

2018 TOWN MEETING WARRANT

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE TOWN OF PITTSFIELD

To the inhabitants of the Town of Pittsfield in the County of Merrimack, in said State, qualified to vote in Town affairs:

You are hereby notified to meet at the Town Hall Meeting Room at 85 Main Street in said Pittsfield on Tuesday, March 13, 2018, at 7:00 a.m. to act on Articles 1 through 9 below. The voting on Articles 1 through 9 will be by official ballot, and the polls will open at 7:00 a.m. and will remain open until 7:00 p.m. to receive your ballots.

You are hereby notified to meet at the Pittsfield Elementary School Gymnasium at 34 Bow Street in said Pittsfield on Saturday, March 17, 2018, at 10:00 a.m. to act on the remaining Articles below.

TO BE TAKEN UP TUESDAY, MARCH 13, 2018

Article 1:

To choose by ballot the following officers:

- one Cemetery Trustee for a three (3) year term
- one Library Trustee for a three (3) year term
- two Planning Board members for a three (3) year term
- two Selectmen for a three (3) year term
- one Supervisor of the Checklist for a six (6) year term
- one Town Clerk/Tax Collector for a three (3) year term
- one Town Moderator for a two (2) year term
- one Trustee of the Trust Funds for a three (3) year term
- two Zoning Board of Adjustment members for a three (3) year term
- one Zoning Board of Adjustment member for a two (2) year term

Article 2:

Are you in favor of repealing, as proposed by the planning board, all of the building code provisions that the town meeting voted to adopt under article 2 of the March 10 and 14, 1998, town meeting warrant?

The purpose of repealing these building code provisions is to avoid conflicts with the state building code and the state fire code.

(Recommended by the Planning Board 5-0-0)

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Article 3:

Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 1 as proposed by the planning board for the town zoning ordinance as follows: amend article 2, definition of “agriculture,” to add the words indicated following by underlining and to delete the words indicated following by strikethrough:

AGRICULTURE: “AGRICULTURE” means agriculture as defined in RSA 21:34-a, II, effective ~~August 10, 2014~~ June 16, 2016.

The purpose of Amendment No. 1 is to adopt the State of New Hampshire’s most recent definition of “agriculture” and thereby remain in conformance to the state’s right-to-farm law, RSA 674:32-a through RSA 674:32-d.

(Recommended by the Planning Board 5-0-0)

Article 4:

Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 2 as proposed by the planning board for the town zoning ordinance as follows: Amend article 3, section 3, (b), (6), Table of Uses and Districts, as follows:

- (1) Change the permitting of home occupations to permitted by right in the Suburban District and in the Rural District, where home occupations are now permitted as special exceptions.
- (2) Change the permitting of bed-and-breakfasts to permitted by right in the Urban District and in the Suburban District, where bed-and-breakfasts are now permitted as special exceptions.

The purposes of amendment no. 2 are (1) to remove the zoning board of adjustment’s review of home occupations in the Suburban and Rural zoning districts and (2) to remove the zoning board of adjustment’s review of bed-and-breakfasts, which are a type of home occupation, in the Urban and Suburban zoning districts.

(Recommended by the Planning Board 5-0-0)

Article 5:

Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 3 as proposed by the planning board for the town zoning ordinance as follows: Amend article 3, section 3, (b), (6), Table of Uses and Districts, as follows:

- (1) Change how the table shows the permitting of home occupations from permitted by right in the Commercial District to prohibited in the Commercial District.
- (2) Change how the table shows the permitting of bed-and-breakfasts from permitted as special exceptions in the Commercial District and in the Light Industrial/Commercial District to prohibited in the Commercial District and in the Light Industrial/Commercial District.

The purpose of amendment no. 3 is to comply with the state law of nonconforming uses because (1) home occupations and bed-and-breakfasts are by definition accessory uses of single-family dwellings, (2) existing single-family dwellings in the Commercial and Light Industrial/Commercial

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zoning districts are nonconforming uses because the zoning ordinance prohibits single-family dwellings in these two districts, and (3) the state law of nonconforming uses prohibits expanding a nonconforming use to the extent to which adding an accessory use to a principal use may expand the principal use.

