

Get out and **VOTE** Tuesday, March 10 at Raymond 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](http://RaymondVIP.org)

RAYMOND

# *Voter Information*

PROJECT

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

~ Raymond VIP Bylaws

# 2015

RAYMOND

welcome to *Voter Information* PROJECT

**Board of Directors: 2013 – 2015****President**

Marilyn Elliott

**Vice President**

Carolyn Matthews

**Treasurer**

John Beauvilliers

**Members-at-Large**

Dana Zulager

Joyce Woods

**EDITORIAL BOARD 2015**

Carolyn Matthews

Kathy Mayo

Leslie O'Donnell

**PRODUCTION**

Printed by:

Seacoast Media Group

111 New Hampshire Ave.

Portsmouth N. H, 03801

603-436-1800

**Raymond VIP** is a grassroots, all-volunteer nonprofit organization. We work to enable students and community members to prepare to exercise their civil right to vote with the greatest freedom of choice.

**If you've found this guide useful**, please consider sending a contribution **TODAY** to Raymond VIP at Box 813 Raymond, NH 03077. Thank you if you've donated in the past, and please remember to thank our generous Business Donors, listed on the back page.

**This guide is provided** as a tool for RAYMOND VOTERS for use during the 2015 Town and School District Election Cycle. Please see our website at [WWW.RAYMONDVIP.ORG](http://WWW.RAYMONDVIP.ORG) for updates and new information as it becomes available.

**We do our best** to be comprehensive and objective. The Raymond Voter Information Project neither supports nor opposes any political party, candidate, or warrant article. We provide tax information but make no value judgment on it. Our editorial policy and our bylaws may be found at [www.raymondvip.org](http://www.raymondvip.org).

**We offer our thanks** and our appreciation to the many Raymond citizens, staff, and elected and appointed Town and School District officials who contributed information to our reporters. A special thanks to our citizen readers. Every year, new reporters and readers join our team, experience our method of analysis and deepen their engagement in the election process. Sign up **NOW** to help with the guide next year!

**To comment** or to provide additional information for Editorial Committee review on any warrant article, you may contact us at [info@raymondvip.org](mailto:info@raymondvip.org) or PO Box 813, Raymond NH 03077. To speak to the Administrator of the Editorial Committee, call 244-2027. We value your feedback and are always striving to improve.

*See you at the polls at Iber Holmes Gove Middle School.  
Tuesday, March 10, 2015 7AM to 7PM*

**For the latest information on any article, check our website at [WWW.RAYMONDVIP.ORG](http://WWW.RAYMONDVIP.ORG)**

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.

**RAYMOND**  
**Voter Information**  
**PROJECT**

**SCHOOL WARRANT**

**SCHOOL ARTICLE 1**

**2015 CANDIDATES**

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

*Choose two (2) School Board members for a three (3) year term expiring in 2018:*

John Harmon Tina Thomas Jaclyn Serrine

*Choose one (1) School Board member for a one (1) year term expiring in 2016:*

Steve Wallerstein

*Choose one (1) School District Moderator for a three (3) year term expiring in*

*2018: Tim Louis*

*Choose one (1) School District Clerk for a three (3) year term expiring in 2018:*

Linda Hoelzel

*Choose one (1) School District Treasurer for a three (3) year term expiring in*

*2018: Tim Auclair*

**SCHOOL ARTICLE 2: Operating Budget**

This article will raise \$22,887,644 to fund the School District Operating Budget, or, in the event that this article fails, will raise \$22,971,466 to fund the School District Default Budget. These amounts do not include other money warrant articles that will be voted on separately on this year's school ballot. If the Operating Budget fails and the Default Budget is in place, the School Board may revisit its Operating Budget and call one special meeting following the March elections so voters can vote on the revision.

The proposed budget is an increase of \$280,450 (1.2%) over last year's Operating Budget and is \$83,822 (0.4%) less than the Default Budget. The proposed budget eliminates one staff position and accounts for a decrease in replacement employee salaries; decreases in workers' compensation and unemployment insurance; decreases in fuel costs, food costs, printing, and contracted services; and a decrease in salary and social security taxes. The proposed budget also includes the following increases in spending: NH Retirement system costs; health insurance; student services and tuition; afterschool program costs; vocational tuition; transportation; repairs; property and liability insurance; books, software, equipment and furniture; and bond principal and interest.

Tax cost: estimated at \$15.05 per thousand of valuation for an estimated tax increase of \$0.35 per thousand of valuation or \$70 for a house valued at \$200,000.

**Reasons why some voters might vote yes:**

- To fund the District's Operating Budget
- To avoid allowing the School Board the option of revising its Operating Budget and calling a special meeting for voter action

**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 any contractual obligations or required increases. The Default Budget is automatically in place if the proposed operating budget fails (RSA 40:13 IX (b) 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: Raymond High School: Media Aide. For details, see [http://www.sau33.com/school\\_b.cfm?subpage=986002](http://www.sau33.com/school_b.cfm?subpage=986002) or visit the School District Office at Raymond High School.

(3) This year's Default Budget is higher than the Operating Budget because of reductions made to the Operating Budget that more than offset increases for debt service, contracts, and obligations previously incurred or mandated by law that are included in the Default Budget. This year's proposed Operating Budget also includes the Budget Committee's cuts of a new Information Technology staff position (\$57,675) and equipment and furniture (\$24,655). After the vote, the School Board decides how to spend whatever amount of funds voters

**SCHOOL ARTICLE 3: REA Contract**

This article will approve a one year collective bargaining agreement reached between the Raymond School Board and the Raymond Education Association (REA). Currently one hundred and thirty-two professional staff positions will be affected by this contract.

Each member will advance one step on the salary schedule at the beginning of the year and members behind one step will advance one additional step halfway through the school year. Steps one through sixteen on the salary schedule are \$100 higher and step 17 is \$850 higher than on the 2014 – 2015 schedule. This results in a 3.3% average increase per member.

Maximum tuition reimbursements pool for staff will increase from \$30,000 to 40,000 per year, and workshop reimbursements pool will be decreased from \$30,000 to \$25,000 per year. Insurance changes are as follows: office visit co-payments will increase from \$10 per visit to \$20 per visit; the District contribution for SchoolCare's Consumer Driven Health Plan is set at 100% for new members and for current members who opt to change from the HMO.

Tax cost: Cost increases are: salaries: \$214,227; longevity increases: \$15,600; Social Security increases: \$17,582; New Hampshire Retirement increases: \$36,014; net tuition and workshop increase: \$5,000. Cost decreases are: \$40,829 for District savings in health care costs.

