

# Town of Goffstown, NH

## 2008 Annual Warrant

To the inhabitants of the Town of Goffstown in the County of Hillsborough qualified to vote in Town affairs:

You are hereby notified to meet Saturday, February 2, 2008 at nine o'clock in the morning at Goffstown High School in said Town for the first portion of Town Meeting, also known as the deliberative session, to act on the following subjects and determine matters which will then be voted upon by the official ballot on Tuesday, March 11, 2008. (Snow date for the first session is Wednesday, February 6, 2008.)

You are further notified to meet Tuesday, March 11, 2008 to vote on all matters by official ballot. The polls will open on March 11, 2008 at 7:00 A.M. and close at 7:00 P.M. in the First District at the Goffstown High School and will open at 7:00 A.M. and close at 7:00 P.M. in the Fifth District at the Bartlett Elementary School.

### ARTICLE 1

To choose all Town Officers, Trustees, Commissioners, and School District Officers for the ensuing year.

### ARTICLE 2

Shall the Town adopt Amendment No. 1 as proposed by the Planning Board for the town Zoning Ordinance as follows?

Add the following definitions to the Glossary:

Commercial Kennel – a use of property where any number of dogs are domiciled for a fee, or from which dogs are regularly sold as a business.

Seasonal Dwelling Unit – A dwelling unit not suitable for year round occupancy due to the presence of any on the following conditions: (1) water supply and/or waste water pipes, pumps or other associated facilities susceptible to freezing; (2) no central year round heating system; (3) NHDES restriction of septic system to less than year round use; (4) lot is too small to adequately support on-site water and/or waste water services; or (5) lot access is inadequate for appropriate fire and other emergency services. If uncertainty exists, the Building Inspector shall determine the seasonal or year round status of a dwelling unit.

***Recommended by the Planning Board.***

### ARTICLE 3

Shall the Town adopt Amendment No. 2 as proposed by the Planning Board for the town Zoning Ordinance as follows?

Amend Section 3.6.1 to read:

3.6.1 Non-Residential Uses and Multi-Family Dwelling Units. Multiple principal uses may be established on a single lot for multiple non-residential uses and/or multifamily dwelling units as part of a mixed use project in accordance to Section 3.10, Table of Principal Uses, and the relevant Supplemental Standards.

***Recommended by the Planning Board.***

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ARTICLE 4

Shall the Town adopt Amendment No. 3 as proposed by the Planning Board for the town Zoning Ordinance as follows?

Amend section 3.10.B so that:

The principal use “Church and synagogue” is not an allowed use in the Industrial district, and would be allowed in the Commercial district by Conditional Use Permit, and the principal use “Kindergarten, elementary or secondary school” is not an allowed use in the Industrial district, and change name of use to “Church or other Place of Worship”.

***Recommended by the Planning Board.***

ARTICLE 5

Shall the Town adopt Amendment No. 4 as proposed by the Planning Board for the town Zoning Ordinance as follows?

Amend section 3.10.D.3 so that:

The principal use “Nursing home and special care home” includes “Residential Care Home” and “Supported Residential Health Care Home”.

***Recommended by the Planning Board.***

ARTICLE 6

Shall the Town adopt Amendment No. 5 as proposed by the Planning Board for the town Zoning Ordinance as follows?

Amend Section 6.2, amending the last sentence so that it reads:

The requirements Section 8, Outdoor Lighting, and of the Building and Electrical Codes are also applicable to signs.

And amend Section 6.4.2, under prohibited signs, by adding the following sentence:

Signs, for which sign content is changed mechanically or electronically more frequently than once in 24 hours, are defined as moving or creating an illusion of movement.

And amend Section 6.13, temporary signs, so that it reads:

Banners and other temporary signs for commercial establishments, for a commercial event, or meant to be temporary until replaced by a permanent sign at some future date, are allowed by sign permit, with the following restrictions for any one business: (a) the total of all signs may not exceed 24 square feet, (b) signs shall be wall mounted, (c) signs may be permitted for no more than four occasions in any one calendar year, and (d) signs may not be in place for more than 10 days for any one occasion. The Planning Board may grant exceptions to the four occasions in any one calendar year restriction by Conditional Use Permit, with a finding of a unique situation resulting in a specific hardship and, at the same time, not imposing an unreasonable impact on a neighboring or nearby property.

