



**TOWN OF NEW CASTLE, N.H.**  
**ANNUAL REPORT - 2023**  
**FISCAL YEAR:**  
**JULY 1, 2022 TO JUNE 30, 2023**







**ABOUT THE CONTRIBUTING ARTIST**  
**(FRONT AND BACK COVERS)**

Wickie Rowland has lived in New Castle for almost 30 years. She has written and illustrated three books and just finished illustrating a fourth. She loves using the Seacoast as inspiration.

Her work can be seen on greeting cards, museum exhibits, and online at her website: [www.wickierowland.com](http://www.wickierowland.com) or on

Instagram at:  
[www.instagram.com/wickierowlandillustration](https://www.instagram.com/wickierowlandillustration)



**TOWN OF NEW CASTLE, N.H.**  
**ANNUAL REPORT**  
**FOR THE YEAR 2023**  
**(July 1, 2022, to June 30, 2023)**

[www.newcastlenh.org](http://www.newcastlenh.org)



# PROCLAMATION

WE, THE SELECT BOARD OF THE TOWN OF  
NEW CASTLE, NEW HAMPSHIRE

By this certificate, are pleased to announce that the

*BOSTON POST CANE*

is presented to:

*James H. B. George*

Who, born February 1929, to the best of our knowledge and belief, is the oldest resident of New Castle at the age of 95. On behalf of the people of New Castle, we congratulate James on this distinction.

This cane is symbolic of New Castle's oldest residents since 1909. Now, because of its historic significance, the Cane is on permanent display at the Town Office, while the Certificate is issued in its place.

In witness we affix our signatures and the seal of the Town of  
New Castle, February 13, 2024.

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William Stewart, Chair of Select Board

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Jane Finn, Selectperson

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Pamela Cullen, Selectperson

Carol White, Town Historian



## BOSTON POST CANE

Carol White, Town Historian, is extremely apologetic that James George was overlooked last year as the oldest resident in town.

For over a century, it has been the practice to designate the oldest resident in hundreds of New England towns as the holder of the Boston Post Cane. The publisher of The Boston Post newspaper, Edwin Grozier, started this practice in 1909 as an advertising promotion. He gave out 700 canes to towns (not cities) in NH, ME, MA and RI to be held by the oldest resident where they lived. Until 1930 they went to the oldest male resident. The newspaper went out of business in 1956 but some towns keep the tradition alive.

The canes were crafted by J. F. Fradley Co., using African ebony, with a 14 karat gold head and a ferrule at the tip. The head is engraved as “presented by The Boston Post to the oldest citizen of (name of town) to be transmitted.” For many years, towns loaned their cane but that led to the loss of canes over the years. Now it is typical to keep the cane on display and present a proclamation.

At the main entrance to the New Castle Town Hall, on the immediate right-hand wall, is a case which holds the cane and information about all known honorees.





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## SELECT BOARD LETTER

*. We work in the present to preserve and honor our past while creating a thoughtful and sustainable future.*

The Select Board, alongside staff, officials and volunteers serving the Town, have worked hard in the last year accomplishing a lot. Beyond the daily efforts of Town operations, we enhanced safety and access, purchased and improved public lands, maintained our special buildings, and improved our services and infrastructure.

### *Safety, Public Lands, and Access*

The Board continued its focus on a comprehensive solution to pedestrian access and safety on the Island and maintaining or establishing open space for residents and visitors. This plan includes such things as broadening shoulders on busy roadways, installing and maintaining additional paths, walkways, sidewalks and improving existing or creating new open space areas.

- The Town is actively engaged with Federal, State, and regional government resources to ensure that the Route 1B and Causeway improvement project is included and funded in the upcoming NH Department of Transportation Project Plan. The Causeway is a critical piece of infrastructure providing access to and from the island during emergencies, a corridor for critical drinking water, and access to the island for its residents and visitors.
- The Town, using a combination of donations, grants, and state funding along with its own resources to complete a sidewalk section across the front area of the Common connecting the Wild Rose Lane section to near Beach Hill Road. There is now a complete and connected walkway from the Wentworth Bridge to the Town Common along a busy stretch of route 1B.
- The Town and the Safe Path Committee continued its connectivity, safety, and access work on the section of Route 1B from Beach Hill Road to Pit Lane. The Town voted on and approved acceptance of a TAP Grant to fund this work at the Town meeting in 2019. Currently, there is a plan in place with options which will be discussed at public hearings in the coming year.
- The Select Board is working with the New Castle Conservation Commission to improve trail and off-road walking opportunities in Town. This includes improving access and conserving natural spaces for their use and enjoyment, and creating connectivity routes to places such as MHT, the Common and high interest areas.
- The Town continues to receive approval from the State to reduce the summer speed limit on Rte. 1B in the School and Downtown areas. This coupled with electronic monitoring has made people more aware and resulted in slower recorded speeds in Town.
- The Town purchased new public property adjacent to New Castle Beach and the Walbach Tower in October. The historic purchase preserves an incredible waterfront parcel with significant cultural and environmental value for current and future generations. It was the culmination of a year-long effort that took an incredible amount of forethought by the

residents of New Castle. An overwhelming majority of residents, seventy-two percent, voted in favor of protecting and preserving this property. The Town is currently working with residents to develop best management practices and how to incorporate the property into our public lands.

- The Town made significant improvements to its Common. The old military fencing at the front of the property was replaced with a new black chain link fence set back from the roadway, improving aesthetics, and allowing for a new sidewalk to be installed.

#### *Accessible buildings, systems, and upkeep:*

The Board continues to focus on a plan to maintain and enhance the Town's properties and buildings. It worked with the Capital Improvement Planning Committee to ensure our public properties are a priority.

- The Town improved connectivity and installed new systems at Town Hall allowing for better access to data, improved customer service, and enhanced security features.
- The Town installed RecDesk, a web-based platform, at the Recreation Building and for use as scheduling software for events and sports.
- The Town purchased new building inspector software to improve efficiency and reduce operating costs.
- The Town improved online meeting access for residents and improved communication through its website and email services.
- The Town Hall continued to be improved Town Hall this year replacing siding, and windows on the eastern side of the building. Next year, the Town will be replacing the front porch and replacing siding and windows.
- The Town continued to improve air quality in Town Hall through insulation and vapor barrier efforts. Those efforts will continue into next year with improvements to the foundation and the installation of a vapor barrier.
- The Town continued to improve its storm water efforts to meet EPA and State regulations.

#### *Around Town Hall:*

The amount of work we have accomplished and look to accomplish is a direct reflection of the contribution volunteers, those who serve in the office, and the employees of New Castle make every day.

- The Town welcomed a new Town Administrator and Financial Administrator in the last year to enhance Town services and compliance efforts. Please stop by and welcome them and thank those who continue to serve the Town.

Thanks for all your support and help. We look forward to continued success next year and beyond.



THANK YOU FOR AN AMAZING NEW CASTLE  
400<sup>th</sup> YEAR CELEBRATION

A huge “Thank you” goes out to Carol White, Dawn Lake and Curt Springer, who spear headed this amazing committee for the town’s celebration. This island community, of just barely over 1000 inhabitants, had an amazing year of celebrations.

The Great Island Garden Club had a three-year project to celebrate this event by planting nearly 8000 bulbs throughout the town. In mid-April of 2023, one could drive through the town awash in yellow and orange blooms. Also, the club planted incredibly brightly colored floral window boxes at town hall and the post office. Other areas touched by the garden club included the Rec building, causeway boat, town landing, municipal safety building. Thank you “GIGC” for this amazing array of floral displays.

The 400<sup>th</sup> Committee hosted a weekend of living history at the Great Island Common. There were period encampments with artisans ranging from laundry women, corn husk dolls makers, herbalists, blacksmiths, lace making to name a few. A grand site to behold on the Common. Another event held at the common was a Colonial Barn dance and picnic supper in June.

A Town Festival Day organized by the NC Police Department was held in August at the Great Island Common. Food and beer trucks and live music filled the Common. The day concluded with amazing fireworks put on by Wood Island and the USCG. Great time was had by all, thank you NCPD!

The July 4<sup>th</sup> parade, another honored tradition, included the USCG presentation of colors, a declaration of Independence reading, and a reenactment of the Peppercorn Ceremony. Ending the parade with lively event with games and a great cookout.

Thank you all: 400<sup>th</sup> Committee, NC Historical Society, NC Congregational Church, Great Island Garden Club, Parade Committee, New Castle Police and Fire Department for making the 400<sup>th</sup> Spectacular.

Respectfully Submitted,

The New Castle Select Board

William Stewart, Chair

Jane Finn, Selectwoman

Pamela Cullen, Selectwoman

# NEW CASTLE NH LOCAL GOVERNMENT OPERATIONAL CHART

## SELECTBOARD

<b>TOWN ADMINISTRATOR</b>			
<b>Police Chief</b>	<b>Fire Chief/EMD</b>	<b>Administrative Assistant</b>	<b>DPW/Road Agent</b>
Employees	Employees/Volunteers	Employee	Employees

<b>Financial Administrator</b>	<b>Building Inspector/Code Enforcement</b>	<b>Deputies/Assistants for Dept.'s/Boards/Committee</b>	<b>Assessor</b>
Employee	Employee	Employees	Contract
			<b>Welfare Officer</b>
			BOS

## Appointed by Selectboard

<b>Conservation Commission</b>	<b>Zoning Board of Adjustment</b>	<b>Historic District Commission</b>	<b>Planning Board</b>	<b>Ocean Street Property Advisory Committee</b>	<b>Health Officer</b>	<b>Joint Loss Management Committee</b>	<b>Playground Committee</b>	<b>Recreation Commission</b>	<b>Energy Committee</b>	<b>Water &amp; Sewer Commission</b>			
Volunteers	Volunteers	Volunteers	Volunteers	Volunteers	Appointed	Employees	Volunteers	Volunteers	Volunteers	Volunteers			

## Town Officials

*Capital Improvement Plan, Master Plan Committee*  
*\*And all study committees which may become necessary\**

<b>Cemetery Trustees</b>	<b>Library Trustees</b>	<b>Supervisors of Checklist</b>	<b>Town Clerk</b>	<b>Tax Collector</b>	<b>Treasurer</b>	<b>Trustees of Trust Funds</b>
Elected	Elected	Elected	Elected	Employee	Elected	Elected



## SPECIAL RECOGNITION

The family of the late Peter Reed recently planted a specimen American White Oak Tree (*Quercus alba*) at the Great Island Common in his memory. This stately tree will grow to prominence and grace the common ground for future generations to appreciate.

Mr. and Mrs. Reed are longtime residents of New Castle and over the years he gave of himself to serve on various town boards. There are those who recall his Antique car at our yearly 4th of July parades.

The town acknowledges and appreciates their generosity with this special recognition in the 2024 Annual Report.



