

Town of Grafton, New Hampshire
Official Ballot
2012

Selectmen (3 years) – Vote for one

Dorothy “Dottie” Ernst
Steve Darrow

Treasurer (1 year) – Vote for one

June Burrington

Moderator (2 years) – Vote for one

Dorothy Campbell
Jean Alexander

Budget Committee (3 years) – Vote for one

Sharon “Ivy” Walker
Scott Smith

Supervisor of the Checklist (6 years) – Vote for one

Mary Warren
Jay Boucher

Cemetery Trustee (3 years) – Vote for one

Louise Gallup

Trustee of the Trust Funds (3 year) – Vote for one

Jeremy Olson

Library Trustee (3 year) – Vote for one

Jim Griffin

Planning Board (3 years) – Vote for two

Jay Boucher
Rosalie Babiarz

Articles

- 2) Shall the Town 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 the vote of the first session, for the purposes set forth therein totaling \$917,729. Should the article be defeated, the default budget shall be \$906,655, which is the same as last year, with certain adjustments required by previous actions of the Town of Grafton, or by law, or the Governing body may hold one special meeting, in accordance with RSA 40:13X and XVI, to take up the issue of a revised budget only. NOTE: This Warrant Article (operating budget) does not include special warrant articles or individual warrant articles.

General Government

Executive	\$44,000
Elections/Town Clerk	28,223
Financial Administration	39,044
Reappraisal of Property	25,060
Legal Expense	10,000
FICA & Medicare	23,925
Planning Board	50
General Government Buildings	51,200
Cemeteries	6,200
Insurance	92,046
Advertising/Regional Dues	1,500
Contingency	2,000

Subtotal **\$323,248**

Public Safety		
Police		\$96,293
Ambulance		12,830
Fire Department		16,000
Emergency Management		100
Forest Fire Warden		1,000
	Subtotal	\$126,223
Highway and Streets		
Highway and Streets		\$309,000
Street Lights		2,000
	Subtotal	\$311,000
Solid Waste		
Solid Waste		\$92,000
	Subtotal	\$92,000
Health and Welfare		
Health Agencies		\$10,964
Health Officer		0
Public Assistance		33,000
	Subtotal	\$43,964
Culture and Recreation		
Parks & Recreation		\$2,200
Library		9,794
Patriotic Purposes		300
	Subtotal	\$12,294
Debt Service		
TAN (tax anticipation note)		\$9,000
	Subtotal	\$9,000
	Grand Total	\$917,729

- 3) To see if the Town will vote to adopt RSA 72:37 (tax exemption for the blind). If approved, those meeting the appropriate criteria will receive a \$15,000 exemption on their property assessment. This Article appears at the direction of the Department of Revenue Administration.
- 4) To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of thirty thousand dollars (\$30,000) for the purpose of paving town roads.
- 5) To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of thirty thousand dollars (\$30,000) to be placed into the previously established Fire Apparatus Capital Reserve Fund.
The Selectmen recommend this article / the Budget Committee recommends this article.
- 6) To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of twenty thousand dollars (\$20,000) to be placed into the previously established Bridge Capital Reserve Fund.

The Selectmen recommend this article / the Budget Committee recommends this article.

- 7) To see if the Town will vote to establish a Capital Reserve Fund under the provisions of RSA 35:1A for the purpose of constructing a new town office building and to raise and appropriate the sum of ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) to be placed into this fund and to appoint the Board of Selectmen to act as agents to expend.

The Selectmen recommend this article / the Budget Committee recommends this article.

- 8) To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of twenty thousand dollars (\$20,000) for the purpose of hiring a part time police officer.
- 9) To see if the Town will raise and appropriate the sum of twenty six thousand five hundred and fifteen dollars (\$26,515) to purchase a 2012 Ford F250 with plow and to fund this appropriation by withdrawing twenty thousand dollars (\$20,000) from the previously established Highway Department Capital Reserve Fund with six thousand five hundred and fifteen dollars (\$6,515) to be raised by taxation.

- 10) To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of thirty six thousand nine hundred sixty four dollars (\$36,964) for the purchase of a new police vehicle. To fund this appropriation by authorizing the withdrawal of twenty four thousand dollars (\$24,000) from the already established Police Vehicle Capital Reserve Fund and twelve thousand nine hundred sixty four dollars (\$12,964) coming from taxation.

The Selectmen recommend this article / the Budget Committee recommends this article.

- 11) To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of five thousand dollars (\$5,000) for the restoration of the Town's historical records.

- 12) To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$1,895 for the purpose of paying the Grafton Library staff so that the Grafton Public Library may be open two hours daily, Monday through Thursday, 3:30pm to 5:30pm, while public schools are in session starting April 2012.

The Selectmen do not recommend this article / the Budget Committee does not recommend this article.

- 13) To see if the Town will raise and appropriate the sum of nine thousand nine hundred seventy three dollars (\$9,973) for the restoration of the Town's historical records. To be funded by a grant from the State of New Hampshire and will have no impact on taxation.

