

Town Meeting Guide



2016 Town Warrant

2016-17 Proposed Budget

Town of Merrimack, NH

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**2016 Town Warrant
Town of Merrimack**

6 Baboosic Lake Road, Merrimack, New Hampshire 03054

The State of New Hampshire

To the inhabitants of the Town of Merrimack in the County of Hillsborough in said state, qualified to vote in town affairs:

You are hereby notified that the First Session (*Deliberative*) of the Annual Meeting of the Town of Merrimack will be held at the Masticola Upper Elementary School's All-Purpose Room on Baboosic Lake Road in said Merrimack on Thursday, March 10, 2016, at 7:00 o'clock in the evening (pm) for explanation, discussion, and debate of each Warrant Article. Warrant Articles may be amended at this session per RSA 40:13, IV.

You are hereby notified that the Second Session (*Ballot Voting*) of the Annual Meeting of the Town of Merrimack will be held on Tuesday, April 12, 2016, at 7:00 o'clock in the forenoon (am) for the choice of town officers elected by official ballot, to vote on questions required by law to be inserted on the Official Ballot, and to vote on all Warrant Articles from the First Session on Official Ballot per RSA 40:13, VII. The polling place for the election of town officers, and other actions required to be inserted on the ballot, will open on said date at 7:00 o'clock in the forenoon (am) and will not close earlier than 7:00 o'clock in the evening (pm).

The aforementioned polling place will be as follows:

James Masticola Upper Elementary School All-Purpose Room, 26 Baboosic Lake Road

Article 1

To choose all necessary town officers for the ensuing year.

Article 2

Shall the Town 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 \$34,273,625 Should this article be defeated, the default budget shall be \$29,384,969, which is the same as last year, with certain adjustments required by previous action of the Town or by law; or the Town Council may hold one (1) special meeting, in accordance with RSA 40:13, X and XVI, to take up the issue of a revised operating budget only. (Recommended by the Town Council 5-0-0)

Article 3

Shall the Town of Merrimack vote to approve the cost items included in a collective bargaining agreement reached between the Merrimack Town Council and the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees 93, Local 3657, which calls for the following increases in salaries and benefits at the current staffing levels:

Fiscal Year	Wage Increase	Benefit Costs	Fiscal Impact
2016-17	\$91,516	(43,620)	\$47,896
2017-18	\$46,897	87	\$46,984
2018-19	\$48,328	168	\$48,496

and further to raise and appropriate the sum of \$47,896, such sum representing the anticipated increase in salaries and benefits over those of the appropriation at current staffing levels paid in the prior fiscal year? The passage of this article will result in employees covered by the collective bargaining agreement changing their health care to \$20 office visit \$10/\$25/\$40 pharmacy co-pay \$10/\$40/\$70 Mail-in and \$1,000/\$3,000 Deductible plan. These savings have been factored into the estimated fiscal impact set forth above. This collective bargaining agreement covers supervisory employees of the Fire and Police Departments. (Recommended by the Town Council 4-1-0)

Article 4

Shall the Town of Merrimack vote to approve the cost items included in a collective bargaining agreement reached between the Merrimack Town Council and the New England Police Benevolent Association, Local 112, which calls for the following increases in salaries and benefits at the current staffing levels:

Fiscal Year	Wage Increase	Benefit Costs	Fiscal Impact
2016-17	\$15,630	(18,816)	(\$ 3,186)
2017-18	\$15,779	0	\$15,779
2018-19	\$16,282	0	\$16,282

and further to raise and appropriate the sum of \$0, such sum representing the anticipated increase in salaries and benefits over those of the appropriation at current staffing levels paid in the prior fiscal year? The passage of this article will result in employees covered by the collective bargaining agreement changing their health care to \$20 office visit \$10/\$20/\$45 pharmacy co-pay \$1,000/\$3,000 Deductible plan. These savings have been factored into the estimated fiscal impact set forth above. This collective bargaining agreement covers Dispatchers and Office Staff of the Police Department. (Recommended by the Town Council 5-0-0)

Article 5

Shall the Town of Merrimack vote to approve the cost items included in a collective bargaining agreement reached between the Merrimack Town Council and the Teamsters, Local 633, which calls for the following increases in salaries and benefits at the current staffing levels:

Fiscal Year	Wage Increase	Benefit Costs	Fiscal Impact
2016-17	\$22,461	(18,683)	\$ 3,778
2017-18	\$23,137	0	\$23,137
2018-19	\$23,864	0	\$23,864

and further to raise and appropriate the sum of \$3,778, such sum representing the anticipated increase in salaries and benefits over those of the appropriation at current staffing levels paid in the prior fiscal year? The passage of this article will result in employees covered by the collective bargaining agreement changing their health care to \$20 office visit \$10/\$20/\$45 pharmacy co-pay \$1,000/\$3,000 Deductible plan. These savings have been factored into the estimated fiscal impact set forth above. This collective bargaining agreement covers supervisory and clerical employees of the Highway, Solid Waste Disposal, Wastewater Treatment, and Equipment Maintenance Divisions of the Public Works Department. (Recommended by the Town Council 4-1-0)