The net estimated cost of the Collective Bargaining Agreement is \$247,594. This represents an increase of \$0.29 per thousand of valuation or \$58 on a \$200,000 house.

**A YES vote** approves a one year contract between Raymond School Board and Raymond Education Association, and funds one year in 2015 – 2016.

**A NO vote** means that professional staff continues to work under the current contract.

**Reasons why some voters might vote yes:**

- Agreement with the cost items of the collective bargaining agreement
- To eliminate the need for any special meeting to address a revised agreement

**Reasons why some voters might vote no:**

- Objection to any or all terms of the collective bargaining agreement

**References:**

(1) Professional staff includes employees of the Raymond School District whose position requires certification by the DOE as a professional engaged in classroom teaching. There are two different types of union membership with some members choosing to have voting rights and others not; the collective bargaining agreement applies to all.

(2) The REA contract is available for review at the School District office and on

**SCHOOL ARTICLE 4: REA SPECIAL MEETING**

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 Education Association. (REA) (1)

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

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 at a special meeting
- To avoid having to petition the court if the School Board decides to hold a special meeting after the contract is renegotiated

**Reasons why some voters might vote no:**

- To avoid the cost of a special meeting (about \$1200 if a simple ballot is used, more if a printed ballot is used)

**References:**

(1) RSA 32:20, Municipal Budget Law; Ron Brickett, Business Administrator, Raymond School District.

**SCHOOL ARTICLE 5: Capital Improvement Plan**

This article raises \$214,000 to be deposited in three School Capital Reserve Funds (CRFs) to support the School's Capital Improvement Plan (CIP). (1) The following CRFs will be funded: Equipment, Facilities Maintenance and Replacement CRF: \$164,870 to install safety cameras at Raymond High School (RHS), install flooring in the Lamprey River Elementary School (LRES) cafeteria, replace six energy recovery units (portables) at LRES, upgrade two bathrooms at LRES, and add to the savings for district roofing projects; Textbook CRF: \$36,000 to fund math textbooks in kindergarten and grades 1, 2, and 6; Food Service Equipment CRF: \$13,130 to purchase a steam table at LRES and install a condenser & evaporator (walk-in freezer) at LRES. Tax cost: \$214,000 or \$.26 per thousand of valuation or about \$52 on a \$200,000 house, a \$0.0 increase from last year.

A **YES vote** raises \$214,000 to fund three School CRFs in the 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:**

- Saving gradually can help avoid spikes in the tax rate that could occur if the total cost of a necessary purchase or repair must be paid in one year.
- CRF savings avoid the cost in interest when capital improvements must be bonded (borrowed).
- 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
- To bond (borrow) and pay for items as a project is built/purchased and used
- 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.

[www.raymondvip.org](http://www.raymondvip.org)

**TOWN WARRANT****TOWN 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.

*Choose one (1) Selectman for a three year term expiring in 2018:*

Jonathan Wood                      Bill Hoitt

*Choose two (2) Budget Committee members for a three year term expiring in 2018:*

*Choose two (2) Planning Board members for a three year term expiring in 2018:*

John Beauvilliers                      Robert Wentworth                      Ted Janusz

*Choose two (2) Ethics Committee members for a three year term expiring in 2018:*

Gretchen Gott

*Choose one (1) Ethics Committee member for a two year term expiring in 2018:*

*Choose one (1) Trustee of the Trust Funds for a three year term expiring in 2018:*

Jill Vandeboncoeur

*Choose one (1) Library Trustee for a three year term expiring in 2018:*

Karen Currier                      Carol Newby

**ARTICLE 2: ZONING AMENDMENT 1: RE-CODIFY ZONING CODE**

This article amends the Raymond Zoning Ordinance, as proposed by the Raymond Planning Board, by reorganizing and renumbering the Ordinance in its entirety. This amendment does not alter any existing content. Only the location and numbering of the existing content has been changed.

A **YES vote** accepts the reordered and renumbered Raymond Zoning Ordinance.

A **NO vote** does not accept the reordered and renumbered Zoning Ordinance.

**Reasons why some voters might vote yes:**

- To organize the many amendments made to the ordinance since it was first adopted on November 3, 1970
- To renumber the ordinance to match the reorganization of content
- To create a more accessible document for developers, staff and citizens (1)

**Reasons why some voters might vote no:**

- Objections to any or all of the reordering and/or renumbering

**References:**

- (1) To view the restructured Raymond Zoning Ordinance, see <http://www.raymondnh.gov/boards/planning/planning.php> The Table of Contents is now interactive. Visit the Planning Office at Town Hall to see a paper copy.

*"Raymond VIP is a sincere attempt to produce an informed voter."  
Paul Brown, lifetime Raymond resident; member of Raymond VIP since 2012*

**ARTICLE 3: ZONING AMENDMENT 2: HOME OCCUPATIONS**

This amendment deletes the definitions for “Home Business”, “Home Office”, and “Home Shop” and adds a new definition for “Home Occupations”. The amendment keeps current requirements and adds new requirements for signage, parking, and limitation on delivery truck size to prohibit tractor trailers. The number of outside employees allowed will change from three (3) to two (2), and allowed square footage will be the lesser of 25% of the structure or 400 square feet. Only those Home Occupations that do not meet all requirements will be subject to a Site Plan Review by the Technical Review Committee. The purpose of the amendment is to simplify the review process for homeowners with a home occupation, and to protect and maintain the peace and character of residential neighborhoods.

**A YES Vote:** creates one definition and additional standards for all Home Occupations.

**A NO Vote:** keeps three definitions for Home Occupations, each with the same set of standards.

**Reasons why some voters might vote yes:**

- Clarifies the definition of working at home for gain
- Adds requirements to maintain the character of the neighborhood
- Removes redundancy from the Zoning Ordinance
- Simplifies the review process for homeowners

**Reasons why some voters might vote no:**

- No longer distinguishes among home-based businesses, offices, and shops
- Allows fewer outside employees
- Disagreement with some of the new requirements

**References:**

For complete text of the proposed amendment see the Planning Office or [http://www.raymondnh.gov/boards/planning/planning\\_274\\_948578438.pdf](http://www.raymondnh.gov/boards/planning/planning_274_948578438.pdf)

**ARTICLE 4: ZONING AMENDMENT 3: CONVERSION APARTMENT**

This amendment expands the definition of “Conversion Apartment” and eliminates the provision that the dwelling must have existed prior to December 1, 1985. New provisions require retaining the aesthetic character of the original dwelling on the same footprint, limiting the size of the converted space to the lesser of 1,000 square feet or 1/3 the floor area of the original dwelling, allowing one (1) bedroom, and providing off-street parking for at least four vehicles. Conversion apartments will be permitted in Zone A (Residential) and Zone B (Residential/Agricultural). Conversion Apartments are intended as an option for homeowners to offer separate and independent living space for their extended families, or to offer small dwelling units as rentals to offset the expense of maintaining the dwelling.

