

2024 SANDWICH TOWN WARRANT

State of New Hampshire

Carroll County, S.S.

To the inhabitants of the Town of Sandwich qualified to vote in Town affairs:

You are hereby notified to meet at the Town Hall in said Town on Tuesday, the 12th day of March 2024 from 10:00 A.M. until 7:00 P.M., to elect Town and Cooperative School District Officers by official ballot, and vote by official ballot on the proposed amendments to the Town Zoning Ordinance; then on Saturday, the 16th day of March 2024 at 10:00 A.M. at the Sandwich Central School to consider all other Town business; and if this meeting is reconvened, the date will be the 17th day of March 2024, at 10:00 A.M. at the Sandwich Central School to act upon the following articles:

ARTICLE 1: To elect by official ballot all necessary Town and Cooperative School District Officers for the ensuing year. On the ballot for the Town of Sandwich are the following positions:

- One (1) Moderator for 2-Year Term
- One (1) Selectman for 3-Year Term
- One (1) Supervisor of the Checklist for 6-Year Term
- One (1) Trustee of Trust Funds for 3-Year Term
- One (1) Sewer Commissioner for 3-Year Term
- One (1) Cemetery Trustee for 3-Year Term
- Two (2) Library Trustees for 3-Year Term

ARTICLE 2: To see how the Town will vote by official ballot on the proposed amendments to the *Town of Sandwich Zoning Ordinance* as follows:

1. Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 1 as proposed by the Planning Board to the Sandwich Zoning Ordinance as follows:

In § 150-5. Definitions:

As used in this ordinance, to amend or add the following terms to conform to the language used by NH Department of Environmental Services (NHDES):

BIOSOLIDS, COMMERCIAL, IMPERVIOUS SURFACE, PUBLIC WATER SYSTEM, REGULATED SUBSTANCE, SANITARY PROTECTIVE RADIUS, SEASONAL HIGH-WATER TABLE, WELLHEAD PROTECTION AREA, SEPTAGE, and SLUDGE

2. Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 2 as proposed by the Planning Board to the Sandwich Zoning Ordinance:

To revise various provisions of Article XVII Groundwater Protection Overlay Ordinance to conform to current NHDES language and standards?

3. Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No.3 to the Sandwich Zoning Ordinance as recommended by the Planning Board, as follows:

Amend the definition of Accessory Dwelling Unit (Attached) and Accessory Dwelling Unit (Detached) to increase the permissible size of ADUs from 1,000 square feet to the greater of 50% of the net living area of the principal single-family dwelling or 1,000 square feet with a maximum square footage of 1,500 square feet; and amend the regulations regarding ADUs to provide that ADUs are not permitted on lots where more than one dwelling unit already exists. Further, to allow the conversion of accessory structures to detached ADUs only if the structure meets the required setbacks for detached ADUs.

4. Are you in favor of Amendment No. 4 to the Sandwich Zoning Ordinance as recommended by the Planning Board, as follows:

Amend Section 150-7 11 to require that the principal dwelling unit or the ADU (attached or detached) be the primary residence of or be exclusively occupied by the owner of the property.

5. Are you in favor of Amendment No. 5 to the Sandwich Zoning Ordinance as recommended by the Planning Board, as follows:

Amend the definition of "Bunkhouse / Sleeping Cabin" as an accessory residential structure with sleeping quarters for temporary use by guests or employees of the owner of the principal use on the lot, which may contain sanitary facilities, but which may not contain cooking facilities.

6. Are you in favor of Amendment No. 6 to the Sandwich Zoning Ordinance as recommended by the Planning Board, as follows:

Add definitions of "Dwelling", "Dwelling Unit", "Principal Dwelling", "Single-Family Dwelling", and "Two-Family Dwelling".

7. Are you in favor of Amendment No. 7 to the Sandwich Zoning Ordinance as recommended by the Planning Board, as follows:

Amend the definitions of Dwelling to clarify that dwellings are structures designed for or occupied by one or more families; amend the definition of "Multiple Unit Dwelling" or "Developments and Multiple Unit Structures" to clarify that they consist of three or more dwelling units; and amend the definition of "Principal Structure" as a structure which is the primary use of the property, excluding telecommunications facilities.

