

2023 TOWN/SCHOOL MEETING



# 2023 TOWN/SCHOOL MEETING VOTERS GUIDE

## TOWN OF ALLENSTOWN/ALLENSTOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT- DELIBERATIVE SESSIONS

### 2023 TOWN/SCHOOL MEETING

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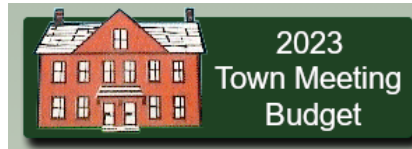
The annual town and school district meeting involves two sessions. The Deliberative Session which will be held on Saturday, February 4th at 9 AM at the Armand Dupont Middle School, 10.5 School St. in Allenstown, and the Voting Session which will be held on Tuesday, March 14th from 8 AM to 7 PM at the St. John the Baptist Parish Hall located at 10 School St. in Allenstown. All registered voters are eligible to participate in the process.

Voters will be deciding on the annual budgets of the Town, School District, and Sewer Dept.

The annual Town and School District warrants are posted on the website along with detailed budget documents to assist voters in their decision making process, and also packets of this information will be available at the Deliberative Session.

Details for each Article in the Town and School Warrants can be found in this guide.

This guide is intended to provide information to voters in regards to the process and matters under consideration before the Town/School District Meetings. The Town website is the primary source of updated information in regards to the budget and Town Meeting. See the main page at [www.allenstownnh.gov](http://www.allenstownnh.gov), and look for the 2023 Town Meeting Budget Icon to the right of the page.



### 2023 PROPOSED TOWN BUDGET AND TAX PORTION OF THE TAX RATE SUMMARY

#### Town of Allenstown

**PUBLIC HEARING ON THE BUDGETS WAS JANUARY 14TH**

**DELIBERATIVE SESSION OF TOWN MEETING FEBRUARY 4TH**

**VOTING DAY OF TOWN MEETING MARCH 14TH**

**WHERE? DELIBERATIVE SESSION IS AT ARD MIDDLE SCHOOL**

**ELECTION AT THE PARISH HALL**

The current municipal portion of the tax rate is currently \$6.21 with the overlay and tax credits calculated into it. The proposed Town Operating Budget for 2023 represents an increase in spending of 4.8% over 2022. Approval of the Budget; however will not mean a 4.8% increase in the tax rate which would be 29 cents. The increase to the tax rate is expected to be between 0 cents to 21 cents. Thus, the Municipal portion of the tax rate will be in the range of \$6.19 to \$6.42. The \$0 increase in the tax rate is wholly dependent on whether the Town gets the same amount of Meals and Rooms Tax Revenue from the State in 2023, and if the State continues to give us money towards State Retirement Contributions as they did in 2022. If the State had not given us this money in 2022, the 2022 Municipal Tax Rate would have been approximately \$6.42. Thus, this state money was used to reduce the tax rate, and the same would be done in 2023, so contact your State Representative and Senators and ask that they continue to provide these funds at the 2022 levels!

**2023 PROPOSED TOWN BUDGET  
(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)**

The Town is proposing utilizing \$100,000 from Unassigned Fund Balance (UFB) to reduce the proposed tax rate for 2023. This amounts to a reduction to the tax rate of about 20 cents from what it would otherwise be. The amount of UFB used in 2022 was \$195,000.

One of the most important things that one can know about utilizing unassigned fund balance to lower the tax rate is that you can't do it forever. Eventually, the amount gets to a point where there isn't anymore to utilize for tax reduction purposes. The reason that we have and utilize unassigned fund balance is for cash flow to fill in the gaps of any interruption in property tax revenue or non-property tax revenues during the times between tax collection dates. This is done to avoid having to borrow short term money to pay the towns bills, and also to even out the tax rate, and to have funds should some other unforeseen emergency arise. We have tapped UFB pretty hard over the last several years, but also continue to try to contain it at the appropriate levels to be used in future years. As the UFB declines, we use less and less of it to reduce the tax rate, yet hold taxes down by utilizing new property tax dollars from new development in town. More detailed use of UFB to lower taxes is shown on Page 20 of this guide. We also fund our Capital Reserve Funds by utilizing Unassigned Fund Balance as you will find in those Warrant Articles. Thus it is important to balance the use of these funds against future property tax revenues from the new development/valuation, with the goal as always to keep future tax rate increases at a minimum. That is the current town management philosophy. It has served us well over the last several years.

**5 Year History of the Municipal Portion of the Tax Rate**

**2018=\$10.12; 2019=\$9.68; 2020=\$9.62; 2021=\$8.55; 2022=\$6.21**

In summary, this year's Town Budget increase is \$217,040 or 4.8%. 2023 Non-Property Tax Revenue is reduced by \$30,500 as compared to the Proposed 2022 Non-Property Tax Revenue total (-2%). The Default Budget is \$151,860 less than the 2023 Proposed Town Budget. The Municipal Tax Rate after new valuation, the overlay, and tax credits are calculated is expected to be between \$6.19 and \$6.42. That will be determined by whether the State continues to give additional funds for property tax relief or not, and whether the municipal share of Meals and Rooms Tax comes in equal to last year. It has been reduced back to the 2023 expected levels in the Non-Property Tax Revenue Budget Estimates. Without those funds from the State of New Hampshire, the 2022 Tax Rate would have been the same as what this year's estimated high tax rate would be!

The Board of Selectmen would like to thank all of the department heads, board chairpersons, and members of the Budget Committee in working with them on this year's budget proposal, and we hope that you will vote to adopt the budget at the polls in March!

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## HOW DO I PARTICIPATE IN THE PROCESS

**First** you must be registered to vote. **How Do I Register To Vote?**

- 1) You may apply to your town clerk's office. You will be required to fill out a standard voter registration form.
- 2) You may also register with your community's Supervisors of the Checklist. By law, the supervisors are required to meet on the Saturday 10 days prior to each election. Check the local newspaper(s) or call the clerk's office for the date and time of such meeting.
- 3) Qualified individuals may register to vote at the polling place on Election Day at all elections.

No matter when or where you register to vote, you will be required to fill out a standard voter registration form, and you will be asked to show proof of identity, age, citizenship, and domicile. These qualifications may be established by signing affidavit(s).

Further questions may be answered at [SOS.NH.GOV](https://www.sos.nh.gov) or by contacting your local Town Clerk, Kathleen Pelissier at 485-4276 ext.116 [kpelissier@allentownnh.gov](mailto:kpelissier@allentownnh.gov)

**Second**, you may attend the Deliberative Session of Town Meeting. All of the warrant articles will be open for discussion (except zoning & building code ordinance changes (There are none this year)). The moderator will recognize voters who may speak on the articles. Voters may ask questions, make statements and/or make motions to amend the warrant articles.

