

**Town of Lyndeborough NH  
2026 Town Meeting Minutes  
March 14, 2026**

**Moderator Walter Holland** called the 2026 Lyndeborough Town Meeting to order at 10:00 AM on Saturday, March 14, 2026, at Citizens' Hall. He welcomed everyone and noted that this would be his final meeting as Moderator after 24 years of service, expressing that he had enjoyed the role immensely.

To the inhabitants of the Town of Lyndeborough in the County of Hillsborough 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:

**First Session of Annual Meeting (Official Ballot Voting)**

Date: March 10, 2026

Time: 10:00 am to 7:00 pm

Location: 9 Citizens' Hall Rd, Lyndeborough, NH 03082

Details: Ballot Voting of Town Officers and all other matters requiring ballot vote.

**Second Session of Annual Meeting (Transaction of All Other Business)**

Date: March 14, 2026

Time: 10:00 am

Location: Citizens' Hall, 9 Citizens' Hall Rd, Lyndeborough, NH 03082

Details: Annual Town Meeting to act upon Articles 10 through 29.

**Article 01** Selection of Officers and other Matters: Voting of Town Officers and all other matters requiring ballot vote.

\* indicates elected (278 ballots cast- 1274 Registered Voters)

**Results:**

Selectman (3 years)	*Shane Meltzer	214
Moderator (2 years)	*Robert Newton	204
Trustee of Cemeteries (3 years)	*Virginia Chrisenton	222
Library Trustee (3 years)	*Ann Harkleroad	238
Trustee of Trust Funds (3 years)	*John Pomer (write-in)	5
Supervisor of the Checklist (6 years)	*Jessie Salisbury	237
Budget Committee (3 years)	*Helen Woods	28
	Steven Brooks	11
	*Tim Sullivan	8
Budget Committee (2 years)	*Steven Brooks	21
Zoning Board of Adjustment (3 years)	*Thomas Chrisenton	167
	Steven Brooks	5

**Article 02** Are you in favor of the adoption of Article 2 as proposed by the Planning Board for the Town of Lyndeborough Zoning Ordinance as follows?

Amend Sections 503.00, 603.00, 703.00, and 803.00 to replace the term “Zoning Board of Adjustment” with “Planning Board” as originally intended and amend certain uses of terms and emphasis for improved clarity.

Amend Section 503.00 to read as follows (language to be added shown in *bold italics*, language to be removed shown in ~~bold strikeout~~):

**503.00 Conditional Use Permits.**

The following uses may be permitted as ~~conditional use permits~~ *conditional uses* by the ~~Zoning Planning Board of Adjustment~~. A Site Plan Review and approval will then be required by the Planning Board *for all uses other than two-family dwellings*: (3/13/18, 3/12/24, *3/10/26*)

- a. Two family dwellings provided the following conditions can be met:
  - 1) minimum lot size 4 acres;
  - 2) minimum frontage 300 feet;
  - 3) a common road or street access serves both units;
  - 4) two off-street parking spaces shall be provided for each dwelling unit;
  - 5) Certification from the applicant and the Lyndeborough Health/Code Enforcement Officer that any existing septic system or new system is designed to support the increased load created by two families.
- b. Private schools including daycare centers.
- c. Automobile Service
- d. Personal service businesses including but not limited to service or repair of jewelry, appliances or other personal or household items, photography studios, beauty/barber shops and tailors.
- e. Bed and Breakfasts providing the following conditions can be met:
  - 1) the B&B is operated by the resident owner;
  - 2) two (2) non-family employees are permitted on the premises;
  - 3) no additions or changes shall be made to the residence that would make it impractical to revert the building to purely residential;
  - 4) two (2) off-street parking spaces shall be provided for the residents of the B&B and one (1) off-street space shall be provided for each rental unit;
  - 5) certification from the applicant and the Lyndeborough Health/Code Enforcement Officer that any existing septic system or new system is designed to support the increased load; and
  - 6) the business shall be operated in accordance with all Town regulations, state laws and licensing requirements.