(Example of a mature White Oak)

## NEW HAMPSHIRE ELECTED OFFICIALS

### NATIONAL

Senator Maggie Hassan  
Portsmouth Office  
14 Manchester Square  
Suite 140  
Portsmouth, NH 03801  
603-433-4445  
<https://hassan.senate.gov>

Senator Jeanne Shaheen  
New Hampshire Office  
2 Wall St., Suite 220  
Manchester, NH 03101  
603-647-7500  
<https://shaheen.senate.gov>

Rep. Chris Pappas  
New Hampshire Ofc. – District 1  
660 Central Ave., Suite 101  
Dover, NH 03820  
603-285-4300  
<https://pappas.house.gov>

### STATE

Governor  
Christopher Sununu  
State House  
107 North Main Street  
Concord, NH 03301  
603-271-2121  
[governorsununu@nh.gov](mailto:governorsununu@nh.gov)

Executive Councilor  
District 3  
Janet Stevens  
107 No. Main St. Rm 207  
Concord, NH 03301  
603-271-3632  
[Janet.L.Stevens@nh.gov](mailto:Janet.L.Stevens@nh.gov)

State Senator  
District 24  
Debra Altschiller  
33 North State St.  
Concord, NH 03301  
603-271-4063  
[debra.altschiller@leg.state.nh.us](mailto:debra.altschiller@leg.state.nh.us)

### REPRESENTATIVE – DISTRICT 22

Kate Murray  
P.O. Box 2193  
New Castle, NH 03854  
603-379-2248  
[kate.murray@leg.state.nh.us](mailto:kate.murray@leg.state.nh.us)



## TOWN OFFICERS – ELECTED/APPOINTED

<u>Select Board</u>	William Stewart, Chair	term exp 5/24
	Jane Finn	term exp 5/25
	Pamela Cullen	term exp 5/26
<u>Police Department</u>	Donald A. White, Jr. Chief	indef appt
Patrolman	Derek Poirer	indef appt
Patrolman	Cody Lightfoot	indef appt
Patrolman	Kevin McGee	indef appt
Patrolman (pt)	Matthew Tyler	indef appt
Patrolman (pt)	Ryan Oliver	indef appt
Patrolman (pt)	Kenneth Tilley	indef appt
Patrolman (pt)	John Tuttle	indef appt
Patrolman (pt)	Andy Croteau	indef appt
Patrolman (pt)	Chris Pollock	indef appt
Animal Control Officer	Donald A. White, Jr.	indef appt
<u>Fire Department</u>	Ted Hartmann, Chief	indef appt
Deputy Fire Chief	Mark Wooley	indef appt
Firefighter (pt)	Justin Coleman	indef appt
Firefighter (pt)	Jeffrey DiBartolomeo	indef appt
Firefighter (pt)	Chris Eggerman	indef appt
Firefighter (pt)	Ben Hochschwender	indef appt
Firefighter (pt)	Jesse McMahon	indef appt
Firefighter (pt)	William Naugle	indef appt
Firefighter (ft)	Erin Kelly	indef appt
<u>Town Clerk</u>	Lisa English	term exp 5/24
Assistant Clerk	Jennifer Rumph	indef appt
Assistant Clerk	Elizabeth Riordan	indef appt
<u>Tax Collector</u>	Priscilla Hodgkins	term exp 5/24
Joann Ireland	Deputy Tax Collector	appt exp 5/24
<u>Treasurer</u>	Thomas Smith	term exp 5/24
Asst. Treasurer	Stephen Witt	indef apt
<u>Road Agent</u>	Chris Robillard	appt exp 5/24
<u>Town Moderator</u>	Tom Maher	term exp 5/24
<u>Health Officer</u>	Dr. Kathleen Hollister	state appt exp 5/24
<u>Deputy Health Officer</u>	Diane Cognilio	state appt exp 5/24
<u>Town Historian</u>	Carol White	indef appt

<u>Water &amp; Sewer Comm</u>	Richard White, Chair Carl Roediger Scott Stringham Lorn Buxton	appt exp 5/26 appt exp 5/24 appt exp 5/25 appt exp 5/24
Alternate	James Rini	appt exp 5/26
Alternate	Stephen Johnson	appt exp 5/24
Alternate	Larry Doyle	appt exp 5/25
Ex-Officio/Selectwoman	Pamela Cullen	term exp 5/26
<u>Planning Board</u>	Darcy Horgan, Chair Kate Murray Richard Landry Lorne Jones	appt exp 5/26 appt exp 5/25 appt exp 5/25 appt exp 5/24
Alternate	Nancy Euchner	appt exp 5/26
Alternate	Anne Crotty	appt exp 5/26
Ex-Officio/Selectman	William Stewart	term exp 5/24
<u>Zoning Bd of Adjustment</u>	Todd Baker, Chair John Fitzpatrick Rebecca Goldberg Matthew Taylor	appt exp 5/24 appt exp 5/24 appt exp 5/26 appt exp 5/25
Alternate	Mark Gardner	appt exp 5/24
Alternate	Alyson Tanguay	appt exp 5/24
Ex-Officio/Planning Board	Rich Landry	appt exp 5/25
<u>Historic District Committee</u>	Etoile Holzaepfel, Chair David Meyers Ruth Zikaras Guy Stearns	appt exp 5/26 appt exp 5/26 appt exp 5/24 appt exp 5/26
Alternate	Kate Murray	appt exp 5/25
Ex-Officio/Planning Board	Jane Finn	term exp 5/25
<u>Conservation Commission</u>	Jim Cerny, Interim Chair Beth Barnhorst Thomas Chamberlain	appt exp 5/24 appt exp 5/26 appt exp 5/25
Alternate	James Rini	appt exp 5/25
Alternate	Tony Coniglio	appt exp 5/27
Ex-Officio/Selectman	William Stewart	term exp 5/24
Ex-Officio/Planning Board	Darcy Horgan	appt exp 5/26
<u>Budget Committee</u>	Thomas Smith, Chair Michael Traister Gary Rumph	term exp 5/24 term exp 5/26 term exp 5/25
Ex-Officio/Selectman	William Stewart	term exp 5/24
Ex-Officio/School Board	Jane Lannon	term exp 5/26

<u>Trustees of the Trust Funds</u>	Timothy Driscoll	term exp 5/24
	Ruth Zikaras	term exp 5/26
	David Fitts	term exp 5/25
Alternate	Julie Thomas	appt exp 5/24
Alternate	James Wilbur	appt exp 5/24
<u>Library Trustees</u>	Maryann Driscoll, Chair	term exp 5/24
	Jane Lannon	term exp 5/25
	Pam Stearns	term exp 5/26
Alternate	Glicka Kaplan	appt exp 5/24
Alternate	Marcia Beckett	appt exp 5/24
Library Director	Christine Collins	indef appt
<u>Supervisors of the Checklist</u>	Carl Roediger	term exp 5/26
	Anne Miller	term exp 5/24
	Julie Thomas	term exp 5/28
<u>Cemetery Trustees</u>	Terri Golter	term exp 5/25
	Maisley Jones	term exp 5/26
	Rodney Rowland	appt exp 5/24
<u>Recreation Committee</u>	Guy Stearns, Chair	appt exp 5/25
<u>Energy Committee</u>	Sandra Bisset, Chair	appt exp 5/25
<u>Rockingham Planning Commission Representative</u>	James Cerny	appt exp 5/26
<u>Capital Improvement Program Committee</u>	Tom Maher, Chair	appt exp 5/24
	Richard Landry	
	Doug Pinciario	
	Richard White	
	Donald White	
	Ted Hartmann	
	Chris Robillard	
	David Fitts	
	William Stewart	



Town Employees

Interim Town Administrator	John Scruton
Town Administrator	Michael Tully
Financial Administrator	Lori Ruest
Admin Asst. to BOS	Bernice L. Barnes
Public Works Supervisor	Chris Robillard
Asst. Public Works	Aaron White
Public Works (pt)	John LaRose
Public Works (pt)	Stephen Tabbutt
Bldg Insp/Code Enf	Russell Bookholz
Recording Secretary	Diane Cooley
Recording Secretary	Meghan Rumph
Recording Secretary	Bette Jean Riorden

**TOWN OF NEW CASTLE, NEW HAMPSHIRE  
ELECTED POSITIONS AND SALARIES**

<b><u>Position</u></b>	<b><u>Annual Salaries</u></b>
Select Board Chair	\$ 2,000
Select Board (2)	1,800
Town Clerk/Tax Collector	23,625
Treasurer	6,000
Cemetery Trustee (3)	100
Moderator	200 per election
Supervisor of the checklist (3)	100 plus \$100 per election
Trustee of the Trust Funds (2)	100
Trustee of the Trust Funds, Bookkeeper	250
Historian	250

**ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES OF THE TOWN OF NEW CASTLE  
TUESDAY, MAY 9, 2023 – 7:00 p.m.**

Minutes for the New Castle Town Election and Town Meeting May 9, 2023

Town Election: May 9, 2023, from 9:00 am to 7:00 pm.

Town Meeting: May 9, 2023, Time: 7:00 pm, Location: Recreation Center, 301 Wentworth Road, New Castle, NH

Moderator Tom Maher called the meeting to order at 08:12 pm and requested a moment of silence for those we have lost in the past year including David Borden, who very recently passed away from cancer.

Selectman Bill Stewart spoke of Mr. Borden’s many accomplishments and contributions to the town. He was a State Representative and worked on many projects in town including Safe Path. David worked with tenacity, purpose, and care, and was always willing to help. He will be greatly missed.

Moderator Maher then led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Moderator Maher introduced members of the Select Board: Chair Dave McGuckin, Selectman Bill Stewart, Selectwoman Jane Finn, Town Council Keriann Roman, Town Clerk Lisa English, and Town Administrator Lori Ruest.

Over 400 people were in attendance. Moderator Maher read the general rules of procedure for the meeting. Tom Smith, 254 Wentworth Rd., moved to accept the general rules. Peter Rice, 11 Atkinson St., seconded. Motion carried to proceed with the meeting.

**ARTICLE 01:** To choose all necessary Town Officers for the following year.

**one School Board Member for three years,**

<i>Write in: Kate Hermon</i>	71
Write in: Larry Doyle	13
Write in: Tom Smith	02
Write in: Tom Maher	02
Write in: Julie White	02
Write in: Federico Clerici	02

**one Select Board Member for three years,**

<i>Pamela P. Cullen</i>	214
Write in: Todd Baker	02

**one Budget Committee Member for three years,**

*Michael Traister* 176  
Write in: Jim Wilbur 02

**one Cemetery Trustee for three years,**

*Maisley Jones* 200

**one Library Trustee for one year,**

Write in: Glen Kirsh 02  
Write in: Mary Ann Driscoll 02  
Write in: Glika Kaplan 02  
Write in: Brad Greeley 02

\*Winning candidate to be determined by Library Committee\*

**one Library Trustee for three years,**

*Pamela Fessenden Stearns* 261

**one Trustee of the Trust Funds for three years,**

*Ruth Zikaras* 245

**one Treasurer for three years,**

*Tom Smith* 220  
Write in: Tim Driscoll 03  
Write in: Nancy Jackson 02

**one Town Clerk for one year,**

*Lisa English* 250  
Write in: Pricilla Hodgkins 02

**one Tax Collector for one year,**

*Write in: Pricilla Hodgkins* 73  
Write in: Andy Schulte 06  
Write in: Tom Smith 03  
Write in: Pam Cullen 02

(ON THE BALLOT)

**ARTICLE 02:** Zoning Amendment #1

Are you in favor of adopting Zoning Amendment Number 1, as proposed by the Planning Board to amend the Zoning Ordinance as follows:

(~~Strike through~~ means deleted text, **bolded and underlined text means added text**):

- 9.0 OVERLAY ZONING DISTRICTS
- 9.3 HISTORIC DISTRICT ORDINANCE
- 9.3.7 Application Procedure:
- 9.3.7.3 Hearings and Notices:

9.3.7.3.b The Commission shall issue a Certificate of Approval or Notice of Disapproval within ~~ten~~ **five** days of the final hearing date unless the applicant shall agree to an extension in writing.

9.3.7.3.c Failure to render a decision within ~~ten~~ **five** days of the final hearing date or failure to render a decision within 70 days of the filing of a completed application, shall be deemed to constitute approval by the Commission, unless the applicant shall agree to an extension in writing.

(ON THE BALLOT)

YES: **252** NO: 26

**ARTICLE 03:** Zoning Amendment #2:

Are you in favor of adopting Zoning Amendment Number 2, as proposed by the Planning Board to amend the Zoning Ordinance as follows:

(~~Strike through~~ means deleted text, **bolded and underlined text means added text**):

- 9.0 OVERLAY ZONING DISTRICTS
- 9.3 HISTORIC DISTRICT ORDINANCE
- 9.3.7 Application Procedure:
- 9.3.7.4 Notice of Approval or Disapproval:
- 9.3.7.4.c Notice of Filing of Decision

All decisions of the Commission shall be made available for public inspection within ~~72 hours~~, **five days** and placed on file with the Town Clerk.

