

SYNOPSIS OF THE ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

March 11, 2025

Article 1 Officers for the Year Ensuing

To choose by ballot all necessary Town Officers for the ensuing year:

Board of Selectman	3 Year Term	Larry Cleveland	969
Planning Board	3 Year Term	Matthew Olson	899
		Curt Sauvola	886
Budget Advisory Committee	3 Year Term	Mark Hower	835
		Daniel Whitney	906
Zoning Board of Adjustment	3 Year Term	Martin Kulla	1261
Cemetery Trustee	3 Year Term	Joseph Hannon	862
Trustee of the Trust Funds	3 Year Term	Anne Reed	1159
Library Trustees	3 Year Term	L. Lorraine Horne	1007
		Florence Marsh	956

Article 2 Zoning Article

Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment number 1 to the Town of Rindge Zoning Ordinance as proposed by the Planning Board and generally described as follows: To amend Article III, A by adding a new first and second sentence in **bold**, as follows: A. **After passage of this ordinance, no building, structure, or land shall be used except for the purposes permitted in the district as specified in this ordinance. Any use not listed shall be construed as prohibited.** (Recommended by the Planning Board 7 in favor, 0 opposed.)

YES 999

NO 611

Article 3 Zoning Article

Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment number 2 to the Town of Rindge Zoning Ordinance as proposed by the Planning Board and generally described as follows: To amend the Accessory Dwelling Unit Ordinance, Section 2 by adding "existing" to the first sentence as shown in **bold** below, as follows: For the purpose of providing expanded housing opportunities and flexibility in household arrangements to accommodate family members or non-related people of a permitted, **existing** owner-occupied, single-family dwelling, while maintaining aesthetics and residential use compatible with homes in the neighborhood. (Recommended by the Planning Board 7 in favor, 0 opposed.)

YES 1035

NO 573

Article 4 Zoning Article

Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment number 3 to the Town of Rindge Zoning Ordinance as proposed by the Planning Board and generally described as follows: To amend Article III, N by adding the words "on the owner's property" to the first paragraph as shown in **bold** below, and removing the words "Tents do not require permits" from the second paragraph as shown in strikethrough below, as follows: Campers, travel trailers and motor homes may be stored unoccupied **on the owner's property** in any district in the Town of Rindge for any period of time. The Board of Selectmen may issue a permit for any residential property owner to accommodate him/herself or nonpaying guests on their property to reside in campers, travel trailers or motor homes for a period not exceeding 60 days in any one year. ~~Tents do not require permits.~~ In granting the permit, the Board of Selectmen shall take into consideration legitimate concerns raised by abutters. The units shall demonstrate that proper sanitary facilities are available, as determined by the Health Officer and all applicable life safety codes are met. No unit may be used for permanent dwelling at any time. (Recommended by the Planning Board 7 in favor, 0 opposed.)

YES 1071

NO 553

Article 5 Zoning Article

Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment number 4 to the Town of Rindge Zoning Ordinance as proposed by the Planning Board to amend Article III, S by deleting the words in strikethrough and adding the words in **bold** as follows: **Short Term Rentals:** The rental of all or any portion of a Single-Family Dwelling, Two-Family Dwelling, or

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Multi-Unit Dwelling, with the exception of ~~Bed and Breakfast Facilities~~, **Accessory Dwelling Units**, by the property owner thereof, **to any other person or group for periods of less than 30 days is a permitted commercial use provided that: Short Term Rentals shall require Site Plan approval, issuance of a Conditional Use Permit by the Planning Board and be in compliance with all local ordinances, regulations and applicable state laws and rules. Issuance of a Conditional Use Permit shall take into consideration adequate septic, water supply, adequate on site parking, maximum occupancy of up to three (3) people per bedroom, life safety inspections and other items deemed appropriate to protect public health and safety.** ~~Acceptable rentals shall include rentals for wedding parties and receptions, bachelor parties, corporate or institutional meetings, seminars, workshops, religious retreats, and events or activities for which attendance is not expected to exceed 25 people.~~

The purpose of the Amendment is to provide a new approval process for Short Term Rentals. (Recommended by the Planning Board 5 in favor, 1 opposed.)