Amend Section 603.00 to read as follows (language to be added shown in *bold italics*, language to be removed shown in ~~bold strikeout~~):

**603.00 Conditional Use Permits.**

The following uses may be permitted as ~~conditional use permits~~ **conditional uses** by the **Zoning Planning Board of Adjustment**. A Site Plan Review and approval will then be required by the Planning Board: (3/13/18, 3/12/24, 3/10/26)

- a. Vehicular sales and repair facilities;
- b. Automobile service stations;
- c. Contractor yards;
- d. Public assembly halls ~~and places of worship~~.

**Amend Section 703.00 to read as follows** (language to be added shown in ***bold italics***, language to be removed shown in **~~bold strikeout~~**):

**703.00 Conditional Use Permits.**

The following uses may be permitted as ~~conditional use permits~~ **conditional uses** by the **Zoning Planning Board of Adjustment**. A Site Plan Review and approval will then be required by the Planning Board ***for all uses other than two-family dwellings***: (3/13/18, 3/12/24, ***3/10/26***)

- a. Two-family dwellings provided the following conditions can be met:
  - 1) minimum lot size 4 acres;
  - 2) minimum frontage 500 feet;
  - 3) a common road or street access serves both units;
  - 4) two off-street parking spaces shall be provided for each dwelling unit;
  - 5) Certification from the applicant and the Lyndeborough Health/Code Enforcement Officer that any existing septic system or new system is designed to support the increased load created by two families.
- b. Bed and Breakfasts providing the following conditions can be met:
  - 1) the B&B is operated by the resident owner;
  - 2) two (2) nonfamily employees are permitted on the premises;
  - 3) no additions or changes shall be made to the residence that would make it impractical to revert the building to purely residential;
  - 4) two (2) off-street parking spaces shall be provided for the residents of the B&B and one (1) off-street space shall be provided for each rental unit;
  - 5) certification from the applicant and the Lyndeborough Health/Code Enforcement Officer that any existing septic system or new system is designed to support the increased load; and
  - 6) the business shall be operated in accordance with all Town regulations, state laws and licensing requirements.

**Amend Section 803.00 to read as follows** (language to be added shown in ***bold italics***, language to be removed shown in **~~bold strikeout~~**):

**803.00 Conditional Use Permits.**

The following uses may be permitted as ~~conditional use permits~~ **conditional uses** by the **Zoning Planning Board of Adjustment**. A Site Plan Review and approval will then be required by the Planning Board **for all uses other than two-family dwellings**: (3/13/18, 3/12/24, **3/10/26**)

- a. Two-family dwellings provided the following conditions can be met:
  - 1) minimum lot size 10 acres;
  - 2) minimum frontage 1,000 feet;
  - 3) a common road or street access serves both units;
  - 4) two off-street parking spaces shall be provided for each dwelling unit;
  - 5) Certification from the applicant and the Lyndeborough Health/Code Enforcement Officer that any existing septic system or new system is designed to support the increased load created by two families.
- b. Bed and Breakfasts providing the following conditions can be met:
  - 1) the B&B is operated by the resident owner;
  - 2) two (2) nonfamily employees are permitted on the premises;
  - 3) no additions or changes shall be made to the residence that would make it impractical to revert the building to purely residential;
  - 4) two (2) off-street parking spaces shall be provided for the residents of the B&B and one (1) off-street space shall be provided for each rental unit;
  - 5) certification from the applicant and the Lyndeborough Health/Code Enforcement Officer that any existing septic system or new system is designed to support the increased load; and
  - 6) the business shall be operated in accordance with all Town regulations, state laws and licensing requirements.

This amendment has been recommended by the Planning Board.

**Article Passes**

Yes       No

**Article 03** Are you in favor of the adoption of Article 3 as proposed by the Planning Board for the Town of Lyndeborough Zoning Ordinance as follows?

