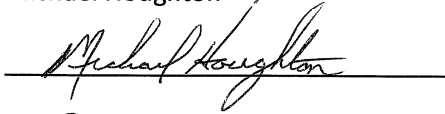

Joseph Lovejoy


Allison Knab

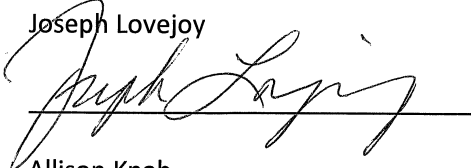
2021 Town Meeting Warrant

We certify and attest that on or before the 21st of February, 2021, we posted a true and attested copy of the within Warrant at the place of meeting, and like copies at the Town Offices and the Wiggin Memorial Library, and delivered the original to the Town Clerk.

Michael Houghton

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Michael Houghton", written over a horizontal line.

Joseph Lovejoy

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Joseph Lovejoy", written over a horizontal line.

Allison Knab

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Allison Knab", written over a horizontal line.

Proposed Budget

Stratham

For the period beginning January 1, 2021 and ending December 31, 2021

Form Due Date: 20 Days after the Annual Meeting

This form was posted with the warrant on: February 19, 2021

GOVERNING BODY CERTIFICATION

Under penalties of perjury, I declare that I have examined the information contained in this form and to the best of my belief it is true, correct and complete.

Name	Position	Signature
Michael Hausman	SELECTBOARD	Michael Hausman
JOSEPH LOHNEY	SELECTBOARD	Joseph Lohney
Alison Knab	SELECTBOARD	Alison Knab

This form must be signed, scanned, and uploaded to the Municipal Tax Rate Setting Portal:

For assistance please contact:
 NH DRA Municipal and Property Division
 (603) 230-5090
<http://www.revenue.nh.gov/mun-prop/>



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Appropriations

Account	Purpose	Article	Expenditures for period ending 12/31/2020	Appropriations for period ending 12/31/2020	Proposed Appropriations for period ending 12/31/2021	
					(Recommended)	(Not Recommended)
General Government						
0000-0000	Collective Bargaining		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4130-4139	Executive	08	\$223,058	\$202,682	\$208,436	\$0
4140-4149	Election, Registration, and Vital Statistics	08	\$21,883	\$16,850	\$7,775	\$0
4150-4151	Financial Administration	08	\$548,912	\$561,570	\$549,103	\$0
4152	Revaluation of Property		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4153	Legal Expense	08	\$42,814	\$30,000	\$30,000	\$0
4155-4159	Personnel Administration	08	\$1,172,619	\$1,261,746	\$1,380,875	\$0
4191-4193	Planning and Zoning	08	\$269,957	\$258,204	\$241,902	\$0
4194	General Government Buildings	08	\$144,843	\$167,601	\$177,839	\$0
4195	Cemeteries	08	\$32,315	\$37,916	\$42,899	\$0
4196	Insurance	08	\$105,108	\$105,108	\$105,179	\$0
4197	Advertising and Regional Association		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4199	Other General Government	08	\$10,584	\$11,000	\$11,000	\$0
General Government Subtotal			\$2,572,093	\$2,652,677	\$2,755,008	\$0
Public Safety						
4210-4214	Police	08	\$1,151,456	\$1,167,477	\$1,201,294	\$0
4215-4219	Ambulance		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4220-4229	Fire	08	\$409,153	\$408,944	\$488,350	\$0
4240-4249	Building Inspection		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4290-4298	Emergency Management	08	\$508	\$9,638	\$9,638	\$0
4299	Other (Including Communications)	08	\$870	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$0
Public Safety Subtotal			\$1,561,987	\$1,587,059	\$1,700,282	\$0
Airport/Aviation Center						
4301-4309	Airport Operations		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Airport/Aviation Center Subtotal			\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Highways and Streets						
4311	Administration		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4312	Highways and Streets	08	\$499,104	\$679,242	\$687,435	\$0
4313	Bridges		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4316	Street Lighting	08	\$8,640	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$0
4319	Other		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Highways and Streets Subtotal			\$507,744	\$689,242	\$697,435	\$0



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Appropriations

Account	Purpose	Article	Expenditures for period ending 12/31/2020	Appropriations for period ending 12/31/2020	Proposed Appropriations for period ending 12/31/2021	
					(Recommended)	(Not Recommended)
Sanitation						
4321	Administration	08	\$116,369	\$99,464	\$123,335	\$0
4323	Solid Waste Collection	08	\$925,770	\$731,929	\$937,156	\$0
4324	Solid Waste Disposal		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4325	Solid Waste Cleanup		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4326-4328	Sewage Collection and Disposal		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4329	Other Sanitation		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Sanitation Subtotal			\$1,042,139	\$831,393	\$1,060,491	\$0
Water Distribution and Treatment						
4331	Administration	08	\$0	\$0	\$1	\$0
4332	Water Services		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4335	Water Treatment		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4338-4339	Water Conservation and Other		\$0	\$1	\$0	\$0
Water Distribution and Treatment Subtotal			\$0	\$1	\$1	\$0
Electric						
4351-4352	Administration and Generation		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4353	Purchase Costs		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4354	Electric Equipment Maintenance		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4359	Other Electric Costs		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Electric Subtotal			\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Health						
4411	Administration	08	\$0	\$600	\$600	\$0
4414	Pest Control	08	\$64,180	\$67,680	\$67,680	\$0
4415-4419	Health Agencies, Hospitals, and Other	08	\$38,420	\$40,920	\$39,620	\$0
Health Subtotal			\$102,600	\$109,200	\$107,900	\$0
Welfare						
4441-4442	Administration and Direct Assistance	08	\$5,021	\$16,500	\$11,375	\$0
4444	Intergovernmental Welfare Payments		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4445-4449	Vendor Payments and Other		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Welfare Subtotal			\$5,021	\$16,500	\$11,375	\$0
Culture and Recreation						
4520-4529	Parks and Recreation	08	\$190,888	\$294,794	\$247,104	\$0
4550-4559	Library	08	\$489,215	\$508,593	\$518,783	\$0
4583	Patriotic Purposes	08	\$0	\$1,700	\$1,700	\$0
4589	Other Culture and Recreation		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Culture and Recreation Subtotal			\$680,103	\$805,087	\$767,587	\$0



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Appropriations

Account	Purpose	Article	Expenditures for period ending 12/31/2020	Appropriations for period ending 12/31/2020	Proposed Appropriations for period ending 12/31/2021	
			(Recommended) (Not Recommended)			
Conservation and Development						
4611-4612	Administration and Purchasing of Natural Resources	08	\$3,984	\$4,000	\$5,000	\$0
4619	Other Conservation	08	\$914	\$5,700	\$5,700	\$0
4631-4632	Redevelopment and Housing		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4651-4659	Economic Development	08	\$0	\$1,200	\$1,200	\$0
Conservation and Development Subtotal			\$4,898	\$10,900	\$11,900	\$0
Debt Service						
4711	Long Term Bonds and Notes - Principal	08	\$570,000	\$570,000	\$570,000	\$0
4721	Long Term Bonds and Notes - Interest	08	\$188,090	\$188,090	\$162,346	\$0
4723	Tax Anticipation Notes - Interest		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4790-4799	Other Debt Service		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Debt Service Subtotal			\$758,090	\$758,090	\$732,346	\$0
Capital Outlay						
4901	Land		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4902	Machinery, Vehicles, and Equipment		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4903	Buildings		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4909	Improvements Other than Buildings		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Capital Outlay Subtotal			\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Operating Transfers Out						
4912	To Special Revenue Fund		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4913	To Capital Projects Fund		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4914A	To Proprietary Fund - Airport		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4914E	To Proprietary Fund - Electric		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4914O	To Proprietary Fund - Other		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4914S	To Proprietary Fund - Sewer		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4914W	To Proprietary Fund - Water		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4918	To Non-Expendable Trust Funds		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4919	To Fiduciary Funds		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Operating Transfers Out Subtotal			\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total Operating Budget Appropriations					\$7,844,325	\$0



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Special Warrant Articles

Account	Purpose	Article	Proposed Appropriations for period ending 12/31/2021	
			(Recommended)	(Not Recommended)
4215-4219	Ambulance	13	\$20,000	\$0
	<i>Purpose: Raise & Appropriate from EMS Special Revenue</i>			
4902	Machinery, Vehicles, and Equipment	09	\$64,000	\$0
	<i>Purpose: Capital Improvements Program</i>			
4902	Machinery, Vehicles, and Equipment	14	\$112,500	\$0
	<i>Purpose: Raise & Appropriate from EMS Special Rev:Equip.</i>			
4909	Improvements Other than Buildings	09	\$435,000	\$0
	<i>Purpose: Capital Improvements Program</i>			
4915	To Capital Reserve Fund	10	\$400,000	\$0
	<i>Purpose: Appropriate Funds to Capital Reserve Funds</i>			
4916	To Expendable Trusts/Fiduciary Funds	12	\$15,000	\$0
	<i>Purpose: Accrued Benefits Liability Expendable Trust</i>			
Total Proposed Special Articles			\$1,046,500	\$0



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Individual Warrant Articles

Account	Purpose	Article	Proposed Appropriations for period ending 12/31/2021	
			(Recommended)	(Not Recommended)
4155-4159	Personnel Administration	11	\$17,770	\$0
	<i>Purpose: Appropriate Funds for an Additional Police Officer</i>			
4210-4214	Police	11	\$27,025	\$0
	<i>Purpose: Appropriate Funds for an Additional Police Officer</i>			
Total Proposed Individual Articles			\$44,795	\$0



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Revenues

Account	Source	Article	Actual Revenues for period ending 12/31/2020	Estimated Revenues for period ending 12/31/2020	Estimated Revenues for period ending 12/31/2021
Taxes					
3120	Land Use Change Tax - General Fund		\$0	\$0	\$0
3180	Resident Tax		\$0	\$0	\$0
3185	Yield Tax	08	\$123	\$1,000	\$1,000
3186	Payment in Lieu of Taxes		\$0	\$0	\$0
3187	Excavation Tax		\$0	\$0	\$0
3189	Other Taxes		\$0	\$0	\$0
3190	Interest and Penalties on Delinquent Taxes	08	\$41,911	\$40,000	\$55,000
9991	Inventory Penalties		\$0	\$0	\$0
Taxes Subtotal			\$42,034	\$41,000	\$56,000
Licenses, Permits, and Fees					
3210	Business Licenses and Permits	08	\$42,460	\$35,343	\$36,955
3220	Motor Vehicle Permit Fees	08	\$1,908,275	\$1,706,281	\$1,875,000
3230	Building Permits	08	\$302,920	\$280,000	\$165,000
3290	Other Licenses, Permits, and Fees	08	\$12,253	\$12,060	\$17,200
3311-3319	From Federal Government		\$0	\$0	\$0
Licenses, Permits, and Fees Subtotal			\$2,265,908	\$2,033,684	\$2,094,155
State Sources					
3351	Shared Revenues		\$45,442	\$45,442	\$0
3352	Meals and Rooms Tax Distribution	08	\$382,506	\$382,506	\$325,000
3353	Highway Block Grant	08	\$176,107	\$176,107	\$165,000
3354	Water Pollution Grant		\$0	\$0	\$0
3355	Housing and Community Development		\$0	\$0	\$0
3356	State and Federal Forest Land Reimbursement		\$0	\$0	\$0
3357	Flood Control Reimbursement		\$0	\$0	\$0
3359	Other (Including Railroad Tax)	08	\$274,155	\$11,175	\$9,000
3379	From Other Governments		\$0	\$0	\$0
State Sources Subtotal			\$878,210	\$615,230	\$499,000
Charges for Services					
3401-3406	Income from Departments	08	\$130,047	\$115,745	\$101,800
3409	Other Charges	08	\$168,957	\$168,957	\$160,000
Charges for Services Subtotal			\$299,004	\$284,702	\$261,800
Miscellaneous Revenues					
3501	Sale of Municipal Property	08	\$9,590	\$5,314	\$675
3502	Interest on Investments	08	\$63,213	\$62,500	\$62,500
3503-3509	Other	08	\$101,830	\$61,200	\$60,600
Miscellaneous Revenues Subtotal			\$174,633	\$129,014	\$123,775



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Revenues

Account	Source	Article	Actual Revenues for period ending 12/31/2020	Estimated Revenues for period ending 12/31/2020	Estimated Revenues for period ending 12/31/2021
Interfund Operating Transfers In					
3912	From Special Revenue Funds	14, 13	\$0	\$50,000	\$132,500
3913	From Capital Projects Funds		\$0	\$0	\$0
3914A	From Enterprise Funds: Airport (Offset)		\$0	\$0	\$0
3914E	From Enterprise Funds: Electric (Offset)		\$0	\$0	\$0
3914O	From Enterprise Funds: Other (Offset)		\$0	\$0	\$0
3914S	From Enterprise Funds: Sewer (Offset)		\$0	\$0	\$0
3914W	From Enterprise Funds: Water (Offset)		\$0	\$0	\$0
3915	From Capital Reserve Funds		\$6,533	\$0	\$0
3916	From Trust and Fiduciary Funds	08	\$0	\$2,500	\$1,500
3917	From Conservation Funds		\$0	\$0	\$0
Interfund Operating Transfers In Subtotal			\$6,533	\$52,500	\$134,000
Other Financing Sources					
3934	Proceeds from Long Term Bonds and Notes		\$0	\$0	\$0
9998	Amount Voted from Fund Balance	10	\$545,000	\$545,000	\$150,000
9999	Fund Balance to Reduce Taxes	08	\$0	\$0	\$650,000
Other Financing Sources Subtotal			\$545,000	\$545,000	\$800,000
Total Estimated Revenues and Credits			\$4,211,322	\$3,701,130	\$3,968,730



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Budget Summary

Item	Period ending 12/31/2021
Operating Budget Appropriations	\$7,844,325
Special Warrant Articles	\$1,046,500
Individual Warrant Articles	\$44,795
Total Appropriations	\$8,935,620
Less Amount of Estimated Revenues & Credits	\$3,968,730
Estimated Amount of Taxes to be Raised	\$4,966,890



Town of Stratham
FY2021 Proposed Budget
Capital Improvement Program

Preliminary Budget Submission: 11/18/2020
 Planning Board - Consistent with Master Plan: 12/16/2020
 (amounts listed in \$1,000s)

PROJECT TITLE	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	Balance (2017-2020)	Balance + Proposed
EQUIPMENT & VEHICLES									
Shared Town Vehicle Replacement	0	0	0	18	18	0	0	15	15
Police Cruiser Replacement Program	35	37	39	41	43	45	0	1	38
Traffic Control Program	5	7	7	5	5	5	5	0	7
<i>Total Equipment & Vehicles</i>	40	44	46	64	66	50	5	16	60
INFORMATION SYSTEMS									
Town-wide Workstation Replacements	15	5	5	5	5	5	5	13	18
Town-wide Technology	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	16	21
Online permitting software & electronic storage	0	10	10	0	0	0	0	0	10
<i>Total Information Systems</i>	20	20	20	10	10	10	10	28	48
BUILDINGS/INFRASTRUCTURE & PLANNING									
Gateway Vision Implementation, H20/Sewer Infrastructure,	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	40	40
Stormwater Planning & Grant Match	0	8	8	8	8	8	8	60	68
Library Space Needs Assessment and Facility Plan	20	0	0	0	0	0	0	20	20
Master Plan Update & Related Studies	0	0	5	10	5	10	10	38	38
Open Space, Parklands & Connectivity Plan	0	10	10	0	0	0	0	0	10
Cemetery Improvements	0	7	7	0	0	0	0	27	34
Library Improvements	0	0	10	10	0	0	0	22	22
Town-wide Parks & Recreation Improvements (non-SHP)	7	7	0	7	0	7	0	19	26
Public Safety Buildings Improvements	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	15	15
Police Station Solar Array Buyout	0	5	5	5	5	5	5	0	5
Property Revaluation Expenses	10	24	24	24	24	24	24	61	85
Town Center Grant Match & Improvements	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	25	25
Gifford Barn	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	14	14
PFAS Response and Remediation	40	75	65	25	25	25	25	40	115
<i>Total Buildings/Infrastructure & Planning (Non-SHP)</i>	77	136	134	89	67	79	72	382	518
STRATHAM HILL PARK									
Stratham Hill Park Area Plan	0	0	50	50	50	50	50	0	0
SHP Park-wide Facilities & Playing Field Improvements	0	7	7	7	7	7	7	26	33
Parking Lot & Roadway Replacement/Improvements (SHP)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	85	85
Firetower Painting (SHP)	0	0	0	15	0	0	0	0	0
<i>Total SHP</i>	0	7	57	72	57	57	57	110	117

Updated 2/5/2021



Town of Stratham
FY2021 Proposed Budget
Capital Improvement Program

Preliminary Budget Submission: 11/18/2020
 Planning Board - Consistent with Master Plan: 12/16/2020
 (amounts listed in \$1,000s)

PROJECT TITLE	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	Balance (2017-2020)	Balance + Proposed
TRANSPORTATION/ROADWAYS									
Bike and Pedestrian Transportation System Improvements	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	10
Fire Station Parking Lot Paving	15	15	0	0	0	0	0	15	30
Police Station Parking Lot Paving	12	12	0	0	0	0	0	12	24
Road Reconstruction Program	170	235	370	370	370	370	370	197	432
State Roadway/Intersection Capital Projects Participation	25	25	50	50	50	50	50	25	50
<i>Total Transportation/Roadways</i>	227	292	452	425	425	425	425	254	546
<i>Total CIP Projects</i>	364	499	709	660	625	621	569	790	1,289
CAPITAL FUND TRANSFERS									
Land Conservation Fund	18	0	0	0	0	0	0	10/31/2020 528	528
Heritage Preservation Fund	25	50	50	50	0	0	0	125	175
Fire Department Capital Reserve Fund	134	110	110	110	110	110	110	389	499
Radio Communications Capital Reserve Fund	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	52	67
Highway Department Capital Reserve Fund	215	125	125	125	125	125	125	266	391
Town Buildings & Grounds Maint. Exp. Trust Fund	50	100	100	100	100	100	100	233	333
<i>Total Capital Fund Transfers</i>	457	400	400	400	350	350	350	1,593	2,050
GRAND TOTAL	821	899	1,109	1,060	975	971	919	2,383	3,339

Updated 2/5/2021

TOWN CLERK'S REPORT
Year Ending December 31, 2020

Beginning Cash Balance	\$450.00
Motor Vehicle Fees - Town	\$1,917,327.16
Municipal Agent Fees - Motor Vehicle	\$28,452.00
Boat Fees - Town	\$4,603.44
Municipal Agent Fees - Boats	\$1,315.00
Municipal Agent Fees - Fish & Game	\$134.00
Title Fees	\$3,342.00
U.C.C. and Other Filing Fees	\$2,383.00
Vital Records - Town	\$1,480.00
Dog License Fees - Town	\$6,944.00
Dog Fines	\$4,279.00
On-line Mailing Fees	\$2,641.00
Copies	<u>\$673.50</u>
Total Town Clerk Funds Collected:	\$1,973,574.10
 Collected For Other Departments	 \$78,881.00
Total Remitted to Treasurer	\$2,052,455.10
 Ending Cash Balance	 \$450.00

Respectfully Submitted,
Joyce L. Charbonneau, Town Clerk/Tax Collector
Deborah Bakie, Deputy Town Clerk/Tax Collector

Tax Collector's Report
For the Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 2020

<i>DEBITS</i>		
Uncollected Taxes - Beginning of Year	2020 Levy	2019 Levy
Property Taxes	\$0.00	\$648,323.12
Taxes Committed this year		
Property Taxes	29,831,138.00	0.00
Land Use Change Taxes	74,000.00	0.00
Yield Taxes	468.61	0.00
Overpayments		
Overpayments/Credits Refunded	37,413.51	0.00
Interest Collected on Delinquent Taxes	5,480.56	20,305.13
Total Debits	\$29,948,500.68	\$668,628.25

<i>CREDITS</i>		
Remitted to Treasurer	2020 Levy	2019 Levy
Property Taxes	\$28,404,017.07	\$434,721.69
Land Use Change Taxes	74,000.00	0.00
Yield Taxes	468.61	0.00
Interest	5,480.56	18,854.13
Penalties	0.00	1,451.00
Converted to liens (principal only)	0.00	213,601.43
Abatements Made		
Property Taxes	650.25	0.00
Land Use Change Taxes	0.00	0.00
Uncollected Taxes - End of Year	1,463,884.19	0.00
Total Credits	\$29,948,500.68	\$668,628.25

Summary of Tax Lien Accounts
For the Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 2020

<i>DEBITS</i>			
Balance of Unredeemed Liens	2019	2018	2017
Unredeemed Liens - Beginning of Year	\$0.00	\$102,442.21	\$27,681.71
Liens Executed During Fiscal Year	225,398.33	0.00	0.00
Interest & Costs Collected (After lien execution)	4,369.51	11,858.95	10,184.42
Total Debits	<u>\$229,767.84</u>	<u>\$114,301.16</u>	<u>\$37,866.13</u>

<i>CREDITS</i>			
Remitted to the Treasurer	2019	2018	2017
Redemptions	\$128,425.93	\$57,236.27	\$27,681.71
Interest & Costs Collected (After lien execution)	4,369.51	11,858.95	10,184.42
Unredeemed Liens - End of Year	96,972.40	45,205.94	0.00
Total Credits	<u>\$229,767.84</u>	<u>\$114,301.16</u>	<u>\$37,866.13</u>

TOWN TREASURER'S REPORT 2020

RECEIVED FROM TAX COLLECTOR

2020 Property Tax & Interest	\$28,409,497.63
2019 Property Tax & Interest	453,575.82
Prior Year Tax Redemptions & Interest	215,052.43
Current Use Land Change & Interest	74,000.00
Yield Tax & Interest (Timber Cutting)	468.61

Subtotal	\$29,152,594.49
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RECEIVED FROM TOWN CLERK

Boat Fees	\$4,603.44
Copies	673.50
Dog Licenses & Fines	11,223.00
Mailing Fees	2,641.00
Motor Vehicle Permits	1,917,327.16
Municipal Agent Fees	29,901.00
Titles	3,342.00
UCC Filings & Certificates	2,383.00
Vital Records	1,480.00

Subtotal	\$1,973,574.10
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RECEIVED FROM INTERGOVERNMENTAL SOURCES

NH Shared Revenues	\$45,442.00
NH. Highway Block Grant	176,107.00
NH. Rooms & Meals Tax	382,505.86
OEM Drill Reimbursement	11,171.36
Misc. Revenue	262,983.21

Subtotal	\$878,209.43
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RECEIVED FROM OTHER SOURCES

Building Permits	\$302,920.00
Cable TV Franchise	168,957.08
Fire Department	975.00
Insurance Reimbursements	27,749.10
Interest Income	63,213.00
Other Misc. Revenue/Reimbursements	19,523.59
Planning Board Fees	3,366.00
Police Department Revenue	3,375.00
Recycling Program	523.08
Reimbursement for Plan Review	31,031.56
Rent of Town Property	59,200.00
Sale of Cemetery & Cremation Lots	606.67
Sale Town Property	4,360.92
School Resource Officer	17,500.00
Transfer Station Revenue	71,996.00
Zoning Board of Adjustment Fees	1,260.00

Subtotal	\$776,557.00
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TOWN TREASURER'S REPORT 2020

RECEIVED FROM SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS

Transfer from Trustees of the Trust Funds	\$6,532.60
Subtotal	\$6,532.60

TOTAL RECEIPTS FOR 2020 **\$32,787,467.62**

FISCAL YEAR 2020 TRANSACTIONS

Cash on Hand January 1, 2020	\$14,878,068.51
Total Receipts for 2020	32,787,467.62
Safety Complex Bond Principal & Interest	(297,812.50)
Scamman Conservation Easement Principal & Interest	(292,820.00)
Fire House & Conservation Bond Principal & Interest	(167,457.50)
Paid on Selectmen's Orders	(31,206,661.53)
Trustees of the Trust Funds	(691,633.33)

BALANCE ON HAND DEC. 31, 2020 **\$15,009,151.27**

OTHER ASSETS IN HANDS OF TREASURER

Cash (Town Clerk Drawers/Finance Petty Cash)	\$650.00
Cemetery Land Fund	7,483.01
Drug Forfeiture Fund	33.17
Fire Department E.M.S. Fund	287,709.36
Fire Protection Fund	47,162.69
Foss Property Security Deposit	3,649.11
Gifford House Security Deposit	2,107.63
Heritage Fund	6,721.84
Park Cottage Security Deposit	965.07
Police Detail Account	68,666.86
Recreation Revolving Fund	156,996.48
Road & Other Bonds	213,893.42
Stratham DARE	7,670.45
Stratham Hill Park Revolving Fund	41,861.35
Town of Stratham Public Deposit Investment Pool	21,004.66

TOTAL ALL OTHER ASSETS **\$866,575.10**

SUMMARY OF SAFETY COMPLEX BONDED DEBT

Safety Complex General Obligation Bond:			\$5,000,000.00
<u>Year</u>	<u>Principal Payment</u>	<u>Interest Payment</u>	<u>Outstanding Balance</u>
2004		\$104,270.83	\$5,000,000.00
2005	\$250,000.00	\$175,625.00	\$4,750,000.00
2006	\$250,000.00	\$169,375.00	\$4,500,000.00
2007	\$250,000.00	\$163,125.00	\$4,250,000.00

TOWN TREASURER'S REPORT 2020

Safety Complex General Obligation Bond (continued)

<u>Year</u>	<u>Principal Payment</u>	<u>Interest Payment</u>	<u>Outstanding Balance</u>
2008	\$250,000.00	\$156,875.00	\$4,000,000.00
2009	\$250,000.00	\$150,312.50	\$3,750,000.00
2010	\$250,000.00	\$143,125.00	\$3,500,000.00
2011	\$250,000.00	\$135,312.50	\$3,250,000.00
2012	\$250,000.00	\$126,875.00	\$3,000,000.00
2013	\$250,000.00	\$117,812.50	\$2,750,000.00
2014	\$250,000.00	\$108,437.50	\$2,500,000.00
2015	\$250,000.00	\$99,062.50	\$2,250,000.00
2016	\$250,000.00	\$89,375.00	\$2,000,000.00
2017	\$250,000.00	\$79,375.00	\$1,750,000.00
2018	\$250,000.00	\$69,062.50	\$1,500,000.00
2019	\$250,000.00	\$58,437.50	\$1,250,000.00
2020	\$250,000.00	\$47,812.50	\$1,000,000.00
2021	\$250,000.00	\$37,187.50	\$750,000.00
2022	\$250,000.00	\$26,562.50	\$500,000.00
2023	\$250,000.00	\$15,937.50	\$250,000.00
2024	\$250,000.00	\$5,312.50	\$0.00

SUMMARY OF FIRE HOUSE/CONSERVATION BONDED DEBT

Fire House/Conservation General Obligation Bond:			\$2,000,000.00
<u>Year</u>	<u>Principal Payment</u>	<u>Interest Payment</u>	<u>Outstanding Balance</u>
2019		\$68,566.67	\$2,000,000.00
2019	\$180,000.00	\$51,000.00	\$1,820,000.00
2020	\$200,000.00	\$92,820.00	\$1,620,000.00
2021	\$200,000.00	\$82,620.00	\$1,420,000.00
2022	\$200,000.00	\$72,420.00	\$1,220,000.00
2023	\$200,000.00	\$62,220.00	\$1,020,000.00
2024	\$200,000.00	\$52,020.00	\$820,000.00
2025	\$205,000.00	\$41,820.00	\$615,000.00
2026	\$205,000.00	\$31,365.00	\$410,000.00
2027	\$205,000.00	\$20,910.00	\$205,000.00
2028	\$205,000.00	\$10,455.00	\$0.00

SUMMARY OF CONSERVATION BOND DEBT

Conservation General Obligation Bond:			\$2,375,000.00
<u>Year</u>	<u>Principal Payment</u>	<u>Interest Payment</u>	<u>Outstanding Balance</u>
2012			\$2,375,000.00
2013		\$45,980.03	\$2,375,000.00
2014	\$120,000.00	\$69,177.50	\$2,255,000.00
2015	\$120,000.00	\$66,657.50	\$2,135,000.00
2016	\$120,000.00	\$63,537.50	\$2,015,000.00

TOWN TREASURER'S REPORT 2020

Conservation General Obligation Bond (continued)			
<u>2008</u>	<u>Principal Payment</u>	<u>Interest Payment</u>	<u>Outstanding Balance</u>
2017	\$120,000.00	\$59,817.50	\$1,895,000.00
2018	\$120,000.00	\$56,697.50	\$1,775,000.00
2019	\$120,000.00	\$52,377.50	\$1,655,000.00
2020	\$120,000.00	\$47,457.50	\$1,535,000.00
2021	\$120,000.00	\$42,537.50	\$1,415,000.00
2022	\$120,000.00	\$36,417.50	\$1,295,000.00
2023	\$120,000.00	\$30,897.50	\$1,175,000.00
2024	\$120,000.00	\$27,177.50	\$1,055,000.00
2025	\$120,000.00	\$24,657.50	\$935,000.00
2026	\$120,000.00	\$22,062.50	\$815,000.00
2027	\$120,000.00	\$19,392.50	\$695,000.00
2028	\$120,000.00	\$16,647.50	\$575,000.00
2029	\$115,000.00	\$13,886.25	\$460,000.00
2030	\$115,000.00	\$11,040.00	\$345,000.00
2031	\$115,000.00	\$8,050.00	\$230,000.00
2032	\$115,000.00	\$5,060.00	\$115,000.00
2033	\$115,000.00	\$1,782.50	\$0.00

SUMMARY OF CUSHMAN PROPERTY BOND DEBT

Bartlett/Cushman Property General Obligation Bond:			\$500,000.00
<u>Year</u>	<u>Principal Payment</u>	<u>Interest Payment</u>	<u>Outstanding Balance</u>
2013		\$4,045.23	\$500,000.00
2014	\$100,000.00	\$7,419.12	\$400,000.00
2015	\$100,000.00	\$5,773.48	\$300,000.00
2016	\$100,000.00	\$4,127.85	\$200,000.00
2017	\$100,000.00	\$2,482.22	\$100,000.00
2018	\$100,000.00	\$836.59	\$0.00

Respectfully submitted,

Tracy Abbott
Town Treasurer

**2020 Summary Inventory of Valuation
Town of Stratham**

This is to certify that the information in this report was taken from official records and is correct to the best of our knowledge and belief.

Valuation of Land	Acres	Valuation
Current Use RSA 79-A	2,437.29	\$418,356
Conservation	47.53	1,498
Discretionary Preservation Easements	0.99	2,900
Residential Land	5,358.29	416,580,300
Commercial/Industrial Land	552.61	84,934,100
Total of Taxable Land	8,396.71	\$501,937,154
Tax Exempt and Non-Taxable Land	881.06	\$11,749,100
Buildings Value Only		Valuation
Residential		\$913,584,792
Manufactured Housing		3,947,700
Commercial/Industrial		144,904,700
Discretionary Preservation Easements		122,108
Total of Taxable Buildings		\$1,062,559,300
Tax Exempt and Non-Taxable Buildings		\$53,383,500
Public Utilities		Valuation
Gas		\$10,156,300
Electric		20,345,500
Other (water)		931,700
Total Utilities		\$31,433,500
Valuation before Exemption		\$1,595,929,954
Exemptions		Valuation
Blind Exemption (count = 4)		\$60,000
Elderly Exemption (count = 41)		5,944,600
Total Dollar Amount of Exemptions		\$6,004,600
Net Valuation on which the Tax Rate is computed		\$1,589,925,354

**2020 Summary Inventory of Valuation
Town of Stratham**

Modified Assessed Value of All Properties	\$1,589,925,354
Less Utilities	<u>(31,433,500)</u>
Net Valuation without Utilities (used for State Education tax computation)	\$1,558,491,854

Tax Credits	Number	Amount
Totally and permanently disabled veterans, their spouses or widows, and the widows of veterans who died or were killed on active duty (\$2,000.00):	13	\$26,000
Other war service credits (\$500.00):	40	<u>23,700</u>
		\$49,700

STATEMENT OF APPROPRIATIONS & REVENUES

Taxes Assessed for the Tax Year 2020

This is to certify that the information contained in this statement was taken from official records and is correct to the best of our knowledge and belief.

