



TOWN MEETING WARRANT

Franconia Town Hall
March 10, 2009 – 7:00 PM
Polls open from 1:00 PM to 8:00 PM

ARTICLE 1. To choose all necessary Town Officers for the ensuing year. (By ballot.)

ARTICLE 2. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Three Million Seven Hundred Sixty-two Thousand Six Hundred Dollars (\$3,762,600.00) for the purpose of making improvements to the Franconia Water System and related infrastructure; up to Three Million Seven Hundred Fifty-One Thousand Dollars (\$3,751,000) of such sum to be raised through the issuance of bonds or notes under the compliance with the Municipal Finance Act, RSA 33:1 et seq., as amended; with the amount of such bonds to be reduced by the amount of any grants coming from the United States Department of Agriculture (the size of which is currently estimated to be \$1,483,000.00) with the remaining Eleven Thousand Six Hundred (\$11,600) coming from surplus; to authorize the Selectmen to apply for, obtain and accept federal, state or other aid, if any, which may be available for said project and to comply with all laws applicable to said project: to determine the rate of interest thereon and the maturity and other terms thereof; and to authorize the Selectmen to take any other action or to pass any other vote relative thereto. (Voted on by written ballot after discussion—2/3rds ballot vote required.) The Selectmen and Water Project Committee recommend this appropriation. *(Note: The total cost of the project is \$3,850,000. \$99,000 was raised in 2008 and only \$87,400 was expended. We will use surplus to expend the remaining \$11,600.)*

ARTICLE 3. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$1,267,684.00 to defray town charges for the ensuing year.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT

Executive	\$98,640.00
Election, Registration, & Vital Statistics	28,271.00
Financial Administration	50,514.00
Revaluation of Property	15,000.00
Legal Expenses	3,000.00
Planning & Zoning	6,775.00
General Government Buildings	86,246.00
Cemeteries	15,347.00
Insurance.....	7,500.00
Advertising & Regional Associations.....	12,530.00
(Chamber of Commerce.....	10,000.00)
(North Country Council	1,837.00)
(Regional Airport.....	693.00)

PUBLIC SAFETY

Police	275,874.00
Fire.....	85,989.00
Life Squad	50,910.00
Forest Fire.....	3,565.00

Dispatch Phone Lines	27,130.00
(Franconia's Share	26,636.00)
HIGHWAYS & STREETS.....	345,188.00
UTILITIES	17,500.00
HEALTH & HOSPITALS.....	7,828.00
(American Red Cross.....	461.00)
(Ammonoosuc Community Health	1,800.00)
(Grafton Co. Senior Citizens	1,000.00)
(Health Officer.....	300.00)
(North Country Home Health	2,750.00)
(North Country YMCA.....	250.00)
(White Mt. Mental Health.....	1,267.00)
WELFARE	10,025.00
(General Assistance	7,575.00)
(CAP	2,450.00)
CULTURE & RECREATION	
Recreation Programs.....	99,451.00
(Franconia's Share.....	42,745.00)
Parks	16,601.00
Patriotic Purposes	1,000.00
Museums.....	300.00
CONSERVATION	1,000.00
INTEREST	1,500.00
TOTAL..... (Franconia's Share \$1,210,484.00).....	\$1,267,684.00

ARTICLE 4. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of One Hundred Seventy-Five Thousand Five Hundred Fifty dollars (\$175,550.00) to be added to the following Capital Reserve Funds previously established. The Selectmen recommend this appropriation.

Town Buildings Truck, \$2,200; Town Buildings and Grounds Equipment \$7,100; Highway Trucks, \$46,600; Highway Heavy Equipment \$9,600; Police Cruisers, \$16,050; Life Squad Van, \$11,500; Fire Truck Pumper, \$12,500; Fire Equip Truck, \$49,000; Fire Truck Tanker \$10,000; Transfer Station Equipment \$3,000; and Reassessment, 8,000.

ARTICLE 5. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Seventy-Two Thousand Three Hundred dollars (\$72,300.00) to be added to the following Expendable Trust Funds previously established. The Selectmen recommend this appropriation.

Highway Improvement, \$60,000; Sidewalk Improvement, \$1,000; Museum Maintenance, \$7,500 and Library Maintenance, \$3,800.

