



TOWN OF FREMONT 2019 Voter Guide

This guide has been prepared to provide you with additional information for your voting decisions prior to entering the voting booth on Tuesday March 12, 2019. It contains all Articles for consideration, the three amendments made at Deliberative Session, some brief descriptions and additional information about the subject matter. You can use this document with the Warrant Summary Sheet for review of the Articles. You can bring the

Summary Sheet with you on Election Day. We hope that this information is helpful for your understanding of the issues to be voted upon at the 2019 Town Meeting. If you have questions, please feel free to call our office at 895 2226 x 301 or send an email to Heidi Carlson at FremontTA@comcast.net.

Gene Cordes Neal Janvrin Roger A Barham
Fremont Board of Selectmen

We endeavor to provide additional information to assist voters in making decisions about the many municipal challenges facing the Town of Fremont. The Official Warrant was reviewed and discussed at length at Deliberative Session on February 4th. Amendments were made to Articles 17, 18, and 19, and the update language is included here. This document also includes the shortened version of the questions that will be printed on the ballot for the Zoning Ordinance Amendments. Please refer to posted and printed copies of the Warrant or Warrant Article Narrative, and the February Newsletter for the full text of each Zoning Amendment. This final format of all questions is created, is now called the Official Ballot.

Final voting on the Official Ballot will take place on Tuesday March 12, 2019 at the Ellis School, 432 Main Street, Fremont NH. Polls are open 7:00 am to 8:00 pm. You can request an absentee ballot for this session by contacting the Fremont Town Clerk. Absentee ballot applications are also available on the Town Clerk page of the website at www.Fremont.nh.gov.

In this narrative, we have included an estimate of what each article reflects as part of the total Town portion of the tax rate. This is only an estimate, and is based on a conservative, but reasonable growth in the Town's assessed valuation and other factors included in the adjustment of the annual tax rate (including exemptions, credits, and revenues). Tax rate history provided as reference information. There is also a summary budget sheet which provides the articles and budget with their tax rate impact in a table form.

You can also refer to the full details of tax rate historical information in Town Reports.

Year	Town Portion of the Tax Rate
2013	\$3.86
2014	\$3.58
2015	\$4.37
2016	\$3.89
2017	\$4.44
2018	\$4.77

ARTICLE 1: To choose by ballot all necessary Town Officers for the ensuing year.

Selectman: 1 for 3 years
Roger A Barham

Trustee of Trust Funds: 1 for 3 years
Patricia J Martel

Library Trustee: 1 for 3 years
Arlene Nuzzi

Treasurer: 1 for 3 years
Rachel Edwards

Budget Committee: 2 for 3 years
Steven Bonaccorsi
Mary Jo Holmes
Patricia J Martel
Michael A Nygren

Cemetery Trustee: 1 for 3 years: No candidates declared

Cemetery Trustee: 1 for 2 years
Jeanne Nygren

ARTICLE 2: Are you in favor of the proposed amendment to Article 9 Section 908 of the Fremont Zoning Ordinance so that all lots shall be subject to the lot size and frontage requirements that existed at the time the lot was lawfully created? **The Planning Board recommends this article 6-0-0. Majority vote required.**

Article 2 will amend the Fremont Zoning Ordinance by requiring lots to be subject to the lot size and frontage requirements that existed at the time the lot was lawfully created.

ARTICLE 3: Are you in favor of the proposed amendment to Article 11 Section 1101.7 of the Fremont Zoning Ordinance to delete this section? This section of the Zoning Ordinance allows for the reconstruction of destroyed buildings within one year of its destruction. This language already exists elsewhere in the Zoning Ordinance in Article 5 Section 502. **The Planning Board recommends this article 6-0-0. Majority vote required.**

Article 3 will amend the Fremont Zoning Ordinance by removing Article XI Section 1101.7.

ARTICLE 4: Are you in favor of the proposed amendments to Article 11 Section 1102 of the Fremont Zoning Ordinance so that an accessory dwelling unit is permitted without a Special Exception from the Zoning Board of Adjustment? This proposal would also allow accessory dwelling units to be one half of the size of the primary living unit, or 800 square feet, whichever is greater. **The Planning Board recommends this article 6-0-0. Majority vote required.**

Article 4 will amend the Fremont Zoning Ordinance by allowing Accessory Dwelling Units as of right rather than by a Special Exception from the Zoning Board. This proposal would also allow accessory dwelling units to be one half of the size of the primary living unit, or 800 square feet, whichever is greater.

