



2025
WARRANT

Franconia

The inhabitants of the Town of Franconia in the County of Grafton in the state of New Hampshire qualified to vote in Town affairs are hereby notified that the Annual Town Meeting will be held as follows:

Date: March 11, 2025
Time: Polls Open for Voting – 1:00PM to 7:00PM; Town Meeting begins at 7:00PM
Location: Lafayette Regional School

GOVERNING BODY CERTIFICATION

We certify and attest that on or before February 24, 2025, a true and attested copy of this document was posted at the place of meeting and at Franconia Town Hall and that an original was delivered to the Franconia Town Clerk.

Name	Position	Signature
Jill Brewer	Selectboard	
Eric L. Meth	Selectboard	
DANIEL WALVER	SELECTBOARD	



Article 01 Choose Town Officers

To Choose all necessary Town Officers for the ensuing year. (By Ballot)

Article 02 Zoning Ordinance Amendment

Are you in favor of the adoption of the following proposal by the Planning Board for the Town of Franconia Zoning Ordinance:

The Planning Board proposes to repeal the existing Zoning Ordinance, Wireless Telecommunications Facility Ordinance, and Solar Ordinance and replace the three documents with a single unified Zoning Ordinance document revised to update references to state laws and agencies; make minor editorial corrections; clarify language; add elements in accordance with state laws and court decisions; recodify and reorganize the Ordinance to have all of the Permitted uses and uses allowed by Special Exception in one table rather than scattered throughout the Ordinance, and would also include the following changes:

- Add definitions for the following terms used in the Ordinance: Accessory building or use; Building coverage; Campground; Conditional Use Permit; Dwelling unit; Frontage; Gross Floor Area; Hotel, Motel or Inn; Kindred Group; Light Industry; Lot Coverage; Setback; Short Term Rental; Small Wind Energy System; Special Use Permit; Structure; Transient; and Wetland; and would revise definitions for Bed and Breakfast, Manufactured Housing, and One-Family, Two-Family and Multi-Family Residential Structure.
- Make the following changes to uses: add Short-Term Rental as a Permitted use in all districts, with a permit required; add Campground as a use allowed by Special Exception in all districts; removed undefined use Guest House; change Excavations from Permitted in all districts to Special Exception; and change "Other Business Use" from Permitted in Business A and B to Special Exception.
- Add exemptions to the 35-foot height limit for accessory uses such as antennas, telecommunications towers, flagpoles, chimneys, and small wind energy systems.
- Add provisions regarding Expansion of Nonconforming Use, Change of Nonconforming Use, and Expansion of Nonconforming Building; and add additional criteria for building on Nonconforming Lots.
- Remove minimum square footage requirements for dwelling units.
- Prohibit landfills and junkyards.
- Require campers, which are currently allowed to be occupied up to 6 months annually, to be in compliance with applicable codes.
- Add wellhead protection areas to the Aquifer Protection Overlay District, and change the uses allowed by Special Exception from the Zoning Board of Adjustment to be Conditional Uses approved by the Planning Board.
- Change the Wetland Conservation District from all poorly and very poorly drained soils on development requiring Planning Board approval to only those wetlands 20,000 square feet and larger but applicable to any development; change the uses allowed by Special Exception from the Zoning Board of Adjustment to Conditional Uses approved by the Planning Board; add application requirements and performance standards; and remove language regarding septic system setbacks.
- Add criteria for Special Exceptions.
- Replace the existing Wireless Telecommunications Facility Ordinance adopted in 2001 with an up-to-date version.
- Amend the Solar Ordinance by adding ground-mounted solar collection systems for nonresidential use as a Permitted use in all districts, with language regarding mitigation of glare and the requirement for Site Plan Approval by the Planning Board.



2025 WARRANT

Article 03 Town Line Item Budget

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate two million two hundred nine thousand seven hundred fifty-five dollars (\$2,209,755) to defray town charges for the ensuing year. The Selectmen recommend this appropriation. (Majority vote required). Tax impact of \$3.72 per thousand

Department	
4130 Executive	\$216,316
4140 Town Clerk	\$53,508
4150 Tax Collector	\$21,059
4152 Revaluation of Property	\$29,372
4153 Legal	\$6,000
4155 Personnel Administration	\$297,044
4191 Planning & Zoning	\$7,050
4195 Cemetery	\$24,015
4196 Insurance	\$72,463
4210 Police	\$487,352
4220 Fire	\$147,020
4240 Building Inspection	\$21,000
4290 Emergency Management	\$4,000
4299 Other Communications	\$43,000
4312 Highway	\$431,870
4316 Street Lights	\$10,000
4411 Health Administration	\$1,045
4442 Welfare	\$6,140
4583 Patriotic Purposes	\$11,500
4619 Conservation	\$1,500
Long Term Debt	\$149,000
Total	\$2,209,755

Article 04 Appropriate to Capital Reserve Funds

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of three hundred thirteen thousand six hundred eleven dollars (\$313,611.00) to be added to the following Capital Reserve Funds previously established. The Selectmen recommend this appropriation. (Majority vote required). Tax impact of \$0.73 per thousand

Police Cruiser, \$14,726; Highway Department Trucks, \$116,169; Highway Heavy Equipment, \$44,083; Bridge Construction, \$40,000; Town Buildings & Grounds Equipment, \$13,299; Town Building Vehicle, \$19,136; Fire Heavy Equipment \$54,106; Transfer Station, \$7,500; Frost Place, \$3,000, Dow Field, \$1,592.