Article 6

Shall the Town of Merrimack vote to approve the cost items included in a collective bargaining agreement reached between the Merrimack Town Council and the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees 93, Local 2986, which calls for the following increases in salaries and benefits at the current staffing levels:

Fiscal Year	Wage Increase	Benefit Costs	Fiscal Impact
2016-17	\$60,042	(\$48,576)	\$11,466
2017-18	\$84,706	(\$51,004)	\$33,702
2018-19	\$86,808	0	\$86,808

and further to raise and appropriate the sum of \$11,466, such sum representing the anticipated increase in salaries and benefits over those of the appropriation at current staffing levels paid in the prior fiscal year? The passage of this article will result in employees covered by the collective bargaining agreement changing their health care to \$20 office visit \$10/\$20/\$45 pharmacy co-pay \$1,000/\$3,000 Deductible plan on January 1, 2017. These savings have been factored into the estimated fiscal impact set forth above. This collective bargaining agreement covers the labors of the Public Works Department to include Highway, Waste Water, Solid Waste, and Equipment Maintenance Divisions. (Recommended by the Town Council 4-1-0)

Article 7

Shall the Town of Merrimack vote to approve the cost items included in a collective bargaining agreement reached between the Merrimack Town Council and the IAFF, Local 2904, which calls for the following increases in salaries and benefits at the current staffing levels:

Fiscal Year	Wage Increase	Benefit Costs	Fiscal Impact
2016-17	\$49,928	(\$20,064)	\$29,864
2017-18	\$62,703	(\$21,697)	\$41,006
2018-19	\$69,421	0	\$69,421

and further to raise and appropriate the sum of \$29,864, such sum representing the anticipated increase in salaries and benefits over those of the appropriation at current staffing levels paid in the prior fiscal year? The passage of this article will result in employees covered by the collective bargaining agreement changing their health care to \$20 office visit \$10/\$20/\$45 pharmacy co-pay \$1,000/\$3,000 Deductible plan on January 1, 2017. These savings have been factored into the estimated fiscal impact set forth above. This collective bargaining agreement covers the Firefighters and Paramedics of the Fire Department. (Recommended by the Town Council 4-1-0)

Article 8

Shall the Town of Merrimack approve the charter amendment reprinted below?

PROPOSED AMENDMENT to Charter Article VI

6-2 Elected boards/committees/commissions.

B. Library Trustees. There shall be a board of five Trustees of the Library whose powers and duties are provided by New Hampshire state law. Library Trustees shall be elected at the regular Town election for terms of three years, staggered so that no more than two Trustees are elected at one time. *The Town Council may appoint up to three (3) alternates in accordance with RSA 202-A:10, who may serve when elected members of the board are temporarily unable to attend a board meeting.* Vacancies shall be filled by appointment by the Town Council for the unexpired term.

Article 9

To see if the Town will vote to establish a Recreation Revolving Fund as authorized by RSA 35-B:2, and to designate the Town Manager as agent of the Fund. The money received from fees and charges for recreation services and facilities shall be deposited into the Fund and shall be allowed to accumulate from year to year and shall not be considered part of the Town's general surplus. The Treasurer of the Town of Merrimack shall have control of all monies in the Fund and shall only remit the equal amount upon the direct order by the Director of Parks & Recreation, subject to the approval of the Town Council. These funds may be expended only for the direct costs associated with recreational program offerings or for any indirect costs associated with administering those programs and no expenditure shall be made in such a way as to require the expenditure of other funds that have not been appropriated for that purpose. After creation of such Recreation Revolving Fund, the monies in such fund shall not need further Town approval to be expended.

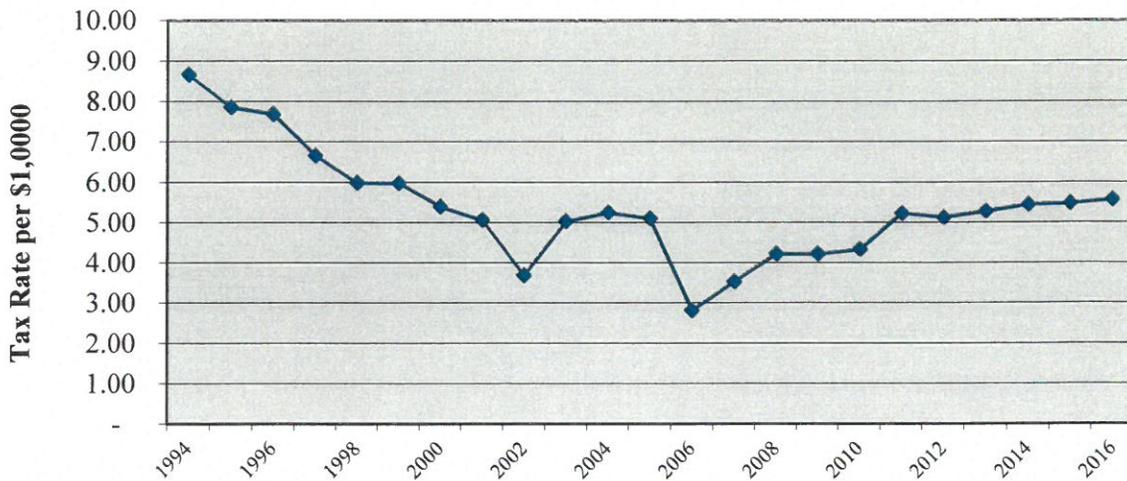
ARTICLE 2

Shall the Town 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 \$34,273,625 Should this article be defeated, the default budget shall be \$29,384,969, which is the same as last year, with certain adjustments required by previous action of the Town or by law; or the Town Council may hold one (1) special meeting, in accordance with RSA 40:13, X and XVI, to take up the issue of a revised operating budget only. (Recommended by the Town Council 5-0-0)