ARTICLE 5: Are you in favor of the proposed amendments to Article 11 Section 1103 of the Fremont Zoning Ordinance to allow businesses that operate under the Home Occupation Ordinance to display signs as described in the Sign Ordinance, rather than being limited to a one square foot sign? This proposal would also allow beauty shops and barber shops to operate as home occupation businesses. Finally, this proposal would prohibit the delivery of materials to a home occupation business by commercial vehicles over twenty-six thousand (26,000) lbs GVWR more than one time a week. **The Planning Board recommends this article 6-0-0. Majority vote required.**

Article 5 will amend the Fremont Zoning Ordinance by allowing businesses that operate under the Home Occupation Ordinance to display signs as described in the Sign Ordinance, rather than being limited to a one square foot sign. Additionally, this proposal would also allow beauty shops and barber shops to operate as home occupation businesses. Finally, this proposal would prohibit the delivery of materials to a home occupation business by commercial vehicles over twenty-six thousand (26,000) lbs GVWR more than one time a week.

ARTICLE 6: Are you in favor of the proposed amendments to Article 4 of the Fremont Zoning Ordinance to add a definitions section? Some of the definitions already exist in the Zoning Ordinance and are simply being moved to this new section. Other definitions are new to the Zoning Ordinance. All definitions in this proposed section are intended to be used throughout the whole Zoning Ordinance. **The Planning Board recommends this article 6-0-0. Majority vote required.**

Article 6 will amend the Fremont Zoning Ordinance by adding a definitions section to Article 4, which will be renamed to include definitions. Some of the definitions are already existing in the zoning ordinance and are simply being moved to this new section. Other definitions are new to the zoning ordinance. All definitions in this proposed section are intended to be used throughout the whole zoning ordinance.

ARTICLE 7: Are you in favor of the proposed amendments to Article 7 of the Fremont Zoning Ordinance that include: (1) Changes to the district boundaries to appear on the Fremont, NH Zoning District Map (Article 7, Section 701-703). The extent of the changes can be viewed on the proposed Zoning District Map, (2) Renaming the Corporate-Commercial Zoning District to the Shirkin Road Commercial District, (3) Renaming the Commercial-Highway District to the Main Street District, (4) Including existing Conditional Use Permit criteria for certain uses in the Commercial- Highway and Corporate-Commercial Districts for clarity, (5) Expanding the Commercial-Highway District to extend onto portions of Red Brook Road, Danville Road, and on the northern side of Main Street towards the Brentwood/Fremont town line, (6) Addition of a “Residential District” that is currently undefined in the existing zoning. Allowed uses include residential uses and agricultural uses. The proposal includes a Conditional Use Permit requirement and criteria for establishing multi-family housing within the Residential District, (7) Addition of criteria for issuing a Conditional Use Permit for commercial uses within the Flexible Use District, (8) Better representing on the Zoning District Map which parcels are within the proposed Flexible Use District? **The Planning Board recommends this article 6-0-0. Majority vote required.**

The proposal to the zoning districts in Article 7 includes:

1. *Changes to the district boundaries to appear on the Fremont, NH Zoning District Map (Article 7, Section 701-703). The extent of the changes can be viewed on the proposed Zoning District Map.*
2. *Renaming the Corporate-Commercial Zoning District to the Shirkin Road Commercial District.*
3. *Renaming the Commercial-Highway District to the Main Street District.*
4. *Including existing Conditional Use Permit criteria for certain uses in the Commercial- Highway and Corporate-Commercial Districts for clarity.*
5. *Expanding the Commercial-Highway District to extend onto portions of Red Brook Road, Danville Road, and on the northern side of Main Street towards the Brentwood/Fremont town line.*
6. *Addition of a “Residential District” that is currently undefined in the existing zoning. Allowed uses include residential uses and agricultural uses. The proposal includes a Conditional Use Permit requirement and criteria for establishing multi-family housing within the Residential District.*
7. *Addition of criteria for issuing a Conditional Use Permit for commercial uses within the Flexible Use District.*
8. *Better representing on the Zoning District Map which parcels are within the proposed Flexible Use District.*

