



# **TOWN OF AUBURN VOTER'S GUIDE**

**GUIDE TO THE SECOND SESSION OF THE  
2017 TOWN MEETING &  
2017 AUBURN SCHOOL DISTRICT  
MEETING**

AUBURN VILLAGE SCHOOL

March 14, 2017

Polls open at 7:00 A.M. and close at 7:00 P.M.



# TOWN OF AUBURN

Dear Fellow Residents of Auburn:

This year marks the Town of Auburn's ninth experience with the Official Ballot Voting process that is commonly known as "SB2". The first portion of the annual Town Meeting was held on February 4th. At that deliberative session, the voters in attendance were presented with the articles on the warrant as proposed by the Board of Selectmen and the Budget Committee. After discussion, Article #4 was amended to include no money for mosquito control, while all other articles were approved in their original format. All of these articles are being included on the ballot by the Town Clerk for your consideration at the second portion of Town Meeting. Your chance to cast your vote on these issues, within the privacy of the voting booth, is **Tuesday, March 14th from 7:00 A.M. to 7:00 P.M.** at the **Auburn Village School**.

In concert with the Auburn School Board, we are again pleased to provide you with this joint publication that details the issues and items you will be asked to cast your votes on in March.

We realize that sometimes lengthy legal language required by law to write various warrant articles can be confusing to voters who have not been actively involved in the debate that created the article. To help voters have a clearer understanding of each topic, we have prepared the ensuing Voter's Guide for your consideration. The guide is meant to explain, in common language, the intent of each article, as well as offer some background information on the topic. This guide supplements the annual Town Report, which will be available at the Town Hall, the Library, the Police Station and online via the Town's website ([www.auburnnh.us](http://www.auburnnh.us)). Should you have any questions regarding your town government after reviewing these documents, we urge you to contact any of our Board members or Town Administrator Bill Herman (483-5052) for further information or clarification. Any one of us would be pleased to answer any questions you may have.

Important decisions regarding the level or type of service your school district and town government delivers to you will be made at the polls. In addition, there are positions within town and school district governments which will be elected by your vote. We urge you to consider the issues, make informed decisions, and please come to the Auburn Village School on Tuesday, March 14th to cast your vote.

Auburn residents will have an opportunity to vote on the proposed budget and other issues by answering "Yes" or "No" to the questions on the official ballot that will be used in conjunction with the annual election. We are pleased to present you with this 2017 Voter's Guide to assist you as you prepare to vote on the various issues appearing on the School District and Town Meeting warrants.

Tax impact information listed in the guide will not be listed on the ballot. We have provided this information here to give voters an idea of what the individual items will cost if voters approve the item. The tax impact information listed in the voter's guide is simply an estimate based on a current snapshot in time using information and revenue projections that are available today. However, the actual tax rate is not set by the NH Department of Revenue Administration (NHDRA) until September or October, using actual information that is available then.

In closing, we would like to "Thank You" for the opportunity to represent you, and we appreciate your consideration as we work together to maintain Auburn as a great community to live in.

Sincerely,

James F. Headd, Chairman  
Richard W. Eaton, Vice Chairman  
Dale W. Phillips, Selectman  
AUBURN BOARD OF SELECTMEN

# TOWN OF AUBURN and AUBURN SCHOOL DISTRICT VOTER'S GUIDE

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1. To choose candidates for Town Offices.

FOR SELECTMAN

Three Years

Vote for not more than ONE

Richard Eaton

\_\_\_\_\_ (Write-in)

FOR TOWN CLERK

Three Years

Vote for not more than ONE

Kathleen A. Sylvia

\_\_\_\_\_ (Write-in)

FOR TAX COLLECTOR

Three Years

Vote for not more than ONE

Susan N. Jenkins

\_\_\_\_\_ (Write-in)

FOR TREASURER

Three Years

Vote for not more than ONE

\_\_\_\_\_ (Write-in)

FOR SUPERVISOR OF THE  
CHECKLIST

One Years

Vote for not more than ONE

Joanne Linxweiler

\_\_\_\_\_ (Write-in)

FOR LIBRARY TRUSTEE

Three Years

Vote for not more than ONE

Joseph G. Forest

\_\_\_\_\_ (Write-in)

FOR CEMETERY TRUSTEE

Three Years

Vote for not more than ONE

Donald Marzloff

Dick "Vee" Vecchione

\_\_\_\_\_ (Write-in)

FOR TRUSTEE OF TRUST FUNDS

Three Years

Vote for not more than ONE

Barbara Carpenter

\_\_\_\_\_ (Write-in)

FOR PLANNING BOARD

Three Years

Vote for not more than ONE

Jeffrey P. Porter

\_\_\_\_\_ (Write-in)

FOR PLANNING BOARD

One Year

Vote for not more than ONE

Steve Grillo

\_\_\_\_\_ (Write-in)

FOR POLICE COMMISSION

Three Years

Vote for not more than ONE

David C. Dion

Michael Rolfe

\_\_\_\_\_ (Write-in)

2. To see if the Town will vote to adopt the following amendments to the existing Auburn Zoning Ordinance as proposed and recommended by the Auburn Planning Board, in conformance with NH RSA 675:1, et seq., and include the following: (The full text of the proposed regulations is posted and available for inspection at the Town Hall, and is also available to review on the Town web site at [www.auburnnh.us](http://www.auburnnh.us)).

**Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 1 as proposed by the Auburn Planning Board for the Town of Auburn Zoning Ordinance as follows:**

**Amend Article 2.02 Definitions, Words and Terms**, by deleting current (28) Dwelling Unit, Accessory in its entirety and replace with the following language to comply with NH RSA 674:72, Accessory Dwelling Units.

(28). Dwelling Unit, Accessory:

Residential living unit that is within or attached to a single family dwelling, and that provides independent living facilities for one or more persons, including provisions for sleeping, eating, cooking and sanitation on the same parcel of land as the principal dwelling unit it accompanies.

Accessory Dwelling Units shall be permitted by Special Exception as governed under Article 14.14 of the Auburn Zoning Ordinance in all zoning districts that permit single family detached dwellings.

A Special Exception shall be required for construction and or change of occupancy for creation of an accessory dwelling unit.

The Accessory Dwelling Unit shall meet the following requirements:

- (a). An accessory dwelling unit shall have no more than two bedrooms. and shall not exceed 750 (seven hundred fifty) square feet in living area and shall be attached to a single family dwelling. Attached means sharing a common habitable space wall.
- (b). An interior door shall be provided between the principal dwelling and the accessory dwelling unit, but it shall not be required that it remain unlocked. The accessory dwelling unit shall have door with direct access to the exterior, or common space to hallway to exterior door.
- (c). The accessory dwelling unit shall have interconnecting smoke/carbon monoxide/heat detectors with the principal dwelling unit.
- (d). There shall be adequate provisions for water supply and sewage disposal for the accessory dwelling unit in accord with NH RSA 485-A:38, but separate systems shall not be required for the principal and accessory dwelling units.
- (e). An accessory dwelling unit shall meet all zoning setbacks and all applicable building codes. There shall be adequate parking to accommodate an accessory dwelling unit.
- (f). The property owner must occupy one of the dwelling units as his/her principal place of residence.
- (g). Only one accessory dwelling unit shall be permitted for any single family dwelling.
- (h). Detached Accessory Dwelling Units are not permitted.

**Amend Article 4.05 “R” Rural District**

Delete (t) Accessory Dwelling Unit from (2) Permitted Uses in R District

Add (h) Accessory Dwelling Unit to (3) Uses Permitted by Special Exception in R District

**Amend Article 4.06 “R-1, Residential-One and R-2 Residential Two Zoning District**

Delete (n) Accessory Dwelling Unit from (2) Permitted Uses in R-1 District

Add (o) Accessory Dwelling Unit to (3) Uses Permitted by Special Exception in R-1 District

Delete (s) Accessory Dwelling Unit from (4) Permitted Uses in R-2 District

Add (i) Accessory Dwelling Unit to (5) Uses Permitted by Special Exception in R-2 District

**Amend Article 4.07 C-1 Commercial One District and C-2 Commercial Two District**

Delete (u) Accessory Dwelling Unit to Commercial Establishment from (4) Uses Permitted in C-2 District

**Adjust Appendix A, Zoning Matrix of Uses and Districts Accordingly.**

**Renumber all sections as required due to amendments.**

**(Recommended by the Planning Board)**

**YES** \_\_\_\_

**NO** \_\_\_\_

This article was proposed by the Planning Board. The proposal concerns Accessory Dwelling Units and what would be allowed in the Town of Auburn. In 2016, the New Hampshire Legislature passed SB 146 which made substantial changes in state law (RSA 674) concerning accessory dwelling units. The statute establishes minimum standards municipalities need to meet in the area of Accessory Dwelling Units and delayed the effective date until June 1, 2017 to give municipalities the ability to propose local zoning amendments to meet those standards.

