



ALEXANDRIA TODAY FEBRUARY 2021 EDITION

47 Washburn Road, Alexandria, NH 03222 www.alexandrianh.com alexandrianh@metrocast.net 603-744-3220

Selectmen's Office

FIRST SESSION OF THE TOWN MEETING (Deliberative Session)

When: Saturday, February 6, 2021 at 10:00 am

Where: Newfound Regional High School, 150 Newfound Road, Bristol, NH

SECOND SESSION OF THE TOWN MEETING (Voting Day)

When: Tuesday, March 9, 2021 polls open 11:00 am to 7:00 pm

Where: Town Hall, 45 Washburn Road, Alexandria, NH

Alexandria adopted the Official Ballot Referenda (SB2) in 2010. Official Ballot Referenda is a form of town meeting that has two sessions. The first session (deliberative session) is for explanation, discussion, debate and amendments to the proposed operating budget and warrant articles (see NH RSA 40:13, IV below). The second session (voting session) allows voters to cast an official ballot to pass/fail proposed articles. The Town Warrant and Budget will be posted online and available at the Municipal Building by January 25, 2021.

Per NH RSA 40:13, IV

IV. The first session of the meeting, governed by the provisions of RSA 40:4, 40:4-a, 40:4-b, 40:4-f, and 40:6-40:10, shall consist of explanation, discussion, and debate of each warrant article, including warrant articles pertaining to the operating budget and the default budget. A vote to restrict reconsideration shall be deemed to prohibit any further action on the restricted article until the second session, and RSA 40:10, II shall not apply. Warrant articles may be amended at the first session, subject to the following limitations:

(a) Warrant articles whose wording is prescribed by law shall not be amended.

(b) Warrant articles that are amended shall be placed on the official ballot for a final vote on the main motion, as amended.

(c) No warrant article shall be amended to eliminate the subject matter of the article. An amendment that changes the dollar amount of an appropriation in a warrant article shall not be deemed to violate this subparagraph.

Annual Reports will be available no later than Tuesday, March 1, 2021 and will include the final budget and ballot questions. (NH RSA 40:13, II).

Abatements: If you receive your tax bill and disagree with the value of your property that is being taxed, you can file for an abatement. An abatement is a request to refund some of the taxes paid on a property. Abatement requests generally fall into two broad categories: physical description errors and valuation opinion differences. To receive a copy of your assessment record card that shows what is listed for the physical description of the property and property value, please contact the Selectmen's Office at alexandrianh@metrocast.net or 603-744-3220. Property assessment information is also available on our website at alexandrianh.com. Abatements can be submitted after you receive your second issue tax bill but must be received in the Selectmen's Office by March 1st.



Alexandria Waste Management Committee 02/21



Recycling is contagious; You set the example, and others will follow

Trivia Quiz Question for the Month: How many Styrofoam coffee cups do Americans use and discard each year?

(see bottom of newsletter article for correct answer)

Money in our Pockets

We continue to save money by recycling. In December, we had no revenue from metal and light metals, aluminum cans, or misc. materials. We had a quarterly adjustment for glass of \$345. The good news, however, is that we did have \$730 in revenue reported for the first week of 2021, which will count toward 2021 savings. The total savings for 2020 was



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\$7138. This was below last year's savings by about \$1,000, but it was a savings. Thank you all very much for your continuing support. As you know, in addition to saving us money, your efforts to recycle have a positive impact on our environment and preserve our natural resources for all to enjoy.

What's New at the Transfer Station



The TSSC met on December 29th, January 5th & 19th, with a Finance sub-committee meeting on the 14th. The meeting on 29 Dec. 2020 was a continuation of the discussion at the 2 previous December meetings. Erin had not yet completed estimates for the basic tasks needing completion in 2021 for us to begin actual construction in 2022. There was a lengthy discussion about the permits required and the reasons for each.

Some additional testing will be necessary; however, before additional testing is done, we need a layout design as that will drive what additional tests and permits may be required. This will also drive the amount of the warrant residents will be asked to approve in March 2021 to continue work on the project. Members of the community, not on the TSSC, voiced their opinion that they didn't want anything elaborate or expensive; just a place to dump their trash. The TSSC explained that their objective was to proceed in the most efficient way possible to provide for the town's immediate, basic needs while providing for the opportunity to expand the facility to meet future needs. A site plan is critical at this juncture.

The meeting on the 5th was primarily to agree on the wording for the warrant article to be presented in March 2021 for voter approval of funding for 2021, which will allow us to move forward with preliminary work needed before actual relocation and construction can begin. Erin has not yet provided us with estimates and did not join the mtg. The lack of specific dollar amounts being available caused concern/confusion to some of the residents attending the mtg. It was agreed that the warrant would be worded to clearly indicate that the money would be for expenses incurred in 2021 for the purposes of design and permitting, and that a specific dollar amount would be included. There was discussion as to why these steps were necessary. It was pointed out that new requirements by federal, state, and lending institutions make permitting and financing much more difficult. It was confirmed that, although intertwined because they share the same property, the development of the gravel pit and the transfer station need to be treated as independent projects.