YES 881

NO 717

Article 6 Zoning Article

Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment number 5 to the Town of Rindge Zoning Ordinance as proposed by the Planning Board and generally described as follows: To amend the Phased Development Ordinance as follows: add the words "or development" after the word "subdivision" where it appears in Section 2(1) and in Section 3; add the words "or developments" after the word "subdivisions" where it appears as shown in **bold** below, and revise the second sentence of Section 3 by deleting the words "are subdivisions that" to read: This article shall apply to all major subdivision/**development** applications filed with the Rindge Planning Board. Major subdivisions/**developments** ~~are subdivisions that~~ create four (4) or more new dwelling units. (Recommended by the Planning Board 7 in favor, 0 opposed.)

YES 1039

NO 529

Article 7 Zoning Article

Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment number 6 to the Town of Rindge Zoning Ordinance as proposed by the Planning Board and generally described as follows: To amend the Phased Development Ordinance to amend the Phasing table in Section 4 by deleting the numbers shown in strikethrough and adding the numbers shown in **bold** as follows:

<u>Number of Dwelling Units</u>	<u>Years</u>	<u>Max. Units in One Year</u>
2 to 3 2 to 5	Not Applicable	Not Applicable
4 to 6 6 to 10	2	50%
7 to 9 11 to 15	3	33%
10 to 20 16 to 20	4	25%
21 to 40	5	20%
Over 40	6 to 7	16%

(Percentages will be rounded to the nearest number) (Recommended by the Planning Board 5 in favor, 2 opposed.)

YES 757

NO 805

Article 8 Zoning Article

Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment number 7 to the Town of Rindge Zoning Ordinance as proposed by the Planning Board and generally described as follows: To amend Article XX, 11 ("Definitions") by adding the words as shown in **bold** as follows: Dwelling Unit: One (1) or more rooms, including cooking facilities and sanitary facilities in a structure, designed as a single unit for occupancy **with permanent provisions** for living and sleeping purposes. **This use shall not be deemed to include such transient occupancies as hotels, motels, rooming, boarding houses or short-term rentals.** (Recommended by the Planning Board 7 in favor, 0 opposed.)

YES 1056

NO 530

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Article 9 Zoning Article

Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment number 8 to the Town of Rindge Zoning Ordinance as proposed by the Planning Board and generally described as follows: To amend Article XX by adding two new definitions as shown in bold below as Article XX, #31 and #35, and renumber Article XX as needed, as follows: **31. Short Term Rental: Any individually or collectively owned single-family house or dwelling unit, or any unit or group of units in a condominium, cooperative, or timeshare, or owner-occupied residential home, or part thereof, that is offered for a fee for less than 30 consecutive days for transient occupancy.** **35. Transient occupancy: Temporary lodging of less than 30 days.** (Recommended by the Planning Board 7 in favor, 0 opposed.)

YES 1015

NO 566

Article 10 Operating Budget

To see if the Town shall 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 Five Million, Six Hundred Twenty-five Thousand, Two Hundred and Seventy-eight Dollars (\$5,625,278). Should this article be defeated, the Default Budget shall be Five Million, Four-hundred Eighty-seven Thousand, Eight Hundred Eighty-two Dollars (\$5,487,882) which is the same as last year with certain adjustments required by previous action of the Town of Rindge 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. (Recommended by the Selectmen 3 in favor, 0 opposed) (Recommended by the Budget Advisory Committee 7 in favor, 0 opposed)

YES 783

NO 850

Article 11 Expenditure of Unused Bond Proceeds

To see if the Town shall vote to authorize pursuant to RSA 33:3-a, II, the expenditure of the unused portion of the Consolidated Communications Bond approved in 2020 for the furnishing, constructing, and installing facilities and equipment to make available to every residential and business address in the Town of Rindge a "Fiber to the premises" network, and to raise and appropriate Sixty Thousand, Three-hundred Seventy-five Dollars (\$60,375) in unused bond proceeds, for the installation of an HVAC/Ventilation system for the Town Office building. No amount of money needs to be raised by taxation. (3/5 vote required). (Recommended by the Selectmen 2 in favor 0 opposed) (Not recommended by the Budget Advisory Committee 3 in favor 4 opposed).