**A YES Vote:** allows conversion apartments in single family dwellings of at least 1,500 square feet that have been in existence for at least five years and meet the requirements above.

**A NO Vote:** allows conversion apartments only by Special Exception in single family dwellings of at least 1,500 square feet that have been in existence prior to December 1, 1985 and does not expand requirements.

**Reasons why some voters might vote yes:**

- Eliminates the age restriction pre 12/1/85
- Eliminates the requirement to apply to the Zoning Board of Adjustment for a Special Exception
- Adds requirements to maintain neighborhood character and ensure that 2/3 of the home remains a single-family residence.

**Reasons why some voters might vote no:**

- Since more homes would be eligible for conversion, the potential to impact the population density in Zones A and B will increase.
- Disagreement with one or all of the new requirements

**References:**

For complete text of the proposed amendment see the Planning Office or [http://www.raymondnh.gov/boards/planning/planning\\_272\\_3057136333.pdf](http://www.raymondnh.gov/boards/planning/planning_272_3057136333.pdf)

**ARTICLE 5: ZONING AMENDMENT 4:****RAIL TRAIL SIGNAGE (RTS) DISTRICT**

This amendment creates a zone overlaying each side of the Rockingham Recreational Rail Trail which crosses Raymond east to west just north of Route 101. (1) The zone runs the entire length of the trail and extends twenty feet deep into each side. The sole purpose of the zone is to encourage and regulate signage placed along the trail which will give trail users information about attractions in Raymond. The underlying zoning will not change

For most of the zone, only directional signs (example: Onway Lake→), spaced fifty (50) feet apart, will be permitted. In two commercial sections of the trail, 450 feet from each side of two intersections, commercial and directional signs spaced thirty (30) feet apart will be allowed. (2) Restrictions throughout the zone include sign size, material used, distance from one sign to another, and height and number of signs allowed per post. Tax cost: zero. Signs will be donated and placement will be negotiated with landowners.

**A Yes vote** means that a new zoning corridor for signage will be created along the Rail Trail.

**A No vote** means that signage placed on land along the Rail Trail will remain unrestricted.

**Reasons why some voters might vote yes:**

- To encourage landowners to provide information to trail users about nearby sites of historical, natural, government, and/or commercial interest
- To regulate the appearance and number of signs allowed on the Rail Trail.

**Reasons why some voters might vote no:**

- Prefer not to limit signage that landowners can place within 20 feet of the Rail Trail
- Prefer not to encourage signage along the Rail Trail
- Concerns about sign maintenance

**References:**

- (1) See complete text at the Planning Office or at [http://www.raymondnh.gov/boards/planning/planning\\_272\\_633449922.pdf](http://www.raymondnh.gov/boards/planning/planning_272_633449922.pdf)
- (2) Commercial sections are located where the Rail Trail crosses near the Train Depot in downtown Raymond, and near the Dunkin’ Donut store in the Exit 5 area.

*“People often say that, in a democracy, decisions are made by a majority of the people. Of course, that is not true. Decisions are made by a majority of those who make themselves heard and who vote – a very different thing. Walter H. Judd (physician, Congressman, missionary to China)*

**ARTICLE 6:****TOWN OPERATING BUDGET/DEFAULT BUDGET****As Amended at Deliberative Session 1/31/15**

This article will raise \$7,985,989 to fund the Town's Operating Budget, or, if this article fails, will raise \$7,988,917 to fund the Default Budget.

The amounts above do not include other money warrant articles on this year's ballot that may pass or fail. These amounts do include the Water Department Budget, which is self-funded, has no tax impact, and is not included in the information that follows.

The proposed operating budget (without the Water Budget) is \$7,146,097 which is an increase of 1.41% or \$99,098 over last year's actual budget.

Cost increases this year include: Property liability insurance: \$12,740, Health insurance: \$12,316, Town Administration wages: \$15,185 and 2.25% in wage increases to match non-union employee wages with union employee wages. Costs decreases include: Cemetery contract equipment and services (\$5,000); General Government Building Heating Fuel (\$4,475); Building Inspection Department salaries and wages (\$28,917); Fire Department gasoline and diesel (\$11,773); Dispatch contract equipment (\$4,835); highway diesel (\$8,749); additional highway line items (\$6,000); and parks salaries and wages (\$20,216).

The tax cost of the 2015 Operating Budget plus all the warrant articles is estimated at \$6.741 per thousand of valuation, an increase of \$.217 over last year's estimated budget, or \$43.48 for a \$200,000 house. The Default Operating Budget would have an increase of \$0.221 over last year's approved budget or \$44.17 estimated cost for a \$200,000 house. (4)

A **YES vote** raises \$7,985,989 to fund the Town's Operating Budget and the Town's Water Budget.

A **NO vote** raises \$7,988,917 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 Operating Budget

**Reasons why some voters might vote no:**

- To fund the Town's Default Operating Budget
- To fund the Waste Management budget's identified shortfall in the Operating Budget, without drawing from other services or projects, including money that would otherwise go into the Town's "Rainy Day Fund (5)

**References:**

- (1) As defined by state law, the Town's default budget is the previous year's budget plus any contractual obligations and plus or minus any one time expenses. The default budget is automatically in place if the proposed operating budget fails. RSA 40:13 IX(b)
- (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 (Bylaw #213).
- (3) The actual budget includes the 2014 proposed budget plus any money warrant articles voted forward in March 2014 plus any obligations already contracted for (such as a second year of a contract).
- (4) Estimated tax cost is based on the 2014 town assessed value of \$841,213,970 which could be higher in 2015 depending on changes to the town's net assessed value. .
- (5) Waste Management reporting changed this year to more accurately reflect actual revenue and expenses in the Operating Budget. In past years the Waste Management

