

Town of Grafton, New Hampshire
Official Ballot
2014

Selectmen (3 years) Vote for one

Jennie Joyce
Leon Dugan

Treasurer (1 year) Vote for one

Margaret "Peg" Emslie
Dorothy Campbell

Moderator (2 years) Vote for one

Susan Frost

Budget Committee (3 years) Vote for one

Catherine Mulholland
Cindy Kudlik

Tax Collector (3 years) Vote for one

Bonnie J. Haubrich

Library Trustee (3 years) Vote for one

Mary Ann Smith

Police Chief (3 years) Vote for one

Paul Howard Vogt
Russell Poitras

Cemetery Trustee (3 years) Vote for one

Tom Ploszaj

Supervisor of the Checklist (6 years) Vote for one

George Curran

Planning Board (3 years) Vote for one

Robert Hull
Jim Dugan

Supervisor of the Checklist (4 years) Vote for one

Jeffrey K. Weiss
Jeremy J. Olson

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

Robert Forshee
Daniel Demers

- 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 \$993,556. Should this article be defeated, the default budget shall be \$1,019,316, 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	32,083
Financial Administration	39,070
Reappraisal of Property	25,060
Legal Expense	15,000
FICA & Medicare	24,000
Planning Board	750
General Government Buildings	64,426
Cemeteries	8,000

Insurance	85,249
Advertising/Regional Dues	1,500
Contingency	2,000
Subtotal	\$356,425
Public Safety	
Police	\$132,053
Ambulance	14,280
Fire Department	14,470
Emergency Management	100
Forest Fire Warden	1,000
Subtotal	\$161,903
Highway and Streets	
Highway and Streets	\$342,800
Street Lights	2,700
Subtotal	\$345,500
Solid Waste	\$94,000
Health and Welfare	
Health Agencies	\$10,000
Health Officer	0
Public Assistance	20,000
Subtotal	\$30,000
Culture and Recreation	
Parks & Recreation	\$2,400
Library	8,315
Patriotic Purposes	300
Subtotal	\$13,495
Debt Service	
Tax Anticipation Note (TAN)	\$5,000
<u>Operating Budget Total</u>	<u>\$993,556</u>

3) To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to borrow the sum of \$296,000 for a five year period for the purpose of constructing a new town office building. Should this Article pass, Article #4 and #5 become null and void. 3/5 vote required. (By petition).

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

4) To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of one hundred thirty-seven thousand dollars (\$137,000.00) to remove the old town clerk's office and build a two-story addition on the site where the old town clerk's office was removed and to remedy violations found in the town office building per Dept. of Labor inspection. This is a special warrant article. (Should this article pass, Warrant Article #5 will become null and void).

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

- 5) To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate twelve thousand dollars (\$12,000) to remedy violations found in the town office building per Dept. of Labor inspection. This is a special warrant article.
The Selectmen recommend this article / the Budget Committee does not recommend this article.
- 6) To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of twenty five thousand dollars (\$25,000.) to be added to the already established Library Capital Reserve Fund and to appoint the Library Trustees as agents to expend for the purposes of developing a long term plan which will ultimately address the Labor Department findings (***By petition***)
The Selectmen recommend this article / the Budget Committee recommends this article.
- 7) To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate eleven thousand two hundred dollars (\$11,200) to be used to remedy violations found at the Recycle Center per Dept. of Labor and to fund this appropriation by authorizing the withdrawal of this amount from the Recycle Revolving Account. This article, if passed, will have no impact on taxation.
The Selectmen recommend this article / the Budget Committee does not recommend this article.
- 8) To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate one hundred thirty-seven thousand one hundred seventy-eight dollars (\$137,178) to be withdrawn from the unassigned fund balance to repair and upgrade the heating system in the Fire/Ambulance building. This will be a 5 year non-lapsing fund. This article, if passed, will have no impact of taxation.
The Selectmen recommend this article/ the Budget Committee recommends this article.
- 9) To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum forty five thousand dollars (\$45,000) for the purpose of paving town roads.
The Selectmen recommend this article/the Budget Committee recommends this article.
- 10) To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen to purchase the Paula Webster Property across from the Town Office Building on Library Road and to authorize the Selectmen to borrow the sum of forty-five thousand dollars (\$45,000) to do so. (***By Petition***)
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 forty thousand dollars (\$40,000) for the purpose of placing ledge pack on town dirt roads.
The Selectmen recommend this article/ the Budget Committee recommends this article.
- 12) To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of thirty thousand dollars (\$30,000) to be placed in the previously established Fire Apparatus Capital Reserve Fund.
The Selectmen recommend this article/the Budget Committee recommends this article.
- 13) To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of twenty five thousand dollars (\$25,000) to be placed in the previously established Highway Department Capital Reserve Fund.
The Selectmen recommend this article/the Budget Committee recommends this article.
- 14) To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of nine thousand dollars (\$9,000) to be placed in the previously established Police Vehicle Capital Reserve Fund.
The Selectmen recommend this article/the Budget Committee recommends this article.
- 15) To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to withdraw the sum of \$4,302 from the Capital Reserve Fund created for this purpose of constructing a storage vault in a new Town Office Building. (Should the article for a new town office building pass this amount shall be deducted from the \$296,000.00. If the article doesn't pass, this article will be null and void). (***By Petition***)
The Selectmen recommend this article/the Budget Committee recommends this article.