ARTICLE 2

2016 Estimated Tax Rate		
	2016	2015
Appropriations	34,273,625	31,507,148
Estimated revenues	(18,551,843)	(16,270,335)
Tax overlay	375,000	374,415
General Fund surplus:		
Property tax relief	(225,000)	
Veterans exemptions	691,000	691,000
Property tax levy	16,562,782	16,302,228
Valuation for state property tax rate	2,967,701.632	2,967,701.632
Municipal property tax rate	5.58	5.49

Municipal Property Tax Rate



2016-17 Proposed Appropriations						
	Total	CRF	Other Capital/	Road	CRF	TC Operating
	Expend.	Deposits	Building Maint.	Infrastr.	Expend.	Request
GENERAL FUND EXP.						
General Government	\$1,808,268	\$45,000			\$30,000	\$1,733,268
Assessing	\$314,134	\$15,000				\$299,134
Fire	\$5,814,547	\$245,000	\$40,000		\$140,000	\$5,389,547
Police	\$5,746,465		\$111,000			\$5,635,465
Communications	\$912,678	\$182,000				\$730,678
Code Enforcement	\$366,918					\$366,918
DPW Admin.	\$378,561					\$378,561
Highway	\$7,959,608	\$960,000	\$30,500	\$750,000	\$3,708,500	\$2,510,608
Solid Waste Disposal	\$1,383,163	\$65,000				\$1,318,163
Parks & Recreation	\$371,449		\$3,000			\$368,449
Library	\$1,123,678	\$35,000			\$45,000	\$1,043,678
Equipment Maint.	\$433,356					\$433,356
Buildings & Grounds	\$220,889		\$10,000			\$210,889
Community Development	\$661,623	\$65,000			\$135,000	\$461,623
Town Clerk/ Tax Collector	\$489,300					\$489,300
Welfare	\$155,590					\$155,590
Debt Service	\$435,467	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$435,467
GENERAL FUND	\$28,575,694	\$1,612,000	\$194,500	\$750,000	\$4,058,500	\$21,960,694
SELF SUPPORTING FUNDS EXP.						
Fire Protection	\$86,063					\$86,063
Day camp	\$221,429					\$221,429
Day Care	\$0					\$0
Outside Details	\$416,304					\$416,304
Library	\$3,500					\$3,500
Fire Outside Detail	\$7,095					\$7,095
Media	\$277,541		\$45,000			\$232,541
Wastewater	\$3,825,263	\$75,000			\$248,000	\$3,502,263
Wastewater Debt	\$860,736	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$860,736
Subtotal Self Sup. Funds	\$5,697,931	\$75,000	\$45,000	\$0	\$248,000	\$5,329,931
GRAND TOTAL EXP.	\$34,273,625	\$1,687,000	\$239,500	\$750,000	\$4,306,500	\$27,290,625

APPROPRIATIONS				
General Fund	2015-16	2016-17	Increase	Percent Diff.
	Operating	Operating	(Decrease)	
General Government	\$1,681,845	\$1,733,268	\$51,423	3.06%
Assessing	\$294,036	\$299,134	\$5,098	1.73%
Fire	\$5,176,866	\$5,389,547	\$212,681	4.11%
Police	\$5,638,691	\$5,635,465	(\$3,226)	-0.06%
Communications	\$686,999	\$730,678	\$43,679	6.36%
Code Enforcement	\$359,323	\$366,918	\$7,595	2.11%
DPW Admin.	\$371,138	\$378,561	\$7,423	2.00%
Highway	\$2,458,289	\$2,510,608	\$52,319	2.13%
Solid Waste Disposal	\$1,257,547	\$1,318,163	\$60,616	4.82%
Parks & Recreation	\$346,113	\$368,449	\$22,336	6.45%
Library	\$1,004,243	\$1,043,678	\$39,435	3.93%
Equipment Maint.	\$427,447	\$433,356	\$5,909	1.38%
Buildings & Grounds	\$208,249	\$210,889	\$2,640	1.27%
Community Development	\$460,641	\$461,623	\$982	0.21%
Town Clerk/ Tax Collector	\$476,735	\$489,300	\$12,565	2.64%
Welfare	\$155,057	\$155,590	\$533	0.34%
Debt Service	\$449,874	\$435,467	(\$14,407)	-3.20%
Subtotal G/F Operating	\$21,453,093	\$21,960,694	\$507,601	2.37%
CRF Deposits	2015-16	2016-17		
Gen. Govt.-Computers	\$35,000	\$30,000	(\$5,000)	-14.29%
Gen. Govt. - Milfoil	\$15,000	\$15,000	\$0	0.00%
Assessing - Reval.	\$15,000	\$15,000	\$0	0.00%
Fire- Ambulance	\$60,000	\$85,000	\$25,000	41.67%
Fire-Trucks	\$95,000	\$160,000	\$65,000	68.42%
Communications-EQUIPT.	\$146,000	\$182,000	\$36,000	24.66%
DPW EQUIPT.	\$300,000	\$300,000	\$0	0.00%
DPW Roads & Bridges	\$600,000	\$600,000	\$0	0.00%
DPW- DW Highway	\$50,000	\$50,000	\$0	0.00%
Solid Waste- EQUIPT.	\$45,000	\$65,000	\$20,000	44.44%
Traffic Signal Preemption	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$0	0.00%
GIS	\$65,000	\$65,000	\$0	0.00%
Library	\$10,000	\$35,000	\$25,000	250.00%
Subtotal CRF Deposits	\$1,446,000	\$1,612,000	\$166,000	11.48%
Other Capital / Building Maintenance				
Fire Sation 2 Repairs	\$0	\$40,000	\$40,000	100.00%
Parks & recreation	\$40,400	\$3,000	(\$37,400)	-92.57%
Highway Equipment	\$11,000	\$12,000	\$1,000	9.09%
Highway Build Maint.	\$75,000	\$18,500	(\$56,500)	-75.33%
Police- Vehicles	\$106,000	\$111,000	\$5,000	4.72%
Library Bld repairs	\$15,000	\$0	(\$15,000)	-100.00%
Bldg. & Grounds- Repairs	\$9,000	\$10,000	\$1,000	11.11%
Subtotal Other Cap.	\$256,400	\$194,500	(\$61,900)	-24.14%
Road Infrastrucure	\$750,000	\$750,000	\$0	
CRF Expend.*	\$2,722,334	\$4,058,500	\$1,336,166	49.08%
General Fund Totals	\$26,627,827	\$28,575,694	\$1,947,867	7.32%