The Town of Auburn has allowed Accessory Dwelling Units through the Town's Zoning Ordinance for a long time. However, the Town's standards had been more restrictive than what is allowed by the provisions of the new state statute. The proposed amendment to the Auburn Zoning Ordinance is to ensure the Town of Auburn is in compliance with the new standards we are required to follow, and to enable the Town to still regulate their locations within the community.

Should the Town not come into compliance with the new state standards by June 1, 2017, it would make enforcement of the Town's current standards impossible, effectively rendering the Town's current regulation mute.

A **“Yes”** vote would approve the Planning Board's recommendation and will make changes to the Accessory Dwelling Unit provisions of the Zoning Ordinance to be in compliance with state law.

A **“No”** vote would leave the Town of Auburn Zoning Ordinance unchanged in the area of Accessory Dwelling Units, and would put the Town in a position of not being able to defend or enforce the current standards for Accessory Dwelling Units in the Zoning Ordinance.

**Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 2 as proposed by the Auburn Planning Board for the Town of Auburn Zoning Ordinance as follows:**

**Amend Article 2.02 Definitions**, Words and Terms, by deleting current (3) “Agricultural Use” in its entirety and replacing with the following language:

(3) Agriculture, Farm, Farming as defined in NH RSA 21:34-a. and as may be further amended

A single family detached dwelling shall be a permitted accessory use.

a) Agritourism and marketing as defined under NH RSA 21:34-a (b) (5) shall require a Special Exception in accordance with Article 14.14 of the Auburn Zoning Ordinance and be subject to Site Plan Review through the Auburn Planning Board.

b) Farm Roadside Stand: shall remain an agricultural operation and not be considered commercial (Agritourism), provided that at least 35 percent of the product sales in dollar volume is attributable to products produced on the farm or farms of the stand owner. The floor area of the Farm Roadside Stand shall not exceed one hundred fifty (150) square feet.

**Amend Article 4.05 “R” Rural District**

Rename (a) Non-Commercial Agriculture to Agriculture in (2) Permitted Uses in R District

Delete (b) Commercial Agriculture –Forestry Only from (2) Permitted uses in R I District

Delete (c) Commercial Agriculture from (2) Permitted uses in R District

Rename (d) Produce Stand to Farm Roadside Stand in (2) Permitted Uses in Rural District.

Add (h) Agritourism to (3.) Uses Permitted by Special Exception

**Amend Article 4.06 “R-1, Residential-One and R-2 Residential Two Zoning District**

Delete (g) Commercial Agriculture – forestry only from (2) Permitted Uses in R-1 District

Rename (i) Non-Commercial Agriculture to Agriculture in (2) Permitted uses in R-1 District

Rename (g) Commercial Agriculture to Agritourism in (3) Uses permitted by Special Exception in R-1 District.

Rename (h) Produce Stand to Farm Roadside Stand in (3) Uses permitted by Special Exception in R-1 District

Rename (g) Non-Commercial Agriculture to Agriculture in (4) Uses Permitted in R-2 zoning District

Delete (h) Commercial Agriculture from (4) Uses Permitted in R-2 District

Rename (i) Produce Stand to Farm Roadside Stand in (4) Uses Permitted in R-2 District

Rename (a) Commercial Agriculture to Agritourism in (5) Uses Permitted by Special Exception in R-2 District.

**Amend Article 4.07 C-1 Commercial One District and C-2 Commercial Two District**

Delete (q) Commercial Agriculture from (2) uses permitted in the C-1 District

Rename (r) Produce Stand to Farm Roadside Stand in (2) Uses permitted in C-1 District

Rename (a) Commercial Agriculture to Agritourism in (3), Uses Permitted by Special Exception in C-1 District.

Rename (p) Commercial Agriculture to Agritourism in (4) Uses Permitted in C-2 District

Rename (q) Produce Stand to Farm Roadside Stand in (4) Uses Permitted in C-2 District

Rename (h)N on Commercial Agriculture to Agriculture in (5) Uses Permitted by Special Exception in C-2 District.

#### **Amend 4.08 “V” Village Center District**

Rename (a)(i) Commercial Agriculture to Agritourism in (3) Permitted Uses in V District.

#### **Amend 4.09 “I” Industrial District**

Delete Commercial Agriculture from (2) Permitted Uses in I District

**Adjust Appendix A, Zoning Matrix of Uses and Districts Accordingly.**

**Renumber all sections as required due to amendments.**

**(Recommended by the Planning Board)**

YES \_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_

This article was proposed by the Planning Board. The proposal addresses changes in state law made by the New Hampshire Legislature in 2016 that provides for the allowance of what has become to be called “Agritourism”. In general, “agritourism” would enable the owner of agricultural or farm property to be able to utilize their property for additional non-traditional agricultural uses that may help to financially support the property.

In one community, this issue made headlines because a local agricultural property also hosted weddings and receptions on the property. In other communities, the establishment of “corn mazes” in the fall or the hosting of a “bed and breakfast” came into question. After a protracted legal process in one community and two different NH Supreme Court decisions on this issue in 2015, the New Hampshire Legislature addressed the topic by adopting SB 345 which amended RSA 21:34 to make provisions for agritourism as an allowable means of attempting to help the New Hampshire agriculture community be able to support itself in some non-traditional manners within agricultural zones, subject to the standards within the zoning district.

A **“Yes”** vote would approve the Planning Board’s recommendation and will make changes to the Agricultural Use provisions of the Zoning Ordinance to be inclusive of agritourism in order to be in compliance with state law.

A **“No”** vote would leave the Town of Auburn Zoning Ordinance unchanged in the area of agritourism, and would put the Town in a position of not being able to defend or enforce the current standards that do not allow for agritourism uses in the Zoning Ordinance.



**Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 3 as proposed by the Auburn Planning Board for the Town of Auburn Zoning Ordinance as follows:**

Amend Article 13.01 Building Permits Required as authorized by NH RSA 674:51 III (d) and enact a provision authorizing the governing body to establish fees, to be charged for building permits, inspections, and for any certificate of occupancy.

Amend Article 13.01 Building Permits Required to read:

No building shall be erected, constructed, reconstructed, altered or repaired without a building permit issued by the Building Inspector. The Building Inspector is authorized to charge and collect for the Town, the fees for building permits, inspections and certificates of occupancy. The Auburn Board of Selectmen shall be authorized to establish a fee schedule and amend as necessary following required statutory public hearing process.

**(Recommended by the Planning Board)**

**YES**      **NO**

This article was proposed by the Planning Board. As currently written, the Town of Auburn Zoning Ordinance establishes the fees to be charged for building permits, inspections and certificates of occupancy. The only way currently to change or update any of these fees is to propose an amendment to the ordinance and present it to the voters on the March ballot. The current fees have not been changed in more than 15 years.

The proposal would amend the Zoning Ordinance to enable the Board of Selectmen to establish a fee schedule for building permits, inspections and certificates of occupancy and would enable the Board to amend those fees as many be necessary following a public hearing process.

In late 2016, the Town began offering the ability to apply for building permits online. There are some costs to the Town for being able to provide this service to those who want to use them, and the Building Inspector and the Board of Selectmen were considering adjusting the fees for the online permits to cover the costs of the service provided. It was at that time it was realized the Board of Selectmen did not have the authority to make that type of adjustment.

A **“Yes”** vote would approve the Planning Board’s recommendation and will amend the Building Code and Building Permit section of the Zoning Ordinance to allow the Board of Selectmen to address the fee schedule for building permits, inspections and certificates of occupancy as an administrative function.

A **“No”** vote would leave the Town of Auburn Zoning Ordinance unchanged in the area of Building Code and Building Permits fees, and would leave the administrative decision concerning the fees to be charged as an amendment to the Zoning Ordinance that can only be decided at the annual voting in March.

Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 4 as proposed by the Auburn Planning Board for the Town of Auburn Zoning Ordinance as follows:

**Amend Article 13.06 In-Ground Pools** to expand pool barrier requirements to be consistent with NH State Building Code.

**Re-name Article 13.06 Swimming Pool Barrier Requirements**

**Amend Article 13.06 to read:**  
All swimming pools installed within the Town of Auburn shall comply with applicable state building codes and amendments under NH RSA 155-A. All pools shall have barrier requirements in place prior to final inspection and issuance of certificate of completion.

**(Recommended by the Planning Board)**

YES \_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_

This article was proposed by the Planning Board. The proposal would amend the Town of Auburn Zoning Ordinance to include the current swimming pool barrier requirements contained in the New Hampshire State Building Code for all swimming pools.

Currently, the Town of Auburn Zoning Ordinance limits the definition of pool barrier to only address a four-foot high fence. The State Building Code encompasses other forms of barrier provisions. All pools, as defined by the New Hampshire State Building Code, are required to include barrier provisions, not just inground pools.

A **“Yes”** vote would approve the Planning Board’s recommendation and will amended Article 13.06 of the Auburn Zoning Ordinance for In-Ground Pools to instead include the Swimming Pool Barrier requirements of the New Hampshire State Building Code.

A **“No”** vote would leave the Town of Auburn Zoning Ordinance unchanged with respect to pool safety barriers and would leave the Town not be in compliance with the NH State Building Code.

