TOWN OF FREMONT NH 2022 TOWN MEETING WARRANT

To the inhabitants of the Town of Fremont in the County of Rockingham in said State, qualified to vote in Town Affairs:

Pursuant to NH RSA 40:13 II, the First Session of the 2022 Town Meeting (Deliberative Session) shall be held on Saturday February 5, 2022 at the Ellis School, 432 Main Street in Fremont New Hampshire at 9:00 am. The snow date for this session is Saturday February 12, 2022 at 9:00 am at the Ellis School. *Note that the School District Session will take place first and the Town Deliberative Session will begin at completion of School session, with a brief intermission.*

The Second Session (Voting Session) shall be held on Tuesday March 8, 2022 at the Ellis School, 432 Main Street in Fremont New Hampshire with polls open from 7:00 am to 8:00 pm. All Articles will be voted upon by Official Ballot with any amendments as made at the Deliberative Session.

ARTICLE 1 INFORMATION: ELECTION OF TOWN OFFICERS

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

Budget Committee: 2 for 3 years Library Trustee: 1 for 3 years Moderator: 1 for 2 years

Select Board Member: 1 for 3 years

Supervisor of Checklist: 1 for 6 years

Cemetery Trustee: 1 for 3 years Cemetery Trustee: 1 for 2 years Treasurer: 1 for 3 years

Trustee of Trust Funds: 1 for 3 years

ARTICLE 2 INFORMATION: PROPOSED ZONING CHANGE. This proposal will amend Fremont Zoning Ordinance Article 11 by modifying the table in Section 1101.6 that summarizes limitations on the number of bedrooms allowed per family unit in multi-family dwellings. The existing table restricts multi-family dwellings with seven (7) to eight (8) family units to one bedroom per unit and does not allow any multi-family dwellings over eight (8) family units. Language was added to allow two (2) bedrooms per unit for multi-family dwellings having five (5) or more family units. This zoning amendment is consistent with New Hampshire's Workforce Housing Statute which requires any municipality's land use ordinances and regulations to create reasonable and realistic opportunities for the construction of workforce housing, including multi-family housing (i.e., five (5) or more dwelling units).

ARTICLE 2: Are you in favor of the proposed amendment to Article 11 submitted by the Fremont Planning Board for the Fremont Zoning Ordinance as follows:

Existing language

New language

Existing language to be removed

ARTICLE 11 - DWELLING UNITS, ACCESSORY DWELLING UNITS AND HOME **OCCUPATION** Section 1101 – Dwelling Unit Requirements

1101.6 All multiple unit dwellings shall conform to and shall not exceed the following limitations:

Number of Family Units
Number of Bedrooms/Family Unit 7 - 8 One 5 -6 or more Two

The Planning Board recommends this article 5-0.

(Majority vote required)

ARTICLE 3 INFORMATION: PROPOSED ZONING CHANGE. This proposal will amend the Fremont Zoning Ordinance by removing example language from Article 9, Section 902. The existing example language in Section 902 attempts to provide clarity to frontage requirements for multi-family dwelling units but is not applicable for a lot on which a dwelling with two (2) family units is considered. The existing language is sufficiently clear without the example.

ARTICLE 3: Are you in favor of the proposed amendment to Article 9 submitted by the Fremont Planning Board for the Fremont Zoning Ordinance as follows:

Existing language

New language

Existing language to be removed

ARTICLE 9 - LOT REQUIREMENTS Section 902 - Frontage

Every building lot shall have a minimum contiguous lot frontage on Federal, State and Town highways of two hundred (200) feet provided that where lots are located on exterior side of a curving street the minimum road frontage shall be no less than one hundred (100) contiguous feet, provided that the average width of the lot measured across its center shall be two hundred (200) feet. Building lots on which multiple family dwellings are located shall have an additional frontage of twenty (20) feet per family unit when less than five (5) family units and forty (40) feet per family unit when five (5) or more family units are considered. i.e.: (two hundred (200) plus twenty (20) multiplied by the number of family units) or (two hundred (200) plus forty (40) multiplied by the number of family units). No lot line shall be less than one hundred (100) feet and each lot shall have no less than four (4) lot lines.

The Planning Board recommends this article 5-0.

(Majority vote required)

<u>ARTICLE 4 INFORMATION:</u> 2022 OPERATING BUDGET – This Article includes all Department operating expenses, exclusive of other Warrant Article requests. The estimated tax impact of the overall total operating budget is approximately \$0.10 over the current year. This estimate accounts for anticipated valuation changes, as well as other changes that will occur in the coming year to property values, exemptions and credits of all types. In 2021 the total Town portion of the Tax Rate was \$3.91 including all Warrant Articles voted in 2021.