Article 05 Appropriate to Expendable Trust Funds

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of one hundred seventy-two thousand nine hundred eighty-three dollars. (\$172,983.00) to be added to the following Expendable Trust Funds previously established. The Selectmen recommend this appropriation. (Majority vote required). Tax Impact of \$0.40 per thousand.

Sidewalk Improvement Fund, \$21,000; Highway Improvement Fund, \$75,000; Town Building Maintenance Fund, \$30,000; Fire Department Safety Equipment, \$38,240; Library Building Maintenance Fund, \$5,743; Franconia Heritage Museum Maintenance Fund, \$3,000.

Article 06 Tri-Town Transfer Station

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of three hundred eighty-eight thousand five hundred eighty-nine dollars (\$388,589) for the purpose of solid waste disposal, with \$42,748 from the Town of Sugar Hill, \$18,703 from the Town of Easton, \$200,000 PAYT Fees, \$40,000 Special Handling Fees, \$15,000 Recycled Material and to raise \$72,138 from taxation. The Selectmen recommend this appropriation. (Majority vote required). Tax impact \$0.17 per thousand.

Article 07 Tri-Town Recreation Department

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of one hundred thirty-five thousand five hundred eighteen dollars (\$135,518) for the purpose of providing recreation services to residents of the tri-town area, with \$29,456 from the Town of Sugar Hill, \$19,003 from the Town of Easton, \$40,500 from Recreation Program income and to raise \$46,559 from taxation. The Selectmen recommend this appropriation. (Majority vote required). Tax impact \$0.11 per thousand.

Article 08 Abbie Greenleaf Library

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of ninety-six thousand five hundred dollars (\$96,500) 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. The Selectmen recommend this appropriation. (Majority vote required). Tax impact \$0.22 per thousand.

Article 09 Water Department Operating Budget

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of six hundred fifty-nine thousand four hundred seventy-eight dollars (\$659,478) for the operation of the Water Department. This amount to be funded by water rents and revenues with no amount from taxation. Recommended by the Water Department Commissioners (Majority vote required)



Article 10 Contract for Ambulance Service

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of five hundred seventy thousand forty-nine dollars (\$570,049) for the purpose of securing ambulance service for the town of Franconia through Dec 31, 2025. This amount is reflective of continuing the contract in place with the Town of Littleton. The Selectmen recommend this appropriation. (Majority vote required) Tax Impact \$1.32 per thousand.

Article 11 Vibratory Roller - Hwy Dept Purchase

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of twenty-three thousand dollars (\$23,000) for the purpose of purchasing a vibratory roller for the Highway Department and to authorize the withdrawal of an amount of \$23,000 from the Unassigned Fund Balance. No amount to be raised by taxation. The Selectmen recommend this appropriation. (Majority vote required).

Article 12 Drainage Improvement - Tri-Town Transfer Station

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000) for the labor and supplies needed to address a drainage issue at the Tri Town Transfer station, with \$7,250 coming from Sugar Hill and \$3,500 from Easton and with the remainder of \$14,250 to be raised through general taxation. (Majority vote required). Tax impact \$.03 per thousand.

Article 13 Police Cruiser Purchase

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of eighty thousand dollars (\$80,000) for the purpose of purchasing a police cruiser and to authorize the withdrawal of \$80,000 from the Unassigned Fund Balance. No amount to be raised by taxation. The Selectmen recommend this appropriation. (Majority vote required).

Article 14 Revaluation

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of five thousand dollars (\$5,000) to be added to the Reassessment Capital Reserve Fund (CRF) previously established. This CRF is for the required five-year town-wide revaluation. The Selectmen recommend this appropriation. (Majority vote required). Tax impact \$0.01 per thousand.

Article 15 Franconia Notch Regional Chamber of Commerce

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the amount of sixteen thousand dollars (\$16,000) for the support of Franconia Notch Regional Chamber of Commerce. (Majority vote required). The Selectmen recommend an appropriation of \$12,000 but do not recommend an appropriation of \$16,000. Tax Impact of \$0.04 per thousand.



Article 16 Non-Profits

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the amount of twenty-four thousand one hundred fifty-eight dollars (\$24,158) for the support of the following agencies. (Majority vote required). Tax impact \$0.06 per thousand.