YES 576

NO 1045

Article 12 Ambulance Service

To see if the Town shall vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Thirty-eight Thousand, Five-hundred Dollars (\$38,500) for funding the additional cost of the ambulance service. If Article Ten (10) (Operating Budget) passes, this article will become null and void. If Article Ten (10) fails, and this Article is approved, the appropriations will be included in the following year's Operating Budget and Default Budget. (Majority vote required). (Recommended by the Selectmen 3 in favor, 0 opposed) (Recommended by the Budget Advisory Committee 7 in favor, 0 opposed).

YES 1181

NO 457

Article 13 Establish Ambulance Service Expendable Trust Fund

To see if the Town shall vote to establish an Ambulance Service Expendable Trust Fund under the provisions of RSA 31:19-a for the purpose of providing additional funds for ambulance service charges not included in the Operating Budget, and to raise and appropriate the sum of Forty-Thousand Dollars (\$40,000) to put in this fund, and further to name the Board of Selectmen as agents to expend from said fund. (Majority vote required). (Recommended by the Selectmen 3 in favor, 0 opposed) (Recommended by the Budget Advisory Committee 6 in favor, 0 opposed).

YES 971

NO 663

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Article 14 Fire Department Equipment CRF

To see if the Town shall vote to raise and appropriate the sum of One Hundred, Forty-five Thousand Dollars (\$145,000) to be added to the Fire Department Equipment Capital Reserve Fund previously established. (Majority vote required). (Recommended by the Selectmen 2 in favor, 1 opposed) (Recommended by the Budget Advisory Committee 6 in favor, 1 opposed).

YES 779

NO 840

Article 15 Revaluation CRF

To see if the Town shall vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Twenty-five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000) to be added to the Revaluation Capital Reserve Fund previously established (to meet the Town's constitutional and statutory requirement that revaluations of property assessments be done at least as often as every fifth year) for the Revaluation to be completed in 2025. (Majority vote required). (Recommended by the Selectmen 3 in favor, 0 opposed) (Recommended by the Budget Advisory Committee 7 in favor, 0 opposed).

YES 872

NO 736

Article 16 Highway Department CRF

To see if the Town shall vote to raise and appropriate the sum of One Hundred Fifty-Thousand Dollars (\$150,000) to be added to the Highway Department Equipment Fund previously established, and further to name the Board of Selectmen as agents to expend from said fund. (Majority vote required). (Recommended by the Selectmen 2 in favor, 1 opposed) (Recommended by the Budget Advisory Committee 7 in favor, 0 opposed).

YES 717

NO 902

Article 17 Municipal Building CRF

To see if the Town shall vote pursuant to RSA 35:16, to add to the purpose of the existing Building Maintenance Capital Reserve Fund, as a fund to also be used for new construction, additions, significant renovations, and future capital improvements to municipal buildings, and vote to raise and appropriate the sum of One-Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$100,000) to be added to this fund and to further name the Board of Selectmen as agents to expend from said fund. (2/3 vote required). (Recommended by the Selectmen 2 in favor, 1 opposed) (Recommended by the Budget Advisory Committee 4 in favor, 2 opposed).

YES 501

NO 1130

Article 18 Police Equipment CRF

To see if the Town shall vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Fifty-Thousand Dollars (\$50,000) to be added to the Police Equipment Capital Reserve Fund previously established. (Majority vote required). (Recommended by the Selectmen 2 in favor 0 opposed) (Recommended by the Budget Advisory Committee 5 in favor, 2 opposed).

