



2026
WARRANT

Article 01 Election of Town Officials

To choose all necessary Town Officials for the year ensuing. Note: By law, the meeting must open before voting starts. Therefore the meeting and polls will open at 11:00 A.M. on Tuesday, March 10, 2026 for the consideration of Articles 1-3. At 12:00 noon, the meeting will recess, but the polls will remain open until 7:00 P.M. The meeting will reconvene at the Springfield Meeting House on Saturday, March 14, 2026 at 9:30 A.M. to act on Articles 4-x.

Yes No

Article 02 Zoning Amendment-Accessory Dwelling Unit (ADU)

Ballot Question: Are you in favor of Article No. 02 as proposed by the Planning Board for the town's zoning ordinance as follows: Article No. 02, in accordance with RSA 674:72-73, amends Article VII of the zoning ordinance by revising Section 7.20 to limit Accessory Dwelling Units to one per lot wherever single-family dwellings are permitted and amends Article XIII by replacing the definition of "Accessory Dwelling Unit" with the terms statutory definition per RSA 674:71.

The Planning Board Recommends this Article.

Explanation: This amendment is intended to align the Springfield Zoning Ordinance with the 2025 updates to NH RSA 674:71-674:73.

Yes No

Article 03 Zoning Amendment-Short-Term Rentals

Ballot Question: Are you in favor of the adoption of Article No. 03 as proposed by the Planning Board to amend the town's zoning ordinance as follows: Article No. 03 revises Article VII of the zoning ordinance by adding Section 7.30 to require a Conditional Use Permit and Site Plan Approval to operate a Short-Term Rental and revises Article XIII by defining "Responsible Party" and replacing the definition of "Short-Term Rental" with the term's statutory definition per RSA 48-A:1.

The Planning Board recommends this article.

Explanation: The Planning Board proposed the adoption of Section 7.30 of the Springfield Zoning Ordinance to regulate Short-Term Rentals (STRs). STRs include rentals of dwelling units for fewer than 30 days, commonly associated with online platforms.

The amendment requires a Conditional Use Permit and Minor or Major Site Plan Review depending on whether infrastructure changes are proposed. The amendment protects neighborhood character, drinking water, septic systems, parking, emergency access, and lake and shoreland resources.

STRs are not prohibited. Instead, a transparent, consistent review process ensures they operate safely and respectfully. The amendment strengthens enforcement tools under RSA 676:17 and provides the Town with clear, objective standards.



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Yes No

Article 04 Kolelemook Lake Watershed Management Plan

To see if the Town of Springfield will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of up to \$100,000 (gross budget) for the preparation and revisions of a Watershed Management Plan for the Kolelemook Lake Watershed that will qualify the Town for federal and state funds ("the Project"); and to authorize \$100,000 of such sum to be raised by issuance of serial bonds and notes under and in compliance with the provisions of the Municipal Finance Act (NH RSA 33 as amended); to authorize the Select Board to apply for, accept, and expend any federal, state, or private funds that may be come available in respect of the Project, including but not limited to the Clean Water State Revolving Funds (CWSRF) pursuant to RSA 486:14 established for this purpose, to reduce the amount that must be bonded or to pay debt service on such bonds or notes; and further to raise and appropriate the amount of \$2,000 for debt service. It is anticipated that the Town will receive up to \$100,000 in principal forgiveness upon completion under the terms of the CWSRF, and any and all interest on the loan will be paid by the Kolelemook Lake Protective Association, with minimal or no impact on the tax rate. Select Board and Budget Committee recommend this article.

(Requires a 3/5 ballot vote)

Yes No

Article 05 Highway Department Loader

To see if the Town of Springfield will vote to raise and appropriate the sum \$100,000 for the purpose of purchasing a loader for the Highway Department. \$100,000 to come from the unreserved fund and no amount to come from taxation. This special warrant article will be a non-lapsing appropriation per RSA 32:7, VI and will not lapse until the purchase of the loader for the Highway Department is completed or by 12/31/2029, whichever is sooner. The Select Board recommend this appropriation and the Budget Committee recommend this appropriation. (Majority vote required).

Yes No

Article 06 Highway Department Paving

To see if the Town of Springfield will vote to raise and appropriate the sum \$71,000 for the purpose of performing highway repair, maintenance, and paving. This \$71,000 to come from general taxation. This special warrant article will be a non-lapsing appropriation per RSA 32:7, VI and will not lapse until the highway repair, maintenance, and paving is completed or by 12/31/2029, whichever is sooner. The Select Board and Budget Committee recommend this appropriation. (Majority vote required).

Yes No

Article 07 Trustees of the Trust Fund Discontinue Fund



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To see if the Town of Springfield will vote to discontinue the 250th Celebration Town of Springfield Fund created in 2018. The balance of the fund is zero. The residual funds and accumulated interest were transferred to the Town's General Fund in April 2020 and the checking account with Sugar River Bank closed at that time. The Select Board recommend this article (Majority Vote Required)

Yes No

Article 08 PETITIONED WARRANT ARTICLE

New Hampshire communities value strong public schools and responsible use of public funds for education. Therefore, the voters of Springfield, New Hampshire, are asked:

Shall we call on our legislators to protect taxpayers by requiring the Education Freedom Account program to provide fiscal and educational performance reports comparable to those required of public schools, and by limiting eligibility to families with demonstrated financial need?

This question is raised because state legislators recently removed all income limits from the Education Freedom Account program (vouchers), expanding it beyond its original purpose. These changes added tens of millions of dollars in costs while the program provides limited public information on how funds are spent or if educational standards are being met.

The voucher program is projected to cost \$110 million over the next two years, with no new revenue sources identified. This directs public funds to private education without reducing the expenses public schools are constitutionally required to cover, increasing pressure on local property taxes.

Be it further resolved that the Town of Springfield shall send the results of this vote to the Governor and all members of the General Court representing Springfield within thirty (30) days of this vote.

Yes No

Article 09 Town of Springfield Operating Budget

To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the budget committee recommended sum of \$1,940,880 (one million nine hundred forty thousand, eight hundred and eighty dollars) for general municipal operations. This article does not include appropriations contained in special or individual articles addressed separately. The Select Board and Budget Committee recommend this appropriation (Majority vote required)

Yes No