

**State of New Hampshire
County of Carroll, Town of Freedom
2026 TOWN WARRANT**

To the Inhabitants of the Town of Freedom in the County of Carroll in said state, qualified to vote in Town Affairs:

You are hereby notified that the 2026 Annual Town Meeting of the Town of Freedom will be held at the Freedom Town Hall on Tuesday, **March 10, 2026**, for voting by Official Ballot for the election of Town Officers and for the adoption of Zoning Amendments. The polls will open at 9:00 a.m. and close at 7:00 p.m. unless there is a vote to keep the polls open to a later hour. The ballots will be counted after the polls close. Town Meeting will begin at 9:00 a.m. at which time all other warrant articles will be presented, discussed and acted upon.

Article 1 (To vote by Official Ballot):

To choose all necessary Town Officers for the ensuing year.

Article 2 (To vote by official ballot):

(Planning Board vote 7-0-0)

Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment 1 as proposed by the Planning Board for the town's zoning ordinance as follows: Amendment 1 revises Article 3 "DISTRICTS AND DISTRICT REGULATIONS," Section 304.6 to authorize the Town Zoning Officer to approve erosion and sedimentation control plans on projects which require no other ZBA action.

Article 3 (To vote by official ballot):

(Planning Board vote 7-0-0)

Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment 2 as proposed by the Planning Board for the town's zoning ordinance as follows: Amendment 2, pursuant to RSA 674:16, revises Article 24 "DEFINITIONS," Section 2402 to update "family, unrelated" and add Sections 1108.1 and 1108.2 to Article 11 "RESIDENTIAL USES" to limit occupants per bedroom, ensure septic systems can support dwellings with more than four occupants, and update parking requirements in accordance with updated "family, unrelated" definition.

Article 4 (To vote by official ballot):

Planning Board vote 7-0-0)

Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment 3 as proposed by the Planning Board for the town's zoning ordinance as follows: Amendment 3, pursuant to RSA 674:16 and :72, revises Article 11 "RESIDENTIAL USES," Sections 1102.1.6 and 1103.2.4 to update parking requirements for elderly/senior independent and group residences and updates Article 10 "OFF-STREET PARKING REQUIREMENTS," to reflect revised Sections 1102.1.6 and 1103.2.4 and reduces parking requirements for single and multi-family dwellings.

Article 5 (To vote by official ballot):

(Planning Board vote 7-0-0)

Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment 4 as proposed by the Planning Board for the town's zoning ordinance as follows: Amendment 4, pursuant to RSA 674:77 and :78, revises Article 3 "DISTRICTS AND DISTRICT REGULATIONS," Table 304.4, to make "multi-family housing" a permitted use in the Town's Residential/Light Commercial District.

Article 6

(Planning Board Vote 7-0-0)

Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment 5 as proposed by the Planning Board for the town's zoning ordinance as follows: Amendment 5 revises Article 11 "RESIDENTIAL USES" by repealing the text of Section 1104 in its entirety and replacing it with accessory dwelling unit regulation pursuant to RSA 674:71 - :73 and additionally prohibits accessory dwelling units associated with multiple-single family dwellings attached to each other and limits the size of accessory dwelling units to two (2) bedrooms.

Article 7

(Planning Board Vote (7-0-0)

Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment 6 as proposed by the Planning Board for the town's zoning ordinance as follows: Amendment 6 revises Article 3 "DISTRICTS AND DISTRICT REGULATIONS," Section 307.2 to allow 12" or less roof overhangs to project into a lot's setback in all districts except the Shore Front District.

Article 8

(Selectmen Recommend 3-0-0)

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$3,998,917 (Three Million Nine Hundred Ninety-Eight Thousand Nine Hundred Seventeen dollars) for general municipal operations. This article does not include appropriations contained in special or individual articles addressed separately. Funds raised by taxation. (Majority vote required)

Article 9

(Selectmen Recommend 3-0-0)

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$131,250 (One Hundred Thirty-One Thousand Two-Hundred Fifty dollars) for the annual appropriation for the library. Funds to be raised by taxation. (Majority vote required)

Article 10

(Selectmen Recommend 3-0-0)

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$173,018 (One Hundred Seventy-Three Thousand Eighteen dollars) to seal Town roads. Funds to be raised by taxation. (Majority vote required)

Article 11

(Selectmen Recommend 3-0-0)

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$45,000 (Forty-Five Thousand dollars) to crack seal Town roads. Funds to be raised by taxation. (Majority vote required)

Article 12

(Selectmen Recommend 3-0-0)

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$64,000 (Sixty-Four Thousand dollars) for the purpose of restoration and repair of the window sashes and purchasing and installing storm windows for the Town Office. Funds to come from the Municipal Land and Building Capital Reserve Fund previously established. (Majority vote required)

Article 13

(Selectmen Recommend 3-0-0)