Budget has been subsidized (\$147,038 in 2014) by taking money from other line items in the budget including money that would otherwise have gone into the Unassigned Fund Balance ("Rainy Day Fund"). The Town's Unassigned Fund Balance has been below the 8% recommended by the Town's auditors (2.7% of total General Fund expenditures in 2013; year 2014 is not yet closed out.) This year the Town's Default Budget is higher than the Operating Budget because the Budget Committee had cut the Operating Budget by \$56,748 and has recommended that the Town continue to subsidize the Waste Management budget by other means including possibly increasing the cost of the bags. **NOTE: At Deliberative Session on 1/31/15, an amendment restored \$28,000 of this cut to the Operating Budget. This addition is reflected in the totals above.**

**ARTICLE 7: POLICE/DISPATCH CONTRACT****Deliberative Session 1/31/15: update in bold.**

This article asks voters to approve the cost items included in the three-year collective bargaining agreement for salaries and benefits that was reached between the Town of Raymond and the twenty-three (23) police and dispatch members of the Teamsters Union Local 633. (1) Estimated cost increases for 2015 **(nine months):** \$32,062.54; for 2016: \$43,711.94; for 2017: \$44,695.45; **and for 2018 (three months) \$10,283.**

The increase in salaries is 2.25% for each of the first three years of the agreement, and members will continue to pay 15% of their insurance costs.

Other benefits include one (1) additional sick day, bringing the total to eleven (11). Premiums for second shift will increase from \$.80 to \$.85. Premiums for third shift will increase from \$1.00 to \$1.05. During the first year of the contract only, new hires will start at step three, and employees currently below step 8 will advance one additional step.

Estimated tax cost for 2015 increases is \$.038 per thousand of property tax valuation or about \$7.60 on a house valued at \$200,000.

**A YES Vote** approves the wage and benefits increases and funds the first year of the contract.

**A NO Vote** does not approve the wage and benefits costs in this contract and does not fund the first year.

**Reasons why some voters may vote yes:**

- To provide a pay increase for each of the following three years.
- To provide additional benefits provided for in the contract.

**Reasons why some voters may vote no:**

- To deny the wage and benefit increases specified in the collective bargaining agreement.
- Objections to any or all of the agreed upon terms of the agreement.

**References:**

- (1) Included are 14 full-time and 2 part-time policemen, and 5 full-time and 2 part-time dispatchers. Not included in the union: Police Chief, three Sergeants, one part and one full-time Secretary and the Head Dispatcher
- (2) "Step" increase is the yearly increase. This action was taken to try to keep Raymond's starting salaries competitive and to try to prevent loss of employees to other towns. David Salois, Chief of Police.

**Article 8: Police/Dispatch Contract Special Meeting**

If the collective bargaining agreement in Article 7 does not pass, this article gives the Town the authority to call one special meeting, at its option, to address costs items in the collective bargaining agreement between the Town and Teamsters Local 633 of NH.

A **YES vote** allows the Town to call one special meeting to address Article 7.

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 in order 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
- (2) Special meetings cost about \$1,200 if a simple ballot is used. Cost would be more if a printed ballot must be used.

**ARTICLE 9: SCHOLARSHIP FUND**

This article will raise \$2,000 for the Town of Raymond Scholarship Fund for Raymond High School graduating seniors and Raymond residents attending their first year of college. Recipients are chosen by the Board of Selectmen who also determine the amount of each scholarship. (1) Tax cost: \$.002 per \$1,000 of tax valuation (same as last year) or about \$.40 on a \$200,000 house.

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 build the Scholarship fund.

**Reasons why some voters might vote no:**

- To spend down the Scholarship Fund balance.

**References:**

- (1) Raymond awarded two \$1,500 scholarships in 2014. The Scholarship Fund currently has a balance of \$4,859.
- (2) The Selectmen do not currently intend to build the fund to the point that interest income can support the annual scholarship costs.

**ARTICLE 10: SOCIAL SERVICE AGENCIES**

This article will raise \$69,820 for thirteen (13) Social Service agencies that provide services to Raymond residents. (1) The Selectmen interviewed each agency and chose to fund agencies at last year's rates. (2) Tax cost (\$.083) per \$1,000 of tax valuation or about \$16.60 on a \$200,000 house.

A **YES vote** will provide funding to the listed Social Service agencies that serve Raymond residents.

A **NO vote** will not provide any funding from Raymond to any social service agency.

**Reasons why some voters might vote yes:**

- To help support agencies serving Raymond

**Reasons why some voters might vote no:**

- Personal objections to any or all of the agencies
- Personal objections to town funding of any or all social service agencies

**References:**

- (1) A Safe Place \$2,875; American Red Cross \$1850; Area Homemaker Health Aid \$4000; Court Appointed Special Advocates \$500, Child Advocacy Center \$1,000, Child and Family Services \$5,500; Lamprey Health Care \$6,500; Retired Seniors Volunteer Program \$600; Rockingham Community Action \$36,000; Rockingham County Nutrition Program \$3,670; Richie McFarland Children's Center \$3,025; Seacoast Mental Health \$3,000, Sexual Assault Support Services \$1,300.
- (2) Some Social Service Agencies provide assistance that the Town Welfare Department would otherwise be required to fund according to RSA 165:1 Aid to Assisted Persons. For interview details see the Board of Selectmen minutes from September 8, 2014 at [minuteshttp://www.raymondnh.gov/boards/selectman/selectman\\_557\\_1714907918.pdf](http://www.raymondnh.gov/boards/selectman/selectman_557_1714907918.pdf)

**Article 11: MOSQUITO CONTROL**

This article raises \$45,000 to fund the mosquito control program in Raymond. The mosquito program monitors and controls mosquitoes carrying West Nile Virus and Eastern Equine Encephalitis (EEE), primarily by larvicide and emergency spraying, and on-request spraying of public assembly areas. The state will continue to provide testing of submitted samples at no cost to the town. In addition, a state grant may reimburse the town up to \$3,000, but only if the state has the money, and only after the declaration of an emergency due to mosquito populations or reported instances of West Nile Virus or EEE. Tax cost: \$45,000 total at a \$3,000 increase over last year due to anticipated costs for a new contract yet to be accepted. Tax cost is \$.053 per \$1,000 of tax valuation or about \$10.60 on a \$200,000 house.

A **YES vote** funds the mosquito control program in Raymond.

A **NO vote** eliminates the mosquito control program in Raymond.

**Reasons why some voters might vote yes:**

- Reduces risk of exposure to West Nile Virus and EEE infection.
- Raymond tested positive in 2014 for mosquitoes carrying EEE Virus.

**Reasons why some voters might vote no:**

- Does not guarantee prevention of West Nile Virus and EEE infection.
- Do not want a mosquito control program in Raymond.