ARTICLE 4: 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 \$3,834,661? Should this article be defeated, the default budget shall be \$3,745,534 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.

Note: This operating budget warrant article does not include appropriations contained in ANY other warrant articles.

The Select Board recommends this appropriation 3-0. The Budget Committee recommends this appropriation 6-1.

(Majority vote required)

<u>ARTICLE 5 INFORMATION:</u> CONTRIBUTION TO THE FIRE TRUCK CAPITAL RESERVE FUND. This savings account helps fund the cost of replacement fire apparatus to create a more balanced tax rate. The estimated tax rate impact of this article is \$0.09.

ARTICLE 5: 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 Select Board recommends this appropriation 3-0. The Budget Committee recommends this appropriation 6-2.

(Majority vote required)

ARTICLE 6 INFORMATION: CONTRIBUTION TO THE BRIDGE CAPITAL RESERVE FUND. This savings account will fund the next bridge replacement the Town needs to undertake. The Martin Road Bridge replacement is partially re-engineered, and the Town became eligible for reimbursement from NH Bridge Aid as of 07/01/2020. If we are unable to raise the amount necessary to get through the next step, we will lose the NH Bridge Aid funding. Bridge Aid covers 80% of the total project cost (meaning taxpayers only fund 20%). If we lose it, we will have to pay for the bridge replacement from tax dollars. The estimated tax rate impact of this article is \$0.18.

ARTICLE 6: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000) to be placed in the Bridge Construction and Reconstruction Capital Reserve Fund.

The Select Board recommends this appropriation 3-0. The Budget Committee recommends this appropriation 7-1.

(Majority vote required)

ARTICLE 7 INFORMATION: CONTRIBUTION TO THE TOWN EXPENDABLE TRUST FUND FOR COMPUTER REPLACEMENTS. This savings account is used for server replacement so that the periodic five-year cost of replacement of the Town's two servers is not as much of an impact on the annual operating budget. This article is funded from unexpended operating budget appropriations in 2021 and has no further tax impact.

ARTICLE 7: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of four thousand dollars (\$4,000) to be placed in the Fremont Computer Equipment Expendable Trust Fund previously established. This sum to come from unassigned fund balance. No additional amount to be raised from taxation.

The Select Board recommends this appropriation 3-0. The Budget Committee recommends this appropriation 7-1. (Majority vote required)

ARTICLE 8 INFORMATION: CONTRIBUTION TO THE LIBRARY BUILDING EXPENDABLE TOWN TRUST FUND. This savings account is used to fund larger repair/replacement of building maintenance items with funds set aside in savings annually. The pending project is HVAC replacement, with that system near the end of it's useful life. An engineering evaluation is currently underway to determine the best option and be able to have a set of engineered documents for use to bid the HVAC work. This article is funded from unexpended operating budget appropriations in 2021 and has no further tax impact.

ARTICLE 8: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) to be placed in the Library Building Maintenance Expendable Town Trust Fund previously established. This sum to come from unassigned fund balance. No additional amount to be raised from taxation.

The Select Board recommends this appropriation 3-0. The Budget Committee recommends this appropriation 6-1.

(Majority vote required)

ARTICLE 9 INFORMATION: PURCHASE A NEW DUMP TRUCK WITH A LEASE PAYMENT ARRANGEMENT. This Article would authorize the lease/purchase of a new six wheel dump truck and equipment for the Highway Department. The proposal is a five year lease (with an escape clause) and equal payments with a buyout at the end. The estimated tax rate impact of this article is \$0.06.

ARTICLE 9: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board to enter into a five year lease agreement for \$151,798 for the purchase of a new six wheel dump truck and equipment for the Highway Department and to raise and appropriate the sum of thirty-two thousand fifty-four dollars (\$32,054) for the first year's payment for that purpose. This lease agreement contains an escape clause.

The Select Board recommends this appropriation 3-0. The Budget Committee recommends this appropriation 7-0-1.

(Majority vote required)

<u>ARTICLE 10 INFORMATION:</u> FUNDING THE MOSQUITO CONTROL PROGRAM. This will continue an annual program in Fremont for mosquito control, primarily with larval treatment. The estimated tax rate impact of this article is \$0.06.