***Recommended by the Planning Board.***

ARTICLE 7

Shall the Town adopt Amendment No. 6 as proposed by the Planning Board for the town Zoning Ordinance as follows?

Amend Section 8.4 by adding “approved public and private street and sidewalk lighting” as one of the listed exemptions.

***Recommended by the Planning Board.***

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ARTICLE 8

Shall the Town adopt Amendment No. 7 as proposed by the Planning Board for the town Zoning Ordinance as follows?

Insert a new Section, renumbering as required, between the existing Sections 11 and 12, to read:

Section 12 - STORM WATER

- 12.1 Intent - It is the intent of this section to regulate activity that alters the condition, direction or velocity of storm water in response to the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) in accordance with 40 CFR 122, and to insure the proper use of natural resources, and to promote the health and general welfare.
- 12.2 Specifications - Specifications for dealing with storm water in accordance with section 12.1 shall be adopted by the Goffstown Planning Board as part of its Development Regulations, which specifications, at a minimum, shall be sufficient to implement NPDES standards.
- 12.3 Building Permit - No building permit that would result in activity altering the condition, direction or velocity of storm water shall be issued, except in conformance with Section 12.2.

***Recommended by the Planning Board.***

ARTICLE 9

Shall the Town adopt Amendment No. 8 as proposed by the Planning Board for the town Zoning Ordinance as follows?

Amend Section 12.3, Wetland Conservation District, replacing the Wetland Conservation District (WCD) with a Wetland and Surface Water Conservation District (WSWC District); retaining existing wetland setbacks, but adding wetland setback application to residential uses within the C, I, RSBO-2 or VC zoning districts, requiring a 100' buffer from surface waters as defined in USGS maps on all lots; decreasing the uses allowed within the buffer area and increasing the level of finding required for relief. The full text of Proposed Amendment #8 is available in the Town Clerk's Office and Planning Office.

***Recommended by the Planning Board.***

ARTICLE 10

Shall the Town adopt Amendment No. 9 as proposed by the Planning Board for the town Zoning Ordinance as follows?

Amend Section 14.3.7.2 so that:

No request for ZBA action shall be placed on the agenda of any meeting unless received at least fifteen (15) days prior to that meeting.

***Recommended by the Planning Board.***

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ARTICLE 11

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Two Million Dollars (\$2,000,000) for the purpose of acquiring, subdividing, developing land for municipal purposes including but not limited to recreational fields and to acquire conservation easements. To authorize the purchase of a 27± acre portion of Map 5 Lot 39 (70 Center St.) for the sum of Seven Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$700,000). The current property owners (Barnards) will retain ownership of the house and 2.6 acres. To authorize expending up to Two Hundred and Fifty Thousand (\$250,000) for conservation easements.

Furthermore, to authorize the issuance of not more than Two Million Dollars (\$2,000,000) of bonds or notes in accordance with the provisions of the Municipal Finance Act (Chapter 33) and to authorize the municipal officials to issue and negotiate such bonds or notes and to determine the rate of interest thereon, the maturity and the other terms and provisions thereof, as may be in the best interests of the Town; and to authorize municipal officials to seek grants to offset the amount to be bonded. (60% Ballot Vote required to pass).

*Recommended by Board of Selectmen and Budget Committee.*

ARTICLE 12

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Two Million Five Hundred Thirty Seven Thousand Dollars (\$2,537,000) for the purpose of designing, constructing and installing a water distribution system which is more particularly described in an overall project plan dated October 18, 2006, which is intended to bring a water distribution system to the the Lynchville and Danis Park areas, said improvements to be installed at the direction of and in accordance with the established requirements of the Town of Goffstown. **This appropriation does not impact the town's tax rate.**

And to authorize the issuance of not more than Two Million Five Hundred Thirty Seven Dollars (\$2,537,000) of bonds or notes in accordance with the provisions of the Municipal Finance Act (Chapter 33) and to authorize the municipal officials to issue and negotiate such bonds or notes and to determine the rate of interest thereon, the maturity and the other terms and provisions thereof, as may be in the best interests of the Town; and to authorize municipal officials to seek grants to offset the amount to be bonded.