**Third**, The NH Legislature has placed limitations on amending warrant articles. Voters may amend some warrant articles; however, they cannot change the underlying purpose of the warrant article. For example, voters can change the dollar amount of a warrant article to purchase a building; however, they can't change its purpose to purchase a vehicle. Voters can't change the default budget amounts in operating budgets. Some articles require specific language which can't be modified.

Warrant articles can't be removed from consideration at the Deliberative Session. Warrant articles which are amended will reflect the changes made at the Deliberative Session and will be on the ballot for the Voting Session of Town Meeting in March. Warrant articles can be amended by a simple majority vote at the Deliberative Session.

At the Voting Session of Town Meeting in March, voters can come to the polls anytime between 8 AM and 7 PM to vote on the articles as amended from the Deliberative Session. Voters can't make any changes to the articles at this session. Voters only have the option to vote YES to be in favor of an article or NO to be opposed to an article.

The votes are tallied by computer and reported the same day as the polls are open. Most articles require a simple majority for passage. Some articles have special requirements such as bond articles and changing the purpose of a capital reserve fund. These articles require a supermajority for passage. They require a 2/3 majority or 66.7% to pass.

If the voters fail to pass the operating budget articles (Town, Sewer and School) the respective default budgets become the operating budget for that entity.



On the [Allenstownnh.gov](http://Allenstownnh.gov) homepage, look for the picture above on the right hand side. Clicking on the picture will bring you to a new webpage where you will find all of the 2023 Budget Information! Also if you reading this document online, then clicking the picture above will bring you to the budget information!

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**WARRANT ARTICLES-ELECTED OFFICES**

**ARTICLE 1 Election of Town Officials**

To choose all necessary Town Officers for the ensuing year as follows:

Town Treasurer - 1 for 1 year

Selectman - 1 for 3 years

Sewer Commissioner - 1 for 3 years

Trustee of Trust Funds - 1 for 3 years

Trustee of Cemeteries - 1 for 3 years

Budget Committee - 4 for 3 years

Budget Committee - 2 for 1 year

Library Trustee - 1 for 3 years

Town Clerk - 1 for 3 years

(Majority vote required)

*Candidates for the various municipal offices must have declared their candidacy with the Town Clerk between January 25th and February 3rd, 2023 (Town Hall is always open from 3 PM to 5 PM on the final day of declarations. Interested residents may contact the Town Clerk or the Town Administrator to learn more about the duties and responsibilities of the various positions. These positions will be voted on at the Voting Session of Town Meeting on March 14th, 2023 this year.*

**WARRANT ARTICLES-ZONING ORDINANCE CHANGE  
AND TOWN BUDGET ARTICLE**

**ARTICLE 2 Town Operating Budget.**

Shall the Town of Allenstown 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 \$4,718,670. Should this article be defeated, the default budget shall be \$4,566,810 which is the same as last year, with certain adjustments required by previous action of the Town of Allenstown 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. (Majority vote required)

TAX IMPACT OF PROPOSED BUDGET = \$6.19

TAX IMPACT OF DEFAULT BUDGET = \$5.90

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen

Recommended by the Budget Committee

***EXPLANATION– This article represents the proposed 2023 Town Operating Budget minus the Sewer Dept. The amount proposed for 2023 represents a 4.8% increase in spending from the 2022 approved budget. It will depend on what State funds are provided by the State Government for Property Tax Relief to determine whether this budget will increase taxes or not. The 2022 tax rate would have been similar to the expected higher tax estimate for 2023 had the State not provided the additional funds. Likewise, if the State provides similar tax relief funds this year, then it is expected that the 2023 municipal portion of the tax rate will be the same as the 2022 tax rate. The estimated tax rates above do not include the impact of Veteran’s Tax Credits or the Overlay. The expected tax rates are best described on Pages 1 and 2 of this guide. The Default Budget is 3.1% (\$151,852) lower than the proposed budget. A more detailed view and explanation of the budget can be found on the [Town Website Budget Pages](#), and in the Budget Overview Document, and in the pages of this document. Furthermore, this warrant article (operating budget) does not include appropriations in ANY other warrant article.***

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NOTES

**WARRANT ARTICLES-BUDGET, SPECIAL, ETC...****ARTICLE 3 Sewer Operating Budget**

Shall the Town of Allenstown raise and appropriate as an operating budget for the Allenstown Sewer Commission, 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 \$2,675,340. Should this article be defeated, the default budget shall be \$2,441,685, which is the same as last year, with certain adjustments required by previous action of the Town of Allenstown 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. (Majority vote required)

TAX IMPACT OF WARRANT ARTICLE 03 = \$0.00

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen

Recommended by the Budget Committee

*EXPLANATION- A "yes" vote would accept the [Sewer Commission's proposed budget](#) of \$2,675,340 for the 2023 calendar year. The Sewer Budget is funded through sewer rents and does not affect the tax rate. Should this vote fail the Sewer Department's default operating budget would be \$2,441,685 for the 2023 calendar year.*

**ARTICLE 4 Library Capital Reserve Fund**

To see if the Town of Allenstown will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$3,000 to be added to the Library Capital Reserve Fund previously established. This sum to come from unassigned fund balance. No amount to be raised from taxation. (Majority Vote Required)

TAX IMPACT OF WARRANT ARTICLE 04 = \$0.00

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen

Recommended by the Budget Committee

*EXPLANATION- The purposes of this fund is for construction and maintenance issues at the Library. This article proposes to transfer the sum of \$3,000 from the unassigned fund balance to this capital reserve fund. As this is a transfer from one account to another, no funds will be raised resulting in no impact on the tax rate. The capital reserve fund has a balance of \$12,719 in it as of 12/31/2022.*



**WARRANT ARTICLES-BUDGET, SPECIAL, ETC...****ARTICLE 5 Public Safety Facilities Capital Reserve Fund**

To see if the Town of Allenstown will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$45,000 to be added to the Public Safety Facilities Capital Reserve Fund previously established. This sum to come from unassigned fund balance. No amount to be raised from taxation. (Majority vote required)

TAX IMPACT OF WARRANT ARTICLE 05 = \$0.00

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen

Recommended by the Budget Committee

*EXPLANATION- This article proposes to transfer funds from the unassigned fund balance to this capital reserve fund. The Public Safety Facilities Capital Reserve Fund is used for the purpose of repairs and renovations to the police and fire department facilities. The Fire Station upstairs area that is currently being finished, by insulating, plumbing, a sprinkler system, and finishing interior walls in order for it to be usable space. We also did a parking lot sealing project this year. The Police Station will be doing repairs to its accessibility ramp because the concrete is spalling in 2023. The capital reserve fund has a balance of \$23,567 in it as of 12/31/2022. As this is a transfer from one account to another, no funds will be raised resulting in no impact on the tax rate.*

