

**TOWN OF ORFORD
STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE**

**PROPOSED
ANNUAL TOWN MEETING WARRANT
2025**

TO THE INHABITANTS OF THE TOWN OF ORFORD, County of Grafton, in said state, qualified to vote on Town Affairs:

You are hereby notified to meet at the Rivendell Academy Gymnasium in said Orford on Tuesday the 11th of March next at seven o'clock in the evening to act on the following subjects:

ARTICLE 1

To vote by non-partisan ballot for the following Town Officers. The polls will be open from four o'clock in the afternoon and will close no earlier than nine o'clock in the evening for you to cast your ballot for the following officers:

Selectboard Member: 3-year term
Treasurer: 3-year term
Planning Board: 3-year term
Planning Board: 3-year term

Free Library Trustee: 3-year term
Trustee of the Trust Funds: 3-year term
Cemetery Commissioner: 3-year term

ARTICLE 2 – For details, please refer to the Operating Budget Worksheet

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of one million four hundred seventy-six thousand five hundred twenty dollars (\$1,476,520) for general municipal operations. (Majority vote required). The Selectboard recommend this article.

ARTICLE 3

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of four hundred thirty-nine thousand four hundred thirty-six dollars (\$439,436) for payments into the following Capital Reserve Funds. (Majority vote required). The Selectboard recommend this article.

Road Improvement CRF (1994)	149,896
Fire Trucks CRF (1983)	61,213
Fire Dept. Equipment CRF (2015)	36,302
Fire Truck Major Maintenance CRF (2017)	4,245
Heavy Equipment Maintenance ETF (2003)	8,691
Highway Department Trucks CRF (1997)	52,900
Grader CRF (1983)	16,000
Loader CRF (1983)	27,700
Police Vehicle CRF (2023)	13,020
Town Buildings CRF (2019)	21,872
Town Property ETF (2000)	29,000
Cemetery Mower/Building CRF (2015)	1,597
Tree Care & Replacement ETF (1991)	10,000
Revaluation CRF (2021)	7,000
TOTAL	439,436

ARTICLE 4

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate eighteen thousand three hundred seventy-four dollars (\$18,374) for the following appropriation requests:

- Visiting Nurse Alliance \$7,000
- Grafton County Senior Citizen's \$3,000
- Tri-County CAP \$2,474
- West Central Behavioral Health \$1,800
- Public Health Council of the Upper Valley \$1,000
- Rivendell Recreation - \$750
- CASA \$500
- North Country Healthcare \$500
- Orange East Senior Center \$500
- WISE \$500
- Ammonoosuc Community Health Services \$350

(Majority vote required). The Selectboard recommend this article.

ARTICLE 5

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate forty-three thousand dollars (\$43,000) for the revaluation of property in 2025. The cost will be paid as follows: twenty-one thousand dollars (\$21,000) from the Revaluation Capital Reserve Fund, and the balance of twenty-two thousand dollars (\$22,000) from the unassigned fund balance. (Majority vote required). The Selectboard recommend this article.

ARTICLE 6

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate fifty thousand two hundred dollars (\$50,200) to be added to the Town of Orford Highway Truck Capital Reserve Fund, with said funds to come from the Unassigned Fund Balance. This represents funds received for the sale of the 2013 international truck (\$15,100) and the 2019 F-55- (\$35,100) (Majority vote required). The Selectboard recommend this article.

ARTICLE 7

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate six hundred dollars (\$600) to be added to the Town of Orford Cemetery Mower/Building Capital Reserve Fund, with said funds to come from the Unassigned Fund Balance. This represents funds received for the sale of the mower (Majority vote required). The Selectboard recommend this article.