A Zoom meeting was held on January 14th with USDA-RD (United States Department of Agriculture – Rural Development) to discuss possible financial assistance alternatives. This was a preliminary meeting to familiarize us with requirements, understand variances between types of financing, review the preliminary paperwork needed to accompany the application(s), and finally a brief review of the forms and the application itself. Documents were sent to us for further review. As with other aspects of the project, a design layout must be decided upon before we can fully evaluate our options.

The meeting on the 19th of January was primarily to agree on the warrant article to be presented to the voters in March 2021. Erin was present via Zoom and provided us with new cost estimates for work needing to be completed in 2021 so work could continue, which were reviewed in detail. There will be some engineering expenses; the majority of those expenses will be incurred in connection with construction design and the timing of when these expenses are incurred is dependent on the extent of design detail required for a loan and permitting applications. Erin again emphasized the importance of involving an architectural engineer in the project. It was decided that the warrant to be voted on in March would request \$50,000 and we would prioritize what needed to be done and accomplish as much as possible with whatever the final warrant funding approved ends up being – it was conceded that this amount would probably not allow us to complete everything necessary before the deadline of 31 Dec. 2021 for submission of a loan application to USDA. It was also agreed that we needed to give Erin a layout for the site which the TSSC had agreed to so she can move forward – a smaller group will work on this and present recommendations to the TSSC. Lastly, the possibility of seeking financial backing from other than USDA was discussed, and the Finance sub-committee will investigate this.

Last month, I reviewed the permit and fee provisions; this month I'm going to cover Section 3: GENERAL PROVISIONS. These are the general guidelines under which the transfer station operates.



3.1 Facility use: The facility may be used only by residents and non-resident landowners of the Town of Alexandria for the proper disposal of acceptable solid wastes **generated in the Town of Alexandria**. Users of the facility shall be deemed to agree to the provisions of this section. The Alexandria Transfer Station Town of Alexandria, New Hampshire Solid Waste District Ordinance 4 specifically specifies: (a)

Users of the facility shall be held liable for all damages they may cause to the facility and/or personnel. (b) Any person, whose violation of the ordinance or a regulation adopted by the selectmen under this ordinance results in costs to the town of any kind shall reimburse the town for the costs so incurred. RSA 149-M:7 (c) The attendant shall have the

Meeting minutes, newsletters, alerts and other helpful information is updated on the Town's website on a regular basis.

Visit us at www.alexandrianh.com or find us on Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/alexandrianh>



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authority to refuse admittance to any person who does not qualify for a permit under these regulations, or who intentionally misuses the facility.

3.2 Disposal: (a) Acceptable solid wastes shall be placed in appropriate containers or areas as directed by the attendant or by signs at the facility. The disposal of any waste in the unauthorized areas or in an unauthorized manner is prohibited. The driver of any vehicle spilling materials at the facility or dropping a contaminated load shall be charged for cleanup costs. (b) Those users of the facility with loads larger than that carried in a standard pick-up truck or with more than one delivery per day shall notify the attendant to work out an acceptable arrangement for the delivery.

3.3 Hours of Operation (a) Hours of operation are to be determined by the Board of Selectmen. Acceptable solid wastes may only be disposed of during the posted hours of operation. (b) Hours of operation of the facility shall be posted at the entrance of the facility, on the facility bulletin board and at the municipal office building. **Admittance to the facility will not be permitted later than 15 minutes prior to the posted closing time.**

These operating procedures are intended to ensure the facility is operated in a safe and orderly fashion. The complete Ordinance can be viewed on the town's website. Thank you for your cooperation.

Creative ideas for recycling, reusing items, and interesting articles or websites offering recycling ideas are always welcome as are comments and suggestions about the newsletter articles. Please submitted your comments to: steve.whitman@hotmail.com; be sure to state "recycling comments" in the subject. In some cases, with the author's permission, comments may be printed in subsequent issues.

Answer to trivia question: 25 Billion. It is estimated that Styrofoam takes up to 500 years to decompose in landfills. To reduce your usage, ask for biodegradable beverage containers or use your own mug – most establishments will gladly fill your personal mug. Keep a mug in your car and at your desk at your workplace - use it in place of Styrofoam take-out beverage containers.

Source: www.roadrunnerwm.com/blog/50-interesting-recycling-facts

Alexandria Conservation Commission



Looking for a good ground cover to hold soil, provide year-round color, and food for birds such as turkey and grouse as well as mammals like white-tailed deer, bear, fox, and chipmunks? Consider Wintergreen. Wintergreen is a native shrub that is found growing in acidic soils under the shade of coniferous or hardwood forests in eastern North America. It is a member of the heath family that includes blueberry, leatherleaf, and trailing arbutus. Creeping stems sprawl on, or just below, the surface and form a dense ground cover with glossy,

deep green, leathery leaves. A mature plant will attain a height of seven inches. Small, bell-like, white flowers bloom in mid-summer and are followed by a berrylike fruit that ripens to deep red and remains on the plant throughout the winter. The leaves and fruits of wintergreen have a strong minty fragrance.