**ARTICLE 6 Highway Equipment Capital Reserve Fund**

To see if the Town of Allenstown will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$15,000 to be added to the Highway Equipment Capital Reserve Fund previously established. This sum to come from unassigned fund balance. No amount to be raised from taxation. (Majority vote required)

TAX IMPACT OF WARRANT ARTICLE 06 = \$0.00

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen

Recommended by the Budget Committee

*EXPLANATION- This article proposes to transfer funds from the unassigned fund balance to this capital reserve fund. The Highway Equipment Capital Reserve Fund is used for the purpose of purchasing vehicles and equipment for the Highway Department. The capital reserve fund has a balance of \$45,115 as of 12/31/2022. As this is a transfer from one account to another, no funds will be raised resulting in no impact on the tax rate.*

**WARRANT ARTICLES-BUDGET, SPECIAL, ETC...****ARTICLE 7 Economic Development Capital Reserve Fund**

To see if the Town of Allenstown will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$10,000 to be added to the Economic Development Capital Reserve Fund previously established. This sum to come from unassigned fund balance. No amount to be raised from taxation. (Majority vote required)

TAX IMPACT OF WARRANT ARTICLE 07 = \$0.00

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen  
Recommended by the Budget Committee

*EXPLANATION- This fund is used to fund community development projects that boost the image of Allenstown, and enhance the quality of life and quality of place in Allenstown. These types of projects are implemented to encourage economic development related efforts in Allenstown. The Allenstown Economic Development Committee will continue to meet and develop plans and ideas, and bring them to the Selectboard for funding. The capital reserve fund has a balance of \$40,280 as of 12/31/2022. As this is a transfer from one account to another, no funds will be raised resulting in no impact on the tax rate.*

**ARTICLE 8 Assessing Valuation Update Capital**

To see if the Town of Allenstown will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$16,000 to be added to the Assessing Valuation Update Capital Reserve Fund previously established. This sum to come from unassigned fund balance. No amount to be raised from taxation. (Majority vote required)

TAX IMPACT OF WARRANT ARTICLE 08 = \$0.00

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen  
Recommended by the Budget Committee

*EXPLANATION- This article proposes to transfer funds from the unassigned fund balance to this capital reserve fund. The Assessing Valuation Update Capital Reserve Fund is used to save up a total of \$78,312 to meet our constitutional and statutory requirement that assessments are at full and true value at least as often as every fifth year. The Valuation Update was done this past year. The capital reserve fund will be depleted when that bill is paid. This is the first year of funding for the next update. As this is a transfer from one account to another, no funds will be raised resulting in no impact on the tax rate.*



**WARRANT ARTICLES-BUDGET, SPECIAL, ETC...****ARTICLE 9 Parks and Recreation Projects Capital Reserve Fund**

To see if the Town of Allenstown will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$45,000 to be added to the Parks and Recreation Projects Capital Reserve Fund previously established. This sum to come from unassigned fund balance. No amount to be raised from taxation. (Majority vote required.)

TAX IMPACT OF WARRANT ARTICLE 09 = \$0.00

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen

Recommended by the Budget Committee

*EXPLANATION- This fund is used to pay for the costs of parks and recreation facilities and infrastructure, and purchase property for those needs. This year funds were spent on starting the Rail Trail construction, improvements at the ice rink including a snow blower, a storage container and a shelter. Hand Dryers were also installed at the Community Center in the kitchen and bathrooms in 2022. This capital reserve fund has a balance of \$66,159 as of 12/31/2022. As this is a transfer from one account to another, no funds will be raised resulting in no impact on the tax rate.*

**ARTICLE 10 Road Repair and Paving Capital Reserve Fund**

To see if the Town of Allenstown will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$91,000 to be added to the Road Repair & Paving Capital Reserve Fund previously established. This sum to come from unassigned fund balance. No amount to be raised from taxation. (Majority vote required)

TAX IMPACT OF WARRANT ARTICLE 10 = \$0.00

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen

Recommended by the Budget Committee

*EXPLANATION- This CRF is used to supplement road construction costs in the Highway Budget to help flatten out any bubbles in project costs during the road repair/paving timelines, so that these project costs won't create bumps to the tax rate. This capital reserve fund has a balance of \$199,170 as of 12/31/2022. As this is a transfer from one account to another, no funds will be raised resulting in no impact on the tax rate.*

**WARRANT ARTICLES-BUDGET, SPECIAL, ETC...****ARTICLE 11 Highway Garage Capital Reserve Fund**

To see if the Town of Allenstown will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$25,000 to be added to the Highway Garage Capital Reserve Fund previously established. This sum to come from unassigned fund balance. No amount to be raised from taxation. (Majority vote required)

TAX IMPACT OF WARRANT ARTICLE 11 = \$0.00

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen

Recommended by the Budget Committee

*EXPLANATION- This article proposes to transfer funds from the unassigned fund balance to this capital reserve fund. The Highway Dept. facility consists of garage and office space. The facility must adhere to environmental and other regulations which apply to highway operations. The current garage is inadequate for the operations of the Highway Department. The existing garage building needs to be insulated and reskinned. An additional garage is also needed. The road agent is looking at renovations and an additional structure that will adequately meet the future needs of the Highway Department. It is hoped that this project can happen in 2023. This CRF has a balance of \$417,421 as of 12/31/2022. As this is a transfer from one account to another no funds will be raised resulting in no impact on the tax rate.*

**ARTICLE 12 Fire Department Equipment Fund**

To see if the Town of Allenstown will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$25,000 to be added to the Fire Department Equipment Capital Reserve Fund previously established. This sum to come from unassigned fund balance. No amount to be raised from taxation. (Majority vote required)

TAX IMPACT OF WARRANT ARTICLE 12 = \$0.00

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen

Recommended by the Budget Committee

*EXPLANATION- This article proposes to transfer funds from the unassigned fund balance to this capital reserve fund. The Fire Department Equipment Fund is used to purchase equipment used in fire fighting. This CRF has a balance of \$15,806 as of 12/31/2022. As this is a transfer from one account to another no funds will be raised resulting in no impact on the tax rate.*

