

SECRET BALLOT ELECTION AND
TOWN MEETING REFERENDUM WARRANT ARTICLES
Saturday, March 5, 2022

To Mercy Hanson, resident of the Town of New Sharon, in the County of
Franklin, State of Maine,

GREETING:

In the name of the State of Maine, you are hereby required to notify and warn the inhabitants of the Town of New Sharon in said county and state, qualified by law to vote in town affairs, to meet at the Town Office in said Town on Saturday, the 5th day of March, 2022 A.D. at twelve noon, then and there to act upon Article 1 and by secret ballot on Articles 2 through 27 as set out below, the polling hours therefore to be from twelve noon until seven o'clock in the evening.

ARTICLE 1

To elect a moderator by written ballot to preside at said meeting.

ARTICLE 2

To elect all municipal officers and other members as are required to be elected by secret ballot.

Selectman – 3-year term

Water District Trustee – 5-year term

ARTICLE 3

Shall the Town vote to permanently increase the property tax levy limit of \$691,522 established for the Town of New Sharon by State Law in the event that the municipal budget, approved under the following articles, will result in a tax commitment that exceeds that property tax levy limit?

ARTICLE 4

Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate from taxation, a total of \$277,596.89 for operating expenses to include: Administration, Salaries for Elected and Appointed officials, E911 Officer, Health Officer, GA Administrator, General Assistance, Historical Committee, Technology, Parks & Recreation, Mowing Cemeteries, Town Office Operating, and Town Office/Fire Station Debt Service, and to carry forward \$1,748.43 for General Assistance for the ensuing year.

Explanation: This represents a 1.59% increase of \$4,364.11 from the previous year.

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen.

Administration	\$47,850.00
Selectmen	\$22,500.00
Clerk/Tax Collector	\$28,900.00
Deputy TC/Clerk	\$4,100.00
Treasurer	\$14,800.00
Assessing Agent	\$15,000.00
Code Enforcement	\$10,000.00

E911 Officer	\$1,000.00
Health Officer	\$500.00
GA Administrator	\$500.00
Historical Committee	\$2,000.00
Technology	\$10,000.00
Town Hall Operating	\$20,000.00
Parks & Recreation	\$9,000.00
Mowing Cemeteries	\$5,700.00
New Office/Fire Station Debt Service	\$85,495.32
General Assistance	\$2,000.00
Less Carry Forward General Assistance	<u>-\$1,748.43</u>
TOTAL to be raised from taxation	\$277,596.89

ARTICLE 5

Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate from taxation a total of \$131,335.00 for the operation of Public Safety to include Animal Control, Street Lights, Fire Department, Fire Department Truck Reserve, Fire Protection (water/hydrants) and Ambulance Subsidy, and to carry forward \$276.00 for Animal Control for the ensuing year.

Explanation: This represents a 5.63% increase of \$7,005.00 from the previous year.

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen.

Animal Control	\$7,014.00
Street Lights	\$7,500.00
Fire Department	\$73,450.00
Fire Truck Reserve	\$10,000.00
Fire Protection	\$19,402.00
Ambulance Subsidy	\$14,245.00
Animal Control Carry Forward	<u>-\$276.00</u>
TOTAL to be raised from taxation	\$131,335.00

ARTICLE 6

Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate from taxation a total of \$531,443.00 for the operation of Public Works to include Snow Plowing, Care and Maintenance of Winter and Summer Roads, Salt Shed, Paving and Snow Blowing Rte. 2 Sidewalk, Roads Capital Improvement Reserve Account and to carry forward Local Roads Assistance in the amount of \$44,020.00 for the ensuing year.

Explanation: This represents a -1.33% increase of \$178.00 from the previous year.

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen.

Roads	
Summer Maintenance	\$332,963.00
Winter Maintenance	\$71,000.00
Snowplowing Contract	\$160,000.00
Snow Blowing Rte. 2 Sidewalk	\$1,500.00

Roads Capital Improvement Reserve Account	\$10,000.00
Less 2021 Local Road Assistance (received)	<u>-\$44,020.00</u>
TOTAL to be raised from taxation	\$531,443.00

ARTICLE 7

Shall the Town vote to appropriate from unappropriated surplus \$34,807.86 (representing the unexpended Public Works balances in 2021) to the Public Works Capital Roads Reserve for the ensuing year.

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen.

ARTICLE 8

Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate from taxation a total of \$114,000.00 for Solid Waste Disposal and Curbside Pickup for the ensuing year.

Explanation: This represents a 1.33% increase of \$1,500.00 from the previous year on contract pricing.

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen.

ARTICLE 9

Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate from taxation a total of \$34,694 for the Town’s operation of the Jim Ditzler Memorial Library for the ensuing year.