**Amend Section 1303.00 to replace the term “Conditional Use Permits” with “Special Exceptions.”**

**Amend Section 1303.00 to read as follows** (language to be added shown in **bold italics**, language to be removed shown in **bold-strikeout**):

**1303.00** ~~Conditional Use Permits~~ **Special Exceptions for Non-conforming Buildings.**  
(3/10/98, **3/10/26**)

Additions to existing residences or accessory buildings that lie wholly or in part within the lot setbacks designated for the zoning district may be permitted by ~~Conditional Use Permit~~

~~Special Exception when no alternative is deemed reasonable by the Zoning Board of Adjustment~~, in accordance with any or all of the following:

- 1) the proposed addition will not be constructed in the setback area; or
- 2) the proposed addition will not be closer to the lot line than the most intrusive portion of the existing building; or
- 3) the proposed addition is necessary for the health or safety of the occupants of the building as determined by the Building Inspector at the time of permit application.

This amendment has been recommended by the Planning Board.

Article Passes

Yes  No

**Article 04** Are you in favor of the adoption of Article 4 as proposed by the Planning Board for the Town of Lyndeborough Zoning Ordinance as follows?

Amend Section 413.00, Conditional Use Permits, to clarify that abutter notification and public hearing are required prior to granting a conditional use permit.

Amend Section 413.00 in relevant part reads as follows (additional language shown in *bold italics*):

**413.00 Conditional Use Permits**

A. General

1. Conditional Use Permits (CUP) as herein provided for shall be deemed to be permitted uses in their respective zoning districts, subject to the satisfaction of the requirements and standards set forth herein, in addition to all other requirements and standards of this ordinance.
2. Wherever a conditional use is authorized by this ordinance, the authority to administer or grant Conditional Use Permits shall be vested in the Planning Board. ***The Planning Board shall hold a duly noticed public hearing with abutter notification prior to granting approval.***

This amendment has been recommended by the Planning Board.

Article Passes

Yes  No

**Article 05** Are you in favor of the adoption of Article 5 as proposed by the Planning Board for the Town of Lyndeborough Zoning Ordinance as follows?

Amend Section 408.00, Soil-Based Zoning Requirements, to update outdated soils references and add the requirement that all lots under 5 acres in the RL1 and LI districts shall have a site-specific soil survey conducted by a NH Certified Professional Soil Scientist.

Amend Section 408.00 to read as follows (language to be added shown in ***bold italics***, language to be removed shown in **~~bold-strikeout~~**):

**408.00 Soil-Based Zoning Requirements (Overlay District) (3/18/00) (3/16/19) (3/10/26)**

All lots in the Rural Lands One (RL1) or Light Industrial (***LI***) zoning districts with less than 5 acres shall require a minimum of 2 contiguous acres of ~~“slight”~~ ***“not limited”*** and/or ~~“moderate” limitations~~ ***“somewhat limited”*** rated soils for septic tank absorption fields, as determined by the USDA Natural Resource Conservation Service criteria ~~and published in Table 11 of the “Soil Survey of Hillsborough County, New Hampshire”, issued October 1985.~~ A site-specific soil survey ***shall be*** conducted by a NH Certified Professional Soil Scientist ~~may be required by the Planning Board~~ to ensure that the requirements of this section are met. Contiguous shall mean any area undivided by wetland, ponding (seasonal or perennial) or seasonal or perennial drainage ways. Lots of record shall not be affected by this soil- based zoning for residential usage.

