



Warrant Articles

Warrant Articles Filing Deadline January 10, 2023
Steve Soreff, MD

Tony Dumas of the Nottingham Select Board said that democracy requires participation. Perhaps, there is no better evidence of that engagement than looking at all the citizen petitions over the years in the form of Warrant Articles (WA). Here is a sample of many of the more recent WAs. They include to accept the existing road, redistricting by the appointment of an independent commission chartered to map districts, rescind the Minimum Design Standards for Town Roads, to redraw the maps of political districts within the state following the federal census, will ensure fair and effective representation of New Hampshire voters without gerrymandering, for the town of Nottingham to petition the NH General Court for its own exclusive seat in the NH House of Representatives if it does not already have it, ensuring that State Representatives properly represent the town's interest, about Land Use Change Tax (LUCT), Conservation Commission easement funds to lower taxes, school contract negotiations, tax cap 4%, protection against hazardous, and defense of the water supply.

Here are the procedures to secure a WA. They must be filed by January 10, 2023, with the Town Clerk and be signed by 25 Nottingham qualified residents. . The New Hampshire Municipal Association, Inc. (NHMA) website offers this [“Petitioned Warrant Articles”](#) overview information.



Here are some of the pertinent RSAs. [RSA 40:13 II a \(b\)](#) “(a) The final date for posting notice of budget hearings under RSA 32:5 and RSA 195:12 and hearings under RSA 33:8-a shall be the second Tuesday in January.” Hence, the reason for this report. Each WA must be signed by at least 25 Nottingham residents. [RSA 39:3 Articles](#). – “Upon the written application of 25 or more registered voters or 2 percent of the registered voters in town”. Moreover, bond WAs have their own requirements. [RSA 33:8-A](#) Section 33:8-a - Procedure for Authorizing Bonds or Notes in Excess of \$100,000. Some WAs must be worded specifically such as to do away with [32:5-b Local Tax Cap](#). "Shall we rescind the provisions of RSA 32:5-b, known as the tax cap, as adopted by the (local subdivision) on (date of adoption), so that there will no longer be a limit on increases to the recommended budget in the amount to be raised by local taxes?" A 3/5 majority of those voting on the question shall be required to rescind the provisions of this section, except in the case of repeal by charter enactment under [RSA 49-D](#).

The NH Rebellion website "[How to" on Town Warrant Petitions](#)" includes a sample petition and formatting template.

A sample of the Citizen Petition

Your petition

Printed name

Signature

Street Address

Although the petition only requires 25 resident signatures, it is recommended that you obtain 30. That is because the Town Clerk, who checks the petition, may discover one or more do not qualify. WA may be amended but not removed at the Deliberative Session.