Without impairing in any way the fact that the bonds will be general obligations of the Town, it is the intent to repay this bond issuance by charging an Accessibility Fee to each property benefiting from this water distribution system. This project is contingent on effectuating an acceptable Inter-Municipal Agreement with Manchester Water Works and a successful expansion of Manchester Water Works franchise area. **This appropriation does not impact the town's tax rate.** (60% Ballot Vote required to pass).

*Recommended by the Board of Selectmen and Budget Committee.*

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ARTICLE 13

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the operation, expenses and commitments of the town government, the budget approved by the Budget Committee in the amount of Eighteen Million Six Hundred Fifty Three Thousand Seven Hundred Thirty Four Dollars (**\$18,653,734**).

This budget will be predicated by estimated revenues in the amount of Seven Million Five Hundred Fifteen Thousand Three Hundred Sixty Six Dollars (**\$7,515,366**).

The Sewer Enterprise Fund of One Million Six Hundred Fifty One Dollars Five Hundred Three Dollars (**\$1,651,503**) is included in this revenue amount and in the appropriations request in this article.

The EMS Special Revenue Fund of Three Hundred Sixty Three Thousand Two Hundred Ninety Five Dollars (**\$363,295**) is included in this revenue amount and in the appropriations request in this article.

The motion on the operating budget shall be the following, with only the appropriation amount subject to amendment: "Shall the Town of Goffstown raise and appropriate as an operating budget, not including appropriations by special warrant articles and other appropriations voted separately, the amounts 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 Eighteen Million Six Hundred Fifty Three Thousand Seven Hundred Thirty Four Dollars (**\$18,653,734**)? Should this article be defeated, the default budget shall be Eighteen Million Three Hundred Twenty Seven Thousand Two Hundred Nine Dollars (**\$18,327,209**), which is the same as last year, with certain adjustments required by previous action of the Town of Goffstown 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." NOTE: This article (operating budget) does not include appropriations in any other warrant article. Upon passage of this article and passage of Article 14, there will be a reduction of Thirty Seven Thousand Six Hundred Forty Dollars (\$37,640) to this article in the Fire Department Operating Budget.

*Recommended by the Board of Selectmen and Budget Committee.*

ARTICLE 14

To see if the Town will vote to approve the cost items included in the collective bargaining agreement reached between the Town of Goffstown Board of Selectmen and Local 3420 of the International Association of Firefighters representing the employees in the bargaining unit from the Fire Department:

<b>Year</b>	<b>Estimated Increase</b>
2008	\$73,078
2009	\$71,651
2010	\$42,832

And to raise and appropriate Seventy Three Thousand Seventy Eight Dollars (\$73,078) for 2008, such sum representing the additional cost attributable to the increase in salaries and benefits over those of the appropriation at current staffing levels paid in 2007. **Upon passage of this article and passage of Article 13, there will be a reduction of Thirty Seven Thousand Six Hundred Forty Dollars (\$37,640) to Article 13 in the Fire Department Operating Budget.** (This appropriation is in addition to Article 13.)

*Recommended by the Board of Selectmen and Budget Committee.*

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ARTICLE 15

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$72,274 for the purpose of hiring two (2) additional Firefighter/EMT's and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to contract for, accept and expend Federal Homeland Security – Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (S.A.F.E.R.) Grant in the amount of \$34,324 to be applied against said appropriation. The SAFER Grant obligation period is five years, and the cost estimates for the years 2 through 5 are as follows:

<b>Year</b>	<b>Gross Appropriation</b>	<b>Town Share</b>	<b>SAFER Grant</b>
2	\$131,768	\$60,088	\$71,680
3	\$142,185	\$87,375	\$54,810
4	\$148,870	\$115,125	\$33,745
5	\$153,325	\$140,660	\$12,665

When and if the Town receives the contemplated grant, the Town will be obliged by the terms of the grant and failure to adhere to terms of the grant could result in returning the grant funding to the federal government. If this article passes, then the town will include the costs of these two additional positions in future operating and default budgets. If this article fails, it is expressly intended not to impair the traditional authority of the Selectmen to control staffing levels of fire personnel within the limits of the operating budget appropriation. This is a non-lapsing appropriation for a period of two years (RSA 32:7). (This appropriation is in addition to Article 13.)

*Recommended by the Board of Selectmen and Budget Committee.*

ARTICLE 16

To see if the Town will vote to: establish a Capital Reserve Fund under the provisions of RSA 35:1 for the purpose of Fire Apparatus; raise and appropriate Four Hundred Twenty Thousand Dollar (\$420,000) to be placed in this fund; and to appoint the Selectmen as agents to expend from this Fire Apparatus Capital Reserve Fund. (This appropriation is in addition to Article 13.)