3. To see if the Town will vote to approve the cost items for year two of a three-year collective bargaining agreement which resulted from negotiations between the Auburn Board of Selectmen, the Auburn Police Commission and the Auburn Police Union, Local 216 and which represents an estimated increase of \$9,167 over FY 2016 salaries, fringe benefits and other cost items at the current staffing level for the ensuing year; and further to raise and appropriate the sum of Nine thousand one hundred and sixty-seven dollars (**\$9,167**), such sum representing the negotiated increase over 2016 salaries, fringe benefits and other cost items at the current staffing levels. **(Recommended by the Board of Selectmen) (Recommended by the Budget Committee)**

YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_

This article was proposed by the Board of Selectmen and the Board of Police Commissioners. In 2012 members of the Auburn Police Department exercised their right to form a collective bargaining unit that is known as the Auburn Police Union. Included in this unit, as certified by the NH Public Employees Labor Relations Board, are 16 positions including two full-time and one part-time Sergeants, and four full-time and nine part-time Police Officers. In 2013, the Auburn Police Union and the Town of Auburn were able to reach agreement for a first time collective bargaining agreement that covered the period of April 1, 2013 through March 31, 2014, which was approved by voters in March 2013. In 2014, agreement was reached for a second contract that covered the two-year period of April 1, 2014 through March 31, 2016. Funding for this agreement was approved by voters in both in March 2014 and March 2015.

In 2016, agreement was reached for a third contract that covered the three year period of April 1, 2016 through March 31, 2019. Funding for the first year of that three-year agreement was approved by voters in March 2016.

Article 3 of the 2017 Town Warrant is seeking funding for the cost items of the second year of that three-year agreement which totals \$9,167.

In general terms, the funds will cover the potential of a 0.8% Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) for all position and a single step increase (2%) for all the full and part-time officers covered by the Auburn Police Union, as defined by the wage scale included with the collective bargaining agreement. The funding also includes the costs of the related payroll benefits of Social Security, Medicare and/or the NH Retirement System, depending on the position.

The COLA and step increase adjustments are exactly the same that are included in the proposed operating budget for all other full and part-time Town employees who are not part of a collective bargaining unit.

A **"Yes"** vote would approve the cost items for year two of the three-year collective bargaining agreement between the Town of Auburn and the Auburn Police Union.

A **"No"** vote would not provide funding for year two of the three-year collective bargaining agreement between the Town of Auburn and the Auburn Police Union, and would likely return both sides to the negotiations table during 2017 to work on a new agreement.

**2017 Tax Impact: \$0.01**

4. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Zero dollars (\$0) to implement a mosquito control program to include the integration of various methods of reducing mosquito vector species of West Nile Virus and Eastern Equine Encephalitis. **(Recommended by the Board of Selectmen) (Not Recommended by the Budget Committee)**

YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_

This article, as originally proposed by the Board of Selectmen, requested the appropriation of \$34,675 for mosquito control. The voters attending the Deliberative Session of Town Meeting held on February 4th amended the amount in the article to \$0.

In 2009, public health concerns for West Nile Virus and Eastern Equine Encephalitis (EEE) were found throughout the State of New Hampshire. In communities adjacent to Auburn, there were positive tests documented in Derry, Manchester and Candia, at a minimum. State health officials determine if the disease is found in communities around you, they don't test in your community and just assume that it is there. Annual occurrences of mosquito-borne disease in New Hampshire had prompted a desire for a mosquito control program in many communities.

In 2010, the Town of Auburn commenced a mosquito control program as approved by the voters. More than 1,800 individual specimens were trapped and tested. There were no positive results found for either West Nile Virus or EEE in Auburn in 2010, 2011, 2012, 2014, 2015 or 2016. Very few cases were found throughout the state as a whole. However, in 2013, out of 101 mosquito batches there was one positive test result in Auburn for a species of mosquito that carries EEE.

Due to the extensive network of wetlands found in the Town of Auburn, the program designed for our community involves locating and documenting specific larval habitats of "spring" mosquitoes; contacting landowners for permission to complete larviciding; instituting a larval mosquito control application process and microscopic species determination; and initiating public outreach programs through the Auburn Village School, day care centers, Town website and other venues. The Auburn program is quite labor-intensive with nearly 1,200 labor hours used each year from March through October. The same is anticipated for 2017, if approved by voters in March.

When most people think of mosquito control, they envision trucks loaded with chemicals spraying the air throughout the Town. That is not the approach Auburn has generally undertaken. Larviciding is an application placed directly to the habitat areas where mosquito larvae are to be hatched. These areas are relatively shallow, stagnant pools of water, including the road side catch basins, that can be found throughout the Town.

Mosquito control programs are carefully regulated and licensed by the State of New Hampshire through the NH Division of Pesticide Control in the Department of Agriculture. The vendor providing the pest control services has to be licensed, while the municipality planning on managing a program must also receive a special permit for this undertaking. No fewer than five state agencies participate in the review process for these permits.

A **"Yes"** vote would raise \$0 for a mosquito control program throughout the Town of Auburn in 2017.

A **"No"** vote would raise \$0 for a mosquito control program throughout the Town of Auburn in 2017.

5. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Forty-two thousand dollars (**\$42,000**) to be placed into the Town Buildings Rehabilitation Capital Reserve Fund previously established. This sum to come from the unreserved fund balance (surplus) as of December 31, 2016 with no additional amount to be raised by taxation in 2017. (**Recommended by the Board of Selectmen**) (**Recommended by the Budget Committee**)

YES \_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_

This article was proposed by the Board of Selectmen. In 2006 Auburn voters established a Capital Reserve Fund for the purpose of maintaining and repairing Town buildings as the need might arise. Since it was established in 2006, the Capital Reserve Fund has been used to:

- fund the replacement of the roof on the Town Hall, Griffin Free Public Library and the Highway Garage;
- replace a portion of the floor in the Griffin Free Public Library;
- repair or replace the electrical and heating systems, insulation and garage doors at the former incinerator building for the Highway Department;
- replace the oil burner at the Pingree Hill Fire Station;
- cover a significant portion of the renovation work performed on the Town Hall in 2010;
- cover the Town's portion of costs for the new sign and message board at the Town Hall;
- establish a locker room for the officers at the Auburn Police Department;
- make improvements to the records storage vault at the Town Hall;
- repair the central air conditioning system at the Auburn Police Department;
- repair toilets in the holding cells at the Auburn Police Department;
- replace the septic system at the Town Hall;
- repair HVAC system at the Safety Complex;
- repair property fence at Town Hall;
- replace rear doors at Town Hall with code-compliant door;
- install new records storage system for land use files at Town Hall, and
- replace and upgrade parking lot and exterior lights at Town Hall

The fund has a balance of approximately \$58,253. The original intention in establishing the fund was to maintain close to a \$100,000 balance in order to have funds available should any significant repair work become necessary on any Town building. In 2017, the front deck and rails of the Griffin Free Public Library are anticipated on being replaced at an estimated cost of \$3,250, while the front stairs and roof covering the landing at the Town Hall is planned to be replaced for approximately \$15,000. These expenses would come from this fund.

The Board of Selectmen is asking to place \$42,000 into this Capital Reserve Fund in order to maintain a balance of \$100,000. The warrant article as presented would have the \$42,000 come from the undesignated fund balance (surplus) of the Town and not from a direct appropriation of new tax dollars.

A **"Yes"** vote would authorize the deposit of \$42,000 in the Town Buildings Rehabilitation Capital Reserve Fund, with the money coming from the Town's undesignated fund balance. This would result in a balance of approximately \$100,000 in the fund.

A **"No"** vote would not authorize the deposit of \$42,000 in the Town Buildings Rehabilitation Capital Reserve Fund resulting in a balance of approximately \$58,253 being available in the fund. Should the Library and Town Hall projects still be completed, the fund would be reduced to a balance of \$40,000.

**2017 Tax Impact: \$0.00**

6. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Thirteen thousand dollars (**\$13,000**) to be placed into the Accrued Benefits Expendable Trust Fund previously established. This sum to come from the unreserved fund balance (surplus) as of December 31, 2016 with no additional amount to be raised by taxation in 2017. (**Recommended by the Board of Selectmen**) (**Recommended by the Budget Committee**)

YES \_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_

This article was proposed by the Board of Selectmen. In 2015, Auburn voters established the Accrued Benefits Expendable Trust Fund for the purpose of having a dedicated account to cover the expense of accrued leave that employees may be owed at the time they leave the employment of the Town.

In establishing the fund, it was indicated that the goal would be to maintain a balance of \$50,000, which should be sufficient to cover the expenses of multiple employees should they retire or otherwise leave the Town's employ during the same year. When the fund was established in 2015, it was established with an initial appropriation of \$50,000.

The fund currently has a balance of approximately \$37,000. This is due to two senior Town employees retiring in 2016, and the Town paid out a total of \$13,000 for accrued benefits for the two individuals. The proposed warrant article would replace the funds expended in 2016 and restore the fund to \$50,000.