ARTICLE 6. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Twenty Four Thousand Dollars (\$24,000.00) to be added to the Legal Capital Reserve Fund previously established. The Selectmen recommend this appropriation.

(Note: The funds are needed to replace the costs of the 2 lawsuits brought against the Town of Franconia, Police Chief Mark Montminy & Attorney General Kelley Ayotte, Martha McLeod and Terri Norelli by Christopher King & Kingcast.com.)

ARTICLE 7. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Ninety-Four thousand dollars (\$94,000.00) to purchase a new Highway Truck and to authorize the withdrawal of Eighty Thousand dollars from the Highway Trucks Capital Reserve Fund (\$80,000.00) previously established. Additional funding for this appropriation will come from trading in the 2004 F-550 (\$14,000.00).

ARTICLE 8. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of One Hundred Forty Thousand dollars (\$140,000.00) to purchase a Fire Equipment Truck and to authorize the withdrawal of One Hundred Thirty-Five thousand dollars (\$135,000.00) from the Fire Equipment Truck Capital Reserve fund created for this purpose. Additional funding for this appropriation will come from trading in the 1988 Equipment Truck (\$5,000.00).

ARTICLE 9. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Seventy-Eight Thousand Dollars (\$78,000.00) to construct a maintenance building for the Buildings and Grounds Department. Eight Thousand Dollars (\$8,000.00) is to come from taxation. The remaining Seventy Thousand Dollars (\$70,000.00) is to come from the fund balance (surplus).

ARTICLE 10. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of Two Hundred Eighty-Seven Thousand Two Hundred Fifty-Two Dollars (\$287,252.00) for the purpose of solid waste disposal and capital improvements to include a new baler with Twenty-Six Thousand Dollars (\$26,000.00) from the Franconia Transfer Station Equipment Capital Revere Fund established for this purpose, Town of Sugar Hill (\$55,517.00), the Town of Easton (\$25,235.00), PAYT Fees (\$75,000.00), Special Handling Fees (\$25,000.00), and Recycled Material (\$20,000.00) and to raise Sixty Thousand Five Hundred dollars (\$60,500.00) from taxation.

ARTICLE 11. To see if the Town will enter into a purchase and sales agreement with Copper Cannon Camp for the Town of Franconia's land that is located in Bethlehem and the camp's current location. The amount of \$250,000 from the sale will be added to the Town Buildings Maintenance Expendable Trust Fund previously established. The Selectmen recommend this appropriation.

ARTICLE 12. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Two Thousand Dollars (\$2,000.00) to be added to the Rink Surface Maintenance Fund previously established. The Selectmen recommend appropriation.

ARTICLE 13. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of One Thousand-Five Hundred dollars (\$1,500.00) to be added to the Dow Field Capital Reserve Fund previously established. The Selectmen recommend this appropriation.

ARTICLE 14. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Seventy-Five Thousand One Hundred Sixteen Dollars (\$75,116.00) for the purpose of

operating the Abbie Greenleaf Library and to transfer this amount to the Library Trustees for their use as they see fit.

ARTICLE 15. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Seven Thousand Eight Hundred Dollars (\$7,800.00) to remove the diseased red pine trees on Harvard Street.

ARTICLE 16. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Two Thousand Dollars (\$2,000.00) for the Franconia Children's Center to be used for general operating expenses.

ARTICLE 17. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00) for the Center for New Beginnings to help offset the cost of the counseling services provided to a number of Franconia families.

ARTICLE 18. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Five Hundred Twenty Dollars (\$520.00) for the Support Center at Burch House to help offset the cost of providing emergency shelter to victims of domestic and sexual violence.

ARTICLE 19. Pursuant to New Hampshire RSA 72:62 Solar Exemption:

1) Shall we adopt the provisions of RSA 72:62 for an exemption for property tax purposes from the assessed value of real property equipped with a solar energy system, for the purpose of providing electricity, which exemption shall be in an amount of: A) 100% of cost less applicable Federal tax credit, and local rebates, or B) \$9.00 times the total watts of rated power capability less concomitant applicable Federal tax credit and local rebates, whichever is less.