ARTICLE 10: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of thirty-five thousand dollars (\$35,000) to continue the Public Health Mosquito Control Program.

The Select Board recommends this appropriation 3-0. The Budget Committee recommends this appropriation 6-2.

(Majority vote required)

<u>ARTICLE 11 INFORMATION:</u> FUNDING A NEW SOCIAL SERVICE AGENCY. We have traditionally put any new request for social service funding in a Warrant Article so it can be independently considered. If this article passes, we would include So Rock in our operating budget in years moving forward. The Southern Rockingham Coalition for Healthy Youth provides critical resources to youth and families to reduce

substance misuse and support mental health through education, programming and leveraging local, state and federal resources for the benefit of the towns they serve. Their request is approximately \$1 per capita contribution from Fremont. The estimated tax rate impact of this article is less than \$0.01.

ARTICLE 11: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of four thousand seven hundred fifty dollars (\$4,750) to support a new social service agency, the So Rock Coalition for Healthy Youth. If approved, this agency would be included in future operating and default budgets.

The Select Board recommend this appropriation 3-0. The Budget Committee recommends this appropriation 5-2.

(Majority vote required)

ARTICLE 12 INFORMATION: FUNDING A NEW SOCIAL SERVICE AGENCY. We have traditionally put any new request for social service funding in a Warrant Article so it can be independently considered. If this Article passes, we would include Family Promise of Southern New Hampshire in our operating budget in years moving forward. Family Promise offers Residential Housing and Diversion Programs to assist families who are temporarily experiencing homelessness. The estimated tax rate impact of this article is less than \$0.01.

ARTICLE 12: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of five thousand dollars (\$5,000) to support a new social service agency, Family Promise of Southern NH. If approved, this agency would be included in future operating and default budgets.

The Select Board recommends this appropriation 3-0. The Budget Committee recommends this appropriation 5-2.

(Majority vote required)

ARTICLE 13 INFORMATION: INCREASE THE SALARY FOR THE ELECTED POSITION OF TOWN CLERK TAX COLLECTOR. This is a 2% salary increase for the Town Clerk Tax Collector. The estimated tax rate impact of this article is less than \$0.01.

ARTICLE 13: To see if the Town will authorize an increase in the Town Clerk Tax Collector's annual salary by seven hundred forty-three dollars (\$743) to be a total of thirty-seven thousand eight hundred eighty-six dollars (\$37,886); and further to raise and appropriate the sum of seven hundred forty-three dollars (\$743) for this purpose.

The Select Board recommends this appropriation 3-0. The Budget Committee recommends this appropriation 6-1.

(Majority vote required)

ARTICLE 14 INFORMATION: ADD ONE ADDITIONAL PARCEL TO THE DESIGNATED OAK RIDGE TOWN FOREST. This would add one small parcel to the Oak Ridge Town Forest and make it subject to the Town Forest Ordinance. There is no tax impact of this article. This parcel was acquired by the Town in 2020 and contains ten (10) acres.

ARTICLE 14: To see if the Town will vote to designate as Town Forest, in accordance with NH RSA 31:110, the following parcel of land: 04-017.

The Select Board recommends this article 3-0. The Conservation Commission recommends this article 5-0. The Budget Committee recommends this article 6-1.

(Majority vote required)

ARTICLE 15 INFORMATION: CONTRIBUTION TO THE HISTORIC MUSEUM CAPITAL RESERVE FUND. This savings account will fund future improvements to the Museum to allow for greater storage and display areas for the Town's many historic artifacts, equipment and information. The estimated tax rate impact of this article is less than \$0.02.

ARTICLE 15: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) to be placed in the Historic Museum Capital Reserve Fund.

The Select Board recommends this appropriation 3-0 The Budget Committee recommends this appropriation 5-2.

(Majority vote required)

ARTICLE 16 INFORMATION: REQUEST A BAN ON USE OF VOTING MACHINE. This article was submitted by petition of Glenn Glazebrook and 25 others. The estimated tax rate impact of this article is estimated to be between \$0.02 and \$0.05 in any tax year depending on number and complexity of elections.

ARTICLE 16: By Petition: To see if the town will vote to ban the use of voting machines in local, state and federal elections.

The Select Board does not recommend this article 3-0. The Budget Committee does not recommend this article 6-1.

(Majority vote required)

Given under our hands and seal this Thirteenth day of January in the Year of Our Lord Two Thousand and Twenty-Two.

Gene Cordes

Select Board

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Town of Fremont

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New Hampshire

Roger A Barham