ABSENTEE
OFFICIAL BALLOT
ANNUAL SCHOOL DISTRICT ELECTION
EPSOM, NEW HAMPSHIRE
MARCH 8, 2016

SCHOOL DISTRICT CLERK

INSTRUCTIONS TO VOTERS

A. TO VOTE, completely fill in the OVAL to the RIGHT of your choice(s) like this: ●

B. Follow directions as to the number of candidates to be marked for each office.

C. To vote for a person whose name is not printed on the ballot, write the candidate's name on the line provided and completely fill in the OVAL.

SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER

For Three Years — Vote for not more than ONE

LUCIE WEEKS	316	●
Tim Riel (Write-in)	296	○

EPSOM SCHOOL DISTRICT WARRANT ARTICLES

1. Shall the Epsom School District 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 **$10,437,354**? Should this article be defeated, the default budget shall be **$10,408,370** which is the same as last year, with certain adjustments required by previous action of the Epsom 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.

421 **YES** ● **NO** ○

School Board Recommends Approval
Budget Committee Recommends Approval 382

[If passes, the new estimated tax rate will be $17.54 [per thousand], which will result in a $1.36 increase over the previous year tax rate.

[Note: Warrant Article #1 (operating budget article) does not include separate Warrant Articles #2, and #3.]

2. Shall the Epsom School District vote to approve the cost items set forth in the collective bargaining agreement reached between the Epsom School Board and the Epsom Teachers Association for the 2016/17 fiscal year which calls for the following increases in salaries and benefits at the current staffing level:

Year 2016/17 $24,079

and further to raise and appropriate the sum of $24,079 for the 2016/17 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?

519 **YES** ● **NO** ○

School Board Recommends Approval
Budget Committee Recommends Approval 289

[Estimated tax impact of this article is $0.06 per thousand]

TURN BALLOT OVER AND CONTINUE VOTING

EPSOM SCHOOL DISTRICT WARRANT ARTICLES CONTINUED

3. Shall the Epsom School District vote to approve the cost items set forth in the collective bargaining agreement reached between the Epsom School Board and the Epsom Support Staff Association for the 2016/17 fiscal year which calls for the following increases in salaries and benefits at the current staffing level:

Year 2016/17 $687

606

and further to raise and appropriate the sum of $687 for the 2016/17 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?

YES ●
NO ○

197

School Board Recommends Approval
Budget Committee Recommends Approval

[Estimated tax impact of this article is $0.00 per thousand]

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4. To see if the District will vote to discontinue the Epsom School District Technology Trust Fund created in 1995. Said funds, (Trust Amount of $684.60) with accumulated interest to date of withdrawal, are to be transferred to the School district's general fund. (Majority Vote Required)

650

YES ●
NO ○

School Board Recommends Approval
Budget Committee Recommends Approval

149

[Estimated tax impact of this article is $0.00 per thousand]

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5. Shall the school district accept the provisions of RSA 198:20-b providing that any school district at an annual meeting may adopt an article authorizing indefinitely, until specific rescission of such authority, the school board to apply for, accept and expend, without further action by the school district, unanticipated money from a state, federal or other governmental unit or a private source which becomes available during the fiscal year?

599

YES ●
NO ○

192

School Board Recommends Approval
Budget Committee Recommends Approval

[Estimated tax impact of this article is $0.00 per thousand]

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6. Shall the School District authorize the School Board to accept on behalf of the District, without further action by the voters, gifts, legacies and devises of real or personal property which may become available to the District during the fiscal year?

