



**2003 TOWN MEETING WARRANT
AS AMENDED AT THE TOWN DELIBERATIVE SESSION ON 1-FEB-03
AND RESULT OF THE 11-MAR-03 VOTE**

To the inhabitants of the Town of Hudson, in the County of Hillsborough and State of New Hampshire, qualified to vote in Town affairs:

You are hereby notified to meet at Lions Hall, Lions Avenue, commencing at 9:00 a.m. on Saturday, February 1, 2003 for the transaction of all business, other than voting by official ballot. This first session of the Annual Town Meeting shall consist of explanation; discussion and debate of each warrant article. Warrant articles may be amended at the first session, subject to the restrictions set forth in NH RSA 40:13, IV.

You are hereby further notified that the second session of the Annual Meeting shall be held at Lions Hall, Lions Avenue, between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m. on Tuesday, March 11, 2003, to elect Town officers and to vote by official ballot on all articles set forth on this Warrant, as may be amended by act of the first session meeting.

ELECTION OF TOWN OFFICERS

ARTICLE 1

FOR SELECTMEN

THREE YEAR TERM VOTE FOR NOT MORE THAN TWO

William P. Cole	1072
Raymond Rowel	680
Teresa Stewart	1153
William Tate	1004

FOR SELECTMEN

TWO YEAR TERM VOTE FOR NOT MORE THAN ONE

Rhona Charbonneau	1028
Kenneth "Ken" Massey	1161

FOR SUPERVISOR OF THE CHECKLIST

THREE YEAR TERM VOTE FOR NOT MORE THAN ONE

Write-In:	
Karen Knox	33

FOR TOWN TREASURER

THREE YEAR TERM VOTE FOR NOT MORE THAN ONE

Karen L. Burnell	1740
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FOR BUDGET COMMITTEE

THREE YEAR TERM VOTE FOR NOT MORE THAN THREE

John Beike	1239
Leo C. Bernard	1137
Howard L. Dilworth, Jr.	1132
Robert H. Haefner	1245

FOR BUDGET COMMITTEE

ONE YEAR TERM VOTE FOR NOT MORE THAN ONE

John M. Drabinowicz	1526
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FOR CEMETERY TRUSTEE

THREE YEAR TERM VOTE FOR NOT MORE THAN ONE

Illa Patricia Hetzer	1977
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FOR CODE OF ETHICS

THREE YEAR TERM VOTE FOR NOT MORE THAN ONE

Daniel Hodge	1722
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FOR LIBRARY TRUSTEE

THREE YEAR TERM VOTE FOR NOT MORE THAN ONE

Arlene M. Creeden	1260
Richard J. Maddox	666

FOR LIBRARY TRUSTEE

TWO YEAR TERM VOTE FOR NOT MORE THAN ONE

Write-In:

John Knowles	139
Lynne Ober	114
Richard Maddox	33

FOR LIBRARY TRUSTEE

ONE YEAR TERM VOTE FOR NOT MORE THAN ONE

Jane D. Bowles	1257
Alfred "Fred" Giuffrida	698

FOR TRUSTEE OF THE TRUST FUND

THREE YEAR TERM VOTE FOR NOT MORE THAN ONE

Raymond R Noel	1622
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FOR TRUSTEE OF THE TRUST FUND

TWO YEAR TERM VOTE FOR NOT MORE THAN ONE

Joseph A. Wozniak	1684
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ZONING AMENDMENTS

ARTICLE 2 ARE YOU IN FAVOR OF THE ADOPTION OF AMENDMENT NO. 1 AS PROPOSED BY THE PLANNING BOARD FOR THE TOWN ZONING ORDINANCE AS FOLLOWS?

Amend Article XIII A, Accessory Living Units, Section 334-73.4.B, to provide that where a principal dwelling includes a previously approved accessory dwelling unit, and a new owner of record wishes to maintain the accessory dwelling unit, an application for a new Special Exception to benefit the new owner must be made to the Zoning Board of Adjustment before conveyance of the subject property. (Approved by the Planning Board.)

Yes 967 No 825

ARTICLE 3 ARE YOU IN FAVOR OF THE ADOPTION OF AMENDMENT NO. 2 AS PROPOSED BY THE PLANNING BOARD FOR THE TOWN ZONING ORDINANCE AS FOLLOWS?