At the present time, the Town has a total liability of more than \$100,000 in accrued benefits throughout the entire Town workforce. When the Town's auditing firm was performing the audit for FY 2014, they noted the establishment of this fund and, despite its appropriate intent and purpose, cited that it had not been established by a vote of Town Meeting as required by state statute.

The Board of Selectmen is asking to place \$13,000 into this Expendable Trust Fund in order to maintain a balance of \$50,000. The warrant article as presented would have the \$13,000 come from the undesignated fund balance (surplus) of the Town and not from a direct appropriation of new tax dollars.

A **"Yes"** vote would authorize the deposit of \$13,000 in the Accrued Benefits Expendable Trust Fund, with the money coming from the Town's undesignated fund balance. This would result in a balance of approximately \$50,000 in the fund.

A **"No"** vote would not authorize the deposit of \$13,000 in the Accrued Benefits Expendable Trust Fund resulting in a balance of approximately 37,000 being available in the fund.

**2017 Tax Impact: \$0.00**

7. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Fifteen thousand five hundred dollars **(\$15,500)** to purchase a Radar Message Sign for the Auburn Police Department; and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to accept Seven thousand seven hundred and fifty dollars (\$7,750) received through New Hampshire Department of Safety, Office of Highway Safety grant, with the balance of \$7,750 to be raised by taxes.

**(Recommended by the Board of Selectmen) (Recommended by the Budget Committee)**

YES \_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_

This article was proposed by the Board of Selectmen. For more than 10 years, the Auburn Police Department has had a mobile radar trailer that has been effectively used to help address speeding traffic in various areas of the community, in addition to being able to conduct traffic counts and impact studies. The current unit was purchased in 2005 for \$13,317.50, of which \$6,000 was covered by a grant.

For the last three to four years, the current unit has been showing its age and the computerized systems have been offline more than it has been online. Two years ago, a local business donated nearly \$2,000 worth of upgrades to the unit, which temporarily added life to the computer, batteries and technology that are the operations heart of the unit, but it is again on shaky legs.

The Auburn Police Department has priced a new replacement unit at a total cost of \$15,500. The new unit, in addition to serving in the traditional use as a mobile radar trailer, has the ability to also be a mobile message board that can serve many purposes from being used to highlight a road closure to informing the public about a community service.

As part of the Town's participation in a state-recognized Highway Safety Program, the Town submitted an application to the NH Department of Safety, Office of Highway Safety for a grant to help pay for this proposed replacement unit. The Office of Highway Safety has approved the grant application at a 50% level — meaning the grant will pay for half the cost (\$7,750) if the Town pays for the other half (an additional \$7,750).

That is what this article would do — enable the Town to purchase the proposed unit at a cost of \$15,500, and to accept grant funds from the State of New Hampshire for half of that amount (\$7,750). As a result, the taxpayers of Auburn would only be raising the remaining half by taxes.

A **“Yes”** vote would authorize the purchase of the replacement mobile radar unit, and would authorize the Board of Selectmen to accept a grant to cover half of the cost of the replacement equipment.

A **“No”** vote would not authorize either the purchase of a replacement unit or the acceptance of a grant to cover half of the cost of the replacement equipment.

**2017 Tax Impact: \$0.01**

8. To see if the Town will vote to establish a Storage Garage Capital Reserve Fund under the provisions of RSA Chapter 35 for the purpose of designing and constructing a storage garage for Town departments on the property of the Safety Complex; to raise and appropriate the sum of One hundred forty-one thousand dollars **(\$141,000)** to be placed in this fund to come from the undesignated fund balance (surplus) as of December 31, 2016, and to designate the Board of Selectmen as agents to expend. There will be no additional amount to be raised by taxation in 2017. **(Recommended by the Board of Selectmen) (Not Recommended by the Budget Committee)**

YES \_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_

This article was proposed by the Board of Selectmen. For at least the past eight years, there has been discussions and some initial planning for a potential three-bay garage for the Police Department. The garage was intended to address some storage needs of the department, in addition to the provision of space to get many of the department's vehicles and large pieces of equipment under cover.

Further, in 2016, the Town contracted Municipal Resources, Inc., to conduct an operational review of the Police Department and one of the areas cited for improvement by the review was consideration of improved storage and garage space for the Police Department.

In 2016, the Board of Selectmen made the decision to sell the former fire and police station property on Raymond Road. The Board made the decision due to the overall condition of the building and the near \$12,000 per year annual expense for heat and electricity, not to mention the multiple times the building was vandalized which incurred repair costs. The Town successfully found a buyer for the property and received a net proceed of \$141,000.

By selling the building, a few town government entities who utilized the building for storage had to find other means for storage. This resulted in Parks & Recreations picnic tables, banners, flags, field striping equipment and more being moved to individual's homes and garages, and also to rented self-storage space. The same was true for the Town's voting booth and other election equipment.

The Board of Selectmen does not believe these needs are mutually exclusive, and are looking at addressing all of the space needs in a single storage building / garage to be located adjacent to the Safety Complex.

In proposing Article 8, the Selectmen are asking to take the proceeds from the sale of the former fire and police station building and use it towards this project. If this article is approved, the Board would appoint a Building Committee to fully work through the potential of what this building can and should be, and would use approximately \$5,000 of the reserve funds to help design a facility and develop a project cost estimate.

Article 8 as presented does not construct a building and it does not commit the Town to a construction project. It creates a savings account for that purpose and puts initial seed money into that savings account. But final decisions about moving forward will be made by the voters in the future.

A **"Yes"** vote would establish a Capital Reserve Fund for the designing and construction of a storage garage building and place the \$141,000 proceeds from the sale of the former fire & police station into the fund. It would also allow the Board of Selectmen to work on a definitive proposal for a building to be brought before voters in the future for their consideration.

A **"No"** vote would not create a Capital Reserve Fund and would have the \$141,000 in proceeds lapse to the general fund of the Town.

**2017 Tax Impact: \$0.00**



9. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Four thousand nine hundred dollars (\$4,900) to be placed into the Cemetery Maintenance Expendable Trust Fund previously established. This sum to come from the unreserved fund balance (surplus) as of December 31, 2016 with no additional amount to be raised by taxation in 2017.

(Recommended by the Board of Selectmen) (Recommended by the Budget Committee)

YES \_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_

This article was proposed by the Board of Selectmen. In 2016, Auburn voters approved the establishment of the Cemetery Maintenance Expendable Trust Fund and made an initial deposit of \$4,000.

The intent of the fund, which was suggested by the Cemetery Trustees to the Board of Selectmen, was to place the proceeds from the sale of cemetery plots into the fund so it could be accumulated and used for maintenance and other upkeep for either the Auburn Village Cemetery or the Longmeadow Cemetery.

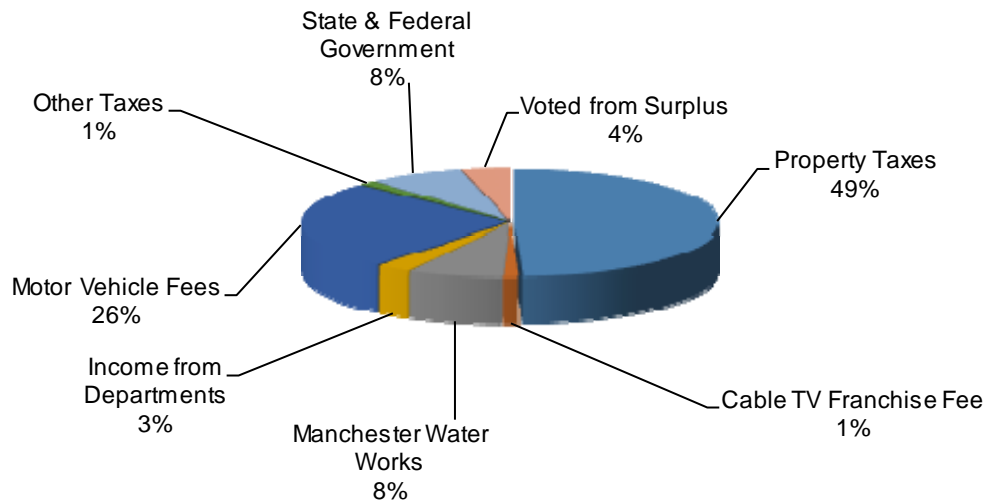
The initial \$4,000 deposit in 2016 was the total amount of proceeds from the sale of plots in 2015. Warrant Article #9 on the 2017 warrant seeking \$4,900 is the total amount of proceeds from the sale of plots in 2016.

A “Yes” vote would approve the transfer of \$4,900 from the Town’s undesignated fund balance to the Cemetery Maintenance Expendable Trust Fund for the benefit of the Town cemeteries.

A “No” vote would not approve the transfer of \$4,900 from the Town’s undesignated fund balance.

2017 Tax Impact: \$0.00

### 2017 SOURCES OF TOWN REVENUE



**10.** To see if the Town will vote to adopt the provisions of RSA 72:28-b, All Veterans' Tax Credit? If adopted, the credit will be available to any resident, or the spouse or surviving spouse of any resident, who (1) served not less than 90 days on active service in the armed forces of the United States and was honorably discharged or an officer honorably separated from services and is not eligible for or receiving a credit under RSA 72:28 or RSA 72:35. If adopted, the credit granted will be \$500, the same amount as the standard or optional veterans' tax credit voted by the Town under RSA 72:28.