**References:**

- (1) Town Manager
- (2) Town of Raymond Health Officer
- (3) Town Manager. Contractor did not charge extra for this spraying.
- (4) Town of Raymond Health Officer

**ARTICLE 12: CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS**

**As amended at Deliberative Session 1/31/15**

This article raises \$232,200 to be deposited in seven Town Capital Reserve Funds (CRFs) to support the Town's Capital Improvement Plan (CIP).

(1) The needs assessment schedules were not updated by the Town, so the Board of Selectmen decided to fund the CIP appropriation requests at last year's level. The CIP Committee did not meet this year.

(2) Seven CRFs are funded: General Government Buildings, Maintenance and Improvement \$25,000; Highway Department Vehicle Repair and Replacement \$45,000; Highway Department Heavy Equipment \$20,000; Town Offices Technology \$5,000; Police/Dispatch Equipment and Vehicle \$25,000; Parks Equipment, Vehicle and Facilities \$25,000. Fire Department Equipment and Vehicle \$45,000 **plus \$42,200 or \$87,200 total for the Fire Department Equipment and Vehicle CRF as amended at Deliberative Session.**

Seven CRFs were not funded last year and will not be funded this year: Bridge Maintenance, Sidewalks, Revaluation, Master Plan Updates, New Town Facilities, Library and Recreation Department Equipment.

(3) Tax cost increase over last year is \$0.05 per thousand of tax valuation. To fund the Town's CIP this year is \$0.276 per thousand of tax valuation or about \$55.21 on a \$200,000 house.

A **YES vote** raises \$232,200 to fund seven of fourteen Town CRFs in the CIP this year.

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

**Reasons why some voters might vote yes:**

- Saving gradually can help avoid spikes in the tax rate that could occur if the total cost of a necessary purchase or repair must be paid in one year.
- CRF savings avoid the cost in interest when capital improvements must be bonded (borrowed).
- Failure to fund the CIP every year causes the plan to fall behind projected needs.
- Establishing a Capital Improvement Plan gives the town the authority to collect impact fees from developers to help pay for road construction that would otherwise be paid out of taxes. Funding a CIP ensures that impact fees maintain their current level and do not have to be reduced following the annual impact fee review required by the Raymond Zoning Ordinance

**Reasons why some voters might vote no:**

- To finance high cost items with voter approved bonds
- To bond (borrow) and pay for items as a project is built/purchased and used

**References:**

- (1) A Capital Reserve Fund (CRF) is a savings account for scheduled Capital Improvement (CIP) purchases that cost more than \$15,000 and have a five-year or longer life span.
- (2) Town Manager Craig Wheeler and Budget Chair Tim Auclair
- (3) Town revaluations are now funded annually through the General Budget. Master Plan updates are now done in house by the Planning Board and the Planning Department.
- (4) "A Capital Improvement Plan creates a focus on preserving a municipal infrastructure and ensuring the efficient use of tax dollars." Board of Selectman's Consultant: Municipal Resources Inc. Don Jutton 11/18/13
- (5) In the past Road Impact Fees had to be reduced due to fewer road miles completed annually. See Raymond Zoning Ordinance 7.512 See at Town Hall or at [http://www.raymondnh.gov/planning/planning\\_39\\_3411741797.pdf](http://www.raymondnh.gov/planning/planning_39_3411741797.pdf)

### ARTICLE 13: ROAD RECONSTRUCTION

This article funds \$149,000 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) Tax cost: \$.177 per \$1000 of tax valuation, the same as last year, or about \$35.40 on a \$200,000 house.

A **YES vote** allows the town to continue road reconstruction projects.

A **NO vote** delays road reconstruction projects.

**Reasons why some voters might vote yes:**

- To enable the Public Works Department to reconstruct roads rather than make repairs to those roads.

- To decrease the percentage of road miles in need of repair.
- To ensure that enough road miles are completed so that impact fees maintain their current level and do not have to be reduced following the annual impact fee review required by the Raymond Zoning Code

**Reasons why some voters might vote no:**

- Disagreement with some or all of proposed road projects.

**References:**

- (1) RSA 32:7: VI gives towns the authority to create non-lapsing funds.
- (2) Department of Public Works: The Epping Street reconstruction is complete. North Main Street is scheduled for this year.
- (3) This percentage has increased in recent years due to the rise in cost of asphalt and other products. In 2009, Raymond had approximately 66% of roads in need of repair. As of January 2014, an estimated 77% of Raymond's roads are in need of repair. Director of Public Works, Pat Bower.
- (4) In the past Road Impact Fees had to be reduced due to fewer road miles completed annually. See Raymond Zoning Ordinance 7.512 See at Town Hall or at [http://www.raymondnh.gov/planning/planning\\_39\\_3411741797.pdf](http://www.raymondnh.gov/planning/planning_39_3411741797.pdf)

### Article 14: Water Capital Reserve Funds (CRFs)

This article raises \$25,000 to be deposited in the Water Department's Capital Reserve Funds (CRF) (1). Fund requests for this year are: New Water Treatment Facility \$2,400; Well Cleaning \$2,500; Water Tank Tower Painting \$2,500; Utility Vehicle Replacement \$100; and New Well Site Acquisitions \$17,500. (2) The amount raised is the same as last year. (3) Tax cost zero (\$.0) since town water users fund Water Department Capital Reserve Funds.

A **YES vote** puts \$25,000 into the already established Water Department Capital Reserve Funds.

A **NO vote** will not add funding to any Water Department Capital Reserve Fund this year.

**Reasons why some voters might vote yes:**

- To ensure that money will be available for scheduled Water Department capital improvements.

**Reasons why some voters might vote no:**

- To finance high cost items with voter approved bonds
- To bond (borrow) and pay for items as a project is built/purchased and used

**References:**

- (1) CRFs allow the department to save for expensive items related to Raymond's town water needs. Director of Public Works
- (2) The New Well Site Acquisitions Capital Reserve Fund does not duplicate the ongoing work on the new town well bonded in 2013. Town Manager Craig Wheeler
- (3) The needs assessment schedules were not updated by the Town, so the Board of Selectmen decided to fund appropriation requests at last year's level.

**"As a charter member of the Raymond Voter Information Project, and its current president, I sincerely hope that this Voters Guide is a helpful tool when we all go to the polls on March 10. This is our sixth year of publication and we're grateful to all who contributed, either by their time or their donations. Don't forget to vote!"**

~Marilyn Elliott



**Article 15: ROAD SHIM/OVERLAY SRF**

This Special Revenue Fund (SRF) was created to hold funds that can be saved year to year and used as needed when roads need to be rehabilitated with gravel shim (to make the road level and protect its sides) and with asphalt overlay (for repaving).