630

YES ●
NO ○

School Board Recommends Approval

166

YOU HAVE NOW COMPLETED VOTING

ABSENTEE OFFICIAL BALLOT ANNUAL TOWN ELECTION EPSOM, NEW HAMPSHIRE MARCH 8, 2016

Dawn Blackwell
TOWN CLERK

INSTRUCTIONS TO VOTERS

A. TO VOTE, completely fill in the OVAL to the RIGHT of your choice(s) like this: ●
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SELECTMAN
For 3 Years — Vote for not more than ONE

HUGH A. CURLEY	651	●
(Write-in)		○

CEMETERY TRUSTEE
For 3 Years — Vote for not more than ONE

GARY P. KITSON	641	●
(Write-in)		○

BUDGET COMMITTEE
For 2 Years — Vote for not more than ONE

Penny Graham	32	●
(Write-in)		

TREASURER
For 1 Year — Vote for not more than ONE

PAULA S. SMITH	683	●
(Write-in)		○

TRUSTEE OF TRUST FUNDS
For 3 Years — Vote for not more than ONE

SARAH LADD BENNETT	637	●
(Write-in)		○

BUDGET COMMITTEE
For 1 Year — Vote for not more than ONE

Joanne Randall	47	●
(Write-in)		

OVERSEER OF PUBLIC WELFARE
For 1 Year — Vote for not more than ONE

PATRICIA L. HICKEY	655	●
(Write-in)		○

SUPERVISOR OF CHECKLIST
For 6 Years — Vote for not more than ONE 617

ELIZABETH (BETSY) BOSIAK		●
(Write-in)		○

PLANNING BOARD
For 3 Years — Vote for not more than TWO

JOHN DODGE	599	●
SHARON BURNSTON	515	●
(Write-in)		○
(Write-in)		○

LIBRARY TRUSTEE
For 3 Years — Vote for not more than ONE

ROBERT P. PAINE, JR.	666	●
(Write-in)		○

BUDGET COMMITTEE
For 3 Years — Vote for not more than THREE

DAVID FIORENTINO	529	●
JONI KITSON	519	●
RALPH H. WEEKS	552	●
(Write-in)		○
(Write-in)		○
(Write-in)		○

PLANNING BOARD
For 2 Years — Vote for not more than ONE

JOSEPH P. HARNOIS	583	●
(Write-in)		○

PLANNING BOARD
For 1 Year — Vote for not more than ONE

Tim Riel	9	●
(Write-in)		

TOWN OF EPSOM WARRANT ARTICLES AS MODIFIED ON FEBRUARY 6, 2016

ARTICLE 1: Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of seven hundred ninety-eight thousand three hundred eighty-one dollars ($798,381.00) to construct a Town Office building, including but not limited to site work, septic, water and parking, and authorize the issuance of not more than three hundred ninety-nine thousand one hundred ninety-one dollars ($399,191.00) of bonds or notes for half the cost of this purpose in accordance with the Municipal Finance Act (RSA 33), and to authorize the Selectmen to issue and negotiate such bonds or notes and to determine the rate of interest thereon, and further authorize the use of three hundred ninety-nine thousand one hundred ninety dollars ($399,190.00) from the unassigned fund balance for half the cost of that purpose, and further to raise and appropriate the sum of eight thousand seven hundred dollars ($8,700.00) for Bond Counsel fee and the first year's interest payment on the bond? (3/5 ballot vote required) This is a Non-Lapsing Warrant Article and will not lapse until the project is completed or December 31, 2021, whichever comes first. This appropriation is in addition to the operating budget.

	448
YES	○
NO	●
	323

463 needed to pass

Estimated tax impact in 2016 is $ .02

Recommended by the Selectmen 3-0 Recommended by the Budget Committee 7–5

TURN BALLOT OVER AND CONTINUE VOTING

TOWN OF EPSOM WARRANT ARTICLES AS MODIFIED ON FEBRUARY 6, 2016 CONTINUED

ARTICLE 2: Shall the Town of Epsom 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 $3,252,815? Should this article be defeated, the operating budget shall be $3,208,271, which is the same as last year, with certain adjustments required by previous action of the Town 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.

The operating budget is estimated to be a $ .65 decrease from the 2015 tax rate.
The default budget is estimated to be a $ .76 decrease from the 2015 tax rate.