Explanation: This represents a 10.50% increase of \$3,297.00 from the previous year.

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen.

ARTICLE 10

Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate from taxation a total of \$21,500.00 for Insurance and Worker’s Compensation for the ensuing year.

Explanation: This represents a 13.15% increase of \$2,500.00 from the previous year due to wage increases and increases to premiums.

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen.

ARTICLE 11

Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate from taxation a total of \$11,500 for the Town’s share of Social Security for the ensuing year.

Explanation: This represents a 9.52% increase of \$1,000.00 from the previous year.

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen.

ARTICLE 12

Shall the Town vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to appropriate from unappropriated surplus, the sum of \$10,000 to use as they deem advisable to meet unanticipated expenses and emergencies that occur during the calendar year 2022.

Explanation: This represents a 0% increase from the previous year.

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen.

ARTICLE 13

Shall the Town vote to allow overlay to cover Abatements.

ARTICLE 14

Shall the Town transfer the money received from the State for Snowmobile Registrations to the New Sharon Snow Riders Snowmobile Club?

ARTICLE 15

Shall the Town vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to apply for, accept, and expend, without further action by Town Meeting, money from the State, FEMA, federal or other governmental units, grants or private sources which become available during the year, and to authorize the Selectmen to accept, on behalf of the Town, any and all unconditional gifts of any type of property and use to lower the commitment.

ARTICLE 16

Shall the Town set the date of 30 days from commitment after which interest shall be charged at the rate of 4% per year, or part thereof, on taxes unpaid after that date; and that the Tax Collector shall settle with the Treasurer within one year of commitment?

ARTICLE 17

Shall the Town authorize the Selectmen, on behalf of the Town, to sell and dispose of any Real Estate acquired by the Town for nonpayment of taxes thereon, on such terms as they deem advisable and to execute Quit Claim Deeds for such property? Except that the Municipal Officers shall use the special sale process required by 36 M.R.S. § 943-C for qualifying homestead property if they choose to sell it to anyone other than the former owner(s).

ARTICLE 18

Shall the Town vote to authorize the Selectmen to dispose of town owned personal property, under such terms and conditions as they deem advisable.

ARTICLE 19

Shall the Town use the Excise Tax money to help off-set the cost of capital improvements and maintenance of roads?

ARTICLE 20

Shall the Town authorize the Selectmen on behalf of the Town to negotiate temporary loans, said loans to be repaid during the 2022 calendar year?

ARTICLE 21

Shall the Town authorize the Selectmen to spend an amount not to exceed 3/12 of the amount in the 2022 annual budget during the period from January 1, 2023 to the 2023 annual Town Meeting?

ARTICLE 22

Shall the Town authorize the Selectmen to make final determinations regarding the closing or opening of roads for winter maintenance?

ARTICLE 23

Shall the Town accept prepayment of taxes prior to the commitment and to pay no interest thereon?

ARTICLE 24

Shall the Town authorize the Board of Selectmen to enter into a multiple year contract for snow plowing services?

ARTICLE 25

Shall the Town vote to appropriate from unappropriated surplus, \$53,933.00 (representing unexpended balances in the prior year) to lower the tax commitment.

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen.

ARTICLE 26

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate \$149,437.36 from Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (aka American Rescue Plan Act or ARPA funds) received by the Town from the federal government to include the following projects along with any other projects which meet the criteria as set by the federal government: Town Office generator; 1 year ZOOM fee for remote meeting access; water pressure pump Town Office/Fire Station; 3 heat pumps for the Library; display cases for preservation and protection of Town of New Sharon specific historical items.

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen.

ARTICLE 27

To see if the Town will vote to amend the Fire Department Ordinance to lower the minimum age of 18 to 16 for Junior Firefighters.

Given under our hands this _____ day of _____ in the year of our Lord Two Thousand Twenty-Two.

Dated: _____

Municipal Officers:

Lorna Nichols	Travis Pond	Paula Nason
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Board of Selectmen
Town of New Sharon

A True Copy

Attest:

Pursuant to the within Warrant to me directed, I have notified and warned the inhabitants of the Town of New Sharon, qualified as herein expressed, to meet at the time and place, and for the purposes therein named, by posting an attested copy of said Warrant at the door of the New Sharon Town Hall, the bulletin board outside Sandy River Farm Store, New Sharon Post Office and Douin's Market, being public and conspicuous places in said Town, on the sixteenth day of February, 2022 A.D., being at least seven days before the meeting.

Mercy Hanson, Resident of New Sharon, Maine 04955

The Registrar of Voters will be at the Town Hall on Town Election Day one hour before the election to accept registrations of those becoming eligible to vote. A person who is not registered to vote cannot vote in any election.