

2023 WARRANT
Town of Swanzey, State of New Hampshire

To the inhabitants of the Town of Swanzey in the State of New Hampshire qualified to vote in Town affairs:

FIRST SESSION You are hereby notified to meet for the First (Deliberative) Session of the annual Town Meeting, to be held at Whitcomb Hall, 17 Main Street, Swanzey, NH on **Tuesday, the 7th day of February 2023 at 7:00 p.m.** The First Session will consist of explanation, discussion and debate of articles and will afford those voters who are present the opportunity to propose, debate and adopt amendments to each warrant article, except election of officers and warrant articles whose wording is prescribed by state law.

SECOND SESSION You are also notified to meet for the Second Session of the annual Town Meeting on **Tuesday, the 14th day of March 2023, at the Monadnock Regional High School Gymnasium, 600 Old Homestead Hwy, Swanzey NH between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.** to vote by official ballot to elect Town officers, to vote by official ballot on warrant articles as they may have been amended at the First Session and to vote on those other official ballot questions whose wording is prescribed by state law.

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

Article 2 To vote by ballot on the following amendments to the Town of Swanzey Zoning Ordinance (new text in *italics*, deleted text in strikethrough):

Amendment No. 1 Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 1, as proposed by the Planning Board, to amend the Swanzey Zoning Ordinance as follows:

Amend Section II, Article A.7 to read as follows:

“7. Flood Plain District. The Flood Plain District is herein established as an overlay district. The underlying permitted uses shall be allowed only by special exception provided they meet the additional requirements set forth in Section IX of this ordinance. The Flood Plain District includes all *lands designated as special flood hazard areas by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) in its ‘Flood Insurance Study for the County*

of Cheshire, NH' dated May 23, 2006 or as amended together with associated designated as Zone A, A1,30 in the Swanzey Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRM) dated May 23, 2006 or as amended, and the Flood Boundary and Floodway Maps dated May 5, 1981, on file with the Town Clerk, Planning Board and Building Inspector. These maps as well as the accompanying Swanzey Flood Insurance Study, are incorporated herein by reference."

Amendment No. 2 Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 2, as proposed by the Planning Board, to amend the Swanzey Zoning Ordinance as follows:

"Amend the Zoning Map of the Town of Swanzey, dated September 1, 1947, as amended, to show property known as Tax Map 16, Lot 1 (currently owned by Thoris Lewis Revocable Trust, known as 69 James Road, consisting of 55.4 acres more or less), as being entirely within the Business District."

Amendment No. 3 Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 3, as proposed by the Planning Board, to amend the Swanzey Zoning Ordinance as follows:

Amend Section III, Article C.3 to read as follows:

"C. Accessory Uses and Accessory Buildings

3. For residential properties, one (1) single-story storage shed up to two-hundred (200) square feet in area ~~that is exempt from the building permit requirements~~ may be located up to five (5) feet from the side or rear property lines, but must still comply with the front setback requirement. (Amended March 10, 2020)"

Amendment No. 4 Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 4, as proposed by the Planning Board, to amend the Swanzey Zoning Ordinance as follows:

Amend Section V, Article B.3 to read as follows:

"B. BUSINESS DISTRICT.

3. All lots shall be at least one (1) acre in size with one hundred twenty-five (125) foot frontage on a town or State maintained road. *For properties with frontage on NH Route 10 or NH Route 12, all buildings and structures shall be located thirty (30)* ~~The front setback for everything except buildings~~

~~and structures is thirty (30) feet from the front property line. For properties with frontage on NH Route 10 or NH Route 12, all buildings and structures shall be located seventy-five (75) feet from the right-of-way line. For all frontages other than NH Route 10 or NH Route 12, all buildings and structures shall be located thirty (30) feet from the front property line. The side and rear setbacks are twenty (20) feet from the side and rear property lines. (Amended March 11, 2008; Amended March 10, 2020)"~~

Amendment No. 5 Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 5, as proposed by the Planning Board, to amend the Swanzey Zoning Ordinance as follows:

Amend Section V, Article C.1 (Village Business District) to read as follows:

"USES PERMITTED. In the Village Business District II no building or premises shall be erected or used and no land shall be used for any purpose except:

(t) Home Occupation and home-based business"

Amendment No. 6 Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 6, as proposed by the Planning Board, to amend the Swanzey Zoning Ordinance as follows:

Amend Section VI, Article A.1.e (Commercial / Industrial District) to read as follows:

"e. SETBACKS

- 1) All buildings or structures within this zone shall be located (1) at least ~~seventy-five (75)~~ *thirty (30)* feet from the right-of-way of Route 10; (b) at least fifty (50) feet from the boundary line of any abutting residential dwelling; (c) at least thirty (30) feet from the right-of-way of any feeder road; and (d) at least twenty (20) feet from any other boundary. (Amended March 14, 2000; Amended March 11, 2008; Amended March 10, 2020)"

Amendment No. 7 Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 7, as proposed by the Planning Board, to amend the Swanzey Zoning Ordinance as follows:

Amend Section VI, Article B.2.i (Industrial Park District) to read as follows:

“2. PERMITTED USES In the Industrial Park District, no buildings or premises shall be erected, altered, or used, and no land shall be used for any purposes, except: (Amended March 8, 2022)

(i) Home occupation and home-based business”

Article 3 To see if the Town will vote to 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 \$7,425,000. Should this article be defeated, the default budget shall be \$6,864,706, which is the same as last year, with certain adjustments required by previous action of the Town 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.