SUMMARY

	Voted <u>2015-16</u>	Proposed <u>2016-17</u>	\$ Difference	% Difference
Appropriations				
General Fund Operating	\$21,453,093	\$21,960,694	\$507,601	2.37%
Capital Reserve Fund Deposits	\$1,446,000	\$1,612,000	\$166,000	11.48%
Other Capital / Building Maintenance	\$256,400	\$194,500	(\$61,900)	-24.14%
Road Resurfacing Expend	\$750,000	\$750,000	\$0	0.00%
Capital Reserve Fund Expend.	\$2,722,334	\$4,058,500	\$1,336,166	49.08%
Self Supporting Funds Approp.	\$4,879,321	\$5,697,931	\$818,610	16.78%
Subtotal Appropriations	\$31,507,148	\$34,273,625	\$2,766,477	8.78%
Revenues				
General Fund Non - Tax Revenues	(\$8,228,678)	(\$8,880,412)	(\$651,734)	7.92%
General Fund - insurance Rebate	(\$315,000)	(\$15,000)	\$300,000	-95.24%
Motor Vehicle Road Infrastr. Rev.	(\$125,000)	(\$125,000)	\$0	0.00%
Capital Reserve Fund Withdrawals	(\$2,722,334)	(\$4,058,500)	(\$1,336,166)	49.08%
Self Supporting Funds Revenue	(\$4,879,321)	(\$5,697,931)	(\$818,610)	16.78%
Subtotal Revenue	(\$16,270,333)	(\$18,776,843)	(\$2,506,510)	15.41%
Overlay (for abatements)	\$374,415	\$375,000		
Veterans' Credits	691,000	691,000		
To Be Raised By Taxes	\$16,302,230	\$16,562,782	\$260,552	1.60%
Divide by Town Value	2,967,701.632	2,967,701.632	\$0	0.00%
Town Tax Rate	\$5.49	\$5.58	\$0.09	1.60%