Amend Article XIV, Impact Fees, Section 334-74.7B, to provide that before the expenditure of collected impact fees the Planning Board must first provide input on any proposed expenditure to the Board of Selectmen. (Approved by the Planning Board.)

Yes 1709 No 460

PETITIONED ZONING AMENDMENT

ARTICLE 4 ARE YOU IN FAVOR OF AMENDMENT NO. 3 AS PROPOSED BY PETITION FOR THE TOWN ZONING ORDINANCE AS FOLLOWS?

Amend the Town of Hudson Official Zoning Map by changing the zoning classification of Town of Hudson Tax Map 59/Lot 35, Map 23/Lots 31, 32 and 32-1, from I-Industrial to B-Business—the primary retail/business/multi-family zoning district. These parcels are located in the general area of the intersection of Elm Avenue and Derry Street (Route 102). (Disapproved by the Planning Board.)

Yes 578 No 1573

SELECTMEN'S WARRANT ARTICLES

ARTICLE 5 WAGE AND BENEFIT INCREASE FOR TOWN CLERK/TAX COLLECTOR

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,520 for a wage and benefit increase for the Town Clerk/ Tax Collector. This sum reflects a 3% Cost of Living Adjustment. This would increase the Town Clerk/ Tax Collector's pay from \$44,541 to \$45,877. (This appropriation is in addition to Article 8, the Operating Budget.) (Recommended by the Selectmen; Recommended by the Budget Committee.)

Yes 1218 No 1027

ARTICLE 6 WAGE AND BENEFIT INCREASES FOR NON-UNION PERSONNEL

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$36,000 for wage and benefit increases for the following 11 non-union positions: Police Chief, Town Administrator, Fire Chief, Community Development Director, Road Agent, Finance Director, Recreation Director, Assistant Fire Chief, Prosecutor, Highway Department Supervisor and Executive Assistant. Of this sum, \$20,750 has been allocated for a 3% Cost of Living Adjustment and \$15,250 has been allocated for benefits and comparability adjustments. (This appropriation is in addition to Article 8, the Operating Budget.) (Recommended by the Selectmen; Not recommended by the Budget Committee.)

Yes 871 No 1369

ARTICLE 7 WAGE AND BENEFIT INCREASES FOR EMPLOYEES OF HILLS MEMORIAL LIBRARY

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$15,120 which represents a 3% increase in wages and benefits for the 25 employees of the Hills Memorial Library. (This appropriation is in addition to Article 8, the Operating Budget.) (Recommended by the Selectmen; Not Recommended by the Budget Committee.)

Yes 1138 No 1102

ARTICLE 8 TOWN OPERATING BUDGET

Shall the Town of Hudson raise and appropriate as an operating budget, not including appropriations by special warrant articles and other appropriations voted separately, the amount set forth on the budget posted with the Warrant or as amended by vote of the first session, for the purposes set forth therein, totaling \$22,851,428. Should this article be defeated, the operating budget shall be \$22,737,448 which is the same as last year, with certain adjustments required by previous action of the Town of Hudson or by law; or the governing body may hold one special meeting, in accordance with RSA 40:13, X and XVI, to take up the issue of a revised operating budget only. (Recommended by the Selectmen; Recommended by the Budget Committee.)

Yes 1380 No 847

ARTICLE 9 ASSESSMENT TECHNICIAN

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$40,928 which represents the cost of wages and benefits to hire an Assessment Technician I to provide a variety of property data collection tasks, as well as technical work in the administration of the Assessing Department. (This appropriation is in addition to Article 8, the Operating Budget.) (Recommended by the Selectmen; Recommended by the Budget Committee.)

Yes 873 No 1354

ARTICLE 10 ASSESSING ADMINISTRATIVE AIDE

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$43,861 which represents the cost of wages and benefits to hire an Administrative Aide to provide a variety of complex clerical, administrative and technical duties in the administration of the Assessing Department. (This appropriation is in addition to Article 8, the Operating Budget.) (Recommended by the Selectmen; Not recommended by the Budget Committee.)