- 16) To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of three thousand dollars (\$3,000) for the restoration of the Town's historical records.
The Selectmen recommend this article/the Budget Committee recommends this article.
- 17) To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate five hundred dollars (\$500) to increase the Town Clerk's stipend.
The Selectmen recommend this article/the Budget Committee does not recommend this article.
- 18) To see if the Town will authorize the Board of Selectmen to lease the land and buildings known as the East Grafton Christian Union Church and Parsonage to the Grafton Township Historical Society until such time as the organization no longer exists or ceases activities for a period of one year.
- 19) To see if the Town will adopt 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 one percent. ***(By Petition)***
- 20) To see if the Town will vote to require the Moderator and other Town officials to use *Robert's Rules of Order* at the Deliberative Session and all other meetings held by the Town. The eleventh edition of *Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised* shall be used unless the voters vote to adopt a newer edition at some future Town Meeting. ***(By Petition)***
- 21) To see if the Town will pass an ordinance that shall be known as "The Grafton United Nations Free Zone Act". The purpose of this Act is to establish the Town of Grafton, New Hampshire as a United Nations free zone in that the United Nations is prohibited within the Town limits and that citizens are sovereign from the jurisdiction of the United Nations. To maintain and preserve the Supreme Law of the Land as set forth in the Constitution of the State of New Hampshire, and of these United States of America to the benefit of the people of the Town of Grafton, including but not limited to, the freedom of speech, press, assembly and petition, and the right to bear arms, to trial by jury, to the privilege against self-incrimination and to the common law writ of habeas corpus. To protect the citizens of the Town of Grafton from taxation without representation, by forbidding the implementation within the town limits of any tax, levy, fee, assessment, surcharge, or any other financial imposition by the United Nations. ***(By Petition)***
- 22) RESOLVED, the People of Grafton, NH stand with communities across the country to defend democracy from the corrupting effects of undue corporate power by amending the United States Constitution to establish that: 1) Only human beings, not corporations, are endowed with constitutional rights, and 2) Money is not speech, and therefore regulating political contributions and spending is not equivalent to limiting political speech. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the People of Grafton, NH, hereby instruct our state and federal representatives to enact resolutions and legislation to advance this effort. ***(By Petition)***
- 23) 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 HB146 (Laws of 2012, c. 243) and codified as RSA 519:23-a, which stated 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 nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization. All costs shall be paid using voluntarily raised funds. ***(By Petition)***
- 24) To see if the Town will vote to establish a donation reserve trust fund and to appoint the Selectboard as agents to expend those monies. The fund's purpose is to allow donors to fund the regular or unanticipated expenses of the Town, and to allow those donors to indicate the purposes for which their donated funds must be used. Donations may, at the time they are presented to the Town, have

stipulations attached, but the Selectboard may refuse to accept any donation if the Selectboard determines that the stipulations are inappropriate, unreasonable, or excessively burdensome. Acceptance of any donation is a binding agreement to restrict the expenditure of those funds based upon the stipulations. If the Selectboard later reverses its decision to accept a donation, the funds shall be refunded to the donor who supplied them. Severability: this Article is not severable, and any final determination by a court of competent jurisdiction that such stipulations may not be applied to donations shall also void this Article in its entirety, and all donated fund then in the Town's possession shall be refunded to their respective donors. **(By Petition)**

- 25) To see if the Town will vote to require that the Town's unencumbered income must be used for tax reduction rather than being held as an account balance, except that the Selectboard may vote to maintain a balance not to exceed 5% of the current year's budget or such amount as may be required by statute. Using such funds to decrease loan balances in order to reduce the overall tax burden over multiple years shall be considered to be in accordance with the intent of this Article. **(By Petition)**
- 26) To see if the Town will vote to require the Moderator to determine and announce an alternate date and time for the Deliberative Session at the same time that the primary date and time are set, for the purpose of allowing voters to schedule availability in advance in case inclement weather or other circumstances require that the primary date be canceled. **(By Petition)**
- 27) 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)**
- 28) 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 the 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 or its use by Town employees. **(By Petition)**
- 29) To see if the Town will vote to require that any building energy improvements shall be done in such a way as to provide a reasonable return on investment. For the purposes of this Article, "building energy system" shall refer to any device or set of devices which are designed to produce, transfer, or conserve energy in a building, including (but not limited to) heating, air conditioning, and electrical systems. For the purposes of this Article, "reasonable return on investment" shall be defined as recovery of the total cost of the project as savings in purchased energy within a term of six years for any upgrade or change to an existing system, eight years for replacement of a system which is less than ten years old, ten years for replacement of a system which is more than ten years old, and twelve years for replacement of a system which has actually failed to function. Determinations of system failure and analysis of return on investment calculations provided by bidders shall be made by independent contractors, who shall be prohibited from bidding upon the project for which they submitted an analysis for a period of five years. **(By Petition)**
- 30) To see if the Town will begin the process of withdrawing from the Mascoma Valley Regional School District, in accordance with the process outlined in RSA 195:25. This Article does not constitute a vote on whether the Town will leave the District, but solely acts to establish a study to determine the impact on both the Town and the District, such that voters in a future year may make an informed choice on this issue. **(By Petition)**