Michael Houghton, Joseph A. Lovejoy, Allison Knab, Select Board

General Government

4130-4139	Executive	\$202,682
4140-4149	Election, Registration, and Vital Statistics	16,850
4150-4151	Financial Administration	561,570
4153	Legal Expense	30,000
4155-4159	Personnel Administration	1,261,746
4191-4193	Planning and Zoning	258,204
4194	General Government Buildings	167,601
4195	Cemeteries	37,916
4196	Insurance	105,108
4199	Other General Government	11,000

Public Safety

4210-4214	Police	1,167,477
4215-4219	Ambulance	20,000
4220-4229	Fire	408,944
4290-4298	Emergency Management	9,638
4299	Other (Including Communications)	1,000

Highways and Streets

4312	Highways and Streets	679,242
4316	Street Lighting	10,000

Sanitation

4321	Administration	99,464
4323	Solid Waste Disposal	731,929
4339	Public Works Other	1

Health

4411	Administration	600
4414	Pest Control	67,680
4415-4419	Health Agencies & Hospitals	40,920

Welfare

4441-4442	Administration and Direct Assistance	16,500
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Culture and Recreation

4520-4529	Parks and Recreation	294,794
4550-4559	Library	508,593
4583	Patriotic Purposes	1,700
4611-4612	Conservation Commission	4,000
4619	Heritage Commission	5,700
4651-4659	Economic Development	0
4660	Energy Commission	1,200

Debt Service		
4711	Long Term Bonds and Notes - Principal	570,000
4721	Long Term Bonds and Notes - Interest	188,090
Capital Outlay		
4908	Machinery, Vehicles, and Equipment	85,000
4903	Buildings	0
4909	Improvements Other than Buildings	309,000
Operating Transfers Out		
4915	To Capital Reserve Fund	364,000
4916	To Expendable Trusts/Fiduciary Funds	93,000
Total Voted Appropriations		<u><u>\$8,331,149</u></u>

REVISED ESTIMATED REVENUES

Taxes		
3185	Yield Tax	\$1,000
3190	Interest and Penalties on Delinquent Taxes	40,000
Licenses, Permits, and Fees		
3210	Business Licenses and Permits	35,343
3220	Motor Vehicle Permit Fees	1,706,281
3290	Other Licenses, Permits, and Fees	292,060
State Sources		
3351	Shared Revenues	45,442
3352	Meals and Rooms Tax Distribution	382,506
3353	Highway Block Grant	176,107
3359	Other (Including Railroad Tax)	11,175
Charges for Services		
3401-3406	Income from Departments	284,702
Miscellaneous Revenues		
3501	Sale of Municipal Property	5,314
3502	Interest on Investments	62,500
3503-3509	Other	61,200
Interfund Operating Transfers In		
3912	From Special Revenue Funds	50,000
3916	From Trust and Fiduciary Funds	2,500
Subtotal Revenues		<u>3,156,130</u>
Other Financing Sources		
	Fund Balance to Reduce Taxes	545,000
Total Estimated Revenues and Credits		<u><u>\$3,701,130</u></u>
	Total Appropriations	\$8,331,149
	Less: Total Revenue and Credits	(3,701,130)
	War Service Credits	242,900
	Overlay	41,462
	Net Local Tax Effort	<u><u>\$4,914,381</u></u>

**Department of Revenue Administration
Municipal Services Division
2020 Tax Rate**

Jurisdiction	Amount	Tax Rate	
Municipal			
Total Appropriation	\$8,331,149		
Net Revenues (Not Including Fund Balance)	(3,156,130)		
Fund Balance Voted Surplus	(150,000)		
Fund Balance to Reduce Taxes	(395,000)		
War Service Credits	242,900		
Special Adjustment	0		
Actual Overlay Used	41,462		
Net Required Local Tax Effort	\$4,914,381	\$3.09	
County			
Net County Apportionment	1,316,895		
Net Required County Tax Effort	\$1,316,895	\$0.83	
Local & State Education			
Net Local School Appropriations	\$11,979,544		
Net Cooperative School Appropriations	14,024,627		
Net Education Grant	(2,163,257)		
Locally Retained State Education Tax	(2,816,626)		
Net Required Local Education Tax Effort	\$21,024,288	\$13.22	
State Education Tax	\$2,816,626		
State Education Tax Not Retained	0		
Net Required State Education Tax Effort	\$2,816,626	\$1.81	
Total Combined Tax Rate	\$30,072,190	\$18.95	
Tax Commitment Calculation			
Total Municipal Tax Effort	\$30,072,190		
War Service Credits	(242,900)		
Village District Tax Effort	0		
Total Property Tax Commitment	\$29,829,290		
Proof of Rate			
State Education Tax (no utilities)	1,558,491,854	1.81	2,816,626
All other Taxes	1,589,925,354	17.14	27,255,564
		18.95	30,072,190

2020 Employee Wages

Employee	Gross Wages	Insurance Buyout	Base Wages
Abbott, Tracy Lynn	5,000.00	0.00	5,000.00
Allard, Eric	1,552.00	0.00	1,552.00
Almon, Dustin	208.00	0.00	208.00
Austin, Tavis J.	76,611.19	0.00	76,611.19
Bakie, Deborah L.	44,946.94	3,214.87	41,732.07
Bartel, Matthew	28,001.72	0.00	28,001.72
Bibeau, Amanda M.	73,827.15	0.00	73,827.15
Blood, Greg M	602.79	0.00	602.79
Blood, Tyler G	2,485.29	0.00	2,485.29
Bronson, Deborah L	3,933.33	0.00	3,933.33
Butcher, Thomas	801.38	0.00	801.38
Call, James C.	105,576.75	0.00	105,576.75
Callahan, Matthew	71,863.44	9,274.36	62,589.08
Carbonneau, Chris	5,655.50	0.00	5,655.50
Chamberlain, David W	1,242.86	0.00	1,242.86
Charbonneau, Joyce	70,075.45	0.00	70,075.45
Choiniere, Alan	4,674.86	0.00	4,674.86
Corson, Eli	26.00	0.00	26.00
Costello-Dziama, Pamela	3,164.48	0.00	3,164.48
Cote, Gregg	540.00	0.00	540.00
Cote, Lance	1,140.00	0.00	1,140.00
Coughlin, Doreen	16,780.73	0.00	16,780.73
Crafts, Evan	1,080.00	0.00	1,080.00
Crosby, Bryan	6,069.67	0.00	6,069.67
Crosby, Margaret	23,879.97	0.00	23,879.97
Crow, Joshua	2,241.86	0.00	2,241.86
Dardani, John	33,201.11	0.00	33,201.11
Denton, Jeffrey M.	7,514.17	0.00	7,514.17
DiBartolomeo, Jeffrey	1,901.00	0.00	1,901.00
Dodge, John	20,899.43	0.00	20,899.43
Doucette, Michael E	90,478.99	8,911.27	81,567.72
Drago, Katelyn	13,649.04	0.00	13,649.04
Duhamel, Dawna	96,003.10	0.00	96,003.10

Employee	Gross Wages	Insurance Buyout	Base
Emerson, John	106,051.68	3,548.87	102,502.81
Fingerlow, Judith A.	10,864.96	0.00	10,864.96
Forest, Cantrece A	33,326.02	0.00	33,326.02
Gardner, Stephanie	13,518.75	0.00	13,518.75
Gauthier, Kenneth	11,183.94	0.00	11,183.94
Grahame, Michael	414.29	0.00	414.29
Grella, Stacey	43,051.85	4,669.36	38,382.49
Guay, Stewart	44,607.88	0.00	44,607.88
Hall, Derrick	1,258.86	0.00	1,258.86
Hart, William	37,002.36	0.00	37,002.36
Hawkes, Alex	648.00	0.00	648.00
Heal, Christopher	3,148.54	0.00	3,148.54
Hickey, Seth	72,507.60	0.00	72,507.60
Hochschwender, Ben	7,003.50	0.00	7,003.50
Hochschwender, Samuel H	9,578.50	0.00	9,578.50
Holbrook, Brian B	82,538.10	0.00	82,538.10
Houghton, Michael	4,000.00	0.00	4,000.00
Hutton, Fred A	1,326.29	0.00	1,326.29
Izzo, Robert	141.50	0.00	141.50
Jackson, Robert	5,564.84	0.00	5,564.84
Jamieson, Harold A.	485.79	0.00	485.79
Janvrin, Steven J.	89,493.17	0.00	89,493.17
Joseph, James	44,822.72	0.00	44,822.72
Kimball, Lesley	95,095.31	0.00	95,095.31
King, Anthony J.	104,039.10	497.48	103,541.62
Knab, Allison M	4,000.00	0.00	4,000.00
LaFrance, Gregory	3,619.68	0.00	3,619.68
Larabee, Matthew	3,428.86	0.00	3,428.86
Law, Charles	112,428.57	0.00	112,428.57
Lemire, Denise	43,379.16	0.00	43,379.16
Lennon, Jacob M.	24,998.38	0.00	24,998.38
Lewy, Andrea S.	103,235.78	0.00	103,235.78
Lovejoy, Joseph A.	4,000.00	0.00	4,000.00

Employee	Gross Wages	Insurance Buyout	Base Wages
Lucius, Samantha	50,004.76	0.00	50,004.76
Ludington, Veronique	5,785.50	0.00	5,785.50
MacCallum, Marcia	7,030.30	0.00	7,030.30
McCabe, Matthew	500.00	0.00	500.00
McGrail, Melanie	23,427.89	0.00	23,427.89
McGrimley, Sean M	2,610.00	0.00	2,610.00
McLaughlin, MaryEllen	17,282.91	0.00	17,282.91
Mears, Nathaniel	83,135.49	2,290.73	80,844.76
Mills, Don	2,610.00	0.00	2,610.00
Moore, David	99,034.65	0.00	99,034.65
O'Neil, Kevin	2,281.40	0.00	2,281.40
Perkins, Charles D	61,888.00	6,868.16	55,019.84
Petroski, William J.	485.79	0.00	485.79
Pierce, David	117,051.58	0.00	117,051.58
Plantamuro, Laurie F	23,283.60	0.00	23,283.60
Poisson, Collette	26,799.84	0.00	26,799.84
Pond, Jason	43,558.87	0.00	43,558.87
Pvirre, Keith	128.00	0.00	128.00
Richard, Karen A	53,967.52	9,175.21	44,792.31
Richard, Leah	9,731.36	0.00	9,731.36
Rivais, James	11,583.87	0.00	11,583.87
Rivers, Cindy	21,745.78	0.00	21,745.78
Ryan, Karen	21,580.65	0.00	21,580.65
Ryden, Patricia	51,056.23	0.00	51,056.23
Sawyer, June	7,708.86	0.00	7,708.86
Slager, Timothy	59,074.85	0.00	59,074.85
Sullivan, Kieran J	8,705.92	0.00	8,705.92
Tamborino, John	414.29	0.00	414.29
Thibeault, Joshua	1,328.00	0.00	1,328.00
Thompson, Dianna	175.00	0.00	175.00
Thompson, Roger	175.00	0.00	175.00
Tracy, Shannon Irene	19.50	0.00	19.50
Vanderslice, Drew	4,177.13	0.00	4,177.13
VonLetkemann, Lucia	53,040.00	0.00	53,040.00

Employee	Gross Wages	Insurance Buyout	Base
Walker, Patricia L.	9,037.04	0.00	9,037.04
Wason, Courtney	54,162.95	9,162.92	45,000.03
Williams, Alan	68,075.19	0.00	68,075.19
Wolph, Shanti	70,115.54	0.00	70,115.54
Wynn, Corey	71,493.80	0.00	71,493.80

**FINANCIAL REPORT
GENERAL FUND**

Revenues and expenditures for the period January 1, 2020 to December 31, 2020

GENERAL FUND EXPENDITURES

	Voted Appropriation	Unaudited Actual Expenditures
General Government		
Executive	\$202,682	\$223,058
Election, Reg. & Vital Statistics	\$16,850	\$21,883
Financial Administration	\$561,570	\$548,912
Legal Expense	\$30,000	\$42,814
Personnel Administration	\$1,261,746	\$1,172,619
Planning & Zoning	\$258,204	\$269,957
General Government Buildings	\$167,601	\$144,843
Cemeteries	\$37,916	\$32,315
Insurance	\$105,108	\$105,108
Other General Government Expense	\$11,000	\$10,584
General Government Subtotal	\$2,652,677	\$2,572,093
Public Safety		
Police	\$1,167,477	\$1,151,456
Fire	\$408,944	\$409,153
Emergency Management	\$9,638	\$508
Other Communications	\$1,000	\$870
Public Safety Subtotal	\$1,587,059	\$1,561,987
Highways and Streets		
Highway & Streets	\$679,242	\$499,104
Street Lighting	\$10,000	\$8,640
Highways and Streets Subtotal	\$689,242	\$507,744
Sanitation		
Administration	\$99,464	\$116,369
Solid Waste Disposal	\$731,929	\$925,770
Sanitation Subtotal	\$831,393	\$1,042,139
Water Distribution and Treatment		
Administration	\$1	\$0
Water Distribution and Treatment subtotal	\$1	\$0
Health		
Administration	\$600	\$0
Pest Control	\$67,680	\$64,180
Health Agencies, Hospice & Other	\$40,920	\$38,420
Health Subtotal	\$109,200	\$102,600

Welfare		
Administration & Direct Assistance	\$16,500	\$5,021
Welfare Subtotal	\$16,500	\$5,021
Culture & Recreation		
Parks & Recreation	\$294,794	\$190,888
Library	\$508,593	\$489,215
Patriotic Purposes	\$1,700	\$0
Culture & Recreation Subtotal	\$805,087	\$680,103
Conservation and Development		
Admin. & Purchase of Natural Resources	\$4,000	\$3,984
Other Conservation	\$5,700	\$914
Economic Development	\$1,200	\$0
Conservation and Development Subtotal	\$10,900	\$4,898
Debt Service		
Principal & Interest	\$758,090	\$758,090
Interest on Tax Anticipation Notes	\$0	\$0
Debt Service Subtotal	\$758,090	\$758,090
Capital Outlay		
Ambulance	\$20,000	\$0
Improvements Other than Buildings	\$309,000	\$5,000
Machinery, Vehicles, & Equipment	\$85,000	\$38,808
Capital Outlay Subtotal	\$414,000	\$43,808
Operating Transfers Out		
To Capital Reserve Fund	\$457,000	\$457,000
Operating Transfers Out Subtotal	\$457,000	\$457,000
Total General Fund Expenditures	\$8,331,149	\$7,735,483

GENERAL FUND REVENUES

	Estimated Revenues	Unaudited Actual Revenues
Taxes		
Land Use Change Taxes-General Fund	\$0	\$0
Yield Taxes	\$1,000	\$123
Excavation Tax	\$0	\$0
Interest & Penalties on Delinquent Taxes	\$40,000	\$41,911
Taxes Subtotal	\$41,000	\$42,034

	Estimated Revenues	Unaudited Actual Revenues
Licenses, Permits and Fees		
Business Licenses & Permits	\$35,343	\$42,460
Motor Vehicle Permit Fees	\$1,706,281	\$1,908,275
Other Licenses, Permits, and Fees	\$292,060	\$315,173
Licenses, Permits and Fees Subtotal	\$2,033,684	\$2,265,908
Revenue from State of New Hampshire		
Shared Revenue	\$45,442	\$45,442
Meals and Rooms Tax Distribution	\$382,506	\$382,506
Highway Block Grant	\$176,107	\$176,107
Other	\$11,175	\$274,154
State of NH Revenue Subtotal	\$615,230	\$878,210
Charges for Services		
Income from Departments	\$115,745	\$130,047
Other Charges	\$168,957	\$168,957
Charges for Services Subtotal	\$284,702	\$299,004
Miscellaneous Revenues		
Sale of Municipal Property	\$5,314	\$9,590
Interest on Investments	\$62,500	\$63,213
Other	\$61,200	\$101,830
Miscellaneous Revenues Subtotal	\$129,014	\$174,633
Interfund Operating Transfers In		
From Trust & Fiduciary Funds	\$2,500	\$0
From Special Revenue Funds	\$50,000	\$0
From Capital Reserves	\$0	\$6,533
Interfund Operating Transfers In Subtotal	\$52,500	\$6,533
TOTAL GENERAL FUND REVENUES	\$3,156,130	\$3,666,321

STRATHAM TRUST FUNDS FYE 12/31/20

DATE OF CREATION	NAME OF FUND	BAL/BEG	NEW FUNDS	CAP/GAIN	WITHDRAWN	BAL/END	BAL/BEG	INCOME	EXPENDED	BAL/END	GRAND TOTAL Principal/Income
TRUST FUNDS											
	CEMETERY FUNDS	493,655	3,550	32,035	800	528,440	83,348	10,728	-	94,076	622,516
2020	Christine Eaton	-	250	-	-	250	-	-	-	-	250
2020	Thelma Lyon - Repurchase	-	50	-	-	50	-	-	-	-	50
2020	Paul Bamford	-	650	-	-	650	-	-	-	-	650
2020	Dean Merchant	-	650	-	-	650	-	-	-	-	650
2020	Pamela Merchant	-	650	-	-	650	-	-	-	-	650
2020	David Brownell	-	650	-	-	650	-	-	-	-	650
2020	Jerilyn Brownell	-	650	-	-	650	-	-	-	-	650
2020	Rose Grant - Withdrawal	800	-	-	800	-	-	-	-	-	-
1913-2018	TOTAL CEMETERY FUNDS	493,655	3,550	32,035	800	528,440	83,348	10,728	-	94,076	622,516
1987	BARKER 4-H SCHOLARSHIP	5,105	-	326	-	5,431	2,078	111	-	2,189	7,619
1924-1967	LIBRARY FUNDS	120,910	-	7,735	-	128,645	2,377	2,626	2,306	2,697	131,341
2018	MARY & WALTER SMYK PARK TRUST	322,306	-	20,618	-	342,924	6,966	7,000	-	13,966	356,890
1989	SCAMMAN/PARK TRUST	1,047	-	66	-	1,114	384	23	-	407	1,520
1989	SCAMMAN SCHOLARSHIP	3,935	-	251	-	4,186	2,141	85	-	2,226	6,412
1932-1977	STRATHAM HILL PARK	43,298	-	2,770	-	46,068	30,772	940	-	31,712	77,780
1966	STRATHAM HILL PK ASSOCIATION*	90,306	-	5,794	-	96,101	45,026	1,962	-	46,987	143,088
1997	WIN. GRANGE EDUC FUND	5,514	-	1,208	-	6,722	1,402	271	-	1,673	8,395
	TOTAL TRUST FUNDS	1,086,077	3,550	70,802	800	1,159,629	174,493	23,746	2,306	195,934	1,355,562
CAPITAL RESERVES & OTHER FUNDS											
2017	350TH ANNIVERSARY TRUST	3,513	-	31	-	3,543	116	57	-	173	3,716
2003	DEBBIE GREENBURG TRUST	4,019	-	35	-	4,054	211	66	-	277	4,331
2010	EMPLOYEE TERMINATION TRUST	82,491	-	714	-	83,206	3,785	1,346	-	5,131	88,337
2014	HERITAGE PRESERVATION TRUST	99,597	25,000	1,188	-	125,784	-	1,651	-	1,651	127,435
2015	HIGHWAY VEHICLE CAPITAL RESERVE	114,246	215,000	3,407	64,235	268,418	-	1,615	-	1,615	270,034
1988	LAND CONSERVATION FUND	355,274	168,240	4,749	-	528,264	-	7,961	-	7,961	536,224
2001	RADIO COMMUNICATIONS EQUIP	36,868	15,000	427	6,533	45,762	-	625	-	625	46,387
2009	SMS MAINTENANCE TRUST	153,160	100,000	851	137,233	116,778	4,370	1,889	-	6,258	123,036
2009	SMS SPECIAL EDUC TRUST	400,838	50,000	4,119	-	454,957	22,719	7,371	-	30,089	485,046
2012	FAIR CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS	20,183	-	167	-	20,349	-	315	-	315	20,664
2012	STRATHAM FAIR OPERATING	61,248	-	507	-	61,755	-	955	-	955	62,711
2012	FAIR RAINY DAY FUND	15,048	-	125	-	15,173	-	235	-	235	15,407
1998	SVFD CAPITAL RESERVE	247,311	134,000	4,040	-	385,351	5,534	4,466	-	10,000	395,351
2012	SVFD FAIR TRUST	101,153	-	880	-	102,034	5,145	1,658	-	6,803	108,837
2012	SVFD J HUTTON FUND	9,790	-	86	-	9,876	522	161	-	682	10,558
2012	SVFD R WIGGIN FUND	11,028	-	96	-	11,125	587	181	-	768	11,893
2012	SVFD C SCAMMAN FUND	5,959	-	51	-	6,010	318	98	-	416	6,426
2012	TOWN BUILDINGS & GROUNDS	174,470	50,000	2,226	-	226,696	6,640	3,020	-	9,660	236,356
	TOTAL CAPITAL RESERVES	1,896,196	757,240	23,699	208,001	2,469,135	49,946	33,670	-	83,615	2,552,750
TOTAL ALL FUNDS:											
		2,982,273	760,790	94,501	208,801	3,628,764	224,439	57,416	2,306	279,549	3,908,312

Trustees of the Trust Funds: Beverly Connolly, Mikki Deschaine, & Diane Morgera (Chair)

TOWN OF STRATHAM, NEW HAMPSHIRE
Financial Statements
December 31, 2019
and
Independent Auditor's Report

**TOWN OF STRATHAM, NEW HAMPSHIRE
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
December 31, 2019**

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**TOWN OF STRATHAM, NEW HAMPSHIRE
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
December 31, 2019**

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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Select Board
Town of Stratham, New Hampshire

Report on the Financial Statements

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Town of Stratham, New Hampshire (the "Town") as of and for the year ended December 31, 2019, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Town's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America; this includes the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express opinions on these financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinions.

Basis for Adverse Opinion on Governmental Activities

As discussed in Note 2 to the financial statements, management has not recorded a liability, deferred outflows of resources, or deferred inflows of resources for the Town's single employer other postemployment benefits plan in governmental activities and, accordingly, has not recorded an expense for the current period change in that liability. Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that other postemployment benefits attributable to employee services already rendered and that are not contingent on a specific event that is outside the control of the employer and employee be accrued as liabilities and expenses as employees earn the rights to the benefits, which would increase the liabilities and deferred outflows and deferred inflows of resources, reduce the net position, and change the expenses of the governmental activities. The amount by which this departure would affect the liabilities, deferred outflows and deferred inflows of resources, net position, and expenses of the governmental activities is not reasonably determinable.

Adverse Opinion

In our opinion, because of the significance of the matter described in the "Basis for Adverse Opinion on Governmental Activities" paragraph, the financial statements referred to above do not present fairly, the financial position of the governmental activities of the Town of Stratham, New Hampshire, as of December 31, 2019, or the changes in financial position thereof for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Unmodified Opinions

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of each major fund and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Town of Stratham, New Hampshire, as of December 31, 2019, and the respective changes in financial position thereof for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Other Matters

Required Supplementary Information

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that the management's discussion and analysis, budgetary comparison information, schedule of changes in the Town's proportionate share of the net OPEB liability, schedule of Town OPEB contributions, schedule of changes in the Town's proportionate share of the net pension liability, and schedule of Town pension contributions on pages i-vii and 34-40 be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such information, although not a part of the basic financial statements, is required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board who considers it to be an essential part of financial reporting for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic, or historical context. We have applied certain limited procedures to the required supplementary information in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, which consisted of inquiries of management about the methods of preparing the information and comparing the information for consistency with management's responses to our inquiries, the basic financial statements, and other knowledge we obtained during our audit of the basic financial statements. We do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the information because the limited procedures do not provide us with sufficient evidence to express an opinion or provide any assurance.

Supplementary Information

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming opinions on the financial statements that collectively comprise the Town of Stratham, New Hampshire's basic financial statements. The combining nonmajor governmental fund financial statements are presented for purposes of additional analysis and are not a required part of the basic financial statements.

The combining nonmajor governmental fund financial statements are the responsibility of management and were derived from and relate directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements. Such information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements or to the basic financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. In our opinion, the combining nonmajor governmental fund financial statements are fairly stated, in all material respects, in relation to the basic financial statements taken as a whole.

Vashon Clubay & Company PC

Manchester, New Hampshire
January 8, 2021

**TOWN OF STRATHAM, NEW HAMPSHIRE
MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2019**

Presented here is the Management Discussion & Analysis Report for the Town of Stratham, NH, for the year ending December 31, 2019. Responsibility for both the accuracy of the data, and the completeness and fairness of this presentation (including all disclosures) rests with the Select Board. To the best of our knowledge and belief, the data contained herein is accurate in all material respects. We report this data in a manner designed to present fairly the Town's financial position and the results of operations of the various Town funds. All disclosures necessary to enable the reader to gain an accurate understanding of the Town's financial activities have been included.

The Select Board are responsible for establishing an accounting and internal control structure designed to ensure that the physical, data, informational, intellectual, and human resource assets of the Town are protected from loss, theft, and misuse, and to ensure that adequate accounting information is maintained and reported in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP). The Select Board also strives to put these assets to good and effective use. We designed the Town's internal control structure to provide reasonable assurances that we attain these objectives.

Overview of the Financial Statements

The financial statements presented herein include all of the activities of the Town of Stratham using the integrated approach prescribed by Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement 34.

It is our intention that this discussion and analysis serve as an introduction to the Town's financial statements. The financial statements are comprised of the following three components:

1. Government-Wide Financial Statements
2. Fund Financial Statements
3. Notes to the Basic Financial Statements

Government-wide Financial Statements

The government-wide financial statements provide readers with a broad overview of the Town's finances, in a manner similar to most private-sector companies.

The Statement of Net Position presents information on all of the Town's assets, deferred outflows of resources, liabilities and deferred inflows of resources, with the remaining difference reported as net position. Over time, increases and decreases in net position may serve as a useful indicator of whether the financial position of the Town is improving or deteriorating.

The Statement of Activities presents information showing how the Town's net position changed during the most recent year. We take all of the current year's revenues and expenses into account regardless of when we receive cash in or pay cash out.

Fund Financial Statements

A fund is a grouping of related accounts used to maintain control over resources that have been segregated for specific activities or objectives. The Town uses fund accounting to ensure and demonstrate compliance with finance-related legal requirements. One can divide all the funds of the Town into two categories: governmental funds and fiduciary funds.

**TOWN OF STRATHAM, NEW HAMPSHIRE
MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2019**

We use governmental funds to account for essentially the same functions reported as governmental activities in the government-wide financial statements. However, unlike the government-wide financial statements, governmental fund financial statements focus on near-term inflows and outflows of spendable resources, as well as on balances of spendable resources available at the end of the year. Such information may be useful in evaluating the Town's near-term financing requirements.

Because the focus of governmental funds is narrower than that of the government-wide financial statements, it is useful to compare the information presented for governmental funds with similar information presented for governmental activities in the government-wide financial statements. By doing so, readers may better understand the long-term impact of the government's near-term financing decisions. Both the governmental fund Balance Sheet and the Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances provide a reconciliation to facilitate this comparison between the governmental activities Statement of Net Position and Statement of Activities.

The Town maintains numerous individual governmental funds. We present information separately in the governmental fund Balance Sheet and the Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances for the Town's major funds, which consist of the General Fund and Permanent Funds. We combine data from all other governmental funds into a single, aggregate presentation.

The Town adopts an annual appropriation budget for its governmental funds. We provide a budgetary comparison for the General Fund to demonstrate compliance with this budget. The Town's only major governmental fund with an adopted budget for the year ending December 31, 2019 was the General Fund.

Fiduciary funds are used to account for resources held for the benefit of parties other than the Town. Fiduciary funds are not reflected in the government-wide financial statements because the resources of those funds are not available to support the programs of the Town of Stratham. The Town's fiduciary funds consist of both private-purpose trust funds and custodial funds.

Notes to the Basic Financial Statements

The notes provide additional information that is essential to a full understanding of the data provided in the government-wide and fund financial statements.

Required Supplementary Information

The basic financial statements and accompanying notes are followed by a section of required supplementary information. This section includes a budgetary comparison schedule for the General Fund, the Town's only major governmental fund with an adopted budget, and includes reconciliation between the statutory fund balance for budgetary purposes and the fund balance as presented in the governmental fund financial statements. Also, as required, this section also includes a schedule of changes in the Town's proportionate share of the net pension liability, a schedule of Town pension contributions, a schedule of changes in the Town's proportionate share of the net OPEB liability and a schedule of Town OPEB contributions.

Other Supplementary Information

Other supplementary information includes combining financial statements for the nonmajor governmental funds.

**TOWN OF STRATHAM, NEW HAMPSHIRE
MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2019**

Government-Wide Financial Analysis

Statement of Net Position

Net Position of the Town of Stratham as of December 31, 2019 and 2018, is as follows:

	<u>2019</u>	<u>2018</u>
Capital assets, net	\$ 29,999,704	\$ 30,078,547
Other assets	<u>7,976,798</u>	<u>6,310,782</u>
Total Assets	<u>37,976,502</u>	<u>36,389,329</u>
 Total Deferred Outflows of Resources	 <u>525,756</u>	 <u>797,647</u>
 Long-term liabilities	 9,958,122	 10,006,388
Other liabilities	<u>559,046</u>	<u>524,747</u>
Total Liabilities	<u>10,517,168</u>	<u>10,531,135</u>
 Total Deferred Inflows of Resources	 <u>129,713</u>	 <u>135,957</u>
 Net Position:		
Net investment in capital assets	24,859,030	24,548,096
Restricted	1,595,327	1,475,541
Unrestricted	<u>1,401,020</u>	<u>496,247</u>
Total Net Position	<u>\$ 27,855,377</u>	<u>\$ 26,519,884</u>

Statement of Activities

Changes in net position for the years ending December 31, 2019 and 2018, are as follows:

	<u>2019</u>	<u>2018</u>
Revenues		
Program Revenues:		
Charges for services	\$ 935,101	\$ 1,132,110
Operating grants and contributions	264,541	193,605
Capital grants and contributions	-	386,157
General Revenues:		
Property and other taxes	5,095,357	5,042,924
Licenses and permits	2,297,357	2,037,814
Grants and contributions	426,842	379,434
Interest and investment earnings	396,412	130,994
Miscellaneous	<u>646,092</u>	<u>166,476</u>
Total Revenues	<u>10,061,702</u>	<u>9,469,514</u>

**TOWN OF STRATHAM, NEW HAMPSHIRE
MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2019**

Expenses		
General government	2,829,257	2,761,288
Public safety	1,926,780	1,867,422
Highways and streets	1,475,017	921,824
Sanitation	859,303	850,385
Water distribution and treatment	-	87,126
Health and welfare	113,165	114,547
Culture and recreation	1,343,780	1,403,567
Economic Development	60,000	
Conservation	9,634	14,274
Interest and fiscal charges	117,173	232,972
Total Expenses	<u>8,734,109</u>	<u>8,253,405</u>
Increase in Net Position before Contributions to Permanent Fund Principal	1,327,593	1,216,109
Contributions to Permanent Fund Principal	<u>7,900</u>	<u>306,200</u>
Change in Net Position	1,335,493	1,522,309
Net Position - beginning of year	26,519,884	24,833,989
Restatement of compensated absences payable		163,586
Net Position - end of year	<u>\$ 27,855,377</u>	<u>\$ 26,519,884</u>

Town of Stratham Activities

As shown in the above statement, there was an increase in the Town's total net position of \$1,335,493. This increase is primarily attributable to approximately \$305,000 in miscellaneous revenues derived from the sale of Town property, in addition to overall revenues in excess of expenses resulting from funds raised in support of multi-year non-lapsing appropriations.

The General Fund ended the year with an unassigned budgetary basis fund balance of \$2,288,126 or 26% of total current year General Fund actual appropriations (not including School District and County payments). Looking at the components of the fund balance based solely on the budget (Schedule 1 – Budgetary Basis), total fund balance increased \$297,745 from the prior year.

The fund balance of the Permanent Funds increased by a total of \$118,086 from the prior year, primarily as a result of investment income in excess of current year expenditures.

The fund balances of the Nonmajor Governmental Funds increased by a total of \$227,839 from the prior year, primarily as a result of land use change taxes collected in the Land Conservation Fund.

Basis for Adverse Opinion on Government Activities: Management Response

The Town of Stratham is required by NH law (NH RSA 100-A:50) to offer the same group health insurance coverage to its retired employees as it does its active employees as part of the same group insurance plan. The Town is not required to pay any amount towards the premiums under this requirement, nor has it ever voluntarily offered to do so. Despite this fact, GASB Statement 75 requires recognition of an

**TOWN OF STRATHAM, NEW HAMPSHIRE
MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2019**

imputed premium rate subsidy of the retiree health insurance premiums since they are being offered health insurance coverage at rates below which they could obtain on their own. As a consequence, it has been found that the health insurance premiums paid by the Town for its active employees are slightly higher than if the active employees were the only members of the group health insurance plan. In order to measure this rate subsidy in any given year, actuarial studies would have to be conducted to determine the "liability for other post-employment benefits" based on current and future retiree participation.

Management has made the decision that the material measurement of this liability as referenced in Note 2 to the basic financial statements, is not worth the costs associated with conducting such studies given the small number of both active and retired employees associated with the Town. In addition, the Town has mitigated the risk of this theoretical unfunded liability by the funding of an 'Accrued Benefits Liability Expendable Trust Fund' earmarked for such post-employment benefits expenses.

General Fund Budgetary Highlights

The Town under-expended its final 2019 appropriations budget by \$263,696 due to conservative spending within the departments. Savings realized in general government, public safety, and culture and recreation were mainly due to wages. Computer services and government buildings also saw expenses below plan, caused by less than anticipated maintenance costs. Actual revenues exceeded the budget by \$743,066, primarily due to increased licenses and permits and unanticipated miscellaneous income from the sale of Town property.

Carryforward appropriations are classified as committed fund balance in the Town's governmental funds and the Schedule of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balance (see page 30 and 39 respectively), and represent unspent appropriations from warrant articles which are automatically re-appropriated for the Town's use in the subsequent fiscal year. Carryforward appropriations on December 31, 2019, consist of the following:

<u>Purpose</u>	<u>Balance</u>
Curbside Collection Automation	\$ 365,000
Water and Sewer Improvements	165,000
Road Reconstruction Program	119,248
PWC Environmental Match & Improvements	60,000
Revaluation	58,940
Stratham Hill Park Roadways	52,500
Town Center Match and Improvements	50,000
Master Plan Update	41,810
Stratham Hill Park Parking Lot Paving	40,500
Skate Park Study and Design	24,580
Stratham Hill Park Facility Improvements	22,390
Barker's Farm Conservation Easement	21,414
Stormwater Planning	20,000
Library Carpet Replacement	20,000

**TOWN OF STRATHAM, NEW HAMPSHIRE
MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2019**

Maple Lane Cemetery Landscaping	18,000
Public Safety Buildings	15,305
Municipal Center Telephone System	15,012
Assessing Vehicle Replacement	15,000
Playing Field Improvements	14,951
Gifford Barn Painting	14,367
Maple Lane Cemetery Paving	14,004
Stevens Park Parking Lot	9,000
Municipal Center Computer Replacements	7,879
Library Computer Replacements	6,207
Tennis Court Improvements	3,000
Traffic Control Program	1,396
Fire Computer Replacements	334
Total Carry forward Appropriations	<u>\$ 1,195,837</u>

Capital Assets

The Town of Stratham considers a capital asset to be an asset whose cost exceeds \$5,000 and which has a useful life of greater than three years. The Town depreciates its assets using the straight-line method over the course of their useful life beginning in the year of acquisition.

The total investment in capital assets for governmental activities at year end amounted to \$29,999,704 (net of accumulated depreciation), a decrease of (\$78,843) from the previous year. This investment in capital assets includes land, intangible assets, construction in progress, buildings and improvements, land improvements, vehicles and equipment, and infrastructure.

Significant capital assets acquired during the current fiscal year included the purchase of the Bartlett-Cushman and Barker Easements totaling approximately \$415 thousand combined, a large highway vehicle (\$184 thousand), and public safety vehicles and equipment (\$121 thousand).

Additional information on capital assets can be found in Note 4 of the Basic Financial Statements.

Long-Term Obligations

During the current year, the Town's bonds payable liability decreased by \$363,847 as a result of scheduled payments made on existing obligations and amortization of the related bond premium. The Town's other long-term obligations consist of compensated absences payable which had a net increase in liability of \$18,109 for the year ended December 31, 2019.

Under GASB Statement #68 – *Accounting and Financial Reporting for Pensions*, the Town reports a net pension liability, as well as the related deferred outflows and inflows of resources. The Town's portion of the net pension liability as of December 31, 2019 is \$4,315,746.

Under GASB Statement #75 – *Accounting and Financial Reporting for Postemployment Benefits Other Than Pensions*, the Town reports a net OPEB liability, as well as the related deferred outflows and inflows of resources. The Town's portion of the net OPEB liability as of December 31, 2019 is \$410,177.

**TOWN OF STRATHAM, NEW HAMPSHIRE
MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2019**

See Notes 5, 6 and 7 of the Basic Financial Statements, for a summary of all outstanding long-term obligations.

