

## WARRANT FOR ACWORTH TOWN MEETING MARCH 14, 2023

To the inhabitants of the Town of Acworth, NH, qualified to vote in Town affairs:

You are hereby notified to bring your votes for Town Officers, and any other questions, to the Town Hall on Tuesday, the fourteenth day of March next, at 10:00 of the clock in the morning at which time the polls shall be opened for voting on Article One, Two and Three by use of the official ballot, and shall close not earlier than 7:00 of the clock in the evening; and you are hereby notified that discussion and voting on Articles Four through Fifteen shall commence at 7:00 of the clock in the evening on the same day, March 14 next at the Town Hall.

### ARTICLE ONE: To Vote by Non-partisan Ballot for the Following Town Officers:

Selectmen: 1 for 3 Years	Library Trustees: 2 for 3 Years
Tax Collector: 1 for 1 Year	Cemetery Trustees: 1 for 3 Years
Treasurer: 1 for 1 Year	Planning Board: 2 for 3 Years
Local Auditor 1 for 1 Year	Budget Committee: 2 for 3 Years
Trustees of Trust Funds: 1 for 3 Years	Supervisor of Checklist: 1 for 6 Years

**ARTICLE TWO:** To see if the Town will vote to amend the Town's Zoning Ordinance, Article III: General Provisions, Section D: Signs, as follows: *(New language is in italics.)*

- Change:** "No neon, tubular gas, or privately owned flashing electric signs shall be allowed" to *"No signs with internal illumination or flashing shall be allowed"*.
- Add:** *"It shall be unlawful for any person to erect, replace, alter, or relocate any sign, as defined in this Ordinance, without first obtaining a sign permit and complying with the provisions of this ordinance and other applicable Statutes."*
- Add:** *"The following signs do not require a permit: Property numbers; Street signs; Legal notices such as "No Trespassing" or "No Hunting"; Flags with the word "Open"; Historical markers; "For Rent" or "For Sale" signs placed by a property owner or realtor; Portable signs used for a temporary purpose."*

The following question will appear on the Official Ballot: "Are you in favor of amending the Zoning Ordinance as proposed by the Planning Board regarding signs? The amendments disallow flashing and internally lit electric signs and require permitting for signs except ordinary use signs such as For Sale, historical markers and temporary purpose signs?" *Planning Board recommend this article. (Majority Vote Required)*

**ARTICLE THREE:** To see if the Town will vote to amend the Town's Zoning Ordinance, Article III: General Provisions, **new** Section M: Tiny Houses and Yurts, and Article XVI: Definitions as follows: *(New language is in italics.)*

Article III: **Add:** *"M. Tiny houses and Yurts*

- Tiny houses and yurts which meet this Ordinance's definitions are allowed in order to provide opportunities for green and affordable housing in the Town and pursuant to filing a building permit application with the Board of Selectmen.*
- Tiny houses and yurts shall be subject to the same standards used for dwellings including compliance with State sanitary rules, boundary setbacks and all other provisions of this Ordinance and shall be subject to taxation as deemed appropriate by Town assessors."*

Article XVI: **Add:**

*"S. Tiny house means a dwelling that is 400 square feet or less in floor area excluding lofts.*

*T. Yurts, for purposes of this Ordinance, means those structures designed for year-round living with heating, cooking and sanitary facilities as opposed to those which are unheated, temporary, seasonal living quarters."*

The following question will appear on the Official Ballot: "Are you in favor of amending the Zoning Ordinance as proposed by the Planning Board to allow permitting of tiny houses and year round yurts as dwellings and adding definitions of tiny houses and yurts to the Ordinance?" *Planning Board recommend this article. (Majority Vote Required)*

