

Get out and **VOTE** Tuesday, March 12 at IHG Middle School



ECRWSS
PRSRT STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT #130
Portsmouth, NH
POSTAL CUSTOMER

RESIDENT
Town of
Raymond

Read this guide *before you vote!* • Updates available at RaymondVIP.org

RAYMOND

Voter Information

PROJECT

*“A well informed
voter has the greatest
freedom of choice.”*

~ Raymond VIP Bylaws

2019

2018-2019 Officers:**President**

Susan Hilchey

Vice President

Joyce Wood

Secretary

Dana Zulager

Treasurer

John Beauvilliers

Members-at-Large

Yvonne D'Iorio

Kathy Pouliot

Editorial Board 2019

Susan Hilchey

Stephen Mather-Lees

Deb Doda

Dana Zulager

Bias Checker

Leslie O'Donnell

IT Consultant

Kathy Pouliot

Production

Seacoast Media Group

In celebration of the **10th edition** of the Voter Guide, the Raymond Voter Information Project shares **10 reasons for its success:**

- School staff and elected officials
- Town staff and elected officials
- Business donors and in-kind contributors
- Individual donors and donors on NH Gives Day
- Our RVIP members
- 100's of volunteer Reporters and Readers
- 1000's of volunteer hours
- A vibrant Board of Directors
- Seacoast Media Group
- YOU, for using the Voter Guide and voting!

Raymond VIP is an all-volunteer, grassroots, nonprofit organization. We work to educate community members to vote with the greatest freedom of choice, by providing details about local warrant articles.

We strive to be objective and comprehensive. VIP neither supports nor opposes any political party, candidate or warrant article. We provide tax information but make no value judgement on it. Our editorial policy and our bylaws may be found at www.raymondvip.org.

To comment or to provide additional information for Editorial Committee review on any warrant article, please contact us at info@raymondvip.org or PO Box 813, Raymond NH 03077. To speak to an Administrator of the Editorial Committee, call 895-4030. We value your feedback and always endeavor to improve.

For the latest information on any article, or to make a donation, check our website at www.raymondvip.org

**See you at the polls at Iber Holmes Gove Middle School, Tuesday
March 12, 2019 between 7:00 am – 7:00 pm**

Members of the Raymond Voter Information Project come from a broad range of careers and municipal experience and have many personal viewpoints. However, within Raymond VIP, they are committed to neither support nor oppose any political party, candidate or warrant article and to focus on providing objective voter information. Raymond VIP is registered with the State of New Hampshire and with the Town of Raymond as a 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation and a charitable trust.

SCHOOL WARRANT

School Article 1 - Candidates

The following Candidates’ names will appear on the ballot according to a random selection process in accordance with RSA 656:5-a;

2019 SCHOOL DISTRICT CANDIDATES

School Board for three years (Vote for not more than TWO)

JANICE A. ARSENAULT

JOE SAULNIER

School Article 2 – Operating Budget

This article will raise \$25,300,796 to fund the School District Operating Budget, or, if the article fails, will raise \$24,953,346 to fund the School District Default Budget. The amounts above do not include other money warrant articles on this year’s ballot. If the Operating Budget fails and the Default Budget is in place, the School Board may revisit the Operating Budget and call one special meeting so voters can vote on the revision. (1)

The proposed budget is an increase of \$609,041 (2.5%) over the current year’s Operating Budget and is \$347,450 (1.39%) more than the Default Budget. The proposed budget includes funds for continuing the after school program and adding a before school program, hiring one Math Interventionist to work with Lamprey River Elementary School (LRES) and Iber Holmes Gove Middle School (IHGMS) students, and hiring a district-wide full-time facilities groundskeeper. Also, at the Deliberative Session, funding was added to maintain the YEES (Youth Education Employment Service) caseworker. The proposed budget includes decreases in out-of-district student tuitions, bus transportation, dues and fees, books and software, bond principal, and interest. The proposed budget also includes the following increases in spending: salaries and benefits, student services, equipment, oil and electricity, maintenance services and repairs, and supplies. (2)

Tax cost for the School Operating Budget is estimated at \$17.35 per thousand of valuation or \$3,470 for a house valued at \$200,000. Tax cost for the School Default Operating Budget is estimated at \$16.98 per thousand of valuation or \$3,396 on a house valued at \$200,000.

A YES vote raises \$25, 300,796 to fund the School District Operating Budget.

A NO vote raises \$24,953,346 to fund the School District Default Budget and gives the School Board the option of revising the Operating Budget and calling a special meeting for voter action.

Reasons why some voters might vote yes:

- To fund the School District’s Operating Budget.

Reasons why some voters might vote no:

- To fund the School District’s Default Budget.
- To allow the School Board the option of revising its Operating Budget and calling a special meeting for voter action.

References:

1. As defined by state law, the School District’s Default Budget is the current year’s budget plus or minus any contractual obligations or required increases and less one-time expenditures. Eliminated positions shall not include vacant positions under

recruitment or positions redefined in the proposed operating budget, as per RSA 40:14-b, if adopted. The Default Budget is automatically in place if the proposed Operating Budget fails (RSA 40:13 1Xb) and if the School Board opts not to revise its proposed budget and call a special meeting (RSA 40:13 X and XVI).

2. Proposed staffing adjustments: Eliminations: one Raymond High School (RHS) Science Teacher, 50% RHS English Teacher, 2 Special Ed LRES Para-educators, 2 Special Ed IHGMS Para-educators, 1 Special Ed RHS Para-educator. For details, see www.sau33.com/voterinformation or visit the School District Office at RHS. The money for the YEES worker was added at Deliberative Session and because this is a bottom-line budget, the School Board is not required to use the added \$65,625 for a YEES worker.

School Article 3 - RESS and District Agreement

This article will approve the costs to fund the first year of the three-year collective bargaining agreement reached between the Raymond School Board and the Raymond Educational Support Staff (RESS). (1) This will fund the 2019-2020 school year and approve funding for the additional costs of salaries and benefits according to the agreement covering the 2020-2021 and 2021-2022 school years.

Currently the District pays 97.5% of the cost of each RESS employee’s healthcare plan. The District contribution for current employees will decrease to 94% over the three-year period. For employees hired after July 1, 2019, the cost will decrease to 88% over the three years. These amounts save the District as follows: current employees - \$25,651 in the first year, \$17,100 in the second year and \$17,102 in the third year, and for new employees- \$19,251 in the first year and \$5,134 in the second year; there is no change estimated for the third year because there is no percentage change in the third year.

The agreement includes a salary increase of 60 cents per hour in the first and second years, and 50 cents per hour in the third year. The agreement also adjusts pay ranges and pay grades for current employees and those hired after July 1, 2019, increases the annual stipend for various certifications by \$100 each, and increases longevity pay. The definition of a full-time employee was lowered from 35 to 30 hours per week, and the probationary period for new union employees went from 60 days to 30. (2) (3)

Tax costs would be \$75,702 for the 2019-2020 school year, \$83,131 for the 2020-2021 school year, and \$72,395 for the 2021-2022 school year, for a total of \$231,228 over three years. The estimated tax impact per thousand is approximately \$.08 per thousand for each year of the agreement or \$16.00 for a \$200,000 home.

A YES vote approves a three-year agreement between the Raymond School Board and the Raymond Educational Support Staff, funds the first year, and commits the School Board to fund the next two years.

A NO vote means that the Support Staff will continue to work under the current agreement.

Reasons why some voters might vote yes:

- Agreement with the costs of the collective bargaining agreement.
- To eliminate the need for special meetings to address a revised agreement.

Reasons why some voters might vote no:

- Objection to any or all terms of the agreement.

References:

1. RESS includes Cafeteria Workers, Nurse’s Aides, Paraeducators, Custodians, Licensed Practical Nurses, Secretaries, Receptionists, Accounts Payable, Payroll, and Financial Assistants.
2. Additional terms of the agreement include an increase from three sick days per year to four sick days per year, an increase in professional leave by one day, and members can apply for up to 12 weeks of unpaid leave.
3. School Board Chair Joe Saulnier at School Board Meeting, 12/5/18.
4. The RESS agreement is available for review at the School District office.

School Article 4 - Special Meeting Option

If the collective bargaining agreement identified in Article 3 fails, this article gives the School Board the authority to call one special meeting, at its option, to address cost items in the collective bargaining agreement between the School Board and the Raymond Educational Support Staff. (RESS). (1)

A YES vote allows the School Board to call one special meeting to address Article 3 cost items.

A NO vote means there can be no special meeting.

Reasons why some voters might vote yes:

- To give the School Board the opportunity to renegotiate the contract and then present it to the voters without having to petition the court.
- To save legal fees required to petition the court to hold a special meeting.

Reasons why some voters might vote no:

- To avoid the cost of a special meeting.

References:

1. RSA 32:20, Municipal Budget Law.

School Article 5 – Capital Reserve Funds

This article will raise \$333,076 to be deposited in the following three School Capital Reserve Funds (CRFs) to support the School District’s Capital Improvement Plan. (1) The following CRF’s will be funded:

Equipment, Facilities Maintenance and Replacement CRF: \$235,365 to upgrade the A/C in the Guidance, Nurse, and Administration Offices at Raymond High School (RHS), for security/safety upgrades of the fire alarm panel and safety wall at RHS, to upgrade two bathrooms at Lamprey River Elementary School (LRES), and to make the gymnasium bleachers at RHS and IHGMS (Iber Holmes Gove Middle School) ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990) compliant by adding aisle steps, rails, and handicap cutouts.

Technology CRF: \$75,000 for computer labs for classroom instruction and testing at RHS and the wireless environment at RHS & LRES;

Food Service Equipment CRF: \$22,711 for a dishwasher at RHS.

Estimated Tax Impact: \$0.36 per thousand of valuation or \$72.00 on a \$200,000 home.

A YES vote raises \$333,076 to fund three School CRFs in the Capital Improvement Program (CIP) this year.

A NO vote raises no money to fund CRFs in the School CIP this year.

Reasons why some voters might vote yes:

- The School District is required by law to upgrade the bleachers according to ADA regulations.
- Saving gradually can help avoid spikes in the tax rate and interest on borrowed monies (bonded) that could occur if the total cost of a necessary purchase or repair must be paid in one year.
- Failure to fund the CIP every year causes the plan to fall further behind projected needs.
- Establishing a Capital Improvement Plan gives the town the authority to collect impact fees from developers to help pay school costs that would otherwise be paid out of taxes. Impact fees can be applied to bond payments for school buildings.

Reasons why some voters might vote no:

- To finance high cost items with voter approved bonds.
- Disagreement with some or all of the items to be funded.

References:

1. A CRF is a savings account for scheduled School CIP purchases that cost more than \$10,000 and have a life expectancy of at least five years.

