



**SAMPLE**  
**ABSENTEE**  
**OFFICIAL BALLOT**  
**ANNUAL TOWN ELECTION**  
**MERRIMACK, NEW HAMPSHIRE**  
**APRIL 14, 2020**

BALLOT 1 OF 2

*Diane Juppett*  
TOWN CLERK

**INSTRUCTIONS TO VOTERS**

- A. TO VOTE, completely fill in the OVAL to the RIGHT of your choice(s) like this:
- B. Follow directions as to the number of candidates to be marked for each office.
- C. To vote for a person whose name is not printed on the ballot, write the candidate's name on the line provided and completely fill in the OVAL.

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>TOWN COUNCILOR</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Vote for not 3 years more than two (2)</p> <p><b>BILL BOYD</b> <input type="radio"/></p> <p><b>CHARLES LAFOND</b> <input type="radio"/></p> <p><b>FINLAY ROTHHAUS</b> <input type="radio"/></p> <p><input type="radio"/> (Write-in)</p> <p><input type="radio"/> (Write-in)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>LIBRARY TRUSTEES</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Vote for not 3 years more than two (2)</p> <p><b>KAREN FREED</b> <input type="radio"/></p> <p><b>SOHINI GUPTA</b> <input type="radio"/></p> <p><input type="radio"/> (Write-in)</p> <p><input type="radio"/> (Write-in)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>SUPERVISOR OF THE CHECKLIST</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Vote for not 6 years more than one (1)</p> <p><b>JANE COELHO</b> <input type="radio"/></p> <p><input type="radio"/> (Write-in)</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>ETHICS COMMITTEE MEMBER</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Vote for not 3 years more than two (2)</p> <p><input type="radio"/> (Write-in)</p> <p><input type="radio"/> (Write-in)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>MODERATOR</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Vote for not 2 years more than one (1)</p> <p><b>LYNN CHRISTENSEN</b> <input type="radio"/></p> <p><input type="radio"/> (Write-in)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>TRUSTEE OF THE TRUST FUNDS</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Vote for not 3 years more than one (1)</p> <p><b>JACK BALCOM</b> <input type="radio"/></p> <p><input type="radio"/> (Write-in)</p>

**QUESTIONS**

**Article 2**

Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$9,520,000 (gross budget) for Waste Water Treatment upgrades to the Headworks Building, Primary Clarifier, Secondary Clarifiers as well as ADA improvements and other miscellaneous upgrades to the main plant, and to authorize the issuance of not more than \$9,520,000 of bonds or notes in accordance with the provisions of the Municipal Finance Act (RSA 33) and to authorize the Town Council to issue and negotiate such bonds or notes and to determine the rate of interest thereon; and to further authorize the Town Council to apply for, obtain and accept any federal, state, or other aid, grants or other funds, that may be made available in conjunction with said purpose that may reduce the amount to be financed with bonds and notes, and to participate in the State Revolving Fund (SRF) RSA 486:14 established for this purpose; and to allow the Town Council to take any other action or to pass any other vote relative thereto. (2/3rd ballot vote required for approval) (Recommended by the Town Council 7-0-0)

YES   
NO

**Article 3**

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 \$33,055,184? Should this article be defeated, the default budget shall be \$31,453,624, 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 7-0-0) (Majority vote required.)

YES   
NO

**TURN BALLOT OVER AND CONTINUE VOTING**

**QUESTIONS CONTINUED**

**Article 4**

To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,815,000 to be added to the following Capital Reserve Funds previously established for the purposes for which they were created and to apportion the sum among the several funds as listed below:

CRF	Amount to be Deposited
Ambulance	100,000
Communications Equipment	100,000
Computer Equipment	35,000
Daniel Webster Highway	50,000
Fire Equipment	325,000
Highway Equipment	400,000
Library Building Maintenance Fund	75,000
Property Revaluation	15,000
Solid Waste Disposal	125,000
Traffic Signal Pre-emption	5,000
Property Insurance Deductible Trust Fund	10,000
GIS	15,000
Athletic Field CRF	5,000
Road Infrastructure CRF	545,000
Total CRF	1,805,000
Milfoil Expendable Trust Fund	10,000
Total General Fund Deposits	1,815,000

**YES**   
**NO**

These appropriations are **not** included in the total town operating budget warrant article 3. (Recommended by the Town Council 7-0-0) (Majority vote required.)

**Article 5**

To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$500,000 to be added to the Sewer Infrastructure Capital Reserve Fund previously established with said amount to come from sewer fees and no amount to come from taxation. (Recommended by the Town Council 7-0-0) (Majority vote required.)

**YES**   
**NO**

**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 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	Wage and Benefit Costs Increase
2020-21	2%	\$19,465
2021-22	2%	11,779
2022-23	2%	12,013
2023-24	3%	18,296

and further to raise and appropriate the sum of \$19,465 for the current fiscal year, such sum representing the additional costs attributable to the increase in salaries and benefits required by the new agreement over those that would be paid at current staffing levels? This collective bargaining agreement covers the Dispatchers and Office Staff of the Police. (Recommended by the Town Council 7-0-0) (Majority vote required.)

**YES**   
**NO**

**GO TO NEXT BALLOT AND CONTINUE VOTING**



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BALLOT 2 OF 2

*Diane Ruppelt*  
TOWN CLERK

**QUESTIONS CONTINUED**

**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 New England Police Benevolent Association, Local 12, which calls for the following increases in salaries and benefits at the current staffing levels:

Fiscal Year	Wage Increase	Wage and Benefit Costs Increase
2020-21	2%	\$107,221
2021-22	2%	87,698
2022-23	2%	96,061
2023-24	3%	133,348
2024-25	3%	164,351

and further to raise and appropriate the sum of \$107,221 for the current fiscal year, such sum representing the additional costs attributable to the increase in salaries and benefits required by the new agreement over those that would be paid at current staffing levels? This collective bargaining agreement covers Police Officers, Detectives and Sergeants. (Recommended by the Town Council 7-0-0) (Majority vote required.)

YES   
NO

**Article 8 (By Petition)**

**New Hampshire Resolution to Take Action on Climate Pollution**

Shall the Town of Merrimack hereby call upon our State and Federal elected representatives to study carbon-pricing legislation to study how best to protect New Hampshire from the costs and environmental risks of continued climate inaction? To protect households, we support a Carbon Fee and Dividend approach that charges fossil fuel producers for their carbon pollution and rebates the money collected to all residents on an equal basis. Enacting a Carbon Cash-Back program decreases long-term fossil-fuel dependence, aids in the economic transition for energy consumers, and keeps local energy dollars in New Hampshire's economy. Carbon Cash-Back has been championed by US economists (Jan 17, 2019 WSJ) as the most effective and fair way to deliver rapid reductions in harmful carbon emissions at the scale required for our safety.

We expect our representatives to lead in this critical study for the health and well-being of our citizens and for the protection of New Hampshire's natural resources upon which we all rely.

YES   
NO

The record of the vote approving this article shall be transmitted by written notice to Merrimack's State Legislators, to the Governor of New Hampshire, to Merrimack 's Congressional Delegation, and to the President of the United States, informing them of the instructions from their constituents, by Merrimack's Town Council, within 30 days of this vote.

**YOU HAVE NOW COMPLETED VOTING THIS BALLOT**