



## Meredith

The inhabitants of the Town of Meredith in the County of Belknap in the state of New Hampshire qualified to vote in Town affairs are hereby notified that the Annual Town Meeting will be held as follows:

You are hereby notified to meet at the Meredith Community Center, 1 Circle Drive, in said Town on the second Tuesday of March next; March 12, 2024, from 7:00 AM until 7:00 PM for the casting of ballots to act upon Article 1 through Article 2;  
and 7:00 PM Wednesday, March 13, 2024, at the Inter-Lakes Junior/Senior High School Auditorium, 1 Laker Lane, in said Town to act on Articles 3 through 20:

### GOVERNING BODY CERTIFICATION

We certify and attest that on or before 23 February 2024, a true and attested copy of this document was posted at the place of meeting and at the Town Hall, Meredith Post Office, and the Meredith Public Library and that an original was delivered to the Town Clerk.

Name	Position	Signature
Jeanie Forrester	Chairperson	<i>Jeanie Forrester</i>
Lynn Leighton	Vice Chairperson	<i>Lynn Leighton</i>
Steven Aiken	Selectperson	<i>Steven Aiken</i>
Jonathan James	Selectperson	<i>Jonathan D. James</i>
Michael Pelczar	Selectperson	



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**Article 01 Elected Positions**

To bring ballots for:

Four (4) Library Trustees for three (3) year term  
One (1) Moderator for two (2) year term  
Two (2) Selectman for (3) year term  
One (1) Supervisor of the Checklist for (6) year term  
One (1) Trustee of the Trust Funds for (3) year term

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**Article 02 Town Zoning Ordinance Amendment 1**

Are you in favor of adopting the amendment as proposed by the Planning Board for the Meredith Zoning Ordinance as follows:

Amend Article VII B.2. Accessory Short Term Rentals to revise the specific criteria required for that use including but not limited to amending the number of days each year that a property may be rented on a short term basis, adding maximum daytime and nighttime occupancy, requiring documentation of septic system sufficiency, and requiring certain life safety provisions; as well as to add new definitions for Owner, Owner in Residence, and Owner Not in Residence.

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**Article 03 Clean Water State Revolving Fund Grant**

To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$100,000 for the purpose of completing a full update of the Lake Waukewan Watershed Restoration Plan to protect Meredith's primary drinking water source and to authorize the issuance of not more than \$100,000 of bonds or notes in accordance with the provisions of the Municipal Finance Act (RSA 33); and, further to authorize the Select Board to issue and negotiate such bonds or notes and to determine the conditions and rate of interests thereon; and, to further authorize the Select Board to offset a portion of said appropriation by applying for the Clean Water State Revolving Funds (CWSRF) it being understood that repayment of the loan funds may include up to 100% principal forgiveness in the amount up to \$100,000. (Requires a 3/5 ballot vote)

Recommended by the Select Board (5-0)

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**Article 04 Municipal Operations**

To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$18,695,874. for general municipal operations. This article does not include appropriations contained in special or individual articles addressed separately. (Majority vote required)

Recommended by the Select Board (5-0)

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**Article 05 Collective Bargaining Unit**

To see if the town will vote to approve the cost items included in the collective bargaining agreement reached between the Town and the State Employees Association of NH, Inc. SEIU Local 1984 which calls for the following increases in salaries and benefits at the current staffing level:

Fiscal Year Estimated Increase

2024 \$82,170

2025 \$85,770

2026 \$89,562

and further to raise and appropriate \$82,170 for the current 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. (Majority vote required)

Recommended by the Select Board (5-0)



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**Article 06 Fulltime Firefighters and Parttime Admin Position**

To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$580,000 to create six (6) new full-time firefighter positions and one (1) part-time administrative position and hire for these positions no sooner than April 30, 2024. This amount includes all salary and benefit costs. If approved, the appropriation for these new positions will become part of the annual operating budget in subsequent years. (Majority vote required)

Recommended by the Select Board (5-0)

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**Article 07 Public Works Equipment Replacement ETF**

To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$320,000 to be added to the Department of Public Works Equipment Replacement Expendable Trust Fund previously established. (Majority vote required)

Recommended by the Select Board (5-0)

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**Article 08 Fire Department Vehicle Replacement ETF**

To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$320,000 to be added to the Fire Department Vehicle Replacement Expendable Trust Fund previously established. (Majority vote required)

Recommended by the Select Board (5-0)

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**Article 09 Parks and Recreation Facilities Improvement ETF**

To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$100,000 to be added to the Parks and Recreation Facilities Improvement Expendable Trust Fund previously established. (Majority vote required)

Recommended by the Select Board (5-0)