School Article 6 – Discontinue Textbook CRF

This article will close the Textbook Capital Reserve Fund (CRF) (1) because it is no longer needed. All money requested for textbooks will be included in the regular budget. Any money in the CRF account (estimated to be \$0) will be transferred to the general fund. (2) There is no tax impact.

A YES vote closes the Textbook Capital Reserve Fund account.

A NO vote continues the Textbook Capital Reserve Fund account.

Reasons why some voters might vote yes:

- The account will no longer be used.
- Money needed for textbooks will be included in the yearly budget.

Reasons why some voters might vote no:

- Do not want to discontinue the Textbook CRF.

References:

1. A CRF is a savings account for scheduled School Capital Improvements that cost more than \$10,000 and have a life expectancy of at least five years.
2. Statements made by Joe Saulnier, School Board Representative to the Budget Committee, at the December 18, 2018, Budget Committee meeting.

School Article 7 – Professional Banking and Brokerage

This article requests voters to enact HB 1593, which amends RSA 35:9-a II, giving the Trustees of the Trust Funds the authority to pay for professional banking or brokerage assistance fees out of School District Capital Reserve Funds (CRFs). This article was passed for Town CRFs in 2016 (1) but the legislation at that time did not make it clear that “districts” included School Districts; the NH legislature has clarified that School Districts are included. (2) Elected Trustees, who hold, manage, and invest both public and private (trust) funds, have said that investment advice is needed because they currently do not have the financial

expertise to invest other than in CDs, or in savings or checking accounts. (3) Approval of this article would keep it in place for 5 years. (4) (5) This article is considered a housekeeping item. There is no tax impact.

A YES vote will authorize the Trustees of the Trust Funds to use School District Capital Reserve Fund (CRF) money to fund the cost of professional investment services and advice.

A NO vote will prohibit the Trustees from using School District CRF money to fund the cost of professional investment advice and services.

Reasons why some voters might vote yes:

- To attempt to improve the amount of interest earned on Capital Reserve Fund investments and to attempt to prevent erosion of the funds by inflation.
- To enable expanding the current investment policy for Capital Reserve Funds to include investing in the stock market and bond market.
- To provide professional assistance to the Trustees of the Trust Funds in management of Capital Reserve Fund investments.

Reasons why some voters might vote no:

- To prohibit the Trustees of the Trust Funds from using CRFs or interest earned for professional investment services and advice.
- To avoid paying investment fees.

References:

1. 2016 Town Report Page 40 docs.wixstatic.com/ugd/e2e37e_4836e8501ff94d85bb99981db7852c05.pdf
2. Carolyn Matthews, former NH State Representative.
3. Kevin Woods, Trustee.
4. See RSA 35:9-a II. www.gencourt.state.nh.us/rsa/html/III/35/35-9.htm
5. This allows the Trustees to maintain a relationship with a brokerage firm for at least five years if they so choose.

School Article 8 – Fund Balance

This article would allow the School Board to place unspent money at the end of the fiscal year, not to exceed \$75,000, into the existing Equipment, Facilities Maintenance, and Replacement Capital Reserve Fund (CRF). (1) The funds would be used to build up the CRF in order to save for long-term projects; anticipated uses for this CRF include upgrading the following: two bathrooms per year at the elementary school (in the 3rd & 4th year of 4-year project); A/C in the high school Media Center; the boilers in all 3 schools; safety and security in all 3 schools (camera servers, estimate of building a security wall); floors at the high school and middle school; lockers at the high school; and installing chain link fences at the middle school. The Raymond School Board must approve any request to spend money from the CRF. (2) There is no tax impact.

A YES vote means the School Board may transfer up to \$75,000 of the year-end fund balance into the CRF.

A NO vote means that the School Board may not transfer up to \$75,000 of the year-end fund balance into the CRF.

Reasons why some voters might vote yes:

- To better fund the Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) as the School Board and CIP Committee have indicated that the School District CRFs are underfunded. (3)
- To plan ahead for higher cost repairs for such items and avoid tax spikes.

Reasons why some voters might vote no:

- To return to the taxpayers the year-end surplus money that is in excess of any amount retained as required by State statute. (4)
- To bond (borrow) for the expenses as they become needed. (4)

References:

1. This Capital Reserve Fund was established in 2006 as a means to save for items costing over \$10,000 that have a useful life of 5+ years.
2. If this article passes, the CRF balance at the end of this school year is estimated to be \$494,935.
3. See Capital Improvement Plan Needs Assessment dated 8/1/18. www.sau33.com/site/handlers/filedownload.ashx?moduleinstanceid=2174&dataid=6401&FileName=CIP%20Approved%209.19.18.pdf
4. RSA 198:4-b states that a contingency fund may be established by the District annually to meet the cost of unanticipated expenses that may arise during the year.

School Article 9 - Water Easement Funds to CRF

The purpose of this article is to allow the School District to place the funds received from the Town of Raymond into the Raymond School District Equipment, Facilities Maintenance and Replacement Capital Reserve Fund (CRF) (established in 2006) rather than into their General Fund. (1) An easement between the School District and the Town allowed the Town to use School property to drill Well #4 and to install pipes to tie into the existing Town water supply. The District used funds from the CRF, and the Town is to repay that \$110,000 over a period of 5 years. (2) The Town of Raymond, Public Works Department, Water Division, will be the source of income. (3) There is no tax impact.

A YES vote will allow this Town payment to be placed into the School District’s CRF for Equipment, Facilities Maintenance and Replacement.

A NO vote will result in the monies received from the Town to be placed into the School District’s General Fund.

Reasons why some voters might vote yes:

- Think that a designated use for these funds would be appropriate.

Reasons why some voters might vote no:

- Desire to have the income go into the School District’s General Fund.

References:

1. Dr. Tina McCoy – Superintendent, SAU 33
2. “Declaration of Well Water System Permanent Licenses, Rights, & Easements” 5/1/2018
3. Steve Brewer – Director of Public Works

VOTE

MARCH 12

School Article 10 - High School Study

This article proposes the formation of a committee to investigate further the possibility of sending Raymond High School (RHS) students to Pinkerton Academy (PA). (1) (2) It is not a vote to send students to PA, only to explore the cost and feasibility of doing so. Approval of this warrant article would also provide \$50,000 for completing a building needs assessment for converting the existing high school into an elementary school (2) and require a vote by Raymond citizens as to whether to make any agreement with PA or any other school district. (3) All findings would be reported to the School Board on or before December 1, 2019. Estimated tax impact: \$0.053 per thousand of valuation or \$10.60 on a \$200,000 home.

A YES vote authorizes the School Board to form a study committee to consider tuitioning high school students to Pinkerton Academy, raises \$50,000 for a building needs assessment & design analysis to convert the high school into an elementary school, and requires the voters to approve entering an agreement with another school district, except in the case of an emergency.

A NO vote does not create a study committee as described above or approve funding for a high school conversion.

- Reasons why some voters might vote yes:
- To determine if a tuition agreement with Pinkerton Academy and converting the high school would be advantageous to students and taxpayers.

- Reasons why some voters might vote no:
- Do not want to explore the possibility of sending Raymond students to Pinkerton.
 - Do not want to fund a needs assessment of moving the elementary school to the high school building.

Reference:

- “Non-Binding Warrant Article to Consider Tuitioning to Pinkerton.” *School Board Meeting News*, Raymond Area News, 12/10/18. www.raymondareanews.com/news/school/raymond/School-Board/2018-school-board-mtgs.php#12052018
- McCoy, Tina, et al., “High School Options - Preliminary Comparisons Raymond High School vs. Pinkerton Academy”. www.sau33.com/site/handlers/filedownload.ashx?moduleinstanceid=2250&dataid=6938&FileName=Article%2010%20High%20School%20Study.pdf
- This requirement for a vote before entering an agreement with another school district was added at the School Deliberative Session, 2/2/19. A “friendly amendment” was also added that the sense of the meeting is that the vote requirement does not apply to emergencies (such as fire destroying the high school).

SEE YOU AT THE POLLS!
Tuesday March 12, 2019
7 AM to 7 PM
Iber Holmes Gove
Middle School
1 Stephen Batchelder Parkway

TOWN WARRANT

2019 TOWN OF RAYMOND CANDIDATES –The following Candidates’ names are in the order that will appear on the ballot that is determined by a random selection process in accordance with RSA 656:5-a:

Two (2) Selectmen for 3-year terms:

Carlos A. Maldonado
Joshua Mann
Kathleen M. Hoelzel
Chris “Turtle” Long

One (1) Budget Committee Member for a 1-year term:

Sarah Maldonado

Two (2) Budget Committee Members for 3-year terms:

Michael DiTommaso
Christine Harris
Sharon Stolts

Two (2) Planning Board Members for 3-year terms:

Gretchen Gott
Jonathan N. Wood

One (1) Ethics Committee Member for a 3-year term:

Pamela Turcotte

One (1) Trustee of the Trust Funds for a 3-year term:

Mark D. Desrochers

One (1) Library Trustee for a 3-year term:

Terry Austrew
Jill Galus

One (1) Supervisor of the Checklist for a 1-year term:

Aimee Hayes

Town Article 2 - Zoning Amendment Section 6.6.3 Allowed Use

This amendment clarifies the allowed excavation uses and Special Permit requirements. Adoption of this amendment will result in a Special Permit requirement for certain activities instead of a Special Exception (such as screening of on-site material). A Special Permit is issued by the Planning Board and a Special Exception is issued by the Zoning Board of Adjustment. Additionally, this amendment would provide a definition for a Minor Topographical Adjustment. Adoption of this language will not result in any change in zoning boundaries. (1)

A YES vote will change the current requirement, so the applicant would need to seek a Special Permit from the Planning Board.

A NO vote will maintain the current requirement, in which the applicant would have to seek a Special Exception from the Zoning Board of Adjustment.

Reasons why some voters might vote yes:

- To increase the flexibility of the definition.
- To streamline the process for an applicant to seek permission for earth excavation.

Reasons why some voters might vote no:

- To leave the definition as is.
- To leave the requirement as is.

References:

1. Planning Board 1/10/19.
2. See the Town's current Zoning Ordinance. docs.wixstatic.com/ugd/e2e37e_2e222dbbc8344001b531bf1960561e62.pdf

Town Article 3- Zoning Amendment Section 4.9.3 District Boundaries

This article changes the definition for Shoreland Protection in Zone G (Conservation District) from “any area of land within seventy-five (75) feet of the seasonal high water mark of the Branch River, Dudley Brook, Fordway Brook, and other perennial major brooks, streams or ponds” to “any area of land within seventy-five (75) feet of the seasonal high-water mark of any river, brook, stream, pond or lake” as shown on the Water Resource and Protection Plan. (1) The Water Resource Management Plan documents the rivers, streams, brooks, ponds, and lakes in Raymond. This wording change defines the waters that are included in the 75 feet protection by referring to a list of waters included in a Town plan, instead of using “other perennial major brooks, streams or ponds” language which is not as clear. Additionally, the change expands Shoreland Protection for Zone G from 50 feet to 75 feet for any river, brook, stream, pond and lake.