YES \_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_

This article was presented by the Board of Selectmen. Historically, state law has allowed for a Veterans' Property Tax Credit of up to \$500 for veterans who served in designated wars or conflicts. The law has specified the Spanish-American War, Philippine Insurrection, Box Rebellion, World Wars I and II, Korean and Vietnam conflicts, the Persian Gulf War and "any other war or armed conflict that has occurred since May 8, 1975 in which the resident earned an Armed Forces expeditionary medal or Theatre of Operations service medal."

In 2016, the New Hampshire Legislature amended the Veterans' Tax Credit allowing municipalities to extend the veterans' tax credit to all veterans, whether they served in wartime or peace. The minimum requirements to earn the "All Veterans' Tax Credit" is the individual had to serve a minimum of 90 days on active service and be honorably discharged or be an officer honorably separated from service.

If a Town decides to extend the Veterans' Tax Credit to all veterans, the municipality has to offer all veterans the same amount of tax credit, which, in Auburn, is the maximum \$500 allowed under the statute.

Currently, the Town of Auburn has 269 qualifying veterans receiving the Veterans' Tax Credit and an additional 16 veterans receiving the Totally and Permanently Disabled Veterans Credit. In 2016, this tax credit shifted \$166,500 in property tax obligation to the remainder of the property owners in town and accounts for \$0.25 of the Town's tax rate.

There is no real way of knowing for certain how many other residents might qualify for the All Veterans Tax Credit. Data indicates there is a total population in Rockingham County of 230,276 individuals 18 years of age and older, and that 10.2% of that total (23,377) are veterans. The only specific count of similar adult residents in Auburn is the current voter checklist, which includes 4,185 registered voters. Assuming the Rockingham County veterans population is dispersed proportionally throughout the county, it can be estimated there are 427 veterans residing in Auburn. With a total of 285 individuals already receiving Veterans Tax Credits, there may be an additional 142 veterans in Auburn who may qualify for the All Veterans' Tax Credit.

Should an additional 142 veterans qualify for the All Veterans' Tax Credit in Auburn, that would result in an additional \$71,000 of property tax dollars being redistributed resulting in a potential tax rate increase of \$0.11.

A **"Yes"** vote would formally adopt the new All Veterans' Tax Credit standards and allow more veterans to qualify for this property tax credit of \$500 per veteran.

A **"No"** vote would leave the Veterans' Property Tax Credit in Auburn for just veterans who served during designated wars or conflicts, and not expand the qualifications to include all other veterans.

**2017 Tax Impact: Unknown**

11. To see if the Town will 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 **\$5,219,573**? Should this article be defeated, the default budget shall be **\$5,199,808**, which is the same as last year with certain adjustments required by previous action of the Town of Auburn or by law; or the governing body may hold one special meeting, in accordance with RSA 40:13, X and XVI, to take up the issue of a revised operating budget only. NOTE: This operating budget warrant article does not include appropriations contained in any other warrant article.

YES \_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_

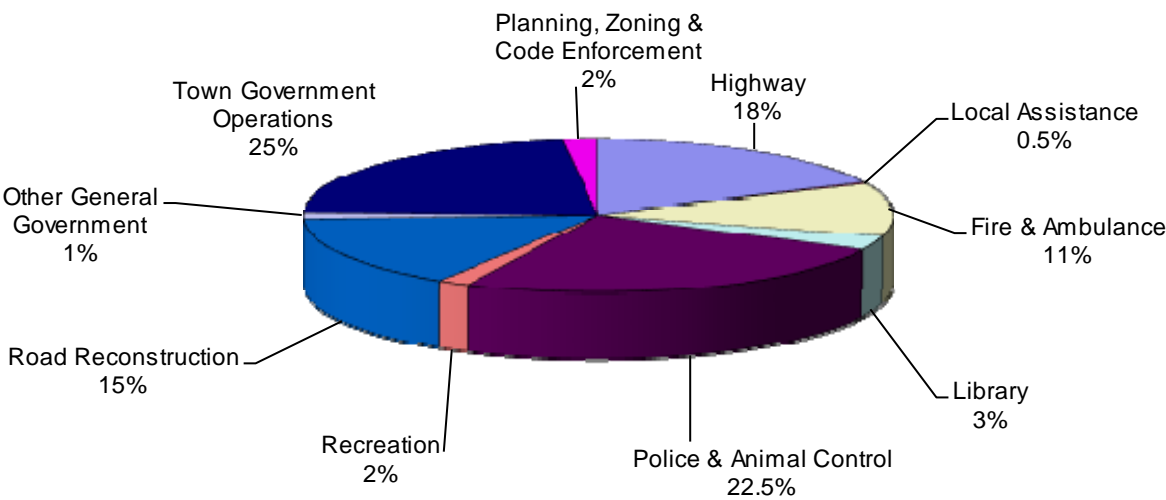
A **“Yes”** vote would approve the proposed 2017 operating budget totaling \$5,219,573 as presented by the Budget Committee.

**2017 Tax Impact: \$4.16**

A **“No”** vote would not approve the proposed operating budget as presented by the Budget Committee and would result in the Default Budget totaling \$5,199,808, calculated by the Board of Selectmen, being adopted.

**2017 Tax Impact: \$4.13**

**2017 PROPOSED TOWN BUDGET BREAKDOWN**



**TOWN OF AUBURN**  
**2017 PROPOSED BUDGET and 2017 DEFAULT BUDGET**

<b>Department</b>	<b>Budgeted 2016</b>	<b>Expended 2016</b>	<b>Proposed 2017</b>	<b>Default Budget</b>
Executive	251,513.00	248,215.58	259,728.00	253,146.00
Election, Registration & Vital Statistics	90,487.00	88,576.99	81,977.00	80,032.00
Financial Administration	98,441.00	96,545.24	97,767.00	97,480.00
Legal Expenditures	65,000.00	19,814.98	57,000.00	65,000.00
Personnel Administration	385,078.00	364,996.87	394,312.00	393,241.00
Planning & Zoning	70,101.00	22,171.16	33,751.00	41,151.00
General Government Buildings	80,085.00	64,140.48	137,586.00	134,764.00
Cemeteries	30,450.00	22,733.20	36,323.00	30,450.00
Insurance	102,525.00	88,881.48	109,571.00	109,571.00
Advertising & Regional Associations	8,121.00	8,120.86	8,583.00	8,583.00
Other General Government	105,473.00	94,996.90	120,514.00	106,946.00
Police	1,136,862.00	1,102,094.70	1,152,412.00	1,156,425.00
Ambulance	76,269.00	72,802.50	80,083.00	80,083.00
Fire	429,690.00	433,282.76	416,238.00	417,756.00
Building Inspection	65,171.00	63,419.28	66,057.00	65,615.00
Emergency Management	1,951.00	1,336.00	701.00	701.00
Other Public Safety - Town Details	1,000.00	1,084.23	1,000.00	1,000.00
Highways & Streets	935,464.00	855,120.82	943,006.00	935,464.00
Street Lighting	13,500.00	12,992.71	13,500.00	13,500.00
Solid Waste Disposal	11,925.00	12,058.00	11,500.00	11,925.00
Health Administration	2,550.00	2,080.12	2,596.00	2,550.00
Animal & Pest Control	19,988.00	19,656.21	19,830.00	19,670.00
Health Agencies & Hospitals	5,614.00	5,614.00	5,800.00	5,614.00
Direct Assistance	21,935.00	8,816.89	16,969.00	21,935.00
Intergovernmental Welfare Payments	4,471.00	4,471.00	4,471.00	4,471.00
Parks & Recreation	96,764.00	96,503.53	89,438.00	106,894.00
Library	143,975.00	141,089.15	156,544.00	153,888.00
Patriotic Purposes	6,500.00	6,899.00	6,650.00	6,500.00
Conservation Commission	2,753.00	831.95	2,767.00	2,753.00
Principle - Bonds & Notes	1.00	0.00	1.00	1.00
Interest - Bonds & Notes	1.00	0.00	1.00	1.00
Tax Anticipation Note Interest	1.00	0.00	1.00	1.00
Machinery, Vehicles & Equipment	72,696.00	72,695.61	72,696.00	72,696.00
Road Reconstruction	800,000.00	815,189.00	800,000.00	800,000.00
Recreation Improvements	41,500.00	59,189.36	20,200.00	0.00
<b>TOTAL OPERATING BUDGET</b>	<b>\$5,177,855.00</b>	<b>\$4,906,420.56</b>	<b>\$5,219,573.00</b>	<b>\$5,199,807.00</b>

## 2017 Town of Auburn – Proposed Budget Summary

The proposed 2017 operating budget of \$5,219,573 as presented by the Auburn Budget Committee represents an increase of 0.8% from the approved Town budget for 2016. The estimated tax rate decrease in the Town portion of property taxes would be \$0.20 to support this proposed budget.