This article authorizes funding and withdrawing \$209,839 from the Department of Public Works Shim and Overlay SRF. (2) There is no net impact to the Town's Operating Budget because NH State Highway Block Grant revenue funds this SRF. This year the amount of the Highway Block Grant was known far enough in advance to request the exact amount of \$209,839.

Tax cost: zero (\$.0) per thousand of tax valuation.

**A YES vote** authorizes the Department of Public Works to withdraw \$209,839 from its Shim and Overlay Special Revenue Fund and requires use of the money prior to December 31, 2017.

**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 projects that the money has been spent on.

**References**

- (1) Projects completed in 2014 were Gile Road, Scribner Road, David Drive and Morgan Farm Road. Projects for 2015 have not yet been scheduled.
- (2) 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. See RSA 31:95-c <http://www.gencourt.state.nh.us/rsa/html/III/31/31-95-c.htm>

**ARTICLE 16: VACATION & SICK LEAVE FUND**

This article raises and appropriates \$10,000 to be deposited into the Vacation and Sick Leave Expendable Fund for Non-Union employees. (1) This 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 pay-out amount is determined in the Town of Raymond Personnel Policy. (2) Tax cost: \$.012 or \$2.40 for a \$200,000 house.

**A YES vote** raises \$10,000 for the Vacation and Sick Leave Expendable Fund.

**A NO vote** raises no money for the Vacation and Sick Leave Expendable Fund.

**Reasons why some voters might vote yes:**

- The Non-union Vacation and Sick Leave fund is currently under-funded.

**Reasons why some voters might vote no:**

- No retirements are expected this year.

**References:**

- (1) Inquire at Town Hall to view the complete policy. Employees can accrue up to 90 days of sick leave for non-union and union (AFSCME) town employees, and up to 60 days for Police. Payout percent is based on years employed. Vacation payout is up to 1.5 times their annual accumulation for non-union and union (AFSCME) town employees and up to 80 hours for Police.
- (2) See RSA 31:19-a. An "expendable" fund is a municipal trust fund created for maintenance and operation purposes

- (3) The non-union Vacation and Sick Leave Expendable Fund has only \$53 due to the recent retirement of a long-term employee. Using a formula of taking the average pay-out expense compared to expected retirements, the Non-Union Vacation and Sick Leave Fund is under-funded by \$40,000 to \$60,000. Eight employees are expected to retire over the next five years. Town Manager Craig Wheeler

**ARTICLE 17: TRUSTEE AUTHORIZATION**

This article requests voters to enact State RSA 35:9-a II (1) which allows Trustees of the Trust Funds to pay for professional banking or brokerage assistance fees out of Capital Reserve Funds without being voted on every year. If this article is approved, it cannot be reversed by the voters for a period of five years. Currently Capital Reserve Funds (tax dollars set aside for capital improvements) are held in certificate of deposit accounts (CDs). Tax cost is Zero. Impact to Capital Reserve Funds will depend upon the annual value of the fund.

**A YES vote** will authorize the Trustees of the Trust Funds to use Town and/or School Capital Reserve Fund money to fund the cost of professional investment advice and services.

**A NO vote** will prohibit the Trustees from using Town and/or School Capital Reserve Fund money to fund the cost of professional investment advice and services.

**Reasons why some voters might vote yes:**

- Elected Trustees have said that they currently do not have the financial expertise to invest.
- To assist the Trustees of the Trust Funds in management of taxpayer dollars
- To allow the trustees to attempt to improve the amount of interest earned on Capital Reserve Fund investments.

**Reasons why some voters might vote no:**

- To prohibit the Trustees of the Trust Funds from using Capital Reserve Funds for professional investment services and advice.
- To seek to avoid any potential loss of Capital Reserve Fund principal due to investment losses.
- To continue to place Capital Reserve Funds in non-risk accounts such as CDs, savings or checking accounts.
- Article 17 sets no limits on the amount of Capital Reserve Funds that may be placed under the management of an investment advisor and sets no limits on the amount of Capital Reserve Fund money that may be used for professional investment services and advice.

**References:**

- (1) Management fees are based on how much money is in the account.
- (2) RSA 35:9-a II: <http://www.gencourt.state.nh.us/rsa/html/iii/35/35-mrg.htm>  
The town meeting may adopt an article authorizing the trustees of trust funds, without further action of the town meeting, to charge any expenses incurred pursuant to paragraph I against the capital reserve funds involved. Such authority shall remain in effect until rescinded by a vote of the town meeting. No vote by the town to rescind such authority shall occur within 5 years of the original adoption of such article. . . Any professional banking and brokerage fees incurred shall be reported in the annual report of the trustees of trust funds as expenditures out of capital reserve funds
- (3) Raymond Trustees of the Trust Funds 2014 Investment Policy: [http://www.raymondnh.gov/boards/trustees\\_funds/trustees\\_funds\\_58\\_3060837269.pdf](http://www.raymondnh.gov/boards/trustees_funds/trustees_funds_58_3060837269.pdf)
- (4) Trustee Kevin Woods: certificate of deposit accounts (CDs) are earning .25% or less. (1/7/15)
- (5) Trustee Kim Tyndall: Capital Reserve funds total \$2.4 million dollars (1/17/15)

**ARTICLE 18: TRUSTEE EXPENSES:**

**Note: If Article 17 passes, then Article 18 is null and void.**

This article asks voters to raise \$15,000 to be used by the Trustees to pay for professional banking or brokerage investment assistance in the event that Article 17 does not pass. (1) Currently Capital Reserve Funds (tax dollars set aside for capital improvements) are held in certificate of deposit accounts (CDs). (2)

If Article 17 passes, giving the Trustees the authority to use Capital Reserve funds for professional banking or brokerage assistance, this article is null and void and \$15,000 will not be collected from taxpayers. If Article 17 does not pass, and this article does pass, estimated tax cost will be \$.018 per thousand of property valuation or \$3.60 on a \$200,000 house.

**A YES vote** will raise \$15,000 for the Trustees to use for professional investment services and advice during Fiscal Year 2015 if Article 17 does not pass.

**A NO vote** will provide \$0.00 for the Trustees to use for professional investment services and advice during Fiscal Year 2015 if Article 17 does not pass.

**Reasons why some voters might vote yes:**

- To provide \$15,000 to allow the Trustees to pay for investment services and advice this year if Article 17 fails
- To approve funding for investment services and advice year by year
- To allow the Trustees to attempt to improve the amount of interest earned on Capital Reserve Fund investments (3)
- Elected Trustees have said that they do not currently have the financial expertise to invest.