Yes 333 No 1910

ARTICLE 11 TWO POLICE OFFICERS

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$107,360 which represents the cost of wages and benefits to hire two additional full-time police officers. (This appropriation is in addition to Article 8, the Operating Budget.) The cost to hire these officers will be offset by a three-year Federal COPS grant, awarded by the US Department of Justice in the amount of \$150,000. (Recommended by the Selectmen; Recommended by the Budget Committee.)

Yes 1380 No 899

ARTICLE 12 POLICE DEPARTMENT OPERATIONS CLERK

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$15,825 which represents the cost of wages and benefits to hire a part-time clerk (20 hours) in the Police Department's Operations Division (Patrol and Investigations Bureau). (This appropriation is in addition to Article 8, the Operating Budget.) (Recommended by the Selectmen; Not recommended by the Budget Committee.)

Yes 729 No 1533

ARTICLE 13 POLICE DEPARTMENT SUPPORT SERVICES CLERK

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$22,930 which represents the cost of wages and benefits to hire a part-time clerk (29 hours) in the Police Department's Support Services Division (Recruiting, Training, Accreditation, Facilities, Information Systems and Records). (This appropriation is in addition to Article 8, the Operating Budget.) (Recommended by the Selectmen; Not recommended by the Budget Committee.)

Yes 577 No 1680

ARTICLE 14 PART TIME WELFARE OFFICER

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$10,510 which represents the cost for a part-time Welfare Officer (10 hours per week) to handle the General Assistance services, under the direction of the Town Administrator. (This appropriation is in addition to Article 8, the Operating Budget.) (Recommended by the Selectmen; Not recommended by the Budget Committee.)

Yes 631 No 1631

ARTICLE 15 PART TIME WATER UTILITY CLERK

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$15,473 which represents the cost of wages and benefits necessary to hire a part-time clerk for the Hudson Water Utility. (This appropriation is in addition to Article 8, the Operating Budget.) (Recommended by the Selectmen; Recommended by the Budget Committee.)

Yes 985 No 1260

ARTICLE 16 ROADSIDE TRACTOR/MOWER w/19' BOOM

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$67,000 for the purchase of a heavy duty, 4-wheel drive tractor with a 19' boom mower to perform roadside brush cutting. (This appropriation is in addition to Article 8, the Operating Budget.) (Recommended by the Selectmen; Not recommended by the Budget Committee.)

Yes 601 No 1644

ARTICLE 17 REPLACEMENT AMBULANCE

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the withdrawal of \$119,000 from the Ambulance Capital Reserve Account to purchase a new ambulance. This account was created for the purpose of purchasing new replacement ambulances for the Town and has been used to replace two other ambulances already. No funds are requested from general taxation, as there will be sufficient funds available in this account to make this

purchase as of July 1, 2003. (This appropriation is in addition to Article 8, the Operating Budget.) (Recommended by the Selectmen; Recommended by the Budget Committee.)

Yes 1824 No 402

ARTICLE 18 REPLACEMENT SCBA'S

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to enter into a lease-purchase agreement for the purpose of leasing 44 self-contained breathing apparatus units and to raise and appropriate \$36,225 for the first year's payment of a five-year lease-purchase for that purpose. The total cost of this lease-purchase is \$181,125. (This appropriation is in addition to Article 8, the Operating Budget.) (Recommended by the Selectmen; Not recommended by the Budget Committee.)

Yes 913 No 1269

ARTICLE 19 GREELEY STREET DRAINAGE CONSTRUCTION

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$50,000 for the construction of an enclosed drainage system along a portion of Greeley Street. Of this amount, \$25,000 represents a contribution for this purpose by the developer of Greenleaf Estates. The balance of \$25,000 will be raised by taxes. This is a Special Warrant Article, per RSA 32:3 VI, reflecting an appropriation that will not lapse until the monies are expended, or June 30, 2008, whichever is the earliest. (This appropriation is in addition to Article 8, the Operating Budget.) (Recommended by the Selectmen; Recommended by the Budget Committee.)

Yes 1321 No 862

ARTICLE 20 REVISED PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTION FOR THE ELDERLY

Shall we modify the elderly exemptions from property tax in the Town of Hudson, based on assessed value, for qualified taxpayers, to be as follows: for a person 65 years of age up to 75 years, \$75,000; for a person 75 years of age up to 80 years, \$90,000; for a person 80 years of age or older, \$115,000? To qualify, the person must have been a New Hampshire resident for at least five years, own the real estate individually or jointly, or if the real estate is owned by such person's spouse, they must have been married for at least five years. In addition the taxpayer must have a net income of not more than \$26,000 or, if married, a combined net income of less than \$34,000; and own net assets not in excess of \$100,000, excluding the value of the person's residence. (If approved, this article shall take effect for the 2003 property tax year.) (Recommended by the Selectmen.)