2016-17 BUDGET

Dept	Actual 2014-15	Budget 2015-16	Department 2016-17	Town Manager 2016-17	Council 2016-17	Increase (decrease)	
						Amount	%
01 General Government	1,729,885	1,766,845	1,799,100	1,808,268	1,808,268	41,423	2.34
02 Assessing	305,017	309,036	389,532	314,134	314,134	5,098	1.65
03 Fire	5,301,742	5,614,200	6,486,800	5,819,502	5,814,547	200,347	3.57
04 Police	5,408,278	5,744,691	5,901,305	5,799,890	5,746,465	1,774	0.03
05 Communications	754,639	832,999	879,922	912,678	912,678	79,679	9.57
06 Code Enforcement	326,405	359,323	369,107	366,968	366,918	7,645	2.13
07 Public Works Administration	365,252	371,138	379,056	378,756	378,561	7,423	2.00
08 Highway	4,759,371	6,659,289	8,039,728	7,969,733	7,959,608	1,300,319	19.53
09 Solid Waste Disposal	1,395,893	1,302,547	1,460,428	1,387,452	1,383,163	80,616	6.19
13 Parks & Recreation	398,224	386,513	400,192	371,546	371,449	(15,064)	(3.90)
15 Library	1,016,177	1,029,243	1,140,348	1,123,678	1,123,678	94,435	9.18
16 Equipment Maintenance	378,609	427,447	433,950	433,894	433,356	5,909	1.38
17 Buildings & Grounds	205,098	217,249	245,844	226,351	220,889	3,640	1.68
21 Community Development	456,185	525,641	662,904	661,628	661,623	135,982	25.87
24 Town Clerk/Tax Collector	463,023	476,735	489,992	489,300	489,300	12,565	2.64
25 Welfare	143,344	155,057	155,785	155,590	155,590	533	0.34
27 Debt Service	461,397	449,874	435,467	435,467	435,467	(14,407)	(3.20)
Sub Total	23,868,539	26,627,827	29,669,460	28,654,835	28,575,694	1,947,917	7.32
20-04 Outside Detail - Police	449,004	422,133	416,304	416,304	416,304	(5,829)	(1.38)
20-03 Outside Detail - Fire	10,118	7,095	7,095	7,095	7,095	-	-
38-15 Library	49,139	3,500	3,500	3,500	3,500	-	-
20-13 Day Camp After School Care	181,826	174,199	221,429	221,429	221,429	47,230	27.11
Total	24,558,627	27,234,754	30,379,392	29,303,163	29,224,022	1,989,318	7.30
10 Wastewater Treatment	3,237,844	3,557,359	3,896,133	3,838,603	3,825,263	267,904	7.53
27 Debt Service	730,153	361,621	860,736	860,736	860,736	499,115	138.02
Sewer Fund Total	3,967,997	3,918,980	4,756,869	4,699,339	4,685,999	767,019	19.57
32 CATV Fund	219,861	267,351	273,453	277,541	277,541	10,190	3.81
33 Fire Protection Area Fund	82,594	86,063	86,063	86,063	86,063	-	-
Grand Total	28,829,079	31,507,148	35,495,777	34,366,106	34,273,625	2,858,958	9.07
Warrant Articles:							
Teamsters					3,778	-	-
ASCME 3657					47,896	-	-
ASCME 2986					11,466	-	-
NEPBA 112					(3,186)	-	-
IAFF					29,264	-	-
Warrant Article Total					89,218	-	100.00
Total after Warrant Articles	28,829,079	31,507,148	35,495,777	34,366,106	34,362,843	2,858,958	9.07

2016-17 Proposed Capital Reserve Funding
INCLUDED IN MUNICIPAL OPERATING BUDGET

	Actual 2010-11	Actual 2011-12	Actual 2013-14	Actual 2014-15	Budget 2015-16	Balance ** 6/30/2016	Budget 2016-17	Est. Expend 2016-17	Balance ** 6/30/2017
Ambulance	50,000	50,000	12,000	50,000	60,000	29,931	85,000	-	114,931
Athletic Fields	-	-	-	-	-	174,213	-	-	174,213
Communications Equipment	-	-	10,000	25,000	146,000	204,745	182,000	-	386,745
Computer Equipment	5,000	-	35,000	35,000	35,000	24,975	35,000	(30,000)	29,975
Daniel Webster Highway	-	25,000	25,000	50,000	50,000	8,036	50,000	-	58,036
Fire Equipment	100,000	100,000	100,000	75,000	95,000	300,088	160,000	(140,000)	320,088
Highway Equipment	168,000	176,960	300,000	300,000	300,000	83,274	300,000	(295,000)	88,274
Land Bank	-	-	-	-	-	413,512	-	-	413,512
Library Building Maintenance Fund	2,000	2,000	2,000	17,000	10,000	12,891	35,000	(45,000)	2,891
Playground Equipment	-	-	-	-	-	45,228	-	-	45,228
Property Revaluation	-	-	15,000	15,000	15,000	(8,133)	15,000	-	6,867
Road Improvements	-	-	-	-	-	246	-	-	246
Salt Shed	-	-	-	-	-	20,566	-	-	20,566
Sewer Line Extension	-	-	-	-	-	475,108	-	-	475,108
Solid Waste Disposal	40,000	-	75,000	75,000	45,000	131,554	65,000	-	196,554
Fire Station Improvements	-	-	-	-	-	280,272	-	-	280,272
Traffic Signal Pre-emption	-	-	-	-	10,000	10,976	10,000	-	20,976
GIS	-	-	-	10,000	65,000	75,016	65,000	(135,000)	5,016
Road Infrastructure CRF	-	185,000	400,000	400,000	600,000	1,301,333	600,000	(795,500)	1,105,833
Total CRF	365,000	538,960	974,000	1,052,000	1,431,000	3,583,830	1,602,000	(1,440,500)	3,745,330
State Bridge Aid/TAP Grant	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	(2,618,000)	(2,618,000)
Milfoil	-	-	-	25,000	15,000	28,446	10,000	-	38,446
Total GENERAL FUND	365,000	538,960	974,000	1,077,000	1,446,000	3,612,276	1,612,000	(4,058,500)	3,783,776
Sewer Infrastructure Improvements	350,000	225,000	25,000	25,000	75,000	520,476	75,000	(248,000)	347,476
Operating budget	715,000	763,960	999,000	1,102,000	1,521,000	4,132,752	1,687,000	(4,306,500)	4,131,252

* Anticipated Balance as of 7/1/16. Balance could vary due to interest and purchases during the 2015-16 budget

** Estimated balance as of 6/30/17 does not include interest and may vary due to purchases during the 2016-17 budget year