Under the “SB 2” budgeting process that Auburn adopted in 2008, should the proposed budget not be adopted, then a default budget of \$5,199,807 would take effect. The default budget represents an increase of 0.42% over the approved budget for 2016. Due to the anticipated net assessed valuation of the Town for 2017, this results in an estimated tax decrease in the Town portion of property taxes of \$0.23.

The potential tax rate impact for either budget is a mixed result of an increased tax base (net assessed valuation) in 2017, a slight increase of other revenue sources available to the Town, and some increases and decreases in various operational expenses.

Highlighted below are the projects, equipment and/or items included within departmental budgets that will continue to allow for the same level of quality services the residents of Auburn have come to expect.

- The **Elections and Registration** overall budget reflects a decrease due to there being only the local March elections to be held in 2017. There were four elections held in 2016.
- The **Legal Expenditures** budget has been reduced by \$8,000 in anticipation of less activity in this area.
- The **Personnel Administration** budget reflects a \$9,200 increase due in part to a rate increase for the employer's share of health insurance costs, and to six-months of funding coverage for one additional full-time police officer as of July 1, 2017.
- The **Insurance** budget that covers property and liability, workers compensation and unemployment compensation coverage has been increased by approximately \$7,000 to cover increases in workers compensation and property and liability coverage which are the result of the Town's claims record and overall economic trends.
- The **Planning and Zoning** budget has been significantly reduced from 2016 due to last year's funding for the Planning Board to work on updating the Town's Master Plan, a Capital Improvements Plan (CIP) and updating Subdivision Regulations in 2016.
- The **Police Department** budget has been increased by approximately \$15,500 due to increased time and work required of a court prosecutor, and to return to the Department's regular rotation of replacing two police cruisers a year through a lease/purchase process.
- The **Fire Department** budget reflects an increase of nearly \$7,000 with the largest adjustments being the employer's share of NH Retirement System costs, budgeting to ensure full coverage when the two full-time firefighters are out for any reason, and contracted costs for dispatch services.
- The **Ambulance** budget reflects an increase of \$4,000 as a result of contractual obligations to the Town of Derry for this service.
- The **Highway** budget was increased by \$7,500 to provide additional funding for tree removal and to provide the first hourly rate increase for winter plow operators since 2008.
- The **Direct Assistance** budget has been reduced by \$5,000 based on the case load and expenditures of 2016.
- The **Recreation** budget reflects a decrease of approximately \$7,000 due to generally not expanding any current program offerings during 2017.
- The **Road Reconstruction** account has been level funded with plans to do major work on Walnut Drive, Acorn Avenue, Joan Drive, Nutt Road and Lovers Lane, in addition to a top coat paving of Dearborn Road in 2017.
- The **Recreation Improvements** budget is reduced by \$21,000 with the only project planned for 2017 being the addition of dugouts at three different ballfield at the Wayne Eddows Recreational Area.
- The overall **Town Budget** includes the potential for Step Increases (2%) for Town employees, in addition to a general cost of living adjustment (COLA) of 0.8% for all employees.

## 2016 Town of Auburn - Default Budget Summary

The proposed 2017 operating budget of \$5,219,573 as presented by the Auburn Budget Committee represents an increase of 0.8% over the approved Town budget for 2016. There would be an estimated tax decrease in the Town portion of property taxes of \$0.20 to support this proposed budget.

Under the "SB 2" budgeting process, should the proposed budget not be adopted, then a default budget of \$5,199,807 would take effect. The default budget, as developed by the Auburn Board of Selectmen, represents an increase of 0.42% over the approved budget for 2016, and carries an estimated tax decrease in the Town portion of property taxes of \$0.23.

While the Proposed Operating Budget and the Default Budget are similar in many ways, there are differences in how money is allocated between the two budgets.

The Default Budget begins with the approved budget of 2016. Clear one-time expenditures are to be deducted from that amount. Cost increases associated with contracted and other legal obligations the Town has (such as the number of elections scheduled during the year, personnel costs, fire and police dispatching services, ambulance service, assessing services, utility costs, NH Retirement System rates, etc.) are added to the budget.

Highlighted below are some of the major differences between the Proposed 2017 Default Budget and what is contained in the proposed 2017 Operating Budget:

- The **Planning and Zoning** budget would be \$7,400 higher than the Proposed Operating Budget amount due to the level of funding contained in the prior year's budget which is not necessary for the coming year.
- The **Cemetery** budget would be reduced by \$6,000, which would prevent some repair and restorative work planned by the Cemetery Trustees from occurring at the Longmeadow Cemetery.
- The **General Government** budget would be reduced by nearly \$15,000, which would eliminate the operational review and risk assessment the Board of Selectmen have planned for Town Hall operations.
- The **Police Department** budget would be approximately \$4,000 more than requested in 2017 due to the level of funding contained in the prior year's budget.
- The **Highway Department** budget would be approximately \$7,500 less than requested, which would eliminate funds to do additional roadside brush and tree cutting work in 2017.
- The **Direct Assistance** budget would not be reduced by \$5,000 as recommended by the Budget Committee based on the case load and expenditures of 2016, but would be funded at the level approved in the prior year.
- The **Parks & Recreation** budget would be funded at approximately \$17,500 more than recommended for 2017 based on the prior year's level.
- The **Recreation Improvement** budget of \$20,300 is not included at all in the Default Budget. This budget line provides funding to build and install dugouts on three separate fields at the Wayne Eddows Recreational Area to address safety concerns for the ball teams.
- The overall **Town Default Budget** does not include the potential Step Increases (2.0%) and Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) of 0.8% for Town employees as defined in the Town of Auburn Personnel Policy, and the associated costs for FICA, Medicare and NH Retirement System contributions for those wage increases.

# ESTIMATED HOMEOWNER COST FOR PROPOSED 2017 TOWN BUDGET

Budget by Department	Proposed 2017 Budget	% of Total 2016 Budget	Estimated Tax Dollars Per Year Based on Assessed Value					
			250K Home	300K Home	350K Home	400K Home	450K Home	500K Home
General Executive	\$ 259,728	4.77%	\$ 49.85	\$ 59.82	\$ 69.78	\$ 79.75	\$ 89.72	\$ 99.69
Elections & Registrations	\$ 81,977	1.51%	\$ 15.73	\$ 18.88	\$ 22.03	\$ 25.17	\$ 28.32	\$ 31.47
Financial Administration	\$ 97,767	1.80%	\$ 18.76	\$ 22.52	\$ 26.27	\$ 30.02	\$ 33.77	\$ 37.53
Legal Expense	\$ 57,000	1.05%	\$ 10.94	\$ 13.13	\$ 15.32	\$ 17.50	\$ 19.69	\$ 21.88
Personal Administration	\$ 394,312	7.24%	\$ 75.68	\$ 90.81	\$ 105.95	\$ 121.08	\$ 136.22	\$ 151.35
Planning & Zoning	\$ 33,751	0.62%	\$ 6.48	\$ 7.77	\$ 9.07	\$ 10.36	\$ 11.66	\$ 12.95
Government Buildings	\$ 134,786	2.48%	\$ 25.87	\$ 31.04	\$ 36.21	\$ 41.39	\$ 46.56	\$ 51.74
Cemeteries	\$ 36,323	0.67%	\$ 6.97	\$ 8.37	\$ 9.76	\$ 11.15	\$ 12.55	\$ 13.94
Insurance	\$ 109,571	2.01%	\$ 21.03	\$ 25.23	\$ 29.44	\$ 33.65	\$ 37.85	\$ 42.06
Advertising & Regional Assoc.	\$ 8,583	0.16%	\$ 1.65	\$ 1.98	\$ 2.31	\$ 2.64	\$ 2.97	\$ 3.29
Other General Government	\$ 120,514	2.21%	\$ 23.13	\$ 27.75	\$ 32.38	\$ 37.01	\$ 41.63	\$ 46.26
Police Department	\$ 1,152,412	21.16%	\$ 221.17	\$ 265.40	\$ 309.64	\$ 353.87	\$ 398.10	\$ 442.34
Ambulance	\$ 80,083	1.47%	\$ 15.37	\$ 18.44	\$ 21.52	\$ 24.59	\$ 27.66	\$ 30.74
Fire Department	\$ 416,238	7.64%	\$ 79.88	\$ 95.86	\$ 111.84	\$ 127.81	\$ 143.79	\$ 159.77
Building Inspection	\$ 66,057	1.21%	\$ 12.68	\$ 15.21	\$ 17.75	\$ 20.28	\$ 22.82	\$ 25.36
Emergency Management	\$ 701	0.01%	\$ 0.13	\$ 0.16	\$ 0.19	\$ 0.22	\$ 0.24	\$ 0.27
Other Public Safety - Town Details	\$ 1,000	0.02%	\$ 0.19	\$ 0.23	\$ 0.27	\$ 0.31	\$ 0.35	\$ 0.38
Highway Department	\$ 943,006	17.32%	\$ 180.98	\$ 217.18	\$ 253.37	\$ 289.57	\$ 325.76	\$ 361.96
Street Lighting	\$ 13,500	0.25%	\$ 2.59	\$ 3.11	\$ 3.63	\$ 4.15	\$ 4.66	\$ 5.18
Solid Waste Disposal	\$ 11,500	0.21%	\$ 2.21	\$ 2.65	\$ 3.09	\$ 3.53	\$ 3.97	\$ 4.41
Health Officer	\$ 2,596	0.05%	\$ 0.50	\$ 0.60	\$ 0.70	\$ 0.80	\$ 0.90	\$ 1.00
Animal Control	\$ 19,830	0.36%	\$ 3.81	\$ 4.57	\$ 5.33	\$ 6.09	\$ 6.85	\$ 7.61
Health Agencies	\$ 5,800	0.11%	\$ 1.11	\$ 1.34	\$ 1.56	\$ 1.78	\$ 2.00	\$ 2.23
Direct Assistance	\$ 16,969	0.31%	\$ 3.26	\$ 3.91	\$ 4.56	\$ 5.21	\$ 5.86	\$ 6.51
Intergovernmental Welfare	\$ 4,471	0.08%	\$ 0.86	\$ 1.03	\$ 1.20	\$ 1.37	\$ 1.54	\$ 1.72
Parks & Recreation	\$ 89,438	1.64%	\$ 17.16	\$ 20.60	\$ 24.03	\$ 27.46	\$ 30.90	\$ 34.33
Library	\$ 156,544	2.87%	\$ 30.04	\$ 36.05	\$ 42.06	\$ 48.07	\$ 54.08	\$ 60.09
Patriotic Purposes	\$ 6,550	0.12%	\$ 1.26	\$ 1.51	\$ 1.76	\$ 2.01	\$ 2.26	\$ 2.51
Conservation Commission	\$ 2,767	0.05%	\$ 0.53	\$ 0.64	\$ 0.74	\$ 0.85	\$ 0.96	\$ 1.06
Long Term Debt - P & I	\$ 2	0.00%	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00
Tax Anticipation Note Interest	\$ 1	0.00%	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00
FD Fire Truck (Lease)	\$ 72,696	1.34%	\$ 13.95	\$ 16.74	\$ 19.53	\$ 22.32	\$ 25.11	\$ 27.90
Road Reconstruction	\$ 800,000	14.69%	\$ 153.53	\$ 184.24	\$ 214.95	\$ 245.65	\$ 276.36	\$ 307.07
Recreation Improvements	\$ 23,000	0.42%	\$ 4.41	\$ 5.30	\$ 6.18	\$ 7.06	\$ 7.95	\$ 8.83
<b>Sub-Total (Operating Budget)</b>	<b>\$ 5,219,473</b>	<b>95.86%</b>	<b>\$ 1,001.71</b>	<b>\$ 1,202.05</b>	<b>\$ 1,402.39</b>	<b>\$ 1,602.74</b>	<b>\$ 1,803.08</b>	<b>\$ 2,003.42</b>