A YES vote adds a reference to the Water Resource and Protection Plan for the current 75 feet shoreland protection and expands protection from 50 to 75 feet for all rivers, brooks, streams, ponds, and lakes.

A NO vote leaves the zoning as is.

Reasons why some voters might vote yes:

- To define the waters protected under the 75 feet Shoreland Protection based on a Town plan and leave less to interpretation.
- Expand the 75 feet protection to all rivers, brooks, streams, ponds and lakes that are not currently documented.

Reasons why some voters might vote no:

- Does not expand the 50 feet Shoreland Protection to 75 feet for those waters not currently protected by the 75 feet language.

References:

1. See the Town's Water Resource and Protection Plan. www.raymondnh.gov/community-development-planning
2. See the Town's 2008 Zoning Ordinance. docs.wixstatic.com/ugd/e2e37e_2e222dbbc8344001b531bf1960561e62.pdf

Town Article 4 - Zoning Amendment Section 2.9 Wetlands

This article removes the reference to Expandable Pooled Mitigation Plan, which no longer applies; adds a requirement for input from the Conservation Commission to the Planning Board when wetland mitigation is required; specifies the watersheds applicable under this section of the ordinance to include the Lamprey River and Exeter-Squamscott watershed; and clarifies the order of preference for mitigation options outlined in the ordinance. If the preferred options for mitigation wholly within the Town of Raymond cannot be achieved, the final option can be achieved outside the Town of Raymond, but within a five-mile radius of the proposed

development area. (1) (2) (3)

A YES vote updates & clarifies wording and allows input from the Conservation Commission to the Planning Board regarding wetland mitigation.

A NO vote leaves the zoning as is with the section that no longer applies, and no requirement for input from the Conservation Commission when wetland mitigation applies.

Reasons why some voters might vote yes:

- To remove obsolete language.
- To clarify the ordinance so that applicable watersheds are clearly identified.
- To clarify the order of mitigation options and to clarify that the last option allows for mitigation outside of the Town of Raymond if the other options cannot be achieved.

Reasons why some voters might vote no:

- To leave the language as is and leave input from the Conservation Commission optional for the Planning Board.

References:

1. See the Town Zoning Ordinance, Wetlands. Article II, Section 2.9 Subsection 2.9.1 entitled No Net Loss of Wetlands docs.wixstatic.com/ugd/e2e37e_2e222dbbc8344001b531bf1960561e62.pdf
2. The Town's wetlands ordinance prioritizes the steps for wetland mitigation; this warrant article expands the mitigation option in the 5-mile radius in the event the area is outside of the Town boundary. See sections 2.9.1 through 2.9.3. docs.wixstatic.com/ugd/e2e37e_2e222dbbc8344001b531bf1960561e62.pdf
3. “The (Planning) board discussed the language that would allow a developer to address the No Net Loss activity by providing three options: 1-within the actual development within Raymond; 2-within Raymond but within a 5-mile radius of the development; 3-in cases where neither 1 nor 2 can be reasonably achieved, within a 5-mile radius of the development but in another town, after approval by the Planning Board and Conservation Commission.” Planning Board Meeting, Raymond Area News, 1-22-19. www.raymondareanews.com/news/municipal/raymond/Planning-Board/2019-Planning-Board-meetings.php#01102019

Town Article 5 - Zoning Amendment No. 4 – Zoning Amendment - Section 6.5.5

This article will clarify wording in the Zoning Ordinance specific to C.3 (Mixed Use Commercial District) both East and West. The C.3 East and C.3 West districts, located on either side of Route 102 just past the intersection with Fremont Road, do not allow multi-family housing (2017 Warrant Article 11 - Citizen Petition). However, if a variance is granted by the Zoning Board of Adjustment (ZBA), this article will allow no more than 3 bedrooms per acre of developable land in the C.3 district. (1) Additionally, the article updates the reference to the NH Code regarding multi-family density, owing to a reorganization of the rules by the State of NH.

A YES vote will approve clarification of the C.3 East and West Zoning Districts, allow no more than 3 bedrooms per acre of developable land in the C3 district with a variance, and update the reference to the New Hampshire Code of Administrative Rules.

A NO vote leaves current language in place.

Reasons why some voters might vote yes:

- To be more specific about allowable development.
- To allow no more than 3 bedrooms per acre of developable land in this district with a variance.
- To correct the reference to the New Hampshire Code of Administrative Rules.

Reasons why some voters might vote no:

- Do not want to limit the number of bedrooms per acre in C3 with variance.

References:

1. See the Town’s current Zoning Ordinance docs.wixstatic.com/ugd/e2e37e_2e222dbbc8344001b531bf1960561e62.pdf

Town Article 6 - Citizen Petition Zoning Amendment

This article states: “Are you in favor of the adoption of amendment for the Town zoning ordinance as follows: To change the zoning designation of the following parcel from Zone C1 (Commercial) to Zone B (Residential/Agricultural): Map 22, Lot 15 (3 Gile Road).” This amendment will change the zoning for one parcel of land comprising approximately 26.27 acres located at Scribner and Gile Roads. (1)

A YES vote will change zoning for 3 Gile Road from Commercial to Residential/Agricultural.

A NO vote will not change the zoning for 3 Gile Road.

Reasons why some voters might vote yes:

- To rezone 3 Gile Road from Commercial to Residential/Agricultural. (2)

Reasons why some voters might vote no:

- Owner does not want to change the zoning. (3)

References:

1. Raymond Tax Map 22, Lot 15. gis.vgsi.com/RaymondNH/parcel.aspx?pid=103762
2. “The surrounding neighborhood is residential in character and zoning.” Anthony Dickerson, Petitioner. (see Town of Raymond Zoning Map B - Groundwater Protection. docs.wixstatic.com/ugd/e2e37e_71940f45c46b4dbf8f6d1c7c90607216.pdf)
3. John Galloway, owner, Planning Board Public Hearing, 1/10/19.

Town Article 7 - Citizen Petition Zoning Amendment

This amendment states “Are you in favor of the adoption of (an) amendment for the Town zoning ordinance as follows: To change the zoning designation of the following parcels from Zone C1 (Commercial) to Zone B (Residential/Agricultural): Map 32, Lot 71 (74 Long Hill Road); Map 32-2, Lot 43 (76 Long Hill Road); Map 32-2, Lot 37” (at Long Hill Road and Route 27). (1)

A YES vote will change 3 parcels on Long Hill Road from Commercial to Residential/Agricultural.

A NO vote will not make those zoning changes.

Reasons why some voters might vote yes:

- To make the listed properties zoned as Residential/Agricultural. (2) (3)

Reasons why some voters might vote no:

- Not all of the impacted property owners want this rezoning. (3)
- To leave the zoning as Commercial.

References:

1. Raymond Tax Map 32-2, Lot 37. gis.vgsi.com/RaymondNH/parcel.aspx?pid=1479
Raymond Tax Map 32-2, Lot 43. gis.vgsi.com/RaymondNH/parcel.aspx?pid=2380
Raymond Tax Map 32, Lot 71. gis.vgsi.com/RaymondNH/parcel.aspx?pid=2426
2. “The intent of this article is to re-zone 3 properties with frontage on Long Hill Road and Route 27, currently zoned Commercial (Zone C.1) to Residential/Agricultural (Zone B), because the 3 properties are in a residential neighborhood (on the Long Hill Road side), in the Groundwater Protection Zone, are on Raymond’s only official Scenic Road (Long Hill Road), and Dudley Brook runs through the 2 properties at Tax Map 32-2 (76 Long Hill Road) and Tax Map 32-2, Lot 37. 74 and 76 Long Hill Road both have their entrance driveways on Long Hill Road. The third property is undeveloped. (The petitioner claims) that Residential/Agricultural use is more compatible with (the area) than Commercial zoning.” Anthony Dickerson, petitioner.
3. Property owners speaking at the Planning Board Public Hearing, 1/10/19.

Town Article 8 - Operating Budget/Default Budget

This article will raise \$8,760,950 to fund the Town’s Operating Budget, or if the article fails, will raise \$8,817,098 to fund the Default Budget. (1) If the Operating Budget fails, and the Default Budget is in place, the Town may revisit the Operating Budget and call one special meeting so voters can vote on the revision. The amounts above do not include other money warrant articles on this year’s ballot. These amounts do include the Water Department Budget, which is self-funded by water users and has no tax impact. (2)

The proposed Town Operating Budget (without Water Department) is \$7,714,563. This figure represents a 1.9% increase based on review and analysis of 4 previous budgets, correcting errors, and making adjustments. (3) The Water Department Operating Budget last year was \$782,078 and this year is \$1,046,387, a 33.8% increase, primarily due to debt incurred from the new Town Well #4. (3)

Cost increases this year include: Salaries (2.25%) and benefits for all Town employees; computer licenses/maintenance (Town Office); professional liability insurance (Assessing Office); diesel gas (Highway Department); and electricity & repairs (Street Lights). Cost decreases this year include: moving Solid Waste Disposal costs out of the budget and into Warrant Article 12; election costs are less as there is no federal election in 2019; and decreases in public relations and contracted services. (4)

The annual tax cost of the proposed 2019 Operating Budget is \$4.501 per thousand of tax valuation or \$900.20 for a \$200,000 house. The annual tax cost of the Default Operating Budget is \$4.623 per thousand of tax valuation or \$924.60 for a \$200,000 house.

A YES vote raises \$8,760,950 to fund the Town’s Operating Budget and the Town’s Water Budget.

A NO vote raises \$8,817,098 to fund the Town’s Default Budget and the Town’s Water Budget.

Reasons why some voters might vote yes:

- To fund the proposed Town’s Operating Budget.

Reasons why some voters might vote no:

- Prefer to fund the Town’s Default Operating Budget.
- To allow the Town the option of revising its Operating Budget and calling a special meeting for voter action.