Est. Expend
2016-17

CRF	2016-17 Projects	\$\$
Computer Equipment	Licenses / Computer-server upgrades	
Fire	Pickup (1 ton) Forestry Truck F1	85,000
	Boat Inflatable B2	15,000
	Thermal Imaging Rescue Cameras	40,000
GIS	Upgrade GIS System	
Road Infrastructure	Souhegan River Trail *	586,000
	Bridge replacement - Bedford Road **	2,727,500
	Drainage Improvements	100,000
Highway	6 Wheel dump truck, H-21	170,000
	Sidewalk Tractor H-43	125,000
Library Maintenance	Sidewalk/Parking Lot repairs	
Total General Fund		<u>4,058,500</u>
Wastewater Fund		
Sewer Infrastructure	Manhole/sewer line repair (AB flume and coating)	25,000
	Sewer Maintenance/camera E-350 box van	32,000
	Cross Country Sewer Easement Project	20,000
	3-replacement hypochlorite pumps	13,500
	2-Replacement Make Up air units	90,000
	Replacement Generator and ATS for P. Square pump	50,000
	Replacement centrifugal drain pump and controller	5,500
	Replacement screw for septage wash press	12,000
Total Wastewater Fund		<u>248,000</u>
Grand Total CRF Purchases		<u>4,306,500</u>

* Includes 80% Federal match from Transportation Alternative Program Funds (\$436,000)

** Includes 80% State match from the State Bridge Aid (\$2,182,000)

Default Calculations		
	2015-16	2016-17
	Voted	Default
	Budget	Budget
General Town operations and charges - Article 3	31,507,148	31,507,148
Union Contract Benefit Increases (decreases)		
Health		67,000
One Time Purchases		
One time CRF purchases		(2,907,334)
53Rd week of payroll		225,000
Extra Election		8,447
Debt service:		
2014-15		(811,495)
2015-16	-	1,296,203
Total	31,507,148	29,384,969
Chart 4 2016-17 Default Tax Rate Comparison		
		Est. Default
		<u>2016 Tax Rate</u>
Default Appropriations		29,384,969
Estimated Default Revenues (see below)		(14,470,343)
Tax overlay		375,000
Veterans exemptions		691,000
Property tax levy		15,980,626
Valuation for state property tax rate		2,967,701.632
Default property tax rate		5.38
Proposed Budget tax rate		5.58
Variance		(0.20)
Revenue comparison:		
2016-17 revenue Proposed Budget	(18,776,843)	
Less: Capital revenue		
General Fund	4,058,500	
WWTF	248,000	
		(14,470,343)
Appropriation Comparison		
2016-17 Proposed Budget Comparison	34,273,625	
Less: Capital revenue		
General Fund	(4,058,500)	
WWTF	(248,000)	29,967,125
Default Budget (from above)		29,384,969
Increase in appropriations (default verse proposed budget)		(582,156)
Tax Rate variance Appropriations		(0.20)
Tax Rate variance Revenue		-
Overall tax rate variance		(0.20)

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Article 3

Shall the Town of Merrimack vote to approve the cost items included in a collective bargaining agreement reached between the Merrimack Town Council and the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees 93, Local 3657, which calls for the following increases in salaries and benefits at the current staffing levels:

Fiscal Year	Wage Increase	Benefit Costs	Fiscal Impact
2016-17	\$91,516	(43,620)	\$47,896
2017-18	\$46,897	87	\$46,984
2018-19	\$48,328	168	\$48,496

and further to raise and appropriate the sum of \$47,896, such sum representing the anticipated increase in salaries and benefits over those of the appropriation at current staffing levels paid in the prior fiscal year? The passage of this article will result in employees covered by the collective bargaining agreement changing their health care to \$20 office visit \$10/\$25/\$40 pharmacy co-pay \$10/\$40/\$70 Mail-in and \$1,000/\$3,000 Deductible plan. These savings have been factored into the estimated fiscal impact set forth above. This collective bargaining agreement covers supervisory employees of the Fire and Police Departments. (Recommended by the Town Council 4-1-0)

Article 3

Supervisory employees of the Fire and Police Departments (17)

- A three year agreement: July 1, 2016 – June 30, 2019
- Effective July 3, 2016: a wage adjustment of 3% to remain competitive for retention and recruitment in these job classifications, and a wage increase of 3%.
- Effective July 1, 2016: add Rx mail at \$10/40/70 and deductibles of \$1,000 per member and \$3,000 per family, per year.
- Effective July 2, 2017: wage increase of 3%
- Effective July 1, 2018: wage increase of 3%
- Employee Life Insurance: change from \$10,000 to 1X base yearly wage
- Employee accidental death and dismemberment: change from \$10,000 to 1X base yearly wage.