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$68,667 (Sixty-Eight Thousand Six Hundred Sixty-Seven dollars) for the purpose of purchasing a new Cruiser for the Police Department and to withdraw 30,000 (Thirty Thousand dollars) from the Police Department Equipment Capital Reserve Fund previously established). \$38,667 (Thirty-Eight Thousand Six Hundred and Sixty-Seven dollars) to be raised by taxation. (Majority vote required)

Article 14

(Selectmen Recommend 3-0-0)

To see if the Town will raise and appropriate the sum of \$2,469 (Two Thousand Four Hundred Sixty-Nine dollars) for the purpose of taking part in a county wide initiative for purchasing a software upgrade to the Internal Management and Control data software (IMC) used by the Police Department. The implementation cost for 2026 is \$2,469.00 (Two Thousand Four Hundred Sixty-Nine dollars). Future payments are to be in the Town Budget over the next four years for a total of \$28,126 (Twenty-Eight Thousand One Hundred Twenty-Six dollars). There is an opt out clause. Funds to be raised by taxation. (Majority vote required)

Article 15

(Selectmen Recommend 3-0-0)

To see if the Town will vote to establish a health reimbursement Expendable Trust Fund per RSA 31:19-a for the purpose of offsetting insurance costs for certain employees and to raise and appropriate \$21,436 (Twenty-One Thousand Four Hundred Thirty-Six dollars). This amount to come from unassigned fund balance, said funds being the balance of the 2025 budget for this purpose; further to name the Selectmen as agents to expend from the fund. No taxes to be raised with this warrant article. (Majority vote required)

Article 16

(Selectmen Recommend 3-0-0)

To see if the Town will raise and appropriate \$17,000 (Seventeen Thousand dollars) for the purpose of painting the Town Hall located at 16 Elm St. Funds to be raised by taxation. (Majority vote required)

Article 17

(Selectmen Recommend 3-0-0)

To see if the Town will raise and appropriate \$7,500 (Seven Thousand Five Hundred dollars) for the purpose of replacing the fence and dirt in the infield at the Ball Field. Funds to come from taxation. (Majority vote required)

Article 18

(Selectmen Recommend 3-0-0)

To see if the Town will raise and appropriate \$10,000 (Ten Thousand dollars) to share in the cost with Ossipee NH for the Independence Day fireworks. Funds to come from unassigned fund balance. (Majority vote required)

Article 19

(Selectmen Recommend 3-0-0)

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$12,000 (Twelve Thousand dollars) for the purpose of placing guide steel under the container to protect the concrete and the container at the Transfer Station. \$6,000 (Six Thousand dollars) to come from the Transfer Station Equipment Capital Reserve Fund previously established and \$6,000 (Six Thousand dollars) to be raised by taxation. (Majority vote required)

Article 20

(Selectmen Recommend 3-0-0)

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$6,400 (Six Thousand Four Hundred dollars) for the purpose of building 2 covers over the construction debris containers. Doing this will eliminate snow and ice from entering the containers, which adds to the disposal cost when containers are weighed. Funds to come from the Transfer Station Equipment Capital Reserve Fund previously established. (Majority vote required)

Article 21

(Selectmen Recommend 3-0-0)

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$15,500 (Fifteen Thousand Five Hundred dollars) for the purpose of paving the entrance at the Transfer Station. Funds to come from taxation. (Majority vote required)

Article 22

(Selectmen Recommend 3-0-0)

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$35,000 (Thirty-Five Thousand dollars) for milfoil treatment in Danforth Ponds, and other Freedom lakes and streams as needed. The sum of \$17,500 (Seventeen Thousand Five Hundred dollars) to come from the Exotic Aquatic Weed Control Project Grant. The remainder of \$17,500 (Seventeen Thousand Five Hundred dollars) is to be raised by taxation. (Majority vote required)

Article 23

(Selectmen Recommend 3-0-0)

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$8,000 (Eight Thousand dollars) for a licensed forester to oversee the administration of forestry activities in the Town Forest for the ensuing year with said funds to be withdrawn from the FCC Land Use Tax Account (LUCT). (Majority vote required)

Article 24

(Selectmen Recommend 3-0-0)

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$3,500 (Three Thousand Five Hundred dollars) for the purpose of road and water-bar maintenance, culvert replacement, and general activities in the Town Forest for the ensuing year with said funds to be withdrawn from the FCC Land Use Tax Account (LUCT). (Majority vote required)

Article 25

(Selectmen Recommend 3-0-0)

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$3,500 (Three Thousand Five Hundred dollars) for the purpose of funding the NH Lake Host Program. Funds to be raised by taxation. (Majority vote required)

Article 26

(Selectmen Recommend 0-3-0)

To see if the Town will vote to establish a Capital Reserve Fund under the provisions of RSA 35:1, to be known as the "Town Forest Trails/Roads and Easement Maintenance Capital Reserve Fund," for the purpose of funding maintenance, repair, and improvements to the Town Forest access trails/roads and for other activities required by the State of New Hampshire as easement holder.