Economic Factors and Future Plans

Long-term Financial Planning

The Town of Stratham maintains a 6-year Capital Improvement Plan. The plan contains current capital needs projections through the year 2024. The Planning Board annually reviews, adjusts and updates this plan. The resulting plan receives final review and approval through the presentation and discussion of proposed projects at public meetings of the Planning Board and is presented to the Select Board and Budget Committee as a budget development tool.

Contacting the Town of Stratham's Select Board or Management

This financial report provides our citizens and creditors with a general overview of the Town of Stratham's finances. It demonstrates accountability for the funds the Town receives. Questions concerning any of the information provided in this report should be addressed to the Finance Administrator or the Select Board, at 10 Bunker Hill Avenue, Stratham, NH 03885 and telephone number (603) 772-7391.

EXHIBIT A
TOWN OF STRATHAM, NEW HAMPSHIRE
Statement of Net Position
December 31, 2019

	Governmental Activities
ASSETS	
Current Assets:	
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 4,794,048
Investments	2,670,495
Taxes receivable	275,240
Accounts receivable, net	180,795
Due from other governments	15,000
Prepaid expenses	15,751
Tax deeded property	25,469
Total Current Assets	<u>7,976,798</u>
Noncurrent Assets:	
Capital assets:	
Non-depreciable capital assets	12,493,990
Depreciable capital assets, net	17,505,714
Total Noncurrent Assets	<u>29,999,704</u>
Total Assets	<u>37,976,502</u>
DEFERRED OUTFLOWS OF RESOURCES	
Deferred outflows of resources related to OPEB	20,755
Deferred outflows of resources related to pension	505,001
Total Deferred Outflows of Resources	<u>525,756</u>
LIABILITIES	
Current Liabilities:	
Accounts payable	291,196
Accrued expenses	267,850
Current portion of bonds payable	570,000
Current portion of capital leases payable	26,965
Total Current Liabilities	<u>1,156,011</u>
Noncurrent Liabilities:	
Bonds payable	4,424,652
Capital leases payable	119,057
Compensated absences payable	91,525
OPEB liability	410,177
Net pension liability	4,315,746
Total Noncurrent Liabilities	<u>9,361,157</u>
Total Liabilities	<u>10,517,168</u>
DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES	
Deferred inflows of resources related to OPEB	1,659
Deferred inflows of resources related to pension	128,054
Total Deferred Inflows of Resources	<u>129,713</u>
NET POSITION	
Net investment in capital assets	24,859,030
Restricted	1,595,327
Unrestricted	1,401,020
Total Net Position	<u>\$ 27,855,377</u>

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements

EXHIBIT B
TOWN OF STRATHAM, NEW HAMPSHIRE
Statement of Activities
For the Year Ended December 31, 2019

Functions/Programs	<u>Expenses</u>	<u>Program Revenues</u>		<u>Net (Expense) Revenue and Changes in Net Position</u>
		<u>Charges for Services</u>	<u>Operating Grants and Contributions</u>	
Governmental Activities:				
General government	\$ 2,829,257	\$ 32,297		\$ (2,796,960)
Public safety	1,926,780	371,264	\$ 8,802	(1,546,714)
Highways and streets	1,475,017		195,739	(1,279,278)
Sanitation	859,303	64,024		(795,279)
Health and welfare	113,165			(113,165)
Culture and recreation	1,343,780	467,516		(876,264)
Economic development	60,000		60,000	-
Conservation	9,634			(9,634)
Interest and fiscal charges	117,173			(117,173)
Total governmental activities	<u>\$ 8,734,109</u>	<u>\$ 935,101</u>	<u>\$ 264,541</u>	<u>(7,534,467)</u>
General revenues:				
Property and other taxes				5,095,357
Licenses and permits				2,297,357
Grants and contributions:				
Rooms and meals tax distribution				380,025
Municipal aid				46,817
Interest and investment earnings				396,412
Miscellaneous				646,092
Contributions to permanent fund principal				<u>7,900</u>
Total general revenues and contributions to permanent fund principal				<u>8,869,960</u>
Change in net position				<u>1,335,493</u>
Net Position at beginning of year, as restated				<u>26,519,884</u>
Net Position at end of year				<u>\$ 27,855,377</u>

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements

EXHIBIT C
TOWN OF STRATHAM, NEW HAMPSHIRE
Balance Sheet
Governmental Funds
December 31, 2019

	General <u>Fund</u>	Permanent <u>Funds</u>	Nonmajor Governmental <u>Funds</u>	Total Governmental <u>Funds</u>
ASSETS				
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 4,217,374		\$ 576,674	\$ 4,794,048
Investments	795,576	\$ 1,233,352	641,567	2,670,495
Taxes receivable	275,240			275,240
Accounts receivable, net	44,185		63,632	107,817
Due from other governments	15,000			15,000
Due from other funds	124,674	6,850	215,322	346,846
Prepaid expenses	15,751			15,751
Tax deduced property	25,469			25,469
Total Assets	<u>5,513,269</u>	<u>1,240,202</u>	<u>1,497,195</u>	<u>8,250,666</u>
DEFERRED OUTFLOWS OF RESOURCES				
Total Deferred Outflows of Resources	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Total Assets and Deferred Outflows of Resources	<u>\$ 5,513,269</u>	<u>\$ 1,240,202</u>	<u>\$ 1,497,195</u>	<u>\$ 8,250,666</u>
LIABILITIES				
Accounts payable	\$ 231,836		\$ 9,135	\$ 240,971
Accrued expenses	183,118		4,336	187,454
Due to other funds	269,324		54,769	324,093
Total Liabilities	<u>684,278</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>68,240</u>	<u>752,518</u>
DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES				
Uncollected property taxes	204,174			204,174
Total Deferred Inflows of Resources	<u>204,174</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>204,174</u>
FUND BALANCES				
Nonspendable	41,220	1,071,323		1,112,543
Restricted	115,185	168,879	239,940	524,004
Committed	1,906,173		1,189,015	3,095,188
Unassigned	2,288,126			2,288,126
Total Fund Balances	<u>4,624,817</u>	<u>1,240,202</u>	<u>1,428,955</u>	<u>7,293,974</u>
Total Liabilities, Deferred Inflows of Resources and Fund Balances	<u>\$ 5,513,269</u>	<u>\$ 1,240,202</u>	<u>\$ 1,497,195</u>	<u>\$ 8,250,666</u>

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements

EXHIBIT C-1**TOWN OF STRATHAM, NEW HAMPSHIRE****Reconciliation of the Balance Sheet of Governmental Funds
to the Statement of Net Position**

December 31, 2019

Total Fund Balances - Governmental Funds (Exhibit C)	\$ 7,293,974
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Amounts reported for governmental activities in the statement of
net position are different because:

Capital assets used in governmental activities are not financial resources and, therefore, are not reported in the funds.	29,999,704
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Property and other taxes are recognized on an accrual basis in the statement of net position, not the modified accrual basis.	204,174
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Deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources
that do not require or provide the use of current financial resources
are not reported within the funds.

Deferred outflows of resources related to OPEB liability	20,755
Deferred outflows of resources related to net pension liability	505,001
Deferred inflows of resources related to OPEB liability	(1,659)
Deferred inflows of resources related to net pension liability	(128,054)

Long-term liabilities are not due and payable in the current
period and, therefore, are not reported in the funds. Long-term
liabilities at year end consist of:

Bonds payable	(4,994,652)
Capital leases payable	(146,022)
Accrued interest on long-term obligations	(80,396)
Compensated absences payable	(91,525)
OPEB liability	(410,177)
Net pension liability	<u>(4,315,746)</u>

Net Position of Governmental Activities (Exhibit A)	<u>\$ 27,855,377</u>
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See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements

EXHIBIT D
TOWN OF STRATHAM, NEW HAMPSHIRE
Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances
Governmental Funds
For the Year Ended December 31, 2019

	General Fund	Permanent Funds	Nonmajor Governmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds
Revenues:				
Taxes	\$ 4,915,087		\$ 150,240	\$ 5,065,327
Licenses and permits	2,297,357			2,297,357
Intergovernmental	691,383			691,383
Charges for services	157,799		777,302	935,101
Interest and investment income	180,037	\$ 193,052	23,323	396,412
Miscellaneous	618,363	7,900	27,729	653,992
Total Revenues	<u>8,860,026</u>	<u>200,952</u>	<u>978,594</u>	<u>10,039,572</u>
Expenditures:				
Current operations:				
General government	2,369,223	25,275		2,394,498
Public safety	1,451,824		294,371	1,746,195
Highways and streets	1,115,985			1,115,985
Sanitation	810,095			810,095
Health and welfare	113,165			113,165
Culture and recreation	797,992	2,501	456,104	1,256,597
Economic development	60,000			60,000
Conservation	32,269		35,280	67,549
Capital outlay	731,426			731,426
Debt service:				
Principal retirement	550,000			550,000
Interest and fiscal charges	230,382			230,382
Total Expenditures	<u>8,262,361</u>	<u>27,776</u>	<u>785,755</u>	<u>9,075,892</u>
Excess revenues over (under) expenditures	<u>597,665</u>	<u>173,176</u>	<u>192,839</u>	<u>963,680</u>
Other financing sources (uses):				
Transfers in	55,090		66,044	121,134
Transfers out	(35,000)	(55,090)	(31,044)	(121,134)
Total Other financing sources (uses)	<u>20,090</u>	<u>(55,090)</u>	<u>35,000</u>	<u>-</u>
Net change in fund balances	617,755	118,086	227,839	963,680
Fund Balances at beginning of year, as restated	<u>4,007,062</u>	<u>1,122,116</u>	<u>1,201,116</u>	<u>6,330,294</u>
Fund Balances at end of year	<u>\$ 4,624,817</u>	<u>\$ 1,240,202</u>	<u>\$ 1,428,955</u>	<u>\$ 7,293,974</u>

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements

EXHIBIT D-1
TOWN OF STRATHAM, NEW HAMPSHIRE
Reconciliation of the Statement of Revenues, Expenditures
and Changes in Fund Balances of Governmental Funds
to the Statement of Activities

For the Year Ended December 31, 2019

Net Change in Fund Balances - Governmental Funds (Exhibit D)	\$ 963,680
Amounts reported for governmental activities in the statement of activities are different because:	
Governmental funds report capital outlays as expenditures. However, in the statement of activities, the cost of those assets is allocated over their estimated useful lives as depreciation expense. This is the amount by which depreciation expense exceeded capital outlays in the current period.	(78,843)
Revenues in the statement of activities that do not provide current financial resources are not reported as revenues in the funds.	30,030
Prepayment of interest is an asset in the governmental funds, but the prepayment of interest is expensed in the statement of activities.	63,847
Repayment of principal on bonds payable is an expenditure in the governmental funds, but the repayment reduces long-term liabilities in the statement of net position.	550,000
In the statement of activities, interest is accrued on outstanding long-term debt, whereas in governmental funds, an interest expenditure is reported when due.	49,362
Repayment of principal on capital leases is an expenditure in the governmental funds, but the repayment reduces long-term liabilities in the statement of net position.	25,930
Some expenses reported in the statement of activities, such as compensated absences, do not require the use of current financial resources and, therefore, are not reported as expenditures in the governmental funds.	(18,109)
Governmental funds report OPEB and pension contributions as expenditures. However, in the statement of activities, OPEB and pension expense reflects the change in the OPEB liability and net pension liability and related deferred outflows and inflows of resources, and does not require the use of current financial resources. This is the amount by which OPEB and pension expense differed from OPEB and pension contributions in the current period.	
Net changes in OPEB	(15,174)
Net changes in pension	<u>(235,230)</u>
Change in Net Position of Governmental Activities (Exhibit B)	<u>\$ 1,335,493</u>

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements

EXHIBIT E
TOWN OF STRATHAM, NEW HAMPSHIRE
Statement of Fiduciary Net Position
Fiduciary Funds
December 31, 2019

	Private- Purpose Trust Funds	Custodial Funds
ASSETS		
Cash and cash equivalents		\$ 11,139,636
Investments	\$ 20,169	585,316
Taxes receivable		503,207
Due from other funds		50,225
Total Assets	<u>20,169</u>	<u>12,278,384</u>
DEFERRED OUTFLOWS OF RESOURCES		
Total Deferred Outflows of Resources	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
LIABILITIES		
Accounts payable		905
Due to other governments		11,423,480
Due to other funds		72,978
Total Liabilities	<u>-</u>	<u>11,497,363</u>
DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES		
Total Deferred Inflows of Resources	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
NET POSITION		
Held in trust	20,169	781,021
Total Net Position	<u>\$ 20,169</u>	<u>\$ 781,021</u>

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements

EXHIBIT F
TOWN OF STRATHAM, NEW HAMPSHIRE
Statement of Changes in Fiduciary Net Position
Fiduciary Funds
For the Year Ended December 31, 2019

	Private- Purpose Trust Funds	Custodial Funds
ADDITIONS:		
Contributions:		
Miscellaneous		\$ 150,000
Total Contributions	\$ -	150,000
Investment Earnings:		
Interest income	995	11,303
Total Investment Earnings	995	11,303
Property tax collections for other governments		23,711,763
Permits and fees collections for other governments		515,576
Total Additions	995	24,388,642
DEDUCTIONS:		
Beneficiary payments to others		81,655
Payments of property tax to other governments		23,711,763
Payments of permits and fees to other governments		515,576
Total Deductions	-	24,308,994
Change in net position	995	79,648
Total Net Position at the beginning of year, as restated	19,174	701,373
Total Net Position at the end of year	\$ 20,169	\$ 781,021

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements

TOWN OF STRATHAM, NEW HAMPSHIRE
NOTES TO BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
For the Year Ended December 31, 2019

NOTE 1—SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The accounting policies of the Town of Stratham, New Hampshire conform to accounting policies generally accepted in the United States of America for local governmental units, except as indicated hereinafter. The following is a summary of significant accounting policies.

Financial Reporting Entity

The Town of Stratham, New Hampshire (the “Town”) was incorporated in 1716. The Town operates under the Town Meeting/Select Board form of government and performs local governmental functions as authorized by State law.

The financial statements include those of the various departments governed by the Select Board and other officials with financial responsibility. The Town has no other separate organizational units, which meet criteria for inclusion in the financial statements as defined by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB).

Basis of Presentation

The Town’s basic financial statements consist of government-wide statements, including a statement of net position and a statement of activities, and fund financial statements which provide a more detailed level of financial information.

1. Government-Wide Financial Statements:

The statement of net position and statement of activities display information about the Town as a whole. These statements include the financial activities of the primary government, except for fiduciary funds.

The statement of net position presents the financial condition of the governmental activities of the Town at year end. The statement of activities presents a comparison between direct expenses and program revenues for each program or function of the Town’s governmental activities. Direct expenses are those that are specifically associated with a service, program, or department, and therefore clearly identifiable to a particular function. Program revenues include charges paid by the recipient of the goods or services offered by the program, grants and contributions that are restricted to meeting the operational or capital requirements of a particular program, and interest earned on grants that is required to be used to support a particular program. Revenues which are not classified as program revenues are presented as general revenues of the Town. The comparison of direct expenses with program revenues identifies the extent to which each governmental function is self-financing or draws from the general revenues of the Town.

2. Fund Financial Statements:

During the year, the Town segregates transactions related to certain Town functions or activities in separate funds in order to aid financial management and to demonstrate legal compliance. Fund financial statements are designed to present financial information of the Town at this more detailed level. The focus of governmental fund financial statements is on major funds. Each major fund is presented in a separate column. Nonmajor funds are aggregated and presented in a single column. The fiduciary funds are reported by type.

TOWN OF STRATHAM, NEW HAMPSHIRE
NOTES TO BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
For the Year Ended December 31, 2019

Fund Accounting

The Town uses funds to maintain its financial records during the year. A fund is defined as a fiscal and accounting entity with a self-balancing set of accounts. The Town employs the use of two categories of funds: governmental and fiduciary.

1. Governmental Funds:

Governmental funds are those through which most governmental functions typically are financed. Governmental fund reporting focuses on the sources, uses, and balances, of current financial resources. Expendable assets are assigned to the various governmental funds according to the purposes for which they may or must be used. Current liabilities are assigned to the fund from which they will be paid. The difference between governmental fund assets and deferred outflows of resources, and liabilities and deferred inflows of resources, is reported as fund balance. The following are the Town's major governmental funds:

The *General Fund* is the main operating fund of the Town and is used to account for all financial resources except those required to be accounted for in another fund.

The *Permanent Funds* are used to report resources that are legally restricted to the extent that only earnings, not principal, may be used for purposes that support the Town's programs

2. Fiduciary Funds:

Fiduciary fund reporting focuses on net position and changes in net position. The fiduciary fund category is split into two classifications: private-purpose trust funds and custodial funds. Trust funds are used to account for assets held by the Town under a trust agreement for individuals, private organizations, or other governments and are therefore not available to support the Town's own programs. The Town maintains several private-purpose trust funds which account for monies designated to benefit individuals within the Town. Custodial funds are held and administered by the Town for the benefit of others; therefore, custodial funds' assets are not available to support the Town. The Town's custodial funds consist of property taxes collected on behalf of the Stratham School District, Exeter Region Cooperative School District, and Rockingham County, motor vehicle fees collected on behalf of the State of New Hampshire, and the capital reserve funds of the Stratham School District, which are held by the Town as required by State law. Other custodial funds consist of developer's performance deposits.

Measurement Focus

1. Government-Wide Financial Statements:

The government-wide financial statements are prepared using the economic resources measurement focus. All assets, deferred outflows of resources, liabilities and deferred inflows of resources associated with the operation of the Town are included on the Statement of Net Position.

2. Fund Financial Statements:

All governmental funds are accounted for using a flow of current financial resources measurement focus. With this measurement focus, only current assets, deferred outflows of resources, current liabilities and

TOWN OF STRATHAM, NEW HAMPSHIRE
NOTES TO BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
For the Year Ended December 31, 2019

deferred inflows of resources are included on the balance sheet. The statement of revenues, expenditures and changes in fund balances reports on the sources (i.e., revenues and other financing sources) and uses (i.e., expenditures and other financing uses) of current financial resources. This approach differs from the manner in which the governmental activities of the government-wide financial statements are prepared. Governmental fund financial statements therefore include reconciliations with brief explanations to better identify the relationship between the government-wide statements and the statements for governmental funds.

The fiduciary funds are reported using the economic resources measurement focus.

Basis of Accounting

Basis of accounting determines when transactions are recorded in the financial records and reported on the financial statements. Government-wide financial statements are prepared using the accrual basis of accounting. Fiduciary funds also use the accrual basis of accounting. Governmental funds use the modified accrual basis of accounting. Differences in the accrual and the modified accrual basis of accounting arise in the recognition of revenue and in the presentation of expenses versus expenditures.

1. Revenues – Exchange and Non-exchange Transactions:

Revenue resulting from exchange transactions, in which each party gives and receives essentially equal value, is recorded on the accrual basis when the exchange takes place. On a modified accrual basis, revenue is recorded in the year in which the resources are measurable and become available. Available means that the resources will be collected within the current year, or are expected to be collected soon enough thereafter to be used to pay liabilities of the current year. For the Town, available means expected to be received within sixty days of year end.

Non-exchange transactions, in which the Town receives value without directly giving equal value in return, include property taxes, grants, entitlements and donations. On an accrual basis, revenue from property taxes is recognized in the year for which the taxes are levied (see Note 11). Revenue from grants, entitlements, and donations, are recognized in the year in which all eligibility requirements have been satisfied. Eligibility requirements include timing requirements, which specify the year when the resources are required to be used or the year when use is first permitted; matching requirements, in which the Town must provide local resources to be used for a specified purpose; and expenditure requirements, in which the resources are provided to the Town on a reimbursement basis. On a modified accrual basis, revenue from non-exchange transactions must also be available before it can be recognized.

Under the modified accrual basis, the following revenue sources are considered to be both measurable and available at year end: property taxes, charges for services, and interest on investments.

Licenses and permits and miscellaneous revenues are recorded as revenues when received in cash because they are generally not measurable until actually received.

Grants and entitlements received before the eligibility requirements are met are recorded as advances from grantors. On governmental fund financial statements, taxes receivable that will not be collected within the available period have been reported as deferred inflows of resources.

TOWN OF STRATHAM, NEW HAMPSHIRE
NOTES TO BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
For the Year Ended December 31, 2019

2. Expenses/Expenditures:

On the accrual basis of accounting, expenses are recognized at the time they are incurred. The measurement focus of governmental fund accounting is on decreases in net financial resources (expenditures) rather than expenses. Expenditures are generally recognized in the accounting period in which the related fund liability is incurred, if measurable. Allocations of cost, such as depreciation and amortization, are not recognized in governmental funds.

Budgetary Data

The Town's budget represents functional appropriations as authorized by annual or special Town meetings. The Select Board may transfer funds between operating categories as they deem necessary. The Town adopts its budget under State regulations, which differ somewhat from accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America in that the focus is on the entire governmental unit rather than on the basis of fund types.

State law requires balanced budgets but permits the use of beginning fund balance to reduce the property tax rate. For the year ended December 31, 2019, the Town applied \$744,452 of its unappropriated fund balance to reduce taxes.

Investments

Investments are stated at their fair value in all funds. Certificates of deposit with a maturity of greater than ninety days from the date of issuance are included in investments.

Accounts Receivable

Charges for services billed during the current fiscal year and prior and uncollected at December 31, 2019 are recorded as receivables net of reserves for estimated uncollectibles of \$50,000 in the EMS Ambulance Fund, a Nonmajor Governmental Fund.

Capital Assets

General capital assets result from expenditures in the governmental funds. These assets are reported in the government-wide statement of net position, but are not reported in the fund financial statements.

All capital assets including infrastructure and intangible assets are capitalized at cost (or estimated historical cost) and updated for additions and retirements during the year. Donated capital assets are recorded at their acquisition value as of the date received. The Town maintains a capitalization threshold of \$5,000 and an estimated useful life in excess of three years. The Town's infrastructure consists of roads and similar items. The Town is not required to retroactively report its general infrastructure. Infrastructure records have been maintained effective January 1, 2003 and are included in these financial statements. Intangible assets of the Town consist of land easements and internally developed software. Improvements are capitalized; the costs of normal maintenance and repairs that do not add to the value of the asset or materially extend an asset's life are not.

All reported capital assets except for land and easements, construction in progress, and internally developed software are depreciated. Improvements are depreciated over the remaining useful lives of the

TOWN OF STRATHAM, NEW HAMPSHIRE
NOTES TO BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
For the Year Ended December 31, 2019

related capital assets. Useful lives for infrastructure were estimated based on the Town's historical records of necessary improvements and replacement. Depreciation is computed using the straight-line method over the following useful lives:

<u>Description</u>	<u>Years</u>
Buildings and improvements	15-39
Infrastructure	20-50
Land improvements	10-25
Vehicles and equipment	5-30

Bond Premiums

Bond premiums are amortized as a component of interest expense over the life of the related bond using the effective interest rate method. Bonds payable are reported in the accompanying financial statements gross of any applicable unamortized bond premiums.

Compensated Absences

Dependent upon length of service, regular employees earn vacation leave at the equivalent of ten to twenty-five days per year. Temporary and seasonal employees are not eligible for paid vacation leave. No more than ten days may be carried forward from one calendar year to the next. For unused vacation time in excess of the maximum of ten days to be carried over, 50% will be forfeited and 50% will be paid out to the employee in the first month of the subsequent year. Upon termination of employment, employees will be paid for any unused earned vacation leave at current rates of pay, up to a maximum of ten days.

All regular employees earn sick leave. Sick leave accrues at the equivalent of six hours per month for full-time employees, and at a pro-rata basis for part-time employees. Under the terms of the most recent Personnel Policy addendum, employees may accumulate unused sick leave days up to a maximum of 224 hours. Employees with balances in excess of 224 hours as of May 1, 2012, are allowed to carryover up to 360 hours of unused sick leave, however, these employee's accrual of sick leave will be suspended until their balance decreases to below 224 hours. Only upon death or eligible retirement under the terms of the New Hampshire Retirement System, will employees receive payment for any accumulated, unused sick leave at their current rates of pay.

For governmental fund financial statements, compensated absences are reported as liabilities and expenditures, as payments come due each period upon the occurrence of employee termination, death or retirement. The entire compensated absence liability is reported on the government-wide financial statements. The Town has established an 'Accrued Benefits Expendable Trust' to assist in funding future payments and mitigate the total compensated absences liability.

Accrued Liabilities and Long-Term Obligations

Except for the obligation for certain other post-employment benefits (see Note 2), all payables, accrued liabilities, and long-term obligations are reported in the government-wide financial statements. In general, governmental fund payables and accrued liabilities that, once incurred, are paid in a timely manner and in full from current resources are reported as obligations of the funds. However, compensated absences that will be paid from governmental funds are reported as liabilities in the fund financial statements only to the extent that they are due for payment during the current fiscal year. General obligation bonds, capital

TOWN OF STRATHAM, NEW HAMPSHIRE
NOTES TO BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
For the Year Ended December 31, 2019

leases, and other long-term obligations that will be paid from governmental funds are recognized as a liability in the fund financial statements when due.

Postemployment Benefits Other Than Pensions (OPEB)

For purposes of measuring the net OPEB liability, deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to OPEB, and OPEB expense, information about the fiduciary net position of the New Hampshire Retirement System (NHRS) OPEB Plan and additions to/deductions from NHRS's fiduciary net position have been determined on the same basis as they are reported by NHRS. For this purpose, NHRS recognizes benefit payments when due and payable in accordance with the benefit terms. Investments are reported at fair value, except for non-registered commingled funds valued at net asset value (NAV) as a practical expedient to estimate fair value.

Pensions

For purposes of measuring the net pension liability, deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions, and pension expense, information about the fiduciary net position of the New Hampshire Retirement System (NHRS) and additions to/deductions from NHRS's fiduciary net position have been determined on the same basis as they are reported by NHRS. For this purpose, benefit payments (including refunds of employee contributions) are recognized when due and payable in accordance with the benefit terms.

Net Position

Net position represents the difference between assets and deferred outflows of resources, and liabilities and deferred inflows of resources. Net investment in capital assets consists of capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation, reduced by the outstanding balances on any borrowings used for the acquisition, construction, or improvement, of those assets. Net position is reported as restricted when there are limitations imposed on its use either through the enabling legislation adopted by the Town or through external restrictions imposed by creditors, grantors, or laws or regulations of other governments. Unrestricted net position is the net amount of the assets, deferred outflows of resources, liabilities, and deferred inflows of resources, that is not included in the determination of net investment in capital assets or the restricted components of net position.

The Town's policy is to first apply restricted resources when an expense is incurred for purposes for which both restricted and unrestricted net position is available.

Fund Balance Policy

As of December 31, 2019, the Town has not adopted a formal fund balance policy under GASB Statement 54, *Fund Balance Reporting and Governmental Fund Type Definitions*. The Town has segregated fund balance into five classifications: Nonspendable, Restricted, Committed, Assigned, and Unassigned. The components of fund balance are defined as follows:

- **Nonspendable Fund Balance:** Amounts that are not in a spendable form or are required to be maintained intact.

TOWN OF STRATHAM, NEW HAMPSHIRE
NOTES TO BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
For the Year Ended December 31, 2019

- *Restricted Fund Balance*: Amounts constrained to specific purposes stipulated by external resource providers or through enabling legislation. Restrictions may be changed or lifted only with the consent of the resource providers or by the enabling legislation.
- *Committed Fund Balance*: Amounts constrained to specific purposes by a government itself using its highest level of decision-making authority. To be reported as committed, amounts cannot be used for any other purpose unless the government takes the same highest-level action to remove or change the constraint.
- *Assigned Fund Balance*: Amounts a government intends to use for a specific purpose; intent can be expressed by the governing body or by an official or body to which the governing body delegates the authority.
- *Unassigned Fund Balance*: Amounts that are available for any purpose; these amounts are reported only in the General Fund, except for any deficit fund balance of another governmental fund.

Spending Prioritizations

In circumstances where expenditures are incurred for purposes for which both restricted and unrestricted fund balance is available, restricted fund balance is considered to have been spent first. When expenditures are incurred for purposes for which amounts in any of the unrestricted fund balance classifications can be used, committed amounts should be reduced first, followed by assigned amounts then unassigned amounts.

Interfund Activity

Exchange transactions between funds are reported as revenues in the seller funds and as expenditures/expenses in the purchaser funds. Flows of cash or goods from one fund to another without a requirement for repayment are reported as interfund transfers. Interfund transfers are reported as other financing sources/uses in governmental funds. Repayments from funds responsible for particular expenditures/expenses to the funds that initially paid for them are not presented in the financial statements.

Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require management to make estimates and assumptions that affect certain reported amounts and disclosures. Accordingly, actual results may differ from those estimates.

NOTE 2—STEWARDSHIP, COMPLIANCE AND ACCOUNTABILITY

The Town did not implement the provisions of GASB Statement 75, *Accounting and Financial Reporting for Postemployment Benefits Other Than Pensions* as it pertains to its single employer OPEB plan. Statement 75 requires governments to account for certain other postemployment benefits (OPEB), primarily healthcare, on an accrual basis rather than on a pay-as-you-go basis. The provisions of GASB Statement 75 were required to be implemented by the Town during the year ended December 31, 2018. The Town has only implemented the provisions of GASB Statement 75 as it pertains to its cost-sharing multiple-employer defined benefit OPEB plan (see Note 6).

TOWN OF STRATHAM, NEW HAMPSHIRE
NOTES TO BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
For the Year Ended December 31, 2019

NOTE 3—DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS

Deposits and investments as of December 31, 2019 are classified in the accompanying financial statements as follows:

Statement of Net Position:	
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 4,794,048
Investments	2,670,495
Statement of Fiduciary Net Position:	
Cash and cash equivalents	11,139,636
Investments	605,485
	<u>\$ 19,209,664</u>

Deposits and investments at December 31, 2019 consist of the following:

Cash on hand	\$ 2,431
Deposits with financial institutions	17,685,118
Investments	1,522,115
	<u>\$ 19,209,664</u>

The Town's investment policy for governmental funds requires deposits be made in federally insured banks chartered under the laws of New Hampshire or the federal government with a branch within the State and federally insured banks outside the State, if such banks pledge and deliver collateral security to a third party custodial bank or the Federal Reserve Bank. The Town limits its investments for governmental funds to the New Hampshire Public Deposit Investment Pool (NHPDIP), an external investment pool in accordance with New Hampshire State law and federally insured banks chartered under the laws of New Hampshire, or the federal government with a branch within the State to the following investment types: money market accounts, certificates of deposit, repurchase agreements, all other types of interest bearing accounts, or obligations fully guaranteed as to principal and interest by the United States government.

Responsibility for the investments of the Trust Funds is with the Board of Trustees. Investments of the library funds are at the discretion of the Library Trustees.

Interest Rate Risk

Interest rate risk is the risk that changes in market interest rates will adversely affect the fair value of an investment. Generally, the longer the maturity of an investment, the greater the sensitivity of its fair value to changes in market interest rates. The Town's investment policy states that no investment will exceed one year in length. The Trustees of Trust Funds have no formal policy with respect to interest rate risk.

TOWN OF STRATHAM, NEW HAMPSHIRE
NOTES TO BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
For the Year Ended December 31, 2019

Information about the sensitivity of the fair values of the Town's investments to market interest rate fluctuations is provided by the following table that shows the distribution of investments by maturity:

Investment Type	Fair Value	Remaining Maturity (In Years)		
		0-1 Years	1-5 Years	> 5 Years
US Treasury notes	\$ 106,879			\$ 106,879
US Government agency obligations	124,885		\$ 100,009	24,876
Corporate bonds	106,708		78,631	28,077
	<u>\$ 338,472</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 178,640</u>	<u>\$ 159,832</u>

Credit Risk

Generally, credit risk is the risk that an issuer of an investment will not fulfill its obligation to the holder of the investment. This is measured by the assignment of a rating by a nationally recognized statistical rating organization. The Town's investment policy states that funds are to be invested using a 'Prudent Person' standard. Investments and management of the portfolio should be done with judgement and care, considering the probable safety of the capital and probable income to be derived. The Town does not have explicit policies regarding investment portfolio rating restrictions. The following are the actual ratings as of December 31, 2019, for each investment type:

Investment Type	Rating as of Year End			Fair Value
	<u>Aaa</u>	<u>A</u>	<u>Not Rated</u>	
State investment pool	\$ 76,317			\$ 76,317
Corporate bonds		\$ 106,708		106,708
Mutual funds			\$ 32,927	32,927
Money market mutual funds			244,576	244,576
	<u>\$ 76,317</u>	<u>\$ 106,708</u>	<u>\$ 277,503</u>	<u>\$ 460,528</u>

Custodial Credit Risk

Custodial credit risk for deposits is the risk that in the event of a bank failure, the Town's deposits may not be returned. The custodial credit risk for investments is the risk that, in the event of the failure of the counterparty to a transaction a government will not be able to recover the value of its investment or collateral securities that are in the possession of another party. For assurance against custodial credit risk, the Town's investment policy requires that all deposits with financial institutions be collateralized with pledged securities that shall be equal or in excess of the amount of the public funds deposited, less any portion thereof covered by federal depository insurance. Collateral may be held in the name of the Town with a third-party custodial bank, with the bank's trust department, or pledged in the form of an Irrevocable Letter of Credit.

Of the Town's deposits with financial institutions at year end, \$16,140,745 was collateralized by securities held by the bank in the Town's name and an Irrevocable Stand-by Letter of Credit issued by the Federal Home Loan Bank of Boston. As of December 31, 2019, Town investments in the following investment types were held by the same counterparty that was used to buy the securities:

TOWN OF STRATHAM, NEW HAMPSHIRE
NOTES TO BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
For the Year Ended December 31, 2019

<u>Investment Type</u>	<u>Amount</u>
US Treasury notes	\$ 106,879
US Government agency obligations	124,885
Corporate bonds	106,708
Exchange traded funds	15,053
Equity securities	814,770
Mutual funds	32,927
	<u>\$ 1,201,222</u>

Investment in NHPDIP

The Town is a voluntary participant in the New Hampshire Public Deposit Investment Pool (NHPDIP), an external investment pool. The NHPDIP is not registered with the United States Securities and Exchange Commission as an investment company. The NHPDIP was created by State law and is administered by a public body of state, local and banking officials. Financial statements for the NHPDIP can be accessed through the NHPDIP's website at www.NHPDIP.com.

Investments in the NHPDIP are not investment securities and, as such, are not categorized by risk. The Town's exposure to derivatives is indirect through its participation in the NHPDIP. The Town's proportional share of these derivatives is not available. The fair value of the position in the investment pool is equal to the value of the pool shares and have been measured at amortized cost.

Fair Value Measurement of Investments

The Town categorizes the fair value measurements of its investments within the fair value hierarchy established by accounting principles generally accepted in the United States. The fair value hierarchy categorizes the inputs to valuation techniques used for fair value measurement into three levels as follows (in order of priority):

- ***Level 1 Inputs*** - Inputs that reflect quoted prices (unadjusted) in active markets for identical assets or liabilities that the Town has the ability to access at the measurement date.
- ***Level 2 Inputs*** - Inputs other than quoted prices that are observable for assets or liabilities either directly or indirectly, including inputs in markets that are not considered to be active.
- ***Level 3 Inputs*** - Significant unobservable inputs.

As of December 31, 2019, the Town's investments measured at fair value, by type, were as follows:

<u>Investment Type</u>	<u>Fair Value Measurements Using:</u>			<u>Total</u>
	<u>Level 1 Inputs</u>	<u>Level 2 Inputs</u>	<u>Level 3 Inputs</u>	
US Treasury notes		\$ 106,879		\$ 106,879
US Government agency obligations		124,885		124,885
Corporate bonds		106,708		106,708
Exchange traded funds	\$ 15,053			15,053
Equity securities	814,770			814,770
Mutual funds	32,927			32,927
	<u>\$ 862,750</u>	<u>\$ 338,472</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 1,201,222</u>

TOWN OF STRATHAM, NEW HAMPSHIRE
NOTES TO BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
For the Year Ended December 31, 2019

Exchange traded funds, equity securities, and mutual funds classified as Level 1 are valued using unadjusted quoted prices in active markets for those securities. US Treasury notes, corporate bonds, and US Government agency obligations classified as Level 2 are valued using either a bid evaluation or a matrix pricing technique. Bid evaluations may include market quotations, yields, maturities, call features, and ratings. Matrix pricing is used to value securities based on the securities relationship to bench-mark quoted prices.

Investments that are measured at fair value using the net asset value per share (or its equivalent) as a practical expedient are not classified in the fair value hierarchy.

NOTE 4—CAPITAL ASSETS

The following is a summary of changes in capital assets of the governmental activities:

	Balance 1/1/2019	Additions	Reductions	Balance 12/31/2019
Governmental activities:				
Capital assets not depreciated:				
Land and easements	\$ 12,024,331	\$ 415,134		\$ 12,439,465
Other intangibles	54,525			54,525
Total capital assets not being depreciated	<u>12,078,856</u>	<u>415,134</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>12,493,990</u>
Other capital assets:				
Buildings and improvements	11,098,115	8,522		11,106,637
Infrastructure	10,783,149			10,783,149
Land improvements	603,091	15,838		618,929
Vehicles and equipment	3,666,770	331,668		3,998,438
Total other capital assets at historical cost	<u>26,151,125</u>	<u>356,028</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>26,507,153</u>
Less accumulated depreciation for:				
Buildings and improvements	(3,347,381)	(307,991)		(3,655,372)
Infrastructure	(2,297,443)	(263,249)		(2,560,692)
Land improvements	(178,854)	(33,799)		(212,653)
Vehicles and equipment	(2,327,756)	(244,966)		(2,572,722)
Total accumulated depreciation	<u>(8,151,434)</u>	<u>(850,005)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(9,001,439)</u>
Total other capital assets, net	<u>17,999,691</u>	<u>(493,977)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>17,505,714</u>
Total capital assets, net	<u>\$ 30,078,547</u>	<u>\$ (78,843)</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 29,999,704</u>

Depreciation expense was charged to governmental functions as follows:

General government	\$ 88,126
Public safety	260,706
Highways and streets	419,306
Sanitation	40,762
Culture and recreation	41,105
Total governmental activities depreciation expense	<u>\$ 850,005</u>

TOWN OF STRATHAM, NEW HAMPSHIRE
NOTES TO BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
For the Year Ended December 31, 2019

The balance of the assets acquired through capital leases as of December 31, 2019 is as follows:

Vehicles and equipment	\$ 200,000
Less: Accumulated depreciation	(56,667)
	<u>\$ 143,333</u>

NOTE 5—LONG-TERM OBLIGATIONS

Changes in Long-Term Obligations

The changes in the Town's long-term obligations of the governmental activities for the year ended December 31, 2019 are as follows:

	Balance 1/1/2019	Additions	Reductions	Balance 12/31/2019	Due Within One Year
Governmental activities:					
Bonds payable	\$ 5,025,000		\$ (300,000)	\$ 4,725,000	\$ 570,000
Unamortized bond premiums	333,499		(63,847)	269,652	-
Total Bonds payable	5,358,499	\$ -	(363,847)	4,994,652	570,000
Capital leases payable	171,952		(25,930)	146,022	26,965
Compensated absences payable	73,416	33,865	(15,756)	91,525	-
Total governmental activities	<u>\$ 5,603,867</u>	<u>\$ 33,865</u>	<u>\$ (405,533)</u>	<u>\$ 5,232,199</u>	<u>\$ 596,965</u>

Payments on the bonds payable and capital lease are paid out of the General Fund. Amortization of bond premiums is recognized as a component of interest expense on the Statement of Activities (Exhibit B). Compensated absences will be paid from the fund where the employee's salary is paid.

General Obligation Bonds

Bonds payable at December 31, 2019 is comprised of the following individual issues:

	Original Issue Amount	Interest Rate	Final Maturity Date	Balance at 12/31/2019
2018 Series B Refunding Bond	\$ 2,000,000	2.74%	August 2028	\$ 1,820,000
2003 Municipal Safety Complex Bond	5,000,000	2.50-4.25%	January 2024	1,250,000
2012 Conservation Bond	2,375,000	2.1-5.1%	February 2033	1,655,000
	<u>\$ 9,375,000</u>			
			Sub-total Bonds payable	4,725,000
			Add: <i>Unamortized bond premiums</i>	269,652
			Total Bonds payable	<u>\$ 4,994,652</u>

TOWN OF STRATHAM, NEW HAMPSHIRE
NOTES TO BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
For the Year Ended December 31, 2019

Debt service requirements to retire general obligation bonds outstanding for governmental activities at December 31, 2019 are as follows:

Year Ending December 31,	Principal	Interest	Totals
2020	\$ 570,000	\$ 188,090	\$ 758,090
2021	570,000	162,345	732,345
2022	570,000	135,400	705,400
2023	570,000	109,055	679,055
2024	570,000	84,510	654,510
2025-2029	1,415,000	201,206	1,616,206
2030-2033	460,000	25,933	485,933
Sub-total Bonds payable	4,725,000	906,539	5,631,539
Add: <i>Unamortized Bond Premiums</i>	269,652	-	269,652
Total Bonds payable	\$ 4,994,652	\$ 906,539	\$ 5,901,191

Capital Lease Obligations

The Town's capital lease obligations represent lease agreements entered into for the financing of equipment acquisitions. Contracts are subject to cancellation should funds not be appropriated to meet payment obligations. Amounts are annually budgeted in the applicable function.

The following is the individual capital lease obligation outstanding at December 31, 2019:

Highway Department vehicle, due in annual installments of \$32,791, including interest at 3.99%, through November 2024	\$ 146,022
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Debt service requirements to retire capital lease obligations outstanding for governmental activities at December 31, 2019 are as follows:

Year Ending December 31,	Principal	Interest	Totals
2020	\$ 26,965	\$ 5,826	\$ 32,791
2021	28,041	4,750	32,791
2022	29,160	3,632	32,792
2023	30,323	2,468	32,791
2024	31,533	1,258	32,791
	\$ 146,022	\$ 17,934	\$ 163,956

NOTE 6—OTHER POSTEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS

Plan Description

The New Hampshire Retirement System (NHRS) administers a cost-sharing multiple-employer other postemployment benefit plan (OPEB Plan). The OPEB Plan provides a medical insurance subsidy to qualified retired members.

TOWN OF STRATHAM, NEW HAMPSHIRE
NOTES TO BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
For the Year Ended December 31, 2019

The NHRS issues a publicly available financial report that includes financial statements and required supplementary information for NHRS. That report may be obtained by writing to New Hampshire Retirement System at 54 Regional Drive, Concord, New Hampshire 03301 or from their website at www.nhrs.org.

The OPEB Plan is divided into four membership types. The four membership types are Group II Police Officer and Firefighters, Group I Teachers, Group I Political Subdivision Employees, and Group I State Employees. The OPEB plan is closed to new entrants.

Benefits Provided

Benefit amounts and eligibility requirements for the OPEB Plan are set by state law (RSA 100-A:52, RSA 100-A:52-a and RSA 100-A:52-b), and members are designated in statute by type. The medical insurance subsidy is a payment made by NHRS to the former employer or its insurance administrator toward the cost of health insurance for a qualified retiree, his/her qualified spouse, and his/her certified dependent children with a disability who are living in the household and being cared for by the retiree. If the health insurance premium amount is less than the medical subsidy amount, then only the health insurance premium amount will be paid. If the health insurance premium amount exceeds the medical subsidy amount, then the retiree or other qualified person is responsible for paying any portion that the employer does not pay.

Group I benefits are based on creditable service, age and retirement date. Group II benefits are based on hire date, age and creditable service. Medical subsidy rates established by RSA 100-A:52 II are dependent upon whether retirees are eligible for Medicare. Retirees not eligible for Medicare may receive a maximum medical subsidy of \$375.56 for a single person plan and \$751.12 for a two-person plan. Retirees eligible for Medicare may receive a maximum medical subsidy of \$236.84 for a single person plan and \$473.68 for a two-person plan.

Funding Policy

Per RSA-100-A:16, contribution rates are established and may be amended by the New Hampshire State legislature and are determined by the NHRS Board of Trustees based on an actuarial valuation. The Town's contribution rates for the covered payroll of general employees and police officers were 0.30% and 4.10%, respectively, through June 30, 2019, and 0.29% and 3.66%, respectively, thereafter. Contributions to the OPEB plan for the Town were \$40,409 for the year ended December 31, 2019. Employees are not required to contribute to the OPEB plan.

OPEB Liabilities, OPEB Expense, and Deferred Outflows of Resources and Deferred Inflows of Resources Related to OPEB

At December 31, 2019, the Town reported a liability of \$410,177 for its proportionate share of the net OPEB liability. The net OPEB liability was measured as of June 30, 2019, and the total OPEB liability used to calculate the net OPEB liability was determined by a roll forward of the actuarial valuation from June 30, 2018. The Town's proportion of the net OPEB liability was based on actual contributions by the Town during the relevant fiscal year relative to the actual contributions of all participating plan members, excluding contributions to separately finance specific liabilities of individual employers or NHRS. At June 30, 2019, the Town's proportion was approximately 0.0936 percent, which was a decrease of 0.001 percentage points from its proportion measured as of June 30, 2018.

TOWN OF STRATHAM, NEW HAMPSHIRE
NOTES TO BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
For the Year Ended December 31, 2019

For the year ended December 31, 2019, the Town recognized OPEB expense of \$55,585. At December 31, 2019, the Town reported deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to OPEB from the following sources:

	Deferred Outflows of Resources	Deferred Inflows of Resources
Differences between expected and actual experience		\$ 714
Net difference between projected and actual earnings on OPEB plan investments		461
Changes in proportion and differences between Town contributions and proportionate share of contributions		484
Town contributions subsequent to the measurement date	\$ 20,755	
Totals	\$ 20,755	\$ 1,659

The net amount of deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to OPEB is reflected as an increase to unrestricted net position in the amount of \$19,096. The Town reported \$20,755 as deferred outflows of resources related to OPEB resulting from Town contributions subsequent to the measurement date. This amount will be recognized as a reduction of the net OPEB liability in the measurement period ended June 30, 2020. Other amounts reported as deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to OPEB will be recognized in OPEB expense for the measurement periods as follows:

<u>June 30,</u>	
2020	\$ (1,503)
2021	(306)
2022	32
2023	118
	<u>\$ (1,659)</u>

Actuarial Assumptions

The total OPEB liability was determined by a roll forward of the actuarial valuation as of June 30, 2018, using the following actuarial assumptions, applied to all periods included in the measurement, unless otherwise specified:

Inflation	2.50%
Wage inflation	3.25% (3.00% for Teachers)
Salary increases	5.60%, average, including inflation
Investment rate of return	7.25% per year, net of OPEB plan investment expense, including inflation for determining solvency contributions

TOWN OF STRATHAM, NEW HAMPSHIRE
NOTES TO BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
For the Year Ended December 31, 2019

Mortality rates were based on the RP-2014 healthy annuitant and employee generational mortality tables for males and females with credibility adjustments, adjusted for fully generational mortality improvements using scale MP-2015, based on the last experience study.

The actuarial assumptions used in the June 30, 2018 valuation were based on the results of the most recent actuarial experience study, which was for the period July 1, 2010 – June 30, 2015.

The long-term expected rate of return on OPEB Plan investments was selected from a best estimate range determined using the building block approach. Under this method, an expected future real return range is calculated separately for each asset class. These ranges are combined to produce the long-term expected rate of return by weighting the expected future real rates of return net of investment expenses by the target asset allocation percentage and by adding expected inflation. Following is a table presenting target allocations and geometric real rates of return for each asset class:

<u>Asset Class</u>	<u>Target Allocation</u>	<u>Weighted Average Long-Term Expected Real Rate of Return</u>
Domestic equity	30%	4.25-4.50%
International equity	20%	4.50-6.00%
Fixed income	25%	1.12-2.46%
Alternative investments	15%	4.86-7.90%
Real estate	10%	3.00%
Total	<u>100%</u>	

The discount rate used to measure the collective total OPEB liability as of June 30, 2019 was 7.25%. The projection of cash flows used to determine this single discount rate assumed that employer contributions will be made under the current statutes RSA 100-A:16 and RSA 100-A:53. Based on those assumptions, the OPEB Plan's fiduciary net position was projected to make all projected future benefit payments of current plan members. Therefore, the long-term expected rate of return on OPEB Plan investments was applied to all periods of projected benefit payments to determine the collective total OPEB liability.

Sensitivity of the Town's Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability to Changes in the Discount Rate

The following presents the Town's proportionate share of the net OPEB liability calculated using the discount rate of 7.25 percent, as well as what the Town's proportionate share of the net OPEB liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is 1-percentage-point lower or 1-percentage-point higher than the single discount rate:

	1% Decrease	Current	1% Increase
	<u>(6.25%)</u>	<u>(7.25%)</u>	<u>(8.25%)</u>
Net OPEB liability	\$ 444,900	\$ 410,177	\$ 380,006

TOWN OF STRATHAM, NEW HAMPSHIRE
NOTES TO BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
For the Year Ended December 31, 2019

NOTE 7—DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLAN

Plan Description

The Town contributes to the New Hampshire Retirement System (NHRS), a public employee retirement system that administers a single cost-sharing multiple-employer defined benefit pension plan. The plan provides service, disability, death and vested retirement allowances to plan members and beneficiaries. Benefit provisions are established and may be amended by the New Hampshire State legislature.

The NHRS issues a publicly available financial report that includes financial statements and required supplementary information for NHRS. That report may be obtained by writing to New Hampshire Retirement System at 54 Regional Drive, Concord, New Hampshire 03301 or from their website at www.nhrs.org.

Substantially all full-time state and local employees, public school teachers, permanent firefighters and permanent police officers within the State are eligible and required to participate in the Pension Plan.

The Pension Plan is divided into two membership groups. State and local employees and teachers belong to Group I. Police and firefighters belong to Group II.

Benefits Provided

Benefit formulas and eligibility requirements for the pension plan are set by State law (RSA 100-A).

Group I benefits are provided based on creditable service and average final salary for the highest of either three or five years, depending on when service commenced.

Group II benefits are provided based on age, years of creditable service and a benefit multiplier depending on vesting status as of January 1, 2012. The maximum retirement allowance for Group II members vested by January 1, 2012 (45 years of age with 20 years of service or age 60 regardless of years of creditable service) is the average final compensation multiplied by 2.5% multiplied by creditable service. For Group II members not vested by January 1, 2012 the benefit is calculated the same way but the multiplier used in the calculation will change depending on age and years of creditable service as follows:

<u>Years of Creditable Service as of January 1, 2012</u>	<u>Minimum Age</u>	<u>Minimum Service</u>	<u>Benefit Multiplier</u>
At least 3 but less than 10 years	46	21	2.4%
At least 6 but less than 8 years	47	22	2.3%
At least 4 but less than 6 years	48	23	2.2%
Less than 4 years	49	24	2.1%

Funding Policy

Covered police officers are required to contribute 11.55% of their covered salary, whereas general employees are required to contribute 7.0% of their covered salary. The Town is required to contribute at an actuarially determined rate. The Town's contribution rates for the covered payroll of police officers and general employees were 25.33% and 11.08%, respectively, through June 30, 2019, and 24.77% and

TOWN OF STRATHAM, NEW HAMPSHIRE
NOTES TO BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
For the Year Ended December 31, 2019

10.88%, respectively, thereafter. The Town contributed 100% of the employer cost for police officers and general employees of the Town.

Per RSA-100-A:16, plan member contribution rates are established and may be amended by the New Hampshire State legislature and employer contribution rates are determined by the NHRS Board of Trustees based on an actuarial valuation. The Town's pension contributions to the NHRS for the year ending December 31, 2019 were \$389,812.

Pension Liabilities, Pension Expense, and Deferred Outflows of Resources and Deferred Inflows of Resources Related to Pensions

At December 31, 2019, the Town reported a liability of \$4,315,746 for its proportionate share of the net pension liability. The net pension liability was measured as of June 30, 2019, and the total pension liability used to calculate the net pension liability was determined by a roll forward of the actuarial valuation from June 30, 2018. The Town's proportion of the net pension liability was based on actual contributions by the Town during the relevant fiscal year relative to the actual contributions of all participating plan members, excluding contributions to separately finance specific liabilities of individual employers or NHRS. At June 30, 2019, the Town's proportion was approximately 0.0897 percent, which was an increase of 0.0002 percentage points from its proportion measured as of June 30, 2018.

For the year ended December 31, 2019, the Town recognized pension expense of \$625,902. At December 31, 2019, the Town reported deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions from the following sources:

	Deferred Outflows of Resources	Deferred Inflows of Resources
Differences between expected and actual experience	\$ 23,862	\$ 92,801
Change in assumptions	154,847	
Net difference between projected and actual earnings on pension plan investments		35,253
Changes in proportion and differences between Town contributions and share of contributions	120,326	
Town contributions subsequent to the measurement date	205,966	
Totals	\$ 505,001	\$ 128,054

The net amount of deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pension is reflected as an increase to unrestricted net position in the amount of \$376,947. The Town reported \$205,966 as deferred outflows of resources related to pension resulting from Town contributions subsequent to the measurement date. This amount will be recognized as a reduction of the net pension liability in the measurement period ended June 30, 2020. Other amounts reported as deferred outflows and deferred inflows of resources related to pension will be recognized as pension expense in the measurement periods as follows:

TOWN OF STRATHAM, NEW HAMPSHIRE
NOTES TO BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
For the Year Ended December 31, 2019

Year Ending June 30	
2020	\$ 198,053
2021	(40,136)
2022	1,680
2023	11,384
	<u>\$ 170,981</u>

Actuarial Assumptions

The total pension liability was determined by a roll forward of the actuarial valuation as of June 30, 2017, using the following actuarial assumptions:

Inflation	2.50%
Wage inflation	3.25% (3.00% for Teachers)
Salary increases	5.60%, average, including inflation
Investment rate of return	7.25%, net of pension plan investment expense, including inflation

Mortality rates were based on the RP-2014 employee generational mortality tables for males and females with credibility adjustments, adjusted for fully generational mortality improvements using Scale MP-2015, based on the last experience study.

The actuarial assumptions used in the June 30, 2018 valuation were based on the results of the most recent actuarial experience study, which was for the period July 1, 2010 – June 30, 2015.

The long-term expected rate of return on pension plan investments was selected from a best estimate range determined using the building block approach. Under this method, an expected future real return range is calculated separately for each asset class. These ranges are combined to produce the long-term expected rate of return by weighting the expected future real rates of return net of investment expenses by the target asset allocation percentage and by adding expected inflation. Following is a table presenting target allocations and geometric real rates of return for each asset class:

<u>Asset Class</u>	<u>Target Allocation</u>	<u>Weighted Average Long-Term Expected Real Rate of Return</u>
Domestic equity	30%	4.25-4.50%
International equity	20%	4.50-6.00%
Fixed income	25%	1.12-2.46%
Alternative investments	15%	4.86-7.90%
Real estate	10%	3.00%
Total	<u>100%</u>	

Discount Rate

The discount rate used to measure the collective pension liability was 7.25%. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumed that plan member contributions will be made at the current contribution rate and that employer contributions will be made at rates equal to the difference between

TOWN OF STRATHAM, NEW HAMPSHIRE
NOTES TO BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
For the Year Ended December 31, 2019

actuarially determined contribution rates and the member rate. For purposes of the projection, member contributions and employer contributions are projected based on the expected payroll of current members only. Based on those assumptions, the pension plan's fiduciary net position was projected to be available to make all projected future benefit payments of current plan members. Therefore, the long-term expected rate of return on pension plan investments was applied to all periods of projected benefit payments to determine the collective pension liability.

Sensitivity of the Town's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability to Changes in the Discount Rate

The following presents the Town's proportionate share of the net pension liability calculated using the discount rate of 7.25 percent, as well as what the Town's proportionate share of the net pension liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is 1-percentage-point lower or 1-percentage-point higher than the single discount rate:

	1% Decrease <u>(6.25%)</u>	Current Discount rate <u>(7.25%)</u>	1% Increase <u>(8.25%)</u>
Town's proportionate share of the net pension liability	\$ 5,778,961	\$ 4,315,746	\$ 3,106,410

NOTE 8—INTERFUND BALANCES AND TRANSFERS

The Town maintains separate cash accounts for its governmental and fiduciary funds; however, most cash transactions flow through the General Fund. For accounting and reporting purposes, the portion of cash applicable to a particular fund is reported in the specific fund as an interfund balance. Interfund balances at December 31, 2019 are as follows:

	Due from			Totals
	General Fund	Nonmajor Governmental Funds	Custodial Funds	
General Fund		\$ 51,696	\$ 72,978	\$ 124,674
Permanent Funds	\$ 6,850			6,850
Nonmajor Governmental Funds	212,249	3,073		215,322
Custodial Funds	50,225			50,225
	<u>\$ 269,324</u>	<u>\$ 54,769</u>	<u>\$ 72,978</u>	<u>\$ 397,071</u>

During the year, several interfund transactions occurred between funds. The various transfers between the General Fund and the Nonmajor Governmental Funds were made in accordance with budgetary authorizations. Interfund transfers for the year ended December 31, 2019 are as follows:

TOWN OF STRATHAM, NEW HAMPSHIRE
NOTES TO BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
For the Year Ended December 31, 2019

	Transfers Out			Totals
	General Fund	Permanent Funds	Nonmajor Governmental Funds	
General Fund		\$ 55,090		\$ 55,090
Nonmajor Governmental Funds	\$ 35,000		\$ 31,044	66,044
	<u>\$ 35,000</u>	<u>\$ 55,090</u>	<u>\$ 31,044</u>	<u>\$ 121,134</u>

NOTE 9—RESTRICTED NET POSITION

Net position of governmental activities is restricted for specific purposes at December 31, 2019 as follows:

Permanent Funds - Principal	\$ 1,071,323
Permanent Funds - Income	168,879
Drug Forfeiture	33
DARE	7,670
Library	115,185
Lindt Offsite Improvements	1,257
Volunteer Fire Department Trusts	134,502
Stratham Fair Trusts	96,478
	<u>\$ 1,595,327</u>

NOTE 10—COMPONENTS OF FUND BALANCE

The components of the Town's fund balance for its governmental funds at December 31, 2019 are as follows:

	General Fund	Permanent Funds	Nonmajor Governmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds
Fund Balances				
<i>Nonspendable:</i>				
Prepaid expenses	\$ 15,751			\$ 15,751
Tax deeded property	25,469			25,469
Permanent Funds - Principal		\$ 1,071,323		1,071,323
<i>Restricted for:</i>				
Library Funds	115,185			115,185
Permanent Funds - Income		168,879		168,879
Drug Forfeiture			\$ 33	33
DARE			7,670	7,670
Lindt Offsite Improvements			1,257	1,257
Volunteer Fire Department Trusts			134,502	134,502
Stratham Fair Trusts			96,478	96,478

TOWN OF STRATHAM, NEW HAMPSHIRE
NOTES TO BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
For the Year Ended December 31, 2019

Committed for:

Expendable Trust Funds	710,336			710,336
Carryforward appropriations	1,195,837			1,195,837
Recreation Fund		153,586		153,586
Police Details Fund		90,378		90,378
Heritage Commission Fund		6,722		6,722
Land Conservation Fund		505,515		505,515
Cemetery Land Fund		7,483		7,483
Fire Protection Fund		47,163		47,163
Stratham Hill Park Revolving Fund		40,466		40,466
Stratham Fair Fund		8,360		8,360
EMS Ambulance Fund		329,342		329,342

Assigned for:

Designated for subsequent year appropriation	150,000			150,000
Encumbrances	124,113			124,113

Unassigned:

Unassigned - General operations	2,288,126			2,288,126
	<u>\$ 4,624,817</u>	<u>\$ 1,240,202</u>	<u>\$ 1,428,955</u>	<u>\$ 7,293,974</u>

NOTE 11—PROPERTY TAXES

Taxes are levied on the assessed valuation of all taxable real property as of the prior April 1 (\$1,549,717,630 as of April 1, 2019) and are due in two installments on July 1, 2019 and December 12, 2019. Taxes paid after the due dates accrue interest at 8% per annum. Property taxes are recognized as revenue on the modified accrual basis of accounting when received in cash or if available to finance current period operations (within sixty days of year-end).

Under State law, the Tax Collector obtains tax liens on properties which have unpaid taxes in the following calendar year after taxes were due for the amount of unpaid taxes, interest and costs. Priority tax liens obtained prior to April 1, 2019 accrue interest at 18% per annum. Priority tax liens obtained after April 1, 2019 accrue interest at 14% per annum. If the property is not redeemed within a two year redemption period, the property may be tax deeded to the Town.

In accordance with State law, the Town collects taxes for the Stratham School District, Exeter Region Cooperative School District, and Rockingham County, all independent governmental units, which are remitted to them as required by law. The Town also collects State of New Hampshire Education taxes, which are remitted directly to the school districts. Total taxes appropriated during the year were \$10,661,454, \$11,701,906, and \$1,348,403 for the Stratham School District, Exeter Region Cooperative School District, and Rockingham County, respectively. These taxes are recognized in the financial statements within the fiduciary funds only. The Town bears responsibility for uncollected taxes.

NOTE 12—TAX ABATEMENTS

The Town provides property tax abatements in accordance with the provisions of RSA 79-E, Community Revitalization Tax Relief Incentive. It is declared a public benefit to enhance downtowns and town centers with respect to economic activity, cultural and historic character, sense of community, and in-town residential uses that contribute to economic and social vitality. This program seeks to encourage rehabilitation of structures within the town to encourage growth. An owner of a qualifying structure who intends to substantially rehabilitate or replace such structure may apply to the governing body of the

TOWN OF STRATHAM, NEW HAMPSHIRE
NOTES TO BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
For the Year Ended December 31, 2019

Town. The Town may grant the tax relief and establish the tax relief period, identify the public benefit, and determine the terms and duration of the covenant; or deny the application accompanied with a written explanation.

As of December 31, 2019, the Town has provided one tax abatement through this program. For the year ending December 31, 2019, there was no effect on the prior year April 1st assessment.

NOTE 13—RISK MANAGEMENT

The Town is exposed to various risks of losses related to torts; theft of, damage to, and destruction of assets; errors and omissions; injuries to employees; and natural disasters. During the year ended December 31, 2019, the Town was a member of and participated in a public entity risk pool (Trust) for property and liability insurance and worker's compensation coverage. Coverage has not been significantly reduced from the prior year and settled claims have not exceeded coverage in any of the past three years.

The Trust agreements permit the Trust to make additional assessments to members should there be a deficiency in Trust assets to meet its liabilities. Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require members of pools with a sharing of risk to determine whether or not such assessment is probable and, if so, a reasonable estimate of such assessment. At this time, the Trust foresees no likelihood of an additional assessment for any of the past years. Claims, expenditures, and liabilities, are reported when it is probable that a loss has occurred and the amount of that loss can be reasonably estimated. These losses include an estimate of claims that have been incurred but not reported. Based on the best available information, there is no liability at December 31, 2019.

Property and Liability Insurance

The Trust provides certain property and liability insurance coverage to member towns, cities, and other qualified political subdivisions of New Hampshire. As a member of the Trust, the Town shares in contributing to the cost of and receiving benefit from a self-insured pooled risk management program. The program includes a Self-Insured Retention Fund from which is paid up to \$200,000 for each and every covered property, crime and/or liability loss that exceeds \$1,000, up to an aggregate of \$1,200,000. Each property loss is subject to a \$1,000 deductible. All losses over the aggregate are covered by insurance policies.

Worker's Compensation

The Trust provides statutory worker's compensation coverage to member towns, cities, and other qualified political subdivisions of New Hampshire. The Trust is self-sustaining through annual member premiums and provides coverage for the statutorily required workers' compensation benefits and employer's liability coverage up to \$2,000,000. The program includes a Loss Fund from which is paid up to \$500,000 for each and every covered claim.

TOWN OF STRATHAM, NEW HAMPSHIRE
NOTES TO BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
For the Year Ended December 31, 2019

NOTE 14—CONTINGENCIES

Litigation

There may be various claims and suits pending against the Town, which arise in the normal course of the Town's activities. In the opinion of Town management, any potential claims against the Town which are not covered by insurance are immaterial and would not affect the financial position of the Town.

Pollution Remediation Obligation

During the year ended December 31, 2019, the Town was identified by the State of New Hampshire's Department of Environmental Services as being a responsible party in an instance of groundwater contamination. The Town is required to take remediation action, such as clean-up, prevention and monitoring. As of December 31, 2019, the Town is currently in the process of performing site investigations and developing a plan for the remediation action. Future costs associated with the remediation are not currently estimable.