2) Shall we adopt the provision of RSA 72:62 for an exemption for property tax for the purposes from the assessed value of real property equipped with a solar energy system, for the purpose of heating water, which exemption shall be in an amount of: A) 100% of cost less applicable Federal tax credit, and local rebates, or B) \$200 times the total system energy collecting capability in Thousands of Btu per day, (SRCC, Category D, Clear Day) less concomitant applicable Federal tax credit and local rebates, whichever is less.

ARTICLE 20. Pursuant to New Hampshire RSA 72:70 Wood Heating Exemption:
Shall we adopt the provisions of RSA 72:70 for an exemption for property tax purposes from the assessed value of real property equipped with a wood-heating energy system which exemption shall be in an amount of 100%, provided that if it is an outdoor wood-fired hydronic heater (OWHH), it was either purchased after 8/10/2008, or if purchased prior to that date meets requirements of the New Hampshire HB 1405.

ARTICLE 21. To see if the Town will vote to modify the elderly exemptions from property tax in the Town of Franconia based on assessed value, for qualified taxpayers, to be as follows: for a person 65 years up to 75 years, \$15,000; for a person 75 years up to 80 years, \$20,000, for 80 years and older \$25,000. To qualify, the person must have been a New Hampshire resident for at least 3 consecutive years preceding April 1st, 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. In addition, the taxpayer must have a net income of not more than \$25,000 or, if married, a combined net income of less than \$37,500; and own assets not in excess of \$40,000 excluding the value of the person's residence. This article shall take effect for the 2009 tax year. (Majority vote required)

ARTICLE 22. To hear the reports of agents, auditors, and committees, or other officers heretofore chosen and pass any vote relative thereto.

ARTICLE 23. To transact any other business that may legally come before the meeting.

Richard McLeod
Carleen Quinn
Board of Selectmen

BUDGET OF THE TOWN OF FRANCONIA – REVENUE

SOURCES OF REVENUE	Estimated 2008	Actual 2008	Estimated 2009
TAXES:			
3120 Land Use Change Taxes	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 10,000.00
3185 Yield Taxes	2,000.00	2,013.00	3,000.00
3186 Payment in Lieu of Taxes	37,598.00	59,671.00	37,000.00
3190 Interest & Penalties	10,000.00	12,645.00	10,000.00
LICENSES, PERMITS, & FEES:			
3210 Business Permits	250.00	250.00	250.00
3220 Motor Vehicles	197,000.00	206,435.00	200,000.00
3230 Building Permits	4,000.00	5,385.00	2,500.00
3290 Other Fees – Town Clerk	5,000.00	5,662.00	4,000.00
3311 Federal Government (FEMA)	4,243.00	4,243.00	0.00
FROM STATE:			
3351 Shared Revenues	7,075.00	17,693.00	0.00
3352 Meals & Rooms Tax	45,963.00	45,963.00	0.00
3353 Highway Block Grant	44,714.00	44,560.00	46,526.00
FROM OTHER GOVERNMENTS			
3379 Town of Easton	23,501.00	25,298.00	34,812.00
3379 Town of Sugar Hill	59,098.00	60,659.00	83,321.00
CHARGES FOR SERVICES:			
3401 Income from Departments	36,000.00	62,951.00	41,000.00
3409 PAYT Fees, etc.	143,516.00	140,378.00	123,500.00
3409 Recreation Enrollment Fees	24,060.00	25,309.00	24,460.00
MISCELLANEOUS REVENUES:			
3501 Sale of Municipal Property	21,400.00	21,400.00	19,000.00
3502 Interest on Investments	15,000.00	15,430.00	10,000.00
INTERFUND OPERATING TRANSFERS IN:			
3912 Transfer Station Spec. Rev. Fund	5,000.00	0.00	0.00
3914 Water Dept	250,000.00	250,000.00	0.00
3915 Capital Reserve Funds	249,600.00	272,218.00	241,000.00
3916 Trust Funds (Cemetery)	2,000.00	2,000.00	2,000.00
3917 Expendable Trust Funds	0.00	62,425.00	0.00
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES			
3934 Long Term Borrowing	0.00	0.00	3,751,000.00
Fund Balance (Surplus)	<u>155,000.00</u>	<u>155,000.00</u>	<u>81,600.00</u>
TOTAL REVENUES	\$1,352,018.00	\$1,498,088.00	\$4,724,969.00