Recommended by the Selectmen 3–0 Recommended by the Budget Committee 12-0

506 YES ● NO ○ 284

ARTICLE 3: Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of three thousand five hundred dollars ($3,500.00) to purchase a sign with message board for the Police Department building and authorize the withdrawal of that same amount of three thousand five hundred dollars ($3,500.00) from the interest in the Lillian Morrison Trust Fund – Police for that purpose? No amount to be raised by taxes. Majority vote required. This is a Special Warrant Article and its appropriation is in addition to the operating budget.

Estimated tax impact is $ .00

Recommended by the Selectmen 3–0 Recommended by the Budget Committee 12–0

586 YES ● NO ○ 211

ARTICLE 4: Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of twelve thousand five hundred dollars ($12,500.00) to purchase new swift and ice water rescue equipment and auto extrication equipment and authorize the withdrawal of the same amount of twelve thousand five hundred dollars ($12,500.00) from the Fire Apparatus Capital Reserve Fund for that purpose? No amount to be raised by taxes. Majority vote required. This is a Special Warrant Article and its appropriation is in addition to the operating budget.

Estimated tax impact is $ .00

Recommended by the Selectmen 3–0 Recommended by the Budget Committee 12-0

652 YES ● NO ○ 146

ARTICLE 5: Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of one hundred fifty thousand dollars ($150,000.00) to be added to the Capital Reserve Fund previously established for the purpose of reconstruction and improvements to town roads? Majority vote required. This is a Special Warrant Article and its appropriation is in addition to the operating budget.

Estimated tax impact is $ .36

Recommended by the Selectmen 3–0 Recommended by the Budget Committee 12–0

498 YES ● NO ○ 294

ARTICLE 6: Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of ten thousand dollars ($10,000.00) to be added to the Capital Reserve Fund previously established for the purpose of purchasing motorized vehicles and equipment for the Highway Department? Majority vote required. This is a Special Warrant Article and its appropriation is in addition to the operating budget.

Estimated tax impact is $ .02

Recommended by the Selectmen 3–0 Recommended by the Budget Committee 12–0

504 YES ● NO ○ 291

ARTICLE 7: Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of fifteen thousand dollars ($15,000.00) to be added to the Capital Reserve Fund previously established for the purpose of bridge replacement and repair? Majority vote required. This is a Special Warrant Article and its appropriation is in addition to the operating budget.

Estimated tax impact is $ .03

Recommended by the Selectmen 3–0 Recommended by the Budget Committee 12–0

560 YES ● NO ○ 230

ARTICLE 8: Shall the Town vote to establish a contingency fund for the 2016 year for unanticipated expenses that may arise and further raise and appropriate the sum of ten thousand dollars ($10,000.00) from the unassigned fund balance to go into the fund? No amount to be raised from taxation. Any appropriation left in the fund at the end of the year will lapse to the general fund. Majority vote required. This Article and its appropriation are in addition to the operating budget.

Estimated tax impact is $ .00

Recommended by the Selectmen 3–0 Recommended by the Budget Committee 12–0

590 YES ● NO ○ 206

ARTICLE 9: Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of three thousand five hundred and one dollars ($3,501.00) to be used by the Northwood Lake Watershed Association in the treatment to control Milfoil in Northwood Lake? Majority vote required. This appropriation is in addition to the operating budget.

Estimated tax impact is $ .01

Recommended by the Selectmen 3–0 Recommended by the Budget Committee 12 – 0

494 YES ● NO ○ 299

GO TO NEXT BALLOT AND CONTINUE VOTING

ABSENTEE
OFFICIAL BALLOT
ANNUAL TOWN ELECTION
EPSOM, NEW HAMPSHIRE
MARCH 8, 2016

Dawn Blackwell
TOWN CLERK

TOWN OF EPSOM WARRANT ARTICLES AS MODIFIED ON FEBRUARY 6, 2016 CONTINUED

ARTICLE 10: Shall the Town vote to establish a revolving fund pursuant to RSA 31:95-h, for the purpose of ambulance services and deposit into that fund each year twelve thousand dollars ($12,000.00) of the revenue received from providing ambulance service? These funds shall be allowed to accumulate from year to year and shall not be considered to be part of the Town's general fund. These funds are to be expended to pay the cost of billing for ambulance services and for paramedic intercepts performed by other towns. The Town Treasurer shall have custody of all monies in the fund and shall pay out the same on the order of the Fire Chief. This article is contingent on the passage of Article 11, and will be void if Article 11 does not pass. Majority vote required.