ARTICLE 8: Are you in favor of the proposed amendment to Article 7 Section 708 and Article 8 of the Fremont Zoning Ordinance to: (1) Clarify which uses are permitted, permitted by Conditional Use Permit, or prohibited, (2) Rename the Zoning Districts as reflected in the proposed zoning district amendments, (3) Replace the existing table of uses with a simpler list of uses? **The Planning Board recommends this article 6-0-0. Majority vote required.**

The proposal to the table of uses in Article 8 includes:

- *Clarifying which uses are permitted, permitted by Conditional Use Permit, or prohibited.*
- *Renaming the Zoning Districts as reflected in the proposed zoning district amendments.*
- *Replace the existing table of uses (originally from the International Building Code Use Categories) with a simpler list of uses. The overall intent was to maintain the same allowed uses/prohibited uses. The exception is that currently airfields, heliports and aircraft hangers are currently permitted or permitted with a conditional use permit in some districts. These uses have been removed from the list and would be considered “prohibited” unless they were considered accessory uses/structures to a principal use/structure.*

ARTICLE 9: Are you in favor of the proposed amendment to Article 12 Section 1203 of the Fremont Zoning Ordinance to amend the Fremont Aquifer Protection Ordinance by allowing new, low-risk uses in the district while requiring commercial uses that use regulated or hazardous substances of five gallons or more to participate in an inspection program to ensure best management practices are being followed? **The Planning Board recommends this article 6-0-0. Majority vote required.**

Article 9 will amend the Fremont Aquifer Protection Ordinance by allowing new uses in the district while requiring businesses in the district to participate in an inspection program, to ensure best management practices are being followed. The goal is to enhance the protection of groundwater while allowing more business uses in the Aquifer Protection District.

ARTICLE 10: Shall the Town of Fremont 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 \$3,103,730? Should this article be defeated, the default budget shall be \$3,033,630, which is the same as last year, with certain adjustments required by previous action of the Town of Fremont 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. **The Selectmen recommend this appropriation 3-0. The Budget Committee recommends this appropriation 8-0.** (Majority vote required)

Article 10 is the total of all operating budgets for the Town, excluding Warrant Articles. The full budget detail can be found on the State Form MS 737, which is available on the Town's website and will be part of the 2018 Annual Town Report. Copies are also available at the Selectmen's Office and on the website. The tax impact of this operating budget is \$0.17 more than the default budget and includes some important decisions about the Town's waste disposal contract as well as the Town's operating costs.

With SB2, this master budget article includes the Budget Committee recommendation of \$3,103,730. This is up from the appropriated budget in 2018 of \$2,965,471. Revenues are also up, and this offsets the budget, thus making the tax rate impact of the 2019 proposed operating budget approximately \$0.11 more overall from 2018. This does not include any Warrant Articles voted separately. Each additional tax rate impact is listed with articles that appropriate money.

Following are some highlights and changes within each of the operating budgets:

4130 Executive: Proposed wage increases of 2%. This budget covers all operating costs of the Selectmen's Office.

4140 Town Clerk Tax Collector: Full year of 3 extra hours for the clerical assistant. This budget covers operating costs of the Clerk/Collector Office.

4141 Election & Registrations: Decreased from 2018 based on just one Town/School election in March. This budget covers election costs of Moderator, Ballot Clerks, Supervisors of Checklist, ballot tally machine programming, supplies and maintenance, printing and producing all necessary checklists, and printing of local ballots.

4151 Financial Administration – Other: Includes the Treasurer's salary and supplies; Budget Committee clerical costs and administration, Trustees of Trust Funds expenses, and annual professional audit of all Town financial records. This is level funded.