(ON THE BALLOT)

YES: **246** NO: 36



**ARTICLE 04: Building Code Amendment #1**

Are you in favor of adopting Building Code Amendment Number 1, as proposed by the Planning Board to amend the Building Code Ordinance as follows:

(Strike through means deleted text, **bolded and underlined text means added text**):

**BUILDING CODE**

Be it ordained by the Town of New Castle at its Town Meeting held on March 7, 1972, further amended by its Town Meeting held on June 27, 1975, its Town Meeting held on March 2, 1976, its Town Meeting held on April 1, 1978, its Town Meeting held on May 13, 1980, its Town Meeting held on May 11, 1982, its Town Meeting held on May 14, 1985, ~~and~~ its Town Meeting held on May 14, 1996, ~~and~~ its Town Meeting held on May 13, 2008, ~~and at~~ its Town Meeting held on May 13, 2014, **and its Town Meeting held on May 9, 2023** pursuant to the provisions of the New Hampshire Revised Statutes Annotated Chapter 156-A as amended that the ~~2009 issue of the INTERNATIONAL BUILDING CODE and the 2009 issue of the INTERNATIONAL RESIDENTIAL BUILDING CODE as amended is adopted for the Town.~~ **Town of New Castle has adopted the Building and Fire codes as amended by the State of New Hampshire.**

**(ON THE BALLOT)**

**YES: 245 NO: 32**

**ARTICLE 05: Building Code Amendment #2**

Are you in favor of adopting Building Code Amendment Number 2, as proposed by the Planning Board to amend the Building Code Ordinance as follows:

(Strike through means deleted text, **bolded and underlined text means added text**):

**BUILDING CODE**

**Section 1 Code Adoption**

(a) ~~The 2009 International Building Code and the 2009 International Residential Code are hereby adopted by reference for the Town of New Castle.~~ **The Town of New Castle has adopted the Building and Fire Codes as amended by the State of New Hampshire. (May 2008; May 2014, May 2023)**

**(ON THE BALLOT)**

**YES: 267 NO: 23**

**ARTICLE 06: Building Code Amendment #3**

Are you in favor of adopting Building Code Amendment Number 3, as proposed by the Planning Board to amend the Building Code Ordinance as follows:

(~~Strike through means~~ deleted text, **bolded and underlined text means added text**):

BUILDING CODE  
Section 13 Permits

- (a) A permit will not be required ~~for painting nor~~ for normal maintenance and repairs **for work below \$2,000 including materials and labor. Painting shall not require a permit from the Building Inspector.** (March 2, 1976, **May 2023**)

(ON THE BALLOT)

YES: **260** NO: **38**

**ARTICLE 07:** Passage of this article shall override the 10 percent limitation imposed on this appropriation due to the non-recommendation of the Budget Committee. To see if the Town will vote to purchase the U.S. Coast Guard property at Ocean Street, Map 19, Lot 2-3 consisting of approximately 1.1 acres (the “Property”) and to raise and appropriate the sum of Five Million dollars (\$5,000,000) (gross budget) for the purpose of purchasing and performing any rehabilitation of the Property to include tear down costs of the building currently located on the Property and to authorize the Select Board to issue not more than \$5,000,000 of bonds or notes in accordance with the provisions of the Municipal Finance Act (RSA chapter 33); and further, to authorize the Board to issue and negotiate and to determine the dates, maturities, interest rates, and other details of such bonds or notes; and to further authorize the Board to apply for, accept on behalf of the Town, and expend federal, state, or private grants, donations, or loans or other aid that may become available to offset the net cost of this purchase and project; and further to raise and appropriate an additional sum of \$125,000 for the first year’s interest payment on the bonds or notes (final sum \$5,125,000).

**RECOMMENDED BY THE SELECT BOARD  
NOT RECOMMENDED BY THE BUDGET COMMITTEE (3-2)  
(3/5 ballot vote required to pass)**

It was moved and seconded to initiate Article 7.

Selectman Bill Stewart explained the genesis of Article 7 and the details of the Article.

Tom Smith, 254 Wentworth Rd, Treasurer and Budget Committee Chair explained that as there are other items in town that need to be addressed (town hall, historical society building) the Budget Committee did not recommend the passage of Article 7.

There was further debate between the Select Board and Mr. Smith.

Moderator Maher opened the floor to voter comments.

There were several comments regarding water and sewer issues that will need future funding, increases to the tax rate, concern for what the Town would do with the land, health concerns for what might be in the ground (military installation), exceeding the budget, and increased car/foot traffic.

Other comments that were supportive of the Article called out the unique opportunity of the purchase, securing additional green space, not wanting to lose control of what may be developed there, how purchasing the property gives the Town time to determine best use, and leaving a legacy for future generations.

Some of the residents that shared comments are:

Phil Llewellyn, 12 Main St.  
Steven Cook, 17 Seabreeze Ln.  
Curt Springer, 98 Cranfield St.  
Barb Pierce, 100 Abigale Ln.  
Guy Stearns, 22 Lavenger Ln.  
Gary Rumph, 59 Spring Hill Rd.  
Catherine Eames, 69 Marina Heights  
Madeline Alana, 58 Cranfield St.  
Beth Barnhorst, 14 Pit Ln.  
Emily Paxton, 22 Walton Rd.  
Alyson Tanguay, 15 Main St.  
Nancy Euchner, 20 Ocean Rd.  
Pam Stearns, 22 Lavenger Ln.  
Mary Ann Driscoll, 4 Cranfield St.  
John Bush, 17 Becker Ln.  
David Murray, 38 Ducks Head  
Randy Bryan, 34 Wentworth Rd.  
J.D. Barker, 28 Colonial Ln.  
Elisabeth Robinson, 131 Cranfield St.  
Ken McCord, 70 Abigale Ln.  
Michael Rubin, 22 Locke Rd.  
Paul Legere, 58 North Gate Rd.

Jeff Reilly, 70 Main St., proposed an amendment to Warrant Article 7 to the effect that if the article is to pass, that a short-term resale by public auction would be done with funds used to supplement the existing properties New Castle has at present.

He read his proposed amendment in its entirety for the benefit of those in attendance. Attorney Roman stated that the purpose of the proposed amendment would be to purchase and sell the property whereas the purpose of Warrant Article 7 as included in the warrant is to purchase. She informed that the Department of Revenue Administration would disallow this amendment in

accordance with RSA 33 as the purpose of a warrant article cannot be changed. She noted that the matter could be petitioned for amendment next year.

Mr. Reilly withdrew his amendment.

Motion to move the question by Dave Severance, 24 Elm Court, seconded by Jane Lannon, 55 Locke Rd. Motion moved.

Article 7 was read by Moderator Maher and called for voting to begin.

Voting began at 09:29 pm with registered voters casting secret ballots and the voting period ended at 10:29 pm.

### **VOTED WITH SECRET BALLOTS**

**YES: 281 NO: 109**

**ARTICLE 08:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of One Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$100,000) (gross budget) for planning for the Force Main Bridge Crossing Replacement project and to authorize the borrowing, issuance, and incurrence of debt of not more than \$100,000 in long-term bonds or notes in accordance with the provisions of the Municipal Finance Act (RSA Chapter 33) for this purpose; and further to authorize the Select Board to apply for and accept a Clean Water State Revolving Fund loan for such purpose in an amount up to \$100,000 and to execute all necessary documents in connection therewith and further to authorize the Select Board to accept and expend such monies as they become available from Federal and State Governments. This article is contingent upon approval and receipt of such Clean Water State Revolving Fund loan in the amount of \$100,000 with 100% principal loan forgiveness.

### **RECOMMENDED BY THE SELECT BOARD and the BUDGET COMMITTEE (3/5 ballot vote required to pass)**

Donald Gough 35 Little Harbor Rd. motioned to initiate Article 8, Randy Bryan 34 Wentworth Rd., seconded.

Chair McGuckin explained Article 08, Planning for Main Force Bridge Crossing Replacement

There were no public comments.

Moderator Maher read the Article and called for voting to begin.

Voting began at 10:15 pm with registered voters casting secret ballots and the voting period ended at 11:15 pm.



**VOTED WITH SECRET BALLOTS**

**YES: 72    NO: 3**

**ARTICLE 09:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the Budget Committee’s recommended operating budget in the amount of \$4,424,643 for the general operation of the Town. This amount excludes all appropriations contained in special or individual warrant articles addressed separately.

**RECOMMENDED BY THE SELECT BOARD  
and the BUDGET COMMITTEE**

Moderator read Article 9.  
It was moved and seconded to vote on Article 9.

**APPROVED BY MAJORITY**

**ARTICLE 10:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$11,000 to be used to pay Town donations to local non-profit agencies that serve the New Castle community as follows:

1.	Area Home Care & Family Services	\$	750
2.	CASA – Court Appointed Special Advocates	\$	500
3.	Center for Wildlife	\$	300
4.	Child Advocacy Center	\$	500
5.	Waypoint	\$	500
6.	Community Toolbox	\$	450
7.	Families First	\$	750
8.	Haven	\$	750
9.	Ritchie McFarland Children’s Center	\$	500
10.	Rockingham County Meals on Wheels	\$	1,000
11.	American Red Cross	\$	300
12.	RSVP (Retired Senior Volunteer Program)	\$	750
13.	Gather	\$	750
14.	Seacoast Mental Health Center	\$	1,000
15.	Home Health Visiting Nurses Association	\$	700
16.	Womanaid of Greater Portsmouth	\$	400
17.	Cross Roads House, Inc.	\$	250
18.	Salvation Army	\$	400
19.	Southern NH Services	\$	250
20.	One Sky	\$	200
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>11,000</b>

**RECOMMENDED BY THE SELECT BOARD  
and the BUDGET COMMITTEE**

Moderator read Article 10.

It was moved and seconded to vote on article 10.

**APPROVED BY MAJORITY**

**ARTICLE 11:** To see if the Town will vote to establish a contingency fund for the current year for unanticipated expenses that may arise and further to raise and appropriate the sum of \$35,000 to go into the fund. This sum to come from taxation. Any appropriation left in the fund at the end of the year will lapse to the general fund.

**RECOMMENDED BY THE SELECT BOARD  
and the BUDGET COMMITTEE**

Moderator read Article 11.

It was moved and seconded to vote on article 11.

**APPROVED BY MAJORITY**

**ARTICLE 12:** To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$10,000 to be added to the Vehicle and Equipment Capital Reserve Fund previously established.

**RECOMMENDED BY THE SELECT BOARD  
and the BUDGET COMMITTEE**

Moderator read Article 12.

It was moved and seconded to vote on article 12.

**APPROVED BY MAJORITY**

**ARTICLE 13:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$60,000 to be added to the Roads and Streets Capital Reserve Fund previously established.

**RECOMMENDED BY THE SELECT BOARD  
and the BUDGET COMMITTEE**

Moderator read Article 13.

It was moved and seconded to vote on article 13.

**APPROVED BY MAJORITY**

**ARTICLE 14:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$105,000 to be added to the Government Buildings and Facilities Capital Reserve Fund previously established.

**RECOMMENDED BY THE SELECT BOARD  
and the BUDGET COMMITTEE**

Moderator read Article 14.

It was moved and seconded to vote on article 14.

**APPROVED BY MAJORITY**

**ARTICLE 15:** Shall the town re-adopt the All-Veterans Tax Credit in accordance with RSA 72:28-b, for an annual tax credit on residential property which shall be equal to the same amount as the standard veteran's tax credit voted by the town under RSA 72:28?

**(Majority vote required)**

Bill Kingston, 81 Mainmast Circle, expressed his gratitude that New Castle was getting on par with the State and other communities in making this change.

Moderator read Article 15.

It was moved and seconded to vote on article 15.

**APPROVED BY MAJORITY**

**ARTICLE 16:** Shall the town re-adopt the Optional Veterans Tax Credit in accordance with RSA 72:28, II, for an annual tax credit on residential property of \$500?

**(Majority vote required)**

Bill Kingston, 81 Mainmast Circle, again expressed his gratitude that New Castle was getting on par with the State and other communities in making this change.

Moderator read Article 16.

It was moved and seconded to vote on article 16.