<b>Warrant Articles</b>								
Auburn Police Union Contract	\$ 9,167	0.17%	\$ 1.76	\$ 2.11	\$ 2.46	\$ 2.81	\$ 3.17	\$ 3.52
Police Mobile Radar Trailer	\$ 15,500	0.28%	\$ 2.97	\$ 3.57	\$ 4.16	\$ 4.76	\$ 5.35	\$ 5.95
Building Fund Capital Reserve	\$ 42,000	0.00%	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Employee Benefit Expendable Trust	\$ 13,000	0.00%	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Cemetery Maintenance Fund	\$ 4,900	0.00%	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Storage Garage Capital Reserve	\$ 141,000	0.00%	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
<b>Sub-Total (Warrant Articles)</b>	<b>\$ 225,567</b>	<b>4.14%</b>	<b>\$ 4.70</b>	<b>\$ 5.64</b>	<b>\$ 6.58</b>	<b>\$ 7.52</b>	<b>\$ 8.46</b>	<b>\$ 9.41</b>

<b>Total Town Budget 2017</b>	<b>\$ 5,445,040</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>\$ 1,006.41</b>	<b>\$ 1,207.69</b>	<b>\$ 1,408.98</b>	<b>\$ 1,610.26</b>	<b>\$ 1,811.54</b>	<b>\$ 2,012.82</b>
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## 2016 Approved Total Tax Rate

Town	\$ 2,899,972	4.43	\$ 1,107.50	\$ 1,329.00	\$ 1,550.50	\$ 1,772.00	\$ 1,993.50	\$ 2,215.00
Local School	\$ 8,022,067	12.26	\$ 3,065.00	\$ 3,678.00	\$ 4,291.00	\$ 4,904.00	\$ 5,517.00	\$ 6,130.00
State School	\$ 1,596,724	2.47	\$ 617.50	\$ 741.00	\$ 864.50	\$ 988.00	\$ 1,111.50	\$ 1,235.00
County	\$ 711,798	1.09	\$ 225.00	\$ 327.00	\$ 381.50	\$ 436.00	\$ 490.50	\$ 545.00
	\$13,230,561	\$ 20.25	\$ 5,062.50	\$ 6,075.00	\$ 7,087.50	\$ 8,100.00	\$ 9,112.50	\$ 10,125.00



# AUBURN SCHOOL DISTRICT

## SCHOOL DISTRICT VOTING

MARCH 14, 2017

To choose candidates for School District Offices.

FOR SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER  
Three Years  
Vote for not more than ONE

Janice Baker  
\_\_\_\_\_ (Write-in)



2. Are you in favor of the Auburn School District raising and appropriating the sum of \$24,828,611 for the addition/renovation to the Auburn Village School, and authorize the issuance of not more than \$24,828,611 of bonds or notes in accordance with the provisions of the Municipal Finance Act, (RSA 33:1, et. seq., as amended;) to authorize the Auburn School Board 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 authorize the Auburn School Board to issue, negotiate, sell and deliver such bonds or notes and to determine the rate of interest thereon and the maturity and other terms thereof; and to authorize the Auburn School Board to take any other action or to pass any other vote relative thereto; and further to raise and appropriate an additional sum of \$620,716 for the first year's interest payment on the bond? **(3/5 ballot vote required) (Recommended by the School Board) (Recommended by the Budget Committee)**

YES \_\_\_\_

NO \_\_\_\_

Balancing the goals of safety, security, efficiency and effectiveness with a responsible proposal to the town was not easy and it wasn't done without a great amount of time and analysis. Hundreds of Board, community members, SAU and AVS staff hours have gone into identifying the critical goals of both the physical structure, addressing the unknowns of the future (changes in education, technology, tools, and best practice; population growth and/or decline) and providing the least amount of burden to Auburn taxpayers as humanely possible.

No one can argue that building new would be wonderful, but reality is it is far more expensive, and ultimately, we'd need to address the expense of maintaining the existing during construction, and addressing what to do with the existing property – an additional expense. Ultimately, we arrived at the plan to retain as much of the original structure as possible, but remove and renovate the areas most in need, while wrapping it all in a “new envelope” – like new, but not at a brand new price tag. We worked with the Turner Group, the engineers on this project, to identify a construction management company. Why? GMP or Guaranteed Maximum Price ensures we will not exceed the budget. Why Bonnet Page and Stone (BPS)? They've completed a number of similar projects and come with solid recommendations; they also have a track record of returning 2-3%.

The goals of the School Board and master planning committee are all attainable on the existing site. The structure of the part of the building to be renovated is solid. This plan allows for all goals to be met at about approximately a 40% savings over a completely new building.

We are not increasing staff, adding niceties, over planning or under planning. We are addressing the immediate needs and planning with enough flexibility to ensure sustainability for the life of the 30 year bond we are proposing.

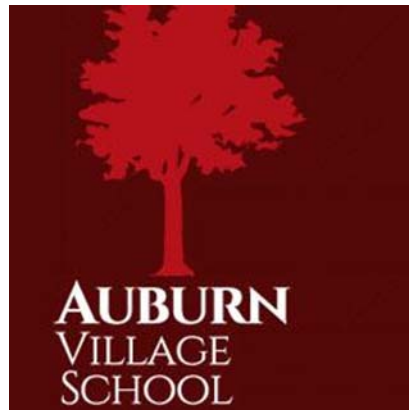
On the ensuing pages, you will find a fact sheet we hope helps address some commonly asked questions.

A “Yes” vote would approve the proposed bond issue and the two-year, phased construction would begin in the summer of 2017 with the removal of the portables and modulares. A new structure encompassing the classrooms previously housed in the portables and modular would be in place for the start of school, fall 2017.

