

**TOWN OF HOLDERNESS  
ANNUAL TOWN MEETING  
MARCH 13 & 14, 2012**

To the inhabitants of the Town of Holderness, in the County of Grafton and the State of New Hampshire qualified to vote in Town Affairs:

You are hereby notified to meet at the Town Hall on Tuesday the thirteenth day of March next, at ten o'clock in the forenoon, at which time the polls shall be opened and shall not close earlier than seven o'clock in the evening to act upon Articles 1 & 2 herein; the third and subsequent Articles to be acted upon commencing at seven thirty o'clock in the evening (or immediately following the annual school district meeting whichever comes later) of the following day, Wednesday, the fourteenth day of March, 2012, in the auditorium of the Holderness Central School.

**Article 1:** To choose all Town Officers by official ballot:

1 Selectmen	3 Year Term
1 Trustee of Trust Fund	3 Year Term
2 Library Trustee	3 Year Term
1 Fire Ward	3 Year Term
1 Supervisor of the Checklist	6 Year Term

**Article 2:** 2012 Proposed Zoning Ordinance Changes

To see how the Town will vote by official ballot on the proposed amendments, as recommended by the Planning Board, to the Town Zoning Ordinance as follows:

1. 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 Section 700.2 Structures to clarify the zoning rights associated with non-conforming structures existing prior to the adoption of zoning?
2. 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 Section 700.3 Lots to clarify the zoning rights associated with non-conforming lots existing prior to the adoption of zoning?
3. Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 3 as proposed by the Planning Board for the Town Zoning Ordinance as follows:  
Amend Section 400.10 Sewage and Waste Disposal Systems to clarify that changes to a structure or change of use of a structure that will cause an increase or change of use in sewage and waste disposal must conform to state and local septic regulations?
4. Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 4 as proposed by the Planning Board for the Town Zoning Ordinance as follows:  
Add Section 400.10.1 Gray Water Systems – which prohibits Gray Water systems?
5. Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 5 as proposed by the Planning Board for the Town Zoning Ordinance as follows:  
Amend Section 400.8.1.2 to clarify that setback requirements apply to wells?

6. Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 6 as proposed by the Planning Board for the Town Zoning Ordinance as follows:

Amend Section 800.3 Variances – to be consistent with RSA 674:33 and 674:33-a?

7. Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 7 as proposed by the Planning Board for the Town Zoning Ordinance as follows:

Add a Definition for non-residential development to be consistent with Site Plan Regulations?

8. Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 8 as proposed by the Planning Board for the Town Zoning Ordinance as follows:

Add Definitions terms associated with Septic Systems (or Individual Septic Disposal Systems – ISDS) as defined by the NH Code of Administrative Rules Env-Wq?

**Article 3:** To see if the Town will vote to accept the reports of all Town Officers and Committees.

**Article 4:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the budget committee recommended sum of Two Million and One Hundred and Fifty-nine Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$2,159,500) for general municipal operations. Said sum does not include special or individual articles elsewhere within this warrant.

**Recommended by the Selectmen; (5 yeas 0 nays) and Budget Committee; ( 5 yeas, 0 nays)**

**Article 5:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Three Hundred and Sixty-five Thousand Dollars (\$365,000) to be placed into the following Capital Reserve Funds:

Fire/Rescue Vehicles	\$40,000
Road Reconstruction	150,000
White Oak Pond Dam	1,000
Transfer Station Equipment	2,000
Municipal Buildings	20,000
Revaluation	35,000
Library	10,000
Fire Equipment	6,000
Public Works Vehicles	45,000
Police Cruiser	24,000
Employee Health Insurance Trust	17,000
Conservation	5,000
Abatement Legal Defense Fund	<u>10,000</u>
	<b>\$365,000</b>

**Recommended by the Selectmen; (5 yeas 0 nays) and Budget Committee; ( 5 yeas, 0 nays).**

**Article 6:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Three Hundred and Fifty-nine Thousand One Hundred Dollars (\$359,100) for the following capital projects and to fund this appropriation by authorizing the Selectmen to withdraw the sums indicated from the following designated Capital Reserve Funds for these purposes:

Road Reconstruction	\$150,000
Revaluation	35,000
Fire/Rescue Vehicles	46,600
Library Improvements	10,000
Highway Department Vehicle	72,000
Police Cruiser	38,000
Fire Equipment	7,500
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$359,100</b>

This is a special warrant article.

**Recommended by the Selectmen; (5 yeas 0 nays) and Budget Committee; (5 yeas, 0 nays)**

**Article 7** To see if the Town will vote to establish a Recreation Revolving Fund pursuant to RSA 35-B:2 II. The money received from fees and charges for recreation services and facilities shall be allowed to accumulate from year to year, and shall not be considered to be part of the general fund unreserved fund balance. The treasurer shall have custody of all monies in the fund, and shall pay out the same only upon order of the board of selectmen and recreation director (no further legislative body approval required). These funds may be expended only for recreation purposes as stated in RSA 35-B, and no expenditure shall be made in such a way as to require the expenditure of other funds that have not been appropriated for that purpose.

**Article 8** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Seven Thousand Dollars (\$7,000) to be place in the Emergency Management Non-capital Expendable Trust fund. Said amount to be taken from the FY2012 fund balance.