**Reasons why some voters might vote no:**

- To prohibit Trustees from spending money for professional investment services and advice on Capital Reserve Fund investments
- To continue to place Capital Reserve Funds in non-risk accounts such as CDs, savings or checking accounts.

**References:**

- (1) RSA 35:9-a II: <http://www.gencourt.state.nh.us/rsa/html/iii/35/35-mrg.htm>
- (2) Raymond Trustees of the Trust Funds 2014 Investment Policy: [http://www.raymondnh.gov/boards/trustees\\_funds/trustees\\_funds\\_58\\_3060837269.pdf](http://www.raymondnh.gov/boards/trustees_funds/trustees_funds_58_3060837269.pdf)
- (3) Trustee Kevin Woods: certificate of deposit accounts (CDs) are earning .25% or less. (as of 1/7/15).

**ARTICLE 19: TAX IMPACT DISCLOSURE**

This article enables and requires the Raymond Board of Selectmen to determine and disclose the estimated increase or decrease to property taxes, for any money warrant article on the Town ballot. (1)

**A YES VOTE** means that the tax impact for money warrant articles must appear on the Town ballot.

**A NO VOTE** means that the tax impact for money warrant articles is not required and must not appear on the Town ballot.

**Reasons why some voters may vote yes:**

- Disclosing the tax impact of the budget and special warrant articles will enable voters to determine the effect of the warrant article on their property taxes.

**Reasons why some voters may vote no:**

- Since the cost of the warrant article on the ballot is an estimate, the tax impact is also an estimate.

**References:**

- (1) RSA 32:5 V-b Any town may vote to require that the annual budget and all special warrant articles having a tax impact, as determined by the governing body, shall contain a notation stating the estimated tax impact of the article. The determination of the estimated tax impact shall be subject to approval by the governing body.
- (2) Special Warrant Article: articles containing some type of appropriation.

**ARTICLE 20: Rezoning Petition**

This is a citizen petition warrant article.

The owner of Tax Map 27-4 Lot 1 on Old Manchester Road would like to rezone this undeveloped parcel from Zone C.1 Commercial to Zone A Residential in order to build a single family home. The parcel lies between 39 Old Manchester Road and the Rail Trail and is about half an acre in size.

Single family homes are not permitted in commercial zones. A prior owner of this property applied for a variance to develop this lot as a single-family residence. The Zoning Board of Adjustment (ZBA) denied that variance request. Years later, a subsequent owner applied for a variance to construct a duplex, which the ZBA granted. Since NH State Law ((1) prohibits the same variance request from being sought on the same parcel of land unless there has been a material change, the current owner must petition the voters rather than attempt to seek a variance from the ZBA. The owner presented his case to the Planning Board on January 8, 2015 for the required Public Hearing Review, and the board voted to support the owner's citizen petition.

**A YES vote** would enable the current owner to construct a single family residence on this lot, and the zoning designation for this property would change from Zone C.1 Commercial to Zone A Residential.

**A NO vote** would leave the current C.1 Commercial zoning designation in place. The owner would be allowed, by right, to develop the lot for a commercial use or utilize the variance to develop a residential duplex.

**Reasons why some voters might vote yes:**

- A single family residential use is compatible with the uses on abutting properties.
- A single family residence would be a less intensive use of the site than a two-family duplex residence or a commercial use.

**Reasons why some voters might vote no:**

- Raymond has a limited inventory of properties zoned for commercial development.

**References:**

- (1) According to the decision of the NH Supreme Court in *Fisher v. Dover*, 120 NH 187 (1980), In order for the ZBA to take up and approve the same variance request that had been previously denied, the applicant must demonstrate a material change in circumstance.



**ARTICLE 21: CITIZENS' PETITION****As amended (in bold) at the Town Deliberative Session on 1/31/15:**

“Shall the Town of Raymond vote to make all contracts for Conservation Easements on town-owned land placed with outside entities limited to **[no more than]** 10 years and subject to a vote of the citizens to renew the contract,” **this article does not include the previously passed conservation easements of Flint Hill and Dearborn which were passed in perpetuity.**”

This article is intended to apply only to town-owned land held by land trust organizations and may not be applied to previously voter approved Conservation Easements intended for Flint Hill and the Dearborn Property.

• “A conservation easement is a legal agreement between a landowner and a land trust that permanently limits uses of the land in order to protect its natural conservation values.” (1)

• “‘Conservation easement’ means a less than fee interest in property acquired for the purpose of permanently protecting a natural, cultural or historical resource or its scenic or recreational values.” (2)

• According to the Attorney General: “A conservation easement is a legally binding agreement between a landowner and the easement holder that restricts use of the land subject to the terms of the easement in order to protect its significant natural features including the preservation of open space. See RSA 477:45-47. The Office of the Attorney General, through its Charitable Trusts Unit, is involved in the enforcement of the terms of perpetual conservation easements, as they constitute charitable trusts under state law. As such, perpetual conservation easements may not be amended, or terminated, without compliance with applicable charitable trust principles, and the involvement of the Charitable Trusts.” (3)

A **yes vote** would require a limitation of 10 years on conservation easement contracts. Contract renewal would require a vote of the people. The Flint Hill Conservation Easement and the Dearborn Conservation Easement are excluded.

A **no vote** would continue to allow permanent protection of conservation land held by easement.

**Reasons why some voters might vote yes:**

- To eliminate the permanency of future conservation easements
- To allow conservation contracts to run for no more than ten years
- To require a vote of the people for contract renewals

**Reasons why some voters might vote no:**

- To continue to permanently protect Raymond’s conservation land
- Object to paying attorney fees, recording fees and stewardship fees more than once on the same easement.
- To keep Town of Raymond conservation easement contracts consistent with state precedent

(1) Land Trust Alliance. See <http://www.landtrustalliance.org/conservation/landowners/faqs-1/faq-conservation-easement>

(2) RSA 227-E:2:II. See <http://www.gencourt.state.nh.us/rsa/html/XIX/227-E/227-E-2.htm> **NOTE: At Deliberative Session 1/31/15: Town Counsel: This NH RSA definition applies specifically to the Connecticut River Valley Resource Commission.**

(3) <http://doj.nh.gov/charitable-trusts/conservation-easements.htm> **NOTE: At Deliberative Session 1/31/14: Town Counsel stated that Conservation Easements are not required by law to be perpetual, but that other restrictions on these easements make it impractical to do otherwise.**

**Thank you to the New Hampshire Charitable Foundation**

Our NHCF grant enabled us to learn, by experience and by study, an important key to civic engagement that we believe will sustain our organization into the future. We learned that voter apathy comes from a deep-seated feeling that engagement in public service and voting no longer matter in today’s world. If people feel they cannot make a difference, on their own terms and in accordance with their own values, they seldom vote, run for public office or seek committee appointment. In a town of willing volunteers on so many other levels, we believe that our most important role going forward in Raymond VIP is to listen to our neighbors and discover together a new definition of what participation in the voting process can be when it is at its best.