**APPROVED BY MAJORITY**

**ARTICLE 17:** Are you in favor of discontinuing the *elected* office of Tax Collector? If approved, the person currently elected to that office will continue to serve until May 14, 2024 (2024 Election), at which point the Select Board will thereafter *appoint* an individual to serve as Tax Collector.

**(Majority vote required)**

Moderator read Article 17.

It was moved and seconded to vote on article 17.

**APPROVED BY MAJORITY**

**ARTICLE 18:** To hear the reports of agents, officers, committees, boards, and others heretofore chosen and to pass any vote in relation thereto.

Chair McGuckin recognized the hard work of Water and Sewer committee members John Ireland, Walter Liff, and Norman Houle.

Selectman Stewart recognized Chair McGuckin's retirement from the Select Board. Dave previously served two terms and returned for a third. All of his hard work is greatly appreciated, and he received a hearty round of applause and a standing ovation.

**ARTICLE 19:** To transact such other business as may legally come before the meeting.

Public comments:

Damon Frampton: 10 Neals Ln., expressed his thanks to all who made the town meeting happen.

Moderator Maher: Agreed with Damon and appreciated everyone's patience during the evening.

The meeting was paused at 10:54 pm until Article 8 voting was completed.

Meeting reopened 11:22 pm with the results of Article 8 announced.

Motion to dissolve meeting by Selectwoman Jane Finn, seconded by Chair McGuckin.

Meeting dissolved at 11:23 pm by Moderator Maher.

Respectfully submitted,

*Lisa K. English*  
*Town Clerk*

Respectfully Submitted,

Meghan Rumph  
*Recording Secretary*



**TOWN OF NEW CASTLE, NEW HAMPSHIRE**

**SCHEDULE OF TOWN PROPERTY**

**For fiscal year ending June 30, 2023**

1. Town Hall, land, and building	\$	1,136,800
Contents (Map 13 Lot 8)		217,400
2. Recreation Building plus out buildings & land*		15,913,700
Contents (Map 5 Lot 13)		2,020,400
*Includes: Cottage	Public Works Building	
Guard Shack	Pavilions (3)	
Bath House	Salt Shed	
Toll Booth	Storage Building (2)	
3. Municipal Safety Complex		1,955,200
Contents (Map 13 Lot 7)		253,500
Police Department Vehicles		127,198
Fire Department Vehicles & Watercraft / Trailer		1,003,081
4. Highway Department Vehicles & Mobile Equipment		359,417
5. Water Supply Equipment		10,633
Infrastructure		460,178
6. Sewer Pump Stations:		
Quarterdeck Lane Pump Station		91,900
Contents (Map 9 Lot 16 Sub pumps)		104,900
River Road Pump Station		91,900
Contents (Map 16 Lot 48)		174,900
Steamboat Lane Pump Station		144,900
7. Islands: Long Rock & Mill (Map 8 Lot 11)		413,500
Birch (Map 11 Lot 1)		142,500
8. Cemeteries: Riverside (Map 15 Lot 10)		3,613,900
Frost (Map 18 Lot 54)		487,200
Prescott (Map 17 Lot 57)		314,100
Oceanside (Map 5 Lot 13 Sublot 1)		975,400
9. Other town owned lands and town buildings:		228,900
Pit Lane lot (Map 10 Lot 9 & Map 10 Lot 9 Sublot 1)	110,000 &	118,900
Laurel Lane, Town Landing (Map 11 Lot 30)		284,700
Sand Pit (Map 12 Lot 3)		566,200
Main St.: garage, land, & cemetery (Map 17 Lot 56)		607,300
Main St.: NC Historical Society Building & land		608,600
Contents (Map 17 Lot 58)		47,600
Walbach St.: Land (Map 19 Lot 01)		1,020,000
Walbach St.: Land-Fort Point (Map 19 Lot 02 Sublot 1)		3,016,100

Other land (Map 16, Lot 50, 51)	51,100 & 50,800
Wentworth Road (Map 4 Lot 25)	46,600
Ocean Street Property (Map19 Lot 2 Sub 3)	4,393,800
Contents	20,000



*Photo Courtesy of Jim Cerny*



2024  
**WARRANT**

**New Castle**

The inhabitants of the Town of New Castle in the County of Rockingham 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: Tuesday, May 14, 2024  
Time: 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.  
Location: Recreation Building, 301 Wentworth Road  
Details:

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

Date: Tuesday, May 14, 2024  
Time: 7:00 p.m.  
Location: Recreation Building, 301 Wentworth Road  
Details:

**GOVERNING BODY CERTIFICATION**

We certify and attest that on or before April 24, 2024, a true and attested copy of this document was posted at the place of meeting and at the Town Hall and Post Office and that an original was delivered to the Town Clerk.

Name	Position	Signature
William Stewart	Chairman	
Jane Finn	Selectwoman	
Pamela Cullen	Selectwoman	





2024  
**WARRANT**

**Article 01 Choose All Necessary Town Officers**

To choose all necessary Town Officers for the following year.

- One Select Board Member 3-year term
- One Town Clerk 3-year term
- One Library Trustee 3-year term
- One Cemetery Trustee 3-year term
- One Budget Committee 3-year term
- One Town Moderator 2-year term
- One Supervisor of the Checklist 2-year term
- One Trustee of the Trust Fund 3-year term

(ON THE BALLOT)

**Article 02 Zoning Amendment #1**

Are you in favor of adopting Zoning Amendment Number 1, as proposed by the Planning Board to amend the Zoning Ordinance as follows:

(Strike through means deleted text, **bolded text means added text**):

**2.3.65 Short Term Rental: The rental, for a fee, of any dwelling, dwelling unit, residential living unit, accessory dwelling unit, or portion thereof, for occupancy of fewer than 30 consecutive days.**

(ON THE BALLOT)

Yes  No

**Article 03 Zoning Amendment #2**

Are you in favor of adopting Zoning Amendment Number 2, as proposed by the Planning Board to amend the Zoning Ordinance as follows:

(Strike through means deleted text, **bolded text means added text**):

- 3.1 Establishment of Districts
  - 3.1 Establishment and Designation of Districts

3.1.1 Residential District (R-1): The Residential District includes the central densely settled area of New Castle of primarily residential development. Its purpose is to accommodate and support single and two family residential and permitted accessory uses consistent with the developed village center.

The District is bounded as follows: beginning with and including Goat Island, then easterly to include all land between Portsmouth, Cranfield, **and Main and Ocean** Streets and the Piscataqua River; also including all land bounded between Wentworth Road, Pit Lane and Cranfield Street;



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**WARRANT**

also including land with frontage on the following streets: Portsmouth Avenue, Cranfield Street, Laurel Lane, Grist Mill Lane, Davidson Street, Walton Road, Quarterdeck Lane, Mainmast Circle. Excluded from the Residential District is that land designated as the Mixed Use District as defined in Section 3.1.5.

(ON THE BALLOT)

Yes  No

**Article 04 Zoning Amendment #3**

Are you in favor of adopting Zoning Amendment Number 3, as proposed by the Planning Board to amend the Zoning Ordinance as follows:

(~~Strike through~~ means deleted text, **bolded and underlined text means added text**):

4.0 District Regulations

4.1.2 Residential District (R-1)  
Prohibited Uses

2. Trailer camps, overnight cabins, hotels, motels, rooming and boarding houses, **short term rentals**, public bathhouses, public dance halls, roller skating rinks, bowling alleys, arcades, moving picture theaters, clubs, societies, gambling facilities or other places likely to cause the congregation of a large number of people except for an ecclesiastical or educational purpose;

4.1.6 Mixed Use District (MU):  
Prohibited Uses

2. Trailer camps, overnight cabins, rooming and boarding houses, **short term rentals**, bowling alleys, public dance halls, arcades, roller skating rinks, or gambling facilities;

(ON THE BALLOT)

Yes  No

**Article 05 Zoning Amendment #4**

Are you in favor of adopting Zoning Amendment Number 4, as proposed by the Planning Board to amend the Zoning Ordinance as follows:

(~~Strike through~~ means deleted text, **bolded text means added text**):

6.8 FENCES AND WALLS

6.8.2 Requirements for Fences and Walls:

1. Fences and walls must not be detrimental to the character of the surrounding neighborhood.
2. Fences and walls may not obstruct sight distances at driveway intersections or otherwise create unsafe conditions.
3. Fences and free-standing walls greater than six (6) feet in height shall not be permitted even by Special Exception if an abutter objects to the increased height.





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**WARRANT**

- 4. Fences and walls may be constructed on a surveyed property line or on a property line agreed on by both neighbors, in writing, which is recorded at the Registry of Deeds and runs with the properties. Maintenance stipulations must be made part of the written agreement. All other fences and walls must be placed at least 18" or greater from the property line.

(ON THE BALLOT)

Yes  No

**Article 06 Zoning Amendment #5**

Are you in favor of adopting Zoning Amendment Number 5, as proposed by the Planning Board to amend the Zoning Ordinance as follows:

(Strike through means deleted text, **bolded and underlined text means added text**):

7.0 Non-Conforming Lots, Buildings, Structures, and Uses

7.4 Discontinuance

7.4.1 Any and all non-conforming buildings, structures, **fences, walls,** land or uses of the same, which is (are) discontinued, or which is (are) partially or wholly destroyed by fire, explosion, storm, tides or other acts of God, may be resumed or restored and operated in its (their) former non-conforming status if the same is done within two (2) years thereafter.

(ON THE BALLOT)

Yes  No

**Article 07 Zoning Amendment #6**

Are you in favor of adopting Zoning Amendment Number 6, as proposed by the Planning Board to amend the Zoning Ordinance as follows:

(Strike through means deleted text, **bolded and underlined text means added text**):

9.0 Overlay Zoning Districts

9.2 Wetlands Conservation District

9.2.10 Local Shoreland/**Wetlands** Permit

If a State Shoreland Permit is required under RSA 483-B, **or a DES Wetlands Permit is required under RSA 482-A,** a local Shoreland/**Wetlands** Permit shall also be required, and may be obtained through the Building Inspector/Code Enforcement Officer's office.

(ON THE BALLOT)

Yes  No



**2024**  
**WARRANT**

**Article 08 Operating Budget - Town**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the Budget Committee's recommended operating budget in the amount of \$4,922,763 for the general operation of the Town. This amount excludes all appropriations contained in special or individual warrant articles addressed separately.

RECOMMENDED BY THE SELECT BOARD  
 and the BUDGET COMMITTEE

Yes       No

**Article 09 Donations to Local Nonprofit Agencies**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$11,000 to be used to pay Town donations to local non-profit agencies that serve the New Castle community as follows:

1. Area Home Care & Family Services	750
2. CASA – Court Appointed Special Advocates	500
3. Center for Wildlife	300
4. Child Advocacy Center	500
5. Waypoint	500
6. Community Toolbox	450
7. Families First	750
8. Haven	750
9. Ritchie McFarland Children's Center	500
10. Rockingham County Meals on Wheels	1,000
11. American Red Cross	300
12. RSVP (Retired Senior Volunteer Program)	750
13. Gather	750
14. Seacoast Mental Health Center	1,000
15. Home Health Visiting Nurses Association	700
16. Womenaid of Greater Portsmouth	400
17. Cross Roads House, Inc.	250
18. Salvation Army	400
19. Southern NH Services	250
20. One Sky	200
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$11,000</b>

RECOMMENDED BY THE SELECT BOARD  
 and the BUDGET COMMITTEE

Yes       No

**Article 10 Establish Contingency Fund**

To see if the Town will vote to establish a Contingency Fund for the current year for unanticipated expenses that may arise and further to raise and appropriate the sum of \$35,000 to go into the fund. This sum to come from taxation. Any appropriation left in the fund at the end of the year will lapse to the general fund.

RECOMMENDED BY THE SELECT BOARD  
 and the BUDGET COMMITTEE

Yes       No





**Article 11 Add Funds to Vehicle & Equipment CRF**

To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$25,000 to be added to the Vehicle and Equipment Capital Reserve Fund previously established.