All lots in the Rural Lands One (RL1) or Light Industrial zoning districts with less than 500 ~~foot feet~~ ***of*** frontage shall require a minimum of 2 contiguous acres of ~~“slight”~~ ***“not limited”*** and/or ~~“moderate” limitations~~ ***“somewhat limited”*** rated soils for septic tank absorption fields, as determined by the USDA Natural Resource Conservation Service criteria ~~and published in Table 11 of the “Soil Survey of Hillsborough County, New Hampshire”, issued October 1985.~~ A site-specific soil survey ***shall be*** conducted by a NH Certified Professional Soil Scientist ~~may be required by the Planning Board~~ to ensure that the requirements of this section are met. Contiguous shall mean any area undivided by wetland, ponding (seasonal or perennial) or seasonal or perennial drainage ways. Lots of record shall not be affected by this soil-based zoning for residential usage. (3/18/00) (3/16/19) ***(3/10/26)***

[Note of Clarification: This section 408.00 does not apply to the Village District, section 500.00; Rural Lands 2, section 800.00; Rural Lands 3, section 900.00; or the Large Tracts of Land, section 404.00.]

This amendment has been recommended by the Planning Board.

Article Passes

170

Yes

98

No

**Article 06 Zoning Amendment Article (by petition)**

*Article (1): Are you in favor of the adoption of Article (1) as proposed by citizens of The Town of Lyndeborough for Town of Lyndeborough Zoning Ordinance as follows?*

Amend section 702.00 to help preserve the rural character of Rural Lands One (RL1) and read as follows (language to be added shown in ***bold italics***, language to be removed shown in **~~bold-strikeout~~**.

702:01 Area. Minimum lot size **5 acres which shall require a minimum of 2** contiguous acres of dry land undivided by wetland, pond or drainage way **with "not limited" and/or "somewhat limited" rated soils as required by Section 408.00.**

702:02 Frontage. Minimum **500 250** feet of continuous frontage.

Article (2): Are you in favor of the adoption of Article (2) as proposed by citizens of The Town of Lyndeborough for Town of Lyndeborough Zoning Ordinance as follows?

Amend section 408 to clarify soil based zoning requirements and to read as follows (language to be added shown in **bold italics**, language to be removed in **bold-strikeout**):

#### 408:00 Soil Based Zoning Requirements

All lots in the Rural Lands One (RL1) or Light Industrial zoning districts with less than 5 acres shall require a minimum of 2 contiguous acres of **"not limited" "~~slight~~" and/or "somewhat limited" "~~moderate limitations~~"** limitations rated soils for septic tank absorption fields, as determined by the USDA Natural Resource Conservation Service criteria and published **at "Web Soil Survey (<https://websoilsurvey.nrcs.usda.gov/app/>)" in Table 11 of the "Soil Survey of Hillsborough County, New Hampshire", issued October 1985.** A Site specific soil survey conducted by a NH Certified Professional Soil Scientist may be required by the Planning Board to ensure that the requirements of this section are met. Contiguous shall mean any area undivided by wetland, ponding (seasonal or perennial) or seasonal or perennial drainage ways. Lots of record shall not be affected by this soil-based zoning for residential usage.

All lots in the Rural Lands One (RL1) or Light Industrial zoning districts with less than 500 foot frontage shall require a minimum of 2 contiguous acres of **"not limited" "~~slight~~" and/or "somewhat limited" "~~moderate limitations~~"** limitations rated soils for septic tank absorption fields, as determined by the USDA Natural Resource Conservation Service criteria and published **at "Web Soil Survey (<https://websoilsurvey.nrcs.usda.gov/app/>)" in Table 11 of the "Soil Survey of Hillsborough County, New Hampshire", issued October 1985.** A Site specific soil survey conducted by a NH Certified Professional Soil Scientist may be required by the Planning Board to ensure that the requirements of this section are met. Contiguous shall mean any area undivided by wetland, ponding (seasonal or perennial) or seasonal or perennial drainage ways. Lots of record shall not be affected by this soil-based zoning for residential usage. (3/18/00) (3/16/19) **(3/10/26)**

[Note of Clarification: This section 408.00 does not apply to the Village District, section 500.00; Rural Lands 2, section 800.00; Rural Lands 3, section 900.00; or the Large Tracts of Land, section 404.00.] (by petition)

Article Passes

Yes

No

**Article 07      Zoning Amendment Article (by petition)**

To see if the town will vote to amend Section 411 of the Zoning Ordinance to allow up to two Accessory Dwelling Units (ADUs) by right on lots greater than five acres. ADU's may be attached or detached from the primary dwelling. The combination of the two ADU's would not exceed 2,000 square feet. Currently Lyndeborough allows one ADU of up to 2,000 square feet by right.