(RECOMMENDED BY SELECTMEN)

Article 4 To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of TWO HUNDRED AND SEVENTY-TWO THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$272,000) by general taxation to be placed in the following expendable trust and capital reserve accounts of the Town:

Expendable Trust Funds	Amount	Capital Reserve Funds	Amount
Revaluation & Updates	\$20,000	Fire Stations	\$25,000
Emergency Communications	\$5,000	Fire Trucks	\$30,000
Fire Pond Expendable	\$30,000	Police Cruisers	\$55,000
Fire Dept. Tools & Equip.	\$30,000	Recreation Facility Improvements	\$15,000
Mt. Caesar Library	\$20,000	Recycling Center Improvements	\$10,000
Police Facilities Maintenance	\$3,000	Golden Rod Grange Hall	\$1,000
Police IMS	\$5,000		
Stratton Free Library	\$3,000		
Town Hall IMS	\$20,000		

(RECOMMENDED BY SELECTMEN)

Article 5 To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of FIVE HUNDRED AND NINETY THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$590,000) by general taxation to be placed in the following expendable trust and capital reserve accounts of the Town:

Expendable Trust Funds	Amount	Capital Reserve Funds	Amount
DPW Facilities	\$15,000	Highway & Cemetery Equipment	\$150,000
Road Rehab & Reconstruction	\$400,000	Sidewalk	\$15,000
		Town Owned Dams	\$10,000

(RECOMMENDED BY SELECTMEN)

Article 6 To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of TWO HUNDRED AND SIXTY-ONE THOUSAND AND NINE HUNDRED AND SEVENTY-SIX DOLLARS (\$261,976) to be placed in the following capital reserve accounts of the Town:

Capital Reserve Funds	Amount
Town Bridges	\$161,976
Covered Bridges	\$100,000

Such sums representing funds received from the state as a one-time distribution for municipal bridge aid and not permitted to be used for any other purpose.

(RECOMMENDED BY SELECTMEN)

Article 7 To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of THREE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$300,000) to be placed in the Fire Stations Capital Reserve Fund with such sum to be raised ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTY THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$150,000) by taxation and ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTY THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$150,000) from the undesignated fund balance.

(RECOMMENDED BY SELECTMEN)

Article 8 To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of TWENTY-TWO THOUSAND (\$22,000), such sum representing six months funding for overnight on call stand by stipends for the Fire Department. If this appropriation is approved, it is the intent of the Selectmen to include full year funding for this coverage estimated at \$44,000 in the 2024 operating budget.

(RECOMMENDED BY SELECTMEN)

Article 9 To see if the Town will vote to amend the following capital reserve funds to designate the Board of Selectmen as agents to expend in place of the Sewer Commissioners:

- North Swanzey Sewer System Construction & Improvements created by Article 4 at the 2006 Town Meeting
- West Swanzey Sewer System Repair and Maintenance created by Article 38 of the 1984 Town Meeting
- West Swanzey Sewer Line Extensions created by Article 41 of the 1990 Town Meeting

The Sewer Commissioners are dissolving effective Town Meeting 2023 by vote of the Town at the 2022 Town Meeting.

(RECOMMENDED BY SELECTMEN)

Article 10 To see if the Town shall vote to:

- Readopt the provisions of 72:28-b, in accordance with RSA 72:27-a, for an All Veterans' Tax Credit, at \$500 per year, and to
- Readopt the provisions of RSA 72:28, II, in accordance with RSA 72:27-a, for an Optional Veterans' Tax Credit at \$500 per year.

If readopted and approved, this article shall take effect for the 2023 property tax year.

(RECOMMENDED BY SELECTMEN)

Article 11 To see if the Town shall vote to amend the Town's solar tax exemption under RSA 72:61-64 inclusively, which provide for an optional property tax exemption from the property's assessed value, for property tax purposes, for persons owning real property, which is equipped with solar energy systems intended for use at the immediate site. Such property tax exemption shall be in the amount equal to 100% of the assessed value of qualifying solar energy system equipment under these statutes, with no maximum dollar amount on the exemption.

(RECOMMENDED BY SELECTMEN)

Article 12 To transact any other business that may legally come before this meeting.

Given under our hand and seal this 25th day of January in the year two thousand twenty-three.

Swansey Board of Selectmen

A true copy – Attest:

W. William Hutwelker, III

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Kenneth P. Colby, Jr.

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Sylvester R. Karasinski

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