

Town Article 12 – Waste Disposal Special Revenue Fund (Fund 18)

This article asks voters to use \$849,000.00 from an already funded (via sales of yellow bags and recycling bins, and through transfer station fees) Special Revenue Fund (SRF) to pay for residential curbside trash & recycling removal (Pay As You Throw Program/PAYT). Voter approval of this article gives permission to spend those funds generated, and does not raise taxes. Without access to the money in this fund, residential curbside trash & recycling removal will not operate as it has, and funds from the Operational Budget will be taken from other Town programs to cover some type of waste disposal program. (1) This fund was created by voters in 2006 with Warrant Article 33 and requires annual voter approval to gain access to these funds. 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 must obtain approval from the legislative body (the voters) to legally access these funds. This article does not change any aspect of the current program; it just allows the Town to legally continue to access the funds raised in Fund 18. There is no tax impact.

A YES vote gives the Town permission to use the funds already in the Waste Disposal SRF (Fund 18) to pay for curbside trash & recycling removal, so those services would continue.

A NO vote means the Town is unable to use these funds and would have no legal way to access them and so they would remain in the SRF; residential curbside trash & recycling removal would be significantly impacted.

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.
- To avoid having to siphon funding from other Town departments or programs.

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. Town Manager Joe Ilsley in an email 1/29/20.
2. RSA 31-95c gencourt.state.nh.us/rsa/html/III/31/31-95-c.htm. An example of an SRF is the Shim & Overlay Fund, which requires voter approval each year; these funds must go only to the purpose the voters approved them for.