References:

1. The Town’s default budget is defined by state law. RSA 40:13, IX (b): “Default budget” as used in this subdivision means the amount of the same appropriations as contained in the Operating Budget authorized for the previous year, reduced and increased, as the case may be, by debt service, contracts, and other obligations previously incurred or mandated by law, and reduced by one-time expenditures contained in the Operating Budget. For the purposes of this paragraph, one-time expenditures shall be appropriations not likely to recur in the succeeding budget, as determined by the governing body. Additionally, new law removes from the default budget the salaries and benefits of positions that have been eliminated but not including vacant positions under recruitment or positions redefined in the proposed operating budget, as per RSA 40:14-b if adopted. According to RSA 40:13 X and XVI: The Default Budget is automatically in place if the proposed Operating Budget fails and if the Town opts not to revise its proposed budget and call a special meeting.
2. The Water Budget is self-funded by all users of Town water according to a rate schedule set by the Selectmen. The Water Rate Schedule can be found at Town Hall.
3. Town Manager Joe Ilsley. Budget Committee, 11/27/18.
4. See 2019 Proposed Budget Committee Operating Budget on the Town website. docs.wixstatic.com/ugd/e2e37e_c8fc9050b0934fe1b6127593cf67117f.pdf

Town Article 9 – Collective Bargaining Agreement

This article asks the voters to approve a five- (5) year collective bargaining agreement reached between the Town of Raymond and the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees (AFSCME) Council 93, Local 863, Raymond. The contract provides a performance-based wage increase for each year of the five-year contract and a change in health coverage to a less costly plan, and it allows the Town to enter into a strategy to migrate away from the current sick time/vacation buyout plan to avoid an estimated \$2,000,000 in future tax liabilities. (1) Presently 16 union members who work at the Library, Public Works Department, Recreation Department, and Town Hall will be affected.

This article will fund the first year’s cost (April 1, 2019 through December 31, 2019) and approve funding for future years.

Tax cost for 2019 (Starting in April) is \$21,990 or \$0.023 per thousand of tax valuation. Tax cost for 2020 is \$28,043, for 2021 the cost is \$28,654 and for 2022 the cost is \$29,432. Continuing, the tax cost for 2023 is \$30,327, and for 2024 (Jan-March) the cost is \$14,097.

A YES vote approves the contract between the Town and AFSCME, Local 863, funds the first calendar year, and commits the Town to funding the rest of the five-year contract.

A NO vote continues the current contract.

Reasons why some voters might vote yes:

- Agreement with the terms of the collective bargaining agreement.

Reasons why some voters might vote no:

- Objections to any or all terms of the collective bargaining agreement.

References:

1. The AFSCME contract runs from April 1, 2019 to March 31, 2024. This is a five year contract paid out in six different calendar years. Budget Committee Meeting 1/8/19.
2. For more information about the agreement, contact Town Hall.

Town Article 10 – Collective Bargaining Agreement Special Meeting

If the collective bargaining agreement in Article 9 does not pass, this article gives the Town the authority to call one special meeting, at its option, to address cost items in the collective bargaining agreement between the Town and American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees (AFSCME) Local 863, of Raymond. (1)

A YES vote allows the Town to call one special meeting to address Article 9.

A NO vote means that there can be no special meeting.

Reasons why some voters might vote yes:

- To give the Town the opportunity to renegotiate the contract and present it to the voters.
- To save legal fees that the Town would incur to petition the court to hold a special meeting.

Reasons why some voters might vote no:

- To avoid the cost of an additional meeting.

References:

1. RSA 32:20 Municipal Budget Law.

Town Article 11 - Establish Contingency Fund

This article will establish a contingency fund, as allowed by State law, (1) from the fund balance. (2) (3) This fund will be used for unexpected expenses, with any remaining appropriated monies at the end of the year returned to the general fund. If contingency funds are not needed, the money stays in the Unassigned Fund Balance. The Board of Selectmen will be required to prepare a detailed report each year. In creating the 2019 budget, contingency monies were removed from line items; the Town is asking to take some of the existing funds already appropriated in the fund balance to be available just in case an unforeseen event happens. (4) There is no tax impact.

A YES vote would create a contingency fund and set aside \$90,000 for unanticipated expenses.

A NO vote would not create a contingency fund.

Reasons why some voters might vote yes:

- To establish and fund a contingency fund to be accessed for an unexpected event without additional tax impact. (4)
- To use part of the Unassigned Fund Balance for a contingency fund.

Reasons why some voters might vote no:

- Uncertainty about what a contingency fund might be used for.
- Prefer that contingency monies come from the operating budget. (5)

References:

1. RSA 31:98-a Contingency Fund. “Such fund shall not exceed one per cent of the amount appropriated by the town for town purposes during the preceding year excluding capital expenditures and the amortization of debt.”
2. “A fund balance is intended to serve as a measure of the financial resources available in a governmental fund....The adequacy of unrestricted fund balance in the general fund should take into account each government’s own unique circumstances...(e.g. risks of natural disasters, use of state aid or federal grants subject

to cuts)...Nevertheless, GFOA recommends, at a minimum, that general-purpose governments, regardless of size, maintain unrestricted budgetary fund balance in their general fund of no less than two months of regular general fund operating revenues or regular general fund operating expenditures. *New Hampshire Town and City, March/April 2017*; By Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) www.nhmunicipal.org/TownAndCity/Article/709

3. “Unrestricted” funds means that access to the monies can be granted by the legislative body (the voters) while restricted monies can refer to trusts or special accounts. Town Manager Joe Ilsley, 1/23/19.
4. Town Manager Joe Ilsley, “Talk of The Town Newsletter”, December 2018 edition.
5. If a contingency fund is not established, monies for an unexpected event (e.g. natural, harsh winter, legal) would have to come from the budget; in 2020, a buffer of \$190,000-200,000 would need to be added back into the budget. Town Manager Joe Ilsley at Joe with Joe, 2/1/19.

Town Article 12 – Solid Waste/Pay As You Throw Program

This article asks voters to raise and appropriate \$305,000 to continue paying a portion of the total cost of residential curbside trash & recycling removal. A portion of the total cost is paid by the sale of “green bags.” The \$305,000 will be added to the “green bags & recycling bins” and the “transfer station” revenues to pay for the total cost of residential curbside trash and recycling collection. The funds will be placed in the “Waste Management Special Revenue Fund” (Fund 18) created by voters in 2006. Special Revenue Funds can only be used to pay for items or services approved by the voters and must be voted on each year to expend. This does not pay for municipal (Town & School) waste and recycling.

The total cost of residential waste curbside removal and recycling varies from year to year, depending on the tonnage collected. Either the cost of the bags or the amount raised in taxes must increase each year to cover this increase in collected trash & recyclables. The price of the bags can only be estimated. (1) The estimated bag sale price will be \$3.25 for Small Bags and \$4.25 for Large Bags.

The total annual expenses have been \$734,310.35 in 2018, \$653,423.86 in 2017 and \$672,900.11 in 2016 (2)(3)

The revenues from the sale of bags & transfer station have been \$469,364.12 in 2018, \$426,660.99 in 2017, and \$382,322.48 in 2016. (2) (3)

The shortfall (amount needed to be raised by taxes) has been \$264,946.23 in 2018, \$226,762.87 in 2017, and \$290,577.63 in 2016(2) (3)

Estimated tax impact: \$0.324 per thousand or \$64.80 for a \$200,000 home.

A YES vote means that \$305,000, a portion of the overall cost of residential curbside trash & recycling, will continue to be paid for in taxes.

A NO vote means that the full cost of residential curbside trash & recycling will be paid for by users in the cost of the “green bags,” & recycling bins, and transfer station revenue.

Reasons why some voters might vote yes:

- To pay for a portion of residential curbside trash recycling in taxes.
- To keep the prices of the green bags lower.
- To distribute the costs of residential curbside trash & recycling among all residents.

Reasons why some voters might vote no:

- To have the cost of residential curbside trash & recycling be paid by users only through the sale of bags.
- To eliminate paying for residential curbside trash & recycling in taxes.

References:

1. Public Works Director Steve Brewer.
2. Finance Manager Julie Jenks.
3. See the 2019 Town proposed budget www.raymondnh.gov/voter-information

Town Article 13 – Waste Disposal Special Revenue Fund (Fund 18)

This article asks voters to use \$772,000 from an already established Special Revenue Fund (SRF) to pay for residential curbside trash & recycling removal (Pay As You Throw Program/PAYT). This article does not raise any additional money. It uses the money already in the fund.

Without access to the money in this fund there is no money in the budget to pay for residential curbside trash & recycling removal and the program would stop. (1) This fund was created by voters in 2006 with Warrant Article 33. A “Special Revenue Fund” restricts any portion of revenues from a specific source to expenditures for specific purposes and has to be on the warrant every year. (2) The Town has accessed these funds since the inception of the program and has only recently found out the Town requires approval from the legislative body (the voters) to gain access to these funds. This article does not change any aspect of the current program; it just allows the Town to legitimately continue to access the funds raised in Fund 18. There is no tax impact.

A YES vote means that the Town can use the funds already in the Waste Disposal SRF (Fund 18) to pay for residential curbside trash & recycling removal, and curbside trash & recycling removal would continue.

A NO vote means the Town is unable to use these funds and would have no legal way to access them; residential curbside trash & recycling removal would cease.

Reasons why some voters might vote yes:

- To continue residential curbside trash & recycling removal.
- To allow officials to access the funds to continue to pay for residential curbside trash & recycling removal.

Reasons why some voters might vote no:

- To eliminate the residential curbside trash & recycling removal program (PAYT).
- To prevent officials from using the money in the Special Revenue Fund.

References:

1. Joe Ilsley, Town Manager.
2. RSA 31-95C gencourt.state.nh.us/rsa/html/III/31/31-95-c.htm An example of this is the Shim & Overlay Fund, which requires voter approval each year; these funds must go only to the purpose the voters approved them for.

www.raymondvip.org.

Town Article 14 - Establish Tax Deeded Properties Reserve Fund

This article is intended to get Town owned properties back on the tax rolls by creating a Capital Reserve Fund (CRF) to be used to secure, restore, and maintain these properties, which subsequently will be sold to the public. (1) As amended at Deliberative Session, these funds could also be used for potential costs of governmental clean-up requirements for Town Brownfield Sites (environmentally impacted Town lands). Anticipated revenues of up to \$225,000 from the sale of Town owned properties (2) will be deposited in the proposed Tax Deeded Properties Capital Reserve Fund when received. Many of these properties have issues of blight, environmental mitigation, and other health and safety issues. These properties will be cleaned and restored using these funds, and thereafter be placed for sale. This funding will also allow the Town to consider deeding vacant properties that are in tax default. (3) In the past, because of the cost to clean these properties or the potential for environmental issues that could result in a cost to the taxpayer, the Town has opted not to deed these properties. (2) There is no tax impact.

A YES vote would establish a Capital Reserve Fund for the purpose of securing and restoring Town owned properties that would then be placed for sale.

A NO vote would not establish a CRF for the purpose stated above.

Reasons why some voters might vote yes:

- The sale of Town owned properties would result in additional revenue to the Town. (4)
- Funds derived from the sale of Town owned properties will be used for clean-up efforts and to mitigate health and safety issues posed by some Town owned properties. (4)

Reasons why some voters might vote no:

- Prefer the Town not get involved in the restoration and sale of real estate.
- Prefer using other methods to dispose of properties.

References:

1. Board of Selectmen discussed (11/26/18) and approved (12/10/18) the proposal to sell selected Town owned properties. Raymond Area News www.raymondareanews.com
2. Discussion of this Warrant Article and its potential benefits to the Town. Joe with Joe weekly meeting, 11/20/18.
3. A tax deeded property is one the Town seized due to failure to pay taxes and the ownership has reverted to the Town. A tax default property is one that failed to pay taxes for 3 or more years and the Town can take deed action but has chosen not to. Town of Raymond NH Warrant Article Handbook 2019.
4. Town Manager Joe Ilsley’s report regarding revenue potential from the sale of selected Town owned properties. Board of Selectmen meeting, 9/17/18.

Town Article 15 - Elderly Exemption

This article will increase the property tax exemption for people over 65 who have been NH residents for at least 3 years who meet specific income and asset requirements. (1) The Town has not adjusted the exemption amount since 2007. (2) The limits would increase from \$27,000.00 to \$30,350.00 (single) and from \$37,000.00 to \$41,150.00 (couple). The current average for these exemptions across Rockingham County is \$36,000.00 single and \$49,000.00 couple. (3) Estimated tax impact: \$0.038 per thousand of valuation or \$7.60 on a \$200,000 home.

A YES vote would increase the amount of property tax relief to the elderly who qualify.

A NO vote would keep the elderly exemption as it currently exists.

Reasons why some voters might vote yes:

- To increase the property tax exemption for qualifying senior residents to keep up with the cost of living.

Reasons why some voters might vote no:

- To keep the elderly exemption at the current level.

References:

1. Other requirements are listed in the Warrant Article: if the senior’s property is owned by a spouse, they must have been married for 5 years and have a joint income under \$41,150, or single income of not more than \$30,350, and not own net assets in excess of \$70,000 excluding the value of the person’s residence.
2. The intent of this Warrant Article is “to bring the economic thresholds up to the current economic levels and allow the program to provide the relief to our elderly, which was the original intent when the Warrant Article passed in 2007. In addition, it is our intent to bring a Warrant Article forward each year to adjust the limits with the cost of living index, so we do not have this situation in the future.” Town Manager Joe Ilsley, “Talk of the Town,” December 2018 edition.
3. Town of Raymond, NH 2019 Warrant Article Handbook.

Town Article 16 – Capital Improvements

This article will raise and appropriate \$345,000 for the purpose of funding the Capital Reserve Funds (CRFs) for the Town of Raymond. The Capital Reserve Funds are established in a variety of areas to purchase, repair, or maintain Town equipment and buildings that cost over \$20,000 or have a lifespan of at least 5 years. (1) Among the CRFs that will receive funding this year are General Government Buildings, Highway Department, Parks Department, Fire Department, and Police Department. By appropriating monies each year towards the purchase of these projects, the tax impact is leveled at a predictable rate. This savings method allows the community to plan for major expenditures which decreases the need for bonding and avoids sharp tax spikes. The CIP Committee has recommended that the CRF warrant article be increased slightly each year in order to remain current with inflation and rising costs. This year’s CRF warrant article is ten percent (10%) higher than the previous year. Estimated Tax Impact: \$0.367 per thousand of tax valuation or \$73.40 on a \$200,000 home.

A YES vote raises \$345,000 to fund the CRFs in the Town CIP.

A NO vote raises no money to fund any CRFs in the Town CIP.

Reasons why some voters might vote yes:

- To provide long-term funding for major expenditures.
- To avoid potential bonding and increase tax rates.
- To remain current in price predictions due to rising costs.

Reasons why some voters might vote no:

- Preference to bond major purchases.
- Disagree with any of the purposes of this fund.

References:

1. Capital Reserve Funds are established to purchase, repair or maintain town equipment and buildings in a variety of areas.
2. The Capital Improvements Program (CIP) Committee reviews all departmental requests and creates a CIP plan that anticipates major expenditures over the next 6-10 years. Additionally, the CIP is an instrument that is required within the town Master Plan and allows the Town to assess impact fees for new construction.

Town Article 17 – Capital Reserve Funds (Water Revenues)

This article will raise and appropriate \$70,000 for the purpose of funding the Capital Reserve Funds (CRFs) for the Raymond Water Department. The Water Department CRFs are established to maintain and repair the water treatment plant, water storage facilities, and water infrastructure. The Capital Improvements Program (CIP) Committee reviews all departmental requests and creates a CIP plan that anticipates major expenditures over the next 6-10 years. This CRF warrant article is funded through the water rates set for users of the municipal water supply. By appropriating monies each year towards the purchase of these projects, the overall water rate is leveled at a predictable rate. The CIP Committee determined that the Water Department CIP is significantly underfunded and will not be able to provide the necessary funding for required Water Department major expenditures. The CIP Committee recommended that this CRF warrant article be increased by \$10,000, which is fifteen percent (15%) higher than the previous year. There is no tax impact as funds are to be paid with revenues from Town water users.

A YES vote will put \$70,000 into the Water Department Capital Reserve Funds.

A NO vote will not add any funding to any Water Department CRF.

Reasons why some voters might vote yes:

- To provide long-term funding for major expenditures.
- To avoid potential bonding and increase in water rates.

Reasons why some voters might vote no:

- Preference to bond major purchases as required.
- Disagreement with any of the items to be funded.

Town Article 18 – Purchase of One (1) Public Works Vehicle

This article will raise and appropriate \$183,000 for the purpose of purchasing a Freightliner FL80 truck through the Unassigned Fund Balance (1) to replace the fleet’s 17-year old Freightliner Truck 19. (2) This type of truck is used as both a plow and a sand truck in the winter months, as well as a dump truck for projects throughout the rest of the year. The current Highway Department Heavy Equipment fleet is aged and deteriorating, with three of the four current Freightliner trucks 12 to 18 years old. (3) There is no tax impact.

A YES vote approves raising monies to purchase one DPW vehicle for snow plowing/sanding and dump truck projects.

A NO vote does not approve using previously raised funds for a DPW vehicle.

Reasons why some voters might vote yes:

- Direct purchase avoids paying interest on a bond to fund the vehicle.
- To assist in providing quality road conditions during winter months by having a newer, more reliable truck.

Reasons why some voters might vote no:

- Prefer to fund a vehicle through other means.
- Wish to utilize the Unassigned Fund Balance for other purposes.

References:

1. The Unassigned Fund Balance is monies that were unanticipated

- revenue received throughout 2018 and/or monies that were not spent from the general fund.
2. CIP recommendation discussed at Board of Selectmen meeting, 11/19/18.
 3. Colleen West-Coates, CIP Chairperson.

Town Article 19 - Purchase of One (1) Public Works Heavy Equipment Vehicle

This article will raise and appropriate \$128,750 for the purpose of purchasing a Heavy Equipment Vehicle (such as a Backhoe, Loader or Grader) for the Department of Public Works (DPW). The current Highway Department Heavy Equipment fleet is aged and deteriorating, with three of the four current Freightliner trucks 12 to 18 years old. (1) Since the funds for the DPW vehicle will come from the Unassigned Fund Balance account, (2) (3) this article will not have a tax impact.

A YES vote approves using previously raised monies to purchase one DPW Heavy Equipment vehicle.

A NO vote does not approve of using previously raised monies to purchase one DPW Heavy Equipment vehicle.

Reasons why some voters might vote yes:

- To replace and upgrade one vehicle in the Town’s existing DPW fleet.
- Direct purchase avoids paying interest on a bond to fund the vehicle.

Reasons why some voters might vote no:

- Wish to utilize the Unassigned Fund Balance for other purposes.
- Prefer to fund vehicle through other means.

References:

1. Colleen West-Coates, CIP Chairperson.
2. Budget Committee 12/13/18.
3. The Unassigned Fund Balance is monies that were unanticipated revenue throughout 2018 and/or monies that were not spent from the general fund.

Town Article 20 - Road Reconstruction Projects

This article funds \$315,000 for road reconstruction projects as determined by the Director of Public Works. This appropriation can be held for two years, or until the road reconstruction work has been completed, whichever comes sooner. (1)

In the summer of 2016, STREETSCAN scanned all 70+ miles of Town-owned paved roads to collect pavement condition data and it was determined that 16 miles (22%) of the paved roads have deteriorated and require reconstruction. (2)

This past year, 5 culverts were replaced on Harriman Hill Road in the section of road that was reconstructed. There are culverts that need to be replaced on Prescott Road as well as other roads. The Town’s focus is to address the heavily traveled roads first and then attend to the lesser used adjacent side streets. (3)

This year the State will contribute \$249,926 towards the Town’s road maintenance, which would bring the total to \$564,926, plus or minus. Prior to 2016, the Town provided \$149,000 each year for the previous ten years. This amount is projected to increase 5% each year as recommended in the Capital Improvement Plan. (4) Estimated tax impact: \$.335 per thousand of tax valuation or \$67.00 on a \$200,000 home.

A YES vote allows the Town to continue some of the most needed road reconstruction projects.

A NO vote results in roads receiving temporary repairs and not reconstruction.

Reasons why some voters might vote yes:

- To enable the Public Works Department to reconstruct some roads rather than continue to make repairs to those roads. (2)
- To try to decrease the percentage of road miles in need of reconstruction. (3)

Reasons why some voters might vote no:

- Disagreement with using funds for road projects.
- Wish to fund road repairs with State money only.

References:

1. RSA 32:7: VI gives towns the authority to create non-lapsing funds.
2. Department of Public Works Director Steve Brewer, Board of Selectmen (BOS) Meeting 11/21/16.
3. Department of Public Works Director Steve Brewer, 01/16/2019.
4. Town Manager Joe Ilsley, 1/22/19.

Town Article 21 - Shim and Overlay Special Revenue Fund

This Special Revenue Fund (SRF) was created to hold funds that can be saved year to year and used as needed when Raymond town roads need to be rehabilitated with gravel shim and asphalt overlay. This article authorizes funding and withdrawal of \$249,926 from the Department of Public Works Shim and Overlay SRF. (1)

There is no net impact to the Town’s Operating Budget because NH State Highway Block Grant revenue funds this SRF. There is no tax impact.

A YES vote authorizes the Department of Public Works to withdraw \$249,926 from its Shim and Overlay Special Revenue Fund and requires use of the money prior to December 31, 2021.

A NO vote means that the Department of Public Works will not be able to withdraw and use Shim and Overlay Special Revenue Fund money this year.

Reasons why some voters might vote yes:

- To reduce the number of roads in need of rehabilitation in Raymond.

Reasons why some voters might vote no:

- Disagreement with the project(s) that the money will be spent on.

References:

1. Since Raymond’s annual Operating Budget cannot accumulate funds year to year, Special Revenue Funds (SRF) must be used when the Town needs to complete a project over several years. Voters must approve all withdrawals.

Town Article 22 – Sick & Vacation Non-Union Fund Expendable Trust Fund

This article raises and appropriates \$20,000 from the Unassigned Fund Balance to be deposited into the Vacation and Sick Leave Non-Union Expendable Trust Fund (1) for non-union employees. (2) This Trust Fund was established by voters in 2004 to ensure that the Town would have the money to pay for accrued sick and vacation leave when

employees retire. The fund currently contains \$45,359.39. (3) The Town’s unassigned fund balance is at 13.75%. (4) (5) There is no tax impact.

A YES vote approves using up to \$20,000 from the Unassigned Fund Balance for the Vacation and Sick Leave Non-Union Expendable Trust Fund.

A NO vote raises no funds for this Expendable Trust.

Reasons why some voters might vote yes:

- To set aside funds for retiring Town employees.

Reasons why some voters might vote no:

- Prefer to fund only in the Operating Budget.

References:

1. Per RSA 31:19-a, the purpose of such funds is for “maintenance and operation of the town.”
2. The new personnel strategy will reduce the \$4 million liability for retiring employees to an estimated range of \$900,000-\$1.300,000 over a 20-year period. This year, \$55,000 has been included in the Operating Budget to cover unexpected employee departures for both union and non-union members. This request for \$20,000 is in case additional funds are needed. Raymond Town Manager, Joe Ilsley.
3. Town of Raymond, NH 2019 Warrant Article Handbook.
4. The Department of Revenue Administration recommends that towns have 5%-17% savings in the Unassigned Fund Balance.
5. The current UFB was noted to be \$2,617,460. 2019 Warrant Articles Informational Packet provided at Town Deliberative Session, 2/9/19.

Town Article 23 – Sick & Vacation Union Expendable Trust Fund

This article raises and appropriates \$20,000 to be deposited into the Sick and Vacation Union Expendable Trust Fund (1) for union employees. (2) This fund was established by voters in 2002 to ensure that the Town would have the money to pay for accrued sick and vacation leave when employees retire. Funds will be used from the Unassigned Fund Balance. The fund currently contains \$20,261.74. (3) The Town’s Unassigned Fund Balance is at 13.75%. (4) (5) There is no tax impact.

A YES vote approves using up to \$20,000 from the Unassigned Fund Balance for the Vacation and Sick Leave Union Expendable Trust Fund.

A NO vote raises no funds for this Expendable Trust.

Reasons why some voters might vote yes:

- To set aside funds for retiring Town employees

Reasons why some voters might vote no:

- Prefer to fund only in the Operating Budget.

References:

1. Per RSA 31:19-a, the purpose of such funds is for “maintenance and operation of the town.”
2. The new personnel strategy will reduce the \$4 million liability for retiring employees to an estimated range of \$900,000-\$1.300,000 over a 20-year period. This year, \$55,000 has been included in the Operating Budget to cover unexpected employee departures for both union and non-union members. This request for \$20,000 is in case additional funds are needed. Raymond Town Manager Joe Ilsley.
3. Town of Raymond, NH 2019 Warrant Article Handbook.

4. The Department of Revenue Administration recommends that towns have 5%-17% savings in the Unassigned Fund Balance.
5. The current UFB was noted to be \$2,617,460. 2019 Warrant Articles Informational Packet provided at Town Deliberative Session, 2/9/19.

Town Article 24 – Mosquito Control

This article will raise \$40,000 to fund the mosquito control program in Raymond. The mosquito program monitors and controls mosquitoes carrying West Nile Virus, Eastern Equine Encephalitis (EEE), and Zika Virus primarily by spraying bacterial insecticide into stagnant water for larvae control, on request spraying of public assembly areas including playgrounds and the Common, and emergency spraying. (1) The funds requested are the same as last year and the year before, and include the cost of lab testing. Tax cost: \$.043 per \$1,000 of tax valuation or \$8.60 on a \$200,000 home.

A YES vote approves funding of the mosquito control program in Raymond.

A NO vote does not approve of funding the mosquito control program in Raymond.

Reasons why some voters might vote yes:

- To reduce risk of exposure to West Nile Virus, EEE, and/or Zika infection.
- Raymond mosquitoes tested positive for West Nile Virus in 2018 (2)

Reasons why some voters might vote no:

- Do not want a mosquito control program in Raymond.
- Does not guarantee prevention of any mosquito-borne disease.

References:

1. See Public Notice from Dragon Mosquito Control. www.dragonmosquito.com/sites/default/files/pdf/publicnotices/Raymondpublicnotice2018.pdf
2. The State Lab in Concord recently confirmed that a batch of mosquitoes collected in Raymond has tested positive for West Nile Virus (WNV). Mosquitoes have tested positive for WNV in nine New Hampshire municipalities including Candia and Manchester. Email from Town Office 9/21/18.

Town Article 25 – Scholarship Fund

This article will raise \$2,000 for the Town of Raymond Scholarship Fund for Raymond High School (RHS) graduating seniors and Raymond residents attending their first year of college. Recipients are chosen by the Board of Selectmen, which also determines the amount of each scholarship. (1) Estimated 2019 Tax Impact: \$0.003 or \$.60 on a \$200,000 home.

A YES vote will add \$2,000 to the Scholarship Fund.

A NO vote will not add to the Scholarship Fund this year.

Reasons why some voters might vote yes:

- To add to the Scholarship Fund.

Reasons why some voters might vote no:

- To spend down the Scholarship Fund balance. (2)

References:

1. Raymond awarded two \$1,000 scholarships in 2018.
2. The Scholarship Fund had a balance of \$7,051.84 as of November 2018 per Julie Jenks, Finance Manager.

Town Article 26 – 4th of July Community Event

This article will raise and appropriate \$3,000 to help pay for the expenses associated with the free, public 4th of July community event. Expenses could include holiday and overtime pay for police, fire, public works employees and other town employees, and/or food (hot dogs, popcorn, cotton candy, freeze pops, watermelon, baked goods, water) and/or entertainment (bands, clown cars, post-parade entertainment), which have traditionally been free at this event. This event has been taking place for over 20 years. Businesses, a local church, and private individuals also contribute to expenses. Tax impact: \$.003 or \$.60 on a \$200,000 home.

A YES vote raises \$3,000 through taxes to spend toward the public July 4th celebration.

A NO vote would not raise funds to defray costs of the July 4th celebration.

Reasons why some voters might vote yes:

- To have the Town contribute to event costs through taxes.

Reasons why some voters might vote no:

- Do not want to help pay for this event through taxes.

Town Article 27 – Full-Time Firefighter

This article will raise and appropriate the sum of Eighty-Four Thousand, Twenty-Five Dollars (\$84,025) for the purpose of hiring one full-time firefighter in 2019 and adding the future cost into the Town’s Operating Budget. This amount would cover salary, insurance, Social Security, Retirement Fund and any other mandatory obligations. (1). The Town has had 4 full-time firefighters including the Chief since 1996 and currently has 20 on-call firefighters. The additional firefighter would allow having 2 two-man, eight hour shifts to provide for better coverage and quicker response time. (1) Estimated Tax Impact: \$0.089 per thousand of valuation or \$17.80 on a \$200,000 home.

A YES vote will add a fifth full-time firefighter to the Fire Department.

A NO vote would keep the staff levels as they are currently.

Reasons why some voters might vote yes:

- To provide for a higher level of coverage and quicker response time.
- As of the end of October, calls for this year increased 15%. (1).

Reasons why some voters might vote no:

- Think current staffing is adequate.

References:

1. Fire Chief Paul Hammond.

Town Article 28 – Social Service Agency – HAVEN

This article will raise and appropriate \$4,175 for HAVEN Violence Prevention and Support Services, whose mission is to prevent sexual assault and domestic violence and to empower individuals and families to heal from abuse and rebuild their lives. This organization provides comprehensive, 24-hour crisis intervention and support programs for victims of domestic and sexual violence, including a confidential hotline; accompaniment at police stations, hospitals and child advocacy centers; court advocacy for victims seeking protective orders; safety planning; confidential emergency shelter for immediate safety from violence; and financial literacy. (1) Estimated Tax Impact: \$0.004 per thousand of valuation or \$0.89 for a \$200,000 home.

A **YES vote** will provide funding for HAVEN.

A **NO vote** will not provide funding for HAVEN.

Reasons why some voters might vote yes:

- To provide funding for domestic and sexual violence assault prevention and services.

Reasons why some voters might vote no:

- Personal objection to this agency and/or its services.
- Personal objection to Town funding of social service agencies.

References:

1. In 2018, HAVEN provided 75 Raymond residents with over 500 hours of service through the 24-hour support program and over 100 shelter bednights. Cheryl Van Allen, Business Administrator, HAVEN. www.havennh.org 436-4107

Town Article 29 – Social Service Agency – American Red Cross

This article will raise and appropriate \$1,850 for the American Red Cross, which provides for disaster assistance, most commonly for house fires, including client casework, temporary housing in local hotels, financial assistance, medical needs and prescriptions. The agency also works with local communities for disaster preparedness and response. Additional services include blood acquisition & distribution and health & safety education as well as smoke detectors. (1) Estimated Tax Impact: \$0.002 per thousand of valuation or \$0.39 for a \$200,000 home.

A **YES vote** will provide funding for the American Red Cross.

A **NO vote** will not provide funding for the American Red Cross.

Reasons why some voters might vote yes:

- To provide funding for disaster assistance services and health & safety programs.

Reasons why some voters might vote no:

- Personal objections to this agency and/or its services.
- Personal objection to the Town funding of social service agencies.

References:

1. Stephanie Couturier, Regional Chief Development Officer, American Red Cross of New Hampshire. www.redcross.org/local/new-hampshire-vermont.html 225-6697

Town Article 30 – Social Service Agency – Area HomeCare and Family Services

This article will raise and appropriate \$4,000 for the Area HomeCare and Family Services program that provides in-home care services for elderly and disabled Raymond residents. The program contributes more in service and financial support for Raymond residents than it receives from the Town. (1) Estimated Tax Impact: \$0.004 per thousand or \$0.85 on a \$200,000 home.

A **YES vote** will provide funding to Area HomeCare & Family Services.

A **NO vote** will not provide funding to Area HomeCare & Family Services.

Reasons why some voters might vote yes:

- To provide funding for services to keep low-income elderly and

adults with disabilities or chronic illnesses at home.

Reasons why some voters might vote no:

- Personal objection to this agency and/or its services.
- Personal objection to Town funding of social service agencies.

References:

1. Last fiscal year, the agency provided 5,246 hours of companion-homemaker services to residents of Raymond. The agency also offers Project CoolAir, providing air conditioning to residents who meet income and physical need guidelines. Judy Taylor, Executive Director, Area HomeCare and Family Services. www.areahomecare.org 436-9059

Town Article 31 – Social Service Agency – Court Appointed Special Advocates

This article will raise and appropriate \$1,000 for Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) to provide services to abused or neglected children in the NH Court system. (1) CASA trains and supervises volunteers to serve as advocates to speak for the best interests of those children. CASA is the only organization in the state that provides Guardians ad Litem (2) for children. Estimated Tax Impact: \$0.001 per thousand or \$0.21 on a \$200,000 home.

A **YES vote** will provide funding to CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates).

A **NO vote** will not provide funding to CASA.

Reasons why some voters might vote yes:

- To provide funding for trained advocates to represent children in abusive or neglectful situations who come to the attention of NH Courts.

Reasons why some voters might vote no:

- Personal objection to this agency and/or its services.
- Personal objection to Town funding of social service agencies.

References:

1. Last fiscal year, CASA-trained advocates represented 28 Raymond children, who through no fault of their own, came to the attention of NH Courts, an increase from the previous year. Julia LaFleur, Development Assistant, CASA. www.casanh.org 626-4600
2. A Guardian ad Litem is appointed by a court to protect the interests of a minor in a particular matter.

Town Article 32 – Social Service Agency – Child Advocacy Center of Rockingham County

This article will raise and appropriate \$2,000 for the Child Advocacy Center of Rockingham County, which provides a safe, neutral, child-focused environment for the evaluation of alleged child abuse for children 3 to 18 years of age. (1) The NH Attorney General’s protocol on child abuse and neglect requires the utilization of child advocacy centers in cases of alleged child abuse. (2) The multidisciplinary team approach of the Child Advocacy Center team minimizes additional trauma because of the streamlined process of interviewing the child instead of conducting separate interviews by police, child protective services, physician, and possibly local prosecutor. (3) Estimated Tax Impact: \$0.002 per thousand of valuation or \$0.43 for a \$200,000 home.

A **YES vote** will provide funding for the Child Advocacy Center of Rockingham County.

A **NO vote** will not provide funding for the Child Advocacy Center of Rockingham County.

Reasons why some voters might vote yes:

- To provide funding for services to reduce trauma to the child during abuse investigations.

Reasons why some voters might vote no:

- Personal objections to this agency and/or its services.
- Personal objection to the Town funding of social service agencies.

References:

1. In Raymond last year, a total of 74 forensic interviews and consultations were conducted, with the number of cases continuing to increase from Raymond (and the county at large). A forensic interview is a structured conversation with a child intended to elicit detailed information about a possible event(s) that the child may have experienced or witnessed. The funding directly supports the Forensic Interviewer position. Services have been on the rise in Raymond and other Rockingham County communities, in part because of the opioid epidemic’s effects on children & families. Loree Sullivan, Family Support Specialist, Child Advocacy Center of Rockingham County. www.cacnh.org 422-8240
2. In municipalities where a Child Advocacy Center is utilized, there is a 40% increase in successful prosecution of child abuse cases. Loree Sullivan, quoting The National Children’s Alliance.
3. The streamlined process not only benefits the child, but also the entire community, because statistics reflect that children suffering abuse who do not receive a strong intervention are 67 times more likely to become juvenile offenders. Loree Sullivan.

Town Article 33 – Social Service Agency – Child and Family Services (now known as Waypoint)

This article will raise and appropriate \$6,000 for Child & Family Services/Waypoint (1) to provide counseling and support services to improve functioning, communication, and relationship skills, reduce anxiety and low self-esteem, and resolve personal issues or family dilemmas. Services include support for children ages birth to 3 who have developmental disabilities, developmental delays or are at risk of delays; family counseling; help for families to manage budgeting, nutrition, conflict resolution, or discipline; parent education; and aides to supervise parent-child visits. Waypoint contributes more in services and financial support for Raymond residents than it receives from the Town. (2) Estimated Tax Impact: \$0.006 or \$1.28 per thousand on a \$200,000 home.

A **YES vote** will provide funding to Child and Family Services/Waypoint.

A **NO vote** will not provide funding for Child and Family Services/Waypoint.

Reasons why some voters might vote yes:

- To provide funding to support counseling and support services for children, youth, and families.

Reasons why some voters might vote no:

- Personal objection to this agency and/or its services.
- Personal objection to Town funding of social service agencies.

References:

1. Waypoint, formerly known as Child and Family Services, is a

private, statewide charitable and social-service organization that was established in 1850. They changed their name in November 2018.

2. In the past year, 172 Raymond residents received services for a total of 1,752 hours. The majority of those individuals (122) received family counseling. Erin Waters, Development Coordinator, Waypoint. www.waypointnh.org 800-640-6486

Town Article 34 – Social Service Agency – Lamprey Health Care

This article will raise and appropriate the sum of \$6,500 for Lamprey Health Care, which provides primary medical care and health-related services focusing on prevention and lifestyle management for individuals & families of all ages – regardless of insurance or ability to pay. Lamprey Health Care is the oldest and largest community health center in NH. Services include primary care, prenatal & obstetrical care, nutrition counseling, health education & outreach, social services, behavioral health, substance abuse screening, free/reduced-cost prescription drugs, language interpretation, and senior transportation (medical appointments, grocery stores, and local pharmacies). Transportation services are also available for non-Lamprey Health Care patients and to all area physician offices. (1) Estimated Tax Impact: \$0.007 per thousand of valuation or \$1.38 for a \$200,000 home.

A **YES vote** will provide funding for Lamprey Health Care.

A **NO vote** will not provide funding for Lamprey Health Care.

Reasons why some voters might vote yes:

- To support primary medical care and health-related services at reduced cost as needed, and to provide seniors or disabled individuals with transportation for qualified visits.
- To support a comprehensive community health care center in Raymond.

Reasons why some voters might vote no:

- Personal objection to this agency and/or its services.
- Personal objection to the Town funding social service agencies.

References:

1. Last year, Lamprey Health Care provided health care to 1,930 Raymond residents in 7,833 patient visits, with a \$10,624 value for free or reduced-cost care. Additionally, 350 residents received transportation. Nicole Cailler, MSW, Community Health Worker, Lamprey Health Care. www.lampreyhealth.org/locations/raymond 895-3351

Town Article 35 – Social Service Agency – Retired Senior Volunteer Program

This article will raise and appropriate \$600 for the Friends program of the Retired Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP), which matches older adult volunteers with local agencies and projects in need of help. RSVP volunteers are paid stipends to support children, families, and older adults through partner organizations including the Ray-Fre Senior Center and Lamprey Health Care-Raymond. They also provide senior workshops that promote healthy aging, such as nutrition workshops at Ray-Fre Senior Center in collaboration with UNH Cooperative Extension Service, and a twice-weekly Bone Builders exercise program to help seniors build strength, balance and posture. (1) Estimated tax impact: \$0.001 per thousand of valuation or \$ 0.13 on a \$200,000 home.

A **YES vote** provides funding for the RSVP Friends program.

A **NO vote** will not provide funding for the RSVP Friends program.

Reasons why some voters might vote yes:

- To provide funding to support older adult volunteers in local agencies with unmet needs.

Reasons why some voters might vote no:

- Personal objection to this agency and/or its services.
- Personal objection to the Town financially supporting social service agencies.

References:

1. Susan Smith, Director of Senior Programs-Friends Program. www.friendsprogram.org 228-1193

Town Article 36 – Social Service Agency – Richie McFarland Children’s Center

This article will raise and appropriate \$8,700 for the Richie McFarland Children’s Center, which provides services to young children and support for their families. The Center provides state-mandated, early intervention home visiting programs for children birth to 3 years who meet specific criteria related to developmental delay or disability. It also provides inclusive therapeutic *pre*-preschool early learning groups (2-4 year olds) and pediatric therapies (Physical, Occupational, & Speech) for children who do not meet the criteria for state-mandated programs for preschool special education. (1) (2) (3) Estimated Tax Impact: \$0.009 per thousand or \$1.85 for a \$200,000 home.

A **YES vote** will provide funding to the Richie McFarland Children’s Center.

A **NO vote** will not provide funding to the Richie McFarland Children’s Center.

Reasons why some voters might vote yes:

- To support early intervention services for children with special needs.

Reasons why some voters might vote no:

- Personal objection to this agency and/or its services.
- Personal objection to Town funding of social service agencies.

References:

1. The amount requested represents 5% of the annual cost of weekly home-based therapies for one child and his or her family. The agency relies on towns to provide approximately 6% of total agency funding. Peggy Small-Porter, Executive Director, Richie McFarland Children’s Center. www.richiemcfarland.org 778-8193
 2. For every dollar spent on early intervention services, school systems will later save anywhere from \$4 to \$7 in special education costs. Peggy Small-Porter, quoting Educational Resource and Information Center.
 3. Children who participate in early intervention programs prior to kindergarten are more likely to graduate from high school, hold a job, live independently and avoid teen pregnancy or delinquency. Peggy Small-Porter, quoting American Academy of Pediatrics.
-

Town Article 37 – Social Service Agency – Southern NH Services/Rockingham Community Action

This article will raise and appropriate \$36,000 for Rockingham Community Action, whose mission is to provide services to low-income individuals and families to prevent poverty and homelessness. Rockingham Community Action’s Raymond Outreach Center provides low-income households with access to fuel/electricity assistance, crisis services (eviction, foreclosure, and/or utility terminations), food pantries, tax preparation, and property tax relief. It provides more in services to Raymond residents than it receives in funding from the Town. (1) Also, it can provide affordable Personal Emergency Response Systems for aged or disabled citizens. The funding request is for operational expenses of their Raymond Outreach Center, whose staff collaborate with the Town’s Welfare Department. (2) Estimated tax impact: \$0.038 per thousand of tax valuation or \$7.65 based on a \$200,000 home.

A **YES vote** will provide funding to Rockingham Community Action.

A **NO vote** will not provide funding to Rockingham Community Action.

Reasons why some voters might vote yes:

- To provide funding for programs to assist Raymond residents with utilities, food, housing, financial stability, and employment.
- Rockingham Community Action provides assistance that the Town Welfare Department could otherwise be required to provide per New Hampshire state law. (2)

Reasons why some voters might vote no:

- Personal objection to this social service agency and/or its services.
- Personal objection to the Town funding social service agencies.

References:

1. The program helped 1,060 Raymond households receive services – predominantly fuel and electrical assistance, weatherization, food pantries, and Women, Infants and Children (WIC) Nutrition. Keith Bates, Project Manager, Rockingham Community Action. www.snhs.org 895-2303
2. NH RSA 165:1 “Whenever a person in any town is poor and unable to support himself, he shall be relieved and maintained by the overseers of public welfare of such town, whether or not he has residence there.”

Town Article 38 – Social Service Agency – Chamber Children’s Fund

This article will raise and appropriate \$3,000 for the non-profit Chamber Children’s Fund, which provides winter clothing and bedding, including vouchers & gift cards, to needy children. They also provide direct funding to school nurses to help students with immediate needs such as shoes, clothing and food. The Chamber Children’s Fund is requesting funds for the first time but has served Raymond since 2013. (1) (2) Estimated Tax Impact: \$0.003 per thousand of valuation or \$0.64 for a \$200,000 home.