Yes 1936 No 284

ARTICLE 21 REVISED PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTION FOR THE DISABLED

Shall we modify the exemption for the disabled? The exemption, based on assessed value, for qualified taxpayers shall be \$75,000. To qualify, the person must have been a New Hampshire resident for at least five years and own and occupy the real estate individually or jointly, or if the real estate is owned by a spouse, they must have been married for at least five years. In addition, the taxpayer must have a net income of not more than \$26,000 or, if married, a combined net income of not more than \$34,000; and own net assets not in excess of \$100,000, excluding the value of the person's residence. (If approved, this article shall take effect for the 2003 property tax year.) (Recommended by the Selectmen.)

Yes 1856 No 356

ARTICLE 22 REVISED PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTION FOR THE BLIND

Pursuant to RSA 72:37, shall we modify the exemption for the blind from the assessed value of residential real estate for property tax purposes? This statute provides that every inhabitant who is legally blind shall be exempt each year, for property tax purposes, from the assessed value on a residence to the value of \$75,000. (If approved, this article shall take effect for the 2003 property tax year.) (Recommended by the Selectmen.)

Yes 1858 No 350

ARTICLE 23 DEVELOPMENT OF THE BENSON'S PROPERTY

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$253,000 for the development of the Benson's property, said sum to be taken from the unexpended General Fund Balance for the year ending June 30, 2003. There is no tax impact. This is a Special Warrant Article, per RSA 32:3 VI, reflecting an appropriation that will not lapse until the monies are expended, or June 30, 2008, whichever is the earliest. (This appropriation is in addition to Article 8, the Operating Budget.) (Recommended by the Selectmen; Recommended by the Budget Committee.)

Yes 1760 No 485

ARTICLE 24 INGERSOLL FAMILY TRUST LAND DEVELOPMENT RIGHTS

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to purchase on behalf of the Town, the development rights for the so-called Ingersoll Family Trust Land, Tax Map 40 /Lot 10; and to raise and appropriate the sum of up to \$268,000 for said purchase, with said funds to be withdrawn from the Town's Land Use Change Tax Fund; and to further authorize the Board of Selectmen to negotiate the terms of and the purchase price for this acquisition, provided that any additional funding necessary to acquire the property be raised through grants and donations. There is no tax impact. This is a Special Warrant Article, per RSA 32:3, VI, reflecting an appropriation that will not lapse until the acquisition of such rights is accomplished, or June 30, 2008, whichever is the earliest. (This appropriation is in addition to Article 8, the Operating Budget.) (Recommended by the Selectmen; Recommended by the Budget Committee.)

Yes 1559 No 642

ARTICLE 25 PLANNING BOARD EXPENDABLE TRUST FUND

To see if the Town will vote to create an expendable trust fund under the provisions of RSA 31:19-1 to be known as the Planning Board Expendable Trust Fund, and to raise and appropriate the sum of \$83,009; of this amount, the full amount of \$83,009 is authorized to be withdrawn from the Planning Board Residual Agency Fee Accounts. The Board of Selectmen shall be designated as agents to expend and shall be authorized to make expenditures of principal and interest for the purpose of funding Planning Board activities, including the hiring of non-legal consultants, engineers and experts. (Recommended by the Selectmen.)

Yes 1066 No 1089

ARTICLE 26 LIBRARY EXPANSION CAPITAL RESERVE FUND (LIBRARY FUND BALANCE)

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$30,000 to be placed in the existing Library Expansion Capital Reserve Fund and to authorize the use/ transfer of the June 30, 2003 Library

Fund Balance (surplus) in an amount not to exceed \$30,000 for this purpose. (This appropriation is in addition to Article 8, the Operating Budget.) (Recommended by the Selectmen; Not recommended by the Budget Committee.)