RECOMMENDED BY THE SELECT BOARD  
and the BUDGET COMMITTEE

Yes  No

**Article 12 Add Funds to Roads & Streets CRF**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$25,000 to be added to the Roads and Streets Capital Reserve Fund previously established.

RECOMMENDED BY THE SELECT BOARD  
and the BUDGET COMMITTEE

Yes  No

**Article 13 Add Funds to Government Buildings & Facilities CRF**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$140,000 to be added to the Government Buildings and Facilities Capital Reserve Fund previously established.

RECOMMENDED BY THE SELECT BOARD  
and the BUDGET COMMITTEE

Yes  No

**Article 14 Earned Time Settlement ETF**

To see if the town will vote to establish an Earned Time Settlement Expendable Trust Fund per RSA 31:19-a, for the purpose of buying out of employee(s) earned time during anytime of the life of their career and to raise and appropriate \$10,000 to put in the fund, with this amount to come from unassigned fund balance; further to name the Select Board as agents to expend from said fund. No impact on the tax rate.

RECOMMENDED BY THE SELECT BOARD  
and the BUDGET COMMITTEE

Yes  No

**Article 15 Public Safety Special Detail Revolving Fund**

To see if the town will vote to establish a revolving fund pursuant to RSA 31:95-h, for the purpose of Public Safety Special Detail. All revenues received for Public Safety Special Detail from fees, charges, or other income derived from the activities or services supported by the fund will be deposited into the fund, and the money in the fund shall be allowed to accumulate from year to



**2024**  
**WARRANT**

year and shall not be considered part of the town's general fund balance. And, further, to raise and appropriate the sum of \$10,000 to be added to the Public Safety Special Detail revolving fund. The town Treasurer shall have custody of all moneys in the fund and shall pay out the same only upon order of the governing body and no further approval is required by the legislative body to expend. Such funds may be expended only for the purpose for which the fund was created.

RECOMMENDED BY THE SELECT BOARD  
and the BUDGET COMMITTEE

Yes       No

**Article 16      Health Benefit Stabilization CRF**

To see if the town will vote to establish a Capital Reserve Fund per the provisions of RSA 35:1 for the purpose of stabilizing Health Benefit increases for employees and to raise and appropriate the sum of one dollar (\$1.00) to be placed in this fund and further to name the Select Board as agents to expend from said fund.

RECOMMENDED BY THE SELECT BOARD  
and the BUDGET COMMITTEE

Yes       No

**Article 17      Hear Reports**

To hear the reports of agents, officers, committees, boards, and others heretofore chosen and to pass any vote in relation thereto.

**Article 18      Transact Other Business**

To transact such other business as may legally come before the meeting.





New Hampshire  
Department of  
Revenue Administration

2024  
MS-737

**Proposed Budget  
New Castle**






For the period beginning July 1, 2024 and ending June 30, 2025

Form Due Date: **20 Days after the Annual Meeting**

This form was posted with the warrant on: April 17, 2024

**BUDGET COMMITTEE CERTIFICATION**

Under penalties of perjury, I declare that I have examined the information contained in this form and to the best of my belief it is true, correct and complete.

Name	Position	Signature
Thomas F. Smith	Chairman	
Gary Rumph	Budget Committee Member	
Michael Traister	Budget Committee Member	
Jane Lannon	Budget Committee Member	
William Stewart	Budget Committee Member	

This form must be signed, scanned, and uploaded to the Municipal Tax Rate Setting Portal:  
<https://www.proptax.org/>

**For assistance please contact:**  
NH DRA Municipal and Property Division  
(603) 230-5090  
<http://www.revenue.nh.gov/mun-prop/>



**New Hampshire**  
 Department of  
 Revenue Administration

**2024**  
**MS-737**

**Proposed Budget**

Account	Purpose	Article	Actual Expenditures for period ending 6/30/2023	Appropriations for period ending 6/30/2024	Selectmen's Appropriations for period ending 6/30/2025 (Recommended)	Selectmen's Appropriations for period ending 6/30/2025 (Not Recommended)	Budget Committee's Appropriations for period ending 6/30/2025 (Recommended)	Budget Committee's Appropriations for period ending 6/30/2025 (Not Recommended)
<b>General Government</b>								
4130	Executive	08	\$152,672	\$140,645	\$193,025	\$0	\$193,025	\$0
4140	Election, Registration, and Vital Statistics	08	\$75,757	\$72,360	\$74,990	\$0	\$74,990	\$0
4150	Financial Administration	08	\$114,651	\$122,489	\$159,235	\$0	\$159,235	\$0
4152	Property Assessment	08	\$17,296	\$30,350	\$32,420	\$0	\$32,420	\$0
4153	Legal Expense	08	\$78,321	\$40,200	\$42,700	\$0	\$42,700	\$0
4155	Personnel Administration	08	\$8,485	\$560,500	\$637,710	\$0	\$637,710	\$0
4191	Planning and Zoning	08	\$7,788	\$10,520	\$16,350	\$0	\$16,350	\$0
4194	General Government Buildings	08	\$145,111	\$166,600	\$172,350	\$0	\$172,350	\$0
4195	Cemeteries	08	\$25,834	\$30,710	\$33,710	\$0	\$33,710	\$0
4196	Insurance Not Otherwise Allocated	08	\$47,419	\$49,900	\$54,520	\$0	\$54,520	\$0
4197	Advertising and Regional Associations		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4198	Contingency		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4199	Other General Government		\$0	\$35,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
<b>General Government Subtotal</b>					<b>\$1,259,274</b>	<b>\$1,417,010</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$1,417,010</b>
<b>Public Safety</b>								
4210	Police	08	\$611,138	\$477,066	\$477,435	\$0	\$477,435	\$0
4215	Ambulances	08	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$0	\$5,000	\$0
4220	Fire	08	\$486,645	\$457,715	\$476,825	\$0	\$476,825	\$0
4240	Building Inspection	08	\$65,020	\$64,680	\$80,560	\$0	\$80,560	\$0
4290	Emergency Management	08	\$1,887	\$7,550	\$7,360	\$0	\$7,360	\$0
4299	Other Public Safety		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
<b>Public Safety Subtotal</b>					<b>\$1,012,011</b>	<b>\$1,047,180</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$1,047,180</b>
<b>Airport/Aviation Center</b>								
4301	Airport Administration		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0





**New Hampshire**  
 Department of  
 Revenue Administration

**2024**  
**MS-737**

**Proposed Budget**

4302	Airport Operations	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4309	Other Airport	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
	<b>Airport/Aviation Center Subtotal</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>
<b>Highways and Streets</b>								
4311	Highway Administration	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4312	Highways and Streets	\$133,485	\$155,465	\$202,840	\$202,840	\$0	\$202,840	\$0
4313	Bridges	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4316	Street Lighting	\$4,690	\$5,500	\$5,500	\$5,500	\$0	\$5,500	\$0
4319	Other Highway, Streets, and Bridges	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
	<b>Highways and Streets Subtotal</b>	<b>\$138,175</b>	<b>\$160,965</b>	<b>\$208,340</b>	<b>\$208,340</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$208,340</b>	<b>\$0</b>

<b>Sanitation</b>								
4321	Sanitation Administration	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4323	Solid Waste Collection	\$156,703	\$180,000	\$270,000	\$270,000	\$0	\$270,000	\$0
4324	Solid Waste Disposal	\$8,670	\$6,575	\$6,925	\$6,925	\$0	\$6,925	\$0
4325	Solid Waste Facilities Clean-Up	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4326	Sewage Collection and Disposal	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4329	Other Sanitation	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
	<b>Sanitation Subtotal</b>	<b>\$165,373</b>	<b>\$186,575</b>	<b>\$276,925</b>	<b>\$276,925</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$276,925</b>	<b>\$0</b>

<b>Water Distribution and Treatment</b>								
4331	Water Administration	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4332	Water Services	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4335	Water Treatment	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4338	Water Conservation	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4339	Other Water	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
	<b>Water Distribution and Treatment Subtotal</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>

<b>Electric</b>								
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**New Hampshire**  
 Department of  
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**2024**  
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**Proposed Budget**

4351	Electric Administration		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4352	Generation		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4353	Purchase Costs		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4354	Electric Equipment Maintenance		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4359	Other Electric Costs		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
	<b>Electric Subtotal</b>		<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>

**Health**

4411	Health Administration	08	\$1,202	\$1,200	\$1,200	\$0	\$1,200
4414	Pest Control	08	\$20,850	\$21,000	\$25,890	\$0	\$25,890
4415	Health Agencies and Hospitals		\$11,000	\$11,000	\$0	\$0	\$0
4419	Other Health		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
	<b>Health Subtotal</b>		<b>\$33,052</b>	<b>\$33,200</b>	<b>\$27,090</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$27,090</b>

**Welfare**

4441	Welfare Administration	08	\$0	\$2,400	\$2,400	\$0	\$2,400
4442	Direct Assistance		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4444	Intergovernmental Welfare Payments		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4445	Vendor Payments		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4449	Other Welfare		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
	<b>Welfare Subtotal</b>		<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$2,400</b>	<b>\$2,400</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$2,400</b>

**Culture and Recreation**

4520	Parks and Recreation	08	\$186,149	\$216,635	\$245,760	\$0	\$245,760
4550	Library	08	\$110,379	\$111,000	\$119,585	\$0	\$119,585
4583	Patriotic Purposes	08	\$8,343	\$7,500	\$7,500	\$0	\$7,500
4589	Other Culture and Recreation		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
	<b>Culture and Recreation Subtotal</b>		<b>\$304,871</b>	<b>\$335,135</b>	<b>\$372,845</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$372,845</b>

**Conservation and Development**

4611	Conservation Administration	08	\$16,440	\$19,145	\$18,200	\$0	\$18,200
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4612	Purchase of Natural Resources	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4619	Other Conservation	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4631	Redevelopment and Housing Administration	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4632	Other Redevelopment and Housing	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4651	Economic Development Administration	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4652	Economic Development	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4659	Other Economic Development	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
	<b>Conservation and Development Subtotal</b>	<b>\$16,440</b>	<b>\$19,145</b>	<b>\$18,200</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$18,200</b>	<b>\$0</b>

**Debt Service**

4711	Principal - Long Term Bonds, Notes, and Other Debt	08	\$0	\$155,515	\$318,320	\$0	\$318,320	\$0
4721	Interest - Long Term Bonds, Notes, and Other Debt	08	\$0	\$274,890	\$280,600	\$0	\$280,600	\$0
4723	Interest on Tax and Revenue Anticipation Notes	08	\$0	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$0	\$3,000	\$0
4790	Other Debt Service Charges		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
	<b>Debt Service Subtotal</b>		<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$433,405</b>	<b>\$601,920</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$601,920</b>	<b>\$0</b>

**Capital Outlay**

4901	Land		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4902	Machinery, Vehicles, and Equipment		\$140,284	\$10,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4903	Buildings	08	\$0	\$130,000	\$65,000	\$0	\$65,000	\$0
4909	Improvements Other than Buildings	08	\$359,325	\$5,172,235	\$72,235	\$0	\$72,235	\$0
	<b>Capital Outlay Subtotal</b>		<b>\$499,609</b>	<b>\$5,312,235</b>	<b>\$137,235</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$137,235</b>	<b>\$0</b>

**Operating Transfers Out**

4911	To Revolving Funds		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4912	To Special Revenue Funds		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4913	To Capital Projects Funds		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4914A	To Airport Proprietary Fund		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4914E	To Electric Proprietary Fund		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4914O	To Other Proprietary Fund		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0



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4914S	To Sewer Proprietary Fund	08	\$559,028	\$746,327	\$687,701	\$0	\$687,701	\$0
4914W	To Water Proprietary Fund	08	\$132,672	\$194,971	\$195,917	\$0	\$195,917	\$0
4918	To Non-Expendable Trust Funds		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4919	To Fiduciary Funds		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
	<b>Operating Transfers Out Subtotal</b>		<b>\$691,700</b>	<b>\$941,298</b>	<b>\$883,618</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$883,618</b>	<b>\$0</b>
	<b>Total Operating Budget Appropriations</b>			<b>\$4,992,763</b>	<b>\$4,992,763</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$4,992,763</b>	<b>\$0</b>