**Recommended by the Selectmen; (5 yeas 0 nays) and Budget Committee; ( 5 yeas, 0 nays)**

**Article 9** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Five Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$5,500) for the purchase of up to five new computer work stations for the town office. Said amount to be raised by taxation.

**Recommended by the Selectmen; (5 yeas 0 nays) and Budget Committee; ( 5 yeas, 0 nays)**

**Article 10** To see if the Town will vote to completely discontinue, per RSA 231:43, a section of the old Holderness – Plymouth Road on the present Holderness School campus beginning at the intersection with the west side of Route 175 then westerly along a portion of Chapel Lane to the intersection of South Campus Road and the section of Chapel Lane beginning at the intersection of the west side of Route 175 north of the frog pond to the intersection with South Campus Road, said discontinuance to extinguish all rights of public easement; further to authorize the Selectmen to provide a deed without covenants to the School, to confirm that the Town has no remaining interest in the road.

**Article 11** **WHEREAS**, the Town of HOLDERNESS currently has an existing electrical transmission line carry High Voltage Alternating Current (HVAC) through the town designated by Public Service Company of New Hampshire as Line X-178; and,  
**WHEREAS**, the aforementioned transmission line is mounted on forty 40 to 50 foot tall wooden poles, some of which are below adjacent tree lines; and,  
**WHEREAS**, the proposed Northern pass transmission line would carry 1200 Megawatts of High Voltage Direct Current (HVDC) power generally south from Canada through New Hampshire, including through portions of the Town of HOLDERNESS, on visually damaging power lines hung from tall, intrusive steel towers at heights ranging from eighty (80') feet to one hundred and thirty (135') feet in the air, well above tree height; and,  
**WHEREAS**, the Voters of the Town of HOLDERNESS have concluded that the Northern Pass transmission line, as it has been proposed, would cause significant degradation of real estate property values resulting in dramatic losses of property tax receipts, well in excess of any conceivable property tax revenues from levying tax assessments on the aforesaid towers and transmission lines; and,  
**WHEREAS**, numerous other negative impacts from the aforesaid proposed Northern Pass transmission line will occur or can reasonably be expected to occur, over time, including, but not limited to:

- a. A significant drop in tourist visits, and consequently, revenues, as damages from the power lines to New Hampshire's natural scenic beauty will be a deterrent to people coming to the region.
- b. A drop in toll fees and New Hampshire gas tax revenues as motorists choose other routes into Northern New England, or worse, choose not to come at all.
- c. The strong possibility of negative health impacts from Electro Magnetic Fields (EMF's) radiating from 1200 Megawatt HVDC cables.
- d. A drop in business revenues, and consequently, a drop in employment at impacted businesses such as; ski areas, restaurants, gas stations, construction firms, shops, stores, banks, real estate firms, to name just a few—all of which are heavily dependent upon visitors coming to the area.

**Therefore**, the undersigned citizens of HOLDERNESS, by petition, respectfully ask the town to adopt the following ordinance:

*Other than high voltage electrical transmission lines in existence as of the effective date of this ordinance, there shall be no further overhead development of alternating current or direct current high voltage transmission lines allowed within the borders of the Town of Holderness. All such future electrical transmission lines must be placed underground within power line rights of way or within yet to be established power line corridors, and installed in a manner approved by the State of New Hampshire's Public Utility Commission and/or Department of Transportation. Distribution lines carrying electrical power and other utility lines such as telephone and cable television for local residential or commercial use may continue to be installed above ground, but undergrounding of such lines, is strongly recommended and encouraged.*

*This ordinance shall take effect immediately upon its passage.*

**This article is by petition.**

**Article 12:** To see if the town will vote to adopt a Rights-Based Ordinance to protect the Health, Safety and Welfare of the Residents and Ecosystems of Holderness, NH, by establishing a Bill of Rights; by recognizing the Right to a Sustainable Energy Future and by Prohibiting the siting of new energy projects that violate the People's Right to a Sustainable Energy Future. A copy of the complete proposed ordinance is on file with the town clerks office.

**This article is by petition.**

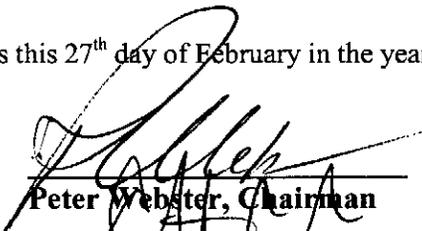
**Article 13:** To transact any other business that can legally come before the meeting.

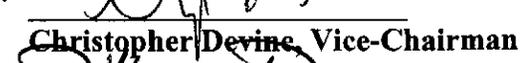
Given under our hands this 27<sup>th</sup> day of February in the year of our Lord Two Thousand and Twelve

**HOLDERNESS**

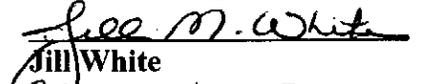
**BOARD OF**

**SELECTMEN**

  
Peter Webster, Chairman

  
Christopher Devine, Vice-Chairman

  
John Laverack

  
Jill White

  
Shelagh Connelly

**Cumulative Appropriations:**

<b>Article</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Purpose</b>
5 & 8	\$ 372,000	To Capital Reserve Accounts
6 & 9	<u>\$ 364,600</u>	Capital Outlay
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$ 736,600</b>	
4	<u>\$ 2, 159,500</u>	Operating Budget
	<b>\$ 2, 896,100</b>	<b>Proposed Gross Budget</b>