4152 Reappraisal of Property: In 2016 the Selectmen signed a new 5-year contract for assessing services which includes a cyclical update process. This covers all of the Town's contracted assessing, the utility contract (to appraise all utility properties); tax assessing software & maintenance, tax mapping services, web-hosting of tax maps and all assessing data, and NH AAO dues. The cyclical process will balance out annual costs and reduce the 5th year revaluation cost that we have seen over the past few revaluation cycles. The budget is down \$8,000 because those funds will be removed from the existing Capital Reserve Fund. That reduction will end when the CRF is depleted and the full sum returns to the operating budget.

4155 Personnel Administration: This budget covers personnel costs related to wages (FICA & Medicare) as well as employee benefits such as insurance. There is a full year of the Highway position voted from part-time to full-time in 2018 included.

4191 Planning & Zoning: This covers all of the office functions, administration and clerical support to the Planning Board and Zoning Board of Adjustment. The office is currently staffed at approximately 18-20 hours per week including 3-4 evening meetings per month. There is a slight increase in the Circuit Rider Planner contract. The Board continues to work on updating Ordinances and Regulations.

4194 Government Buildings: This budget covers the maintenance of the Town Hall, Safety Complex, Highway Shed, Museum, Meetinghouse and Historic Building. The Safety Complex needs annual fire suppression system maintenance; alarm systems maintenance, etc. We have seen a slight increase in the cost of propane and oil. Fully functioning automatic generators now in service at the Complex, Hall and HW Shed. Maintenance staff proposed 2% wage increase.

4195 Cemeteries: This covers care and maintenance of Town-owned cemeteries, the largest of which are Leavitt and Village. Cemetery Sexton position for full year included, which has been a great improvement in recordkeeping and providing assistance with lot sales, burials, etc. Substantial project work done in 2018 with funding from Trust Fund Perpetual Care. Superintendent position has also been helpful for administration and organizing all maintenance work. Staff 2% wages included. Additional project work planned at Leavitt Cemetery.

4196 Insurance: Town's long-time carrier closed 06/30/2016 and the town underwent an intense and long RFP process, awarding the contract to the only other municipal pooled risk carrier in NH. Selectmen have entered into a multi-year contract to minimize annual increases.

4210 Police Department: Clerical wage adjusted to allow for 2% wage increase; uniformed officer matrix adjusted for 2.5% wage increase plus added matrix adjustment in 2018 to combat turnover. We lost 2 officers in 2018, setting the Department back 6-8 months and using OT to get shifts covered. The budget covers all operating costs of the personnel and equipment needed to staff and run the Police Department. Includes lease payment on cruisers, fuel, vehicle and equipment maintenance.

4220 Fire Rescue Department: Covers all personnel costs of the Compensation Program; maintenance of apparatus and equipment, fire and EMS gear, uniforms, supplies and training. Increase in gear costs to replace four sets of aged out protective gear. Also includes full year funding of an increase from 2018 in the weekend duty stipend. Working on growth and recruitment to address growing needs and call volume.

4240 Building Inspection: Wage increase, with estimated 26-28 hours per week of services from the Building Inspector/Code Enforcement Officer. Budget includes training, mileage reimbursement and minimal office supplies.

4290 Emergency Management: Includes minimal allowance for supplies and contract services in the event of a major weather event (flood, ice storm, etc); small increase for annual PM service contract on all generators.

4312 Highway Department: Wages adjusted to allow for 2% increase. FT position approved in 2018 budgeted for a full year. Budget down \$14,000 from 2018 and includes final paving on Red Brook Road, several other maintenance and upkeep projects. Continued focus on road updates, and additional funding will be necessary to address bridge deficiencies at the Sandown Road Overflow (at Sandown town line) in addition to the budgeted guardrail work.

4323 Solid Waste Collection: This is the largest change in the operating budget for 2019. The Town's contract with Waste Management expired 12/31/18 and an interim 4 month contract extension was signed to allow for voters to review and approve the new agreement. Selectmen are constructing with WM. The contract was bid in the Fall of 2018 with resultant lowest responsible bid from WM.

4324 Solid Waste Disposal: Reduction in tipping fees due to negotiated contract through 53-B District; planned increase in the amount of solid waste based on current averages per month. Continued need for recycling bins. This includes bi-annual Bulky Day expenses. WM Contract no longer provides for dumpsters for bulky, so to continue that service we need additional funding.