Recommended by Selectmen 3–0 Recommended by the Budget Committee 12–0

667 YES ●
NO ○
144

ARTICLE 11: There presently exists a Fire and Rescue Apparatus Special Revenue Fund, established under the provisions of RSA 31:95-c, into which all of the revenue earned from providing ambulance services is deposited each year, to be expended by Town vote on replacement and maintenance of fire and ambulance apparatus. Are you in favor of changing the amount of revenue deposited into the fund to the amount of revenue received each year in excess of $12,000.00? 2/3 ballot vote required. This article is contingent on the passage of Article 10, and will be void if Article 10 does not pass.

Recommended by Selectmen 3–0 Recommended by the Budget Committee 12–0

635 YES ●
NO ○
172

ARTICLE 12: Shall the Town vote to increase the exemption amount and eligibility requirements of the previously adopted Elderly Exemption, per RSA 72:39b, as follows: for 65-74 years of age, increase from thirty thousand dollars ($30,000) to forty five thousand dollars ($45,000); for 75-79 years of age, increase from sixty thousand dollars ($60,000) to seventy five thousand dollars ($75,000); and change the eligibility requirements by increasing the income limit for singles from eighteen thousand four hundred dollars ($18,400.00) to twenty-one thousand seven hundred seventy-five dollars ($21,775.00); increase the combined income limit for married couples from twenty-six thousand four hundred dollars ($26,400.00) to twenty-nine thousand four hundred seventy-one dollars ($29,471.00); and increase the assets from not to exceed thirty-five thousand dollars ($35,000.00) to not to exceed fifty-five thousand dollars ($55,000.00)? The exemption amount for 80+ years of age would remain at one hundred twenty thousand dollars ($120,000.00). Majority vote required.

Recommended by Selectmen 3–0

608 YES ●
NO ○
189

ARTICLE 13: Shall the Town vote to increase the eligibility requirements of the Disabled Exemption, previously adopted per RSA 72:37b, as follows: increase the single income limit from eighteen thousand four hundred dollars ($18,400.00) to twenty-one thousand seven hundred seventy-five dollars ($21,775.00); increase the married income limit from twenty-five thousand four hundred dollars ($25,400.00) to twenty-nine thousand four hundred seventy-one dollars ($29,471.00); and increase the assets amount from not to exceed thirty-five thousand dollars ($35,000.00) to not to exceed fifty-five thousand dollars ($55,000.00)? Majority vote required.

Recommended by Selectmen 3–0

574 YES ●
NO ○
218

ARTICLE 14: Shall the Town vote to adopt the provisions of RSA 72:65 through 72:68, which provide for an optional property tax exemption from the property's assessed value for property tax purposes, for persons owning real property which is equipped with any wind powered energy system intended for use at the immediate site? Such property tax exemption shall be in the amount equal to 100% of the assessed value of qualifying equipment under these statutes. Majority vote required.

Recommended by Selectmen 2–1

418 YES ●
NO ○
379

ARTICLE 15: To see if the town will vote to adopt the provisions of RSA 72:61 through RSA 72:64 inclusively, which provide for an optional property tax exemption from the property's assessed value, for property tax purposes, for persons owning real property, which is equipped with solar energy systems intended for use at the immediate site. Such property tax exemption shall be in the amount equal to 100% of the assessed value of qualifying equipment under these statutes.
BY PETITION. Majority vote required.

Recommended by Selectmen 3–0

487 YES ●
NO ○
318

YOU HAVE NOW COMPLETED VOTING