8. Are you in favor of Amendment No. 8 to the Sandwich Zoning Ordinance as recommended by the Planning Board, as follows:

Replace various references to "principal dwelling units" with "principal structure" or "principal dwelling," and replace various references to "single unit dwellings" with "single family dwellings" throughout the Ordinance.

9. Are you in favor of Amendment No. 9 to the Sandwich Zoning Ordinance as recommended by the Planning Board, as follows:

Amend the structures and uses permitted in the Rural/Residential District to include two family dwellings and conversions of single-family dwellings to two-family dwellings.

10. Are you in favor of Amendment No. 10 to the Sandwich Zoning Ordinance as recommended by the Planning Board, as follows:

Amend the structures and uses permitted in the Village Zoning District to include two-family dwellings and conversions of single-family dwelling to two-family dwellings.

11. Are you in favor of Amendment No. 11 to the Sandwich Zoning Ordinance as recommended by the Planning Board, as follows:

Amend the structures and uses permitted in the Historic Overlay District to include two-family dwellings and conversions of single-family dwelling to two-family dwellings.

12. Are you in favor of Amendment No. 12 to the Sandwich Zoning Ordinance as recommended by the Planning Board, as follows:

Amend the lot area requirements for the Rural/Residential and Commercial Zoning Districts to increase the minimum lot size from 100,000 square feet of unrestricted area to 260,000 square feet of buildable area if 60% or more of the unrestricted area contains slopes of 15% or greater; and to increase the minimum lot size for multiple-unit structures from 175,000 square feet of unrestricted area to 455,000 square feet of buildable area if 60% or more of the unrestricted area contains slopes of 15% or greater.

Article 2, Question 13 will not appear on the ballot, nor will it be voted on.

13. Are you in favor of Amendment No. 13 to the Sandwich Zoning Ordinance as recommended by the Planning Board, as follows:

Exempt principal and accessory structures from required wetland setbacks if the wetland area is less than 15,000 square feet and is not contiguous to surface waters such as lakes, ponds, or streams.

14. Are you in favor of Amendment No. 14 to the Sandwich Zoning Ordinance as recommended by the Planning Board, as follows:

Amend Article V 150-32 regarding Multiple Unit Structures to require, rather than empower, the Planning Board to review site plans for the development of Multiple Unit Structures.

15. Are you in favor of Amendment No. 15 to the Sandwich Zoning Ordinance as recommended by the Planning Board, as follows:

Amend Article X regarding Steep Slopes to permit two-family dwellings.

16. Are you in favor of Amendment No. 16 to the Sandwich Zoning Ordinance as recommended by the Planning Board, as follows:

Amend the required lot area in the Village Zoning District to clarify that the minimum lot size for cluster subdivisions shall be determined as set forth in Article IV, Cluster Subdivisions.

ARTICLE 3: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$364,000 for the purpose of purchase and construction of a solar photovoltaic system at the Town leach field and to fund this appropriation through the issuance of a note in an amount of not more than \$364,000 from the Community Development Finance Authority in compliance with the Municipal Finance Act, RSA 33:1 et seq, as amended; to authorize the Board of Selectmen to apply for, obtain and accept federal and state grants or rebates if any which may be available for the project and to comply with laws applicable; to authorize the Board of Selectmen to issue, negotiate, sell and deliver said notes to determine the rate of interest thereon and the maturity and other terms thereof; to authorize the Board of Selectmen to expend any state or federal grant or rebate to reduce the principal or terms of the note and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to take any other action or to pass any vote relative thereto. And further to raise and appropriate the amount of \$29,000 for the first year's payment on the note. 3/5 ballot vote required. The Selectmen's vote on recommending passage of this article is 2 yes and 1 no.

ARTICLE 4: To see if the Town will determine by vote the salaries and/or other compensation to the following officers and agents at the following rates:

Town Clerk/Tax Collector:	\$27.40 per hour
Deputy Town Clerk/Tax Collector:	\$20.82 per hour
Welfare Officer:	\$1,500 annual stipend

All other salaries and/or compensation of Town Officers to remain at last year's rates.

ARTICLE 5: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$806,244 for General Government.

General Government	\$ 643,209
Welfare	\$ 33,835
Debt Service	\$ 129,200

The breakdown of the major categories is listed in the budget.

ARTICLE 6: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$348,924 for the Police Department for the purposes listed below. The LEAD program will be funded by withdrawing \$ 1,500 from the Robert Ramirez Trust Fund, it is anticipated \$10,000 will be offset by income from Police Department Special Details, and the balance to be raised by general taxation.