ARTICLE 8

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of one hundred fifteen thousand dollars (\$115,000) for the Archertown Road Phase I paving top coat (from the Dooley's driveway to the uphill end of Phase I). The cost will be paid from the Road Improvement Capital Reserve Fund. This will be a 3-year non-lapsing appropriation per RSA 32:7, VI. (Majority vote required). The Selectboard recommend this article

ARTICLE 9

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of one hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$150,000) for the reconstruction and paving the Archertown Road from the Newcomb Hollow Bridge to the Norris Road intersection. The cost will be paid from the Road Improvement Capital Reserve Fund. This will be a 3-year non-lapsing appropriation per RSA 32:7, VI. (Majority vote required). The Selectboard recommend this article.

ARTICLE 10

To see if the Town wants to replace the High Bridge Road bridge. (FYI-the cost to replace will be approximately \$1,500,000 with the Town responsible for 20% (\$300,000), and the State of NH responsible for 80% (\$1,200,000)). Should the Town wish to replace the bridge, a warrant article will be presented at the 2026 annual meeting to vote on funding. (Majority vote required).

ARTICLE 11

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of two hundred forty thousand dollars (\$240,000) to purchase a new four door, four-wheel drive cab and chassis rescue truck, with a utility style body and a wildfire slip on the unit, also including an extended warranty. To authorize the withdrawal of up to two hundred forty thousand dollars (\$240,000) from the Town of Orford Fire Trucks Capital Reserve Fund and authorize the Selectboard to dispose of the current 1998 HME rescue truck with the proceeds to either be applied to the purchase price to reduce the amount to be withdrawn from the Town of Orford Fire Trucks Capital Reserve Fund, or sold with the proceeds added back to the Town of Orford Fire Trucks Capital Reserve Fund. This will be a 5-year non-lapsing appropriation per RSA 32:7, VI (Majority vote required). The Selectboard recommend this article.

ARTICLE 12

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of thirty thousand dollars (\$30,000) to complete the Indian Pond Dual Culvert project. This will be a 3-year non-lapsing appropriation per RSA 32:7, VI. (Majority vote required). The majority of the Selectboard recommend this article.

ARTICLE 13

To see if the Town will vote to discontinue the existing WWII Monument Maintenance ETF which was established in 2004 mistakenly as a Taxpayer Funds: Trust under RSA 31:19-a I. Said Fund of three thousand one hundred and forty-six dollars and ninety-three cents (\$3,146.93), comprised of two thousand six hundred eighty-five dollars and sixty-three cents (\$2,685.63) of principal donations in 2004 and accumulated interest of four hundred sixty-one dollars and thirty cents (\$461.30) through 2024 are to be transferred to the town's General Fund. (Majority vote required). The Selectboard recommend this article.

ARTICLE 14

To see if the Town will vote to establish a WWII Monument Maintenance Trust under RSA 31:19-a IV as a Donated Funds: Income-only Trust. To raise and appropriate three thousand **one** hundred and forty-six dollars and ninety-three cents (\$3,146.93) to be placed in the new fund, such money to come from the town's Unassigned Fund Balance and comprised of two thousand six hundred eighty-five dollars and sixty-three cents (\$2,685.63) of principal donations in 2004 and accumulated interest of four hundred sixty-one dollars and thirty cents (\$461.30) through 2024. Trustees of Trust Funds will hold the funds for the purpose of maintaining, repairing and otherwise caring for the Town's WWII monument, with only the interest to be expended from such Trust Fund. The Selectmen are hereby authorized to accept additional future donations to the new Trust Fund for the purpose for which it has been established. (Majority vote required). The Selectboard recommend this article.

ARTICLE 15

To see if the Town will vote to establish a Cemetery Maintenance Expendable Trust Fund, a Taxpayer Funds Trust, pursuant to RSA 31:19-a and RSA 289:2-a, allowing all future proceeds received from the sale of cemetery lots in Orford cemeteries, any additional appropriations voted at annual or special Town meetings, and any interest gained thereon, for the maintenance of cemeteries; and, further to name the Selectboard as agents to expend from this fund. (Majority vote required). The Selectboard recommends this article

ARTICLE 16

To hear the reports of Agents, Auditors and Committees heretofore chosen and to pass any vote relating thereto.

ARTICLE 17

To transact any other business that may legally come before said meeting.