BUDGET OF THE TOWN OF FRANCONIA – EXPENDITURES

PURPOSE OF APPROPRIATION	Approp. 2008	Actual 2008	Estimated 2009
GENERAL GOVERNMENT:			
4130 Executive	\$ 104,115.00	\$ 100,082.00	\$98,640.00
4140 Election, Reg. & Vital Stats.	30,555.00	28,193.00	28,271.00
4150 Financial Administration	46,621.00	49,120.00	50,514.00
4152 Revaluation of Property	15,000.00	14,840.00	15,000.00
4153 Legal Expense	3,000.00	2,062.00	3,000.00
4191 Planning & Zoning	10,375.00	8,244.00	6,775.00
4194 General Gov't. Buildings	84,609.00	79,545.00	86,246.00
4195 Cemeteries	12,748.00	12,808.00	15,347.00
4196 Insurance	7,500.00	7,483.00	7,500.00
4197 Advertising & Regional Assoc.	12,530.00	12,530.00	12,530.00
PUBLIC SAFETY:			
4210 Police	292,540.00	289,520.00	275,874.00
4220 Fire	84,000.00	79,421.00	85,989.00
4221 Life Squad	51,400.00	51,722.00	50,910.00
4290 Forest Fire	4,215.00	3,437.00	3,565.00
4299 Dispatch Phone Line	29,937.00	29,803.00	27,130.00
HIGHWAYS & STREETS:			
4312 Highway Department	352,231.00	362,813.00	345,188.00
4316 Utilities	16,400.00	17,342.00	17,500.00
HEALTH:			
4415 Health Officer & Agencies	9,403.00	9,128.00	7,828.00
WELFARE:			
4442 Direct Assistance & CAP	8,400.00	9,793.00	10,025.00
CULTURE & RECREATION:			
4520 Recreation	86,285.00	84,651.00	99,451.00
4521 Parks	12,147.00	12,286.00	16,601.00
4583 Patriotic Purposes	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00
4589 Museums	300.00	269.00	300.00
CONSERVATION			
4619 General Expenses	1,500.00	950.00	1,000.00
DEBT SERVICE:			
4723 Interest on TANS	4,000.00	662.00	1,500.00
CAPITAL OUTLAY:			
4902 Vehicles & Equipment			
FY 2008			
Article 7: Police Cruiser	29,000.00	28,590.00	0.00
Article 8: Life Squad Van	135,000.00	133,650.00	0.00
Article 9: Fire Truck Refurbish	135,000.00	135,000.00	0.00
FY 2009			
Article 7: Highway Truck	0.00	0.00	94,000.00
Article 8: Fire Equipment Truck	0.00	0.00	140,000.00
4903 Buildings			
FY2008			