**WARRANT ARTICLES-BUDGET, SPECIAL, ETC...****ARTICLE 13 Discontinuance New Town Hall Renovation CRF**

To see if the Town will vote to discontinue the New Town Hall Renovations Capital Reserve Fund created in 2022 for the purpose of renovating Allenstown Elementary School at 30 Main Street, Allenstown, New Hampshire. Said funds, with accumulated interest to date of withdrawal, are to be transferred to the municipality's general fund. (Majority vote required)

TAX IMPACT OF WARRANT ARTICLE 13 = \$0.00

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen

Recommended by the Budget Committee

*Explanation – This reserve fund was established in 2022 to put money aside to study the costs of renovations to Allenstown Elementary School and make it a Town Hall/Community Center, and business space, as well as utilizing it for SAU Pre-K Programs for 4 communities. The study was done this past fall and completed recently. The costs of the study was \$12,500. There will be approximately \$87,500 in this account once the invoices are subtracted from it. If this article is approved, then the remaining funds will lapse to Unassigned Fund Balance and be utilized to partially fund the next article, Article 14, which creates a new reserve fund for the actual renovations to the elementary school building for a new municipal building (Town Hall) and the other uses previously discussed above and in the next article. The reason this is being discontinued instead of re-purposed is because re-purposing takes a 3/5 vote, while discontinuing the reserve fund and creating a new one takes a simple majority vote.*

**ARTICLE 14 New Municipal Building Capital Reserve Fund**

To see if the town will vote to establish a New Municipal Building Capital Reserve Fund under the provisions of RSA 35:1 for renovation of Allenstown Elementary School at 30 Main Street and to raise and appropriate the sum of \$200,000 from Unassigned Fund Balance to be placed in this fund. Further, to name the Board of Selectmen as agents to expend from said fund. No amount to be raised from taxation. (Majority Vote Required)

TAX IMPACT OF WARRANT ARTICLE 14 = \$0.00

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen

Recommended by the Budget Committee

*EXPLANATION– This article establishes a Reserve Fund to renovate the Allenstown Elementary School into a new municipal building (Town Hall), and the building will also be utilized for a SAU Pre-K program consisting of 4 classrooms; and also be utilized as a community center; and for recreation in the gymnasium, which will also be an assembly hall. Also, part of the building will be utilized for private office/business space, a business incubator/Co-Op space, and possibly a “makers space”. The Pre-K programs will pay for their space as will private office and other businesses and the Co-Op space. The “makers space” will also generate income through fees for use. In 2022, the Town hired the Harriman group to take the original Allenstown School Board study of this building*

*(Continued on Next Page)*

**WARRANT ARTICLES-BUDGET, SPECIAL, ETC...**

and change the use to the Municipal Building/Town Hall, and Multi-function income generating space. As one recalls, the original study called for completely renovating this building and adding additional space above and around it to make a K-8 School Building. The estimated costs to do that was around \$17 million dollars. The Town Administrator stated that renovations for a Municipal Building/Town Hall and Multi Function income generating space would be under \$1 Million Dollars. The study was just released, and it shows that it will cost approximately \$660,000 dollars to renovate the building for use as a Municipal Building/Town Hall. These costs can also be spread out over a number of years 2024-2026.

There are grant opportunities to pay for many of the renovations as well as preparing the building for the other uses such as the Co-Op business space, the makers space, and also as an emergency shelter . These grants include CDBG Grants, USDA Grants, Emergency Management Grants and Energy Efficiency Grants to name a few.

The current school will continue using this space until mid to late 2024. This gives the Town time to put away the money into this Capital Reserve Fund to pay for the required renovations. This reserve fund transfers \$200,000 from Unassigned Fund Balance to begin saving for these costs. \$87,500 of that amount being from the discontinuance the reserve fund in the previous article.

**Description of Uses For this Building**

**Municipal Building Town Hall** - This will provide much needed office space and meeting space for the operations of the Town of Allenstown.

**Gymnasium Space** will be used for large meetings and recreation uses by the residents of Allenstown. It can also be used for a shelter during emergencies and for other uses by the residents of Allenstown. The grounds around the school can also be used for recreation space and community use, such as a community garden, and the playground and ball field can be used by the town residents and sports teams.

**Business Co-op** type of space is space rented where small startup businesses share things like conference rooms and equipment, printers, copiers, and internet costs among a few things. Such businesses can operate out of cubicles or rent entire classrooms for their use. Hopefully, one day expanding into larger and larger businesses and employ more and more people.

**Makers Space**— This type of facility houses equipment and tools for residents and users to make crafts, do 3D printing, and also provides equipment for wood working projects. A grant would be applied for through the State to pay for such a space for the residents of Allenstown.

**Professional office space** would be rented and be available for businesses like lawyers or accountants to name a few.

**Pre-K Programs**—The SAU has already stated that it would like to rent 4 classrooms for use as a Pre-K program that the SAU currently operates in Pembroke for multiple SAU communities. This would begin once renovations of the building are completed in the first year for this use, as well as the new town hall. As this is a transfer from one account to another, no funds will be raised resulting in no impact on the tax rate.

**Article 15 begins on the next page)**

**WARRANT ARTICLES-BUDGET, SPECIAL, ETC...**

**ARTICLE 15 Master Plan Capital Reserve Fund**

To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$5,000 to be added to the Master Plan Capital Reserve Fund previously established. This sum to come from unassigned fund balance. No amount to be raised from taxation. (Majority vote required)

TAX IMPACT OF WARRANT ARTICLE 15 = \$0.00

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen

Recommended by the Budget Committee

*EXPLANATION- This article adds \$5,000 to the Master Plan Capital Reserve Fund previously established. The Town Master Plan needs to be updated in 2026. A master plan is a planning document that serves to guide the overall character, physical form and development of a community (RSA 674:2). It describes how, why, where, and when to build or rebuild a city or town. It provides guidance to local officials making decisions on budgets, ordinances, capital improvements, zoning and subdivision matters, and other development-related issues. While the master plan is not a legal document, it does provide the legal basis for zoning and other land use regulations. Specifically, in order to adopt a zoning ordinance (RSA 674:18), the planning board must have adopted a master plan with, at a minimum, vision and land use sections (RSA 674:2). In addition, certain types of ordinances cannot be legally adopted or certain grants may not be feasible unless an up-to-date master plan is in place. This capital reserve fund has a balance of \$1.39 as of 12/31/2022. As this is a transfer from one account to another, no funds will be raised resulting in no impact on the tax rate.*

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**Notes**

(Articles continue on the next page)