Non-Profit	
American Red Cross	\$600
Ammonoosuc Community Health Services, Inc.	\$5,800
Boys & Girls Club of the North Country	\$2,500
Center for New Beginnings	\$1,000
Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) of NH	\$500
Franconia Children's Center	\$2,000
Good Neighbors Food Bank	\$2,000
Grafton County Senior Citizens Council Inc	\$2,750
North Country Home Health & Hospice Agency	\$3,200
Northern Human Services	\$1,292
Pemigewasset River Local Advisory Committee	\$350
Tri-County Community Action Program Inc.	\$2,166
Total	\$24,158

Article 17 Discontinue the Life Squad Van Capital Reserve Fund (CRF)

To see if the town will vote to discontinue the Life Squad Van Capital Reserve Fund created in 2001. Said funds and accumulated interest to date of withdrawal are to be transferred to the Town's general fund. (Majority vote required). Recommended by the Selectmen.

Article 18 Transfer Life Squad Van CRF Funds to Fire Heavy Equipment CRF

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate Two Hundred Eighty Thousand Forty-Eight Dollars (\$280,048) to be added to the Fire Heavy Equipment Capital Reserve Fund previously established. Said funds to come from the Unassigned Fund Balance. This represents funds from the discontinuation of Life Squad Van CRF with no amount to be raised from taxation. Recommended by the Selectmen. (Majority vote required). This article is contingent on the passage of Article 17.

Article 19 Discontinue the Life Squad Equipment Capital Reserve Fund (CRF)

To see if the town will vote to discontinue the Life Squad Equipment Capital Reserve Fund created in 2013. Said funds and accumulated interest to date of withdrawal are to be transferred to the Town's general fund. (Majority vote required). Recommended by the Selectmen.



Article 20 Transfer Life Squad Equipment CRF Funds to Fire Dept Safety ETF

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$65,925 to be added to the Fire Department Safety Equipment Expendable Trust Fund previously established. Said funds to come from the Unassigned Fund Balance. This represents funds from the discontinuation of Life Squad Equipment CRF with no amount to be raised from taxation. Recommended by the Selectmen. (Majority vote required). This article is contingent on the passage of Article 19.

Article 21 Proceeds From Sale of Town Equipment

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of seven thousand four hundred dollars (\$7,400) to the following two accounts. Recreation Van CRF - \$4,100 - from the sale of the previous van; Town Buildings & Grounds Equipment CRF- \$3,300- from the sale of a Graveley tractor. This sum to come from the Unassigned Fund Balance. No amount to be raised by taxation. The Selectmen recommend this appropriation. (Majority vote required).

Article 22 Transfer Funds to Town Building Maintenance ETF

To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of four thousand dollars (\$4,000) to be added to the Town Building Maintenance Expendable Trust Fund previously established. This sum to come from the unassigned fund balance. These funds represent rent received from the Chamber of Commerce in 2024. No amount to be raised from taxation. Recommended by the Selectmen. (Majority vote required)

Article 23 Add to Energy Capital Reserve Fund (CRF)

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of three thousand seventy-two dollars (\$3,072) to be added to the Energy Capital Reserve Fund previously established. These funds represent money received from NH Solar as credit for installation of solar panels at town hall and shall come from the Unassigned Fund Balance. No amount to be raised by taxation. . The Selectmen recommend this appropriation (Majority vote required)

Article 24 Add to Rink Surface Maintenance Fund

To see if the Town will vote to transfer and appropriate the sum of two thousand, one hundred twenty-two dollars (\$2,122) from the Recreation Department line-item budget to the Rink Surface Maintenance Expendable Trust Fund previously established. The Selectmen recommend this appropriation (Majority vote required)

Article 25 Add to the Recreation Van Fund

To see if the Town will vote to transfer and appropriate the sum of five thousand three hundred six dollars (\$5,306) from the Recreation Department line-item budget to the Recreation Van Capital Reserve Fund previously established. The Selectmen recommend this appropriation (Majority vote required)



Article 26 Lafayette Recreation ETF - Change Purpose

To see if the Town will vote to expand the purpose of the existing Lafayette Recreation Expendable Trust Fund (ETF) established under RSA 31:19-a in 2017 from its current purpose of "enhancing the Lafayette Recreation programs, events and activities" to: supporting recreational programs and events; providing financial assistance to participants in such programs; maintaining, repairing, replacing and improving (both capital and non-capital improvements) facilities and grounds used by the Recreation Department; and purchasing new equipment and vehicles to support recreational activities and programs. Further, to name the selectmen as agents to expend from said fund. The selectmen approve this change in purpose. (2/3 majority vote required)

Article 27 To Hear reports

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

Article 28 Transact any other business

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



Proposed Budget
Franconia

For the period beginning January 1, 2025 and ending December 31, 2025
Form Due Date: 20 Days after the Annual Meeting

This form was posted with the warrant on: FEBRUARY 24, 2025

GOVERNING BODY CERTIFICATION

Under penalties of perjury, I declare that I have examined the information contained in this form and to the best of my belief it is true, correct and complete.

Name	Position	Signature
Jill Brewer	Selectboard	
ERIC L. Meth	Selectboard	
DANIEL WALUSZ	SELECT BOARD	

This form must be signed, scanned, and uploaded to the Municipal Tax Rate Setting Portal:
<https://www.proptax.org/>

For assistance please contact:
NH DRA Municipal and Property Division
(603) 230-5090
<https://www.revenue.nh.gov/about-dra/municipal-and-property-division/municipal-bureau>