Police Department	\$ 347,424
LEAD Program	\$ 1,500

The Selectmen recommend passage of this Article.

ARTICLE 7: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$143,000 for the purchase of a new John Deere Excavator and to fund this appropriation by authorizing the expenditure of \$32,668.47 from unexpended fund balance representing previously accepted highway block grant funding, to authorize the Board of Selectmen to trade the 2009 Case Excavator for \$38,000 to offset this purchase and the balance of \$72,331.53 to be raised by authorizing the withdrawal from the Highway Equipment Capital Reserve. The Selectmen recommend passage of this Article.

ARTICLE 8: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$83,000 for the purchase of a new Ford 550 and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to sell or trade in the existing Ford 550; further, to fund this appropriation by authorizing the withdrawal of \$83,000 from the Highway Equipment Capital Reserve. The Selectmen recommend passage of this Article.

ARTICLE 9: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$85,000 for ambulance service.

ARTICLE 10: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$337,347 for Fire Protection. It is anticipated the sum of \$5,275 will be offset by income from Fire Department Special Details, and the remainder (\$332,072) to be raised by general taxation.

Fire Department	\$ 330,022
Forest Fires/Red Hill Tower	\$ 2,050
Fire Department Special Details	\$ 5,275

ARTICLE 11: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$808,982 to pay for expenditures for Highways, Streets and Bridges.

ARTICLE 12: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$27,000 for repairs to Upper Road bridge railings and to fund this appropriation with \$27,000 from unexpended fund balance representing previously accepted highway block grant funding. The Selectmen recommend passage of this article.

ARTICLE 13: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$39,836 for the sixth year's lease payment for the two 2020 International Dump Trucks.

ARTICLE 14: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$226,268 for expenditures on Sanitation.

Transfer Station	\$ 214,772
Landfill Monitoring	\$ 8,750
Household Hazardous Waste	\$ 2,746

ARTICLE 15: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$21,000 for expenses related to the operation and maintenance of the Central Sewer System. These monies to be offset by sewer user fees. This article by request of the Sewer Commissioners.

ARTICLE 16: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$5,000 for deposit into the Sewer Capital Reserve Fund. These monies to be offset by sewer user fees and no amount to come from taxation. This article by request of the Sewer Commissioners. The Selectmen recommend passage of this Article.

ARTICLE 17: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$162,412 for Culture and Recreation. Further to fund this appropriation by authorizing the Selectmen to accept \$39,400 from the Alfred Quimby Fund, to authorize the withdrawal of \$450 from the Lena Nelson Trust, to partially offset the expenses by \$1,500 in program fees, with the remainder of \$121,062 to be raised by general taxation.

Parks and Recreation	\$ 150,762
Old Home Week	\$ 2,900
Patriotic Purposes	\$ 8,750

The Selectmen recommend passage of this Article.

ARTICLE 18: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$2,500 for the ongoing maintenance of Quimby Field and to fund this appropriation by authorizing the Selectmen to accept \$2,500 from the Alfred Quimby Fund. The Selectmen recommend passage of this Article.

ARTICLE 19: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$44,000 for the purpose of maintenance and improvements at Remick Park and to fund the appropriation by authorizing the acceptance of \$27,000 from the Alfred Quimby Fund; the balance to be raised by taxation. The Selectmen recommend passage of this article.

ARTICLE 20: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$22,049 for the purpose of Groundskeeping and plowing for roadside parking.

ARTICLE 21: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$ 1,000 to be used to pay for expenses incurred in maintaining and preserving the Town's Meadow Brook property, and to fund this appropriation by authorizing the Selectmen to withdraw \$ 1,000 from the Town Forest Account. The Selectmen recommend passage of this Article.

ARTICLE 22: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$13,281 for the listed purposes for conservation. Further, to fund this appropriation by authorizing the withdrawal of \$3,450 from the Coolidge Conservation Trust Fund, to partially offset the expenses by \$1,000 in camper fees, with the remainder of \$8,831 to be raised by general taxation.

Conservation Commission Operating Expenses	\$ 2,587
5 Days of Sandwich Conservation Camp	\$ 9,594
Green Mountain Conservation Group River Testing	\$ 1,100

The Selectmen recommend passage of this Article.