**WARRANT ARTICLES-BUDGET, SPECIAL, ETC...****ARTICLE 16 Emergency Services Revolving Fund**

To see if the town will vote to establish a revolving fund pursuant to RSA 31:95-h, for the purpose of Emergency Services. All revenues received for Emergency Services from FEES, CHARGES, OR OTHER INCOME DERIVED FROM THE ACTIVITIES OR SERVICES SUPPORTED BY THE FUND will be deposited into the fund, and the money in the fund shall be allowed to accumulate from year to year, and shall not be considered part of the town's general fund balance. And, further to raise and appropriate the sum of \$25,000 to be added to the Emergency Services revolving fund, this sum to come from unassigned fund balance. No amount to be raised from taxation. The town treasurer shall have custody of all moneys in the fund, and shall pay out the same only upon order of the governing body, and no further approval is required by the legislative body to expend. Such funds may be expended only for the purpose for which the fund was created. (Majority vote required)

TAX IMPACT OF WARRANT ARTICLE 16 = \$0.00

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen

Recommended by the Budget Committee

*EXPLANATION- This creates a Revolving Fund where revenues from Emergency Services from fees, charges, or other income derived from the activities or services supported by the fund will be deposited, and the money in the fund shall be allowed to accumulate from year to year, and shall not be considered part of the town's general fund balance. This fund is being established as part of the plan for terminating the inter-municipal agreement with Pembroke and the Tri-Town Emergency Medical Services (Ambulance Services) in 2025. Allenstown has studied its future population growth due to new development (China Mill Apartments and Hillsbrook Senior Living) coming online in 2023; the TTEMS current budget and future budgets; and the need to enhance our Fire and Ambulance Services for our residents into the future. By taking over these services, Allenstown Fire and Rescue can provide 24/7 enhanced Fire Response Services and also provide a quality Ambulance Service. The Town will use the revenue that currently funds TTEMS through patient billing, and also the yearly appropriation that we currently pay to TTEMS in order to pay for these services. Revenues generated from patients and other services provided by Allenstown Fire and Rescue will be put into this fund to pay for vehicles, equipment, and other needs of the services; thus reducing the amount that needs to come from taxes for these purposes. Allenstown was just licensed to operate an ambulance service in the region. We will provide mutual aid ambulance services in Allenstown and in the region until 2025, and then this will become Allenstown's primary ambulance service while also providing 24/7 staffing for Fire Services also. Having Allenstown Ambulance Service in operation will enhance the service for Allenstown residents; and also the surrounding area through mutual aid when called upon. This article also funds this reserve with an initial \$25,000.*

*As this is a transfer from one account to another, no funds will be raised resulting in no impact on the tax rate.*



**WARRANT ARTICLES-BUDGET, SPECIAL, ETC...****ARTICLE 17** Readopt the Provisions of RSA 72:28, II

Shall the town readopt the OPTIONAL VETERANS TAX CREDIT in accordance with RSA 72:28, II, for an annual tax credit on residential property of \$500?  
(Majority vote required)

Recommended by Board of Selectmen

Recommended by the Budget Committee

*EXPLANATION – This readopts the Optional Veterans Tax Credit that the Town previous adopted in years past. The reason this is needed is that the New Hampshire Legislature passed, and Governor Sununu signed into law House Bill 1667 (Chapter 121, Laws of 2022), amending eligibility criteria for certain veterans’ property tax credits. Effective on July 26, 2022, the bill amended RSA 72:28, the “Standard and Optional Veterans’ Tax Credit,” and RSA 72:28-b, the “All Veterans’ Tax Credit,” to expand the eligibility requirements of the veterans’ tax credit to include individuals who have not yet been discharged from service in the armed forces. Under RSA 72:27-a, IV, amendments to tax credits and exemptions which require adoption will only apply “in a municipality which previously adopted the provision only after the municipality complies with the procedure” specified in RSA 72:27-a, II, unless otherwise expressly required by law. Nothing in HB 1667 created an exception to this readoption requirement. As a result of the passage of HB 1667, municipalities that wish to still provide this tax credit need to re-adopt it. This law change also requires the Town to re-adopt the provisions of the All Veteran’s Credit in the Article 18 that the Town has previously adopted in year’s past.*

**ARTICLE 18** To Readopt the All Veterans Credit

Shall the town readopt the ALL VETERANS TAX CREDIT in accordance with RSA 72:28-b, for an annual tax credit on residential property which shall be equal to the same amount as the optional veterans tax credit voted by the town under RSA 72:28? (Majority vote required)

Recommended by Board of Selectmen

Recommended by Budget Committee

*EXPLANATION – See explanation in Article 17 above!*

**WARRANT ARTICLES-BUDGET, SPECIAL, ETC...**

**ARTICLE 19 Purchase ARD Middle School**

To see if the Town will purchase the Armand R. Dupont Middle School at 10.5 School Street, Allenstown, New Hampshire and to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1.00 to come from Permit Revenue, and to authorize the Selectboard to sell the property after soliciting and exploring concepts for reuse of the property and upon such terms and conditions as the Selectboard deem to be in the best interest of the Town of Allenstown and provided such sale does not include the field which lies between the property and the adjacent Town Hall property. (Majority vote required)

TAX IMPACT OF WARRANT ARTICLE 19 = \$0.00

Recommended by Board of Selectmen

Recommended by Budget Committee

*EXPLANATION- This article proposes to give the option to purchase the ARD Middle School for \$1.00. This is being done for a couple of reasons. First of all, if they School Department sells this school, then the State reduces new building aid for the new school by the amount of the sale price. Thus the taxpayers see no benefit of such a sale. Secondly, the Town wants to break off the field and utilize it for recreation use for the Town. That property is currently home to the ice rink and the walking track around the field. Other possible recreation uses will be a splash pad for the residents of Allenstown, and possibly a skate park in the future. With approval of this article, the Selectboard will solicit reuses of the building by developers over the next year and a half, and eventually sell it to the developer with the best reuse plan as well as start to prepare the deeds and documents for breaking off the field from the property. If the Town acquires this building and sells it, then there is not a penalty to new school funding from information that has been attained. We continue to investigate this information.*

\*\*\*\*\*

**Notes**

(Articles continue on the next page)

**WARRANT ARTICLES-BUDGET, SPECIAL, ETC...****ARTICLE 20 To Modify Elderly Exemption**

Shall the town MODIFY the provisions of RSA 72:39-a for elderly exemption from property tax in the Town of Allenstown, based on assessed value, for qualified taxpayers, to be as follows: for a person 65 years of age up to 74 years, \$40,000; for a person 75 years of age up to 79 years, \$60,000; for a person 80 years of age or older \$80,000. 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 \$40,000 or, if married, a combined net income of less than \$52,000; and own net assets not in excess of \$85,000 excluding the value of the person's residence. (Majority vote required)