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**Proposed Budget**

Account	Purpose	Article	Selectmen's Appropriations for period ending 6/30/2025 (Recommended) (Not Recommended)	Selectmen's Appropriations for period ending 6/30/2025 (Recommended) (Not Recommended)	Budget Committee's Appropriations for period ending 6/30/2025 (Recommended) (Not Recommended)	Budget Committee's Appropriations for period ending 6/30/2025 (Recommended) (Not Recommended)	
4915	To Capital Reserve Fund		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	
4916	To Expendable Trust Fund		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	
4917	To Health Maintenance Trust Funds		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	
4911	To Revolving Funds	15	\$10,000	\$0	\$10,000	\$0	
		<i>Purpose: Public Safety Special Detail Revolving Fund</i>					
4915	To Capital Reserve Funds	11	\$25,000	\$0	\$25,000	\$0	
		<i>Purpose: Add Funds to Vehicle &amp; Equipment CRF</i>					
4915	To Capital Reserve Funds	12	\$25,000	\$0	\$25,000	\$0	
		<i>Purpose: Add Funds to Roads &amp; Streets CRF</i>					
4915	To Capital Reserve Funds	13	\$140,000	\$0	\$140,000	\$0	
		<i>Purpose: Add Funds to Government Buildings &amp; Facilities CRF</i>					
4915	To Capital Reserve Funds	14	\$10,000	\$0	\$10,000	\$0	
		<i>Purpose: Earned Time Settlement ETF</i>					
4915	To Capital Reserve Funds	16	\$1	\$0	\$1	\$0	
		<i>Purpose: Health Benefit Stabilization CRF</i>					
<b>Total Proposed Special Articles</b>			<b>\$210,001</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$210,001</b>	<b>\$0</b>	



**New Hampshire**  
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**Proposed Budget**

Account	Purpose	Article	Selectmen's Appropriations for period ending 6/30/2025 (Recommended)	Selectmen's Appropriations for period ending 6/30/2025 (Not Recommended)	Budget Committee's Appropriations for period ending 6/30/2025 (Recommended)	Budget Committee's Appropriations for period ending 6/30/2025 (Not Recommended)
4198	Contingency	10	\$35,000	\$0	\$35,000	\$0
			<i>Purpose: Establish Contingency Fund</i>			
4415	Health Agencies and Hospitals	09	\$11,000	\$0	\$11,000	\$0
			<i>Purpose: Donations to Local Nonprofit Agencies</i>			
<b>Total Proposed Individual Articles</b>			<b>\$46,000</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$46,000</b>	<b>\$0</b>





**New Hampshire**  
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**Proposed Budget**

Account	Source	Article	Actual Revenues for period ending 6/30/2023	Selectmen's Estimated Revenues for period ending 6/30/2025	Budget Committee's Estimated Revenues for period ending 6/30/2025
<b>Taxes</b>					
3120	Land Use Change Taxes for General Fund		\$0	\$0	\$0
3180	Resident Taxes		\$0	\$0	\$0
3185	Yield Taxes		\$0	\$0	\$0
3186	Payment in Lieu of Taxes		\$0	\$0	\$0
3187	Excavation Tax		\$0	\$0	\$0
3189	Other Taxes		\$0	\$0	\$0
3190	Interest and Penalties on Delinquent Taxes	08	\$21,540	\$10,000	\$10,000
	<b>Taxes Subtotal</b>		<b>\$21,540</b>	<b>\$10,000</b>	<b>\$10,000</b>
<b>Licenses, Permits, and Fees</b>					
3210	Business Licenses and Permits		\$0	\$0	\$0
3220	Motor Vehicle Permit Fees	08	\$331,679	\$330,000	\$330,000
3230	Building Permits	08	\$85,441	\$75,000	\$75,000
3290	Other Licenses, Permits, and Fees	08	\$17,240	\$15,700	\$15,700
	<b>Licenses, Permits, and Fees Subtotal</b>		<b>\$434,360</b>	<b>\$420,700</b>	<b>\$420,700</b>
<b>From Federal Government</b>					
3311	Housing and Urban Development		\$0	\$0	\$0
3312	Environmental Protection		\$0	\$0	\$0
3313	Federal Emergency		\$0	\$0	\$0
3314	Federal Drug Enforcement		\$0	\$0	\$0
3319	Other Federal Grants and Reimbursements		\$60,024	\$0	\$0
	<b>From Federal Government Subtotal</b>		<b>\$60,024</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>
<b>State Sources</b>					
3351	Shared Revenues - Block Grant		\$0	\$0	\$0
3352	Meals and Rooms Tax Distribution	08	\$87,916	\$94,670	\$94,670



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**Proposed Budget**

3353	Highway Block Grant	08	\$36,455	\$19,900	\$19,900
3354	Water Pollution Grant		\$0	\$0	\$0
3355	Housing and Community Development		\$0	\$0	\$0
3356	State and Federal Forest Land Reimbursement		\$0	\$0	\$0
3357	Flood Control Reimbursement		\$0	\$0	\$0
3359	Railroad Tax Distribution	08	\$8,500	\$8,500	\$8,500
3360	Water Filtration Grants		\$0	\$0	\$0
3361	Landfill Closure Grants		\$0	\$0	\$0
3369	Other Intergovernmental Revenue from State of NH		\$0	\$0	\$0
3379	Intergovernmental Revenues - Other		\$0	\$0	\$0
			<b>\$132,871</b>	<b>\$123,070</b>	<b>\$123,070</b>

**State Sources Subtotal**

<b>Charges for Services</b>					
3401	Income from Departments	08	\$245,850	\$146,520	\$146,520
3402	Water Supply System Charges		\$0	\$0	\$0
3403	Sewer User Charges		\$0	\$0	\$0
3404	Garbage-Refuse Charges		\$0	\$0	\$0
3405	Electric User Charges		\$0	\$0	\$0
3406	Airport Fees		\$0	\$0	\$0
3409	Other Charges		\$0	\$0	\$0
			<b>\$245,850</b>	<b>\$146,520</b>	<b>\$146,520</b>

**Charges for Services Subtotal**

<b>Miscellaneous Revenues</b>					
3500	Special Assessments		\$0	\$0	\$0
3501	Sale of Municipal Property	08	\$18,950	\$5,000	\$5,000
3502	Interest on Investments	08	\$43,604	\$30,000	\$30,000
3503	Other	08	\$0	\$12,770	\$12,770
3504	Fines and Forfeits	08	\$0	\$4,350	\$4,350
3506	Insurance Dividends and Reimbursements	08	\$0	\$50	\$50
3508	Contributions and Donations	08	\$0	\$50	\$50
3509	Revenue from Misc Sources Not Otherwise Classified	08	\$30,672	\$680	\$680



**New Hampshire**  
 Department of  
 Revenue Administration

**2024**  
**MS-737**

**Proposed Budget**

Miscellaneous Revenues Subtotal **\$93,226** **\$52,900** **\$52,900**

<b>Interfund Operating Transfers In</b>			
3911	From Revolving Funds	\$0	\$0
3912	From Special Revenue Funds	\$0	\$0
3913	From Capital Projects Funds	\$3,939	\$0
3914A	From Airport Proprietary Fund	\$0	\$0
3914E	From Electric Proprietary Fund	\$0	\$0
3914O	From Other Proprietary Fund	\$0	\$0
3914S	From Sewer Proprietary Fund	\$680,744	\$687,701
3914W	From Water Proprietary Fund	\$155,831	\$195,917
3915	From Capital Reserve Funds	\$262,515	\$0
3916	From Trust and Fiduciary Funds	\$0	\$175,000
3917	From Conservation Funds	\$0	\$0
	<b>Interfund Operating Transfers In Subtotal</b>	<b>\$1,103,029</b>	<b>\$1,058,618</b>
<b>Other Financing Sources</b>			
3934	Proceeds from Long-Term Notes/Bonds/Other Sources	\$5,289,135	\$0
9998	Amount Voted from Fund Balance	\$0	\$10,000
9999	Fund Balance to Reduce Taxes	\$0	\$0
	<b>Other Financing Sources Subtotal</b>	<b>\$5,289,135</b>	<b>\$10,000</b>
	<b>Total Estimated Revenues and Credits</b>	<b>\$7,380,035</b>	<b>\$1,821,808</b>



**New Hampshire**  
 Department of  
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**2024**  
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**Proposed Budget**

<b>Item</b>	<b>Selectmen's Period ending 6/30/2025 (Recommended)</b>	<b>Budget Committee's Period ending 6/30/2025 (Recommended)</b>
Operating Budget Appropriations	\$4,992,763	\$4,992,763
Special Warrant Articles	\$210,001	\$210,001
Individual Warrant Articles	\$46,000	\$46,000
Total Appropriations	\$5,248,764	\$5,248,764
Less Amount of Estimated Revenues & Credits	\$1,821,808	\$1,821,808
<b>Estimated Amount of Taxes to be Raised</b>	<b>\$3,426,956</b>	<b>\$3,426,956</b>



**New Hampshire**  
 Department of  
 Revenue Administration

**2024**  
**MS-737**

**Proposed Budget**

<b>1. Total Recommended by Budget Committee</b>	<b>\$5,248,764</b>
<b>Less Exclusions:</b>	
2. Principal: Long-Term Bonds & Notes	\$0
3. Interest: Long-Term Bonds & Notes	\$0
4. Capital outlays funded from Long-Term Bonds & Notes	\$0
5. Mandatory Assessments	\$0
6. Total Exclusions ( <i>Sum of Lines 2 through 5 above</i> )	\$0
<b>7. Amount Recommended, Less Exclusions (Line 1 less Line 6)</b>	<b>\$5,248,764</b>
8. 10% of Amount Recommended, Less Exclusions ( <i>Line 7 x 10%</i> )	\$524,876
<b>Collective Bargaining Cost Items:</b>	
9. Recommended Cost Items (Prior to Meeting)	\$0
10. Voted Cost Items (Voted at Meeting)	\$0
11. Amount voted over recommended amount (Difference of Lines 9 and 10)	\$0
<b>12. Bond Override (RSA 32:18-a), Amount Voted</b>	<b>\$0</b>
<b>Maximum Allowable Appropriations Voted at Meeting:</b> <i>(Line 1 + Line 8 + Line 11 + Line 12)</i>	
	<b>\$5,773,640</b>





**New Castle**  
**Summary Inventory of Valuation**

**Reports Required:** RSA 21-J:34 as amended, provides for certification of valuations, appropriations, estimated revenues and such other information as the Department of Revenue Administration may require upon reports prescribed for that purpose.

**Note:** The values and figures provided represent the detailed values that are used in the city/towns tax assessments and sworn to uphold under Oath per RSA 75:7.