	Cost	
Wages	\$ 91,516	
Health INS	\$(45,978)	
Life 1X pay	<u>\$ 2,358</u>	
Total Cost YR 1		\$47,896

- Estimate Tax Rate Impact \$.02

Article 4

Shall the Town of Merrimack vote to approve the cost items included in a collective bargaining agreement reached between the Merrimack Town Council and the New England Police Benevolent Association, Local 112, which calls for the following increases in salaries and benefits at the current staffing levels:

Fiscal Year	Wage Increase	Benefit Costs	Fiscal Impact
2016-17	\$15,630	(\$18,816)	(\$ 3,186)
2017-18	\$15,779	0	\$15,779
2018-19	\$16,282	0	\$16,282

and further to raise and appropriate the sum of \$0, such sum representing the anticipated increase in salaries and benefits over those of the appropriation at current staffing levels paid in the prior fiscal year? The passage of this article will result in employees covered by the collective bargaining agreement changing their health care to \$20 office visit \$10/\$20/\$45 pharmacy co-pay \$1,000/\$3,000 Deductible plan. These savings have been factored into the estimated fiscal impact set forth above. This collective bargaining agreement covers Dispatchers and Office Staff of the Police Department. (Recommended by the Town Council 5-0-0)

Article 4

Dispatchers and Office Staff of the Police Department (11)

- A three year agreement: July 1, 2016 – June 30, 2019
- Effective July 3, 2016: wage increase of 3%
- Effective July 1, 2016: change deductibles of \$1,000 per member and \$3,000 per family, per year.
- Effective July 2, 2017: wage increase of 3%
- Effective July 1, 2018: wage increase of 3%
- Adds a total of \$2,000 per year for Tuition Assistance

	Cost	
Wages	\$ 15,630	
Health INS	\$(20,816)	
Tuition Reimbursement	<u>\$ 2,000</u>	
Total Cost YR 1		\$(3,186)

- Estimated Tax Rate Impact \$.00

Article 5

Shall the Town of Merrimack vote to approve the cost items included in a collective bargaining agreement reached between the Merrimack Town Council and the Teamsters, Local 633, which calls for the following increases in salaries and benefits at the current staffing levels:

Fiscal Year	Wage Increase	Benefit Costs	Fiscal Impact
2016-17	\$22,461	(18,683)	\$ 3,778
2017-18	\$23,137	0	\$23,137
2018-19	\$23,864	0	\$23,864

and further to raise and appropriate the sum of \$3,778, such sum representing the anticipated increase in salaries and benefits over those of the appropriation at current staffing levels paid in the prior fiscal year? The passage of this article will result in employees covered by the collective bargaining agreement changing their health care to \$20 office visit \$10/\$20/\$45 pharmacy co-pay \$1,000/\$3,000 Deductible plan. These savings have been factored into the estimated fiscal impact set forth above. This collective bargaining agreement covers supervisory and clerical employees of the Highway, Solid Waste Disposal, Wastewater Treatment, and Equipment Maintenance Divisions of the Public Works Department. (Recommended by the Town Council 4-1-0)

Article 5

Supervisory and clerical employees of the Highway, Solid Waste Disposal, Wastewater Treatment, and Equipment Maintenance Divisions of the Public Works Department (10)

- A three year agreement: July 1, 2016 – June 30, 2019
- Effective July 3, 2016: wage increase of 3%
- Effective July 3, 2016: deductibles of \$1,000 per member and \$3,000 per family, per year.
- Effective July 2, 2017: wage increase of 3%
- Effective July 1, 2018: wage increase of 3%

	Cost	
Wages	\$ 22,461	
Health INS savings	<u>\$(18,683)</u>	
Total Cost YR 1		\$3,778

- Estimated Tax Rate Impact \$.00

Article 6

Shall the Town of Merrimack vote to approve the cost items included in a collective bargaining agreement reached between the Merrimack Town Council and the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees 93, Local 2986, which calls for the following increases in salaries and benefits at the current staffing levels:

Fiscal Year	Wage Increase	Benefit Costs	Fiscal Impact
2016-17	\$60,042	(\$48,576)	\$11,466
2017-18	\$84,706	(\$51,004)	\$33,702
2018-19	\$86,808	0	\$86,808

and further to raise and appropriate the sum of \$11,466, such sum representing the anticipated increase in salaries and benefits over those of the appropriation at current staffing levels paid in the prior fiscal year? The passage of this article will result in employees covered by the collective bargaining agreement changing their health care to \$20 office visit \$10/\$20/\$45 pharmacy co-pay \$1,000/\$3,000 Deductible plan on January 1, 2017. These savings have been factored into the estimated fiscal impact set forth above. This collective bargaining agreement covers the labors of the Public Works Department to include Highway, Waste Water, Solid Waste, and Equipment Maintenance Divisions. (Recommended by the Town Council 4-1-0)

Article 6

Labors of the Public Works Department to include Highway, Waste Water, Solid Waste, and Equipment Maintenance Divisions (40)

- A three year agreement: July 1, 2016 – June 30, 2019
- Effective July 3, 2016: wage increase of 1%
- Effective January 1, 2017: wage increase of 3%
- Effective January 1, 2017: deductibles of \$1,000 per member and \$3,000 per family, per year.
- Effective July 2, 2017: wage increase of 3%
- Effective July 1, 2018: wage increase of 3%
- Increase wing rate from \$1.00 to \$2.00 per hour
- Increase Sat./Sun. Differential from \$.50 to \$.75 per hour
- Meal allowance of \$10.00 for every 14 continuous hours of work during a winter event or emergency