Amend Section 411.00, subsection 1 to read as follows (language to removed shown in ~~bold~~ ~~strikeout~~, language to added shown in **bold italics**):

An Accessory Dwelling Unit shall be allowed as a matter of right by the Building Inspector pursuant to RSA 674:71 and 674:72 in all zoning districts that permit single family dwellings. One accessory dwelling unit shall be allowed without additional requirements for lot size, frontage, space limitations, or other controls beyond what would be required for a single family dwelling without an accessory dwelling unit. ~~Not more than one accessory dwelling unit for any single family residence shall be allowed.~~ ***Up to two ADUs are allowed by right on lots greater than five acres provided that the total square footage of the two ADUs does not exceed 2,000 Square feet in area.*** (by petition)

Article Passes

Yes       No

**Article 08      Town Operating Budget**

To see if the Town of Lyndeborough will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **Three Million, Forty Six Thousand, Eight Hundred Fifty Five Dollars (\$3,046,855)**, representing the Operating Budget for fiscal year 2026, as prepared by the Budget Committee. Said sum is exclusive of all special or individual articles addressed; or to take any other action relative thereto. *The Board of Selectmen and Budget Committee Recommend this Article. (Majority Vote Required)*

**Chairman Mark Chamberlain** moved Article 8 as read. **Selectman Bob Howe** seconded. **Budget Committee Kevin Boette** spoke to the Article. Discussion ensued.

**Selectman Mark Chamberlain** moved to amend the budget by \$20,000 for the purpose of adding \$8,000 to line 4150-5300-5316 for the purchase of accounting software, \$7,000 to line 4312-5500-5534 for the purchase of salt, and \$5,000 to line 4290-5300-5393 to upgrade to Citizens' Hall electric panel. **Selectman Bob Howe** seconded the motion to amend.

**Moderator Holland** read amended article, any questions, ready for the amended article, all those in favor signify by saying Aye, those opposed signify by saying Nay. Ayes have it. **Motion passes by voice vote.**

The amended article now totaled **\$3,066,855**.

**Moderator Holland** read the amended Article 8 for \$3,066,855. **Selectman Chair Mark Chamberlain** moved and **Selectman Bob Howe** seconded the amended article.

**Moderator Holland** asked all those in favor of the amended article to signify by saying Aye, those opposed signify by saying Nay. Ayes have it.

### **Article Passes as Amended**

#### **Article 09 1997 Fire Department Pumper Capital Reserve Fund**

To see if the Town of Lyndeborough will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Thirty-Six Thousand Dollars (\$36,000) to be added to the Repair and Replacement of the 1997 Fire Department Pumper Capital Reserve Fund previously established for that purpose; or to take any other action relative thereto. *The Board of Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend this Article. (Majority Vote Required)*

**Selectman Bob Howe** moved Article 9 as read. **Selectman Howard Ray** seconded.

**Moderator Holland** read the Article, any discussion, ready for the question, All those in favor of Article 9 as written signify by saying Aye, those opposed signify by saying Nay. Ayes have it.

### **Article Passes**

#### **Article 10 2005 Fire Department Pumper Capital Reserve Fund**

To see if the Town of Lyndeborough will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Thirty-nine Thousand Dollars (\$39,000) to be added to the Repair and Replacement of the 2005 Fire Department Pumper Capital Reserve Fund previously established for that purpose; or to take any other action relative thereto. *The Board of Selectmen and Budget Committee Recommend this Article. (Majority Vote Required)*

**Selectman Howard Ray** moved Article 10 as read. **Selectman Chair Mark Chamberlain** seconded. **Moderator Holland** read the Article, any discussion, ready for the question, All those in favor of Article 10 as written signify by saying Aye, those opposed signify by saying Nay. Ayes have it.