NOTE 15—RESTATEMENT OF EQUITY

During the year ended December 31, 2019, the Town adopted Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement No. 84 – *Fiduciary Activities*. The impact on fund balance of the General Fund as of January 1, 2019 is as follows:

	General Fund
Fund Balance - January 1, 2019 (as previously reported)	\$ 3,740,055
Amount of restatement due to:	
Implementation of GASB Statement 84	<u>267,007</u>
Fund Balance - January 1, 2019, as restated	<u>\$ 4,007,062</u>

The impact of the above restatement on net position of Fiduciary Funds as of January 1, 2019 is as follows:

	Custodial Funds
Net Position - January 1, 2019 (as previously reported)	\$ -
Amount of restatement due to:	
Implementation of GASB Statement 84	<u>701,373</u>
Net Position - January 1, 2019, as restated	<u>\$ 701,373</u>

TOWN OF STRATHAM, NEW HAMPSHIRE
NOTES TO BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
For the Year Ended December 31, 2019

Additionally, during the year ended December 31, 2019, management revised its methods and assumptions used in measuring its compensated absences payable. Accordingly, compensated absences payable has been restated. The impact of the restatement on net position of the Governmental Activities as of January 1, 2019 is as follows:

Net Position - January 1, 2019 (as previously reported)	\$ 26,356,298
Amount of restatement due to:	
Compensated absences payable	<u>163,586</u>
Net Position - January 1, 2019, as restated	<u>\$ 26,519,884</u>

SCHEDULE 1
TOWN OF STRATHAM, NEW HAMPSHIRE
Schedule of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balance
Budget and Actual (Budgetary Basis) - General Fund
For the Year Ended December 31, 2019

	Budgeted Amounts		Actual Amounts	Variance with Final Budget - Favorable (Unfavorable)
	Original	Final		
Revenues:				
Taxes	\$ 4,930,664	\$ 4,930,664	\$ 4,945,117	\$ 14,453
Licenses and permits	2,030,700	2,030,700	2,297,357	266,657
Intergovernmental	615,980	675,980	691,383	15,403
Charges for services	67,175	67,175	157,799	90,624
Interest income	120,000	120,000	165,900	45,900
Miscellaneous	250,653	250,653	560,682	310,029
Total Revenues	<u>8,015,172</u>	<u>8,075,172</u>	<u>8,818,238</u>	<u>743,066</u>
Expenditures:				
Current operations:				
General government	2,493,293	2,493,293	2,369,223	124,070
Public safety	1,514,140	1,514,140	1,447,302	66,838
Highways and streets	941,006	941,006	931,823	9,183
Sanitation	809,777	809,777	810,095	(318)
Health and welfare	123,700	123,700	113,165	10,535
Culture and recreation	719,985	719,985	656,309	63,676
Economic development	-	60,000	60,000	-
Conservation	13,900	13,900	3,289	10,611
Capital outlay	2,106,377	885,540	855,539	30,001
Debt service:				
Principal retirement	550,000	550,000	550,000	-
Interest and fiscal charges	179,482	179,482	230,382	(50,900)
Total Expenditures	<u>9,451,660</u>	<u>8,290,823</u>	<u>8,027,127</u>	<u>263,696</u>
Excess revenues over (under) expenditures	<u>(1,436,488)</u>	<u>(215,651)</u>	<u>791,111</u>	<u>1,006,762</u>
Other financing sources (uses):				
Transfers in	72,759	47,759	47,759	-
Transfers out	(541,100)	(541,100)	(541,125)	(25)
Total Other financing sources (uses)	<u>(468,341)</u>	<u>(493,341)</u>	<u>(493,366)</u>	<u>(25)</u>
Net change in fund balance	(1,904,829)	(708,992)	297,745	1,006,737
Fund Balance at beginning of year				
- Budgetary Basis	<u>3,581,612</u>	<u>3,581,612</u>	<u>3,581,612</u>	<u>-</u>
Fund Balance at end of year				
- Budgetary Basis	<u>\$ 1,676,783</u>	<u>\$ 2,872,620</u>	<u>\$ 3,879,357</u>	<u>\$ 1,006,737</u>

See accompanying notes to the required supplementary information

SCHEDULE 2

TOWN OF STRATHAM, NEW HAMPSHIRE

Schedule of Changes in the Town's Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability

For the Year Ended December 31, 2019

<u>Measurement Period Ended</u>	Cost-Sharing Multiple Employer Plan Information Only				
	<u>Town's Proportion of the Net OPEB Liability</u>	<u>Town's Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability</u>	<u>Town's Covered Payroll</u>	<u>Town's Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability as a Percentage of Covered Payroll</u>	<u>Plan Fiduciary Net Position as a Percentage of the Total OPEB Liability</u>
June 30, 2019	0.09356001%	\$ 410,177	\$ 2,304,807	17.80%	7.75%
June 30, 2018	0.09455389%	\$ 432,911	\$ 2,221,676	19.49%	7.53%
June 30, 2017	0.06085195%	\$ 278,236	\$ 2,064,916	13.47%	7.91%
June 30, 2016	0.05800251%	\$ 280,793	\$ 1,952,047	14.38%	5.21%

See accompanying notes to the required supplementary information

SCHEDULE 3
TOWN OF STRATHAM, NEW HAMPSHIRE
Schedule of Town OPEB Contributions
For the Year Ended December 31, 2019

<u>Year Ended</u>	Cost-Sharing Multiple Employer Plan Information Only				
	<u>Contractually Required Contribution</u>	<u>Contributions in Relation to the Contractually Required Contribution</u>	<u>Contribution Deficiency (Excess)</u>	<u>Town's Covered Payroll</u>	<u>Contributions as a Percentage of Covered Payroll</u>
December 31, 2019	\$ 40,409	\$ (40,409)	\$ -	\$ 2,349,811	1.72%
December 31, 2018	\$ 43,298	\$ (43,298)	\$ -	\$ 2,297,576	1.88%
December 31, 2017	\$ 39,246	\$ (39,246)	\$ -	\$ 2,165,876	1.81%
December 31, 2016	\$ 35,087	\$ (35,087)	\$ -	\$ 2,002,151	1.75%

See accompanying notes to the required supplementary information

SCHEDULE 4

TOWN OF STRATHAM, NEW HAMPSHIRE

Schedule of Changes in the Town's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability

For the Year Ended December 31, 2019

<u>Measurement Period Ended</u>	<u>Town's Proportion of the Net Pension Liability</u>	<u>Town's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability</u>	<u>Town's Covered Payroll</u>	<u>Town's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability (Asset) as a Percentage of Covered Payroll</u>	<u>Plan Fiduciary Net Position as a Percentage of the Total Pension Liability</u>
June 30, 2019	0.08969359%	\$ 4,315,746	\$ 2,304,807	187.25%	65.59%
June 30, 2018	0.08947193%	\$ 4,308,255	\$ 2,221,676	193.92%	64.73%
June 30, 2017	0.08803272%	\$ 4,329,443	\$ 2,064,916	209.67%	62.66%
June 30, 2016	0.08517197%	\$ 4,529,101	\$ 1,952,047	232.02%	58.30%
June 30, 2015	0.08401995%	\$ 3,328,473	\$ 1,923,619	173.03%	65.47%
June 30, 2014	0.07941311%	\$ 2,980,839	\$ 1,770,406	168.37%	66.32%
June 30, 2013	0.07846781%	\$ 3,377,085	\$ 1,734,011	194.76%	59.81%

See accompanying notes to the required supplementary information

SCHEDULE 5
TOWN OF STRATHAM, NEW HAMPSHIRE
Schedule of Town Pension Contributions
For the Year Ended December 31, 2019

<u>Year Ended</u>	<u>Contractually Required Contributions</u>	<u>Contributions in Relation to the Contractually Required Contributions</u>	<u>Contribution Deficiency (Excess)</u>	<u>Town's Covered Payroll</u>	<u>Contributions as a Percentage of Covered Payroll</u>
December 31, 2019	\$ 389,812	\$ (389,812)	\$ -	\$ 2,349,811	16.59%
December 31, 2018	\$ 391,003	\$ (391,003)	\$ -	\$ 2,297,576	17.02%
December 31, 2017	\$ 353,722	\$ (353,722)	\$ -	\$ 2,165,876	16.33%
December 31, 2016	\$ 313,004	\$ (313,004)	\$ -	\$ 2,002,151	15.63%
December 31, 2015	\$ 278,780	\$ (278,780)	\$ -	\$ 1,825,831	15.27%
December 31, 2014	\$ 280,165	\$ (280,165)	\$ -	\$ 1,944,399	14.41%
December 31, 2013	\$ 201,053	\$ (201,053)	\$ -	\$ 1,578,339	12.74%

See accompanying notes to the required supplementary information

TOWN OF STRATHAM, NEW HAMPSHIRE
NOTES TO REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION
For the Year Ended December 31, 2019

NOTE 1—BUDGET TO ACTUAL RECONCILIATION

General Fund

Amounts recorded as budgetary amounts in the Schedule of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balance – Budget and Actual (Budgetary Basis) – General Fund (Schedule 1) are reported on the basis budgeted by the Town. Those amounts differ from those reported in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America in the Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances – Governmental Funds (Exhibit D). Property tax budgetary revenues are recognized when levied rather than when susceptible to accrual. Budgetary revenues and other financing sources and expenditures and other financing uses were adjusted for encumbrances, non-budgetary revenues, expenditures, and transfers in, and budgetary transfers out as follows:

	Revenues and Other Financing <u>Sources</u>	Expenditures and Other Financing <u>Uses</u>
Per Exhibit D	\$ 8,915,116	\$ 8,297,361
Difference in property taxes meeting susceptible to accrual criteria	30,030	
Encumbrances - December 31, 2019		124,113
Non-budgetary revenues and expenditures	(71,818)	(359,347)
Non-budgetary transfers in	(7,331)	
Budgetary transfers out		506,125
Per Schedule 1	<u>\$ 8,865,997</u>	<u>\$ 8,568,252</u>

NOTE 2—BUDGETARY FUND BALANCE

The components of the budgetary fund balance for the General Fund at December 31, 2019 are as follows:

<i>Nonspendable:</i>	
Prepaid expenses	\$ 15,751
Tax deeded property	25,469
<i>Committed for:</i>	
Carryforward appropriations	1,195,837
<i>Assigned for:</i>	
Designated for subsequent year appropriation	150,000
<i>Unassigned:</i>	
Unassigned - General operations	2,492,300
	<u>\$ 3,879,357</u>

TOWN OF STRATHAM, NEW HAMPSHIRE
NOTES TO REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION (CONTINUED)
For the Year Ended December 31, 2019

NOTE 3—SCHEDULE OF CHANGES IN THE TOWN'S PROPORTIONATE SHARE OF THE NET OPEB LIABILITY AND SCHEDULE OF TOWN OPEB CONTRIBUTIONS

In accordance with GASB Statement #75, *Accounting and Financial Reporting for Postemployment Benefits Other Than Pensions*, the Town is required to disclose historical information for each of the prior ten years within a schedule of changes in the Town's proportionate share of the net OPEB liability and schedule of Town OPEB contributions. The Town implemented the provisions of GASB Statement #75 during the year ended December 31, 2018. Accordingly, the historic information has only been presented for those years which information was readily available. Additional disclosures will be made in future years as additional information becomes available.

NOTE 4—SCHEDULE OF CHANGES IN THE TOWN'S PROPORTIONATE SHARE OF THE NET PENSION LIABILITY AND SCHEDULE OF TOWN PENSION CONTRIBUTIONS

In accordance with GASB Statement #68, *Accounting and Financial Reporting for Pensions*, the Town is required to disclose historical information for each of the prior ten years within a schedule of changes in the Town's proportionate share of the net pension liability, and schedule of Town pension contributions. The Town implemented the provisions of GASB Statement #68 during the year ended December 31, 2015. Accordingly, the historic information has only been presented for those years which information was readily available. Additional disclosures will be made in future years as the information becomes available.

Changes in Actuarial Assumptions

For the June 30, 2015 actuarial valuation, the New Hampshire Retirement System reduced its assumption for the investment rate of return from 7.75% to 7.25%, decreased the price inflation from 3.0% to 2.5%, decreased the wage inflation from 3.75% to 3.25%, and decreased the salary increases from 5.8% to 5.6%. Additionally, the mortality table was changed from the RP-2000 projected to 2020 with Scale AA to the RP-2014 employee generational mortality table for males and females, adjusted for mortality improvements using Scale MP-2015.

SCHEDULE A
TOWN OF STRATHAM, NEW HAMPSHIRE
Combining Balance Sheet
Governmental Funds - All Nonmajor Funds (Continued)
December 31, 2019

	Special Revenue Funds						
	Lindt Offsite <u>Fund</u>	Stratham Fair <u>Fund</u>	Volunteer Fire Department <u>Trust Funds</u>	Stratham Fire <u>Trust Fund</u>	DARE <u>Fund</u>	EMS Ambulance <u>Fund</u>	Combining <u>Totals</u>
ASSETS							
Cash and cash equivalents Investments	\$ 1,257	\$ 6,425	\$ 134,502	\$ 96,478	\$ 7,670	\$ 236,559	\$ 576,674
Accounts receivable, net Due from other funds		1,935				42,687	641,567
Total Assets	<u>1,257</u>	<u>8,360</u>	<u>134,502</u>	<u>96,478</u>	<u>7,670</u>	<u>329,407</u>	<u>215,322</u>
							<u>1,497,195</u>
DEFERRED OUTFLOWS OF RESOURCES							-
Total Deferred Outflows of Resources	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Total Assets and Deferred Outflows of Resources	<u>\$ 1,257</u>	<u>\$ 8,360</u>	<u>\$ 134,502</u>	<u>\$ 96,478</u>	<u>\$ 7,670</u>	<u>\$ 329,407</u>	<u>\$ 1,497,195</u>
LIABILITIES							
Accounts payable Accrued expenses Due to other funds Total Liabilities	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 65</u>	<u>\$ 9,135</u> <u>4,336</u> <u>54,769</u> <u>68,240</u>
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES							
Total Deferred Inflows of Resources							
FUND BALANCES							
Restricted Committed Total Fund Balances	1,257		134,502	96,478	7,670		239,940
Total Liabilities, Deferred Inflows of Resources and Fund Balances	<u>1,257</u>	<u>8,360</u>	<u>134,502</u>	<u>96,478</u>	<u>7,670</u>	<u>329,342</u>	<u>1,189,015</u>
							<u>1,428,955</u>
	<u>\$ 1,257</u>	<u>\$ 8,360</u>	<u>\$ 134,502</u>	<u>\$ 96,478</u>	<u>\$ 7,670</u>	<u>\$ 329,407</u>	<u>\$ 1,497,195</u>

SCHEDULE B
TOWN OF STRATHAM, NEW HAMPSHIRE
Combining Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances
Governmental Funds - All Nonmajor Funds
For the Year Ended December 31, 2019

	Special Revenue Funds							
	Recreation Fund	Police Details Fund	Heritage Commission Fund	Land Conservation Fund	Drug Forfeiture Fund	Cemetery Land Fund	Fire Protection Fund	Stratham Hill Park Revolving Fund
Revenues:								
Taxes	\$ 227,251	\$ 170,892		\$ 150,240				\$ 8,350
Charges for services	4,928	1,353	\$ 137	6,702	\$ 10	\$ 49	\$ 331	756
Interest and investment income	27,679		50					
Miscellaneous	259,858	172,245	187	156,942	10	49	331	9,106
Total Revenues								
Expenditures:								
Current operations:								
Public safety	235,827	157,707			900			9
Culture and recreation								
Conservation	235,827	157,707	-	35,280	900	-	-	9
Total Expenditures								
Excess revenues over (under) expenditures	24,031	14,538	187	121,662	(890)	49	331	9,097
Other financing sources (uses):								
Transfers in				35,000				
Transfers out				35,000				
Total Other financing sources (uses)								
Net change in fund balances	24,031	14,538	187	156,662	(890)	49	331	9,097
Fund Balances at beginning of year	129,555	75,840	6,535	348,853	923	7,434	46,832	31,369
Fund Balances at end of year	\$ 153,586	\$ 90,378	\$ 6,722	\$ 505,515	\$ 33	\$ 7,483	\$ 47,163	\$ 40,466

SCHEDULE B
TOWN OF STRATHAM, NEW HAMPSHIRE
Combining Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances
Governmental Funds - All Nonmajor Funds (Continued)
For the Year Ended December 31, 2019

	Special Revenue Funds							
	Lindt Offsite Improvement Fund	Stratham Fair Fund	Stratham Volunteer Fire Department Trust Funds	Stratham Fair Fund	DARE Fund	EMS Ambulance Fund	Total Special Revenue Funds	Combining Totals
Revenues:								
Taxes		\$ 191,005				\$ 179,804	\$ 150,240	\$ 150,240
Charges for services	\$ 9		\$ 2,584	\$ 2,017	\$ 79	4,368	777,302	777,302
Interest and investment income							23,323	23,323
Miscellaneous							27,729	27,729
Total Revenues	9	191,005	2,584	2,017	79	184,172	978,594	978,594
Expenditures:								
Current operations:								
Public safety							294,371	294,371
Culture and recreation		220,268				135,764	456,104	456,104
Conservation		220,268				135,764	35,280	35,280
Total Expenditures	-	220,268	-	-	-	-	785,755	785,755
Excess revenues over (under) expenditures	9	(29,263)	2,584	2,017	79	48,408	192,839	192,839
Other financing sources (uses):								
Transfers in		31,044					66,044	66,044
Transfers out		31,044		(31,044)			(31,044)	(31,044)
Total Other financing sources (uses)	-		-	(31,044)	-	-	35,000	35,000
Net change in fund balances	9	1,781	2,584	(39,027)	79	48,408	227,839	227,839
Fund Balances at beginning of year	1,248	6,579	131,918	125,505	7,591	280,934	1,201,116	1,201,116
Fund Balances at end of year	\$ 1,257	\$ 8,360	\$ 134,502	\$ 96,478	\$ 7,670	\$ 329,342	\$ 1,428,955	\$ 1,428,955



BIRTHS REGISTERED IN STRATHAM FOR YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 2020

CHILD'S NAME	BIRTH DATE	BIRTH PLACE (NH)	FATHER'S NAME	MOTHER'S NAME
GRACE, BRENDAN RYAN	2/6/2020	EXETER	GRACE, RYAN	GRACE, LAURYN
DUNCAN, CONNOR AIDAN	3/1/2020	MANCHESTER	DUNCAN, BRIAN	NITKA, MEAGHAN
ERNST, BECKHAM NOONAN	6/10/2020	DOVER		NOONAN, NICOLE
ERNST, COLE FOSS	6/10/2020	DOVER		NOONAN, NICOLE
LAVERTY, OWEN DAVID	7/15/2020	MANCHESTER	LAVERTY, COLIN	NIGRELLO, ELIZABETH
ST. LAURENT, NOVA RYAN	7/29/2020	LEBANON		LANGTON, CHELSEA
AHERN, KAHLEESI, LYNN	9/7/2020	DOVER	AHERN, STEPHEN	AHERN, SAMANTHA
MELENDY, RHYS WILDER	9/9/2020	PORTSMOUTH	MELENDY, JAKE	MELENDY, LINDSAY
CARPENTER, PETER ROBERT	10/6/2020	DOVER	CARPENTER, PETER	CARPENTER, CASSANDRA
KONGMANY, KAI RASHA	11/2/2020	DOVER	KONGMANY, ANDREW	KONGMANY, HANNAH
HUSTON, EMILIA JEAN	12/9/2020	PORTSMOUTH	HUSTON, RYAN	HUSTON, KRISTEN

DEATH REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2020

DECEDENT'S NAME	DATE OF DEATH	PLACE OF DEATH	FATHER'S NAME	MOTHER'S NAME	MILITARY
TAI, WAI C	1/12/20	EXETER	TAI, SHEK	FAN, CHIU	N
MCELREAVY, DOROTHY A	1/20/20	PORTSMOUTH	BEAULIEU, OMER	VALLERAND, EXILIA	N
MAISLEN, JONATHAN D	1/22/20	DURHAM	MAISLEN, ROBERT	HEIDKE, PATRICIA	N
KELLEY, VIRGINIA M	1/23/20	EXETER	CARROLL, VANCE	WHITE, LENA	N
AMSDEN, ELIZABETH C	1/25/20	PORTSMOUTH	COLES, CLIFFORD	LEWIS, GERTRUDE	N
HERSEY, DOROTHY M	2/5/20	HAMPTON	YOUNG, FREDERICK	HILL, IDA	N
BATES, RYAN M	2/9/20	EXETER	BATES, RONALD	RICHARD, DONNA	N
OSTMAN, SHIRLEY L	2/25/20	HAMPTON	JENSEN, RICHARD	WETZEL, LOUISE	N
REYNOLDS, JONI S	2/28/20	STRATHAM	SCHAFFNER, LESTER	CRAMER, JOAN	N
ISRAELSON, JUNE	3/23/20	STRATHAM	KAYE, SAMUEL	WHITE, DORIS	N
FERRIS, NANCY	3/29/20	STRATHAM	COLLOPY, THOMAS	BLAKEMAN, DORIS	N
ROUTON, GERALD L	4/3/20	RYE	ROUTON, WILLIAM	ARVILLA, JENNIE	Y
BAHL, VINCENT R	4/7/20	DOVER	BAHL, RAYMOND	BUCHER, MARY ELLEN	N
MONTANA, PAUL B	5/7/20	STRATHAM	MONTANA, PAUL	WHITAKER, LOUISE	N
LITTLEFIELD, MIKE K	5/9/20	STRATHAM	LITTLEFIELD, RICHARD	BUTTERFIELD, GAIL	N
AMSDEN, WILLIAM B	5/10/20	PORTSMOUTH	AMSDEN, GUY	STEARNS, CHARLOTTE	N
HARDY, HARRIET J	6/7/20	STRATHAM	CROMPTON, HARRY	MICHIELS, MARGARET	N
SILBERDICK, ANDREW D	6/14/20	SEABROOK	SILBERDICK, NORMAN	HUDSON, KATHLEEN	N
ELDRIDGE, CHRISTINE A.	6/14/20	STRATHAM	ST LAURENT, ALBERT	LAMOTHE, DORA	N
SCHMIDT, PIERRE F	6/16/20	EXETER	SCHMIDT, PETRUS	DEWET, ELIZABETH	N
STETSON, RALPH B	8/6/20	STRATHAM	STETSON, WILLIAM	BROWN, RUTH	Y
COMEAU, JEFFREY J	8/17/20	STRATHAM	COMEAU, NORBERT	MAHER, MARY	N
BROWN, KATHY M	9/14/20	STRATHAM	NERNEY, JAMES	BARBERA, DRENA	N
THURSTON, HOWARD E	9/28/20	STRATHAM	THURSTON, HOWARD	WALL, FLORENCE	Y
DUBUQUE, TIMOTHY J	10/10/20	FRANCONIA	DUBUQUE, JAMES	MCEWAN, SHEILA	Y
FAY, PATRICIA A	10/11/20	PORTSMOUTH	KERTON, JOHN	FITZGERALD, GRACE	N
CHAUDOIN, GEORGE S	10/24/20	STRATHAM	CHAUDOIN, CLARENCE	DEPOLI, OLIVE	Y
BRACKETT, GEOFFREY F	11/11/20	EXETER	BRACKETT, RICHARD	ELLIOTT, JENIE LOU	N

JOHNSON, ROGERS J	11/12/20	EXETER	NEELY, HAROLD	JOHNSON, MARY	N
KINGSLEY, MICHELLE S	11/14/20	EXETER	SMITH, DONALD	FOURNIER, DOLORES	N
FOOTE JR, WARREN E	11/22/20	STRATHAM	FOOTE SR, WARREN	LANDRY, EDITH	N
WENNINGER, SUSANNE M	11/25/20	STRATHAM	MURRAY, THOMAS	SREENAN, ANNE	N
STUART, WALLACE S	11/28/20	EXETER	STUART, ROBERT	SAWYER, HELEN	N
NOGA, BRENDA M	12/9/20	STRATHAM	VALLANTE, MICHAEL	FERRARO, VIRGINIA	N
BROWN, RAYMOND J	12/20/20	PORTSMOUTH	BROWN, HARRY	MARTEL, ETHEL	Y
AMSDEN JR, RALPH V	12/23/20	EXETER	AMSDEN, RALPH	UNKNOWN, GLADYS	U
BUNTING, ROY V	12/25/20	DURHAM	BUNTING, ALBERT	LEGGE, EDITH	Y

MARRIAGES REPORTED FOR YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2020

PERSON A'S NAME	PERSON A'S RESIDENCE	PERSON B'S NAME	PERSON B'S RESIDENCE	TOWN OF ISSUANCE	PLACE OF MARRIAGE	DATE OF MARRIAGE
FORD	TRAVIS M	LEFAVE	MICHELLE N	STRATHAM	EXETER	1/4/2020
DYE	JUSTIN N	MERRILL,	HANNAH R	STRATHAM	STRATHAM	4/18/2020
MCCLELLAND	JEREMY B	CROSBIE	ERICA C	STRATHAM	LEE	6/6/2020
CARPENTER	PETER D	EVEREST	CASSANDRA L	STRATHAM	STRATHAM	6/27/2020
GARCIA	NICHOLAS E	CUTTING	KIMBERLY M	STRATHAM	NEW CASTLE	7/11/2020
GRINDE	JOSEPH B	CRAMPSEY	JENNIFER O	NEWFIELDS, NH	HAMPTON FALLS	7/29/2020
CATES	RICHARD W	WIDGER	LYNN A	STRATHAM	PORTSMOUTH	8/30/2020
SHINE	CHRISTOPHER M	NICHOLS	JENNIFER J.	STRATHAM	STARK	9/12/2020
STALKER	WILLIAM K	DONNELLY	CHRISTINE A	STRATHAM	GREENLAND	9/18/2020
GARDNER	IGOR J	DAIGLE	PATRICIA J	STRATHAM	STRATHAM	10/3/2020
RICHARDSON	JEFFREY A	NONAMAKER	DANIELLE A	STRATHAM	HAMPTON	10/10/2020
OSBORN	KEITH D	OHARA	ABIGAIL R	STRATHAM	MADBURY	10/24/2020
SIMES	STEVEN C	WILSON	LINDA M	STRATHAM, NH	STRATHAM	12/5/2020

ASSESSING DEPARTMENT

Another remarkable year for Stratham's home sales. In general, the housing market in the state continued to favor sellers. Stratham's home sales were no different and exceeded the current assessments that were determined during the towns last 'Statistical Update/Revaluation' conducted in 2019. In 2020 the market continued to rise even as we all soldiered through this pandemic. Covid-19 affected everyone in 2020 including the Assessing Department and our ability to conduct our usual amount of fieldwork. Strong communication with other departments, as well as with you the residents of Stratham aided our department's ability to perform the necessary Assessing duties for the Town of Stratham and we thank you for your help.

As you know your tax bill is made up of several different elements and this office is responsible for one of those elements: the assessing function. This function forms the basis of the distribution of the Town's annual property tax levy. We oversee the discovery, listing and assigning of assessed values to 3,408 properties in town. The department monitors all sales and analyzes the local real estate market, supply and demand, economic situations, and other influences that affect property value. The office maintains sales information as well as a variety of property characteristics. Those characteristics, in combination with analyses of market conditions, are used to estimate market values and in turn form the basis for the assessed value of property. The next statistical update will take place in 2024.

In addition to 'Statistical Updates', we are also responsible for many other items including property record card maintenance, defense of assessed values before the Board of Tax and Land Appeals, Superior Court and Supreme Court, administration of the Current Use program, oversee all tax exemptions and tax credit programs, timber and gravel tax program management, assist taxpayers and the general public with tax maps, assessing questions, and give direction for general government requests. We employ standards of professional practice in assessing and maintaining those standards through continuing education programs and certifications by state and national associations.

The end of 2020 saw the end of an era as well with the retirement of our long time Assessor, Andrea Lewy. Andrea oversaw three town-wide revaluations in her 15+ years with Stratham. Her knowledge of the assessing field as well as her personal connection with the residents of Stratham were a true asset to us all and will be missed. Please join the Select Board in recognizing and thanking Andrea Lewy for her service to the Town over these many years.

The assessing function is currently being carried out by certified NH Assessor Christina Murdough on an interim basis, and longtime Assessing Assistant Jim Joseph. Please feel free to contact Jim with any questions that you might have.

We encourage everyone to view the Assessing webpage at strathamnh.gov, which provides detailed information on the Assessing functions as well as the exemptions and credits available. Also, I would recommend watching the three minute video on *Who Are Assessors?* It is a good summary of the Assessors responsibilities.

CODE ENFORCEMENT / BUILDING INSPECTION

This department is responsible for performing the administrative, enforcement, and inspection duties related to the interpretation/compliance with the State Building Code, Town Ordinances, Zoning and other applicable regulations to ensure the safety of life and property and compliance with codes and ordinances adopted by the Town. Other responsibilities include the Code Enforcement functions at the Zoning Board of Adjustment, performing all duties and responsibilities as Stratham's Health Officer, as well as duties associated with being the Fire Chief's designee for the purpose of School and Business Life Safety Inspections.

The Building Department was very busy in 2020 as it processed 1,246 permits, 33 of which were New Construction Single Family Homes. In 2019 there were 54 New Construction Single Family Homes. The Building Inspector performed 1,806 inspections during the year of 2020.

Permitting Report	2019	2020
Residential Building	324	327
Commercial Building	26	26
Electrical	259	325
Plumbing	117	113
Mechanical/HVAC	172	195
Other	239	260
Total	1,137	1,246

The past year brought more changes to the Land Use Department, from staff changes to the COVID pandemic and how to service the public efficiently. These changes were challenging with respect to how we accepted, reviewed, processed and inspected projects while continuing to serve the public to the best of our ability. The building department experienced a significant rise in permits and inspections during this time and we met the challenge without compromising our service.

The department staff prides itself on being approachable and welcomes the opportunity to work through challenging scenarios to come up with a solution that's beneficial for the residents of Stratham.

The Building Department's Office is open Monday-Friday, 8:30 am to 4:00 pm. Additional inspection times are available by appointment.

As always, it's been a pleasure working with the residents of Stratham.

Respectfully,

Shanti Wolph- Building Inspector/Code Enforcement Officer/Health Officer

FIRE DEPARTMENT

The past year has been one of the most challenging years in the Fire and EMS Service. The COVID Pandemic brought new challenges unlike anything we had seen before. As new information, standards of care, safety protocols and expectations changed- we consistently stayed informed, maintained our training and readiness to respond to the needs of our community.

In 2020, the fire department responded to 657 calls of service. With the great support from the residents of town, the fire department was able to purchase a new set of Jaws-of-Life. They replaced a pair of tools that was over 20 years old. The new tools ensure that we maintain the ability to provide rescue service as vehicle technology is ever changing. The newer tools have a much higher working hydraulic pressure which leads to greater cutting and pushing forces.

It doesn't go without notice, but every year the Ladies Auxiliary continue to do more and more for the Department and the community. This year, even with all the challenges presented, the Ladies Auxiliary was able provide services during large scale events which is very much appreciated. The Ladies Auxiliary was also able to continue their giving and support of the community through their annual Thanksgiving Baskets. Over thirty-five baskets were distributed.

We all missed seeing the residents of town at the Stratham Fair this past year. While this is a sacred summer tradition, the safety of the general public like always is our number one concern. Even though the fair needed to be canceled for 2020, the fair committee remains strong and is working hard to evaluate the possibility of future events.

I would like to take this time to thank all the family members of the Fire Department that allow their loved ones to attend training, department meetings and respond at all hours of the day and night to emergencies. Their support doesn't go unnoticed or unappreciated.

The Stratham Fire Department is always looking for new members. If you would like to join, there are many ways in which you can help. Association meetings are the third Tuesday of the month at 7:30pm at the Fire Station.

Respectfully,

Matt Larrabee
Fire Chief

PARKS AND RECREATION

One of the key pillars of the Stratham Parks and Recreation Department is to create and provide relevant programming to meet the needs Stratham residents. 2020 was a very challenging year for the Department to reach this goal. Many programs and events had to be cancelled due to the pandemic.

Despite these cancellations, the Department was able to offer, Tai Chi and Painting free to Stratham residents. Our volunteer sports boards created successful summer and fall baseball and a youth soccer program. The department offered new programs such as street hockey and cross country in the fall. Both of these programs proved to be so successful that additional sessions were added. For the first time ever, the Department offered a variety of virtual programs for both youth and seniors. Programs such as tennis and pickle ball gained in popularity in 2020. When we had snow, the fat bike rentals at the Park continued to be a big hit. Given the massive bike boom in 2020, the department's mountain bike camps were very popular during the summer months and additional weeks were added.

With changes to schedules and programming offered, the Department was provided with the necessary time to focus on a few administrative tasks to help further the mission of the Department. Recreation Commission By-Laws were revised and adopted by the Recreation Commission. This document will provide a clear path forward to the growth of the department and the youth sports in our community. Recreation Revolving Fund Policy was also revised to reflect the current procedures adhered to by the Department and better define the purpose and intent of the fund.

The Department in partnership with the Conservation Commission and the Park Association contracted with Snowhawk LLC to create a Trail Assessment Report. This report has been adopted by the Select Board for the Stratham Hill Park Trail network. Moving forward with this report in 2021 will include the formation of an ad hoc committee to comb through the report and develop a list of recommendations and policy changes for the trails network. These three documents are available on the Town website.

As we look to return to a 'new' normal in 2021, we anticipate having to be flexible and offering a variety of quality recreation programs, activities and special events. The Stratham Parks and Recreation Department will fill gaps wherever we are able with meaningful programming to strengthen community connections.

The Department is always looking for new program ideas and opportunities to offer more to the residents of Stratham. If you have any ideas please feel free to share them. We are always open to trying something new. The Recreation Commission meets on the second Tuesday of the month at 7 pm. Residents who are interested in attending a meeting or joining the Commission, please send an email to park-rec@strathamnh.gov.

Respectfully Submitted,

Seth Hickey
Parks and Recreation Director

PLANNING BOARD/TOWN PLANNER

The Planning Board faced 2020 with perseverance and determination. Although the COVID-19 pandemic forced some changes to the manner in which the Board held its meetings, the Planning Board continued to handle applications and conduct its business throughout the year. In total, the Board met for 19 meetings and one site walk in 2020, and approved six site plans, one residential subdivision (creating one new lot), one condominium subdivision, five Conditional Use Permits, one lot line adjustment, one site plan amendment, and one subdivision amendment. The Board also reviewed four preliminary plans and held one site plan compliance hearing. As Planning Board Chair, I would like to thank our dedicated members, applicants, staff, and all those who appeared before the Board for their professionalism, adaptability, and dedication during a year filled with many challenges.

With the Stratham Master Plan formally adopted in 2019, the Planning Board focused on one of the primary themes to emerge from the plan in 2020 by forming a committee to examine the future of the Route 33 corridor. Building off the important work of the Stratham Heritage Commission, which documented the many historic structures and properties along the corridor, the Route 33 Legacy Highway Ad-Hoc Committee was formed to preserve and enhance the many important historic resources along the corridor while at the same time encouraging more private investment along the corridor, particularly for properties that are currently in disrepair. The Committee, after much deliberation, recommended a new zoning designation for the corridor which would allow for some limited commercial uses while requiring enhanced architectural and dimensional standards for new development.

Unfortunately, the pandemic made public outreach efforts more difficult and the Planning Board decided to postpone action on the draft zoning language until more direct outreach can occur with owners of property within the district and abutting properties. The Route 33 Legacy Highway planning efforts will be a major focus of the Planning Board and the Planning Department in 2021.

Following the 2020 Town Meeting vote not to support the establishment of a TIF District, the Planning Board began working to incorporate zoning changes in the Gateway and Town Center Zoning Districts. The zoning for these two important areas of Stratham was predicated on the future provision of public water and sewer facilities for these two Districts. Many zoning requirements are simply impossible to meet without access to such facilities and development applications consistently require relief from the Planning Board to move forward. In order to address these issues, the Planning Board proposed amendments to the Town Center and Gateway Districts for the 2021 ballot to eliminate language reliant on public water and sewer facilities from the Zoning Ordinance while maintaining the core visions for the areas articulated in previous planning efforts.

At the staffing level, there were many changes in the Planning Department in 2020. The Planning Board expressed its appreciation and gratitude to its outgoing Town Planner, Tavis Austin, for his many contributions to the Town of Stratham during his five years with the Town. Tavis departed in October to take over as the Planning Director for the Town of Wolfeboro. The Board was fortunate to enjoy the services of Carol Ogilvie, who stepped in to help staff the Planning Department on an interim basis and who was extremely eager to assist in guiding the

PLANNING BOARD/TOWN PLANNER

Continued

Board through the zoning amendment process. The Board looks forward to working with its new Town Planner, Mark Connors, AICP, who joins Stratham after nearly five years as the Assistant Planning Director with the Town of Bedford, NH. Please stop by Town Hall and help me welcome Mark to the Team. I would also like to thank Denise Lemire for her continued hard work and dedication in assisting the Planning Department.

The Planning Board looks forward to continuing to implement the recommendations of the Master Plan in 2021, hopefully with fewer outside challenges than in 2020.

Thomas House,
Planning Board Chair

STRATHAM POLICE DEPARTMENT

The year 2020 has created some major challenges to not only the Town and Police Department, but the nation as well. Simply wearing the uniform and going out every day in light of the dangers of this profession is more often stress enough in an officer's life, not to mention how their chosen profession impacts their friends and loved ones. This year alone, our officers responded to numerous, serious calls for service that tested their abilities and dedication to their chosen profession. In each and every instance, the officers performed most admirably, and served the Town of Stratham with distinction.

Policing during a worldwide pandemic is something that neither I, nor any of our officers, have ever experienced during our professional careers. Along with COVID, the law enforcement profession itself has been under constant scrutiny as demands for nationwide police reform took hold following several highly publicized use of force encounters involving deadly force utilized by police officers. The Stratham Police Department adapted to these many challenges throughout the year, and will continue to do so as we move into 2021 and beyond.

Statistically, the Stratham Police Department responded to and recorded over 18,500 calls for service. Included in those calls, we recorded 98 arrests, 2,464 vehicle citations, 344 reportable incidents, 110 vehicle crashes, 103 mutual aid calls and 254 animal control calls.

2020 Highlights:

- Enrolled with National Police Accreditation through CALEA and scheduled to be assessed in June of 2021. We are receiving a "Mock" Assessment on February 5th 2021 in order to help prepare us for our actual on-site assessment.
- Welcomed Katelyn Drago as our new Administrative Assistant and Officer Kenneth Gauthier as a new part-time officer.
- Completed an online, community wide survey in order to assist us with how to best serve the residents.
- Completed training in the following: Dealing with the Mentally Ill, De-Escalation Tactics, Bias-Based Policing, Tire Deflation Systems and Force on Force Simulation Training.
- The Police Department hosted our 2nd annual, and highly successful Community Christmas Toy Drive to benefit the Seacoast FF Toy Bank. Not only did we fill a large trailer with presents for kids of all ages, we also received almost \$7,000.00 in monetary and gift card donations.
- Met the Presidential "Safe Community" Mandate for NH Certification. By meeting this standard, it ensures the PD is able to seek out and be awarded federal grant monies over the next several years.
- Throughout 2020 in the height of the pandemic, we participated in over 30 car parades to connect with and assist the community during this difficult time.

As Police Chief, I wish to commend all the officers and staff for their service, professionalism and efforts to make the Town of Stratham a safe and desirable community in which to live or work in,

STRATHAM POLICE DEPARTMENT

Continued

as well as visit. This year truly revealed the character of the men and women who work for your community.

Lastly, on behalf of the entire department, we always remain thankful to our residents and businesses for their unwavering support. During this crisis, we continued to receive endless acts of kindness and appreciation throughout the year, which only lends to the true fabric of this community. We will always continue to serve and keep the community safe, while always striving to provide the most professional and proactive police services available.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Anthony King', written in a cursive style.