Native plants like the wintergreen grow without any special tending, provided you have the environment they need to thrive. In their native habit, wintergreen plants grow in the dappled shade of temperate forests, where they creep along and form dense colonies among other acid-loving plants like mountain laurels and rhododendrons. Wintergreen plants don't need a nutrient-rich soil, but they do appreciate good drainage. Wintergreen plants spread by creeping rhizomes, and as such, are easy to propagate by division or cuttings. Stems will form new roots as they spread along the ground. Cut one of these new stem sections with roots attached and replant. You may also take a tip cutting from new growth in the spring. Plant the cutting in sterile seed starting mix and keep moist until new roots form.

This spring why not consider adding some wintergreen plantings to your landscape; you'll be enhancing your landscape and providing protection against erosion, plus a source of food for wildlife during the winter months?

Source: NH Audubon eNews 12 Jan 2021; Article by Diane DeLuca



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Other Local Events/Organizations



BLOOD DRIVES

Tuesday, February 23, 2021 from 12:00 pm to 5:00 pm

Marian Center, 17 West Shore Road, Bristol, NH

Tuesday, March 9, 2021 from 12:00 pm to 5:00 pm

Marian Center, 17 West Shore Road, Bristol, NH

Office Hours

Selectmen's Office – 744-3220

Monday: 8 am to 4 pm
Tuesday: 8 am to 5 pm
Wednesday: 8 am to 4 pm
Thursday: 8 am to 4 pm
Friday: CLOSED

Town Clerk/ Tax Collector – 744-3288

Monday: 9 am to 4 pm
Tuesday: 9 am to 7 pm
Wednesday: 9 am to 4 pm
Thursday: 9 am to 4 pm
Friday: CLOSED

Transfer Station

Monday: 8 am to 4 pm
Wednesday: 8 am to 4 pm
Saturday: 8 am to 4 pm
Must arrive 15 minutes prior to posted closing time

Police Department 744-6650

Chief David Suckling
When dispatcher picks up, give dispatcher your message. They will page an officer on the radio. Cell phones are not reliable locally.

Highway Department – 744-6516

Jeff Cantara, Road Agent

Planning Board – 744-8986

Deliberative Meetings: 3rd Wednesday of each month at 6:00 pm
Open 1 hour prior to meeting.
Items to be included on the agenda must be received 21 days prior to the meeting.

Conservation Commission

To contact the Conservation Commission:
e-mail: alexandrianh@metrocast.net
Phone: 603-744-3220
Mail: 47 Washburn Road
Alexandria, NH 03222

BURN PERMITS

Burn permits can now be obtained online -
<http://www.nhfirepermit.com/>

All categories of burn permits are also available in the Selectmen's Office during normal business hours.

Before burning, please check the daily predicted fire danger.

Visit www.nhdfi.org/Community/Daily-Fire-Danger

The daily fire danger rating may also be obtained by calling the Division of Forests and Lands wildfire information line (toll free): 1-866-NH-FIRES (866-643-4737)

ALEXANDRIA FIRE DEPARTMENT

158 Washburn Road, Alexandria, NH
PHONE: (603) 530-2229
FAX: (603) 744-3165
Emergency: 911
fire@alexandrianh.com

UPCOMING MEETINGS:

Please check website for up-to-date meeting schedule – These meeting dates and time may change due to the ongoing concerns with COVID-19. Meetings will always be available to the public and we will be making efforts to have the meetings live streamed. Please also email alexandrianh@metrocast.net with any questions or concerns you would like included in the public meeting.

Tuesday, February 2, 2021: Selectmen's Meeting at 6:00 pm
Saturday, February 6, 2021: First Session of Town Meeting (Deliberative Session) at 10:00 am at Newfound Regional High School, 150 Newfound Road, Bristol, NH
Monday, February 15, 2021: Town Offices & Transfer Station Closed in observance of Presidents' Day
Tuesday, February 16, 2021: Selectmen's Meeting at 6:00 pm followed by Transfer Station Siting Committee Meeting
Wednesday, February 17, 2021: Planning Board Meeting at 6:00 pm
Wednesday, February 24, 2021: Conservation Commission Meeting at 6:30 pm at the Alexandria Village School, 44 Mount Cardigan Road, Alexandria, NH

All meetings are held in the Conference Room at the Municipal Building (47 Washburn Road) and open to the public unless otherwise noted. Selectmen: All appointments and agenda items for Selectmen's meetings must be submitted to the Selectmen's Office by 4:00 pm the Thursday before the meeting. The Selectmen hold work sessions as needed at 5:00 pm prior to the meetings.

Planning Board: Items to be included on the agenda must be received 21 days prior to the meeting. Selectmen's Meetings can be viewed on Atlantic Broadband Channel 24 on Mondays at 8pm, Wednesdays at 9 am, and Saturdays at 3 pm.

Meeting minutes, newsletters, alerts and other helpful information is updated on the Town's website on a regular basis.

Visit us at www.alexandrianh.com or find us on Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/alexandrianh>