(Recommended by the Planning Board 4-1-0)

Article 6:

Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 4 as proposed by the planning board for the town zoning ordinance as follows: amend article 4, Nonconforming Uses and Lots, to add quotations from New Hampshire Supreme Court case law on nonconforming uses and lots and to codify the New Hampshire state law of nonconforming uses into the zoning ordinance.

The purposes of amendment no. 4 are (1) to increase the use-it-or-lose-it time of abandonment of nonconforming uses from the current one year to two years to agree with the state law of abandonment of variances and special exceptions, (2) to provide guidelines for allowed expansion or change of nonconforming uses, (3) to provide guidelines for unlawful expansion or change of nonconforming uses, and (4) to add a process to correct unlawful expansion or change of nonconforming uses.

(Recommended by the Planning Board 5-0-0)

Article 7:

Shall we allow the operation of keno games within the town of Pittsfield pursuant to the provisions of RSA 284:41 through 284:51?

(majority vote required)

Article 8:

Shall we adopt the provisions of RSA 40:13 (known as SB 2) to allow the official ballot voting on all issues before the Town of Pittsfield on the second Tuesday of March?

(inserted by voters' petition)

(3/5 majority vote required)

Article 9:

Shall we adopt the provisions of RSA 40:14-b to delegate the determination of the default budget to the municipal budget committee which has been adopted under RSA 32:14?

(inserted by voters' petition)

(3/5 majority vote required)

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TO BE TAKEN UP SATURDAY, MARCH 17, 2018

Article 10 – voters’ petition to remove position of building inspector

Are you in favor to advise and beg the Selectmen to remove the position of building inspector, instead form a committee to come up with something that does not discourage the investment in Pittsfield, and tries to help people. God save the people.

(inserted by voters’ petition)

Article 11 - establish a municipal transportation improvement fund for sidewalks

To see if the town will adopt the provisions of RSA 261:153, VI, authorizing the collection of an additional motor vehicle registration fee in the amount of \$5.00 to be deposited in a capital reserve fund established by this vote, to be known as the Municipal Sidewalks Improvement Capital Reserve Fund under the provisions of RSA 35:1, to be used for the purpose of supporting the maintenance and repair of the town’s sidewalk transportation system. In addition to being used for engineering, right-of-way acquisition, construction, and other costs related to improving the town’s sidewalks, these funds also may be pledged and expended as a local match to secure state or federal funds allocated for local sidewalk transportation system improvements, and further to name the Board of Selectmen as agents to expend from said fund.

The additional fee shall be collected from all vehicles, both passenger and commercial, with the exception of all-terrain vehicles as defined in RSA 215-A:1, I-b and antique motor vehicles or antique motorcycles as defined in RSA 259:4.

This fee shall be collected starting on June 1, 2018.

The estimated annual deposit based on 2017 registrations would be \$26,000.

(majority vote required)

(Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 4-0)

(Recommended by the Budget Committee 7-3-0)

Article 12 - establish a revolving fund for Old Home Day

To see if the town will vote to establish a recreation revolving fund pursuant to RSA 31:95-h, for the purpose of funding Pittsfield’s Old Home Day celebration. All revenues received for the Old Home Day activities will be deposited into the fund, and the money in the fund shall be allowed to accumulate from year to year, and shall not be considered a part of the town’s general fund unassigned fund balance. The treasurer shall have custody of all monies in the fund, and shall pay out the same only upon order of the governing body and no further approval is required by the legislative body to expend. Such funds may be expended only for the purpose for which the fund was created and no expenditure shall be made in such a way as to require the expenditure of other funds that have not been appropriated for that purpose.

(majority vote required)

(Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 4-0)

(Recommended by the Budget Committee 10-0-1)

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Article 13 – raising matching funds for a Fire Department grant

To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$263,280 for the purchase of replacement of radios and self-contained breathing apparatus, with a grant revenue offset of \$250,116 to come from an Assistance to Firefighters Grant from the Federal Emergency Management Agency, leaving **\$13,164** required as matching funds and to authorize the withdrawal of \$5,000 from the Fire Department Small Equipment Capital Reserve Fund to put towards the matching funds amount. The balance of \$8,164 is to come from general taxation. The matching funds amount will be spent only if the grant is received.

This article is required to be written to show the entire appropriation and offsetting grant revenue, not just the net obligation, per the gross budgeting concept for transparency.

