

**TOWN OF HOLDERNESS
ANNUAL TOWN MEETING WARRANT
MARCH 9 & 10, 2004**

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 ninth day of March next, at eight 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 the first two Articles; the third and subsequent Articles to be acted upon commencing at seven o'clock in the evening of the following day, Wednesday, the tenth day of March, in the auditorium of the Holderness Central School.

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

2	Selectmen	3 Year Term
1	Town Treasurer	1 Year Term
1	Trustee of Trust Funds	3 Year Term
1	Supervisor of the Checklist	6 Year Term
1	Library Trustee	1 Year Term
2	Library Trustees	3 Year Term
1	Fire Ward	3 Year Term

Article 2: To vote by official ballot on the amendments to the existing Zoning Ordinance as proposed by the Planning Board and posted with this warrant.

Article 3: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$190,468. for renovations and improvements to the Town Hall, and to fund this appropriation by authorizing the Selectmen to borrow by note up to the sum of \$142,851., to negotiate the rate of interest and other terms thereof, and to take such other action as is necessary, and to further authorize the transfer of \$7,778. from the Town Hall Reserve Fund, and to raise \$39,839. by 2004 general tax revenue for this project.

Recommended by the Selectmen and Budget Committee

(Note: This article must be acted upon by written ballot, the voting must be open for one hour, and to pass the article must receive a two-thirds majority of those voting).

Article 4: To see if the Town will vote to accept the reports of all Town Officers and Committees.

Article 5: To see if the Town will vote to rescind the vote taken at the March 12, 2003, Town Meeting, Article 3, which authorized the Board of Selectmen to borrow up to \$600,000. for the design and construction of the capping of the landfill and a new transfer station.

Recommended by the Selectmen and Budget Committee

Article 6: Shall we modify the elderly exemptions from the property tax, per RSA 72:39-b, to allow the elderly taxpayer who qualifies for the exemption to have an income of not more than \$20,000. (presently the limit is \$13,400) or, if married, a combined net income of not more than \$25,000. (presently the limit is \$20,400.); and own assets of not more than \$50,000. (presently the limit is \$35,000.).

Recommended by the Selectmen and Budget Committee

Article 7: To see if the Town will adopt the provisions of RSA 41:14a which authorizes the Board of Selectmen to acquire or sell land, buildings, or both, provided that the Selectmen first submit the proposed acquisition or sale to the Planning Board and Conservation Commission for review and recommendation, and further provided that they first hold two public hearings on the proposal. Then Selectmen may proceed, provided that if 50 or more registered voters petition the Selectmen, the acquisition or sale shall not proceed until it is approved by the voters at town meeting.

Article 8: To see if the Town will vote to adopt the provisions of RSA 149-I, vesting in the Board of Selectmen the powers of a board of sewer commissioners under that chapter. Such powers shall extend to the area of Holderness served by the sewer system formerly operated by the Upper Holderness Sewer District, which has since been dissolved, and any additions thereto within the Town as authorized by the selectmen; and further to authorize the selectmen to accept a deed/bill of sale to any and all assets of the former sewer district.

Article 9: To see if the Town will vote to allow the Selectmen to convey an easement with conditions to Jacob Dunnell, to permit his property to continue to draw water from a drilled well installed on the Holderness Free Public Library property.

Article 10: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$28,400. for updating the Master Plan, and to authorize the withdrawal of up to \$19,200. from the Master Plan Reserve Fund for this purpose, with the balance of \$9,200. to be raised by taxation.

Recommended by the Selectmen and Budget Committee.

Article 11: To see if the Town will vote to rename the Safety Building Reserve Fund the Municipal Buildings Reserve Fund, said Fund to be used for future improvements to those properties, and to further raise and appropriate \$7,500. for deposit into the Reserve Fund.

Recommended by the Selectmen and Budget Committee.

(Requires two-thirds majority vote to pass).