**For assistance please contact:**  
NH DRA Municipal and Property Division  
(603) 230-5090  
<http://www.revenue.nh.gov/mun-prop/>

Assessor		
Chad Roberge (Avitar Associates)		

Municipal Officials		
Name	Position	Signature
William Stewart, Chair	Selectboard	
Jane D. Finn	Selectboard	
Pamela Cullen	Selectboard	

Preparer		
Name	Phone	Email
Chad Roberge	603-798-4419	chad@avitarassociates.com

Preparer's Signature





**New Hampshire**  
 Department of  
 Revenue Administration

**2023  
MS-1**

<b>Land Value Only</b>		<b>Acres</b>	<b>Valuation</b>	
1A	Current Use RSA 79-A	23.60	\$10,591	
1B	Conservation Restriction Assessment RSA 79-B	0.00	\$0	
1C	Discretionary Easements RSA 79-C	1.76	\$387	
1D	Discretionary Preservation Easements RSA 79-D	0.00	\$0	
1E	Taxation of Land Under Farm Structures RSA 79-F	0.00	\$0	
1F	Residential Land	282.99	\$660,489,200	
1G	Commercial/Industrial Land	29.60	\$32,465,800	
<b>1H</b>	<b>Total of Taxable Land</b>	<b>337.95</b>	<b>\$692,965,978</b>	
1I	Tax Exempt and Non-Taxable Land	122.29	\$65,219,800	
<b>Buildings Value Only</b>		<b>Structures</b>	<b>Valuation</b>	
2A	Residential	0	\$306,859,801	
2B	Manufactured Housing RSA 674:31	0	\$0	
2C	Commercial/Industrial	0	\$74,262,900	
2D	Discretionary Preservation Easements RSA 79-D	0	\$0	
2E	Taxation of Farm Structures RSA 79-F	0	\$0	
<b>2F</b>	<b>Total of Taxable Buildings</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>\$381,122,701</b>	
2G	Tax Exempt and Non-Taxable Buildings	0	\$16,011,200	
<b>Utilities &amp; Timber</b>			<b>Valuation</b>	
3A	Utilities		\$1,809,700	
3B	Other Utilities		\$0	
4	Mature Wood and Timber RSA 79:5		\$0	
<b>5</b>	<b>Valuation before Exemption</b>		<b>\$1,075,898,379</b>	
<b>Exemptions</b>		<b>Total Granted</b>	<b>Valuation</b>	
6	Certain Disabled Veterans RSA 72:36-a	0	\$0	
7	Improvements to Assist the Deaf RSA 72:38-b V	0	\$0	
8	Improvements to Assist Persons with Disabilities RSA 72:37-a	0	\$0	
9	School Dining/Dormitory/Kitchen Exemption RSA 72:23-IV	0	\$0	
10A	Non-Utility Water & Air Pollution Control Exemption RSA 72:12	0	\$0	
10B	Utility Water & Air Pollution Control Exemption RSA 72:12-a	0	\$0	
<b>11</b>	<b>Modified Assessed Value of All Properties</b>		<b>\$1,075,898,379</b>	
<b>Optional Exemptions</b>		<b>Amount Per</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Valuation</b>
12	Blind Exemption RSA 72:37	\$50,000	0	\$0
13	Elderly Exemption RSA 72:39-a,b	\$0	2	\$450,000
14	Deaf Exemption RSA 72:38-b	\$50,000	0	\$0
15	Disabled Exemption RSA 72:37-b	\$75,000	0	\$0
16	Wood Heating Energy Systems Exemption RSA 72:70	\$0	0	\$0
17	Solar Energy Systems Exemption RSA 72:62	\$0	0	\$0
18	Wind Powered Energy Systems Exemption RSA 72:66	\$0	0	\$0
19	Additional School Dining/Dorm/Kitchen Exemptions RSA 72:23	\$0	0	\$0
19A	Electric Energy Storage Systems RSA 72:85	\$0	0	\$0
19B	Renewable Generation Facilities & Electric Energy Systems	\$0	0	\$0
<b>20</b>	<b>Total Dollar Amount of Exemptions</b>			<b>\$450,000</b>
<b>21A</b>	<b>Net Valuation</b>			<b>\$1,075,448,379</b>
<b>21B</b>	<b>Less TIF Retained Value</b>			<b>\$0</b>
<b>21C</b>	<b>Net Valuation Adjusted to Remove TIF Retained Value</b>			<b>\$1,075,448,379</b>
<b>21D</b>	<b>Less Commercial/Industrial Construction Exemption</b>			<b>\$0</b>
<b>21E</b>	<b>Net Valuation Adjusted to Remove TIF Retained Value and Comm/Ind Construction</b>			<b>\$1,075,448,379</b>
<b>22</b>	<b>Less Utilities</b>			<b>\$1,809,700</b>
<b>23A</b>	<b>Net Valuation without Utilities</b>			<b>\$1,073,638,679</b>
<b>23B</b>	<b>Net Valuation without Utilities, Adjusted to Remove TIF Retained Value</b>			<b>\$1,073,638,679</b>



**New Hampshire**  
 Department of  
 Revenue Administration

**2023**  
**MS-1**

**Utility Value Appraiser**

Avitar

The municipality **DOES NOT** use DRA utility values. The municipality **IS NOT** equalized by the ratio.

<b>Electric Company Name</b>	<b>Distr.</b>	<b>Distr. (Other)</b>	<b>Gen.</b>	<b>Trans.</b>	<b>Valuation</b>
HUDSON LIGHT & POWER DEPT GENERATION	\$200	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$200
MASS MUNICIPAL WHOLESALE ELECTRIC GENERATION	\$3,400	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$3,400
NEXTERA ENERGY SEABROOK LLC	\$23,500	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$23,500
PSNH DBA EVERSOURCE ENERGY	\$1,782,400	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,782,400
TAUNTON MUNICIPAL LIGHTING CO GENERATION	\$200	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$200
	<b>\$1,809,700</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$1,809,700</b>





<b>Veteran's Tax Credits</b>	<b>Limits</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Est. Tax Credits</b>
Veterans' Tax Credit RSA 72:28	\$500	38	\$19,000
Surviving Spouse RSA 72:29-a	\$2,000	0	\$0
Tax Credit for Service-Connected Total Disability RSA 72:35	\$2,000	2	\$4,000
All Veterans Tax Credit RSA 72:28-b	\$500	2	\$1,000
Combat Service Tax Credit RSA 72:28-c	\$0	0	\$0
		<b>42</b>	<b>\$24,000</b>

<b>Deaf &amp; Disabled Exemption Report</b>			
<b>Deaf Income Limits</b>		<b>Deaf Asset Limits</b>	
Single	\$40,000	Single	\$150,000
Married	\$55,000	Married	\$150,000
<b>Disabled Income Limits</b>		<b>Disabled Asset Limits</b>	
Single	\$40,000	Single	\$150,000
Married	\$55,000	Married	\$150,000

<b>Elderly Exemption Report</b>																																												
<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="2">First-time Filers Granted Elderly Exemption for the Current Tax Year</th> </tr> <tr> <th>Age</th> <th>Number</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>65-74</td> <td>0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>75-79</td> <td>0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>80+</td> <td>0</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		First-time Filers Granted Elderly Exemption for the Current Tax Year		Age	Number	65-74	0	75-79	0	80+	0	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="5">Total Number of Individuals Granted Elderly Exemptions for the Current Tax Year and Total Number of Exemptions Granted</th> </tr> <tr> <th>Age</th> <th>Number</th> <th>Amount</th> <th>Maximum</th> <th>Total</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>65-74</td> <td>0</td> <td>\$125,000</td> <td>\$0</td> <td>\$0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>75-79</td> <td>0</td> <td>\$175,000</td> <td>\$0</td> <td>\$0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>80+</td> <td>2</td> <td>\$225,000</td> <td>\$450,000</td> <td>\$450,000</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td><b>2</b></td> <td></td> <td><b>\$450,000</b></td> <td><b>\$450,000</b></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>			Total Number of Individuals Granted Elderly Exemptions for the Current Tax Year and Total Number of Exemptions Granted					Age	Number	Amount	Maximum	Total	65-74	0	\$125,000	\$0	\$0	75-79	0	\$175,000	\$0	\$0	80+	2	\$225,000	\$450,000	\$450,000		<b>2</b>		<b>\$450,000</b>	<b>\$450,000</b>
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Married	\$150,000																																											

<b>Has the municipality adopted an exemption for Electric Energy Systems? (RSA 72:85)</b>	Granted/Adopted? No	Properties:
<b>Has the municipality adopted an exemption for Renewable Gen. Facility &amp; Electric Energy Storage? (RSA 72:87)</b>	Granted/Adopted? No	Properties:
<b>Has the municipality adopted Community Tax Relief Incentive? (RSA 79-E)</b>	Granted/Adopted? No	Structures:
<b>Has the municipality adopted Taxation of Certain Chartered Public School Facilities? (RSA 79-H)</b>	Granted/Adopted? No	Properties:
<b>Has the municipality adopted Taxation of Qualifying Historic Buildings? (RSA 79-G)</b>	Granted/Adopted? No	Properties:
<b>Has the municipality adopted the optional commercial and industrial construction exemption? (RSA 72:76-78 or RSA 72:80-83)</b>	Granted/Adopted? No	Properties:
	Percent of assessed value attributable to new construction to be exempted:	
	Total Exemption Granted:	
<b>Has the municipality granted any credits under the low-income housing tax credit tax program? (RSA 75:1-a)</b>	Granted/Adopted? No	Properties:
	Assessed value prior to effective date of RSA 75:1-a:	
	Current Assessed Value:	



<b>Current Use RSA 79-A</b>	<b>Total Acres</b>	<b>Valuation</b>
Farm Land	0.00	\$0
Forest Land	14.52	\$10,380
Forest Land with Documented Stewardship	0.00	\$0
Unproductive Land	9.08	\$211
Wet Land	0.00	\$0
	<b>23.60</b>	<b>\$10,591</b>

**Other Current Use Statistics**

Total Number of Acres Receiving 20% Rec. Adjustment	<b>Acres:</b>	0.00
Total Number of Acres Removed from Current Use During Current Tax Year	<b>Acres:</b>	
Total Number of Owners in Current Use	<b>Owners:</b>	2
Total Number of Parcels in Current Use	<b>Parcels:</b>	2

**Land Use Change Tax**

Gross Monies Received for Calendar Year		\$0
Conservation Allocation	<b>Percentage:</b> 0.00%	<b>Dollar Amount:</b> \$0
Monies to Conservation Fund		\$0
Monies to General Fund		\$0

<b>Conservation Restriction Assessment Report RSA 79-B</b>	<b>Acres</b>	<b>Valuation</b>
Farm Land	0.00	\$0
Forest Land	0.00	\$0
Forest Land with Documented Stewardship	0.00	\$0
Unproductive Land	0.00	\$0
Wet Land	0.00	\$0
	<b>0.00</b>	<b>\$0</b>

**Other Conservation Restriction Assessment Statistics**

Total Number of Acres Receiving 20% Rec. Adjustment	<b>Acres:</b>	0.00
Total Number of Acres Removed from Conservation Restriction During Current Tax Year	<b>Acres:</b>	
Owners in Conservation Restriction	<b>Owners:</b>	0
Parcels in Conservation Restriction	<b>Parcels:</b>	0





Discretionary Easements RSA 79-C	Acres	Owners	Assessed Valuation
CONS ESMNT/WET	1.76	1	\$387

Taxation of Farm Structures and Land Under Farm Structures RSA 79-F				
Number Granted	Structures	Acres	Land Valuation	Structure Valuation
0	0	0.00	\$0	\$0

Discretionary Preservation Easements RSA 79-D				
Owners	Structures	Acres	Land Valuation	Structure Valuation
0	0	0.00	\$0	\$0

Map	Lot	Block	%	Description
<i>This municipality has no Discretionary Preservation Easements.</i>				

Tax Increment Financing District	Date	Original	Unretained	Retained	Current
<i>This municipality has no TIF districts.</i>					

Revenues Received from Payments in Lieu of Tax	Revenue	Acres
State and Federal Forest Land, Recreational and/or land from MS-434, account 3356 and 3357	\$0.00	0.00
White Mountain National Forest only, account 3186		0.00

Payments in Lieu of Tax from Renewable Generation Facilities (RSA 72:74)	Amount
<i>This municipality has not adopted RSA 72:74 or has no applicable PILT sources.</i>	

Other Sources of Payments in Lieu of Taxes (MS-434 Account 3186)	Amount
<i>This municipality has no additional sources of PILTs.</i>	

**Notes**





**New Hampshire**  
 Department of  
 Revenue  
 Administration


<b>2023</b> <b>\$4.98</b>
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## Tax Rate Breakdown New Castle

Municipal Tax Rate Calculation			
Jurisdiction	Tax Effort	Valuation	Tax Rate
Municipal	\$2,736,808	\$1,075,448,379	<b>\$2.55</b>
County	\$725,018	\$1,075,448,379	<b>\$0.67</b>
Local Education	\$286,319	\$1,075,448,379	<b>\$0.27</b>
State Education	\$1,604,891	\$1,073,638,679	<b>\$1.49</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$5,353,036</b>		<b>\$4.98</b>