ARTICLE 23: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$105,671 for the support of the S.H. Wentworth Library operating budget and trust fund management fees.

ARTICLE 24: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$293,000 to be added to existing Capital Reserve Funds and Expendable Trusts as follows:

Fire Pond Capital Reserve	\$ 2,500
Office Equipment Expendable Trust	\$ 1,000
Library Building Expendable Trust	\$ 5,000
Fire Equipment Capital Reserve	\$ 150,000
Police Building Fund Capital Reserve	\$ 100,000
Equipment Repair Expendable Trust	\$ 15,000
Police Department Equipment Capital Reserve	\$ 15,000
Town Building Expendable Trust	\$ 4,500

And to fund this appropriation by general taxation. The Selectmen recommend passage of this Article.

ARTICLE 25: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$10,000 for costs related to update of the Town's hazard mitigation plan and to authorize the Selectmen to accept a grant of \$7,500 from the State of New Hampshire, Department of Safety to offset this appropriation. The balance to be raised by taxation. The Selectmen recommend passage of this article.

ARTICLE 26: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$2,591 for replacement of a police department doppler radar; and further to fund this appropriation by authorizing the Selectmen to accept \$2,591 from the Alfred Quimby Fund. The Selectmen recommend passage of this article.

ARTICLE 27: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$81,215 for replacement of fire department radios and to fund this appropriation by authorizing the Selectmen to accept \$3,867 from the Alfred Quimby Fund and to accept a grant in the amount of \$77,348 from the Federal Emergency Management Agency. The Selectmen recommend passage of this article.

ARTICLE 28: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$3,000 for replacement of computer and phone systems at Town Hall; and further to fund this appropriation by authorizing the Selectmen to accept \$3,000 from the Alfred Quimby Fund. The Selectmen recommend passage of this article.

ARTICLE 29: To see if the town will vote to modify the provisions of RSA 72:39-a for elderly exemption from property tax, based on assessed value, for qualified taxpayers, to be as follows: for a person 65 years of age up to 75 years, \$20,000; for a person 75 years of age up to 80 years, \$30,000; for a person 80 years of age or older, \$50,000. 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 \$25,000 or, if married, a combined net income of not more than \$35,000; and own net assets not in excess of \$80,000 excluding the value of the person's residence up to 2.25 acres.

ARTICLE 30: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen to expend income from the Marjorie Thompson Fund as they see fit, for the benefit of children of Sandwich residents.

ARTICLE 31: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$1,500 for the Tamworth/Sandwich Community Food Center which serves Sandwich residents. This article by petition. The Selectmen recommend passage of this article.

ARTICLE 32: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$3,299 for the operation of Tri-County Community Action Program, Inc. service programs in Sandwich: Transportation, Energy Assistance, Weatherization, Guardianship, Head Start, Homeless Intervention and Prevention, Disaster Relief, and Tamworth Dental Center. This article by petition. The Selectmen recommend passage of this Article.

ARTICLE 33: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$4,000 for the operation of the Doris L. Benz Community Center. This article by petition. The Selectmen recommend passage of this Article.

ARTICLE 34: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$15,000 to be allocated to Ossipee Concerned Citizens for funding to help support the Meals On Wheels program for Sandwich. This article by petition. The Selectmen recommend passage of this Article.

ARTICLE 35: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$4,037 in support of Starting Point providing advocacy and support to victims of domestic and sexual violence and their children. This article by petition. The Selectmen recommend passage of this Article.

ARTICLE 36: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,600 for the support of Interlakes Community Caregivers Inc. which provides support services to residents of the Town of Sandwich. This article by petition. The Selectmen recommend passage of this Article.

ARTICLE 37: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$10,000 for the Sandwich Children Center's financial support for families (tuition). This article by petition. The Selectmen recommend passage of this Article.

ARTICLE 38: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$5,000 for Lakes Region Visiting Nurse Association for the purpose of supporting Hospice Care, Nursing, Therapy and Aide Care to homebound residents who are at medical or social risk, and immunization services. This article by petition. The Selectmen recommend passage of this article.

ARTICLE 39: To transact any other business that may legally come before said meeting.

Given under our hands and the Seal of the Town of Sandwich this 21st day of February 2024.

Respectfully submitted,

Joanne D. Haight, Chairman
Caroline H. Nesbitt
Adam E. Heard
Board of Selectmen

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