

Town of Grafton, New Hampshire
Official Ballot
2013

Selectmen (3 years) Vote for one

Sean Frost
Jeremy J. Olson
David Rienzo

Town Clerk (3 years) Vote for one

Bonnie J. Haubrich
Lindsay Dean

Road Agent (3 years) Vote for one

Paul Jalbert
Robert J. Bassett

Supervisor of the Checklist (1 year) Vote for one

Lindsay Dean
George Curran

Trustee of the Trust Funds (3 years) Vote for one

Catherine Mulholland
Robert Forshee

Treasurer (1 year) Vote for one

Margaret "Peg" Emslie

Budget Committee (3 years) Vote for one

Richard A. Jackson
Ed Grinley

Library Trustee (3 years) Vote for one

Genevieve Smith
James Reiher

Cemetery Trustee (3 years) Vote for one

Jean Alexander

Planning Board (3 years) Vote for one

Brian Fellers

- 1) 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 \$825,956. Should this article be defeated, the default budget shall be \$940,366, 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. It excludes special warrant articles and other appropriations voted separately.

General Government

Executive	\$49,000
Elections/Town Clerk	27,062
Financial Administration	30,350
Reappraisal of Property	25,060
Legal Expense	15,000
FICA & Medicare	24,000
Planning Board	1
General Government Buildings	61,000
Cemeteries	8,000
Insurance	94,683
Advertising/Regional Dues	1,200
Contingency	2,000
Subtotal	\$337,356

Public Safety	
Police	\$122,493
Ambulance	7,810
Fire Department	14,470
Emergency Management	100
Forest Fire Warden	1,000
Subtotal	\$145,873
Highway and Streets	
Highway and Streets	\$319,000
Street Lights	2,500
Subtotal	\$321,500
Solid Waste	\$92,000
Health and Welfare	
Health Agencies	\$13,540
Health Officer	0
Public Assistance	25,000
Subtotal	\$38,540
Culture and Recreation	
Parks & Recreation	\$2,400
Library	10,554
Patriotic Purposes	300
Subtotal	\$13,254
Debt Service	
Tax Anticipation Note (TAN)	\$6,000
<u>Operating Budget Total</u>	<u>\$825,956</u>

- 2) 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 and outfitting of a new police vehicle and to fund this appropriation by authorizing the withdrawal of twenty two thousand nine hundred sixty four dollars (\$22,964) from the already established Police Vehicle Capital Reserve Fund, and the Balance of fourteen thousand dollars (\$14,000) coming from taxation.
The Selectmen recommend this article/ the Budget Committee recommends this article.
- 3) 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.
- 4) To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of twenty eight thousand seven hundred ninety two dollars (\$28,792) to purchase a 2013 Ford F250 with plow and to fund this appropriation by withdrawing twenty six thousand dollars (\$26,000) from the previously established Highway Department Capital Reserve Fund with two thousand seven hundred ninety two dollars (\$2,792) to be raised by taxation. **The Selectmen recommend this article / the Budget Committee recommends this article.**