### **Article Passes**

#### **Article 11 Fire Department Equipment Capital Reserve Fund**

To see if the Town of Lyndeborough will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Fifteen Thousand Dollars (\$15,000) to be added to the Repair and Replacement of Lyndeborough Fire

Department Equipment Capital Reserve Fund, previously established for that purpose; or to take any other action relative thereto. *The Board of Selectmen and Budget Committee Recommend this Article. (Majority Vote Required)*

**Selectman Chair Mark Chamberlain** moved Article 11 as read. **Selectman Bob Howe** seconded. **Moderator Holland** read the Article, any discussion, ready for the question, All those in favor of Article 11 as written signify by saying Aye, those opposed signify by saying Nay. Ayes have it.

#### **Article Passes**

#### **Article 12      2002 John Deere Grader Capital Reserve Fund**

To see if the Town of Lyndeborough will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Twenty Thousand dollars (\$20,000) to be added to the Repair and Replacement of the 2002 John Deere Grader Capital Reserve Fund previously established for that purpose; or to take any other action relative thereto. *The Board of Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend this article. (Majority vote required).*

**Selectman Bob Howe** moved Article 12 as read. **Selectman Howard Ray** seconded. **Moderator Holland** read the Article, any discussion, ready for the question, All those in favor of Article 12 as written signify by saying Aye, those opposed signify by saying Nay. Ayes have it.

#### **Article Passes**

#### **Article 13      2022 On-Ton Truck Capital Reserve Fund**

To see if the Town of Lyndeborough will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Eighteen Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$18,500) to be added to the Repair and Replacement of the 2022 One-Ton Truck Capital Reserve Fund previously established for that purpose; or take any other action relative thereto. *The Board of Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend this Article. (Majority vote required).*

**Selectman Howard Ray** moved Article 13 as read. **Selectman Chair Mark Chamberlain** seconded. **Moderator Holland** read the Article, any discussion, ready for the question, All those in favor of Article 13 as written signify by saying Aye, those opposed signify by saying Nay. Ayes have it.

#### **Article Passes**

#### **Article 14      2016 Mid-Sized Dump Truck Capital Reserve Fund**

To see if the Town of Lyndeborough will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000) to be added to the Repair and Replacement of the 2016 Mid-Size Dump Truck Capital Reserve Fund previously established for that purpose; or take any other

action relative thereto. *The Board of Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend this article. (Majority vote required).*

**Selectman Chair Mark Chamberlain** moved Article 14 as read. **Selectman Howard Ray** seconded. **Moderator Holland** read the Article, any discussion, ready for the question, All those in favor of Article 14 as written signify by saying Aye, those opposed signify by saying Nay. Ayes have it.

#### **Article Passes**

#### **Article 15 Loader Capital Reserve Fund**

To see if the Town of Lyndeborough will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Nineteen Thousand Dollars (\$19,000) to be added to the Repair and Replacement of the Loader Capital Reserve Fund previously established for that purpose; or take any other action relative thereto. *The Board of Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend this Article. (Majority Vote Required)*

**Chairman Mark Chamberlain** moved Article 15 as read. **Selectman Bob Howe** seconded. **Moderator Holland** read the Article, any discussion, ready for the question, All those in favor of Article 15 as written signify by saying Aye, those opposed signify by saying Nay. Ayes have it.

#### **Article Passes**

#### **Article 16 2018 Dump Truck Capital Reserve Fund (Ten Wheeler)**

To see if the Town of Lyndeborough will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Twenty-Six Thousand Dollars (\$26,000) to be added to the Repair and Replacement of the 2018 Dump Truck Capital Reserve Fund previously established for that purpose; or take any other action relative thereto. *The Board of Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend this Article. (Majority Vote Required)*

**Selectman Howard Ray** moved Article 16 as read. **Selectman Chair Mark Chamberlain** seconded. **Moderator Holland** read the Article, any discussion, ready for the question, All those in favor of Article 16 as written signify by saying Aye, those opposed signify by saying Nay. Ayes have it.

