

**TOWN OF NORWICH, VERMONT AND  
NORWICH TOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT  
WARNING OF ANNUAL MEETING, MARCH 2, 2021**

The legal voters of the Town of Norwich, Vermont are hereby notified and warned to meet in remote fashion, due to the special circumstances surrounding COVID-19, via a ZOOM™ meeting link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82741134596>, or telephonically (US toll-free 1-888-475-4499) using meeting ID: 82741134596 at 7:00 pm on Monday, March 1, 2021, to transact business not requiring a vote by Australian ballot. Voting for Town Officers and for all articles on the Warning will be by Australian ballot. The polls will be open Tuesday, March 2, 2021 from 7:00 am to 7:00 pm.

NOTE: GIVEN THE EXTENUATING CIRCUMSTANCES SURROUNDING COVID-19, VOTERS ARE STRONGLY ENCOURAGED TO VOTE BY EARLY/ABSENTEE BALLOT. TO OBTAIN A BALLOT, CONTACT THE TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE (802-649-1419).

This meeting is called to determine if the Town will:

**Article 1.** Elect a Moderator of the Town and School District meeting for one year.

**Article 2.** Elect Town and School District Officers for terms starting in 2021.

**Article 3.** Hear and act on the reports of the Officers of the Town and Town School District.

**Article 4.** To authorize the Board of School Directors to borrow money by issuance of bonds or notes not in excess of anticipated revenues for the next fiscal year in accordance with the provisions of 16 VSA §562(9).

**Article 5.** Shall the voters of the Norwich Town School District determine and fix the salaries of the School Board members in the sum of \$500 each per year in accordance with the provisions of 16 VSA §562(5)?

**Article 6.** Shall the voters of the Norwich Town School District approve the School Board to expend \$6,206,043, which is the amount the School Board has determined to be necessary for the ensuing 2021-22 fiscal year? It is estimated that this proposed budget, if approved, will result in education spending of \$19,049 per equalized pupil. (This includes the Dresden assessment for 7-12<sup>th</sup> grade). This projected spending per equalized pupil is 1.15% higher than spending for the current year.

**Article 7.** Shall general obligation bonds or notes of the Norwich Town School District in an amount not to exceed \$216,224, subject to reduction from available state and federal grants-in-aid and other financial assistance, be issued for the purpose of financing the cost of making school building improvements, namely, the acquisition and installation of technology infrastructure at the Marion Cross Elementary School, the estimated cost of such improvements being \$216,224?

**Article 8.** To transact any other business that may legally come before the annual meeting of the Norwich Town School District.

**Article 9.** Shall the voters of the Town of Norwich approve a gross spending General Town Budget of \$4,780,866 plus state and federal grants and gifts consistent with budgeted programs for the period July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022?

**Article 10.** Shall the voters of the Town of Norwich authorize extension of the time period of the already appropriated \$30,669.51 for Norwich's share of a Regional Energy Coordinator position based at the Two Rivers Ottauquechee Regional Commission (TRORC) through June 30, 2022?

**Article 11.** Shall the voters of the Town of Norwich authorize the Selectboard, pursuant to 24 VSA § 2741, to enter into contracts, as application is made, for alternate energy generating plants: by fixing and maintaining the rate of tax applicable to such property, with the intent to ensure, among other things and as applicable, that the municipal tax treatment of off-site solar installations is equal to the municipal tax treatment of on-site solar installations?

**Article 12.** Shall the voters of the Town of Norwich appropriate \$13,514 to Advance Transit to be used to help cover operating costs and providing matching funds for grants for the support of providing public transportation services?

**Article 13.** Shall the voters of the Town of Norwich appropriate \$3,000 to Community Access Television, Inc. (CATV) for video recordings of meetings for local government transparency?

**Article 14.** Shall the voters of the Town of Norwich appropriate \$3,000 to Good Beginnings to be used for the support of programs?

**Article 15.** Shall the voters of the Town of Norwich appropriate \$1,659 to the Green Mountain Economic Development Corporation to be used to offer support for new, growing and relocating businesses?

**Article 16.** Shall the voters of the Town of Norwich appropriate \$2,500 to Headrest to be used for the operation of a crisis 24/7 hotline?

**Article 17.** Shall the voters of the Town of Norwich appropriate \$1,500 to the Norwich American Legion, to be used for the Legion's Memorial Day observance?

**Article 18.** Shall the voters of the Town of Norwich appropriate \$20,000 to the Cemetery Commission under 18 VSA §5361 to supplement the interest from the Perpetual Care Trust Fund for maintenance of the Town Cemeteries?

**Article 19.** Shall the voters of the Town of Norwich appropriate \$4,348 to The Child Care Center of Norwich to be used for income sensitive scholarships to Norwich children?

**Article 20.** Shall the voters of the Town of Norwich appropriate \$8,000 to the Norwich Historical Society and Community Center to support those programs that support the celebration of historic events?