Yes 1004 No 1207

ARTICLE 27 LIBRARY EXPANSION CAPITAL RESERVE FUND (TOWN FUND BALANCE)

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$20,000 to be placed in the existing Library Expansion Capital Reserve Fund and to authorize the use/ transfer of the June 30, 2003 General Fund Balance (surplus) in an amount not to exceed \$20,000 for this purpose. (This appropriation is in addition to Article 8, the Operating Budget.) (Recommended by the Selectmen; Not recommended by the Budget Committee.)

Yes 949 No 1252

ARTICLE 28 DISCONTINUANCE OF ALVIRNE LAND CAPITAL RESERVE

To see if the Town will vote to discontinue the Alvirne Land Capital Reserve Fund created in 2000. Said fund had been created to purchase a parcel of land connecting Route 3-A and Route 102 lying south of Alvirne High School. Said funds, with accumulated interest to date of withdrawal, are to be transferred to the Town of Hudson's General Fund. (Recommended by the Selectmen; Recommended by the Budget Committee.)

Yes 1766 No 435

PETITIONED WARRANT ARTICLES

ARTICLE 29 "THE HEALTH CARE FOR NEW HAMPSHIRE" RESOLUTION

Whereas New Hampshire residents pay the 12th highest cost for insurance in the country; and whereas the cost of health insurance premiums for families has increased by 45% over the past three years; and whereas 100,000 New Hampshire residents have no health coverage and 77% of them have a full-time worker at home; and whereas due to these rising costs almost half of New Hampshire's small businesses cannot afford health coverage for their employees, therefore be it resolved that we, the citizens of Hudson, New Hampshire, call on our elected officials from all levels of government, and those seeking office to work with consumers, businesses and health care providers to ensure that everyone, including the self-employed, unemployed and un- and underinsured, and small business owners, has access to an affordable basic health plan similar to what federal employees receive; everyone, including employers, consumers, and the state, local and federal government makes a responsible and fair contribution to finance the health care system; everyone receives high quality care that is cost efficient and medically effective; and that these efforts help control the skyrocketing cost of health care. (This resolution is non-binding and represents no fiscal impact.)

Yes 1676 No 500

ARTICLE 30 REQUESTING LEGISLATURE TO RESTORE THE LCHIP GRANT PROGRAM

To see if the Town will vote to send the following resolution to the New Hampshire General Court: Resolved, in its first two years of operation, the Land and Community Heritage Investment Program (LCHIP) has helped communities throughout New Hampshire preserve their natural, cultural and historic resources and, therefore, the State of New Hampshire should maintain funding for LCHIP in its next biennial budget. (Recommended by the Selectmen.)

Yes 1617 No 546

ARTICLE 31 TO PLACE 100% OF REVENUES FROM LAND USE CHANGE TAX FUND INTO THE CONSERVATION FUND

To see if the Town will vote to adopt the provisions of RSA 79-A: 25, II to place 100% of the revenues of all future payments collected from the Land Use Change Tax into the Conservation Fund, in accordance with RSA 36-A:5, III. (Not recommended by the Selectmen.)

Yes 854 No 1292

ARTICLE 32 PURCHASE OF NADEAU FARM LAND

To see if the Town will vote to further explore the purchase of the remaining portion of the Nadeau Farm, property identified as Map 37, Lot 1, 99 Old Derry Road, with total acreage of approximately 144.8 acres, with the intent of establishing a conservation easement on said property so that it will continue to be used for agricultural, open space, conservation or recreational uses. This warrant article does not request any appropriation for this purpose; it is intended to determine if sufficient interest exists within the town to pursue an open space protection effort of this magnitude.

Yes 1410 No 807

Election Officials mandated by law to work at the polls, on election day, consist of the following unless opposed on the ballot, in which case the moderator would have to appoint someone to represent the office:

MODERATOR

William P. Arseneault

TOWN CLERK

Cecile Y. Nichols

SELECTMEN

William P. Cole, Chairman
Rhona Charbonneau

Shawn Jasper
Ann Seabury

Teresa Stewart

SUPERVISORS OF THE CHECKLIST

Joyce Cloutier, Chairman

Vacancy

Kevin Riley

The following residents were appointed by the moderator to work at the polls on election day:

SELECTMEN PRO-TEM

Esther McGraw

Jeanne Turmel

ASSISTANT MODERATOR

Jeannette Guill