The balance of the Fire Department Small Equipment Capital Reserve Fund was \$5,005.48 on December 31, 2017.

(majority vote required)

Estimated tax impact is \$0.03 per thousand dollars of assessed value.

(Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 4-0)

(Recommended by the Budget Committee 10-0-0)

Article 14 – purchase of a sidewalk tractor

To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$120,500** for the purchase of a sidewalk tractor for the highway department and to authorize the withdrawal of \$103,000 to come from the Public Works Sidewalk Tractor Capital Reserve Fund created for that purpose. The balance of \$17,500 is to come from general taxation. The balance of the Public Works Sidewalk Tractor Capital Reserve Fund was \$103,354.65 on December 31, 2017.

Estimated tax impact is approximately \$0.07 per thousand dollars of assessed value.

(majority vote required)

(Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 4-0)

(Recommended by the Budget Committee 9-0-1)

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Article 15 – cost items for patrolmen & admin. assistants in the Teamsters bargaining unit

To see if the town will vote to approve the cost items included in the collective bargaining agreement reached between the Board of Selectmen and the International Brotherhood of Teamsters Local Union #633, which calls for the following increases in salaries and benefits at the current staffing level:

Fiscal Year	Estimated Increase
2018	\$17,968
2019	\$ 7,254
2020	\$ 7,401

and further, to raise and appropriate **\$17,968** for the current 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.

Estimated tax impact is approximately \$0.07 per thousand dollars of assessed value.

(majority vote required)

(Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 4-1)

(Not Recommended by the Budget Committee 3-9-0)

Article 16 – ability to call special meeting for cost items

Shall the town of Pittsfield, if article 15 is defeated, authorize the governing body to call one special meeting, at its option, to address article 15's cost items only?

(majority vote required)

Article 17 – cost items for Pittsfield town employees in the AFT-NH bargaining unit

To see if the town will vote to approve the cost items included in the collective bargaining agreement reached between the Board of Selectmen and the Pittsfield Town Employees AFT-NH Local #6214, which calls for the following increases in salaries and benefits at the current staffing level:

Fiscal Year	Estimated Increase
2018	\$23,177
2019	\$25,781
2020	\$26,517

and further, to raise and appropriate **\$23,177** for the current 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.

Estimated tax impact is approximately \$0.09 per thousand dollars of assessed value.

(majority vote required)

(Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 4-1)

(Not Recommended by the Budget Committee 3-8-0)

Article 18 – ability to call special meeting for cost items

Shall the town of Pittsfield, if article 17 is defeated, authorize the governing body to call one special meeting, at its option, to address article 17's cost items only?

(majority vote required)

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Article 19 – add to the Fire Department Small Equipment Capital Reserve Fund

To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$1,000** to be added to the Fire Department Small Equipment Capital Reserve Fund previously established. The balance of the Fire Department Small Equipment Capital Reserve Fund was \$5,005.48 on December 31, 2017. Estimated tax impact is \$0.004 per thousand dollars of assessed value.

(majority vote required)

(Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 4-0)

(Recommended by the Budget Committee 11-0-0)

Article 20 – add to the Fire Department Pumper Capital Reserve Fund

To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$50,000** to be added to the Fire Department Pumper Capital Reserve Fund previously established. The balance of the Fire Department Pumper Capital Reserve Fund was \$50,044.81 on December 31, 2017. Estimated tax impact is approximately \$0.19 per thousand dollars of assessed value.

(majority vote required)

(Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 4-0)

(Recommended by the Budget Committee 10-0-1)

Article 21 – add to the Fire Department Tanker Capital Reserve Fund

To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$20,000** to be added to the Fire Department Tanker Capital Reserve Fund previously established. The balance of the Fire Department Tanker Capital Reserve Fund was \$20,017.92 on December 31, 2017. Estimated tax impact is approximately \$0.08 per thousand dollars of assessed value.

(majority vote required)

(Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 4-0)

(Recommended by the Budget Committee 11-0-0)

Article 22 – add to the Fire Department Forestry Truck Capital Reserve Fund

To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$5,000** to be added to the Fire Department Forestry Truck Capital Reserve Fund previously established. The balance of the Fire Department Forestry Truck Capital Reserve Fund was \$1,000.89 on December 31, 2017. Estimated tax impact is approximately \$0.02 per thousand dollars of assessed value.