TAX IMPACT OF WARRANT ARTICLE 20 = \$0.00

Recommended by Board of Selectmen

Recommended by Budget Committee

*EXPLANATION – With the revaluation of the Town this past year, it has reduced the impact that these exemptions give our elderly population. Approval of this article increases the amounts of the elderly exemptions to \$40,000, \$60,000, and \$80,000 as laid out in the article. Currently, the Elderly Exemption amounts are \$20,000, \$30,000, and \$60,000 respectively.*

**ARTICLE 21 Adopt Energy Plan**

To see if the Town will vote to adopt the Allenstown Community Power Electric Aggregation Plan, which authorizes the Selectboard to develop and implement Allenstown Community Power as described therein (pursuant to RSA 53-E:7). The program would provide a new default electric supply and new renewable energy supply options for customers in Allenstown. There is no cost to the Town Budget, and no obligation to participate. Customers can opt out at any time and return to utility default service. A copy of the Allenstown Community Power Electric Aggregation Plan will be available for review at the Town Clerk's office prior to the Election and a copy will be available at the deliberative session and at the election. (Majority vote required.)

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen

Recommended by Board of Selectmen

*EXPLANATION – The Town Community Power Aggregation Committee has been tasked with designing and creating an energy plan in order to participate in a Community Choice Aggregation Program, which will allow the Town and its citizens to have an Allenstown competitive wholesale power purchase agreement in place which should be less expensive than the current standard offer for electricity and private company offerings to Allenstown residents. This is at no cost to the residents and residents can opt out at anytime, and use the State Standard Offer electricity rate or get their own private energy supply contract. Those who already have their own energy supply contract keep that plan until it expires, or they choose to join the Allenstown energy supply contract. This plan should provide better pricing than the State Standard Offer Energy Supply pricing and should save our residents and businesses money on their power bills! Look on the Town Website for more information about this project and the plan. A copy of the final plan will be available on the town website, at town hall, and at the Town Election in March.*

## BUDGET PROCESS

The budget process is less of a beginning and ending process, as it is a cycle. In late Summer, the Board of Selectmen (Selectboard) issue guidance to department heads and the various boards. The guidance has varied from year to year but usually sets the amount of annual salary increases and other criteria.

Budgets are usually required to be submitted to the Selectboard no later than late August to mid-September. The submitted budgets are generally in two forms, an excel spreadsheet and a narrative explanation. The excel spreadsheets are integrated into one master budget spreadsheet. The Selectboard discusses the budget proposals with the Town Administrator and the Finance Director and directs any changes to be made before sending off the information to the Budget Committee. This year the Selectboard changed up the reviewing of the budgets with the Department Heads and instead streamlined the process by jointly meeting with the Budget Committee to accomplish this task. It worked well. During the Budget process any changes at the Budget Committee Meetings were discussed at the Selectboard Meetings by the Selectboard. The Selectboard also reviews proposed warrant articles. The Board determines which articles it will place on the warrant and submits those warrant articles which propose appropriations to the Budget Committee.

The Budget Committee reviews the proposed budgets submitted by the Town, the Sewer Commission, and the School District. As stated, this year this was done in conjunction with the Selectboard. This process usually occurs in late October thru December, sometimes even into early January. The Budget Committee votes to recommend a budget to the voters for the Town, Sewer Dept., and the School District. The budget which appears on the warrant articles for the Town, Sewer Dept., and the School District are the recommended budgets of the Budget Committee. This can be different than that which was proposed by the Board of Selectmen, Sewer Commission, and School Board. The Budget Committee will also make recommendations on the proposed warrant articles which contain appropriations. The Selectboard also make recommendations on these articles.

The Budget Committee holds a public hearing prior to the Deliberative Session. The hearing was held on **January 14th, 2022, at 9 AM at the St. John the Baptist Parish Hall, 10 School St.** for this year. The Budget Committee presented its proposed budgets for the Town, Sewer Dept., and School District to the voters by reading the articles. Brief presentations were also made by the Town and the School. This is an informational session for voters to learn more about the budget and ask questions. No changes can be made by the voters at this hearing. The Budget Committee votes on the final budget numbers (MS-737) following this public hearing, and then the Selectboard meets and reviews the Budgets and Warrant Articles, and signs a prepared Town Meeting Warrant, MS-DTB (Default Budget Form, and these are packaged and posted on the Town Website, and in at least two locations in the town for Deliberative Session.

The Deliberative Session of Town Meeting is the next step in the process which will be held on **February 4th, 2023, at 9 AM at the Armand Dupont Middle School.** At this meeting, voters in attendance have the power to amend some warrant articles including the amounts of the proposed appropriations. The changes made at this session will be included in the warrant to be voted on at the Voting Session of Town Meeting on **March 14th, 2023, from 8 AM to 7 PM at the Parish Hall.** Voters cannot amend the articles at this session; they can only vote yes or no on each warrant article.

The Town has a calendar year budget which begins each year on January 1st, and ends on December 31st. Voters in March are voting on a budget which actually began in January. The School District budget begins on July 1st, and ends on June 30th of each year. In this case, the voters are deciding on a budget in March which begins several months later in July. The respective warrant articles for the Town and the School District follow their budget years unless otherwise indicated.

Although rare, additional town meetings can be held to address budget issues. The Selectmen or School Board may call one additional town/school meeting if the budget is not approved by the voters. The Selectmen or School Board can also request additional meetings through the Superior Court to address budget crises which occur between town meetings. These rarely occur; however, they are permissible when those circumstances occur.

**HOW IS THE PROPERTY TAX RATE SET?**

The **property tax rate** is set every year usually in October/November and actually this year it was delayed until December. The tax rate has four components:

The Town tax rate for 2022	\$ 6.21
The Local School tax rate for 2022	\$10.65
The State School tax rate for 2022	\$ 0.88
The County tax rate for 2022	\$ 1.76
<b>TOTAL PROPERTY TAX RATE</b>	<b>\$19.50</b>

This rate is assessed for every **\$1,000** of property valuation.

In other words if you own property such as a house valued at **\$200,000** the rate is calculated like this:

$$\$200 \times \$19.50 = \text{a tax bill for } \$3,900.$$

Furthermore, if you would like to find out how much of your total tax bill goes to Town provided services, then you would calculate it like this:  $\$200 \times \$6.21 = \$1,242$  and similarly for the school and county.