Anthony King
Chief of Police

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

The Department of Public Works safely navigated 2020's health risks, maintaining operations at full status. Our staff adhered to all health precautions and our services did not falter.

Staff training was limited in 2020 due to the pandemic status however we were able to utilize virtual seminars and maintain our New Hampshire Solid Waste Operator, Underground Fuel Storage and Water Distribution licensure avoiding service interruptions and infractions.

DPW staff worked at Stevens and Municipal Center athletic fields repairing irrigation systems. Also at Stratham Hill Park DPW repaired and reinstated electrical services to flood lights illuminating the Natural Ice Rink, installed a new electronic scoreboard and flag pole at the baseball field and made several repairs to out buildings and existing irrigation systems. The "Nice Rink" was set-up prior to year-end but received no use in 2020 because of warm temperatures and rain. We are hopeful that the 2021 winter will provide colder night time temperatures allowing for use. Along with the many projects our DPW staff provided daily service and maintenance to pavilion facilities, park landscapes and trail systems.

DPW staff rose to the challenge of modifying Town facilities to accommodate health precautions and establish social distance for Town staff and patrons calling on Town services. Staff constructed a custom speak thru glass enclosure that had not been present at the Town Clerks window, following its installation the Town Clerks were able to transition back to providing in person services to residents of Stratham. Many modifications to circulation of public and staff spaces were performed by DPW staff along with diligent cleaning practices daily that ensured the safety of public and staff, preventing the spread of COVID-19.

Additionally two historic Town Hall windows salvaged from the former Portsmouth Avenue property were reclaimed through the vision of the Conservation Commission and fabrication skills of DPW staff. One was crafted into a book shelf and one into a bulletin board, both in use within the Municipal Center lobby. Staff installed a new septic service line at the Gifford rental property and made several other repairs to this property.

Our paving program felt the budgetary constraints imposed by the pandemic. Utilizing capital reserve funds encumbered from 2019 we were able reconstruct and pave Jack Rabbit Lane, Whittaker Drive and overlay Hillcrest Drive and failing segments of Union Road. We are hopeful that road work can be performed at a greater extent in 2021.

Relative to the Towns MS-4 and storm-water maintenance and mitigation half of the Towns catch basins were vacuum cleaned of silt. Culverts were inspected and catalogued. The Town is taking several steps to reduce nitrogen and chloride deposits through mindful use of turf care products and de-icing products. DPW staff trouble shot the inoperable rain garden at the Municipal Center parking lot; the under drain was re-plumbed to flow correctly and the tree well was replanted with a Ginkgo biloba 'Fastigiata' Maidenhair, a hardy deciduous species that is slow growing, has a slender columnar stature and is highly salt tolerant.

Respectfully submitted,
Nate Mears, Director of Stratham Public Works Department

TOWN CLERK/TAX COLLECTOR

I think I can unequivocally state that 2020 was a challenging and busy year. We had four elections, with the turnouts as follows: Town Election: 7.3%, Presidential Primary: 47%, State Primary: 35%, and the Presidential (General) Election: 77.2%. All four elections seemed to go very smoothly with positive comments from our residents.

With Covid- 19 making its appearance in March, we had to make a lot of adjustments throughout the year in order to keep our staff and residents safe. We started out with parking lot transactions in March, and then proceeded to allowing our residents to come into the building, one or two at a time, while making sure all safety precautions were in place. We currently do not have any restrictions in place as far as the number of residents allowed in the building. We still require masks, and social distancing, again, for the safety of the residents and the staff. Looking back over 2020, we are proud to say that we did not have an interruption of service to our residents. We made it work, with the full cooperation of our residents.

As a reminder, we now process snowmobiles, dirt bikes, and ATV's. We have also been able to process boats for several years now.

We will continue to send out motor vehicle and dog reminder notices via email only. If you are new to Town, or have not yet signed up to receive the email reminder notices, please send your email to: jcharbonneau@strathamnh.gov, or dbakie@strathamnh.gov

In conclusion, I want to let you know that I will be retiring in May. I don't think I can adequately express how much this job has meant to me, and what an honor it has been to serve you these past 17 years. I have truly enjoyed waiting on you, answering your questions, and simply just catching up! Being your Town Clerk has always been more than just a job to me.. it was a privilege that I never took for granted. The ice storm of 2008 and the Covid-19 of 2020 will always stand out to me, again, with a sense of pride that during those trying times, our office was here for you, with uninterrupted service.

Respectfully Submitted,
Joyce L. Charbonneau
Town Clerk/Tax Collector

WIGGIN MEMORIAL LIBRARY

What a year! First, many thanks to everyone who encouraged us and offered support in 2020. Your participation, praise, and feedback made the year a library – community! – success, amidst a pandemic even.

What does success look like in a virus year?

Safety:

- All library staff have stayed healthy. Our conscientious and dedicated crew have experienced no Covid infections themselves during this time.
- Zero library-related infections. There isn't a definitive way to confirm this, but we have no evidence that library use has led to anyone becoming sick with Covid-19.
- With the support of the Town, the library was able to put extensive safety measures into place including changes to the HVAC system, internal protections like plexiglass dividers, more distanced workstations, updated cleaning protocols, and adequate supplies of PPE for staff and patrons.

Borrowing:

- Since late May, we have been circulating physical materials like books, audiobooks, and DVDs. Even with almost 60% fewer borrowing days, we circulated more than half as many items as in 2019.
- People have been able to borrow physical items through “curbside” (and entryway!) pickup as well as browsing appointments. We have also delivered to those who haven't been able to get to the library.
- Not too surprisingly, digital circulation has taken off! That circulation can happen 24/7 so regardless of stay-at-home or restricted access people can borrow books, audiobooks, movies, or music anytime. Our digital circulation rose 62% over 2019 and we had over 50% new digital users.
- Our digital resources like Mango Languages and Niche Academy also saw large increases in usage, up 106% over 2019.

Programs and Community:

- Even though we couldn't host you in the library, we saw many of you virtually for programs about history, cooking, animals, and travel. You also came to the library's book group, story times, and summer activities. Total attendance was over 400 people for the year.
- We created them, you took them and made them! Take and make crafts and activities went out to hundreds of you: kids, families, and adults.
- Librarians made several visits – in-person and virtual – to students at Stratham Memorial School and teen book boxes get delivered to anywhere from 30-60 middle and high schoolers every month. We have also happily delivered items to anyone who can't get to the library and done hours of tech help in our parking lot, via phone, email, and Zoom!
- And, maybe you saw some of our newsletters this year? Or received a call from a library staff member just checking in? We did everything we could to stay connected with all of you including a daily newsletter for several months, robust email conversations, getting you registered for library cards and started with library online resources and collections, and making phone calls to over 500 people during the most isolating months.

WIGGIN MEMORIAL LIBRARY

Continued

2020 required a team effort, in and beyond the library. We assisted the Town with Town Meeting, website maintenance, communications, and pandemic planning. We also worked with the schools, families, and students to support all different types of learning.

We accomplished so many things in 2020 with a delayed budget that was a 0% increase over 2019. We're proud of our fiscal management and responsibility to the taxpayers of Stratham. Our 2021 budget request maintains a 0% non-salary budget increase. We don't know when we'll have more clarity around the economy or what differences there might be in community needs, but we are committed to being cautious while adapting to new ways of doing things.

Thank you to all of the library employees who have struggled through a scary time, sometimes putting themselves at risk in order to serve the community to the best of our ability. Thanks to the Library Board of Trustees who have led the library with sparse facts and guidance to well-planned and safe operations. Thank you to the Select Board, David Moore, and all town employees for your solidarity and hard work under such difficult circumstances. It's awkward to thank oneself, but based on feedback given to me, many in the community are grateful for work I have done as the library director. It is an honor to lead this exceptional organization in this exceptional town.

Respectfully submitted,

Lesley Kimball
Library Director

Library Staff:

Judy Fingerlow
Lesley Kimball
Sam Lucius
Veronique Ludington
Mary-Ellen McLaughlin
Cindy Rivers

Karen Ryan
Tricia Ryden
Lucia Von Letkemann
Patti Walker
Courtney Wason

Library Trustees:

Kate Kim, Chair
Steve Simons, Treasurer
Susan Wilbur, Secretary
Joanne Ward
Michael Hunter
Alternates: Kathy Bower,
Mike Deutsch, Beth Rohloff

CEMETERY TRUSTEES

2020 was a difficult year for everyone, including the cemeteries. The Cemetery Trustees worked with the Department of Public Works to design and install numerous landscape improvements which included a continuation of the arborvitae hedge between the Maple Lane Cemetery and the Stratham Community Church.

The Trustees entered into a new contract for turf management and pest control in 2020. The drought conditions made it difficult to maintain the turf grass conditions. We are hopeful that through the dedication of the Stratham Public Works Department and planned turf and pesticide management contract with Tru Green, we will get the overall turf quality and maintenance back on track in 2021.

In June, we were saddened to have to accept the resignation of John LaBonte from the Cemetery Trustees. We thank him for his years of dedicated service to the Trustees and wish him well in his future endeavors. The Select Board appointed Richard Goulet to serve the remainder of Mr. Labonte's term. We welcome Mr. Goulet and thank him for his willingness to volunteer.

The Trustees would like to thank the Department of Public Works employees for their continued support maintaining the Cemeteries and the Citizens of Stratham for their continued support of our endeavors.

Should you have any questions or comments please feel free to contact as through the Town website at <https://www.strathamnh.gov/cemetery-trustees>.

We wish everyone a happy and healthy 2021!

Stratham Cemetery Trustees

Colin Lavery, Chair

June Sawyer

Richard Goulet



CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Like it has for all of the town's boards and commissions, 2020 was a very challenging year for the Commission due to the COVID Pandemic. For example, the Commission was unable to hold the town-wide roadside clean-up day that had been planned for May.

The Commission welcomed Kyle Saltonstall as a new member and looks forward to having his insight and experience as a farmer that will expand the Commission's perspective.

The Commission also sadly bid farewell to Pat Elwell who served on the Commission for many years in important roles including serving as Chair of the Commission for several years. In 2020, Pat served as the Commission's representative on the town's Master Plan committee to help guide the drafting process and ensured that the Master Plan included a number of conservation priorities for the town. Pat moved away from town and can no longer serve, but her guidance and legacy will remain.

The Commission was also able to execute a number of projects that included an update of land conservation priorities to reflect the current views of the town as well as an update of the Natural Resource Inventory language for the Master Plan.

The largest achievement for the Commission was the completion of a Trail Management Plan. The development of the plan was a coordinated effort by the Commission, Park Association, and Recreation Department and included hiring an outside expert to evaluate the Stratham Hill Park Trail Network and to create a Management Plan that will be used to guide the town's effort to maintain the trail network for all users.

The Commission acts as a steward for the town's natural resources as an advisory group to the Select Board, Board of Adjustment, Planning Board, Town Administration, and Department Heads. This stewardship includes providing guidance according to the vision outlined in the Master Plan to preserve land and educate members of the community about conservation practices. The Commission also provides recommendations to town officials and boards regarding land use practices, as well as guidance to landowners and developers engaged in projects that have potential for detrimental impacts to wetlands or other natural resources.

Want to keep up to date on Conservation Commission activities? The Stratham Conservation Commission has an active Facebook page. You can also receive emails about conservation activities and programs by going to the town website at www.strathamnh.gov, then clicking on Subscribe to News and selecting the Conservation Commission. Also keep an eye out for our articles in *Stratham Magazine*.

The Conservation Commission meets every second and fourth Wednesday of the month.

Submitted by,

Bill McCarthy, Chair

CURBSIDE COLLECTION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The Curbside Collection Advisory Committee was established by the Stratham Select Board with the charge to serve as a conduit for collecting input into program details and rollout strategies for the proposed curbside collection program as well as to synthesize that input and advise the Board on implementation strategies and more generally the future of recycling in Stratham.

The group met eight times between late 2019 and 2020. Work included a review of collection and disposal systems, a survey (summer 2020) assessing preferences of the community, and finally, a competitive proposal process (summer/fall 2020).

After reviewing proposals, the CCAC and staff unanimously recommended moving forward with our current vendor to offer a new automated curbside collection program. The final program resulting from the competitive proposal process is reflective of feedback, concerns, and ideas of the community and varies significantly from program details proposed during earlier consideration.

As gleaned from the public survey conducted by the CCAC, a major driver in the program is the community's commitment to recycling, maintaining a curbside service, the desire to ensure recyclable materials are lidded when placed at curbside to prevent debris from littering our community. In addition, the new contract represents significant cost avoidance that would otherwise have been incurred by staying with manual collection.

In its report to the Select Board a variety of other waste management strategies in combination with the transition were recommended, including working to reduce recycling contamination; emphasizing waste diversion strategies; and expanding hours of operation at the Town Transfer Station. As a result of this recommendation, the Board approved adding an additional day during summer hours (April to November). In addition to being open every Saturday from April to November, the station will also be open on Thursdays from 2:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. residents will also be able to drop off household trash at the station (a new service).

The final curbside collection program was the product of applying resident input and competitively procuring curbside collection services. Our vendor will own, maintain and deliver the new carts avoiding significant acquisition, storage, maintenance and administrative costs for the Town. The new program includes weekly pick-up of both trash and recycling and take place over four collection days (Tuesday through Friday). In order to address concerns raised about cart sizes the contract provides different cart sizes for single-family homes versus those in condominium and town homes as well as a "sticker" program that enabled residents to keep their current automation compliant carts or obtain a preferred size.

The Town was also awarded a grant of \$51,200 from The Recycling Partnership due to its commitment to recycling and introduction of lidded recycling carts. This cash grant will directly reduce the Town's collections costs over the course of the 6-year contract with Casella.

OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

For all of us, 2020 was a year like no other. Early in the year, before the pandemic, Stratham's Office of Emergency Management (OEM) had begun two significant projects scheduled for 2020. First, to complete the training, preparations, and execution of the FEMA-evaluated exercise of the Seabrook Station radiological emergency plan (originally scheduled for September 29, 2020). And second, to complete the five-year review and revision of the Stratham Hazard Mitigation Plan. Most activity on both was suspended for a period of time due to the pandemic. Both projects were able to continue later in the year, either virtually or with modifications.

In response to the COVID pandemic, on March 2, the Stratham Emergency Management Director (EMD) began participating in regularly scheduled conference calls with State of New Hampshire Homeland Security and Emergency Management (HSEM) officials. Those calls, conducted once or twice a week, have continued into 2021. The EMD also joined the Town of Stratham COVID Steering Committee in March in order to determine the extent of Town response. In March, the State of New Hampshire established a web site at nh.gov/covid19 in order to provide the latest information to all citizens of the state.

Throughout the winter of 2020 and during the hurricane season later in the year, the EMD received regular weather and readiness briefings from HSEM prior to large predicted storms. Had a major storm event occurred, Stratham would have been ready to respond and coordinate with HSEM.

Other Seabrook-related activities were carried out throughout the year. An equipment inventory at the Emergency Operations Center and the reporting of the OEM's state of readiness to the State was performed quarterly. The EMD spoke or virtually met regularly with a field representative from NH HSEM to update Stratham's street maps and procedures that are used during Seabrook-related emergencies.

Emergency preparedness is ultimately an individual responsibility which starts in each of our own homes with our own families. Stratham's OEM suggests that residents prepare themselves by keeping adequate emergency supplies and stock at home and by reviewing the annual Seabrook brochure of emergency information. NH HSEM has developed a program, *NH Alerts*, a free service to inform and protect residents by delivering prompt notifications. Please visit www.readynh.gov. In addition FEMA maintains a web site at ready.gov which can aid you in preparedness for many emergencies.

The Office of Emergency Management is a volunteer organization that coordinates its work with all Town departments. Residents interested in becoming a volunteer with the Stratham Office of Emergency Management should contact the Director at DBarr@StrathamNH.gov.

Respectfully Submitted,
David P. Barr, Director
Office of Emergency Management



2020 Annual Report EXETER-SQUAMSCOTT RIVER LOCAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The Exeter-Squamscott River is enrolled in the New Hampshire Rivers Management and Protection Program, a unique partnership between citizens, towns, and state government designed to promote and protect the river's outstanding natural and cultural resources. Established in 1996, the Exeter-Squamscott River Local Advisory Committee (ESRLAC) is comprised of citizen volunteers living in towns in the watershed, vested in working together to protect water quality, water quantity, wildlife habitat and recreational opportunities. The Exeter-Squamscott River is one river with two names, reflecting the fresh water (Exeter River) and salt water (Squamscott River) portions of this major tributary to Great Bay.

2020 marked ESRLAC's 24th year of acting "for the good of the river". Following meeting guidelines set by the Governor because of the pandemic, ESRLAC met virtually, utilizing the Zoom platform, to review and comment on proposals for land development along the river. ESRLAC's analysis and comments on development along the river provide landowners, developers, local boards, and state agencies with information designed to protect water quality and wildlife habitat and improve access for public recreation.

ESRLAC has a Facebook page, managed by Committee members and offering information on a wide range of river related topics. Search for Exeter-Squamscott River Local Advisory Committee on Facebook to follow ESRLAC.

ESRLAC seeks members from all communities in the watershed. If you are a resident of Chester, Raymond, Fremont, Sandown, Danville, Kingston, East Kingston, Brentwood, Kensington, Exeter, Stratham, or Newfields and are interested in river stewardship please consider joining ESRLAC. Contact the Rockingham Planning Commission at 603-778-0885 for more information.

ESRLAC Representatives:

Brentwood:	Eric Turer
Chester:	Vacant
Danville:	Vacant
East Kingston:	Vacant
Exeter:	Donald Clement David O'Hearn
Fremont:	Ellen Douglas John Roderick
Kensington:	Vacant
Kingston:	Elizabeth Mello
Newfields:	William Meserve
Raymond:	Vacant
Sandown:	Mark Traeger
Stratham:	Daniel Coffey Nathan Merrill

www.exeterriver.org

**Follow Exeter-Squamscott River Local Advisory Committee
on Facebook**

REPORT OF FOREST FIRE WARDEN AND STATE FOREST RANGER

This year we experienced challenging wildfire conditions which led to deep burning fires in remote locations that were difficult to extinguish. Your local fire departments and the Division of Forests & Lands worked throughout the year to protect homes and the forests. The statewide system of 16 fire lookout towers continues to operate on high fire danger days. The towers' fire detection efforts are supplemented by the NH Civil Air Patrol when the fire danger is especially high.

Many homes in New Hampshire are located in the wildland urban interface, which is the area where homes and flammable wildland fuels intermix. Every year New Hampshire sees fires which threaten or destroy structures, a constant reminder that wildfires burn more than just trees. Homeowners should take measures to prevent a wildfire from spreading to their home. Precautions include keeping your roof and gutters clear of leaves and pine needles, and maintaining adequate green space around your home free of flammable materials. Additional information and homeowner recommendations are available at www.firewise.org. Please help Smokey Bear, your local fire department, and the state's Forest Rangers by being fire wise and fire safe!

Between COVID-19 and the drought conditions, 2020 was a unique year. The drought conditions led to the need to have a Proclamation from the Governor, which banned much of the outdoor burning statewide. This, along with the vigilance of the public, helped to reduce the number of serious fires across New Hampshire. However, the fires which we did have burned deep and proved difficult to extinguish due to the lack of water. While the drought conditions have improved, we expect many areas of the state to still be experiencing abnormally dry and drought conditions this spring. For this reason, we ask everyone to remember Smokey's message about personal responsibility and follow his ABC's: Always **Be Careful** with fire. If you start a fire, put it out when you are done. **"Remember, Only You Can Prevent Wildfires!"**

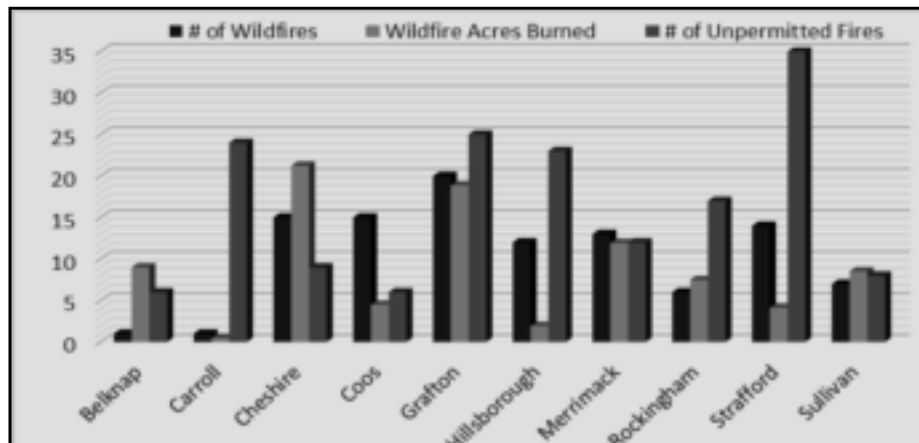
As we prepare for the 2021 fire season, please remember to contact your local Forest Fire Warden or Fire Department to determine if a fire permit is required before doing ANY outside burning. Under State law (RSA 227-L:17) a fire permit is required for all outside burning, unless the ground is completely covered with snow. Fire permits are also available online in most towns and may be obtained by visiting www.NHfirepermit.com. The burning of household waste is prohibited by the Air Resources Division of the Department of Environmental Services (DES). You are encouraged to contact the local fire department for more information. Safe open burning requires your diligence and responsibility. Thank you for helping us to protect New Hampshire's forest resources. For more information, please contact the Division of Forests & Lands at (603) 271-2214, or online at www.nh.gov/nhdf/. For up to date information, follow us on Twitter: **@NHForestRangers**

Scan here for
Fire Permits



REPORT OF FOREST FIRE WARDEN AND STATE FOREST RANGER
Continued

2020 WILDLAND FIRE STATISTICS
(All fires reported as of December 01, 2020)



Year	Number of Wildfires	Wildfire Acres Burned	Number of Unpermitted Fires*
2020	113	89	165
2019	15	23.5	92
2018	53	46	91
2017	65	134	100
2016	351	1090	159

*Unpermitted fires which escape control are considered Wildfires.

CAUSES OF FIRES REPORTED (These numbers do not include the WMNF)								
Arson	Debris Burning	Campfire	Children	Smoking	Railroad	Equipment	Lightning	Misc.
4	22	21	4	3	1	4	10	44

*Miscellaneous includes power lines, fireworks, electric fences, etc.

HERITAGE COMMISSION

The Heritage Commission was established by the Town in 1997 to be responsible for “the proper recognition, use and protection of resources ... that are valued for their historic, cultural, aesthetic, or community significance.” We continually strive to meet and exceed this responsibility with our advocacy, advice, and public outreach.

The year 2020 has been a challenge for everyone, and the Heritage Commission is no exception. Several key initiatives targeted for completion in 2020 have been delayed because of the pandemic, including:

- A town-wide survey of historical resources, funded by our Heritage Preservation Fund and to be completed by historic preservation consultant Lisa Mausolf, has commenced, but is behind schedule and should be completed by the end of June 2021.
- Legislation initiated at the state level that would ensure voters have the right to vote on any potential demolition of municipal-owned property.
- The process for creating a state historic roadside marker for the Lane Homestead is underway but the state has paused the program during the Covid-19 pandemic.
- Our application for listing the Old Town Hall on the state register of historic places awaits final determination from the State Historical Resources Council in January 2021.

Additional new projects underway include:

- Completing archival photography and an application for listing a historic property on River Road on the state historic register.
- Progress is being made on our town-wide historic marker program. A sign design and format has been created with the help of a local professional design service, and Commission member Rebecca Mitchell is working on developing content for the first marker.

The Commission thanks the Public Works Department crew for successful rehabilitation of several hooded window frames from the Old Town Hall. They now serve as a large bulletin board and a set of display shelves in the Municipal Center foyer.

Last February, hardy souls braved inclement weather to attend our annual public program. Popular NH Humanities speaker Stephen Taylor presented “New Hampshire Roads Taken – Or Not”. The Commission felt that this program tied in well with our efforts to draw attention to the history of Portsmouth Avenue and how it has impacted our community through multiple centuries. Due to the pandemic, we will not host a public program in 2021. However, we encourage you to visit the Commission’s page on the town website for links to videos of past programs, including 2019’s “Life and Times of Portsmouth Avenue.” DVDs of older programs are also available from Wiggin Memorial Library.

This year we urge the Town to support efforts to pursue protection and investment in the Portsmouth Avenue corridor from the eastern edge of the Town Center district to the Greenland town line. During the 2019 Master Plan process, many concerns were expressed about the numerous vulnerable historic resources found along this stretch of highway. Early in 2020 the Planning Board established a Route 33 Ad-Hoc Committee to study this issue and work with the Planning Department to offer proposed solutions. This year we plan to continue to support efforts by the Planning Board and new Town Planner to research and assess innovative zoning approaches to incentivize investment and protection of historic structures along the corridor. Anyone with questions should reach out to Planning Board or Heritage Commission members, Town Administrator David Moore, or the Town Planning Department.

HERITAGE COMMISSION

Continued

Sadly, we recently lost a good friend and former member of the Heritage Commission, Wallace Stuart. Wally served with enthusiasm and keen interest. He was proud of our many accomplishments during his tenure, including saving the Old Town Hall (in which his wedding reception was held). Wally's many documentary photographs will also remain a great legacy for the Town and future local historians.

Respectfully submitted,

Nathan Merrill, Chair

HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The Historical Society has come through 2020 in one piece but in a different form, after making adjustments. Regular hours have been suspended but we address email inquiries for research assistance.

The three co-hosted 2020 programs of the SHS and Wiggin Memorial Library were the result of grants from NH Humanities. In person events were held in January (Jeff Warner, "Songs of Old New Hampshire") and March (John C. Porter, "Preserving Old Barns: Preventing the Loss of a Valuable Resource"). The third program in November was an online Zoom presentation via the WML website also through NH Humanities, Jane O'Neil, "Heroes and Homecomings: Norman Rockwell and WWII". Other scheduled events have been pushed into 2021.

SHS was able to award 7 scholarships through the Winfield L. Foote Scholarship Fund for Academic Excellence, surpassing the \$100,000.00 mark since inception.

I would again like to thank our volunteers for their assistance and the support of the residents of Stratham. A special note to highlight Skip Stearns organizing a pizza delivery to the staff at the Wiggin Library.

Hoping for a brighter New Year!

Respectfully Submitted,
Bruce A. Kerr
President

MOSQUITO CONTROL

The summer of 2020 was the driest on record. The drought impacted all living creatures that rely on water including mosquitoes. Fewer mosquitoes meant less opportunity for disease outbreaks, one of the beneficial side effects of the drought. We all had more than our share of challenges last year. No one was complaining about a lack of threat from mosquito-borne disease. Only two batches of mosquitoes tested positive for West Nile Virus (WNV) in NH. One batch was from Manchester and one from Nashua. No mosquitoes tested positive for Eastern Equine Encephalitis (EEE). The NH Department of Health and Human Services confirmed five human cases of Jamestown Canyon Virus. One adult tested positive from each of the following NH towns: Bow, Dunbarton, Epsom, Loudon and Newport.

Disease carried by mosquitoes is intermittent and cyclical in nature. NH didn't see significant WNV or EEE in 2020. However, these diseases are a continuing source of severe illness in the US each year. Mosquito populations drop in drought years but when the water table returns to normal, mosquitoes rebound and disease returns. The increase of mosquito-borne diseases will continue as warmer temperatures expand the range of mosquito species and lengthen the mosquito season.

Last year, adult mosquitoes were monitored at four locations throughout town. Mosquitoes were collected in traps, identified to species and select species were sent to the State Lab in Concord for disease testing. No disease was detected in mosquitoes collected from Stratham in 2020.

The recommended 2021 Mosquito Control plan for Stratham includes trapping mosquitoes for disease testing, sampling wetlands for larval mosquito activity, larviciding where mosquito larvae are found, efficacy monitoring, spraying along roadways and in parks, and emergency spraying when a public health threat exists. Fieldwork begins in April when mosquito larvae are found in red maple and cedar swamps, woodland pools and other wet areas. Dragon uses a naturally occurring biological product called Bti to control mosquito larvae in wetlands. Bti will not harm people, pets and other animals, aquatic life or other insects. Dragon has been using spinosad, an organic soil bacterium, to control disease-carrying mosquito in catch basins. Trapping adult mosquitoes begins in June and State disease testing starts in July. The mosquito control program ends in October when temperatures drop and daylight hours decrease.

Residents who do not want their property sprayed may use our No-Spray Registry online at www.dragonmosquito.com/no-spray-registry or write to Dragon Mosquito Control, PO Box 46, Stratham, NH 03885. Be sure to include your name, physical address, phone number, color of your house and acreage you own. If you've submitted a request in prior years, please contact the office to reaffirm your request. To keep our records current, we need to hear from you each year. Email inquiries to help@dragonmosquito.com or call the office with questions at 734-4144.

Respectfully submitted,
Sarah MacGregor
Dragon Mosquito Control, Inc.

PEDESTRIAN & CYCLIST ADVOCACY COMMITTEE

The purpose of the PCAC is to advise and provide support to town boards, committees, and departments in regards to projects and initiatives concerning cyclists and pedestrians. In 2020, the PCAC worked closely with the Stratham Conservation Commission to identify key properties in Stratham to enhance connectivity through our community via current and potential Conservation property land parcels.

The PCAC started the process of evaluating the necessity of creating a Capital Reserve Fund to further the mission of the committee. A potential “Bike Loop” was identified encircling the Town.

Safe Routes to School objectives were understandably halted due to the covid-19 pandemic; work will resume in 2021.

Residents interested in working on this Committee should reach out to the staff liaison Seth Hickey, Parks and Recreation Director, shickey@strathamnh.gov

PUBLIC WORKS COMMISSION

As an advisory board to the Select Board, the Public Works Commission monitors and advises the Select Board on various issues pertaining to water resources as well as wastewater and storm water issues as they arise.

The Public Works Commission continued its efforts to assess strategies to develop water and wastewater infrastructure in the Gateway Commercial, and Town Center Districts during the first quarter of 2020. The work in 2020 was in support of the investigations and assessments of the Route 108 Committee leading up to the vote on the TIF District warrant article at Town Meeting in July of 2020.

The PWC did not meet for the remainder of 2020 due to Covid-19 restrictions and concerns as well as there not being any pressing issues that the Select Board or other board or commission asked the PWC to consider and advise upon.

In 2021 the PWC will continue to follow and participate in regional discussions with respect to water and wastewater to ensure Stratham remains informed should the Town decide to be an active stakeholder in any such discussion or effort.

In 2013, the Public Works Commission monitored and reported on regional storm water regulatory developments including the pending MS4 Storm Water Permit expected to be issued to Stratham in the fall of 2015. 2020 saw continued compliance efforts with the MS4 permit. Continued collaboration with the Seacoast Stormwater Coalition, the Town is making strides to improve water quality through Site Plan and Subdivision Regulation changes, and even field monitoring efforts. The Public Works Commission will continue to assist and advise the Select Board in Stratham's response to the MS4 requirements as needed or requested throughout the permit term.

The Public Works Commission is looking forward to a more normal third and fourth quarter of 2021 where regular in person meetings may return and working with the Select Board, other commissions/committees, and Town staff to support their efforts.

Respectfully submitted,

John Boisvert
Chair

THE STRATHAM FAIR COMMITTEE

The primary focus of the Stratham Fair Committee is to bring the community together and raise funds for the Stratham Volunteer Fire Association and the Stratham Volunteer Fire Department through a four-day agricultural Fair. The Stratham Fair also helps to raise funds for other community organizations such as Stratham Troop 185 Boy Scouts, Stratham Community Church, Stratham Softball, and SVFD Ladies Auxiliary. The Fair is part of the New Hampshire Association of Fairs and is held each year in July, about 6 weeks before Labor Day weekend. Planning and implementation for the event is managed by a five-member board of directors for the committee. This board meets on a regular basis from November through August.

The 2020 annual Stratham Fair was cancelled due to COVID-19. We are continuing to monitor the public health climate surrounding Coronavirus in order to make a decision with regards to the 2021 Fair.

Respectfully Submitted,
Francisco Marin, Chair
Stratham Fair Committee

STRATHAM HILL PARK ASSOCIATION

The Park Association reports Stratham Hill Park enjoyed another year of increased activity. It has become a special place to many and has achieved the recognition as being the “Jewel” of Stratham. This past year the Park served many well that were trying to just get out and get some exercise and social distance.

The Winter Trail Grooming program had another year of grooming with the snowmobile and drag operated by Park Ranger John Dodge.

The Association maintains the natural skating rink. The rink, just under an acre in size, has an area for playing ice hockey and another for freestyle skating. It is lit at night until 9 p.m. for public skating (weather permitting.)

We partnered with the Rec Commission and Conservation Commission to engage a Forester to develop a management plan for the trails and surrounding trail network. This “Trail Assessment Report” will act as a guide for further management practices. The Association agreed to suspend leaf blowing of trails to protect environmental impacts.

The Stratham Hill Park Association voted to install a memorial plaque at the top of the hill facing the west view of the tower to recognize former Vice President of the Association “Terry Barnes” for his many years of service to our organization. This was completed by the end of 2020 by Pat Kelley, Greg Blood. Dave Short donated and planted an “October Glory Maple” tree. Terry passed away suddenly at the end of 2018, he will be greatly missed.



We look forward to another exciting year for the Park in 2021. The Association always welcomes members of the community to be involved as we continue our role as stewards of this wonderful area.

Meetings are held every other month prior to the Conservation Commission 2nd meeting in the month at 6:30 p.m. in the Hutton Room and open to the public.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dan Crow Secretary, Colin Lavery President, Dave Short VP, Greg Blood Treasurer

ANNUAL REPORTS

For the school year ending June 30, 2020 With the Proposed 2021-2022 Budgets

OF

STRATHAM SCHOOL DISTRICT
STRATHAM NEW HAMPSHIRE

COOPERATIVE SCHOOL DISTRICT
(EXETER REGION / ERCSD)

AND

SCHOOL ADMINISTRATIVE UNIT #16
(SAU 16)

MARCH 2021

STRATHAM SCHOOL DISTRICT

Grades Pre-School through 5th for Stratham School District

Stratham School Board

Eric von der Linden, Chair	Term expires 2021
Sarah Gallagher, Vice Chair	Term expires 2021
Cheryl Eveleigh.....	Term expires 2022
Carissa Magri.....	Term expires 2023
Erin Garcia de Paredes.....	Term expires 2023

Moderator

David Emanuel	Term expires 2022
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Clerk

Mikki Deschaine	Term expires 2021
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Treasurer

Patty Lovejoy	Term expires 2022
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Stratham Memorial School

Katherine Lucas – Principal	Elizabeth LaCasse – Nurse
Katelyn Belanger – Vice Principal	Plodzik & Sanderson – Auditor

COOPERATIVE SCHOOL DISTRICT / Exeter Region (ERCSD)

Grades 6th through 12th for: Brentwood, Exeter, East Kingston, Kensington, Newfields and Stratham

Cooperative School Board

Helen Joyce, Chair	Stratham term expires 2021
Travis Thompson, Vice Chair	Stratham term expires 2023
Paul Bauer	Newfields term expires 2021
Maggie Bishop	Exeter term expires 2021
David Slifka	Exeter term expires 2023
Kathy McNeill	East Kingston term expires 2023
Melissa Litchfield.....	Brentwood term expires 2022
Kimberly Meyer	Exeter term expires 2022
Bob Hall	Kensington term expires 2022

Moderator

Kate Miller	Term expires 2021
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Clerk

Sue Bendroth	Appointed position
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Treasurer

Michael Schwotzer	Appointed position
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SCHOOL ADMINISTRATIVE UNIT 16

Superintendent services for school districts of:

Brentwood, Cooperative (ERCSD), Exeter, East Kingston Kensington, Newfields and Stratham

David Ryan, Ed.D.