(majority vote required)

(Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 4-0)

(Recommended by the Budget Committee 11-0-0)

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Article 23 – add to the Small Highway Truck Capital Reserve Fund

To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$15,000** to be added to the Small Highway Truck Capital Reserve Fund previously established. The balance of the Public Works Small Highway Truck Capital Reserve Fund was \$50,371.15 on December 31, 2017.

Estimated tax impact is \$0.06 per thousand dollars of assessed value.

(majority vote required)

(Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 4-0)

(Recommended by the Budget Committee 11-0-0)

Article 24 – add to the Dump Truck Capital Reserve Fund

To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$30,000** to be added to the Dump Truck Capital Reserve Fund previously established. The balance of the Public Works Dump Truck Capital Reserve Fund was \$62,231.24 on December 31, 2017.

Estimated tax impact is \$0.11 per thousand dollars of assessed value.

(majority vote required)

(Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 4-0)

(Recommended by the Budget Committee 10-0-1)

Article 25 – add to the Loader Capital Reserve Fund

To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$10,000** to be added to the Loader Capital Reserve Fund previously established. The balance of the Public Works Loader Capital Reserve Fund was \$22,984.08 on December 31, 2017.

Estimated tax impact is \$0.04 per thousand dollars of assessed value.

(majority vote required)

(Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 4-0)

(Recommended by the Budget Committee 11-0-0)

Article 26 – add to the Grader Capital Reserve Fund

To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$15,000** to be added to the Grader Capital Reserve Fund previously established. The balance of the Public Works Grader Capital Reserve Fund was \$68,217.86 on December 31, 2017.

Estimated tax impact is \$0.06 per thousand dollars of assessed value.

(majority vote required)

(Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 4-0)

(Recommended by the Budget Committee 11-0-0)

Article 27 – add to the Backhoe Capital Reserve Fund

To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$5,000** to be added to the Backhoe Capital Reserve Fund previously established. The balance of the Public Works Backhoe Capital Reserve Fund was \$86,427.73 on December 31, 2017.

Estimated tax impact is \$0.02 per thousand dollars of assessed value.

(majority vote required)

(Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 4-0)

(Recommended by the Budget Committee 11-0-0)

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Article 28 – add to the Floral Park Cemetery Fence Expendable Trust Fund

To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$1,650** to be added to the Floral Park Cemetery Fence Expendable Trust Fund previously established. This sum is to come from the general fund unassigned fund balance and no amount is to be raised by taxation. The balance of the Floral Park Cemetery Fence Expendable Trust Fund was \$676.95 on December 31, 2017.

There is no estimated tax impact for this warrant article.

(majority vote required)

(Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 4-0)

(Recommended by the Budget Committee 11-0-0)

Article 29 – Municipal Budget

To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$4,470,251** to fund the general municipal operations as Recommended by the Budget Committee. This sum does not include appropriations contained in special or individual articles addressed separately in this warrant.

Estimated tax impact is \$10.17 per thousand dollars of assessed value.

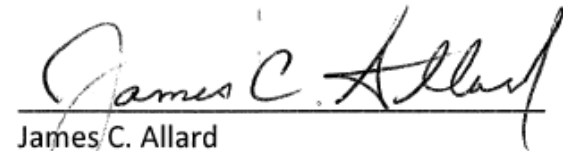
(majority vote required)

(Recommended by the Budget Committee 10-1-0)

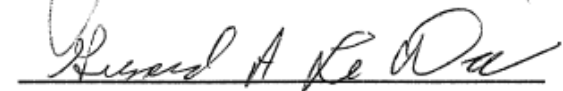
(Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 5-0)

Article 30 – other business

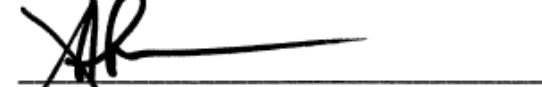
To transact any other business that may be legally brought before said meeting.



James C. Allard



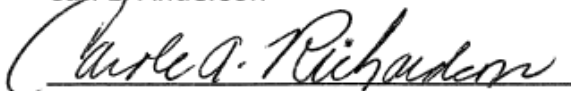
Gerard A. LeDuc



James H. Adams



Carl E. Anderson



Carole A. Richardson

Pittsfield Board of Selectmen