**Determining the tax levy:** When voters approve town and school budgets those appropriations are factored into determining the annual tax levy. In the case of the 2022 budget, the voters approved the following:

Town Appropriations	\$4,501,630
School Appropriations	\$12,243,949
County portion of the Appropriations	\$ 906,693

The Town and School appropriations' are combined with County and State Education appropriations and Overlay and Tax Credits are added into the totals to determine the amount of revenue needed to pay for the anticipated spending for the respective budgets and tax credits. In 2021, that total amount was \$18,099,124 in spending at the local level including the Town's portion of the County appropriation and Tax Credits issued. These appropriations are offset by anticipated revenues from various sources other than property taxes. After these amounts are considered the total tax levy for the Town, School, and County was \$9,981,734 to be raised in property taxes.

## CAPITAL RESERVE FUNDS AND UNRESERVED FUND BALANCE

**Why are we proposing to place money into capital reserve funds?** Capital reserve funds are in essence savings accounts for a particular purpose. Capital reserve funds are generally used for big ticket items. Without capital reserve funds, vehicles, equipment, new facilities or renovation of existing facilities would need to be funded through leases or the sale of municipal bonds. Borrowing money for these purposes adds additional costs in the form of interest payments over the period of the lease or bond until those instruments are paid off.

Both capital reserve funds and borrowing money spread the cost of what is being purchased over multiple years. This minimizes spikes in the tax rate. Capital reserve funds make those payments in advance of the purchase while borrowing spreads out the cost in the future. Appropriations to capital reserve funds are invested and earn interest and in some cases result in capital gains depending upon the investment. The Trustees of the Trust Funds invest and manage these fund.

**What is the unassigned fund balance?** The unassigned fund balance, also known as the unreserved fund balance, is composed of two sources. The first is funds from the budget that are unexpended at the end of year. The second source is additional revenues above the estimates for any particular year. This money is mainly used for cash flow between property tax collections times in July and December, and is used to avoid having to borrow money in Anticipation of Taxes; otherwise known as a TAN Note. The NH Dept. of Revenue Administration along with guidance from the Government Finance Officers Association recommends the unassigned fund should be between 5% and 17% of general fund operating revenues. The fund balance for 2022 was 15.85% or \$1,854,934; 2021 was 18.33% or \$2,100,230; and it was 21.23% or \$2,299,192 in 2020. It is important to note that the current Town Administrator and his Finance team look toward future budget forecasts to limit the effects of future impacts on the tax rate. The unassigned fund balance can be used to ease effects of budget impacts and to avoid large swings in the tax rate. **In the 2022 budget year, the town reduced the tax rate, by utilizing part of the 2022 unassigned fund balance. It will also be used to reduce the tax rate in 2023 as previously noted on page 2 of this guide. The Town has now hit a level where it needs to start easing off using the UFB for this purpose because it is getting too low. It is currently equal to about 2.5 months of expenditures.**

In 2020, the Town utilized a total of \$325,294 to fund Capital Reserves (\$233,294) and reduce Property Taxes (\$92,000).

In 2021, the Town utilized a total of \$753,900 to fund Capital Reserves (\$244,900) and reduce Property Taxes (\$509,000).

In 2022, the Town utilized a total of \$595,000 to fund Capital Reserves (\$400,000) and reduce Property Taxes (\$195,000).

In 2023, the Town is utilizing a total of \$580,000 to Fund Capital Reserves (\$480,000) and reduce Property Taxes (\$100,000).

As is proposed in the capital reserve fund articles in this year's Town Meeting Warrant, funds are drawn from the unassigned fund balance and appropriated to the capital reserve funds. This provides the funding for these purposes without raising additional taxes. This will minimize or avoid tax increases in the future.





### **MESSAGE FROM THE ALLENSTOWN SCHOOL BOARD CHAIR**

We, the board, would like to extend a sincere thank you for your continued support. It has been an exciting year for our community. As you know, construction is well underway on our new building. It's truly amazing to see the progress each week! The Allenstown Community School is going to be such an amazing addition to our small town. The staff and students are eagerly awaiting the completion of this project. Weekly updates are available within the New School Updates section on the home page of the Allenstown School District website: <https://asd.sau53.org>

We recently completed negotiations for both the Para-Professional and Teachers Contract. Many efforts went into this process. It is so imperative that we maintain our dedicated staff, who ensure daily success for our students and positively impact their educational journey.

Lastly, I would encourage voters to take a look at the School Funding section on the home page of the Allenstown School District website that was given above. There is a link to a recent Concord Monitor article that was co-written by our Vice Chair, Kris Bellerose. It goes into great details regarding the large gaps in education funding that affects our small town. There are also two other documents to gain an understanding of Allenstown impacts and a video meeting recording to view, which further discusses education funding disparities that greatly impact Allenstown.

Respectfully submitted,

Jody Moore

Chair, Allenstown School Board

## 2023/2024 SCHOOL DISTRICT WARRANT ARTICLES

### ARTICLE 1 – Operating Budget

Shall the Allenstown School District vote to raise and appropriate as an operating budget, not including appropriations by special warrant article 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 (\$12,688,082)? Should this article be defeated, the operating budget shall be (\$12,576,318) which is the same as last year, with certain adjustments required by previous action of the Allenstown School 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.

**Recommended by the School Board**

**Recommended by the Budget Committee**

**EXPLANATION - The 2023/2024 proposed school budget is being introduced with an increase of \$111,764 over the default. That is inclusive of the annual building bond payment we now have for our new school. If the bond payment budget were removed, the budget increase without the bond is less than 1%! The State of New Hampshire Legislature continues to not fix the funding of schools so that the local taxpayer picks up 60% ~ 70% of school costs.**

**Information on the Schools:** The Allenstown School District budget serves approximately 490 students ranging in ages 3 – 21. Some informational points are as follows:

There are 205 students at Allenstown Elementary; 138 at Armand R. Dupont School; 138 at Pembroke Academy; and 9 in the PA Alternative Skills program and Out of District placements.

Special Education Expenses have remained about the same for the past 2 years. The SPED portion of our proposed budget is 25% of the total budget ~ \$3,168,859. You cannot cut a SPED budget because services are both Federally and State mandated.

Tuition to Other Districts is going up from prior year by \$121,333. The PA Tuition Rate = \$14,910 (Last year's rate: \$14,316) an increase of \$594.

Annual Building Bond Payment(s) = \$811,234 – that comprises 2 payments: Feb - \$210,467 + Aug - \$600,767 payments; 2.16% Interest Rate.

## 2023/2024 SCHOOL DISTRICT WARRANT ARTICLES

### ARTICLE 2 Allenstown Para-Professional 3 Year Contract

Shall the Allenstown School District vote to approve the cost items set forth in the collective bargaining agreement reached between the Allenstown School Board and the **Allenstown Para-Professional Association** for the 2023/24, 2024/25, and 2025/26 fiscal years, which calls for the following estimated increases in salaries and benefits at the current staffing level:

2023/24	\$65,442
2024/25	\$19,940
2025/26	\$10,129

and further to raise and appropriate the sum of (**\$ 65,442**) for the 2023/24 fiscal year, such sum representing the additional costs attributable to the increase in salaries and benefits required by the new agreement over those that would be paid at current staffing levels??