- 5) To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of twenty two thousand five hundred dollars (\$22,500.) to be placed into the previously established Highway Department 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 fourteen thousand dollars (\$14,000) to be placed in the previously established Police Capital Reserve Fund.
The Selectmen recommend this article / the Budget Committee recommends this article.
- 7) To see if the Town will raise and appropriate the sum of two thousand eight hundred dollars (\$2,800) for the purpose of re-pointing the town library and to fund this amount by withdrawing two thousand eight hundred dollars (\$2,800) from the previously established Library Capital Reserve Fund. Passage of this article will have no impact on taxation.
The Selectmen recommend this article/ the Budget Committee recommends this article.
- 8) To see if the Town will raise and appropriate the sum of one hundred thirty seven thousand three hundred eighty dollars (\$137,380) to repair and upgrade the heating system in the Fire/Ambulance building and to fund this appropriation by withdrawing that amount from the unrestricted fund balance as of December 31, 2012. This amount is the equivalent of the amount the Town received in insurance payments for this purpose. The passage of this article will have no impact on taxation.
- 9) To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of fifteen thousand dollars (\$15,000) to be placed in the previously established Fire Apparatus Capital Reserve Fund.
The Selectmen recommend this article / the Budget Committee does not recommend this article.
- 10) To see if the Town will vote to establish a Capital Reserve Fund under the provisions of RSA 35:1 for the purpose of building a new town office building and to raise and appropriate the sum of zero dollars (\$0) to be placed in this fund.
The Selectmen recommend this article/ the Budget Committee recommends this article.
- 11) Are you in favor of the ‘Wild Meadows Wind (farm) Project’?
- 12) To see if the Town will appoint the Selectmen as agents to expend from the Police Capital Reserve Fund established in 1999.
- 13) To see if the Town will vote to discontinue the road known as Golden Valley Road, so called, 150 feet from Wild Meadow Road in a southeasterly direction to the Sulloway Place for 1349 feet (0.2555 miles) pursuant to RSA 231:45. **(By Petition)**
- 14) To see if the Town of Grafton shall vote to require the owner or installer of any large wind-powered electrical generation facility that may come to be located within the Town to obtain a bond or equivalent proof of financial responsibility, and continue to effect a surety bond or other equivalent proof of financial responsibility satisfactory to the Town an amount sufficient to ensure that the system shall be safely dismantled at the end of its operational life (said amount to be determined by an independent engineer of the Selectmen’s choice, and paid for by the owner or installer). A large wind-powered electrical generation facility shall be any wind-powered device which does not supplement or replace electrical power supplied to households or businesses at the immediate site, and which has a total installed height (to the top of the swept area of the blade, rotor, or any other component of the structure) of greater than 250 feet above ground. **(By Petition)**
- 15) To see if the Town will vote to advise the Selectmen to REJECT the proposed Wild Meadow Wind Project. **(By Petition)**
- 16) Shall the Town of Grafton pass the ordinance known as “Grafton’s Right to A Sustainable Energy Future and Community Self-Government Ordinance”? The purpose of this ordinance is to guarantee resident’s right to determine their own energy future. **(By Petition)**

- 17) To see if the Town shall notify the voters of Grafton of their natural and historic right and responsibility as jurors, sitting on juries in all cases including grand juries, to judge the law as well as the facts before them, a right recognized by the State of New Hampshire with the passage of HB 146 (Laws of 2012, c.243) and codified as RSA 519:23-a, which states that “in all criminal proceedings the court shall permit the defense to inform the jury of its right to judge the facts and the application of the law in relation to the facts in controversy.” The information shall be sent by the Town to all voters individually via first-class mail, and shall be prepared entirely by volunteers, information which may include pamphlets prepared by the Fully Informed Jury Association, a federally-recognized 501 (c) (3) organization. All costs shall be paid using voluntarily raised funds. **(By Petition)**
- 18) 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)**
- 19) To see if the Town will vote to repeal Warrant Article #24 of the Town Meeting of 1994, and the resulting ordinance, which prohibits the possession of open containers of alcoholic beverages and/or the consumption of same on Town property. The repeal of this ordinance shall not supersede, overrule, or in any other way affect any State or Federal Laws or regulations governing the possession of alcohol on public property. **(By Petition)**
- 20) Shall we adopt the provisions of RSA 32:5-b, and implement a tax cap whereby the Budget Committee shall not submit a recommended budget that increases the amount to be raised by local taxes, based on the prior fiscal year’s actual amount of local taxes raised, by more than 2 percent (2%)? (3/5 vote required) **(By Petition)**
- 21) To see if the Town will vote to direct the School Board to undertake a study of the feasibility and suitability to withdraw from Mascoma Valley Regional School District, pursuant to RSA 195:25. **(By Petition)**
- 22) To see if the Town will vote to create three Town Auditor positions, whose election shall take place at the next annual Town Meeting. **(By Petition)**
- 23) To see if the Town will vote to remove from the Selectmen their taxing authority. **(By Petition)**
- 24) To see if the Town of Grafton will prohibit the practice of evicting residents from their homes after the Town has deeded the property to itself as a result of unpaid taxes. **(By Petition)**
- 25) 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 three years. **(By Petition)**
- 26) To see if the Town shall prohibit the Selectmen from publishing their recommendations for or against warrant articles on the official Town ballot. **(By Petition)**
- 27) To see if the Town will vote to require all businesses and commercial haulers in the Town of Grafton to have dumpster for their garbage disposal. **(By Petition)**

- 28) To see if the Town will vote to remove the lien process from the general assistance application for home owners that are in need of assistance from the Town of Grafton. (Renters and others needing assistance do not get liened). **(By Petition)**
- 29) To see if the Town will vote to create one Overseer of the Public Welfare position, whose election shall take place at the next annual town meeting. **(By Petition)**
- 30) To see if the Town will vote to hold deliberative session, elections, and special meetings at the Town Hall on Turnpike Road. **(By Petition)**