

TOWN WARRANT

TO THE INHABITANTS of the Town of Nelson, in the County of Cheshire, State of New Hampshire, qualified to vote in Town affairs: YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED to meet in the Town Hall in said Nelson on Tuesday, the 12th day of March, 2013, at 11:00 am to act upon the following articles:

Polls will open at 11:00 am and close at 7:00 pm.

Business Meeting will start at 7:00 pm.

ARTICLES OF A GENERAL NATURE

1. To choose necessary Town Officers for the year ensuing.
2. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$314,231.00 to be raised by taxes. This is to defray Town charges for the year ensuing. The Selectmen recommend this appropriation 3 – 0.
3. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$33,149 for support of the Town library, \$21,900 to be raised by taxes and \$11,249 to come from Library Memorial Funds, gifts, grants and other sources. (In 2012, the appropriation was \$31,995, \$20,600 from taxes and \$11,395 from other sources.)
The Selectmen recommend this appropriation 3 – 0.
4. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$2,459 for support of social service agencies which provide assistance to Nelson residents. The agencies chosen to receive funds are: Home Health Care Services (\$550) and Meals on Wheels (\$397), Monadnock Family Services (\$912), and Southwestern Community Services (\$600). The (In 2012, \$3481 was paid in support of social service agencies.) Selectmen recommend these appropriations 3 – 0.
5. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$3,000 to be added to the Milfoil Prevention and Treatment Expendable Trust Fund. The Conservation Commission approves this article. The fund balance as of 12/31/2012 was approximately \$20,391. The Selectmen recommend this appropriation 3 – 0.
6. To see if the Town will vote to modify the elderly exemptions from property tax, by a reduction in the assessed value, for qualified tax payers, to be as follows: for a person 65 years of age to 75 years of age, \$60,000, for a person 75 years of age to 80 years of age, \$90,000, and for a person 80 years or older, \$110,000. To qualify, the person must meet all the following criteria:
 - (a) Have been a New Hampshire resident for at least 3 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.
 - (b) Have a net income, as per RSA 72:39-a, of not more than \$30,000 if single or, a combined net income of not more than \$50,000 if married.
 - (c) Have net assets, per RSA 72:39-a and RSA 72:39-b, of not more than \$60,000 if single or combined net assets of not more than \$75,000 if married.The Selectmen recommend this article 3 – 0.

7. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate \$190,171 to be placed in the Town Buildings Capital Reserve Fund with said funds to come from fund balance (these funds represent the monies in the "Silver Lake Fund" as of 12/31/2013). The Selectmen recommend this appropriation. 3 – 0.

8. To see if the Town will vote to discontinue the Dump Capital Reserve Fund. Said fund having been established in 1972 for the ultimate replacement of the Town's dump arrangements at that time. All funds to be deposited into the general fund. The purpose in closing this Capital Reserve account would be to make the funds available for other Town projects. The Dump Capital Reserve Fund balance as of 12/31/2012 was approximately \$22,370. The Selectmen recommend this article 3 – 0.

9. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate \$22,370 to be placed in the Town Buildings Capital Reserve Fund with said funds to come from the fund balance (These funds represent the monies from the Dump Capital Reserve Fund.) This article is contingent on the passage of warrant article # 8. The Selectmen recommend this appropriation 3 – 0.

10. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate \$1567 to be placed in the Town Buildings Capital Reserve Fund with said funds to come from the fund balance (These funds represent the monies from the closed Salt Barn Capital Reserve Fund which were deposited to the fund balance.) In 2010 the Town passed by voice vote article #20, which read as follows: To see if the Town will vote to discontinue the Salt Barn Capital Reserve Fund and any money left will go to the General Fund. The Selectmen recommend this appropriation 3 – 0.

11. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of \$5,000 to be added to the Town Buildings Capital Reserve Fund. No withdrawals may be made from the fund except by vote of the town. (The 2012 appropriation was \$25,000). The fund balance on 12/31/2012 was approximately \$36,625. The Selectmen recommend this appropriation 3 – 0.

12. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$50,000 to be used to purchase, by contract, detailed architectural plans for the proposed Town Hall preservation and renovation. Said plans to include complete contractor's detail, with which, the Town will seek bids for the project. Further that the funds be withdrawn from the Buildings Capital Reserve Fund. This method of funding is contingent on passage of any combination of articles #7, #9, #10, #11 which would generate a sufficient balance to make this possible. The balance as of 12/31/2013 was approximately \$36,625 The Selectmen recommend this appropriation 3 – 0.

13. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$15,000 to be used to purchase, by contract, detailed architectural plans for the proposed Library Basement project which will include a space for the Town Archives, Municipal Records, and meeting area. Said plans to include complete contractor's detail, with which, the Town will seek bids for the project. Further that the funds be withdrawn from the Buildings Capital Reserve Fund. This method of funding is contingent on passage of any combination of articles #7, #9, #10, #11 which would generate a sufficient balance to make this possible. The Selectmen recommend this appropriation 3 – 0.

14. To see if the Town will vote to remove the Selectmen as agents on the Town Buildings Capital Reserve Fund. The Selectmen recommend this article 3 – 0.

15. To see if the Town will vote to create an Expendable Trust Fund under the provisions of RSA 31:19-a, to be known as the Agricultural Fund for the purpose of furthering the work of the Agricultural Commission, to appropriate \$500 to be placed in said fund, and furthermore to name the Selectmen and Agricultural Commission as agents to expend. The Selectmen recommend this appropriation 3 – 0.

16. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$13,000 for the continuing cyclical revaluation of Town property for fiscal year 2013. It being understood that the contracted total expenditure for the complete 4 year revaluation cycle, 2013 through 2016, will not exceed \$62,000. The Selectmen recommend this appropriation 3 – 0.

17. To see if the Town will vote to hire an independent accounting firm for fiscal year 2014 rather than having a locally elected auditor. The Selectmen recommend this article 3 - 0.

18. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$10,000 to conduct a professional audit of Town financial records for fiscal year 2012. The Selectmen recommend this appropriation 3 - 0.

ARTICLES DEALING WITH SERVICE AND PROTECTION

19. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$69,030 for the proper expenses of the Fire Department and Rescue Squad. (The 2012 appropriation was \$44,838). Selectmen recommend this appropriation 3 – 0.

20. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$500 for the purpose of fighting forest fires. This sum to come from reimbursement from the NH State Fire Warden and no amount will be raised through taxation. The Department of Revenue Administration recommends this method of accounting so as not to impact the Fire Department's operating budget. The Selectmen recommend this appropriation 3 - 0.

21. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$5,000 to be added to the Fire Equipment Capital Reserve Fund, for the purpose of Fire Apparatus for the fire department. No withdrawals may be made from this Fund except by vote of the Town and upon recommendation of the Fire Chief. The fund balance as of 12/31/2012 was approximately \$206,687 The Selectmen recommend this appropriation. 3 – 0.

22. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$500 for the proper expenses of Emergency Management. This article is recommended by the Nelson Emergency Management Director and by Board of Selectmen. 3 – 0.

23. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$65,000 for the purchase and outfitting of a used fire truck and authorize the Selectmen to withdraw these funds from the Fire Equipment Capital Reserve Fund for this purpose. \$50,000 would be used for the truck purchase and \$15,000 would be used for the appropriate equipment to place the truck in service (radio, hose, nozzles, hand tools, etc.). The Selectmen recommend this appropriation 3 - 0.

24. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$5,100 for the purchase of three Automatic Emergency Defibrillators (AED's) to replace the remaining current units

that are at "end of life" having been in service for over 8 years. The Selectmen recommend this appropriation 3 - 0.

25. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$57,611 for the proper expenses of the Police Department. (The appropriation for 2012 was \$41,400). The Selectmen recommend this appropriation. 3 – 0.

26. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$5,000 to be added to the Police Equipment Capital Reserve Fund. No withdrawals may be made from this fund except by vote of the Town and with the recommendation of the Police Chief. The fund balance as of 12/31/12 was approximately \$20,567. The Selectmen recommend this appropriation 3 – 0.