YES 653

NO 967

Article 19 Ingalls Memorial Library ETF

To see if the Town shall vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Twenty-Thousand Dollars (\$20,000) to be added to the Ingalls Memorial Library Expendable Trust Fund previously established. (Majority vote required). (Recommended by the Selectmen 3 in favor, 0 opposed) (Recommended by the Budget Advisory Committee 5 in favor, 2 opposed).

YES 861

NO 771

Article 20 Recreation Facilities CRF

To see if the Town shall vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Twenty-five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000) to be added to the Recreation Facilities Capital Reserve Fund previously established. (Majority vote required). (Recommended by the Selectmen 3 in favor, 0 opposed) (Recommended by the Budget Advisory Committee 7 in favor, 0 opposed).

YES 913

NO 704

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Article 21 Meetinghouse Maintenance ETF

To see if the Town shall vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000) to be added to the Meetinghouse Maintenance Expendable Trust Fund previously established. (Majority vote required). (Recommended by the Selectmen 3 in favor, 0 opposed) (Recommended by the Budget Advisory Committee 7 in favor, 0 opposed).

YES 767

NO 845

Article 22 Acceptance of Amalia Way

To see if the Town shall vote to accept and dedicate for public use the road known as Amalia Way as a Class V Town highway pursuant to RSA 674:40 as shown on the Subdivision Plan titled East View Estates, dated and approved by the Planning Board on September 7, 2007, and recorded in the Cheshire County Registry of Deeds, to take effect January 1, 2026. (Recommended by the Selectmen 3 in favor, 0 opposed) (Recommended by the Budget Advisory Committee 6 in favor, 0 opposed).

YES 1001

NO 609

Article 23 Tenth Police Officer

To see if the Town shall vote to hire a tenth police officer to be employed no sooner than April 1, 2025, and to raise and appropriate the sum of Ninety-three Thousand, Five-hundred, Ninety-one Dollars (\$93,591) for this full-time position. (Recommended by the Selectmen 2 in favor, 1 opposed) (Not recommended by the Budget Advisory Committee 1 in favor, 5 opposed).

YES 347

NO 1300

Article 24 Town Camping Ordinance

To see if the Town shall vote to adopt a Town Camping Ordinance pursuant to RSA 31:39 and its subsections to provide a safe and efficient use of public properties within the Town of Rindge. (Recommended by the Selectmen 3 in favor, 0 opposed).

YES 916

NO 686

Article 25 Feasibility Study for the Withdrawal from Jaffrey Rindge Cooperative District (By Petition)

Shall the Town vote to form a committee to study the withdrawal of Rindge and the dissolution of the Jaffrey Rindge Cooperative School District based on RSA 195:25. This shall be advisory only. (Submitted by Petition).

YES 803

NO 854

Article 26 Community Power Aggregation (By Petition)

To see if the Town shall vote to raise and appropriate the sum of One Hundred Thirty-seven Thousand, Five Hundred Thirty-four Dollars (\$137,534) to be placed in the Bridge Maintenance Capital Reserve Fund previously established. This sum to come from the Unassigned Fund Balance. No amount to be raised from taxation. Further, to name the Selectmen as agents to expend. (Recommended by the Selectmen 3 in favor, 0 opposed) (Recommended by the Budget Advisory Committee 7 in favor, 0 opposed)

YES 990

NO 644

Article 27 Salt Reduction Plan (By Petition)

To see if the Town shall vote to raise and appropriate the sum of One Hundred Thirty-seven Thousand, Five Hundred Thirty-four Dollars (\$137,534) to be placed in the Bridge Maintenance Capital Reserve Fund previously established. This sum to come from the Unassigned Fund Balance. No amount to be raised from taxation. Further, to name the Selectmen as agents to expend. (Recommended by the Selectmen 3 in favor, 0 opposed) (Recommended by the Budget Advisory Committee 7 in favor, 0 opposed)

YES 663

NO 1006