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**Article 10 NH 25/Laker Lane Intersection Improvements (CMAQ)**

To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,346,964 with \$269,393 to come from the unassigned fund balance and \$1,077,571 from the Congestion Mitigation Air Quality Improvement Program (CMAQ) for engineering, potential right-of-way acquisition, construction of turn lanes, sidewalk replacement, and other related construction costs for traffic congestion and pedestrian improvements at the intersection of NH 25 and Laker Lane. This reimbursement program provides 80% federal funding with a required 20% local match. No amount to be raised from taxation. This will be a non-lapsing appropriation per RSA 32:7, VI and will not lapse until the specified project is complete or December 31, 2026, whichever comes first. (Majority vote required)

Recommended by the Select Board (5-0)



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**Article 11 Establish a Lake Waukewan Water Quality Protection**

To see if the town will vote to establish a Lake Waukewan Water Quality Protection Expendable Trust Fund per RSA 31:19-a for expenses related to projects addressing lake water quality improvement, restoration and protections and to raise and appropriate \$100,000 to put in the fund with this amount to come from the unassigned fund balance; further to name the Select Board as agents to expend from said fund. No amount to be raised from taxation. (Majority vote required)

Recommended by the Select Board (5-0)

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**Article 12 Change Solid Waste Trailer ETF**

To see if the town will vote to change the name and purpose of the Solid Waste Trailer Expendable Trust Fund created in 1998 to the Solid Waste and Recycling Vehicle and Equipment Expendable Trust Fund for the purpose of repairing, replacing and purchasing solid waste and recycling vehicles and equipment and further to name the Select Board as agents to expend from such fund. (2/3 vote required)

Recommended by the Select Board (5-0)

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**Article 13 Discontinue Library Maintenance ETF**

To see if the town will vote to discontinue the Library Maintenance Expendable Trust Fund created in 1995. Said funds and accumulated interest to date of withdrawal (approximately \$0.10) are to be transferred to the municipality's general fund. (Majority vote required)

Recommended by the Select Board (5-0)

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**Article 14 Discontinue Library Feasibility ETF**

To see if the town will vote to discontinue the Library Feasibility Expendable Trust Fund created in 2017. Said funds and accumulated interest to date of withdrawal (approximately \$5,551.71) are to be transferred to the municipality's general fund. (Majority vote required)

Recommended by the Select Board (5-0)

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**Article 15 Discontinue Wotanda Place**

To see if the town will vote to completely discontinue all of Wotanda Place as a public roadway and authorize the Select Board to convey the fee to the road. If approved, this discontinuance will extinguish all public rights of access over the existing Class VI Road of 250 +/- feet.

Recommended by the Select Board (4-0-1 abstained)



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**Article 16 Discontinue a Portion of Old Perkins Road**

To see if the town will vote to completely discontinue a portion of Old Perkins Road as a public roadway and authorize the Select Board to convey the fee to the road. If approved, this discontinuance will extinguish all public rights of access over the existing Class VI Road from Chemung Road to the shared corner of Lot 6 and Lot 22, 722 +/- feet.

Recommended by the Select Board (5-0)

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**Article 17 Meredith Neck Road Conservation Easement**

To see if the town will vote to authorize the conveyance of a conservation easement on 38 acres of property on Meredith Neck Road (Tax Map S05, Lot 1C), currently owned by the Ycas Family Trust and anticipated to be acquired by the Town of Meredith in 2025, to Lakes Region Conservation Trust or another similar conservation organization.

Recommended by the Select Board (5-0)

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**Article 18 By Petition**

Shall we adopt the provisions of RSA 32:5-b, and implement a tax cap whereby the governing body (or budget committee) shall not submit a recommended budget that increases the amount to be raised by local taxes, based on the prior fiscal year's actual amount of local taxes raised, by more than 3%. This article requires a 3/5ths majority and shall be determined by a ballot vote.

NOT recommended by the Select Board (5-0)

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**Article 19 By Petition**

To see if the voters will adopt Municipal Budget Law RSA 32 and Municipal Budget Committee pursuant to RSA 32:14.I with 3 members at large to be appointed by the moderator immediately following adoption and to be elected by voters thereafter.

NOT recommended by the Select Board (5-0)

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**Article 20 By Petition**

Shall the following provisions pertaining to elections be adopted? All voting shall be by paper ballot and all ballots shall be hand counted only, rather than by use of optical scanning or any other types of programmable electronic counting devices. This shall constitute a return to hand counting ballots and the immediate discontinuance of all electronic voting machines and electronic devices authorized for use by trial in RSA 656:40. Shall this article be passed, it shall be enacted by the town of Meredith immediately.

NOT recommended by the Select Board (5-0)