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$7,500 (Seven Thousand Five Hundred dollars) to be placed in the "Town Forest Trails/Roads and Easement Maintenance Capital Reserve Fund" The Board of Selectmen shall be designated as agents to expend from the fund. Funds to be raised by taxation. (Majority vote required)

Article 27

(Selectmen Recommend 3-0-0)

To see if the Town will Vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$18,000 (Eighteen Thousand dollars) for the purpose of water erosion mitigation by constructing and infiltration trench, installing Ecoraster and fencing along Ossipee Lake Road, west of the Danforth Bay Bridge. The sum of \$13,000 (Thirteen Thousand Dollars) to come from NH Department of Environmental Service Grant. The remainder of \$5,000 (Five Thousand dollars) to be raised by taxation. (Majority vote required)

Article 28

(Selectmen Recommend 3-0-0)

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$5,000 (Five Thousand Dollars) for the purpose of increasing Fire members stipends for response from \$35,000 to \$40,000. The last increase was in 2018. Funds to come from unassigned fund balance. (Majority vote required)

Article 29

(Selectmen Recommend 3-0-0)

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$125,000 (One Hundred Twenty-Five Thousand dollars) to be added to the Town Infrastructure Capital Reserve Fund previously established. Funds come from unassigned fund balance. (Majority vote required)

Article 30

(Selectmen Recommend 3-0-0)

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$20,000 (Twenty Thousand dollars) to be added to the Police Department Equipment Capital Reserve Fund previously established. Funds to come from unassigned fund balance. (Majority vote required)

Article 31

(Selectmen Recommend 0-3-0)

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$10,000 (Ten Thousand dollars) to be added to the Freedom Public Library Expendable Trust Fund previously established. Funds to be raised by taxation. (Majority vote required)

Article 32

(Selectmen Recommend 3-0-0)

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$80,000 (Eighty Thousand dollars) to be added to the Highway Drainage Structures Improvement Capital Reserve Fund previously established. Funds to come from unassigned fund balance. (Majority vote required)

Article 33

(Selectmen Recommend 3-0-0)

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$10,000 (Ten Thousand dollars) to be added to the Town Hall and Office Capital Reserve Fund previously established with funds to come from unassigned fund balance. (Majority vote required)

Article 34

(Selectmen Recommend 3-0-0)

Shall the Town of Freedom vote in accordance with RSA 72:27-a to modify the provisions of RSA 72:35, previously adopted, for an optional tax credit of \$1,650.00 (One Thousand Six Hundred Fifty dollars) for a Service-Connected Total and Permanent Disability? If approved, this article shall take effect for the final property tax bill of the 2026 property tax year. (Majority vote required)

Article 35

(Selectmen Recommend 3-0-0)

(Submitted by Petition). To see if the Town will vote and raise and appropriate the sum of \$2,500 (Two Thousand Five Hundred dollars). For the purpose of painting two sets of pickleball lines to be painted on the current usable Town of Freedom Tennis Court and acquiring two portable pickleball nets. Further to authorize the Selectboard to accept such grants, bequests, and donations from public or private sources for such purpose. If approved, the lines to be painted would be different colors than the tennis court lines and would not hinder what already exists. The portable nets would be moved to the side of the tennis court when not in use. Funds to be raised by taxation. (Majority vote required)

Article 36

(Selectmen Recommend 3-0-0)

Are you in favor of authorizing the Board of Selectmen to appoint a Treasurer to a (3) year term and to discontinue the election of the Treasurer. If passed, this will take effect at the next annual election as provided by RSA 669:17d. (Majority vote required)


Article 37

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

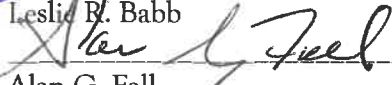
Given our hands and seal this 9th day of February in the year of the Lord Two Thousand Twenty-Six.

Town of Freedom

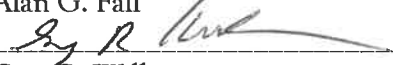
By Its Board of Selectmen:



 Leslie R. Babb



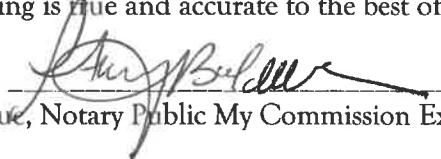
 Alan G. Fall



 Gary R. Williams

State of New Hampshire
County of Carroll, ss

Personally, appeared the above-named Leslie R. Babb, Alan G. Fall, and Gary R. Williams, or a majority of them, Selectmen of the Town of Freedom, and took oath that the foregoing is true and accurate to the best of their knowledge and belief.

Before me, 
Stacy Bolduc, Notary Public My Commission Expires:

