



STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

TOWN OF WALPOLE

Town Meeting – March 14, 2026

To the Inhabitants of the Town of Walpole qualified to vote in Town Affairs:

You are hereby notified to meet at the Town Hall, 34 Elm Street, Town of Walpole, on **Tuesday, March 10, 2026**, at 7:00 AM to act on Articles 1-17. Polls at the Walpole Town Hall and at North Walpole St. Peter's Church will be open at 7:00 AM and remain open until 7:00 PM. Following the closing of the polls and counting of the ballots, the meeting will be adjourned until **Saturday, March 14, 2026, at 1:00 PM** at the **Walpole Town Hall** at 34 Elm Street, at which time the balance of the Articles will be acted upon.

ARTICLE 1: To elect the necessary Town Officers for their respective terms.

ARTICLE 2: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of five million seven hundred thirty three thousand one hundred sixteen dollars (\$5,733,116) which represents four million eight hundred seventy six thousand eight hundred thirty six dollars (\$4,876,836) for the Town Operating Budget to be raised from general taxation; two hundred forty thousand eight hundred thirty one dollars (\$240,831) for the Water Operating Budget and for six hundred fifteen thousand four hundred forty nine dollars (\$615,449) for the Sewer Operating Budget which includes two hundred thirty thousand dollars (\$230,000) for bond assessments. Such sums do not include any special or individual articles found in the warrant.

Majority vote required.

The Selectboard recommends this article. (3 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstain)

ARTICLE 3: To see if the Town to raise and appropriate the sum of one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000) to the Police Building Capital Reserve Fund. The said funds to come from general taxation.

The Selectboard recommends this article. (3 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstain)

ARTICLE 4: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of fifteen thousand dollars (\$15,000) for the Police Department Capital Reserve Fund. The said funds to come from general taxation.

The Selectboard recommends this article. (3 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstain)

ARTICLE 5: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of eighty thousand dollars (\$80,000) for a vehicle for the Walpole Police Department. The said funds to come the following sources: twenty thousand dollars (\$20,000) from the Police Cruiser Capital Reserve Fund and sixty thousand dollars (\$60,000) from the Unassigned Fund Balance. This is a non-lapsing warrant article.

The Selectboard recommends this article. (3 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstain)

ARTICLE 6: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000) for the Highway Equipment Capital Reserve Fund. The said funds to come from general taxation.

The Selectboard recommends this article. (3 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstain)

ARTICLE 7: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of one hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$150,000) for the purchase of a one-ton truck. The said funds to come from the following sources: seventy five thousand dollars (\$75,000) from the Highway Equipment Capital Reserve Fund and seventy five thousand dollars (\$75,000) from the Unassigned Fund Balance. This is a non-lapsing warrant article.

The Selectboard recommends this article. (3 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstain)

ARTICLE 8: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of forty thousand dollars (\$40,000) to the Town Facilities Maintenance Capital Reserve Fund. The said funds to come from general taxation.

The Selectboard recommends this article. (3 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstain)

ARTICLE 9: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of thirty-five thousand dollars (\$35,000) for the installation of a generator at the Town Hall. The said funds to come from the Unassigned Fund Balance.

The Selectboard recommends this article. (3 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstain)

ARTICLE 10: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of one hundred eight thousand dollars (\$108,000) for the installation of an air-cooling system in the Town Hall. The said funds to come from the Unassigned Fund Balance.

The Selectboard recommends this article. (3 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstain)

ARTICLE 11: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of forty-two thousand dollars (\$42,000) for the installation of a replacement compactor at the Recycling Center/ Transfer Station. The said funds to come from the Unassigned Fund Balance.

The Selectboard recommends this article. (3 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstain)

ARTICLE 12: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of thirty-one thousand dollars (\$31,000) for the Town Assessment Capital Reserve Fund. The said funds to come from general taxation.

The Selectboard recommends this article. (3 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstain)

ARTICLE 13: Shall the Town modify the provisions of RSA 72:35 for an optional tax credit of \$1,900 for a Service-Connected Total Disability on residential property?

Majority vote required.

The Selectboard recommends this article. (3 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstain)

ARTICLE 14: New Hampshire thrives when state funding supports local communities. Therefore, the residents of Walpole are asked: Do we call on the New Hampshire Legislature to protect local taxpayers by ensuring adequate state revenues for essential services, and by avoiding policies that shift costs onto the local property taxpayers?

This question arises because recent state budgets have reduced or eliminated key revenue sources, forcing towns and counties to raise property taxes to maintain education, healthcare, county nursing homes, public safety and infrastructure. These shifts burden working families, strain local budgets, limit flexibility, and undermine long-term prosperity.

A state budget that prevents cost shifting and restores municipal revenue sharing erases the tax burden on local property taxpayers and strengthens communities.

Be it further resolved that the Select Board shall send the results of this vote to the Governor and all the General Court representing Walpole within 30 days.

The Selectboard recommends this article. (0 Yes, 0 No, 3 Abstain)

ARTICLE 15: New Hampshire communities value strong public schools and responsible use of public funds for education. Therefore, the voters of Walpole, New Hampshire are asked: Shall we call our legislators to protect taxpayers by requiring the Education Freedom Account program provide fiscal and educational performance reports comparable to those required of public schools, and by limited eligibility to families with demonstrated financial need?

This question is raised because the state legislators recently removed all income limits from the Education Freedom Account program (vouchers), expanding it beyond its original purpose. These changes added tens of millions of dollars in costs while the program provides limited public information on how funds are spent or if educational standards are met.

The voucher program is projected to cost \$110 million over the next two years, with no new revenue sources identified. This directs public funds to private education without reducing the expenses public schools are constitutionally required to cover, increasing pressure on local property taxes.

Be it further resolved that the Select Board shall send the results of this vote to the Governor and all members of the General Court representing Walpole within 30 days.

The Selectboard recommends this article. (0 Yes, 0 No, 3 Abstain)

ARTICLE 16: Local voices know local needs best. Therefore, the residents of Walpole are asked: Shall we affirm our right to self-governance over local boards and local elections by opposing any efforts that introduce partisanship into local elections or that deny towns local control in regard to local boards?

This question arises because recent state actions have raised concerns about the preservation of long-standing local control. Proposals have sought to alter the nonpartisan nature of local elections, limit the authority of school districts over certain appropriations, and require consolidation of school administration school units across towns. Taken together, these efforts would reduce the ability of local voters and communities to make decisions based on their own needs and priorities.

Be it further resolved that the Select Board shall send the results of this vote to the Governor and all members of the General Court representing Walpole within 30 days.

The Selectboard recommends this article. (0 Yes, 0 No, 3 Abstain)

ARTICLE 17: To transact any other business that may legally come before the meeting.

Given under our hand and seal this 5th day of February, the year of our Lord Two Thousand and Twenty-Six.

Walpole Selectboard

Steven Dalessio, Chair

Carolyn Vose

Cheryl Mayberry



STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

TOWN OF WALPOLE

Town Meeting – March 14, 2026

Attest: A True copy.

Steven Dalessio, Chair

Carolyn Vose

Cheryl Mayberry

State of New Hampshire
County of Cheshire ss.

We do hereby certify that we gave notice to inhabitants of the Town of Walpole to vote in Town affairs to meet at the time and place for the purposes within mentioned, by posting up an attest copy of the within Warrant at the place of meeting, within named, and a like copy at:

Walpole Town Hall: Selectboard Office and Town Clerk/Tax Collector Office
Burdick and Burns Building
Drewsville General Store
North Walpole Village Hall

Being public places in the said Town of Walpole on February 13, 2026

Steven Dalessio, Chair

Carolyn Vose

Cheryl Mayberry

Sarah E. Downing
Notary Public
My Commission Expires August 15, 2026