A **YES vote** will provide funding for the Chamber Children’s Fund.

A **NO vote** will not provide funding for this Fund.

Reasons why some voters might vote yes:

- To provide funding for clothing, bedding, and food for needy children.

Reasons why some voters might vote no:

- Personal objections to this agency and/or its services.
- Personal objection to the Town funding of social service agencies.

References:

1. Between 2013-2018 the Fund gave 764 vouchers to Raymond families; in 2018 vouchers were given to 145 children in Raymond from 70 families. Christine J. Soutter, EACF Board Member and Volunteer. www.exeterarea.org/chamber-childrens-fund 772-2411
2. The Fund is run by volunteers through the Exeter Area Charitable Foundation (EACF).

Town Article 39 – Social Service Agency–Rockingham County Nutrition Program & Meals on Wheels

This article will raise and appropriate \$3,747 for the non-profit Meals on Wheels program through Rockingham County that provides home-delivered & group meals and support services, including wellness checks and transportation, for people over 60 or low-income adults with disabilities. Meals on Wheels contributes more in services and financial support for Raymond residents than it receives from the Town. (1) Estimated Tax Impact: \$0.004 per thousand or \$0.80 on a \$200,000 home.

A YES vote will provide funding to Rockingham Nutrition & Meals on Wheels.

A NO vote will not provide funding to Rockingham Nutrition & Meals on Wheels.

Reasons why some voters might vote yes:

- To provide funding for meals for elderly and disabled.
- Meals on Wheels provides assistance that the Town Welfare Department could otherwise be required to provide per New Hampshire state law. (2)

Reasons why some voters might vote no:

- Personal objection to this agency and/or its services.
- Personal objection to Town funding of social service agencies.

References:

1. Through November 2018, the program served heated, home-delivered meals and wellness checks, or meals at the Ray-Fre Senior Center or at the Epping Community Church to 86 Raymond residents. It also provided 15 Raymond residents with 533 rides. Helen Kostrzynski, Operations, Rockingham Nutrition. www.rockinghammealsonwheels.org 679-2201
2. NH RSA 165:1 “Whenever a person in any town is poor and unable to support himself, he shall be relieved and maintained by the overseers of public welfare of such town, whether or not he has residence there.”

Town Article 40 - Social Service Agency - Seacoast Mental Health

This article will raise and appropriate \$3,097 for the Seacoast Mental Health Center, a state-designated community mental health center which provides services and treatment to Raymond residents in a community health setting, regardless of the patient’s insurance or ability to pay. Services include assessment & evaluation; health & wellness outreach; individual, group & family counseling/psychotherapy; neuropsychological testing; substance abuse disorder treatment; state foster care assessments; post-intervention services to schools & community affected by suicide and loss; and trauma focused therapy.

(1) Estimated Tax Impact: \$0.003 per thousand of valuation or \$0.66 for a \$200,000 home.

A YES vote will provide funding for the Seacoast Mental Health Center.

A NO vote will not provide funding for the Seacoast Mental Health Center.

Reasons why some voters might vote yes:

- To provide funding for local mental health services and to support the cost for Raymond residents who may not have insurance coverage or ability to pay for services.

Reasons why some voters might vote no:

- Personal objections to this agency and/or its services.
- Personal objection to the Town funding of social service agencies.

References:

1. In 2018, more than 5,700 hours of service were provided to more than 435 residents, with over \$200,000 in uncompensated care to Raymond residents. The funding received from the Town of Raymond helps to support the cost of mental health services to Raymond residents who are not fully covered by private insurance, Medicare, Medicaid, or State funding. Jay Couture, Executive Director, Seacoast Mental Health Center. www.smhc-nh.org 431-6703
2. Local Seacoast Mental Health Care staff are based at Lamprey Health Care in Raymond, to support the mental health component in Raymond’s community health care center.

Town Article 41 – Conversion of Street Lights to Light Emitting Diodes (LED) or any Other Energy Efficient Lighting

This article will fund the conversion of Raymond streetlights to LED (Light Emitting Diodes) or any other energy efficient lighting by using \$53,000 from the 2018 fund balance. The cost of funding the current lighting system for the Town is budgeted at \$26,000 per year. The conversion to LED or other energy efficient street lighting would reduce the yearly street light utility cost by 40-60 %. (1) There is no tax impact.

A YES vote funds the changing of town street lights to energy efficient lighting, which will reduce the yearly budgeted cost.

A NO vote keeps the current street light system as is.

Reasons why some voters might vote yes:

- Wish to reduce future street light utility cost.
- Prefer energy efficient street lighting over the established lighting system (high pressure sodium bulbs).

Reasons why some voters might vote no:

- Do not want to use fund balance to pay for streetlight conversion.

References:

1. Town Manager Joe Ilsley, Budget Committee meeting, 12/11/18.

Make your selections and bring your list to the polls

Town Warrant

1. Candidate Choices

2. Zoning: Section 6.6.3 Allowed Use

Y ☐ N ☐

3. Zoning: Section 4.9.3 District Boundaries

Y ☐ N ☐

4. Zoning: Section 2.9 Wetlands

Y ☐ N ☐

5. Zoning: Section 6.5.5 C.3 East/West

Y ☐ N ☐

6. Citizen Petition Zoning: one parcel on Gile Road

Y ☐ N ☐

7. Citizen Petition Zoning: three parcels on Long Hill Road

Y ☐ N ☐

8. Town Operating/Default Budget

Y ☐ N ☐

9. Collective Bargaining Agreement

Y ☐ N ☐

10. Collective Bargaining Agreement Special Meeting

Y ☐ N ☐

11. Establish Contingency Fund

Y ☐ N ☐

12. Solid Waste/"Pay as You Throw"

Y ☐ N ☐

13. Waste Disposal Special Revenue Fund (Fund 18)

Y ☐ N ☐

14. Establish Tax Deeded Properties Reserve Fund

Y ☐ N ☐

15. Elderly Exemption

Y ☐ N ☐

16. Capital Improvements

Y ☐ N ☐

17. Capital Reserve Funds (Water Revenues)

Y ☐ N ☐

18. Purchase of One (1) Public Works Vehicle

Y ☐ N ☐

19. Purchase of One (1) Public Works Heavy Equipment Vehicle

Y ☐ N ☐

20. Road Reconstruction Projects

Y ☐ N ☐

21. Shim and Overlay Special Revenue Fund

Y ☐ N ☐

22. Sick and Vacation Non-Union Expendable Trust Fund

Y ☐ N ☐

23. Sick and Vacation Union Expendable Trust Fund

Y ☐ N ☐

24. Mosquito Control

Y ☐ N ☐

25. Town of Raymond Scholarship Fund

Y ☐ N ☐

26. 4th of July 2019 Community Even

Y ☐ N ☐

27. Full-Time Firefighter

Y ☐ N ☐

Social Service Agencies

28. HAVEN

Y ☐ N ☐
29. American Red Cross

Y ☐ N ☐
30. Area Homecare and Family Services

Y ☐ N ☐
31. Court Appointed Special Advocates

Y ☐ N ☐

• continued on back page

SEE YOU AT THE POLLS!

Tuesday March 12, 2019

7 AM to 7 PM

Iber Holmes Gove
Middle School
Epping Road at School Street

For the latest on any article,
check www.raymondvip.org

The 2019 Guide is brought to the Raymond Community free of charge by the Raymond Voter Information Project, donations from Raymond citizens, in-kind considerations, and our Business Donors:

Raymond Area Chamber of Commerce

P.O. Box 425, 64 Freetown Road, Raymond

603-895-2254

www.raymondareachamberofcommerce.com

Raymond Coalition for Youth

4 Epping Street, Raymond

603-895-7061/7062

www.rcfy.org

Regional Economic Development Center (REDC)

57 Main Street, Raymond

603-772-2655

www.redc.com

Ace Ben Franklin Hardware
15 Freetown Road
at the Raymond Shopping Center
603-895-2370

Edward Jones Investments
Dustin R. Ramey
61 Route 27, Suite 17
at the Cozy Corner Plaza
603-895-4942

Jambs Jewelry
Jewelry, Repairs, Watch Service, Design-Your-Own & More
17 Freetown Road, #8 at the Raymond
www.jambsjewelry.com
603-244-3680

Langford's Laundromat
45 Route 27, behind Hannaford's, Raymond
603-895-3157
and

Natural or Not Salon & Spa
32 Harriman Hill Road, Raymond
www.naturalornot.com
603-895-5161

Neighborhood Insurance Agency, Inc.
74 Main Street, Raymond
603-895-6133

Northeast Woodworking Products
Custom Cabinetry & Millwork
24 Old Manchester Road, Raymond
603-895-4271

Raymond Area News
Cheryl Killam, Owner
www.raymondareanews.com
603-679-8656

Riverbend Realty Group
Residential/Commercial: David P. Turcotte
64 Freetown Road, Raymond
davidturcotte@comcast.net
603-303-7044 (cell) 603-895-4500 x 206 (office)

Vernet Properties – 978-744-4272
Raymond Shopping Center
and

Tuckaway Tavern & Butchery – 603-244-2431
58 Route 27, Raymond

Universal Electric
P.O. Box 151, 64 Deerfield Road, Raymond
603-895-6512

Please remember to thank our business donors!

To support continuation of the Guide, citizens may donate
by PayPal at www.raymondvip.org or by mail to
Raymond VIP, Box 813, Raymond, NH 03077
All donations are tax deductible. Thank you!

32. Child Advocacy Center of Rockingham County

Y☐N☐
33. Child and Family Services (now known as Waypoint)

Y☐N☐
34. Lamprey Health Care

Y☐N☐
35. Retired Senior Volunteer Program

Y☐N☐
36. Richie McFarland Children's Center

Y☐N☐
37. So. NH Services/Rockingham Community Action

Y☐N☐
38. Children's Chamber Fund

Y☐N☐
39. Rockingham County Nutrition & Meals on Wheels

Y☐N☐
40. Seacoast Mental Health

Y☐N☐
41. Conversion of Street Lights

Y☐N☐

School Warrant

1. Candidate Choices
2. School Operating/Default Budget

Y☐N☐
3. Support Staff Contract

Y☐N☐
4. Support Staff Special Meeting

Y☐N☐
5. School Capital Reserve Funds (CRF)

Y☐N☐
6. Discontinue Textbook CRF

Y☐N☐
7. Professional Banking and Brokerage Fees

Y☐N☐
8. Fund Balance

Y☐N☐
9. Water Easement Funds to CRF

Y☐N☐
10. High School Study

Y☐N☐

SEE YOU AT THE
POLLS!

Iber Holmes Gove Middle
School

1 Stephen Batchelder
Parkway

Tuesday March 12, 2019

7 AM to 7 PM

For the latest on any article.
Check www.raymondvip.org