	Cost	
Wages	\$ 41,951	
Steps	\$ 7,824	
Wing Rate	\$ 2,623	
Meal Allowance	\$ 4,393	
Sat/Sunday Differential	\$ 3,251	
Health INS savings	<u>\$(48,576)</u>	
Total Cost YR 1		\$11,466

- Estimated Tax Rate Impact less than \$.01

Article 7

Shall the Town of Merrimack vote to approve the cost items included in a collective bargaining agreement reached between the Merrimack Town Council and the IAFF, Local 2904, which calls for the following increases in salaries and benefits at the current staffing levels:

Fiscal Year	Wage Increase	Benefit Costs	Fiscal Impact
2016-17	\$49,928	(\$20,064)	\$29,864
2017-18	\$62,703	(\$21,697)	\$41,006
2018-19	\$69,421	0	\$69,421

and further to raise and appropriate the sum of \$29,864, such sum representing the anticipated increase in salaries and benefits over those of the appropriation at current staffing levels paid in the prior fiscal year? The passage of this article will result in employees covered by the collective bargaining agreement changing their health care to \$20 office visit \$10/\$20/\$45 pharmacy co-pay \$1,000/\$3,000 Deductible plan on January 1, 2017. These savings have been factored into the estimated fiscal impact set forth above. This collective bargaining agreement covers the Firefighters and Paramedics of the Fire Department.
(Recommended by the Town Council 4-1-0)

Article 7

Firefighters and Paramedics of the Fire Department (24)

- A three year agreement: July 1, 2016 – June 30, 2019
- Effective July 1, 2016: remove paramedic stipend and replace with an initial \$3,500 (\$1.60/hour) added to the base rate of pay for Firefighter/Paramedic and Master Firefighter/Paramedic.
- Effective January 1, 2017: wage increase of 3%
- Effective January 1, 2017: deductibles of \$1,000 per member and \$3,000 per family, per year.
- Effective July 2, 2017: wage increase of 3%
- Effective July 1, 2018: wage increase of 3%
- Effective July 1, 2016: Increase maximum short-term disability insurance weekly benefit from 70% of base up to \$600 per week to 70% of base up to \$700.

	Cost	
Wages	\$ 25,979	
Steps	\$ 4,931	
Paramedic	\$ 19,018	
Health INS	<u>\$(20,664)</u>	
Total Cost YR 1		\$29,264

- Estimated Tax Rate Impact \$.01

Article 8

Shall the Town of Merrimack approve the charter amendment reprinted below?

PROPOSED AMENDMENT to Charter Article VI

6-2 Elected boards/committees/commissions.

B. Library Trustees. There shall be a board of five Trustees of the Library whose powers and duties are provided by New Hampshire state law. Library Trustees shall be elected at the regular Town election for terms of three years, staggered so that no more than two Trustees are elected at one time. *The Town Council may appoint up to three (3) alternates in accordance with RSA 202-A:10, who may serve when elected members of the board are temporarily unable to attend a board meeting.* Vacancies shall be filled by appointment by the Town Council for the unexpired term.

Article 9

To see if the Town will vote to establish a Recreation Revolving Fund as authorized by RSA 35-B:2, and to designate the Town Manager as agent of the Fund. The money received from fees and charges for recreation services and facilities shall be deposited into the Fund and shall be allowed to accumulate from year to year and shall not be considered part of the Town's general surplus. The Treasurer of the Town of Merrimack shall have control of all monies in the Fund and shall only remit the equal amount upon the direct order by the Director of Parks & Recreation, subject to the approval of the Town Council. These funds may be expended only for the direct costs associated with recreational program offerings or for any indirect costs associated with administering those programs, and no expenditure shall be made in such a way as to require the expenditure of other funds that have not been appropriated for that purpose. After creation of such Recreation Revolving Fund, the monies in such fund shall not need further Town approval to be expended.

IMPORTANT TOWN MEETING INFORMATION

Merrimack operates under the Official Ballot Law. If you have any questions, please call the Town Council's Office at 424-2331.

Session I: Deliberative Meeting

This meeting is very important!!! It is not merely a public hearing; it is a session where every money article, and most others, can be amended. For example, a warrant article for \$50,000 can be amended to read \$1 or \$250,000. An article for a town ordinance could have “shall” replaced with “shall not”, thus changing the will of the petitioners. Yes, even petitioned warrant articles can be amended at this session.

It is the results of this meeting that will be on the Official Ballot, not the recommendations of the Town Council.

Town Meeting Deliberative Session:

Thursday, March 10, 2016, 7:00 p.m.
Mastricola Upper Elementary School
All-Purpose Room.

Session II: Ballot Vote

Any voter will be able to vote for all warrant articles, as amended at Session I. Please be aware that, since the entire text of any proposed ordinances will appear on the ballot, the ballot may be quite long. Sample ballots will be available before Session II. Absentee ballots will be available for this session for those who qualify.

If the budget fails, the governing body may call a special meeting to take up the issue of a revised operating budget only (not other warrant articles). This would entail Session I and Session II, just as before. If the operating budget is again defeated, the default budget becomes the official budget for the year.

Town Meeting Voting Session: Tuesday, April 12, 2016

Voting 7:00 a.m. through 7:00 p.m.
Location- Mastricola Upper
Elementary School All-Purpose Room