Article 12: Maintenance Building	70,000.00	0.00	78,000.00
4909 Other Improvements			
ETF: Highway Improvement	0.00	69,788.00	0.00
EFT: Library Maintenance	0.00	1,000.00	0.00
EFT: Museum Maintenance	0.00	1,218.00	0.00
EFT: Rink Maintenance	0.00	5,000.00	0.00
4912 SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS			
Transfer Station/Recycling Center	260,208.00	241,436.00	287,252.00
Library	71,245.00	71,245.00	75,116.00
SPECIAL WARRANT ARTICLES:			
CRF: Life Squad Van	0.00	0.00	11,500.00
CRF: Highway Trucks	41,000.00	41,100.00	46,600.00
CRF: Police Cruiser	7,250.00	7,250.00	16,050.00
CRF: Town Buildings Vehicle	4,400.00	4,400.00	2,200.00
CRF: Fire Truck (Pumper)	0.00	0.00	12,500.00
CRF: Fire Truck (Equipment)	37,000.00	37,000.00	49,000.00
CRF: Fire Truck (Tanker)	5,000.00	5,000.00	10,000.00
CRF: Reassessment	8,000.00	8,000.00	8,000.00
CRF: Legal	20,000.00	20,000.00	24,000.00
CRF: Buildings & Grounds Equipment	7,100.00	7,100.00	7,100.00
CRF: Highway Heavy Equipment	19,600.00	19,600.00	9,600.00
CRF: Transfer Station Equipment	17,500.00	17,500.00	3,000.00
CRF: Dow Fund	1,500.00	1,500.00	1,500.00
ETF: Sidewalks	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00
ETF: Highway Improvement	50,000.00	50,000.00	60,000.00
ETF: Franconia Heritage Museum	12,000.00	12,000.00	7,500.00
EFT: Library Maintenance	3,800.00	3,800.00	3,800.00
EFT: Rink Maintenance	2,000.00	2,000.00	2,000.00
INDIVIDUAL WARRANT ARTICLES (Recommended):			
Article 2: Water Project	0.00	0.00	3,751,000.00
Article 10: Water Meters	250,000.00	250,000.00	0.00
Article 11: Water System Engineering	99,000.00	87,400.00	11,600.00
Article 15: Harvard Street Trees	0.00	0.00	7,800.00
Article 16: Franconia Children's Center	2,000.00	2,000.00	2,000.00
Article 17: Center for New Beginnings	0.00	0.00	500.00
Article 18: Burch House	0.00	0.00	520.00
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$2,569,414.00	\$2,531,281.00	\$5,990,822.00

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF APPROPRIATIONS AND

	Appropriations	Receipts & Reimbursements
Executive	\$104,115.00	\$ 1,941.00
Election, Registration, & Vital Statistics	30,555.00	742.00
Financial Administration	46,621.00	43.00
Revaluation of Property	15,000.00	0.00
Legal Expenses	3,000.00	24,000.00
Planning & Zoning	10,375.00	3,541.00
General Government Buildings	84,609.00	80.00
Cemeteries	12,748.00	1,900.00
Insurance	7,500.00	571.00
Advertising & Regional Associations	12,530.00	0.00
Police	292,540.00	1,479.00
Fire	84,000.00	196.00
Life Squad	51,400.00	11,678.00
Forest Fire	4,215.00	340.00
Dispatch Phone Lines	29,937.00	(67.00)
Highway Department	352,231.00	6,388.00
Utilities	16,400.00	0.00
Health Officer & Agencies	9,403.00	0.00
Welfare	68,400.00	25.00
Recreation	86,285.00	1,249.00
Parks	12,147.00	0.00
Patriotic Purposes	1,000.00	0.00
Museums	300.00	0.00
Conservation	1,500.00	0.00
Interest	4,000.00	430.00
TOTALS	\$ 1,280,811.00	\$54,547.00

EXPENDITURES, Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 2008

Total Amount Available	Expenditures	Unexpended Balances	Overdrafts
\$106,056.00	\$ 100,082.00	\$ 3,702.00	\$ 0.00
31,297.00	28,193.00	1,691.00	0.00
46,664.00	49,120.00	0.00	2,456.00
15,000.00	14,840.00	0.00	0.00
27,000.00	26,409.00	591.00	0.00
13,916.00	8,244.00	5,672.00	0.00
84,689.00	79,545.00	5,144.00	0.00
14,648.00	12,808.00	1,840.00	0.00
8,071.00	7,483.00	588.00	0.00
12,530.00	12,530.00	0.00	0.00
294,019.00	289,520.00	4,499.00	0.00
84,196.00	79,421.00	4,775.00	0.00
63,078.00	51,722.00	11,356.00	0.00
4,555.00	3,437.00	1,118.00	0.00
29,870.00	29,803.00	67.00	0.00
358,619.00	362,813.00	0.00	4,194.00
16,400.00	17,342.00	0.00	942.00
9,403.00	9,128.00	275.00	0.00
8,425.00	9,793.00	0.00	1,368.00
87,534.00	84,651.00	2,883.00	0.00
12,147.00	12,286.00	0.00	139.00
1,000.00	1,000.00	0.00	0.00
300.00	269.00	31.00	0.00
1,500.00	950.00	550.00	0.00
<u>4,430.00</u>	<u>662.00</u>	<u>3,768.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>
\$1,335,347.00	\$1,292,051.00	\$52,395.00	\$9,099.00

NOTES