4414 Animal Control: Wage adjusted for 2% increase. Covers all costs associated with Animal Control services including supplies, training, truck fuel and maintenance.

4415 Health: Covers a small stipend for Health Officer and costs of the office, including training and annual dues to the NH Health Officer's Association; and water testing. New for 2019 is a small proposed stipend of \$125 for the Deputy Health Officer.

4442 Direct Assistance: General payments for assisted persons. Budget increase of \$50 for Coordinator stipend.

4445 Vendor Payments to Social Service Agencies: Each of these payments supports a social service agency that provides service to Fremont residents, usually at a reduced or sliding fee scale.

4520 Parks & Recreation: Plan to run a full camp program in 2019 with some changes to scheduling, more field trips (primarily educational) with slight increase in wages proposed to maintain more experienced staff members. Care and maintenance of the ballfields and playground comprises \$23,920 of the proposed budget, and FAA provides additional manpower support. This includes returning maintenance staff who maintained all facilities for 16 hours per week, dealing with the many areas of fields and parks to care for. Planned improvements to some fields, focused in 2019 on lighting

needs. \$2,928 covers Town events such as the Easter Egg Hunt, Halloween and Christmas Tree Lighting events; and Playgroup.

4550 Library: This budget covers all staffing, books, and programs of the Fremont Public Library and maintenance of the building. Employee wage increases at 2% are supported in this recommendation, and a full year of the Aide position voted in 2018. Several building maintenance items remain the focus for repair and a building evaluation done in 2018 is being implemented to prioritize and plan for building maintenance and upkeep. Contract oil price up slightly and a constant need to refresh collections.

4610 Conservation Commission: The Commission oversees natural resources of the Town and reviews and comments on projects and proposals involving wetlands and. There is a need for some additional clerical services, and money for training and dues has been refreshed with some new membership. The budget requested will provide additional training, new trail maps for kiosks and ongoing trail maintenance.

4711-4721 Debt Service: Reduction in principal and interest payments on debt due to age of notes. The Safety Complex bond was retired in 2017.

The difference between the Selectmen and Budget Committee's proposed operating budget is \$31,388 not recommended by the Budget Committee. It is the Budget Committee's recommendation that moves forward for voter consideration. The total estimated tax impact of the operating budget as proposed is \$3.56. This is approximately \$0.30 more than the operating budget approved in 2018. The increase in revenues and overall assessed valuation have helped manage the tax rate impact of the operating budget.

*All tax impact estimates are per \$1,000 of valuation. The number of veteran credits, exemptions, and amount of overlay (which affect the final rate) are estimated for the purposes of establishing tax rate changes. These current estimates of Overlay, Exemptions and Veteran Credits add about \$0.31 to the tax rate which is similar to last year. We have seen new Veteran Credits with the adoption of the "All Veteran" tax credit in 2018. We are also assuming a conservative but reasonable amount of growth in the total assessed valuation of the Town, which is the largest component of the formula used to set the tax rate. **All tax rate impacts are estimates.***

The estimated tax impact is shown for each of the Warrant Articles in the narrative portion. If the proposed budget and all of the proposed Warrant Articles pass, the Town's portion of the tax rate is estimated to increase approximately \$0.31 per thousand from the actual current town rate of \$4.77 per thousand. Each of the Warrant Articles can be considered on its own merit. As a cumulative total, the Warrant Articles total \$515,937 and equate to approximately \$1.25 of the total proposed tax rate. The tax impact of each individual Warrant Article is included with the detailed rationale under each Article. Our estimates are conservative. Any excess revenue collected in 2018 will also help to reduce the tax rate in 2019. Since the Public Budget Hearing, we have also learned that Fremont is eligible for approximately \$16,000 in FEMA reimbursement for the March 2018 blizzard, and have added that to our estimates, thereby reducing the tax impact slightly.