#### **Article Passes**

#### **Article 17 2020 Dump Truck Capital Reserve Fund (Mid-sized Truck)**

To see if the Town of Lyndeborough will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Eighteen Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$18,500) to be added to the Repair and Replacement of the 2020 Dump Truck Capital Reserve Fund previously established for that purpose; or take any other

action relative thereto. *The Board of Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend this Article. (Majority Vote Required)*

**Chairman Mark Chamberlain** moved Article 17 as read. **Selectman Bob Howe** seconded. **Moderator Holland** read the Article, any discussion, ready for the question, All those in favor of Article 17 as written signify by saying Aye, those opposed signify by saying Nay. Ayes have it.

#### **Article Passes**

#### **Article 18 Backhoe Capital Reserve Fund**

To see if the Town of Lyndeborough will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Twenty Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$20,500) to be added to the Repair and Replacement of the Backhoe Capital Reserve Fund previously established for that purpose; or take any other action relative thereto. *The Board of Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend this Article. (Majority Vote Required)*

**Selectman Bob Howe** moved Article 18 as read. **Selectman Howard Ray** seconded. **Moderator Holland** read the Article, any discussion, ready for the question, All those in favor of Article 18 as written signify by saying Aye, those opposed signify by saying Nay. Ayes have it.

#### **Article Passes**

#### **Article 19 Discontinue the Repair & Replacement of the Ambulance & Medical Equipment Capital Reserve Fund**

To see if the town will vote to discontinue the Repair & Replacement of the Ambulance & Medical Equipment Capital Reserve Fund created in 2017. Said funds, with accumulated interest to date of withdrawal, are to be transferred to the municipality's general fund. *The Board of Selectmen and Budget Committee Recommend this Article. (Majority vote required)*

**Selectman Howard Ray** moved Article 19 as read. **Selectman Chair Mark Chamberlain** seconded. **Moderator Holland** read the Article, any discussion, ready for the question, All those in favor of Article 19 as written signify by saying Aye, those opposed signify by saying Nay. Ayes have it.

#### **Article Passes**

#### **Article 20 To Establish a Fund for General Grant Funding**

To see if the town will vote to establish a Grant Funding Capital Reserve Fund under the provisions of RSA 35:1 for purpose of funding the town's share of grants for town projects and to raise and appropriate the sum of \$35,000 to be placed in this fund. Further, to name the Board of Selectmen as agents to expend from said fund. This sum to come from the General Fund, no

amount to be raised from taxation; or to take any action relative thereto. *The Board of Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend this Article. (Majority Vote Required)*

**Chairman Mark Chamberlain** moved Article 20 as read. **Selectman Bob Howe** seconded. **Moderator Holland** read the Article, any discussion. **Chairman Chamberlain** explained that grant funding requires matching funds that must be available when applying, as applications without guaranteed funding go to the bottom of the pile. Towns like Wilton have had success with similar funds. Grants are available for fire equipment, highway equipment, and town buildings, noting they'll need a roof on Citizens' Hall soon. The selectmen need authority to act on time-sensitive grants that don't align with town meeting schedules.

**Moderator Holland**, ready for the question, All those in favor of Article 20 as written signify by saying Aye, those opposed signify by saying Nay. Ayes have it.

### **Article Passes**

#### **Article 21      Establish a Welfare Expendable Trust Fund**

To see if the town will vote to establish a Welfare Expendable Trust Fund per RSA 31:19-a, for the purpose of paying costs associated with Welfare and to raise and appropriate Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000) to put in the fund; further to name the Board of Selectmen as agents to expend from said fund. Recommendations Required. *The Board of Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend this Article. (Majority vote required)*

**Selectman Bob Howe** moved Article 21 as read. **Selectman Howard Ray** seconded. **Selectman Howard Ray** explained that welfare is statutorily required, with amounts varying yearly and sometimes going unused. The fund would provide a stable balance rather than annual guessing, with unused operating budget amounts going to unexpended fund balance while the trust fund earns interest.