- 14) Shall we modify the elderly exemptions from property tax in the Town of Grafton, based on assessed value, for qualified taxpayers, to be as follows: for persons 65 years of age up to 75 years, \$15,000; for a person 75 years of age to 80 years \$20,000; for a person 80 years of age or older \$25,000. To qualify, the person must have been a New Hampshire resident for at least three consecutive years, own the real estate individually or jointly, or if the real estate is owned by such person's spouse, they must have been married for at least 5 consecutive years. In addition, the taxpayer must have a net income of not more than \$20,000 or if married, a combined net income of less than \$27,000 and owned net assets not in excess of \$40,000 (if single) or \$50,000 (if married), excluding the value of the person's residence.

- 15) Shall we modify the disability exemptions from property tax in the Town of Grafton, based on assessed value, for qualified taxpayers, to be as follows: the person is eligible under Title II or Title XVI of the federal Social Security Act, must have been a New Hampshire resident for at least five years, own the real estate individually or jointly, or if the real estate is owned by such person's spouse, they must have been married for at least 5 consecutive years. In addition, the taxpayer must have a net income of not more than \$20,000 or if married, a combined net income

of less than \$27,000 and owned net assets not in excess of \$40,000 (if single) or \$50,000 (if married), excluding the value of the person's residence.

- 16) To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of two thousand two hundred and forty dollars (\$2,240) to establish a fitting memorial to our former Librarian, Myrtle Cooper, and for other library purposes and programs. This article will be funded solely by donations already received and held by the Library Trustees for this purpose, not by general taxation, and will be administered by the Library Trustees. This article to be non-lapsing for five years according to RSA 32:7, VI.

The Selectmen recommend this article / the Budget Committee recommends this article.

- 17) Shall we permit the public library to retain all money it receives from its income-generating equipment to be used for general repairs and upgrading and for the purchase of books, supplies and income-generating equipment?
- 18) To see if the Town will vote to appoint the Selectmen as agents to expend from the Library Capital Reserve Fund previously established in 2004.
- 19) To see if the Town will vote to rescind the action taken in 1982 Town Meeting to elect Planning Board members and instead have the Planning Board members appointed by the Selectmen, designating one Selectman or administrative official of the Town as an ex-officio member and appointing 4 other persons who are residents of the town as appropriate. Pursuant to RSA 673:2,II(c), this article shall take effect immediately upon adoption by the Town Meeting and the Selectmen shall forthwith appoint members in accordance with RSA 675:5; however, the Planning Board shall continue in existence and the elected members in office may continue to serve until their successors are appointed and qualified.
- 20) To see if the Town will vote certain provisions to allow an exemption of taxes on Woodheating Energy Systems as defined in RSA 72:69 of the State of New Hampshire as of the date of any assessments affected by these provisions. These certain provision are:
- a. That any expenditure for a Woodheating Energy Systems so defined, or any separate valuation thereof, shall be excluded from taxation, such that the amount of exemption shall not exceed the additional assessed value to the property for such systems.
 - b. That application for an exemption shall be governed by the provisions of RSA 72:33, 72:34 and 72:34-a.
 - c. That this statute shall remain in effect until rescinded. These provisions are proposed in accordance with RSA 72:27-a, and RSA 72:70 of the State of New Hampshire. **(By Petition)**
- 21) To see if the Town will vote certain provisions to allow an exemption of taxes on Wind-Powered Energy Systems as defined in RSA 72:65 of the State of New Hampshire as of the date of any assessments affected by these provisions. These certain provisions are:
- a. That any expenditure for a Wind-Powered Energy Systems so defined, or any separate valuation thereof, shall be excluded from taxation, such that the amount of exemption shall not exceed the additional assessed value to the property for such systems.
 - b. That application for an exemption shall be governed by the provisions of RSA 72:33, 72:34 and 72:34-a.
 - c. That this statute shall remain in effect until rescinded. These provisions are proposed in accordance with RSA 72:27-a, and RSA 72:66 of the State of New Hampshire. **(By Petition)**
- 22) To see if the Town will vote certain provisions to allow exemption of taxes on Solar Energy Systems as defined in RSA 72:61 of the State of New Hampshire as of the date of any assessments affected by these provisions. These certain provisions are:

- a. That any expenditure for a Solar Energy Systems so defined, or any separate valuation thereof, shall be excluded from taxation, such that the amount of exemption shall not exceed the additional assessed value to the property for such systems.
 - b. That application for an exemption shall be governed by the provisions of RSA 72:33, 72:34, and 72:43-a.
 - c. That this statute shall remain in effect until rescinded. These provisions are proposed in accordance with RSA 72:27-a, and RSA 72:62 of the State of New Hampshire. **(By Petition)**
- 23) To see if the Town of Grafton will vote to sell the town owned building and accompanying land known as "Town Hall" located on Turnpike Road, the sale of which will be by public auction which shall occur within six months of passage of this article. **(By Petition)**
- 24) To see if the Town of Grafton will vote to instruct the Board of Selectmen and the Budget Committee to REDUCE the annual town budget by ten percent for the next 3 years. **(By Petition)**
- 25) To see if the Town will vote to direct the governing body of the Town of Grafton to appoint a Capital Improvement Program committee to prepare and amend a recommended program of municipal capital improvement projects projected over a period of at least six years. The sole purpose and effect of the Capital Improvements Program shall be to aid the Selectmen and Budget Committee in their consideration of the annual budget. **(By Petition)**