**ARTICLE FOUR: Road Repairs Following the July 29-30, 2021 Flash Flood Event** To see if the Town will vote (1) to raise and appropriate \$750,000 (gross budget) for the purpose of restoring, repairing, and improving Town roads that suffered significant damages during the flash flood of July 29-30, 2021 (the "Project"); (2) to authorize the issuance of not more than \$750,000 of bonds or notes in accordance with the provisions of the Municipal Finance Act (RSA 33) to fund costs of the Projects and to authorize Town officials to issue and negotiate such bonds or notes and to determine the rate of interest thereon; (3) to authorize Town officials to apply for, obtain, and accept federal (e.g. FEMA), state, or other aid or grant monies in respect of the Project and to use such monies to reduce the amount of bonds or notes issued for the Project, to prepay such bonds or notes, or to pay debt service on such bonds or notes; and (4) to authorize the selectmen to take any other action or to pass any other vote relative thereto. *Selectmen recommend this article (2:Y, 0:N, 1:A). Budget Committee recommend this article (5:Y, 1:N). (3/5 ballot vote required)*

**ARTICLE FIVE:** To see if the Town will vote to empower the Selectmen to serve as pound keepers, measurers of wood and fence viewers.

**ARTICLE SIX:** To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen to borrow money in anticipation of taxes.

**ARTICLE SEVEN:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the Budget Committee recommended sum of \$1,551,727 for general municipal operations. This article does not include appropriations contained in special or individual articles addressed separately. *Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend this article. (Majority vote required)*

**ARTICLE EIGHT:** Polling hours in the town of Acworth are now open at 10 o'clock in the morning and close at 7 o'clock in the evening. Shall the Town vote to change polling hours so that polls shall open at 11 o'clock in the morning and close at 7 o'clock in the evening for all town and state elections? *(Majority vote required)*

**ARTICLE NINE:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$10,000 for the Fire Truck Capital Reserve Fund previously established in 2020. *Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend this article. (Majority vote required)*

**ARTICLE TEN:** To see if the Town will Vote to raise and appropriate \$10,000 for the Bridge Capital Reserve Fund established in 2014. This sum to come from the Acworth Special One-Time Bridge Payment. (No New Taxation.) *Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend this article. (Majority vote required)*

**ARTICLE ELEVEN:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$20,000 for the Highway Equipment Capital Reserve Fund previously established in 2000. *Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend this article. (Majority vote required)*

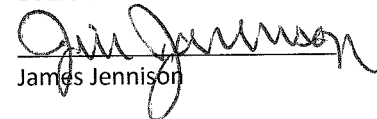
**ARTICLE TWELVE:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$8,000 for the Revaluation Capital Reserve Fund previously established in 2010. *Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend this article. (Majority vote required)*


**ARTICLE THIRTEEN:** To see if the Town will modify the Veteran's Tax Credit in accordance with RSA 72:28, II from its current tax credit of \$200 per year to \$300 per year. *(Majority vote required)*

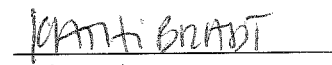
**ARTICLE FOURTEEN:** To see if the town modify the provisions of RSA 72:39-a for elderly exemption from property tax in the Town of Acworth, based on assessed value, for qualified taxpayers, to be as follows: for a person 65 years of age up to 75 years, \$20,000; for a person 75 years of age up to 80 years, \$40,000; for a person 80 years of age or older \$50,000. To qualify, the person must have been a New Hampshire resident for at least 3 consecutive years, own the real estate individually or jointly, or if the real estate is owned by such person's spouse, they must have been married to each other for at least 5 consecutive years. In addition, the taxpayer must have a net income of not more than \$25,000 or, if married, a combined net income of less than \$32,000; and own net assets not in excess of 48,000 excluding the value of the person's residence. *(Majority vote required)*

**ARTICLE FIFTEEN:** To transact any other business that may legally be brought before this Town Meeting.

Given under our hands and the seal of the Town of Acworth this 21 day of February, 2023. A True Copy of Warrant Attest:  
Board of Selectmen:

  
James Jennison

  
Ray Leonard

  
Kathi Bradt