ARTICLE 11: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of forty-one thousand three hundred eighty-six dollars (\$41,386) to hire a new full-time police officer. This sum covers five months of wages and benefits and necessary gear, equipment and required testing for the officer. If approved, this funding will remain as part of the operating and default budget in future years. **The Selectmen recommend this appropriation 3-0. The Budget Committee does not recommend this appropriation 2-6.** (Majority vote required)

Article 11 would approve hiring another officer for the Fremont Police Department. This would be the sixth full-time officer for the Town, to bring the staffing levels closer to recommended national standards. If this is approved, the cost for a full year of this officer in 2020 would be approximately \$94,670. If passed, this would be part of the operating and default budget in future years. The estimated tax rate impact of this article is \$0.10.

ARTICLE 12: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of sixty-six thousand dollars (\$66,000) to have the ability to fund Fire and EMS coverage at night and on weekends. This sum covers nine months of wages and benefits to create incentive for Fremont Fire Rescue Department personnel to be on call for evening and weekend hours. If approved, this funding will remain as part of the operating and default budget in future years. **The Selectmen recommend this appropriation 3-0. The Budget Committee recommends this appropriation 8-0.** (Majority vote required)

Article 12 would fund some evening and weekend coverage of Fire and EMS incidents for the Town as scheduling permits. The 2019 estimated tax rate impact of this article is \$0.16. If this is approved, the cost for a full year of this coverage in 2020 would be approximately \$95,775 (including wages and employer taxes). If passed, this service would become part of future operating and default budgets. This includes a minimum wage of \$7.25 for all on-call time coverage hours. The purpose of this article is to create an incentive for members to commit to being in Fremont and available for calls during evening and weekend hours when Raymond Ambulance staffing is also home on call.

ARTICLE 13: Article 13: To see if the Town will vote to establish a Computer Equipment Expendable Trust Fund per RSA 31:19-a, for the purpose of maintenance, repair or purchase of computer equipment and to raise and appropriate four thousand dollars (\$4,000) to put in the fund; and further to name the Board of Selectmen as agents to expend. **The Selectmen recommend this appropriation 3-0. The Budget Committee recommends this appropriation 5-3.** (Majority vote required)

Article 13 creates a savings account whereby a small part of the cost for server replacements could be set aside annually so that the every five-year cost of replacement is not as much impact on the operating budget. The estimated tax rate impact of this article is \$0.01.

ARTICLE 14: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of five thousand dollars (\$5,000) to be placed in the Library Building Maintenance Expendable Town Trust Fund. **The Selectmen recommend this appropriation 3-0. The Budget Committee recommends this appropriation 8-0.** (Majority vote required)

This fund is used for repair/replacement of building maintenance items (HVAC systems, well, roof, etc.) with funds set aside in savings annually. This fund was established in 2015 to plan for future building repairs and maintenance that are needed as the building ages (built in 2001). The Library has an extensive HVAC system that will need maintenance and repairs at some point. There is currently \$12,214 in the fund. The estimated tax rate impact of this article is \$0.01.

ARTICLE 15: To see if the Town will approve the Board of Selectmen entering into a five (5) year contract through 12/31/2023 with Waste Management for the curbside collection, transport and disposal of solid waste and recyclables from the Town of Fremont with an annual increase of 3%. Based on the current price, this is estimated to be an average annual increase of \$8,923 over the life of the contract. The contract will require the Town to continue to use Waste Management and will require Waste Management to provide services at a guaranteed price. The 2019 cost of \$284,370 is included in the operating budget, Article 10, and no additional funds are raised by this Article for 2019. **The Selectmen recommend this appropriation 3-0. The Budget Committee recommends this appropriation 8-0.** (Majority vote required)

Article 15 would approve the Board of Selectmen entering into a five-year contract for trash and recycling collection. Trash and recycling collection services were bid in the Fall of 2018 and this contract proposal is the lowest price option for the Town. Due to changes in the default budget law, the Town is being asked to approve the contract so that the contract terms can be part of the Town's operating and default budget in future years of

the contract. There is no tax rate impact of this article in 2019; and the contract will reflect a 3% annual increase and account for increases for occupancy permits for new units in future years of the contract. If the contract does not pass, the Town will have to consider reduced services or will cut down on other services to be able to fund trash collection of some kind.