Superintendent of Schools

Esther T. Asbell, Ed.S.
Associate Superintendent

Christopher M. Andriski, Ed.S.
Assistant Superintendent

Thomas Campbell, Ed.D.
Assistant Superintendent HR

Helen M. Rist, Ed.S.
Student Services Administrator

Molly O'Keefe

Executive Director of Finance and Operations



New Hampshire
Department of
Revenue Administration

2021
WARRANT

Stratham Local School

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

Date: Friday March 5, 2021
Time: 6:00 PM
Location: Exeter High School
Details: 1 Blue Hawk Drive Exeter, NH 03833

GOVERNING BODY CERTIFICATION

We certify and attest that on or before 2/19/21, a true and attested copy of this document was posted at the place of meeting and at the SAU office and that an original was delivered to clerk.

Name	Position	Signature
Eric van der Linden	School Board Chair	
Erin Marie de Paolis	School Board member	
Cheryl A. Eveleigh	School Board vice chair	



2021
WARRANT

Article 01 Operating Budget

To see if the School District will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$12,877,872 for the support of the schools, for payment of salaries of School District officials and agents, and for payment of the statutory obligations of the School District. This article does not include appropriations voted in other warrant articles. The School Board recommends this appropriation. (Majority Vote Required)

☐ Yes ☐ No

Article 02 Reports of Agents

To hear reports of Agents, Auditors, Committees, or Officers heretofore chosen and pass any vote relating thereto.

☐ Yes ☐ No

Article 03 Transact business

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

☐ Yes ☐ No

Proposed Budget

Stratham Local School

Appropriations and Estimates of Revenue for the Fiscal Year from:
July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022

Form Due Date: 20 Days after the Annual Meeting

This form was posted with the warrant on: February 19, 2021

SCHOOL BOARD CERTIFICATION

Under penalties of perjury, I declare that I have examined the information contained in this form and to the best of my belief it is true, correct and complete.

Name	Position	Signature
Eric von der Linden	School Board Chair	Eric von der Linden
Erin Garcia de Parada	School Board member	Erin Garcia de Parada
Cheryl A. Eveleigh	School board member	Cheryl A. Eveleigh

This form must be signed, scanned, and uploaded to the Municipal Tax Rate Setting Portal.

<https://www.proptax.org/>

For assistance please contact:
NH DRA Municipal and Property Division
(603) 230-5090

<http://www.revenue.nh.gov/mun-prop/>



New Hampshire
Department of
Revenue Administration

2021
MS-26

Appropriations

Account	Purpose	Article	Expenditures for period ending 6/30/2020	Appropriations for period ending 6/30/2021	Appropriations for period ending 6/30/2022 (Recommended)	Appropriations for period ending 6/30/2022 (Not Recommended)
Instruction						
1100-1199	Regular Programs	01	\$3,804,523	\$4,018,409	\$3,990,336	\$0
1200-1299	Special Programs	01	\$1,775,647	\$1,867,692	\$1,846,181	\$0
1300-1399	Vocational Programs		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
1400-1499	Other Programs	01	\$9,243	\$12,766	\$12,766	\$0
1500-1599	Non-Public Programs	01	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
1600-1699	Adult/Continuing Education Programs	01	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
1700-1799	Community/Junior College Education Programs		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
1800-1899	Community Service Programs		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Instruction Subtotal			\$5,589,413	\$5,898,867	\$5,849,283	\$0
Support Services						
2000-2199	Student Support Services	01	\$853,983	\$981,577	\$1,048,412	\$0
2200-2299	Instructional Staff Services	01	\$468,113	\$427,816	\$454,880	\$0
Support Services Subtotal			\$1,322,096	\$1,409,393	\$1,503,292	\$0
General Administration						
0000-0000	Collective Bargaining		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
2310 (840)	School Board Contingency		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
2310-2319	Other School Board	01	\$27,632	\$46,900	\$52,200	\$0
General Administration Subtotal			\$27,632	\$46,900	\$52,200	\$0
Executive Administration						
2320 (310)	SAU Management Services	01	\$218,916	\$282,638	\$288,732	\$0
2320-2399	All Other Administration		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
2400-2499	School Administration Service	01	\$414,944	\$479,812	\$491,152	\$0
2500-2599	Business		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
2600-2699	Plant Operations and Maintenance	01	\$509,935	\$593,345	\$592,270	\$0
2700-2799	Student Transportation	01	\$326,315	\$486,185	\$501,359	\$0
2800-2999	Support Service, Central and Other	01	\$2,891,996	\$3,056,794	\$3,323,365	\$0
Executive Administration Subtotal			\$4,362,106	\$4,898,774	\$5,196,878	\$0
Non-Instructional Services						
3100	Food Service Operations	01	\$247,862	\$249,091	\$276,219	\$0
3200	Enterprise Operations		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Non-Instructional Services Subtotal			\$247,862	\$249,091	\$276,219	\$0



New Hampshire
Department of
Revenue Administration

2021
MS-26

Appropriations

Account	Purpose	Article	Expenditures for period ending 6/30/2020	Appropriations for period ending 6/30/2021	Appropriations for period ending 6/30/2022 (Recommended)	Appropriations for period ending 6/30/2022 (Not Recommended)
Facilities Acquisition and Construction						
4100	Site Acquisition		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4200	Site Improvement		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4300	Architectural/Engineering		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4400	Educational Specification Development		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4500	Building Acquisition/Construction		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4600	Building Improvement Services		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4900	Other Facilities Acquisition and Construction		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Facilities Acquisition and Construction Subtotal			\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Other Outlays						
5110	Debt Service - Principal		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
5120	Debt Service - Interest		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Other Outlays Subtotal			\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Fund Transfers						
5220-5221	To Food Service		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
5222-5229	To Other Special Revenue		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
5230-5239	To Capital Projects		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
5254	To Agency Funds		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
5310	To Charter Schools		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
5390	To Other Agencies		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
9990	Supplemental Appropriation		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
9992	Deficit Appropriation		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Fund Transfers Subtotal			\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total Operating Budget Appropriations					\$12,877,872	\$0



New Hampshire
Department of
Revenue Administration

2021
MS-26

Special Warrant Articles

Account	Purpose	Article	Appropriations for	Appropriations for
			period ending 6/30/2022 (Recommended)	period ending 6/30/2022 (Not Recommended)
5251	To Capital Reserve Fund		\$0	\$0
5252	To Expendable Trust Fund		\$0	\$0
5253	To Non-Expendable Trust Fund		\$0	\$0
Total Proposed Special Articles			\$0	\$0



New Hampshire
Department of
Revenue Administration

2021
MS-26

Individual Warrant Articles

Individual Articles			Appropriations for period ending 6/30/2022 (Recommended)	Appropriations for period ending 6/30/2022 (Not Recommended)
Account	Purpose	Article		
Total Proposed Individual Articles			\$0	\$0



New Hampshire
Department of
Revenue Administration

2021
MS-26

Revenues

Account	Source	Article	Actual Revenues for Period ending 6/30/2020	Revised Estimated Revenues for Period ending 6/30/2021	Estimated Revenues for Period ending 6/30/2022
Local Sources					
1300-1349	Tuition	01	\$22,421	\$0	\$6,000
1400-1449	Transportation Fees		\$0	\$0	\$0
1500-1599	Earnings on Investments	01	\$9,809	\$4,000	\$4,000
1600-1699	Food Service Sales	01	\$162,459	\$100,000	\$222,219
1700-1799	Student Activities		\$0	\$0	\$0
1800-1899	Community Services Activities		\$0	\$0	\$0
1900-1999	Other Local Sources	01	\$47,312	\$0	\$2,500
Local Sources Subtotal			\$242,001	\$104,000	\$234,719
State Sources					
3210	School Building Aid		\$0	\$0	\$0
3215	Kindergarten Building Aid		\$0	\$0	\$0
3220	Kindergarten Aid		\$0	\$0	\$0
3230	Catastrophic Aid	01	\$46,134	\$8,977	\$25,000
3240-3249	Vocational Aid		\$0	\$0	\$0
3250	Adult Education		\$0	\$0	\$0
3260	Child Nutrition	01	\$3,692	\$2,352	\$4,000
3270	Driver Education		\$0	\$0	\$0
3290-3299	Other State Sources		\$0	\$0	\$0
State Sources Subtotal			\$49,826	\$11,329	\$29,000
Federal Sources					
4100-4539	Federal Program Grants		\$0	\$0	\$0
4540	Vocational Education		\$0	\$0	\$0
4550	Adult Education		\$0	\$0	\$0
4560	Child Nutrition	01	\$32,602	\$27,431	\$30,000
4570	Disabilities Programs		\$0	\$0	\$0
4580	Medicaid Distribution	01	\$25,835	\$20,000	\$20,000
4590-4999	Other Federal Sources (non-4810)		\$0	\$0	\$0
4810	Federal Forest Reserve		\$0	\$0	\$0
Federal Sources Subtotal			\$58,437	\$47,431	\$50,000

Revenues

Account	Source	Article	Actual Revenues for Period ending 6/30/2020	Revised Estimated Revenues for Period ending 6/30/2021	Estimated Revenues for Period ending 6/30/2022
Other Financing Sources					
5110-5139	Sale of Bonds or Notes		\$0	\$0	\$0
5140	Reimbursement Anticipation Notes		\$0	\$0	\$0
5221	Transfers from Food Service Special Revenues Fund.		\$0	\$0	\$0
5222	Transfer from Other Special Revenue Funds		\$0	\$0	\$0
5230	Transfer from Capital Project Funds		\$0	\$0	\$0
5251	Transfer from Capital Reserve Funds		\$0	\$0	\$0
5252	Transfer from Expendable Trust Funds		\$0	\$0	\$0
5253	Transfer from Non-Expendable Trust Funds		\$0	\$0	\$0
5300-5699	Other Financing Sources		\$0	\$0	\$0
9997	Supplemental Appropriation (Contra)		\$0	\$0	\$0
9998	Amount Voted from Fund Balance		\$0	\$0	\$0
9999	Fund Balance to Reduce Taxes	01	\$0	\$0	\$100,000
Other Financing Sources Subtotal			\$0	\$0	\$100,000
Total Estimated Revenues and Credits			\$350,264	\$162,760	\$413,719



New Hampshire
Department of
Revenue Administration

2021
MS-26

Budget Summary

Item	Period ending 6/30/2022
Operating Budget Appropriations	\$12,877,872
Special Warrant Articles	\$0
Individual Warrant Articles	\$0
Total Appropriations	\$12,877,872
Less Amount of Estimated Revenues & Credits	\$413,719
Less Amount of State Education Tax/Grant	\$1,955,758
Estimated Amount of Taxes to be Raised	\$10,508,395

STRATHAM SCHOOL DISTRICT

SPECIAL EDUCATION PROGRAMS

PREVIOUS TWO FISCAL YEARS PER RSA 32:11-a

<u>SPECIAL EDUCATION EXPENSES</u>		2018-2019	2019-2020
1210	Special Programs	1,681,207	1,755,038
1430	Summer School	0	2,650
2140	Psychological Services	58,733	106,105
2140	Vision / Hearing Svs	0	0
2150	Speech and Audiology	242,458	258,527
2159	Speech-Summer School	0	0
2160	OT/PT Services	213,590	217,165
2722	Special Transportation	98,781	75,566
2729	Summer School Transportation	0	0
Total Expenses		2,294,769	2,415,051

SPECIAL EDUCATION REVENUE

1950	Services to other LEAs	0	0
3110	Special Ed. Portion Adequacy funds	137,524	143,877
3110	Foundation Aid	0	0
3111	Catastrophic Aid	62,842	46,134
3190	Medicaid	25,136	25,835
Total Revenues		225,502	215,846

ACTUAL DISTRICT COST FOR SPECIAL EDUCATION	2,069,267	2,199,204
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James A. Sojka, CPA*

Sheryl A. Pratt, CPA***

Michael J. Campo, CPA, MACCY

Scott T. Eagen, CPA, CFE

Karen M. Lascelle, CPA, CVA, CFE

Ashley Miller Klem, CPA, MSA

Tyler A. Paine, CPA**

Kyle G. Gingras, CPA

Thomas C. Giffen, CPA

Ryan T. Gibbons, CPA, CFE

Brian P. McDermott, CPA**

Justin Lash, CPA

Sylvia Y. Petro, MSA, CFE

* Also licensed in Maine

** Also licensed in Massachusetts

*** Also licensed in Vermont

January 7, 2021

Members of the School Board
Stratham School District
30 Linden Street
Exeter, NH 03833

To the Members of the School Board:

This is to advise you that as of January 7, 2021, the audit of the financial statements for the year ending June 30, 2020 has been substantially completed and we are in the process of finalizing the audit. A completed audit report will be sent to you in late February 2021.

Respectfully,

Michael J. Campo, CPA
Director

PLODZIK & SANDERSON, P.A.
Certified Public Accountants

193 North Main Street • Concord • New Hampshire • 03301-5063 • 603-225-6996 • www.plodzik.com

TABLE I
STRATHAM PUPILS
TOTAL ENROLLMENT JANUARY 1, 2020

YEAR	PRE	K	1	2	3	4	5	TOTAL
2010-11	18	86	101	112	93	111	107	628
2011-12	21	101	93	104	119	99	116	653
2012-13	21	101	93	104	119	99	116	653
2013-14	16	70	98	108	98	110	120	620
2014-15	15	82	81	100	110	99	113	600
2015-16	13	66	88	87	100	115	105	574
2016-17	17	82	75	89	94	102	115	574
2017-18	17	84	85	78	90	92	101	547
2018-19	20	95	90	87	83	94	93	562
2019-20	19	80	102	92	85	80	95	553

Professional	Fiscal Year 2019-2020 Wages	Professional	Fiscal Year 2019-2020 Wages
Atherton, Diane	\$86,537.00	Millora, Selina	\$104,000.00
Audet, Rebecca	\$82,969.00	Mitchell, Amy	\$64,944.00
Batchelder, Laura	\$86,840.00	Moreno, Laurie (80%)	\$95,715.00
Bates, Kathryn	\$58,528.00	Morrison, Linda	\$95,715.00
Beauchesne, Amy	\$93,215.00	Murphy, Megan	\$73,406.00
Belanger, Katelyn	\$104,000.00	Neal, Jennifer	\$64,776.00
Bucklin, Katherine	\$93,215.00	O'Connor, Marylou	\$93,215.00
Caldwell, Jessica	\$93,215.00	Ortolf, Jessica	\$72,697.00
Craig, Debra	\$96,215.00	Page, Ashley	\$89,649.00
Curry, Julie	\$93,215.00	Pinsonnault, Karen	\$94,715.00
DeLello, Shannon	\$93,215.00	Rowley, Lindsay	\$57,769.00
Donlon, Sara	\$62,347.00	Saltus, Edgar	\$93,215.00
Dow, Katelynn	\$80,444.00	Silvester, Kerry	\$93,215.00
Durant, Karen	\$86,200.00	Snow, Jennifer	\$93,215.00
Eitler, Judith (80%)	\$76,972.00	Spencer, Frank (60%)	\$57,429.00
Fitzgerald, Cynthia	\$86,537.00	Sterritt, Gerald	\$62,347.00
Gagnon, Stephen	\$95,715.00	Stringham, Carol (70%)	\$58,060.00
Ganier, Caroline	\$86,537.00	Sullivan, Kristen	\$94,715.00
Gaynor, Christina	\$86,537.00	Weeden, Kellie	\$73,097.00
Gleason, Eleanor	\$70,173.00	Wentworth, Jessica	\$93,215.00
Griffith, Diane (40%)	\$34,736.00		
Hackett, Jennifer	\$93,215.00	Full-Time Support Staff	
Harrison, Gary	\$93,215.00	Cummings, Kenneth	\$33,945.00
Hazeltine, Mary Ann	\$89,768.00	Gebo, Patricia	\$56,700.80
Healey, Ashley	\$76,265.00	Harrington, Tim	\$76,263.00
Lacasse, Elizabeth	\$72,697.00	Horan, Justin	\$42,432.00
Lewald-Ratta, Cindy (60%)	\$51,922.20	Kopecky, Susan	\$41,769.00
Locke, Tiffany	\$79,316.00	Phinney, Christian	\$40,310.40
Loh, Samantha	\$73,097.00	Ryan, Marlo	\$65,436.80
Lucas, Katherine	\$119,175.00	Walsh, Ann	\$54,570.00
Maclean-Smith, Cheryl	\$86,537.00		
Mastin, Melissa	\$93,215.00		
McCrillis, Meghan	\$73,802.00		
Metz, Melanie	\$93,215.00		

STRATHAM MEMORIAL SCHOOL

39 Gifford Farm Road
Stratham, New Hampshire 03885
(603) 772-5413

Katelyn M. Belanger
*Assistant Principal
Education*

Katherine A. Lucas
Principal

Salina L. Millora
Director of Special

January 2021

During these unprecedented times, it only seems fitting, to share the many ways our students, educators, and families have risen to the challenges with grace, compassion, flexibility, and unwavering dedication to the entire learning community. I am more confident than ever in our commitment to the children of Stratham. The ingenuity, collaboration, and patience needed to navigate these unfamiliar times has been remarkable. And yet, the students and staff of SMS have demonstrated these exact skills at every turn. Teachers flipping their in-person instruction to a remote platform over the course of a weekend, students turning their bedrooms into personal classrooms, and families pulling together to support each other in any way possible.

During this year's Orientation, SMS highlighted the many ways in which this school year would be both similar to years past and also very different. We assured families that their children would continue to receive excellent instruction, be engaged in complex and deep learning, build strong lifelong friendships, and discover their passions. Students are still answering relevant and important questions. They are grappling with fractions. They are exploring ecosystems and drawing connections between life cycles. They are learning about different cultures and traditions in the worlds they read about in their books. They are learning to share during morning meeting.

It's true, the traditional elementary experience has changed, but what students have gained in return, is without question, more valuable. Our students have built technology tool boxes filled with skills they are sure to need throughout their learning. Students navigate varying online platforms, software programs, devices and more with confidence. Students are learning the crucial and absolutely necessary process of discerning valid and reliable information from social media, the internet, and more. They are learning to communicate in new and often nuanced ways.

The development of the "dreaded" executive functioning skills that nearly every educational article or parenting magazine has been reporting on for the last ten years are being examined differently. Students are demonstrating organizational, time management, and regulation skills we thought we wouldn't see until their late teens. Children are initiating and completing tasks, independently. They are asking questions and advocating for themselves, better than ever. They are learning to independently problem solve - designing a plan, trying it out, revising their thinking, and trying again, until they get it right. The most valuable lesson being the belief that "I can do it." The confidence gained from mistakes turned into successes cannot be matched.

And perhaps, most importantly, they are learning much more about themselves - as thinkers, collaborators, communicators, and problem solvers. They've been asked to examine their identities during our school wide inquiry - requiring personal reflection, self awareness, and honest evaluation. Students are discovering what makes them happy, what they need to be successful, who they want to be as community members, what motivates them and what hurts them. This profoundly personal self-study has given students permission to realize things about themselves they may never have had the opportunity to do otherwise. They have a new perspective about themselves, their relationship with the world, and what they want right now.

As we reflect on 2020, I ask you to remember the "trade offs" we made in the face of a pandemic. It would be easy to focus on loss of our traditional view of the elementary experience. Instead, I suggest, we focus on the skills, knowledge, and dispositions our students gained during the last year. Let's celebrate the resiliency, compassion, flexibility, and incredible courage of our students.

STRATHAM SCHOOL DISTRICT MEETING MINUTES
March 6, 2020

Board Members Present: Chair Eric von der Linden, Sarah Galligher, Cheryl Eveleigh, Carrisa Magri, Robert O'Sullivan

The meeting was called to order at 7:04 p.m. by School District Moderator David Emanuel.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Robert O'Sullivan. The Moderator called for a moment of silence for members of our armed forces.

The Moderator explained the Rules of Procedure for the Stratham School District Meeting. The Moderator asked the School Board members, the SAU #16 and Stratham Memorial School administrators present, Assistant Moderator, School District Counsel, and Supervisors of the Checklist to introduce themselves. The Moderator asked for a nomination to appoint Denise Lemire as temporary School District Clerk for this evening in the absence of Mikki Deschaine. Eric von der Linden made a motion to accept Denise Lemire as School District Clerk, motion seconded by Sarah Galligher. Motion passed unanimously.

The following articles were then discussed and voted upon:

Article 01: Operating Budget

To see if the School District will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$12,503,025 for the support of the schools, for payment of salaries of School District officials and agents, and for payment of the statutory obligations of the School District. This article does not include appropriations voted in other warrant articles. The School Board recommends this appropriation. (Majority Vote Required)

Eric von der Linden *moved* to accept Article 1 as read, and Cheryl Eveleigh seconded. The Moderator asked Mr. von der Linden if he would like to speak to his motion. Mr. von der Linden stated this budget process has been in motion from October to February with a lot of consideration. Mr. von der Linden thanked Esther Asbell and her team at the district office for helping the board through the process and to the Budget Advisory Committee for their guidance. Mr. von der Linden stated the board believes this is a strong budget and Principal Lucas will explain the budget further. Mr. von der Linden yields the floor to SMS Principal Katherine Lucas. There being no objections, Mr. Emanuel recognized Principal Lucas to speak to Article 1.

Principal Lucas thanked Ms. Asbell and the SAU community for their support in their mission. This year is about celebrating the learning and teaching currently at SMS. The budget was designed to think about the vision of a graduate of SAU 16. Principal Lucas explained the vision for these students; engaged learners beyond the four walls of the school, engaged in citizenship, independent problem solvers, perseverance, resilience, effective communicators, confidence, and empathy. Students shared what is special to them about SMS: people are kind and nice; PE teacher, Ms. Batchelder, and the fun games she plans; teacher Mrs. Neil makes math and learning fun and she's caring; teachers give students an education to pursue their dreams; and teachers help bring the best out of students and encourage dreams.

Principal Lucas stated while building the budget it was important to note the people in the building are the ones that make a difference for the children and their education, as well as the importance of maintaining small classroom sizes. The driving factor was maintaining small class sizes, with the data to support reducing kindergarten classroom size for children to get what they need, to support early intervention and competency based learning, and foster social and emotional learning. The biggest factor in the budget is the personnel with a major shift in staff for fiscal year 2021 as proposed.

The Moderator opened the floor to questions on Article 1.

Helen Joyce, 3 Erik Way, asked for an explanation on the sharp drop and decrease in the enrichment. Eric von der Linden explained there are items in the budget that dropped to zero and those items are shifted to another line item in the budget. Mr. von der Linden stated with the new administration in place, there are new requirements with how the budget is allocated and it was realigned into other categories. Principal Lucas stated the process started last year, with a new software program, and many items that meant enrichment meant certain populations of students so this item was moved to Gen Ed to support all students.

Joe Lovejoy, 21 Coach Road, Select Board Member of the Stratham School District Finance Advisory Committee, thanked the School Board members for listening and responding to questions and being receptive to feedback, as well as the representatives of SAU 16 from the Superintendent's office, Principal Lucas, and the administrative staff for being responsive to the Finance Committee's questions and concerns to work diligently with the School Board to propose a fiscally sound budget. The Finance Advisory Committee supports this budget and encourages the voters to support it as well.

Seeing no further questions or comments, the Moderator read Article 1 and called for a vote. Article 1 was adopted by voice vote.

Eric von der Linden moved to restrict reconsideration of Article 1, and Sarah Galligher seconded. There were no questions or comments on the motion, and the Moderator called for a vote. The motion passed and reconsideration of Article 1 was restricted.

Article 02: Maintenance Capital Reserve Fund

To see if the school district will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$50,000 to be added to the Maintenance Capital Reserve Fund previously established in 2009. This sum to come from June 30 fund balance available for transfer on July 1. No additional amount to be raised from taxation. The School Board recommends this appropriation. (Majority vote required)

Eric von der Linden moved to accept Article 2 as read, which was seconded by Carrisa Magri. Mr. Emanuel recognized Mr. von der Linden to speak on Article 2.

Mr. von der Linden stated the Stratham Memorial School is 31 years old and even though it is well taken care of, the Board needs to plan for items that may need to be repaired in the middle of the school year. Mr. von der Linden explained once the budget is adopted there is no accessibility to more money until next budget cycle and the board would like to be prepared for repairing items that may fail without notice. Principal Lucas explained that with the age of the building they would like to correct an item that fails without worry.

The Moderator opened the floor to questions or comments. Pat Abrami, 9 Tall Pines Drive, questioned what the fund balance would be. It was stated the fund balance is \$117,692.

There being no further questions or comments, the Moderator read the article and called for a vote. Article 2 passed by voice vote.

Article 03: Reports of Agents

To hear reports of Agents, Auditors, Committees, or Officers heretofore chosen and pass any vote relating thereto.

The Moderator asked if there were any reports under Article 03. There were none.

Article 04: Transact business

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

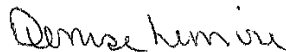
The Moderator asked if there was any other business under Article 04. There was none.

The Moderator recognized Principal Lucas. Principal Lucas stated this evening marks the end of Robert O'Sullivan's term as a School Board member and thanked him for all he has done to help her, the school community, as well as Town of Stratham community. Mr. O'Sullivan served the School Board for 19 years, championed and fought hard for full day kindergarten in Stratham and student enrichment, was the force behind the 30th Anniversary celebration of SMS, is a champion of public education to strive for excellence, and his vision and positivity will be greatly missed on the School Board. The Board and residents gave Mr. O'Sullivan a round of applause and standing ovation for his dedication. Mr. O'Sullivan thanked everyone and stated it has been a pleasure to work with everyone.

The Moderator reminded everyone that Tuesday, March 10 is Election Day. The polls at the Stratham Municipal Center would be open from 8:00 a.m. until 8:00 p.m. for voting. Also, Stratham Town Meeting is Friday, March 13 at Stratham Memorial School beginning at 7:00 p.m.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:49 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Denise Lemire
Stratham School District Clerk

THE EXETER REGION

COOPERATIVE

SCHOOL DISTRICT

ANNUAL REPORT

For the Year Ending June 30, 2020
For the Proposed 2021-2022 Budget

EXETER REGION COOPERATIVE SCHOOL DISTRICT

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

David Ryan, Ed.D.

Superintendent of Schools

(603) 775-8653

dryan@sau16.org

Esther Asbell

Associate Superintendent of Schools

(603) 775-8655

easbell@sau16.org

Christopher Andriski, Ed.S.

Assistant Superintendent of Schools

(603) 775-8679

candriski@sau16.org

Thomas Campbell, Ed.D.

Assistant Superintendent of Schools

(603) 775-8664

tcampbell@sau16.org

Helen Rist

Special Education Administrator

(603) 775-8646

hrist@sau16.org

Mollie O'Keefe

Executive Director of Finance and Operations

(603) 775-8669

mokeefe@sau16.org

EXETER REGION COOPERATIVE SCHOOL DISTRICT

BOARD MEMBERS AND DISTRICT OFFICERS

Chair of the School Board: Helen Joyce

NAME	TERM EXPIRES	2021 TOWN
Maggie Bishop	2021	Exeter
Paul Bauer	2021	Newfields
Bob Hall	2022	Kensington
Kathy McNeill	2023	East Kingston
Helen Joyce	2021	Stratham
Melissa Litchfield	2022	Brentwood
Kimberly Meyer	2022	Exeter
David Slifka	2023	Exeter
Travis Thompson	2023	Stratham

School District Website: www.sau16.org

Moderator: Kate Miller - 2021

School District Clerk: Susan EH Bendroth - 2021

School District Treasurer: Michael Schwotzer – 2021

BUDGET ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Chair of the Budget Advisory Committee: David Pendell

NAME	TERM EXPIRES	2021 TOWN
Deborah Bronson	2021	Stratham
Lucy Cushman	2022	Stratham
Rob Delorie	2022	Exeter
Jenny Ramsay	2023	Kensington
Morgan Lois DeYoung	2023	Brentwood
Roy Morrisette	2023	Exeter
Lovey Oliff	2021	Exeter
David Pendell	2021	East Kingston
Susan Shanelaris	2022	Newfields

Exeter Coop

The inhabitants of the Regional School District of Exeter Coop in the state of New Hampshire qualified to vote in Regional School District affairs are hereby notified that the two phases of the Annual Regional School District Meeting will be held as follows:

First Session of Annual Meeting (Deliberative Session):

Date: Saturday, January 30, 2021

Time: 2:00 PM

Location: Exeter High School -

Details: 1 Blue Hawk Drive, Exeter, NH 03833

Second Session of Annual Meeting (Official Ballot Voting)

Date: Tuesday, March 9, 2021

Time: Various

Location: Various

Details: Voting in the Towns of Brentwood, East Kingston, Exeter, Kensington, Newfields and Stratham

GOVERNING BODY CERTIFICATION

We certify and attest that on or before January 15, 2021 a true and attested copy of this document was posted at the place of meeting and at SAU 16, Brentwood, East Kingston, Exeter, Kensington, Newfields, and Stratham and that an original was delivered to the clerk.

Name	Position	Signature
HELEN JOYCE	CHAIRPERSON ERCSB	Helen Joyce
Robert L. Hall	School Board Member	Robert L. Hall
Travis Thompson	School Board Member	Travis Thompson
DAVID SHERMAN	EXEC SB	David Sherman
Paul Bauer	School Board Member	Paul Bauer
Kimberly A. Meyer	School Board Member	Kimberly A. Meyer



Article 01 ERCSD Operating Budget

Shall the District 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 \$65,293,750? Should this article be defeated, the operating budget shall be \$65,337,663 which is the same as last year, with certain adjustments required by previous action of the District 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 School Board and Budget Advisory Committee both recommend \$65,293,750 as set forth on said budget.
(Majority vote required)

☐ Yes

☐ No

SECOND SESSION: At the polling places designated below on Tuesday, March 9, 2021, top choose the following School District Officers:

School District Board Member (Newfields)	3-year Term Expiring 2024
School District Board Member (Exeter)	3-year Term Expiring 2024
School District Board Member (Stratham)	3-year Term Expiring 2024
School District Moderator	1-year Term Expiring 2022
Budget Committee Member (Stratham)	3-year Term Expiring 2024
Budget Committee Member (Exeter)	3 year Term Expiring 2024
Budget Committee Member (East Kingston)	3-year Term Expiring 2024

and vote on the articles listed as 1, as those articles may be amended at the First Session; by ballot, the polls to be open at the polling places at the hours designated below:

<u>VOTERS IN TOWN OF</u>	<u>POLLING PLACE</u>	<u>POLLING HOURS</u>
Brentwood	TBD – Please call 603-642-6400 for more details	
East Kingston	TBD – Please call 603-642-8794 for more details	
Exeter	TBD – Please call 603-778-0591 for more details	
Kensington	TBD – Please call 603-772-5423 for more details	
Newfields	TBD – Please call 603-772-5070 for more details	
Stratham	TBD – Please call 603-772-4741 for more details	



Proposed Budget

Exeter Coop

Appropriations and Estimates of Revenue for the Fiscal Year from:
July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022

Form Due Date: 20 Days after the Annual Meeting

This form was posted with the warrant on: January 15, 2021

SCHOOL BOARD CERTIFICATION

Under penalties of perjury, I declare that I have examined the information contained in this form and to the best of my belief it is true, correct and complete.