Article 12: To see if the Town will vote to establish a Grant Applications Expendable Reserve Fund to be used to match Federal or State grants which may be received, and to designate the Selectmen as agents to expend moneys from this fund, and to raise and appropriate \$5,000. for deposit into said fund.

Recommended by the Selectmen and Budget Committee

Article 13: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen to enter into a two year lease/purchase agreement for a new Police cruiser for the price of \$22,514. and to raise and appropriate \$11,500. for the first year payment on this lease/purchase. This lease/purchase contains an escape clause.

Recommended by the Selectmen and Budget Committee

Article 14: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$266,000. to be placed in the following Capital Reserve Funds:

Public Works Vehicles	\$35,000.
Police Vehicles	1,000.
Fire Trucks	30,000.
Road Reconstruction	150,000.
Library	17,000.
Transfer Station	10,000.
Revaluation/assessing	15,000.
Fire Equipment	2,000.
White Oak Pond Dam	1,000.
Conservation Commission	<u>5,000.</u>
	\$266,000.

Recommended by the Selectmen and Budget Committee.

Article 15: To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of \$247,800. 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.
Public Works Vehicles	32,500.
Fire Equipment	4,300.
Library	36,000.
Revaluation/assessing	15,000.
Transfer Station	<u>10,000.</u>
	\$247,800.

Recommended by the Selectmen and Budget Committee.

Article 16: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of one million, seven hundred forty two thousand, five hundred fifteen dollars (\$1,742,515.) which represents the operating budget for the Town. Said sum does not include special or individual articles elsewhere within this warrant.

Recommended by the Selectmen and Budget Committee.

Article 17: To see if the Town will vote to adopt the provisions of RSA 72:28 II & IV, "The OPTIONAL Veterans Tax Credit on residential property and to raise the exempted figure to the maximum amount per state law \$500.

(Note: the above article was received by petition).

Article 18: To see if the Town will vote to adopt the provisions of RSA 72:35 I-a, "The OPTIONAL Veterans Tax Credit for Service-Connected Total Disability" and to raise the exempted figure to the maximum amount per state law \$2,000.

(Note: the above article was received by petition).

Article 19: To see if the Town will vote to adopt the provisions of RSA 72:29a, II, “The OPTIONAL Veterans Tax Credit on the real and personal property of the surviving spouse of any person who was killed or died while on active duty in the armed forces of the United States or any of the armed forces of any of the governments associated with the United States in the wars, conflicts or armed combat or combat zones set forth in RSA 72:28 and to raise the exempted figure to the maximum amount per state law \$2,000.

(Note: the above article was received by petition).

Article 20: To see if the Town will vote to require the Selectmen to seek prior approval from a town meeting prior to the removal or sale of the historic woodstove that is in the meeting room of the town hall.

(Note: the above article was received by petition).

Article 21: To transact any other business that can legally come before the meeting.

Given under our hands this 9th day of February in the year of our Lord two thousand four.

HOLDERNESS

Steven L. Huss, Chairman

BOARD OF

Samuel L. Laverack, Vice-Chairman

SELECTMEN

Peter S. Francesco

Barbara C. Currier

D. Arthur Bartholomew

Cumulative Appropriations

<i>Article</i>	<i>Amount</i>	<i>Purpose</i>
3	\$190,468.	<i>Town Hall Improvements</i>
10	28,400.	<i>Master Plan Update</i>
11	7,500.	<i>Municipal Buildings Reserve Fund</i>
12	5,000.	<i>Grant Applications Reserve Fund</i>
13	11,500.	<i>Police Cruiser Leases</i>
14	266,000.	<i>To Capital Reserve Funds</i>
15	<u>247,800.</u>	<i>Capital Projects</i>
<i>Subtotal.</i>	\$756,668.	
16	\$1,742,515.	<i>Net Remaining Budget</i>
	\$2,499,183.	<i>Gross Budget</i>