

Town Article 11 – Social Services Agencies

This article will raise \$40,000 for twelve (12) Social Service agencies that provide services to Raymond residents. (1) This year, Town Manager recommended capping the amount awarded to \$50,000, which the Board of Selectmen subsequently capped at \$40,000. (2) This is a decrease as compared to last year. Three Social Services agencies came forward for the first time, two of which were funded. (3) Estimated Tax impact: \$.042 per thousand of tax valuation, or \$8.40 for a \$200,000 home.

A YES vote will provide funding to the listed Social Service agencies serving Raymond residents.

A NO vote will not provide any funding from Raymond to any of these Social Service agencies.

Reasons why some voters might vote yes:

- All the Social Service agencies contribute more in services and financial support to Raymond residents than they receive from the town.
- Some Social Service agencies provide assistance which might otherwise be requested of the Town Welfare Department, according to RSA 165:1 “Aid to Assisted Persons.”

Reasons why some voters might vote no:

- Personal objections to any or all of the agencies.
- Personal objections to town funding any or all Social Services agencies.

References:

1. The following agencies are proposed to be funded at the same amount as in 2019: HAVEN \$4,175; Area Homecare and Family Services \$4,000; Child Advocacy Center \$2,000; Waypoint/formerly Child and Family Services \$6,000; Retired Seniors Volunteer Program \$600; Chamber Children’s Fund \$3,000; and Rockingham County Nutrition Program \$3,747.
The following agency is proposed to be funded at an increase: Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) \$1,500 (up \$500).
One agency is proposed to be funded at a lesser amount as compared to 2019: Southern NH Services/Rockingham Community Action \$3,978 (down \$32,022).
Raymond Coalition for Youth is proposed to be funded in the amount of \$10,000. Home Health & Hospice Care is proposed to be funded in the amount of \$1,000.
2. Requests from Social Services agencies increased 11%, amounting to about \$90,322. Town Manager Joe Ilsley in an email 1/29/20.
3. The Board of Selectmen reduced funding to Social Services as a broader effort to help relieve the stress of taxation on those they serve. Regarding the basis on how the Board came to their decision on funding distribution they looked at the following: ensure funding approvals stayed within the \$40,000.00 cap; evaluate what agencies conducted the most direct support to the people of Raymond; evaluate other external funding sources available to the requesting agencies and the potential impacts if not funded; the proportion of the request with regards to the direct service to Raymond Residents; the impact on at risk members of the community if a specific agency did not receive

Raymond funding; evaluate what other support these agencies were receiving that equated to a monetary value from the people of Raymond. Town Manager Joe Ilsley, in an email 1/30/20.