*Articles 16, 17 and 18 request funding for four existing Capital Reserve Funds with each purpose specified. Money voted will add to what has already been set aside. These funds accrue over time and are then used to offset the cost of larger capital purchases when needed. **Saving money in Capital Reserve Funds helps to balance the tax rate by reducing the impact of one-time large expenditures***

ARTICLE 16: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) to be placed in the Fire Truck Capital Reserve Fund. **The Selectmen recommend this appropriation 3-0. The Budget Committee recommends this appropriation 8-0.** (Majority vote required)

This is an annual savings account to pay for the large purchases of fire apparatus. The estimated tax rate impact of this article is \$0.12. This article saves toward replenishing the Fire Truck Capital Reserve Fund after the expense paid in 2015 for our newest truck. The Department continues to be behind with regard to fire truck replacement, and is due for another truck to replace another old unit in the fleet. The cost of fire apparatus is expensive, and saving some every year will greatly help to reduce the one-time impact of these purchases. There is currently \$152,520 in this fund.

ARTICLE 17: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of two hundred thousand dollars (\$200,000) to be placed in the Bridge Construction and Reconstruction Capital Reserve Fund. **The Selectmen recommend this appropriation 3-0. The Budget Committee recommends this appropriation 7-0.** (Majority vote required)

Article 17 was amended at Deliberative Session to \$200,000 based on the repairs that must be made immediately to the Sandown Road Bridge Overflow. This is a savings account to pay for the reconstruction and repair of red listed bridges in Fremont. The estimated tax rate impact of this article is \$0.48. The Selectmen received a letter from the State of NH on January 10, 2019 outlining direction to close the bridge; or at a minimum reduce it to one lane. An engineer has been engaged to begin the design process and we have an estimate of \$349,000 to do the work. Between the amount of \$117,053 currently saved in this fund, and a combination of competitive pricing and local savings, we believe we can complete the repair work for less. The lane restriction is anticipated to be undertaken as soon as signage and materials can be purchased and installed, and work would begin in the spring following Town Meeting voting.

ARTICLE 18: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of one dollar (\$1.00) to be placed in the Highway Equipment Capital Reserve Fund. **The Selectmen originally recommended this appropriation 3-0. The Budget Committee recommends this article, but a separate vote was not taken after the amendment at Deliberative Session.** (Majority vote required)

Article 18 normally funds an annual savings account to pay for the capital purchase or replacement of highway equipment. It was reduced to \$1 at Deliberative Session to offset the cost of the emergent bridge repairs. There is no tax impact of this article as amended. There is currently \$50,282 in this fund.

ARTICLE 19: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000) to grind, reclaim and pave a portion of Chester Road and do associated shoulder work and driveway

paving tie-ins. **The Selectmen originally recommended this appropriation 3-0. The Budget Committee recommends this appropriation 6-0.** (Majority vote required)

Article 19 was amended at Deliberative Session, reduced from the original amount, to help accommodate the Bridge repair costs within the same bottom line of appropriations as originally recommended by Selectmen and the Budget Committee. This will begin the proposed improvements to Chester Road, beginning at the intersection of Sandown Road. The estimated tax rate impact of this article is \$0.24.

ARTICLE 20: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of forty-nine thousand five hundred fifty dollars (\$49,550) to continue the Public Health Mosquito Control Program. **The Selectmen recommend this appropriation 3-0. The Budget Committee recommends this appropriation 7-1.** (Majority vote required)

Article 20 continues the mosquito control program, which has been in place since 2008 in Fremont. The contractor has again offered the program with no increase in cost for 2019. The Selectmen have placed this article on the warrant so that the community can have an opportunity to consider it annually and decide whether or not to proceed this year with a town-wide program. The program is consistent with what was done in year past and allows for up to two emergency sprayings of public lots at the Complex and Library, and ball fields at Memorial Park and Ellis School.

The overall mosquito control program is a comprehensive program beginning with surveillance, monitoring, and trapping and testing of adult mosquitoes; to treatment of larvae (a major focus of an effective control program) through adult stages. The 2019 program, if approved, would begin after Town Meeting. The estimated tax rate impact of this article is \$0.12.