A **"No"** vote would not allow for the borrowing of constructions funds as proposed and the two-year, phased construction project would not take place. Impacts of the decision would include:

- Tax rates will be impacted regardless
  - ⇒ maintenance issues will continue to increase, not decrease
  - ⇒ critical repairs and security measures will be need to be made over the course of the next several years, roughly \$3 million over the next five years. This will have an impact of approximately \$1.00 / thousand on the tax rate.
- The longer we wait, the more expensive it gets
  - ⇒ interest rates are historically low
  - ⇒ a future bond would likely be at higher rate
- Construction costs have increased approximately 40 % over the past 10 years, and are likely to continue to increase

**2017 Tax Impact: \$0.95**



### **AVS Addition and Renovation Highlights**

#### **Primary Goals:**

- Remove portable and modular classrooms (9 classrooms)  
Why? Portables are meant to be temporary. The portables have exceeded their life expectancy, are inefficient, and pose safety concerns.
- Improve safety and security of entire school  
Why? The Department of Homeland Security performed a site assessment and identified many areas of concern; some can only be addressed with a renovation.
- Increase primary education, special education and group learning space  
Why? This will allow for growth in enrollment and more flexible educational spaces to support optimal instructional practices.
- Improve the function of key common areas, including the gymnasium, nurse's office, and restrooms  
Why? The gymnasium is too small to accommodate an entire school assembly.  
The nurse's office does not currently meet minimum health standards.  
Restrooms are insufficient for students and staff.

**Proposal Highlights:**

- A single secured building for students, staff, and community
- Over 50,000 square feet of new space (additional multi-age media lab, capacity compliant gym, accommodations for classrooms currently on the exterior, 4 additional non-designated classrooms)
- Removal of all portables and modular classrooms
- New appropriately sized gymnasium for school and community use
- New roofs, windows, and technical systems
- Available space for modest growth
- Renovate gymnasium for new cafeteria space
- Improved parking and traffic flow
- No impact on instructional school days during 24 month construction timeline

**Proposed Costs:**

- Guaranteed Maximum Price \$24,828,611 (includes all phases of the project)
- Tax impact calculated using current interest rates would be \$2.25 / thousand. Examples of home values:
- \$200,000 = \$450 / year or \$37.50 / month
- \$250,000 = \$562.50 / year or \$46.88 / month
- \$300,000 = \$675 / year or \$56.25 / month
- \$350,000 = \$787.50 / year or \$65.63 / month
- \$400,000 = \$900 / year or \$75.00 / month
- \$450,000 = \$1,012.50 / year or \$84.38 / month
- \$500,000 = \$1,125 / year or \$93.75 / month

**Potential Savings:**

- Possibility of increased town revenues could reduce overall tax impact
- Reduction in other areas of town budget
- Proceeds from sale of district owned land originally intended for Auburn/Candia middle school
- Alternate financing options to be explored before bond origination

**Why are we proposing an addition and renovation instead of building new?**

This has been an excellent and frequently asked question. The Auburn School Board and AVS Master Planning Committee, during its two years of planning, firmly believe that we can accomplish every primary goal on the current site with far less of an impact on the taxpayers than building a new school.

**What if . . . ?**

What if the warrant article for the addition and renovation fails?

- \$3,000,000 + in major repairs to AVS will be necessary over the next five years, including the following: roofs, windows, asbestos removal, replacement of portables, mechanical, etc.
  - \$600,000 per year increase in the school budget yields a minimum of \$0.92 / thousand tax impact each of the next five years
- We could spend \$3,000,000 putting band-aids on required repairs and not meet or address a single goal
- We will still have portables, safety issues, an undersized gym and cafe, and no room for growth.
- Construction costs have increased 30-40% over the last 10 years. What will they be 10 years from now? Interest rates are still at historic lows. This project or a similar project will cost much more in the near future, and we will continue to spend money patching a school that is nearing the end of its usefulness.

For more information:

<http://auburn.sau15.net/avs-renovation-information/>  
[avsroc@gmail.com](mailto:avsroc@gmail.com)  
[www.facebook.com/avsroc](http://www.facebook.com/avsroc)

3. Are you in favor of the Auburn School District approving the cost items included in the collective bargaining agreement reached between the Auburn School Board and the Auburn Education Association, which calls for the following increase in salaries and benefits at the current staffing levels over the amount paid in the prior fiscal year:

<u>Year</u>	<u>Estimated Increase</u>
2017-2018	\$27,585
2018-2019	\$64,537
2019-2020	\$77,212

and further to raise and appropriate the sum of \$27,585 for the 2017 – 2018 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? **(Recommended by the School Board) (Recommended by the Budget Committee)**

YES \_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_

This requested increase includes a step increase in year one, which is partially offset by a switch in health insurance plans that includes a deductible. Year Two is an increase of \$1,200 to each step on the salary schedule, but staff do not move to the next step, and Year Three is a 1% increase as well as a step increase.

A **“Yes”** vote would approve the cost items for the three-year collective bargaining agreement between the Auburn School District and the Auburn Police Education Association.

A **“No”** vote would not provide funding for the proposed three-year collective bargaining agreement between the Auburn School District and the Auburn Education Association, and would return both sides to the negotiations table to work on a new agreement.

**2017 Tax Impact: \$0.04**

4. Are you in favor of the Auburn School District raising and appropriating 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 \$13,616,316? Should this article be defeated, the default budget shall be \$13,616,316, which is the same as last year, with certain adjustments required by previous action of the Auburn School District or by law; or the governing body may hold one 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 School Board) (Recommended by the Budget Committee)**

YES \_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_

The majority of the \$798,862 increase in the proposed operating budget is an increase to our High School Tuition due to an increased number of students attending Pinkerton Academy, as well as an increase to our Special Education Tuition to meet the needs of our students. This budget also includes \$50,938 for a new Science Curriculum which has not been updated in quite a few years.

A **"Yes"** vote would approve the proposed 2017 operating budget totaling \$13,724,982 as recommended by the Budget Committee.

**2017 Tax Impact:** Local Education - \$14.32  
State Education - \$ 2.45

A **"No"** vote would not approve the proposed operating budget as recommended by the Budget Committee and would result in the Default Budget totaling \$13,616,316, calculated by the School Board, being adopted.

**2017 Tax Impact:** Local Education - \$14.15  
State Education - \$ 2.49

5. Are you in favor of the Auburn School District accepting the recommendation of the School Administrative Unit Planning Committee not to recommend the organization, re-organization or withdrawal from SAU #15 in accordance with RSA 194-C:2, I ( c )?

YES \_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_

In 2016, the voters of the Auburn School District approved a warrant article that approved for the review of the potential withdrawal of the Auburn School District from SAU15. For those who may not know, SAU 15 is a shared administrative body for the towns of Auburn, Candia, and Hooksett. Auburn currently carries approximately 25 % of the SAU 15 operating cost, a share which is based upon student enrollment and valuation in each district.

A School Administrative Unit Planning Committee was established in conformance with the specifics of state statute, and the Committee reviewed this topic for the better part of 2016. The Committee's ultimate recommendation was to recommend that the Auburn School District not withdraw from SAU #15.

A **"Yes"** vote would mean that the Auburn School District would remain a part of SAU #15 with the Candia and Hooksett School Districts.

A **"No"** vote would mean that a new SAU Planning Committee would be formed to study the feasibility of the Auburn School District withdrawing from SAU #15.

AUBURN SCHOOL DISTRICT  
2016 APPROVED BUDGET and 2017 PROPOSED BUDGET

Department	Budgeted	Proposed
	2016	2017
<b>Instruction</b>		
Regular Programs	6,625,635.00	6,966,081.00
Special Programs	2,734,905.00	3,079,774.00
Other Programs	66,217.00	71,345.00
<b>Support Services</b>		
Student Support Services	803,608.00	830,636.00
Instructional Staff Services	247,925.00	254,380.00
<b>General Administration</b>		
Other School Board	57,396.00	36,161.00
<b>Executive Administration</b>		
SAU Management Services	274,367.00	287,029.00
School Administration Service	415,856.00	435,044.00
Business	5,587.00	4,199.00
Plant Operations and Maintenance	591,012.00	636,446.00
Student Transportation	662,985.00	692,119.00
Support Service, Central and Other	214,281.00	215,423.00
<b>Non-Instructional Services</b>		
Food Services Operations	198,798.00	216,340.00
<b>Facilities Acquisition and Construction</b>		
Site Improvement	1.00	1.00
Architectural/Engineering	1.00	1.00
<b>Other Outlays</b>		
Debt Service - Interest	1.00	0.00
<b>Fund Transfers</b>		
To Food Service	1.00	1.00
To Capital Projects	1.00	1.00
To Expendable Trusts/Fiduciary Funds	2,000,001.00	1.00
<b>TOTAL OPERATING BUDGET</b>	<b>\$ 14,898,578.00</b>	<b>\$ 13,724,982.00</b>
<b>WARRANT ARTICLES</b>		
Collective Bargaining Agreement	0.00	27,585.00
<b>TOTAL APPROPRIATIONS</b>	<b>\$ 14,898,578.00</b>	<b>\$ 13,752,567.00</b>

# **TOWN OF AUBURN AUBURN SCHOOL DISTRICT ELECTION AND BALLOT VOTING**

**AUBURN VILLAGE SCHOOL**

**March 14, 2017**

**Polls open at 7:00 A.M. and close at 7:00 P.M.**



TOWN OF AUBURN  
P.O. Box 309  
Auburn, NH 03032

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