Our upcoming pilot project will reach out to partner with two groups that research shows have the greatest potential for civic engagement: our senior residents and our young families with children. We have located leaders in two neighborhoods, and we hope to partner with them to form two teams to explore the topic of what makes a strong, resilient, fully engaged community.

What is working in your neighborhood? What is not working? What would you change about your neighborhood if you could? Raymond VIP wants to discover those answers with you and be a part of making a change, whatever you decide that change should be.

**For more information about our pilot project, contact us via our website at [www.raymondvip.org](http://www.raymondvip.org). And watch for more news, coming this summer.**

**Raymond Voter Information Project**

[www.raymondvip.org](http://www.raymondvip.org)

*The object of the Raymond Voter Information Project is the advancement of education that enables students and community members to prepare to exercise their civil right to vote.*

**We believe that:**

- **The responsibility for good government rests on the shoulders of every citizen.**
- **A well informed voter has the greatest freedom of choice.**
- **It is possible to present objective voter information.**
- **The good of the Town of Raymond is best served when all its citizens participate in study, deliberation, and voting.**

**We intend to strive to:**

- **Improve citizen access to comprehensive, complete, objective information on Raymond candidates, issues, and proposed warrant articles;**
- **Encourage participation in Raymond’s Deliberative Sessions;**
- **Encourage participation in Raymond’s local elections;**
- **Encourage citizens to seek public office.**

**With regard to political policy, we will:**

- **Neither support nor oppose any political party or any candidate;**
- **Neither support nor oppose any warrant article;**
- **Strive to present objective voting information.**

The 2015 Guide is brought to the Raymond Community free of charge by the Raymond Voter information Project,

Donations from Raymond citizens, and our

**Business Donors:**

**Ace Ben Franklin Hardware**

15 Freetown Road at the Raymond Shopping Center

603-895-2370

**Raymond Area News**

[www.RaymondAreaNews.com](http://www.RaymondAreaNews.com)

Cheryl Killam, Owner

603-679-8656

**Vernet Properties:**

**Raymond Shopping Center/Tuckaway Tavern**

Routes 102 and 27, Raymond, NH 03077

978-744-4272

**Hannaford Supermarket & Pharmacy**

2 Freetown Road, Raymond, NH 03077

603-895-0010

**Jambs Jewelry**

Jewelry, Repairs, Watch Service, Design-Your-Own & More

17 Freetown Road, Raymond, NH 03077

[www.Jambs.Jewelry.com](http://www.Jambs.Jewelry.com)

603-244-3680

**Riverbend Realty Group**

Residential/Commercial: David P. Turcotte, Broker Owner

64 Freetown Road, Raymond, NH 03077

603-303-7044 (cell) 603-895-4500 x 206 (office)

[Davidturcotte@comcast.net](mailto:Davidturcotte@comcast.net)

**Edward Jones Investments**

Dustin R. Ramey

Cozy Corner Plaza

61 Rte. 27, Suite 17, Raymond, NH 03077

603-895-4942

**Natural or Not Salon & Spa**

37 Harriman Hill Road, Raymond, NH 03077

[www.naturalornot.com](http://www.naturalornot.com)

603-895-1200

**Buxton Oil Company**

Delivering Heating Oil, Top Quality Fuels, Biofuel, Kerosene Blend

603-679-5600

[www.buxtonoil.com](http://www.buxtonoil.com)

**Shookus Special Tools, Inc**

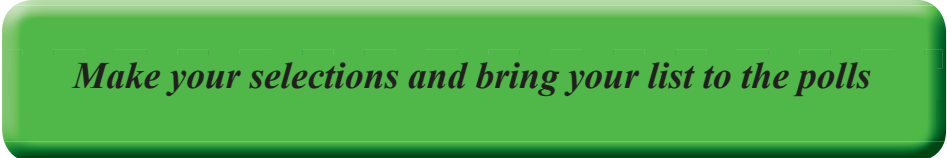
P.O. Box 1027, Raymond NH 03077

603-895-1200

Please remember to thank our business donors!

To support continuation of the guide, citizens may donate by PayPal at [www.raymondvip.org](http://www.raymondvip.org) or by mail to Raymond VIP at Box 813 Raymond, NH 03077.

All donations are tax deductible. Thank you!



**Town Warrant**

- 1 Candidate choices: .....
- 2 Zoning: Re-codify the Zoning Ordinance..... Y  N
- 3 Zoning: Home Occupations..... Y  N
- 4 Zoning: Conversion Apartments ..... Y  N
- 5 Zoning: Rail Trail Signs..... Y  N
- 6 Town Operating Budget..... Y  N
- 7 Police/Dispatch Contract..... Y  N
- 8 Police/Dispatch Contract Special Meeting..... Y  N
- 9 Scholarship Fund..... Y  N
- 10 Social Service Agencies..... Y  N
- 11 Mosquito Control ..... Y  N
- 12 Town Capital Improvement Fund..... Y  N
- 13 Road Reconstruction ..... Y  N
- 14 Water Capital Reserve Fund..... Y  N
- 15 Road Shim/Overlay Fund..... Y  N
- 16 Vacation & Sick Leave Fund..... Y  N
- 17 Trustee Authorization..... Y  N
- 18 Trustee Expenses..... Y  N
- 19 Tax Impact Disclosure..... Y  N
- 20 Citizen Petition: Zoning..... Y  N
- 21 Citizen Petition: Easement Contracts..... Y  N

**School Warrant**

- 1 Candidate Choices: .....
- 2 School Operating Budget..... Y  N
- 3 Teachers' Contract..... Y  N
- 4 Teachers' Contract Special Meeting..... Y  N
- 5 School Capital Improvement Plan..... Y  N

**SEE YOU AT THE POLLS!**

**Iber Holmes Gove  
Middle School  
Epping Road at School Street**

**Tuesday March 10, 2015**

**7 AM to 7 PM**

**For the latest on any article,  
check [www.raymondvip.org](http://www.raymondvip.org)**