ARTICLE 21: To see if the Town will vote to designate as Town Forest, in accordance with NH RSA 31:110, the following parcels of land: 04-018 and 02-151-001. **The Selectmen recommend this article 3-0. The Budget Committee recommends this article 7-0-1. The Conservation Commission recommends this article 4-0.** (Majority vote required)

This would add two abutting parcels to the Oak Ridge Town Forest and make them subject to the Town Forest Ordinance. There is no tax impact of this article. These parcels were acquired by the Town in 2018.

ARTICLE 22: To see if the Town will vote to establish a Cemetery Maintenance Trust Fund pursuant to RSA 31:19-a and RSA 289:2-a. The money received from the sale of cemetery lots in Fremont cemeteries shall be placed in the Fund and shall be used along with any interest thereon for the maintenance of cemeteries; and further to name the Board of Selectmen as agents to expend from this fund upon recommendation of the Cemetery Trustees. **The Selectmen recommend this article 3-0. The Budget Committee recommends this article 7-1.** (Majority vote required)

Article 22 creates a new savings account, setting aside money from the sale of cemetery lots. These funds would be used to offset cemetery maintenance expenses or larger projects, or in case of an emergency repair or maintenance item that is not in the annual operating budget. Over time, as money accumulates in this fund, it can be used to offset some of the annual budget that is raised by taxation and funded as more of a user fee. There is no tax impact of this article.

ARTICLE 23: By Petition: To see if the Town will vote to change the method of compensation (RSA 41:25) for the Town Clerk Tax Collector from salary to statutory fees. This article is in effect until rescinded by the

legislative body at a future town meeting. **The Selectmen do not recommend this article 3-0. The Budget Committee does not recommend this article 7-0-1.** (Majority vote required)

This article would change the current compensation plan for the Town Clerk Tax Collector from an annual salary to statutory fees.

ARTICLE 24: By Petition: To see if the Town will vote, for increased accountability, are you in favor of changing the term of the tax collector/clerk from 3 years to one year, beginning at the end of the 3 year term of the tax collector/clerk elected 2 years ago? **The Selectmen do not recommend this article 3-0. The Budget Committee does not recommend this article 7-0-1.** (Majority vote required)

Article 24 would change the current term of the elected position of Town Clerk Tax Collector from three years to one year. If approved by voters, this would become effective at voting in March 2020. There is no tax impact of this article in 2019.

ARTICLE 25: By Petition: To see if the Town will vote, pursuant to RSA 673:2, II(b), the planning board members shall be elected positions and shall be elected according to the procedure in RSA 673:2, II (b)(1) at the next town meeting. **The Selectmen do not recommend this article 3-0. The Budget Committee does not recommend this article 5-0-3.** (Majority vote required)

Article 25 would change the current status of Planning Board member terms from appointed by the Board of Selectmen to elected. If approved by voters, this would become effective at voting in March 2020. If approved, in 2020 six members of the Planning Board would be elected in staggered 3 year terms (ie: two for one year; two for two years; and three for two years). Moving forward two would be elected each year. The seventh member of the Board is a Selectmen's designed Ex-Officio representative. There is no tax impact of this article.

ARTICLE 26: By Petition: To see if the Town will vote that the tax collector/clerk shall be compensated by a base annual salary of seventeen thousand dollars (\$17,000) and, in addition, the clerk shall submit a notarized invoice for fifty percent (50%) of statutory fees collected while present in the town office to the treasurer. A notarized invoice given to the treasurer for any statutory fees collected while the tax collector/clerk was not present in the town office of the tax collector shall be considered a theft of assets under RSA 41:16-c and grounds for removal of the tax collector/clerk. **The Selectmen do not recommend this article 3-0. The Budget Committee recommends this article 4-3-1.** (Majority vote required)

Article 26 would change the current compensation plan for the Town Clerk Tax Collector from an annual salary to a combination of salary and fees. If both Article 23 and 26 are passed, the latter article (26) is considered to be a reconsideration of the first (23).



Please be sure to vote on Tuesday March 12, 2019. Polls are open 7:00 am to 8:00 pm at Ellis School, 432 Main Street.

Check the Town website for further information and details at: www.Fremont.nh.gov

Fremont Fire Rescue Department Members on a forestry detail
Photo courtesy of Joel Lennon