



Town of Rindge
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Rindge, NH 03461

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2026

POCKET GUIDE FOR RINDGE VOTERS

**Pocket Guide to the Second Session of the
Rindge Town Meeting
Tuesday, March 10th, 2026
Polls are Open from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.
Voting will take place at the
Rindge Memorial School
58 School Street Rindge NH 03461**

CHOOSE YOUR TOWN OFFICERS:

Article 1: Officers for the Year Ensuing

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

Board of Selectmen: 3 Year Term – 1 Seat

Robert Hamilton

Robert Martin

Write In: _____

Planning Board: 3 Year Term – 2 Seats

Roberta K. Oeser

Joel Aho

Jennifer Helsel

Mark Hower

Write In: _____

Write In: _____

Budget Advisory Committee:

3 Year Term – 2 seats

Roberta K. Oeser

Tina M. Sbrega

Write In: _____

Write In: _____

Zoning Board of Adjustment:

3 Year Term – 2 seats

Marcia Breckenridge

Mark Hower

Ross Thermos

Write In: _____

Write In: _____

Cemetery Trustee: 3 Year Term – 1 Seat

Victoria Stenersen

Write In: _____

Trustee of the Trust Funds:

3 Year Term – 1 Seat

Mark Hower

Write In: _____

Ingalls Memorial Library Trustee:

3 Year Term – 1 Seat

Robert E Terk

Write In: _____

Moderator: 2 Year Term – 1 Seat

Kirk Stenersen

Write In: _____

Tax Collector: 3 Year Term – 1 Seat

Andrea Lavache

Write In: _____

Town Clerk: 3 Year Term – 1 Seat

Shana Eichner

Write In: _____

Supervisor of the Checklist

Six Year Term – 1 Seat

John T. McCracken

Write In: _____

Treasurer: 3 Year Term – 1 Seat

Helene Rogers

Write In: _____

Article 2 Zoning Article

To see if the Town shall vote to adopt Amendment No. 1 to the Town of Rindge Zoning Ordinance, as proposed by the Planning Board, to amend the Accessory Dwelling Unit Ordinance to bring it into compliance with RSA 674:72 by removing the requirement for a Special Exception from the Zoning Board of Adjustment, updating the maximum square footage permitted, and allowing either attached or detached accessory dwelling units by-right. (Recommended by the Planning Board, 7 in favor, 0 opposed.)

A “YES” vote will ensure the changes proposed place the Town in compliance with current RSA 674:72 regarding application procedure and allowing either attached or detached ADUs.

2025 BUDGET AND WARRANT ARTICLES

Article 3 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 Eight Hundred Ten Thousand Dollars (\$5,810,000). Should this Article be defeated, the Default Budget shall be Five Million Six Hundred Fifty-Four Thousand One Hundred Seventy-Seven Dollars (\$5,654,177) 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).

Large Increases from the Following Categories:

\$100,000 increase added to the proposed budget at the Deliberative Session

\$78,500 increase in ambulance service costs due to the increasing cost of service throughout the region and based on pricing out multiple options for service

\$26,800 in Town insurance lines (HRA, Unemployment, Workman's Comp, Property, etc.)

\$34,000 in Contracted Services

TOTAL OVERALL INCREASE - \$322,188 over last year's default budget

Tax Impact of Proposed Budget - \$95 on a \$400,000 home

Article 4 Highway Department CRF

To see if the Town shall vote to raise and appropriate the sum of One Hundred Eighty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$185,000) 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 Board of Selectmen, 3 in favor, 0 opposed). (Recommended by the Budget Advisory Committee, 7 in favor, 0 opposed).

A "YES" vote would authorize the appropriation of \$185,000 to the Highway Department CRF to replace an 11-year-old six-wheeler. **Tax Impact** = \$50 on a \$400,000 home.

Article 5 Fire Department Equipment CRF

To see if the Town shall vote to raise and appropriate the sum of One Hundred Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$125,000) to be added to the Fire Department Equipment Capital Reserve Fund previously established. (Majority vote required). (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen, 3 in favor, 0 opposed). (Recommended by the Budget Advisory Committee, 7 in favor, 0 opposed).

A "YES" vote would authorize the appropriation of \$125,000 to the Fire Department CRF to replace a 26-year-old brush truck or similar equipment. **Tax Impact** = \$34 on a \$400,000 home.

Article 6 Ambulance Service ETF

To see if the Town shall vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Forty Thousand Dollars (\$40,000) to add to the Ambulance Service Expendable Trust Fund previously established for the purpose of funding the additional cost of ambulance services. If Article Three (3) (Operating Budget) passes, this article will become null and void. If Article 3 fails, and this article is approved, the appropriations will be included in the following year's operating budget and default budget. (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen, 3 in favor, 0 opposed). (Recommended by the Budget Advisory Committee, 7 in favor, 0 opposed).

The cost of the Town's ambulance service significantly increased from \$46,000 to \$125,000. This article provides supplementary funding to ensure there are sufficient funds for ambulance services in the event that Article 3, Operating Budget, does not pass. A "YES" vote will fund ambulance services in the event the budget does not pass and ensure there is adequate funding in the 2027 Default Budget. **No additional tax impact.**

Article 7 Building Maintenance CRF

To see if the Town shall vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Thirty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$35,000) to be added to the Building Maintenance Capital Reserve Fund. (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen, 3 in favor, 0 opposed). (Recommended by the Budget Advisory Committee, 7 in favor, 0 opposed).