**Article 21.** Shall the voters of the Town of Norwich appropriate \$3,500 to the Norwich Lions Club to be used to underwrite the fireworks for the Norwich Fair in celebration of the 260<sup>th</sup> year of the Town's Charter?

**Article 22.** Shall the voters of the Town of Norwich appropriate \$288,660 to the Norwich Public Library Association, to be used for the operating expenses of the Library?

**Article 23.** Shall the voters of the Town of Norwich appropriate \$337 to Public Health Council of the Upper Valley to be used for continuing public health education for Norwich residents particularly in the areas of substance abuse, elder care, oral health, emergency preparedness, and healthy living?

**Article 24.** Shall the voters of the Town of Norwich appropriate \$1,200 to Senior Solutions (an Area Agency on Aging) to provide social services benefitting Norwich residents aged 60 and older?

**Article 25.** Shall the voters of the Town of Norwich appropriate \$3,750 to SEVCA (Southeastern Vermont Community Action) to be used for emergency needs, referral to and assistance with accessing needed services, financial counseling and food and nutrition education?

**Article 26.** Shall the voters of the Town of Norwich appropriate \$2,000 to the Special Needs Support Center of the Upper Valley to help children and adults with special needs, and their families, meet their unique challenges through advocacy and program support?

**Article 27.** Shall the voters of the Town of Norwich appropriate \$6,000 to The Family Place to be used for general program support, such amount being reasonably necessary for the support of programs such as direct service through early intervention, child care payment assistance, healthy baby visits, reach up, welcome baby, parent education, playgroups and other services?

**Article 28.** Shall the voters of the Town of Norwich appropriate \$2,000 to the Upper Valley Trails Alliance to be used for trail planning and work?

**Article 29.** Shall the voters of the Town of Norwich appropriate \$18,500 to the Visiting Nurse Association & Hospice of VT and NH to help support the home health, maternal and child health and hospice care provided in patients' homes and in community settings?

**Article 30.** Shall the voters of the Town of Norwich appropriate \$5,300 to the White River Council on Aging to be used for home delivered meals, transport and social services?

**Article 31.** Shall the voters of the Town of Norwich appropriate \$1,000 to Windsor County Mentors to be used for mentoring youth?

**Article 32.** Shall the voters of the Town of Norwich appropriate \$2,500 to WISE (Women's Information Service) to be used to support WISE's crisis intervention and support services and prevention education?

**Article 33.** Shall the voters of the Town of Norwich appropriate \$3,000 to Youth-In-Action to be used for operating expenses that support our community service efforts?

**Article 34.** Shall the voters of the Town of Norwich authorize a five-year extension of the exemption from property taxes previously granted to The University Grange under the provisions of 32 VSA § 3840?

**Article 35.** Shall the voters of the Town of Norwich authorize a five-year extension of the exemption from property taxes previously granted to the Root District Game Club under the provisions of 32 VSA § 3840?

**Article 36.** Shall the voters of the Town of Norwich authorize a five-year extension of the exemption from property taxes previously granted to the Beaver Meadow Union Chapel under the provisions of 32 VSA § 3840?

**Article 37.** Shall the voters of the Town of Norwich authorize, pursuant to 24 VSA §§ 2741(a) & (c) and 32 VSA § 3832(7), the renewal and extension for five years the property tax exemption agreements between the Town of Norwich and the Norwich Fire District for two parcels of land owned by the Norwich Fire District, parcel #1 being approximately 350 acres lying southwest of Beaver Meadow Road and adjacent to Charles Brown Brook and parcel #2 being approximately 567 acres lying along Beaver Meadow Road and Tucker Hill Road; to exempt these lands from property tax and to keep in place the deeds conveying the development of recreation rights on said lands to the Town of Norwich, under which deeds the Norwich Fire District retained forestry and water rights. These development and recreation rights will revert to the Norwich Fire District if the tax exemptions are revoked, or if they are not extended by renewal when required.

**Article 38.** Shall the voters of the Town of Norwich require that taxes be paid in U.S. funds in two installments? The first installment will be due and accepted at the Town of Norwich Finance Office on or before 6:00 pm August 13, 2021 and the balance will be due at the same location on or before 6:00 pm February 11, 2022. A legible, official United States Post Office postmark/cancellation (not a postage machine date) will determine the payment date for all mailed payments. Interest on overdue taxes will be charged at 1% per month for the first three months and 1½% per month thereafter. All

delinquent taxes will be subject to an 8% collection fee in accordance with Vermont Statutes after February 11, 2022.

**Article 39.** To transact any other business that may legally come before the annual Norwich Town Meeting.

**Norwich Selectboard**

Claudette Brochu, Chair  
Roger Arnold, Vice-Chair  
Robert Gere  
John Langhus  
Mary Layton

**Norwich School Board**

Thomas Candon, Chair  
Kelley Hersey, Vice-Chair  
Lisa Christie, Secretary  
Neil Odell  
Garrett Palm

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