ARTICLES DEALING WITH ROADS

27. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$260,554 for the purpose of maintenance of highways and bridges for ensuing year's budget with \$21,701 anticipated coming during 2013 from Highway Block Grant Aid. The rest (\$231,172) to be raised by taxes. In 2012 the sum of (\$205,759.33) was raised by taxes. The Selectmen recommend this appropriation 3 - 0.

28. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$5,000 to be added to the Road Equipment Capital Reserve Fund. It is understood that no withdrawals may be made from this fund for the purchase of road equipment except by vote of the Town upon recommendation of the Road Equipment Committee. The fund balance on 12/31/12 was approximately \$31,727. The Road Equipment Committee recommends this appropriation. The Selectmen recommend this appropriation 3 – 0.

29. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$25,000 to be used for repaving a section of Old Route 9 from the Nelson Road running approximately one quarter mile toward Sullivan. The Selectmen recommend this appropriation 3 – 0.

ARTICLES DEALING WITH PLANNING & ZONING

None Submitted for 2013

OTHER ARTICLES

WARRANT ARTICLES BY PETITION

30. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate up to the sum of \$1500 to support the expenses of Nelson resident school students at \$500 each from grades five, six or seven to attend Summer Village 2013 (in Nelson Village). This money would only be spent for children who actually apply to and attend the program. All children who live in Nelson and who are entering 5th, 6th, or 7th grade may attend. The Selectmen recommend this appropriation 2 – 1.

31. To see if the Town will vote to direct the Board of Selectmen to oversee and work with the Old Home Day Committee to set and adopt policies and procedures, and to appoint membership for the Old Home Day Committee. This is pursuant to how the Selectmen oversee other Nelson Non-RSA required committees and commissions. The Selectmen recommend this article 3 – 0.

32. To see if the Town will vote to instruct the Selectmen through the Police Department to enforce RSA 265:63 on any citizens to follow the law and to personally pay for the required engineering or traffic investigation (safety studies) in order to legally justify the need to alter any speed limit, signs regarding safety, stop signs, and anything additional along said roadways and pedestrian walkways on Nelson Class V Town Roads or better.

The Town of Nelson will not be responsible for the costs of such legally required studies for the benefit or private individuals and their concerns, real or unreal, or any costs unless it is proven to be a public traffic and safety issue by the legally required "engineering" test results. Alterations and additions of sign posting on Class V or better shall adhere legally to RSA 265:63.

Any signs installed with or without respect to the required authority of RSA 265:63 must be removed and the Town of Nelson reimbursed for the installation and removal costs. Any signs installed and their engineering costs that prove to be safety issues acknowledged by the said professional shall be paid for by the Town of Nelson in the future and retroactively if the law was ignored. All road sight generally as well must be legally enforced and Nelson Town Ordinances will be legally enforced.

The Selectmen do not recommend this article 3 – 0.

33. To see if the Town will vote to adopt the provisions of RSA 40:13 (known as SB2) to allow official ballot voting on all issues before the Town of Nelson on the Second Tuesday 3/5ths majority vote required by written ballot vote. The Selectmen do not recommend this article 3 – 0.

34. To see if the Town will vote to accept from the New Hampshire Department of Transportation (NHDOT) the remaining "C" section of Class II Highway from the Stoddard Town Line westerly to the intersection of NH Route 9 called Granite Lake Road (past Franklin Pierce Highway/Keene to Concord Highway) as a Class V Town Road. The length

of highway is 1.86 miles and this would entitle the Town of Nelson to extra funds from the "Highway Block Grant Aid". Said acceptance to be contingent upon NHDOT completing all upgrade and repair work to the road, including what is necessary in replacing guardrails and installing necessary drainage systems in agreement with the Selectmen. The Selectmen do not recommend this article 3 – 0.

35. To see if the Town will vote to increase the Veterans' Tax Credit from the present amount of \$300.00 to \$500.00. This amount is approved under RSA 72:28
The Selectmen recommend this article 3-0

To transact any other business or discuss other warrant proposals as may legally be brought before the meeting.

Given under our hands and seals this 20th day of February in the year of Our Lord, two thousand and Thirteen

A true copy of the warrant, Attest: The Nelson Board of Selectmen

Date: February 20, 2013

David Upton

Maury Collins

Susan Hansel