Name	Position	Signature
HELEN TOYCE	CHAIRPERSON EXCAB	
Robert L. Hall	School Board Member	
Travis Thompson	School Board Member	
DAVID SLIPPA	EXCAB SB	
Paul Burr	School Board Member	
Kimberly Meyer	School Board Member	

This form must be signed, scanned, and uploaded to the Municipal Tax Rate Setting Portal:

<https://www.proptax.org/>

For assistance please contact:
NH DRA Municipal and Property Division
(603) 230-5090

<http://www.revenue.nh.gov/mun-prop/>



New Hampshire
Department of
Revenue Administration

2021
MS-26

Appropriations

Account	Purpose	Article	Expenditures for period ending 6/30/2020	Appropriations for period ending 6/30/2021	Appropriations for period ending 6/30/2022 (Recommended)	Appropriations for period ending 6/30/2022 (Not Recommended)
Instruction						
1100-1199	Regular Programs	01	\$14,845,384	\$15,279,514	\$15,437,055	\$0
1200-1299	Special Programs	01	\$7,267,133	\$8,662,240	\$8,709,686	\$0
1300-1399	Vocational Programs	01	\$1,974,720	\$2,042,473	\$2,034,791	\$0
1400-1499	Other Programs	01	\$684,848	\$912,994	\$914,698	\$0
1500-1599	Non-Public Programs	01	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
1600-1699	Adult/Continuing Education Programs	01	\$168,331	\$181,049	\$203,979	\$0
1700-1799	Community/Junior College Education Programs		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
1800-1899	Community Service Programs		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Instruction Subtotal			\$24,940,416	\$27,078,270	\$27,300,209	\$0
Support Services						
2000-2199	Student Support Services	01	\$3,183,395	\$3,467,257	\$3,116,236	\$0
2200-2299	Instructional Staff Services	01	\$1,779,494	\$2,086,947	\$1,759,815	\$0
Support Services Subtotal			\$4,962,889	\$5,554,204	\$4,876,051	\$0
General Administration						
0000-0000	Collective Bargaining		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
2310 (840)	School Board Contingency		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
2310-2319	Other School Board	01	\$125,938	\$82,100	\$165,550	\$0
General Administration Subtotal			\$125,938	\$82,100	\$165,550	\$0
Executive Administration						
2320 (310)	SAU Management Services	01	\$1,112,692	\$1,475,539	\$1,462,099	\$0
2320-2399	All Other Administration	01	\$38,645	\$54,786	\$141,830	\$0
2400-2499	School Administration Service	01	\$1,702,691	\$1,872,581	\$1,898,684	\$0
2500-2599	Business		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
2600-2699	Plant Operations and Maintenance	01	\$4,232,132	\$4,764,075	\$4,982,146	\$0
2700-2799	Student Transportation	01	\$2,088,107	\$2,674,571	\$2,892,508	\$0
2800-2999	Support Service, Central and Other	01	\$13,697,527	\$13,940,195	\$15,318,532	\$0
Executive Administration Subtotal			\$22,871,794	\$24,781,747	\$26,695,799	\$0
Non-Instructional Services						
3100	Food Service Operations	01	\$970,982	\$1,155,000	\$1,155,000	\$0
3200	Enterprise Operations	01	\$334,403	\$400,000	\$400,000	\$0
Non-Instructional Services Subtotal			\$1,305,385	\$1,555,000	\$1,555,000	\$0



New Hampshire
Department of
Revenue Administration

2021
MS-26

Appropriations

Account	Purpose	Article	Expenditures for period ending 6/30/2020	Appropriations for period ending 6/30/2021	Appropriations for period ending 6/30/2022 (Recommended)	Appropriations for period ending 6/30/2022 (Not Recommended)
Facilities Acquisition and Construction						
4100	Site Acquisition		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4200	Site Improvement		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4300	Architectural/Engineering		\$795,441	\$0	\$0	\$0
4400	Educational Specification Development		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4500	Building Acquisition/Construction		\$684,289	\$0	\$0	\$0
4600	Building Improvement Services		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4900	Other Facilities Acquisition and Construction		\$69,970	\$0	\$0	\$0
Facilities Acquisition and Construction Subtotal			\$1,549,700	\$0	\$0	\$0
Other Outlays						
5110	Debt Service - Principal	01	\$1,574,146	\$4,088,063	\$2,246,927	\$0
5120	Debt Service - Interest	01	\$1,592,213	\$512,989	\$2,291,714	\$0
Other Outlays Subtotal			\$3,166,359	\$4,601,052	\$4,538,641	\$0
Fund Transfers						
5220-5221	To Food Service		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
5222-5229	To Other Special Revenue		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
5230-5239	To Capital Projects		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
5254	To Agency Funds		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
5310	To Charter Schools	01	\$280,000	\$280,000	\$162,500	\$0
5390	To Other Agencies		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
9990	Supplemental Appropriation		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
9992	Deficit Appropriation		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Fund Transfers Subtotal			\$280,000	\$280,000	\$162,500	\$0
Total Operating Budget Appropriations					\$65,293,750	\$0



New Hampshire
Department of
Revenue Administration

2021
MS-26

Special Warrant Articles

Account	Purpose	Article	Appropriations for	Appropriations for
			period ending 6/30/2022 (Recommended)	period ending 6/30/2022 (Not Recommended)
5251	To Capital Reserve Fund		\$0	\$0
5252	To Expendable Trust Fund		\$0	\$0
5253	To Non-Expendable Trust Fund		\$0	\$0
Total Proposed Special Articles			\$0	\$0



New Hampshire
Department of
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MS-26

Individual Warrant Articles

			Appropriations for period ending 6/30/2022 (Recommended)	Appropriations for period ending 6/30/2022 (Not Recommended)
Account	Purpose	Article		
Total Proposed Individual Articles			\$0	\$0



New Hampshire
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Revenue Administration

2021
MS-26

Revenues

Account	Source	Article	Actual Revenues for Period ending 6/30/2020	Revised Estimated Revenues for Period ending 6/30/2021	Estimated Revenues for Period ending 6/30/2022
Local Sources					
1300-1349	Tuition	01	\$935,543	\$950,000	\$950,000
1400-1449	Transportation Fees		\$0	\$0	\$0
1500-1599	Earnings on Investments	01	\$67,068	\$12,000	\$12,000
1600-1699	Food Service Sales	01	\$576,667	\$809,148	\$809,148
1700-1799	Student Activities		\$0	\$0	\$0
1800-1899	Community Services Activities		\$0	\$0	\$0
1900-1999	Other Local Sources	01	\$407,441	\$227,874	\$227,874
Local Sources Subtotal			\$1,986,719	\$1,999,022	\$1,999,022
State Sources					
3210	School Building Aid	01	\$1,066,184	\$1,025,645	\$1,025,645
3215	Kindergarten Building Aid		\$0	\$0	\$0
3220	Kindergarten Aid		\$0	\$0	\$0
3230	Catastrophic Aid	01	\$689,289	\$325,830	\$325,830
3240-3249	Vocational Aid	01	\$1,374,063	\$1,154,893	\$1,154,893
3250	Adult Education		\$0	\$0	\$0
3260	Child Nutrition	01	\$10,796	\$9,800	\$9,800
3270	Driver Education		\$0	\$0	\$0
3290-3299	Other State Sources		\$0	\$0	\$0
State Sources Subtotal			\$3,140,332	\$2,516,168	\$2,516,168
Federal Sources					
4100-4539	Federal Program Grants	01	\$0	\$50,000	\$50,000
4540	Vocational Education		\$0	\$0	\$0
4550	Adult Education	01	\$334,403	\$350,000	\$350,000
4560	Child Nutrition	01	\$315,987	\$172,187	\$172,187
4570	Disabilities Programs		\$0	\$0	\$0
4580	Medicaid Distribution	01	\$192,032	\$164,247	\$164,247
4590-4999	Other Federal Sources (non-4810)		\$0	\$0	\$0
4810	Federal Forest Reserve		\$0	\$0	\$0
Federal Sources Subtotal			\$842,422	\$736,434	\$736,434



New Hampshire
Department of
Revenue Administration

2021
MS-26

Revenues

Account	Source	Article	Actual Revenues for Period ending 6/30/2020	Revised Estimated Revenues for Period ending 6/30/2021	Estimated Revenues for Period ending 6/30/2022
Other Financing Sources					
5110-5139	Sale of Bonds or Notes		\$0	\$0	\$0
5140	Reimbursement Anticipation Notes		\$0	\$0	\$0
5221	Transfers from Food Service Special Revenues Fund		\$0	\$0	\$0
5222	Transfer from Other Special Revenue Funds		\$0	\$0	\$0
5230	Transfer from Capital Project Funds		\$0	\$0	\$0
5251	Transfer from Capital Reserve Funds		\$0	\$0	\$0
5252	Transfer from Expendable Trust Funds		\$0	\$0	\$0
5253	Transfer from Non-Expendable Trust Funds		\$0	\$0	\$0
5300-5699	Other Financing Sources		\$0	\$0	\$0
9997	Supplemental Appropriation (Contra)		\$0	\$0	\$0
9998	Amount Voted from Fund Balance		\$0	\$0	\$0
9999	Fund Balance to Reduce Taxes	01	\$0	\$0	\$2,123,346
Other Financing Sources Subtotal			\$0	\$0	\$2,123,346
Total Estimated Revenues and Credits			\$5,969,473	\$5,251,624	\$7,374,970



New Hampshire
Department of
Revenue Administration

2021
MS-26

Budget Summary

Item	Period ending 6/30/2022
Operating Budget Appropriations	\$65,293,750
Special Warrant Articles	\$0
Individual Warrant Articles	\$0
Total Appropriations	\$65,293,750
Less Amount of Estimated Revenues & Credits	\$7,374,970
Less Amount of State Education Tax/Grant	\$10,998,571
Estimated Amount of Taxes to be Raised	\$46,920,209



New Hampshire
Department of
Revenue Administration

2021
MS-DSB

Default Budget of the Regional School
Exeter Coop

For the period beginning July 1, 2021 and ending June 30, 2022

RSA 40:13, IX (b) "Default budget" as used in this subdivision means the amount of the same appropriations as contained in the operating budget authorized for the previous year, reduced and increased, as the case may be, by debt service, contracts, and other obligations previously incurred or mandated by law, and reduced by one-time expenditures contained in the operating budget. For the purposes of this paragraph, one-time expenditures shall be appropriations not likely to recur in the succeeding budget, as determined by the governing body, unless the provisions of RSA 40:14-b are adopted, of the local political subdivision.

This form was posted with the warrant on: January 15, 2021

SCHOOL BOARD OR BUDGET COMMITTEE CERTIFICATION

Under penalties of perjury, I declare that I have examined the information contained in this form and to the best of my belief it is true, correct and complete.

Name	Position	Signature
Neeraj Jora	CHAIRPERSON LRC SB	
Robert L. Hall	School Board Member	
DAVID SLIPNA	EXCER SB	
Paul Bauer	School Board Member	
Kimberly A. Meyer	School Board Member	

This form must be signed, scanned, and uploaded to the Municipal Tax Rate Setting Portal:
<https://www.proptax.org/>

For assistance please contact:
NH DRA Municipal and Property Division
(603) 230-5090
<http://www.revenue.nh.gov/mun-prop/>



New Hampshire
Department of
Revenue Administration

2021
MS-DSB

Reasons for Reductions/Increases & One-Time Appropriations

Account	Explanation
2200-2299	CBA
1400-1499	CBA
1100-1199	STAFF REDUCTION
2320 (310)	MANDATORY
2400-2499	CBA
1200-1299	MANDATORY
2000-2199	CAB
2700-2799	MANDATORY
2800-2999	RETIREMENT-MANDATORY
1300-1399	CBA

**EXETER REGION COOPERATIVE SCHOOL DISTRICT
SPECIAL EDUCATION EXPENSES/REVENUES**

<u>SPECIAL EDUCATION EXPENSES</u>	<u>2018-2019</u>	<u>2019-2020</u>
1200/1230 Special Programs	6,228,844	6,607,085
1430 Summer School	111,021	124,001
2140 Psychological Services	329,972	382,092
2150 Speech and Audiology	497,225	457,924
2162 Physical Therapy	68,048	70,090
2163 Occupational Therapy	31,284	80,166
2332 Administration Costs	420,482	539,100
2722 Special Transportation	827,583	634,106
TOTAL EXPENSES	8,514,459	8,894,564
<u>SPECIAL EDUCATION REVENUES</u>		
3110 Special Ed Portion Adequacy Funds	835,283	837,095
3240 Catastrophic Aid	425,452	689,289
4580 Medicaid	332,273	192,032
TOTAL REVENUES	1,593,007	1,718,416
ACTUAL DISTRICT COST FOR SPECIAL EDUCATION	<u>6,921,452</u>	<u>7,176,148</u>

Minutes of Exeter Region Cooperative School District
First Session of the 2020 Annual Meeting
Deliberative Session – Thursday, February 6, 2020
Exeter High School Arthur Hanson III Center

ERCSD Board Members Present:

Helen Joyce, Chair – Stratham

David Slifka – Exeter

Paul Bauer – Newfields

Melissa Litchfield – Brentwood

Kimberly Meyer – Exeter

Travis Thompson, Vice Chair – Stratham

Bob Hall – Kensington

Deb Hobson – East Kingston

Maggie Bishop – Exeter

Administration: David Ryan, Superintendent

Mollie O’Keefe, Executive Director for Finances and Operations

Others: Katherine Miller, Moderator

Gordon Graham, Counsel for the School District

David Pendell, Chair of District’s Budget Advisory Committee

Susan Bendroth, ERCSD Clerk

Moderator Miller called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. Kira Ferdyn, a Grade 10 student from Exeter High School, led the Pledge of Allegiance. Helen Joyce thanked the voters for continued support of school programs and recognized the administration, principals, faculty and staff and members of the Budget Advisory Committee. She remarked on the record number of retirees at the end of this fiscal year and thanked them for their wealth of talent, years of service and wished them the best in the next chapter of their lives.

Moderator Miller presented an explanation of the meeting which is to debate, discuss and amend the warrant articles as the law allows. She reviewed the rules and the procedure for the evening. She introduced the people up front, recognized budget advisory members and other administrative staff in the audience. She requested permission to allow some of the administration who do not live in the District to speak to some of the articles if necessary.

Deb Hobson made the motion and Paul Bauer seconded.

Travis Thompson requested permission to add Gordon Graham, legal counsel for the School District, to the list with Helen Joyce seconding.

Discussion pursued, a vote was taken and permission was granted.

Moderator Miller went on to announce that voting on these warrant articles would take place at the polling place for your town on Tuesday, March 10, 2020. She encouraged everyone registered to vote to come to vote on that day.

Warrant Article 01: ERCSD Operating Budget

Shall the District 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 \$64,059,213? Should this article be defeated, the operating budget shall be \$63,742,468 which is the same as last year, with certain adjustments required by previous action of

the District 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 School Board and Budget Advisory Committee both recommend \$64,059,213 as set forth on said budget. (Majority vote required)

Melissa Litchfield spoke to the article and offered an amendment to decrease the total budget amount to \$63,932,373 due to a reduction in the bond payment from 3.75% to 2.15%.

Travis Thompson seconded the amendment.

Mollie O'Keefe presented an explanation of the budget and tax impact.

Lois DeYoung, Brentwood, made a motion to reduce the 2020-2021 budget number by \$1,309,885 to a new total of \$62,622,488.

Jim Berlo, Brentwood, seconded the motion.

Discussion about clarity of the budget, SAU administration assessment, impact of such a cut on all students in the District, timing of offers for early retirement incentive, whether the cost to educate students is consistent from town to town followed.

Rachel Jefferson, Stratham, asked to move the question.

Bob Montegary, Brentwood, seconded.

The vote to close the debate passed.

Vote on Lois DeYoung's amendment did not pass.

Rachel Jefferson moved to restrict reconsideration and Lucy Cushman seconded.

Vote to restrict passed.

No further amendments were made.

Vote to have Article #1 appear on the ballot as amended by Melissa Litchfield and restriction to reconsider passed.

Warrant Article 02: Sale of Land

Shall the District authorize the Exeter Region Cooperative School Board to sell, on such terms and conditions as the Exeter Region Cooperative School Board determine are appropriate, land identified as 165 Amesbury Road located in Kensington, comprised of approximately 26.36 acres. Full proceeds from the sale will increase the unassigned fund balance used to offset the tax rate. Sale of property is recommended by the Exeter Region Cooperative School Board.

Paul Bauer spoke to the article asking for permission to reactivate the sale which was authorized in 2002.

Dick Wendell clarified that the land was purchased in 2000 for 300,000.00 and looking to receive fair market value.

Motion to accept the article and restrict reconsideration passed.

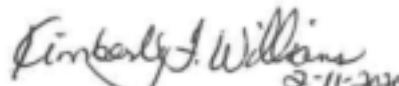
Motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:28 was made by Patty Lovejoy and seconded by Sally Oxnard.

Respectfully submitted,



Susan E.H. Bendroth, Exeter Region Cooperative School District Clerk

February 6, 2020



KIMBERLY F. WILLIAMS
NOTARY PUBLIC
State of New Hampshire
My Commission Expires
September 5, 2023

Minutes of the Exeter Region Cooperative School District
Second Session of the 2020 Annual Meeting
Voting Session – March 10, 2020

The polls were open at the polling places at the hours below to choose the following District Officers: Cooperative School Board Member (East Kingston – 3 year), Cooperative School Board Member (Exeter – 3 year), Cooperative School Board Member (Stratham – 3 year), Cooperative District Moderator (1 year), Cooperative Budget Committee Member (Brentwood – 3 year), Cooperative Budget Committee Member (Exeter – 3 year), Cooperative Budget Committee Member (Kensington – 3 year) and vote on ballot Articles listed as 1 and 2.

Voters in town of	Polling Place	Polling Hours
Brentwood	Brentwood Recreation Center	7:00 AM to 7:00 PM
East Kingston	East Kingston Elementary School	8:00 AM to 7:00 PM
Exeter	Talbot Gymnasium	7:00 AM to 8:00 PM
	Tuck Learning Campus	
Kensington	Kensington Town Hall	8:00 AM to 7:30 PM
Newfields	Newfields Town Hall	8:00 AM to 7:00 PM
Stratham	Stratham Municipal Center	8:00 AM to 8:00 PM

Results of the election of the Exeter Region Cooperative School District:

East Kingston Cooperative School Board Member – term ending 2023 election

Mary Kathleen (Kathy) McNeill 3350

Cooperative School Board Member - term ending 2023 election

David Slifka 3307

Cooperative School Board Member- term ending 2023 election

Travis Thompson 3350

Cooperative School District Moderator – term ending 2021 election

Katherine B. Miller 3562

Brentwood Cooperative Budget Committee Member – term ending 2023 election

Morgan Lois DeYoung 3246

Exeter Cooperative Budget Committee Member – term ending 2023 election

Roy Morrisette 3595

Kensington Cooperative Budget Committee Member – term ending 2023 election

Jennifer Ramsay 3375

Article #1: ERCSD Budget

Yes 2858

No 1889

Article #2: Sale of Land

Yes 3819

No 885

Respectfully submitted,

Susan E.H. Bendroth, ERCSD Clerk
March 11, 2020



James A. Sojka, CPA*

Sheryl A. Pratt, CPA***

Michael J. Campo, CPA, MACC*

Scott T. Eagen, CPA, CFE

Karen M. Lascelle, CPA, CVA, CFE

Ashley Miller Klem, CPA, MSA

Tyler A. Paine, CPA***

Kyle G. Gingras, CPA

Thomas C. Giffen, CPA

Ryan T. Gibbons, CPA, CFE

Robert E. McDermott, CPA**

Justin Lash, CPA

Sylvia Y. Piro, MSA, CFE

* Also licensed in Maine

** Also licensed in Massachusetts

*** Also licensed in Vermont

January 7, 2021

Members of the School Board
Exeter Region Cooperative School District
30 Linden Street
Exeter, NH 03833

To the Members of the School Board:

This is to advise you that as of January 7, 2021, the audit of the financial statements for the year ending June 30, 2020 has been substantially completed and we are in the process of finalizing the audit. A completed audit report will be sent to you in late February 2021.

Respectfully,

Michael J. Campo, CPA
Director

PLODZIK & SANDERSON, P.A.
Certified Public Accountants

193 North Main Street • Concord • New Hampshire • 03301-5063 • 603-225-6996 • www.plodzik.com



Annual Report of SAU 16

For the Year Ending June 30, 2020

For the Proposed 2021-2022 Budget



SAU16 ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDING 2020

VISION FOR THE GRADUATE

Each graduate demonstrates engaged learning and citizenship through the ability to solve problems independently and collaboratively with perseverance and resilience, and communicates solutions with confidence and empathy.

School Administrative Unit (SAU) 16 continues to strive to be the state leader in innovative instructional practices, inspiring learning journeys, and efficient use of the precious resources afforded by the community. Our schools thrive in large part due to the support from all six towns while respecting the heavy burden that local property taxes have on residents. It was once stated in a previous annual report that “School board members and administrators are very sensitive to the fact that approximately 80% of SAU 16 households do not have school age children residing in them, while also being very aware that New Hampshire is second only to Florida in its aging average population” (Morgan, 2017). Attention to this sensitivity has not wavered.

As the third largest public school system in the State of New Hampshire, we enjoy a strong reputation of offering a comprehensive career training program that includes intense college preparation, contemporary career and technical education, competitive athletic programs, and multiple experiences in the arts. Our students discover their passion here while building their competency for a bright future. They become our leaders, our caregivers, our communicators, and our neighbors. It is a significant investment of time and money, but given the growth and success of this community over the years, it is worth it.

Our professional educators and staff members throughout the SAU offer a boundless enthusiasm for teaching and learning. As relationships with students are built, so too are the core values of integrity, honesty, trustworthiness, and respect for all human differences. Our professionals are committed to nurturing the children in this community toward adulthood through a high quality curriculum, varied instructional approaches, and social emotional learning experiences.

Our experience this year took a different turn in March when COVID-19 took hold and schools transitioned to remote learning. We all learned to use new terms like “social distancing”, “contact tracing”, and “super-spreader”, among others. Learning and teaching remotely became the norm as platforms like Zoom, Google Meets, and Window Teams became the new



classrooms and homes became the new campus. Food insecurity rose among our families and more of our students experienced issues of trauma, mental wellness, and anxiety. As we all worked hard to make the best of the situation that health and safety conditions presented, it is safe to say that there were many challenges that were overcome despite not being the ideal solutions. In the end, this experience has strengthened the resilience of our students and families while providing a reminder to enjoy all that we have.

Some of our highlights are below.

Some Highlights from 2020

1. We want to welcome new principals **Suzie Griffith** (Newfields Elementary School) and **Brandon French** (East Kingston Elementary School) who began their school year on July 1 at their respective schools. We also want to wish Main Street School Principal **Steven Adler** the very best in his retirement as he will take that next step at the end of this academic year. We are so blessed to have such amazing professionals in our SAU and will continue to work hard to seek out and hire only the very best educators.
2. **Exeter High School** conducted New Hampshire's first in-person graduation ceremony during a pandemic on June 13, 2020 following an Incident Command Model logistics system with assistance from 100 volunteers including school staff, local medical personnel, and volunteers from two public health networks. The graduation ceremony was held in the athletic stadium and modeled a safe and effective method for other school districts around the state to follow.
3. **Lincoln Street School** and Main Street School in Exeter collaborated on a district Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Justice committee. Over the course of the year, the committee has worked to review curriculum and curriculum materials, provide multiple staff-wide professional development, and create and initiate affinity groups for school staff, administration, and community members. The most recent result of the team's work includes a reimagined month of activities that celebrates Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.
4. In Brentwood at **Swasey Central School**, navigating remote learning and an in-person return to school was often described as 'flying the plane as it was being built!'. The key word was innovation! For remote learning, educators came to the realization that as much as they wanted to replicate the school experience at home, it was just not possible. In pursuing remote and in-person learning early, Swasey Central School staff were trailblazers for bringing students physically back into the school building in September 2020.



5. There are many ways that **Main Street School** has worked over this last year to actively engage students in rigorous learning. It can be in simple ways, such as having a math talk about how students were able to solve math problems, or through conversations about literature and texts. It is also through Project Based Learning (PBL) that gives students the opportunity to explore interests and share their learning in varied ways. Kindergarten students were actively engaged in a PBL that focused on the topic of community and the essential question, "How could we help families who are new to Exeter learn about our community?" First grade students started the year with a PBL that helped them learn about each other and what makes each child's identity unique. Students investigated the question, "What makes you, you?" Second grade students learned more about the natural environment of our student by studying the question, "What adaptations do animals have to help them survive and thrive in their New Hampshire habitat?" Project based learning sparks and sustains student interest while engaging students in learning that builds upon multiple competencies and giving them the opportunity to demonstrate these competencies in varied ways.
6. Another accomplishment this year at **Main Street School** was our partnership with Phillips Exeter Academy (PEA) students and their Exeter Student Service Organization (ESSO). ESSO students spent time reading children's books to our students virtually each month this year. These books focus on stories that raise awareness of cultural and human differences, and encourage the recognition and celebration of both similarities and differences. Students from ESSO use an anti-bias framework as the basis of the work they are doing with our students. Discussion about the books will include questions about identity, diversity, justice and action. The first book that will be shared with students will be Last Stop on Market Street written by Matt De La Pena and illustrated by Christian Robinson. PEA student Dilan Cordoba selected to share this story because he felt it was similar to his own story of having been born in Columbia and then moving to the United States when he was seven years old. He wants to share the message that, "Being different is a good thing and that the golden rule is always a rule, even when older."
7. SPARK is the newest initiative from **Newfields Elementary School**. The mission of the program is to enhance the learning experiences for NES students that will build strong bodies and minds. PE Teacher Meridith Clemons and school counselor Tracy Alyward teamed up to teach grade levels in creative ways on how to manage frustration and disappointment, accept others' differences, understand various perspectives, and respect themselves and others. It has been a huge hit with the students because the delivery of



instruction from Mrs. Clemmons and Mrs. Alyward is highly engaging and the work is meaningful and relevant.

8. As part of their school reopening plan in September, **Kensington Elementary School** was fortunate to host *Community Days* which focused on relationship building allowing them the opportunity to rebuild a positive community culture after having been away from each other for many months. During this outdoor time together each Monday, they not only established expectations for learning but also on how we treat each other and take care of each other at KES. Teachers facilitated lessons and activities that modeled positivity, resilience and empathy - all skills important for our children to practice and develop during these ever-changing times. It is known that nurturing our students' social and emotional well-being improves their sense of self and is critical for their academic achievement. Our hope was that these days together would begin to provide a small step towards normalcy for our children, welcome them back to a space they knew and become part of the KES community again. Mother Nature gifted us with beautiful, sun-filled Mondays this fall and we are thankful to have had these days to reconnect.
9. Before the world shut down in March, **Kensington Elementary School** was fortunate to have completed their annual *Cultural Passport* celebration. Students' passports were stamped during their Opening Ceremonies on Monday, January 6th and off to England they went! Last year, as they do each year, they honored KES families who have heritage from another country. KES has been fortunate to have many families over the years who are willing to share their stories, photos, artifacts and traditions with our students to help broaden their worldly perspectives and expose them to life outside of Kensington. Previous cultural immersions include *Kenya, Russia, South Korea, Ireland, Jamaica, China, India, Italy, France, Spain, Guatemala, Ethiopia, Finland, Philippines, Croatia and Serbia!* This year students learned to play Cricket, heard stories of Beatrix Potter, sang "Oranges and Lemons" and tasted some "Toads in the Hole" from the kitchen! Closing ceremonies and our annual bonfire were held on Thursday, January 31st. We were so grateful to have been able to carry on this long-standing KES tradition.
10. Congratulations to **Cooperative Middle School** Spanish Teacher Marjorie Pim who was selected as the **2021 New Hampshire World Language Teacher of the Year!** Ms. Pim is being recognized for her excellence, creativity, and innovation in the classroom and as a role model for all World Language teachers in the state of New Hampshire. CMS is very proud of Ms. Pim's efforts in the classroom and congratulates her once again for this extraordinary accomplishment!



11. The **Cooperative Middle School** Student Council, led by Ben Clapp and Patrick Joyce, continue to spread joy and work hard to serve our school community. Prior to the Thanksgiving holiday, students organized a food drive to help support Seacoast Family Promise and New Generation Women's Shelter. The drive was a complete success and we thank the generosity and kindness of our families to help our community. Prior to the December holiday break, the CMS Student Council, along with staff members, created a gift box for each member of our maintenance department. Each box was filled with gifts, cards, and winter creations and then were presented to each member of the maintenance staff to remind them how much we appreciate their efforts. CMS is a beautiful school both inside and out, and we are fortunate to learn in a school and be surrounded by staff members who work hard to ensure our building is safe at all times. It is with gratitude that we express our appreciation to the facilities crew led by Mr. Lyster, for their time, care, and efforts throughout the year.
12. Congratulations once again to Mr. Jim Ropp, Robotics Advisor, and the **Cooperative Middle School** Lego Robotics Team for being awarded the Robotics Education Fund Grant Award for the second year in a row. The award totals \$930.00 and will be used to fund new robotics kits, parts, tools, and other expenses to support the team throughout the school year. Both the students and Mr. Ropp were thrilled to learn of this exciting news!

This past year has been the most challenging year in education for staff, students, and families. We have so many highlights to share despite the year being spent predominantly in remote learning and we could continue listing them individually, however we feel the greatest accomplishment was the community's ability to unify and coordinate services for our children in all six towns. We are ever so grateful for the cooperation and collaboration with the mental health and wellness professionals, public health officials, town managers and elected officials, school district employees, and families. We look forward to returning to this space in next year's annual report with bountiful news of academic programming, student and staff achievements, and more examples of the excellence in our schools.

Respectfully submitted,

David Ryan, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools

**SAU 16
SUPERINTENDENT SALARIES
2020-2021**

SUPERINTENDENT PRORATED SALARY

Brentwood	\$ 8,907.45
East Kingston	\$ 4,431.93
Exeter	\$ 30,149.44
Exeter Region Cooperative	\$ 97,957.72
Kensington	\$ 3,887.09
Newfields	\$ 4,218.67
Stratham	\$ 18,763.70
	<u>\$ 168,316.00</u>

**ASSOCIATE AND ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT SALARIES
(Total 2 Positions: \$147,084.00, \$135,979.00, \$129,697.00)**

Brentwood	\$ 21,843.67
East Kingston	\$ 10,868.38
Exeter	\$ 73,935.22
Exeter Region Cooperative	\$ 240,220.95
Kensington	\$ 9,532.28
Newfields	\$ 10,345.42
Stratham	\$ 46,014.07
	<u>\$ 412,759.99</u>

SCHOOL ADMINISTRATIVE UNIT #16
BRENTWOOD, EAST KINGSTON, EXETER, EXETER REGION COOPERATIVE, KENSINGTON, NEWFIELDS, STRATHAM
2021-2022 APPROVED BUDGET

	FY2021 BUDGET	FY2022 APPROVED	CHANGE \$	CHANGE %
Executive Administrative Services	\$1,280,945.80	\$1,270,760.40	-\$10,185.40	-0.80%
Business Office Services	\$575,375.20	\$553,261.17	-\$22,114.03	-3.84%
Substitute Coordinator Services	\$19,530.94	\$0.00	-\$19,530.94	-100.00%
Technology	\$60,200.00	\$56,500.00	-\$3,700.00	-6.15%
Support Services	\$599,293.37	\$674,258.47	\$74,965.10	12.51%
Total Expenditures	\$2,535,345.31	\$2,554,780.04	\$19,434.73	0.77%

SAU 16
FY 2021-2022
BUDGET ALLOCATION

Town	FY21 Assessment	EV	EV%	ADM	ADM%	Weighted %	Assessment for FY22	Assessment Change (\$)	Assessment Change (%)
Brentwood	\$134,174	\$244,475,209	4.46%	301	6.00%	5.23%	\$133,547	(\$6,277)	-0.47%
East Kingston	\$66,757	\$137,532,876	2.51%	133	2.66%	2.58%	\$65,942	(\$815)	-1.22%
Exeter	\$454,140	\$1,027,377,114	18.76%	950	18.94%	18.85%	\$481,171	\$27,031	5.95%
Kensington	\$58,552	\$153,579,220	2.80%	118	2.36%	2.58%	\$65,941	\$7,389	12.62%
Newfields	\$63,545	\$122,860,346	2.24%	104	2.08%	2.16%	\$55,160	(\$8,385)	-13.20%
Stratham	\$282,638	\$643,557,388	11.75%	545	10.87%	11.31%	\$288,732	\$6,093	2.16%
Coop	\$1,475,539	\$3,146,988,441	57.46%	2863	57.09%	57.28%	\$1,462,099	(\$13,440)	-0.91%
Total	\$2,535,346	\$5,476,370,594	100.00%	5,015	100.00%	100.00%	\$2,552,591	\$17,245	0.68%

* EV numbers are from DOE Equalized Valuation report published 12/20/19

* ADM numbers are from the most recent published DOE ADM Report

FY 22 SAU Budget	\$2,554,780.04
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James A. Sojka, CPA*

Sheryl A. Pratt, CPA***

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Justin Larsh, CPA

Sylvia Y. Petro, MSA, CFE

* Also licensed in Maine

** Also licensed in Massachusetts

*** Also licensed in Vermont

January 7, 2021

Members of the School Administrative Board
School Administrative Unit No. 16
30 Linden Street
Exeter, NH 03833

To the Members of the School Administrative Board:

This is to advise you that as of January 7, 2021, the audit of the financial statements for the year ending June 30, 2020 has been substantially completed and we are in the process of finalizing the audit. A completed audit report will be sent to you in late February 2021.

Respectfully,

Michael J. Campo, CPA
Director

PLODZIK & SANDERSON, P.A.
Certified Public Accountants

193 North Main Street • Concord • New Hampshire • 03301-5063 • 603-225-6996 • www.plodzik.com

SAU 16 CALENDAR 2021-2022

Approved
1/11/21

2021 JULY							Days
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	Student
				1	2	3	0
4	5	6	7	8	9	10	Staff
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	0
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	
25	26	27	28	29	30	31	

AUGUST							Days
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	Student
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	2
8	9	10	11	12	13	14	Staff
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	4
22	23	24	[25]	[26]	[27]	28	
29	30	31					

SEPTEMBER							Days
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	Student
			1	2	(3)	4	20
5	(6)	7	8	9	10	11	Staff
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	20
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	
26	27	28	29	30			

OCTOBER							Days
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	Student
					1	2	20
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	Staff
10	(11)	12	13	14	15	16	20
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	
24	25	26	27	28	29	30	
31							

NOVEMBER							Days
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	Student
	1	[2]	3	4	5	6	17
7	8	9	10	(11)	12	13	Staff
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	18
21	22	23	(24)	(25)	(26)	27	
28	29	30					

DECEMBER							Days
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	Student
			1	2	3	4	17
5	6	7	8	9	10	11	Staff
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	17
19	20	21	22	23	(24)	25	
26	(27)	(28)	(29)	(30)	(31)		

Symbol Key

- = No School / Holiday / Vacation
- [] = Teacher In-Service (No School)
- < > = SAU Early Release

2022 JANUARY							Days
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	Student
						1	20
2	3	4	5	6	7	8	Staff
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	20
16	(17)	18	19	20	21	22	
23	24	25	26	27	28	29	
30	31						

FEBRUARY							Days
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	Student
		1	2	3	4	5	15
6	7	8	9	10	11	12	Staff
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	15
20	(21)	(22)	(23)	(24)	(25)	26	
27	28						

MARCH							Days
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	Student
		1	2	3	4	5	22
6	7	[8]	9	10	11	12	Staff
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	23
20	21	22	23	24	25	26	
27	28	29	30	31			

APRIL							Days
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	Student
					1	2	16
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	Staff
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	
24	(25)	(26)	(27)	(28)	(29)	30	

MAY							Days
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	Student
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	21
8	9	10	11	12	13	14	Staff
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	
29	(30)	31					

JUNE							Days
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	Student
						1	10
5	6	7	8	9	10	11	Staff
12	13	14**	15	16	[17]	18	12
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	
26	27	28	29	30			
							Student
							180
							Staff
							185

****June 15, 16, 17, 20, 21
are snow make-up
days if needed**

Important Dates

2021	NS = No School	
August		
Teacher In-Service	NS	Aug. 25 (SCS&EXE)
		Aug 26-27 (ALL)
School Opens - All Students		30-Aug
School Days	2	
September		
Labor Day Weekend	NS	Sept 3 - 6
School Days	20	
October		
Indigenous Peoples Day	NS	11
School Days	20	
November		
Teacher In-Service	NS	Nov 2
Veterans' Day	NS	Nov 11
Thanksgiving Recess	NS	Nov 24-26
School Days	17	
December		
Holiday Break	NS	Dec 24-31
School Days	17	
2022		
January		
Holiday Break	NS	Jan 1 (Obs 12/31)
MLK, Jr. Day	NS	Jan 17
School Days	20	
February		
Winter Vacation	NS	Feb 21-25
School Days	15	
March		
Teacher In-Service	NS	Mar 8
School Days	22	
April		
Spring Vacation	NS	Apr 25-29
School Days	16	
May		
Memorial Day	NS	May 30
School Days	21	
June		
Last day for students		June 14**
Teacher In-Service	NS	17
School Days	10	
Graduation:	June 10th pending board approval	