**Town Administrator Geoffrey Allen** detailed that they currently appropriate **\$10,000-\$20,000** annually for welfare cases, which can cost **\$10,000-\$40,000** or more per case. The expendable trust fund would provide **\$10,000** while putting **\$10,000** in the operating budget, allowing unused operating funds to return to unexpended fund balance while the trust fund remains available and earns interest.

**Moderator Holland** read the Article, any discussion, ready for the question, All those in favor of Article 21 as written signify by saying Aye, those opposed signify by saying Nay. Ayes have it.

### **Article Passes**

#### **Article 22      To Change Planning Board from Appointed to Elected (by petition)**

To see if the Town will vote, pursuant to RSA 673:2, II; to change the Lyndeborough Planning Board from an appointed board to an elected board consisting of seven (7) members,

and further to provide that the first election of Planning Board members shall occur at the 2026 Annual Town Election, with the initial elected members' terms to be staggered pursuant to RSA 673:5 I, for one year, two year, and three year terms. *(By Petition) (by ballot, majority vote required)*

**Selectman Howard Ray** moved Article 22 as written. **Chairman Mark Chamberlain** seconded.

**Petitioner Shane Meltzer** explained his reasoning, stating no single event inspired the petition and that he believes the planning board does good work. His motivation was simply that townspeople should choose planning board members rather than having three selectmen make appointments, preventing potential "stacking" with members having particular agendas. He addressed concerns about vacant positions, noting RSA 673:12 allows remaining planning board members to fill vacancies, giving six people rather than three the appointment authority.

**Alyssa Lavoie** moved to amend the article to change the first election from 2026 to 2027. **Shane Meltzer** seconded.

Moderator Holland read amended Article: "To see if the Town will vote, pursuant to RSA 673:2, II; to change the Lyndeborough Planning Board from an appointed board to an elected board consisting of seven (7) members, and further to provide that the first election of Planning Board members shall occur at the 2027 Annual Town Election, with the initial elected members' terms to be staggered pursuant to RSA 673:5 I, for one year, two year, and three year terms."

All those in favor of the Amendment signify by saying Aye, those opposed signify by saying Nay.

**Amendment passes.**

After some discussion on the Amended Article the voters were told to mark the pink yes/no paper ballot and place it in the ballot box. Stephanie Roper, Supervisor of the Checklist counted the ballots and gave results to Moderator Walter Holland.

**Amended Article Passes**

**44** Yes

**12** No

**Article 23 Other Business**

To transact any other business that may legally come before said meeting; **Chairman Mark Chamberlain** moved Article 23 as read. **Selectman Bob Howe** seconded.

**Chairman Chamberlain** provided updates on the Revolutionary War monument project honoring the 250th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence. The monument is in production with a dedication scheduled for August 15th at 3 PM on the common. Fundraising continues with t-shirts, hats, and commemorative coins available. Donors of \$1,000 will have their names on a bronze plaque, with the deadline extended to Tuesday night's selectmen meeting.

**Moderator Holland** acknowledged major donors including the Milford Rotary Club, Wilton American Legion, and the Lafayette Artillery. He noted the monument will be made by Peterborough Granite, the same company that created the Civil War monument, and encouraged attendance at the August dedication.

**Moderator Holland** thanked the office staff, highway department, and **Michael Kaelin** for sound system setup.

A resident asked about video recording meetings, which was discussed the previous year. **Selectman Ray** acknowledged they overlooked it during budget season but committed to pursuing it this year.

**Chairman Mark Chamberlain** moved to adjourn. **Kevin Boette** seconded. Motion passed by voice vote.

The meeting adjourned at 12:45pm with thanks to **Walter Holland** for his 24 years of service as moderator.

Respectfully Submitted

Patricia H. Schultz  
Town Clerk/Tax Collector  
Town of Lyndeborough NH  
March 25, 2026