A "YES" vote would authorize the appropriation of \$35,000 to the Building Maintenance Capital Reserve Fund for repairs and improvements to Town buildings. This fund is used to address ongoing maintenance needs and avoid large, unexpected expenses. **Tax Impact** = \$10 on a \$400,000 home.

Article 8 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 Board of Selectmen, 3 in favor, 0 opposed). (Recommended by the Budget Advisory Committee, 7 in favor, 0 opposed).

A "YES" vote would authorize the appropriation of \$25,000 to the Recreation Facilities Capital Reserve Fund. **No additional tax impact over the previous year.**

Article 9 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 Board of Selectmen, 3 in favor, 0 opposed). (Recommended by the Budget Advisory Committee, 7 in favor, 0 opposed).

A "YES" vote would authorize the appropriation of \$25,000 to the Meetinghouse Maintenance ETF. **Tax impact** = \$7 on a \$400,000 home.

Article 10 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 Board of Selectmen, 3 in favor, 0 opposed). (Recommended by the Budget Advisory Committee, 6 in favor, 1 opposed).

A “YES” vote would authorize the appropriation of \$20,000 to the Ingalls Memorial Library Expendable Trust Fund to support library operations, materials, and services. **No additional tax impact over the previous year.**

Article 11 250th Anniversary Celebration

To see if the Town shall vote to raise and appropriate Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000) for the purpose of celebrating the United States’ 250th anniversary. (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen, 3 in favor, 0 opposed). (Recommended by the Budget Advisory Committee, 7 in favor, 0 opposed).

A “YES” vote would authorize the appropriation of \$5,000 to fund activities and events related to celebrating the United States’ 250th anniversary. **Tax Impact = \$1 on a \$400,000 home.**

Article 12 Veterans Disability Tax Credit Increase

To see if the Town shall vote, pursuant to RSA 72:35, to increase the amount of the tax credit for service-connected permanent and total disability to Four Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$4,500). (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen, 3 in favor, 0 opposed). (Recommended by the Budget Advisory Committee, 7 in favor, 0 opposed).

A “YES” vote would increase the Town’s tax credit for veterans with a service-connected permanent and total disability to \$4,500, reducing the property tax owed by qualifying veterans. The cost of this credit is spread across the tax base. **Tax impact dependent on the number of applications.**

Article 13 Adoption of Farm Structure Exemption

To see if the Town shall vote to adopt the provisions of RSA 79F regarding the taxation of farm structures, as defined in RSA 79-F:3, and the land under farm structures. (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen, 3 in favor, 0 opposed). (Recommended by the Budget Advisory Committee, 7 in favor, 0 opposed).

A “YES” vote would adopt a state law allowing qualifying farm structures and the land beneath them to be assessed at a reduced value rather than full market value. The effect of this assessment would be minimal and spread across the tax base.

Article 14 Land Use Change Tax

To see if the Town shall vote to reduce the percentage of Land Use Change Tax revenue deposited into the Conservation Fund from its current One Hundred percent to Ninety-Nine percent pursuant to RSA 79-A:25, IV. (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen, 3 in favor, 0 opposed). (Recommended by the Budget Advisory Committee, 5 in favor, 2 opposed).

A “YES” vote would reduce the portion of Land Use Change Tax (“LUCT”) revenue deposited into the Conservation Fund from 100% to 99%, allowing 1% of the revenue to go into the Town’s General Fund. This change would slightly increase unrestricted revenue available for municipal purposes. **No tax impact.**

Article 15 Protect the Taxpayer (By Petition)

To see if the Town will vote to call on the New Hampshire Legislature to protect local taxpayers by ensuring adequate state revenues for the essential services and by avoiding policies that shift costs onto local taxpayers. Further resolved, if this article passes, the Select Board shall send the results of this vote to the Governor and all members of the New Hampshire General Court who represent the Town within 30 days of the second session of the 2026 Town Meeting.

A “YES” vote would formally request that the New Hampshire Legislature protect local taxpayers by maintaining adequate State funding for essential services and avoiding policies that shift costs onto municipalities. **No tax impact.**

Article 16 Rescind Ninth-Police Officer Position (By Petition)

To see if the Town shall vote to rescind Article 17 of the Rindge Town Warrant of March 9th, 2021, authorizing the hiring of a ninth Full-Time Police Officer, thereby returning the authority to determine the number of Full-Time Police Officers needed to the Board of Selectmen.

A “YES” vote would rescind the prior authorization to hire a ninth full-time police officer and provide staffing authority to the Board of Selectmen. This article does not automatically eliminate a position but removes the earlier mandate. Any future staffing decisions would follow the normal budget process. **No tax impact.**

WARRANT SUMMARY – ARTICLES FOR 2026

Article 2	Zoning Article	Yes	No
Article 3	Operating Budget	Yes	No
Article 4	Highway Department CRF	Yes	No
Article 5	Fire Department Equipment CRF	Yes	No
Article 6	Ambulance Service ETF	Yes	No
Article 7	Building Maintenance CRF	Yes	No
Article 8	Recreation Facilities CRF	Yes	No
Article 9	Meetinghouse Maintenance ETF	Yes	No
Article 10	Ingalls Memorial Library ETF	Yes	No
Article 11	250 th Anniversary Celebration	Yes	No
Article 12	Veteran’s Disability Tax Credit Increase	Yes	No
Article 13	Adoption of Farm Structure Exemption	Yes	No
Article 14	Land Use Change Tax	Yes	No
Article 15	Protect the Taxpayer (By Petition)	Yes	No
Article 16	Rescind Ninth Police Officer Position (By Petition)	Yes	No

Thank you for your patronage of the Town of Rindge.

We look forward to serving you in 2026!