*Recommended by the School Board*

*Recommended by the Budget Committee*

**EXPLANATION– This Para-Professional contract renewal had a focus on hourly salaries as they are way too low and we were losing staff to companies paying higher wages. Year 1 has the greatest fiscal impact because of the salary schedule increases. The raises in this 3 year contact as follows: Year 1 = 2%, Year 2 = 1.25%; Year 3 = 0%.**

### ARTICLE 4 Allenstown Education Association 3 Year Contract

Shall the Allenstown School District vote to approve the cost items set forth in the collective bargaining agreement reached between the Allenstown School Board and the **Allenstown Education Association** for the 2023/24, 2024/25 and 2025/26 fiscal years, which calls for the following estimated increases in salaries and benefits at the current staffing level:

2023/24	\$95,943
2024/25	\$110,118
2025/26	\$125,878

and further to raise and appropriate the sum of (**\$95,943**) for the 2023/24 fiscal year, such sum representing the additional costs attributable to the increase in salaries and benefits required by the new agreement over those that would be paid at current staffing levels? *Recommended by the School Board*

*Recommended by the Budget Committee*

**EXPLANATION– This is the contract for certified staff. This contract renewal had a focus on changing to an hourly work day to align with more flexibility in school calendar needs. Changing to hourly days did not have fiscal impacts to the salary schedule. The raises in this 3 year contact as follows: Year 1 = 1%, Year 2 = 1.5%; Year 3 = 2%.**

## 2023 / 2024 SCHOOL DISTRICT WARRANT ARTICLES

### ARTICLE 6 Special Education Expendable Trust Fund

(THIS ARTICLE DOES NOT IMPACT THE TAX RATE) Shall the Allenstown School District vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000) to be added to the Special Education General Expendable Trust Fund previously established, with such amount to be funded from the June 30, 2023 unassigned fund balance available for transfer on July 1, 2023. (NO AMOUNT WILL BE RAISED FROM FY 2023/24 TAXATION)

*Recommended by the School Board*

*Recommended by the Budget Committee*

*EXPLANATION- This article proposes to fund the Special Education Trust Fund with surplus funds. The Special Education Trust Fund is used for the purpose of paying for out of district education needs for special education students. An out of district placement can see tuition upwards of \$200,000. One student that moves into the district and has out of district special education needs can greatly impact the operating school budget if the student was not projected in the current operating budget. Therefore, this fund will be used to supplement unanticipated out of district education needs. The capital reserve fund has a balance of \$257,351. This will not impact the tax rate.*

### ARTICLE 7 School Building Maintenance Expendable Trust Fund

(THIS ARTICLE DOES NOT IMPACT THE TAX RATE) Shall the Allenstown School District vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000) to be added to the School Building Maintenance Expendable Trust Fund previously established, with such amount to be funded from the June 30, 2023 unassigned fund balance available for transfer on July 1, 2023. (NO AMOUNT WILL BE RAISED FROM FY 2023/24 TAXATION)

*Recommended by the School Board*

*Recommended by the Budget Committee*

*EXPLANATION- This article proposes to fund the School Building Maintenance Trust Fund with surplus funds. The School Building Maintenance Trust Fund is used for the purpose of paying for school building's facility issues or improvements. The School Building Maintenance Trust Fund has a balance of \$166,304. This will not impact the tax rate.*

### ARTICLE 8 Technology Replacement Trust Fund

(THIS ARTICLE DOES NOT IMPACT THE TAX RATE) Shall the Allenstown School District vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000) to be added to the Technology Replacement Trust Fund previously established, with such amount to be funded from the June 30, 2023 unassigned fund balance available for transfer on July 1, 2023. (NO AMOUNT WILL BE RAISED FROM FY 2023/24 TAXATION)

*Recommended by the School Board*

*Recommended by the Budget Committee*

*EXPLANATION- This article proposes to fund the Technology Replacement Trust Fund with surplus funds. The*  
*(Continued on next page)*

**2023/2024 SCHOOL DISTRICT WARRANT ARTICLES**

*The Technology Replacement Trust Fund is used for the purpose of paying for school building’s technology needs. This includes Chromebooks used by the students; electronic boards; IT infrastructure upgrades. The capital reserve fund has a balance of \$62,414. This will not impact the tax rate.*

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**NOTES**

# TOWN MEETING

## TOWN OF ALLENSTOWN

Town Hall  
16 School St.  
Allenstown, NH 03275  
Phone: 603-485-4276 x112  
Email: [dgoodine@allenstownnh.gov](mailto:dgoodine@allenstownnh.gov)



W H E R E N E I G H B O R S A N D R I V E R S M E E T

The Town of Allenstown was incorporated in 1831 as a Town.

- ◆ Population **4,770**
- ◆ Median age of **42.2**
- ◆ Land mass **20.4** sq. miles.
- ◆ **33** miles of roadway.
- ◆ The Town employs **30** FT and **47** PT people.
- ◆ Assessed value **\$511,685,811**
- ◆ Tax Rate **\$19.50**
  - Town \$6.21
  - Education \$11.53
  - County \$1.76

## TOWN/SCHOOL REPORTS

Town/School Reports will be available approximately a week before the Voting Session of Town Meeting in March. The Town Report will be placed on the website where it can be viewed and downloaded. Paper copies of the Town/School Report will be available at Town Hall and at the polls in March until they run out. The Town/School reports contain reports from the various departments, boards and officials from the Town and the School District.

## HOW DO I VOLUNTEER FOR THE TOWN/SCHOOL

Both the Town and the School District rely upon volunteers to serve on the various boards, committees and commissions. Some of these positions are elected however many are appointed by either the Board of Selectmen or the School Board. The various board positions which are appointed are as follows: Planning Board, Zoning Board of Adjustment, Economic Development Committee, Conservation Commission, Parks & Recreation Commission, Community Power Aggregation Committee, Old Allenstown Meeting House Committee and the Public Works Facilities Space Needs Committee.

There are other volunteer opportunities such as the Allenstown PTO which is a parent teacher organization. We need volunteers for special projects, internships and landscape gardening at the Town Hall, Police Station, and Community Center. If you have questions about volunteering or wish to volunteer for the Town contact the Town Administrator at Town Hall; or for the School, you can contact the principal of the schools. Volunteers are critical to making the various functions of the Town and Schools operate effectively.