*Recommended by the Board of Selectmen and Budget Committee.*

ARTICLE 17

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate One Hundred Eighty Five Thousand Dollars (\$185,000) from the Emergency Medical Services Special Revenue Fund for the purpose of purchasing a replacement ambulance. **This appropriation has no tax impact.** (This appropriation is in addition to Article 13.)

*Recommended by the Board of Selectmen and Budget Committee.*

ARTICLE 18

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate Fifteen Thousand dollars (\$15,000) for the purpose of supporting the nonprofit Goffstown Main Street Program, Inc. (This appropriation is in addition to Article 13.)

*Recommended by the Board of Selectmen and Budget Committee.*

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ARTICLE 19

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate Two Thousand One Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$2,150) for the purpose of supporting the Greater Manchester Red Cross. (This appropriation is in addition to Article 13.)

*Recommended by the Board of Selectmen and Budget Committee.*

ARTICLE 20

To see if the Town will vote to appoint the Selectmen **and** Historic District Commission as agents to expend from the Grasmere Town Hall Restoration Capital Reserve Fund previously established in 2005.

*Recommended by the Board of Selectmen.*

ARTICLE 21

To see if the Town will vote to require the numerical tally of all votes of the Budget Committee and Selectmen be printed next to each appropriation article on the Annual Warrant in accordance with RSA 32:5 V-a and RSA 40:13 V-a.

ARTICLE 22

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen to determine the location of the election polls due to special circumstances.

ARTICLE 23

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to appoint the Town Treasurer in accordance with RSA 41:26-E.

ARTICLE 24

To see if the Town will vote to direct the Board of Selectmen to pass an ordinance that states that water is a part of the commons and essential for life and that the People of the Town of Goffstown have the duty to safeguard the water both on and beneath the earth's surface and to hold it in public trust as a common resource for the benefit of Goffstown residents and the natural ecosystem and further that any large water withdrawal must be approved by a majority vote of the legislative body of the town (i.e. the Voters) at an annual or special meeting, before it shall become effective? Large water withdrawal shall be defined as stated in RSA 485 C2 IX-a and shall apply to both ground and surface water withdrawal.

*Submitted by petition.*

ARTICLE 25

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the following resolution to be forwarded to our State Representatives, our State Senator and our Governor:

Resolved: We the citizens of Goffstown, NH believe in a New Hampshire that is just and fair. The property tax has become unjust and unfair. State leaders who take a pledge for no new taxes perpetuate higher and higher property taxes. We call on our State Representatives, our State Senator and our Governor to reject the "Pledge", have an open discussion covering all options, and adopt a revenue system that lowers property taxes.

*Submitted by petition.*

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ARTICLE 26

To hear the reports of Town Officers, Auditors and Committees and to pass any vote relating thereto.

ARTICLE 27

To transact any business that may legally come before said meeting.

Given under our Hands and Seal this 21<sup>st</sup> day of January 2008.

**GOFFSTOWN BOARD OF SELECTMEN**

John A. Caprio, Chairman

Nicholas Campasano, Vice Chairman

Vivian Blondeau

Philip A. D'Avanza

Scott Gross

Then personally appeared the above named John A. Caprio, Nicholas Campasano, Vivian Blondeau, Philip A. D'Avanza, Scott Gross and under oath that the above certificate by them is true.

Donna Bergeron, Town Clerk

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**ARTICLE 26**

To hear the reports of Town Officers, Auditors and Committees and to pass any vote relating thereto.

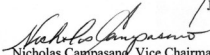
**ARTICLE 27**

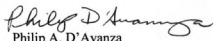
To transact any business that may legally come before said meeting.

Given under our Hands and Seal this 21<sup>st</sup> day of January 2008.

**GOFFSTOWN BOARD OF SELECTMEN**

  
John A. Caprio, Chairman

  
Nicholas Campasano, Vice Chairman

  
Philip A. D'Avanza

  
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Then personally appeared the above named John A. Caprio, Nicholas Campasano, Vivian Blondeau, Philip A. D'Avanza, Scott Gross and under oath that the above certificate by them is true.

Donna Bergeron, Town Clerk