Village Tax Rate Calculation			
Jurisdiction	Tax Effort	Valuation	Tax Rate
<b>Total</b>			

Tax Commitment Calculation	
Total Municipal Tax Effort	\$5,353,036
War Service Credits	(\$24,000)
Village District Tax Effort	
<b>Total Property Tax Commitment</b>	<b>\$5,329,036</b>

 Sam Greene Director of Municipal and Property Division New Hampshire Department of Revenue Administration	11/7/2023
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## Appropriations and Revenues

### Municipal Accounting Overview

Description	Appropriation	Revenue
Total Appropriation	\$9,870,643	
Net Revenues (Not Including Fund Balance)		(\$6,849,490)
Fund Balance Voted Surplus		\$0
Fund Balance to Reduce Taxes		(\$325,000)
War Service Credits	\$24,000	
Special Adjustment	\$0	
Actual Overlay Used	\$16,655	
<b>Net Required Local Tax Effort</b>	<b>\$2,736,808</b>	

### County Apportionment

Description	Appropriation	Revenue
Net County Apportionment	\$725,018	
<b>Net Required County Tax Effort</b>	<b>\$725,018</b>	

### Education

Description	Appropriation	Revenue
Net Local School Appropriations	\$1,891,210	
Net Cooperative School Appropriations		
Net Education Grant		\$0
Locally Retained State Education Tax		(\$1,604,891)
<b>Net Required Local Education Tax Effort</b>	<b>\$286,319</b>	
State Education Tax	\$1,604,891	
State Education Tax Not Retained	\$0	
<b>Net Required State Education Tax Effort</b>	<b>\$1,604,891</b>	

## Valuation

### Municipal (MS-1)

Description	Current Year	Prior Year
Total Assessment Valuation with Utilities	\$1,075,448,379	\$1,074,926,896
Total Assessment Valuation without Utilities	\$1,073,638,679	\$1,073,118,196
Commercial/Industrial Construction Exemption	\$0	\$0
Total Assessment Valuation with Utilities, Less Commercial/Industrial Construction Exemption	\$1,075,448,379	\$1,074,926,896

### Village (MS-1V)

Description	Current Year
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## New Castle

## Tax Commitment Verification



## 2023 Tax Commitment Verification - RSA 76:10 II

Description	Amount
Total Property Tax Commitment	\$5,329,036
1/2% Amount	\$26,645
Acceptable High	\$5,355,681
Acceptable Low	\$5,302,391

If the amount of your total warrant varies by more than 1/2%, the MS-1 form used to calculate the tax rate might not be correct. The tax rate will need to be recalculated. Contact your assessors immediately and call us at 603.230.5090 before you issue the bills. See RSA 76:10, II

<b>Commitment Amount</b>	
Less amount for any applicable Tax Increment Financing Districts (TIF)	
<b>Net amount after TIF adjustment</b>	

**Under penalties of perjury, I verify the amount above was the 2023 commitment amount on the property tax warrant.**

<b>Tax Collector/Deputy Signature:</b> <i>Priscilla Hodgson</i>	<b>Date:</b> <i>6-23-23</i>
---	-----------------------------

*Submit this signed verification form with a copy of the completed and signed warrant total page and an actual tax bill to your DRA municipal auditor.*

## Requirements for Semi-Annual Billing

### Pursuant to RSA 76:15-a

76:15-a Semi-Annual Collection of Taxes in Certain Towns and Cities - I. Taxes shall be collected in the following manner in towns and cities which adopt the provisions of this section in the manner set out in RSA 76:15-b. A partial payment of the taxes assessed on April 1 in any tax year shall be computed by taking the prior year's assessed valuation times 1/2 of the previous year's tax rate; provided, however, that whenever it shall appear to the selectmen or assessors that certain individual properties have physically changed in valuation, they may use the current year's appraisal times 1/2 the previous year's tax rate to compute the partial payment.

New Castle	Total Tax Rate	Semi-Annual Tax Rate
Total 2023 Tax Rate	\$4.98	\$2.49

### Associated Villages

No associated Villages to report



## Fund Balance Retention

<b>Enterprise Funds and Current Year Bonds</b>	<b>\$6,041,298</b>
<b>General Fund Operating Expenses</b>	<b>\$6,445,573</b>
<b>Final Overlay</b>	<b>\$16,655</b>

DRA has provided a reference range of fund balance retention amounts below. Please utilize these ranges in the determination of the adequacy of your municipality's unrestricted fund balance, as currently defined in GASB Statement 54. Retention amounts, as part of the municipality's stabilization fund policy [1], should be assessed dependent upon your governments own long-term forecasts and special circumstances. Please note that current best practices published by GFOA recommend, at a minimum, that "...general purpose governments, regardless of size, maintain unrestricted fund balance in their general fund of no less than two months of regular general fund operating revenues or regular general fund operating expenditures." [2],[3]

[1] The National Advisory Council on State and Local Budgeting (NACSLB), (1998), *Framework for Improved State and Local Government Budgeting: Recommended Budget Practices (4.1)*, pg. 17.

[2] Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA), (2015), *Best Practice: Fund Balance Guidelines for the General Fund..*

[3] Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA), (2011), *Best Practice: Replenishing General Fund Balance.*

2023 Fund Balance Retention Guidelines: New Castle	
Description	Amount
<b>Current Amount Retained (20.76%)</b>	<b>\$1,337,846</b>
17% Retained ( <i>Maximum Recommended</i> )	\$1,095,747
10% Retained	\$644,557
8% Retained	\$515,646
5% Retained ( <i>Minimum Recommended</i> )	\$322,279

**NOTICE: The current fund balance retained amount is above the maximum recommended threshold.**



**TOWN OF NEW CASTLE  
TRUST FUNDS SUMMARY  
STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS  
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2023**

PRINCIPAL	BAL. 6/30/22	RECEIVED	GAINS/LOSSES		DISBURSED	BALANCE. YTD
			INCOME			
Cemetery	\$ 249,930.11	\$ -	\$ 12,715.44		\$ -	\$ 262,645.55
Library	\$ 12,751.55	\$ -	\$ 621.61		\$ -	\$ 13,373.16
Marchand	\$ 11,490.30	\$ -	\$ 556.66		\$ -	\$ 12,046.96
Sidewalk aka Safepath	\$ 231,861.96	\$ 20,620.00	\$ -		\$ (10,066.92)	\$ 242,415.04
Transportation Improvement	\$ 16,463.05	\$ 3,275.00	\$ 132.94		\$ -	\$ 19,870.99
Road/Streets	\$ 137,300.73	\$ 185,000.00	\$ 2,126.30		\$ (231,998.00)	\$ 92,429.03
School Buildings & Grounds	\$ 20,525.01	\$ -	\$ 227.68		\$ -	\$ 20,752.69
School Tuition	\$ 156,258.42	\$ -	\$ 1,671.75		\$ -	\$ 157,930.17
Sewer	\$ .08	\$ -	\$ -		\$ -	\$ .08
Special Education	\$ 84,100.11	\$ -	\$ 1,405.72		\$ -	\$ 85,505.83
Government Buildings & Facilities	\$ 162,332.60	\$ 175,000.00	\$ 58.54		\$ (44,000.00)	\$ 293,391.14
Vehicle & Equipment	\$ 127,949.58	\$ 280,092.00	\$ (1,505.51)		\$ (55,695.25)	\$ 350,840.82
Water	\$ 90,495.46	\$ -	\$ 1,734.85		\$ (51,556.46)	\$ 40,673.85
WSC Sewer Capital Reserve	\$ 40,935.60	\$ 51,300.00	\$ (174.80)		\$ (3,435.95)	\$ 88,624.85
WSC Water Capital Reserve	\$ 56,157.06	\$ 23,000.00	\$ 347.53		\$ (3,435.95)	\$ 76,068.64
<b>TOTAL PRINCIPAL</b>	<b>\$ 1,398,551.62</b>	<b>\$ 738,287.00</b>	<b>\$ 19,918.71</b>		<b>\$ (400,188.53)</b>	<b>\$ 1,756,568.80</b>
INCOME	BAL. 6/30/22		INCOME	FEES	DISBURSED	BALANCE YTD
Cemetery	\$ 55,117.18		\$ 7,343.73	\$ (3,544.97)		\$ 58,915.94
Library	\$ 756.15		\$ 372.33	\$ (179.74)		\$ 948.74
Marchand	\$ 418.95		\$ 335.21	\$ (161.83)		\$ 592.33
Sidewalk aka Safepath	\$ 1,016.75		\$ 4,837.17			\$ 5,853.92
Transportation Improvement	\$ 31.98		\$ 344.81			\$ 376.79
Road/Streets	\$ 7,132.38		\$ 2,509.69			\$ 9,642.07
School Buildings & Grounds	\$ 955.931		\$ 394.82			\$ 1,350.75
School Tuition	\$ 1,466.44		\$ 2,899.04			\$ 4,365.48
Sewer	\$ -		\$ -			\$ -
Special Education	\$ 48,525.73		\$ 2,437.71			\$ 50,963.44
Government Buildings & Facilities	\$ 1,001.45		\$ 4,435.36			\$ 5,436.81
Vehicle & Equipment	\$ 677.98		\$ 5,109.26			\$ 5,787.24
Water	\$ 10,760.62		\$ 1,033.53			\$ 11,794.15
WSC Sewer Capital Reserve	\$ 623.87		\$ 1,615.90			\$ 2,239.77
WSC Water Capital Reserve	\$ 360.76		\$ 1,387.59			\$ 1,748.35
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>\$ 128,846.17</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>\$ 35,056.15</b>	<b>\$ (3,866.54)</b>		<b>\$ 160,015.78</b>
	<b>BAL 6/30/22</b>	<b>RECEIVED</b>	<b>CHG PRINC &amp; INCOME</b>	<b>FEES</b>	<b>DISBURSED</b>	<b>BALANCE YTD</b>
<b>TOTAL TRUST FUNDS</b>	<b>\$ 1,527,397.79</b>	<b>\$ 738,287.00</b>	<b>\$ 54,974.86</b>	<b>\$ (3,886.54)</b>	<b>\$400,188.53)</b>	<b>\$ 1,916,584.58</b>



## Tax Collector's Report

For the period beginning july 1, 2022 and ending june 30, 2023

This form is due **March 1st (Calendar Year) or September 1st (Fiscal Year)**

### Instructions

**Cover Page**

- Specify the period begin and period end dates above
- Select the entity name from the pull down menu (County will automatically populate)
- Enter the year of the report
- Enter the preparer's information

**For Assistance Please Contact:**

**NH DRA Municipal and Property Division**  
 Phone: (603) 230-5090  
 Fax: (603) 230-5947  
<http://www.revenue.nh.gov/mun-prop/>

#### ENTITY'S INFORMATION

Municipality: <span style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">NEW CASTLE</span>	County: <span style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">ROCKINGHAM</span>	Report Year: <span style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">2023</span>
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#### PREPARER'S INFORMATION

First Name <span style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">Priscilla</span>	Last Name <span style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">Hodgkins</span>	
Street No. <span style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">49</span>	Street Name <span style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">Main Street</span>	Phone Number <span style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">431-6710</span>
Email (optional) <span style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">taxcollector@newcastlenh.org</span>		



**New Hampshire**  
 Department of  
 Revenue Administration

**MS-61**

**Debits**

Uncollected Taxes Beginning of Year	Account	Levy for Year of this Report	Prior Levies (Please Specify Years)		
			Year: 2022	Year: 2021	Year: 2020
Property Taxes	3110				
Resident Taxes	3180				
Land Use Change Taxes	3120				
Yield Taxes	3185				
Excavation Tax	3187				
Other Taxes	3189				
Property Tax Credit Balance					
Other Tax or Charges Credit Balance					

Taxes Committed This Year	Account	Levy for Year of this Report	2022	Prior Levies	
Property Taxes	3110		\$4,812,895.00		
Resident Taxes	3180				
Land Use Change Taxes	3120				
Yield Taxes	3185				
Excavation Tax	3187				
Other Taxes	3189				

Overpayment Refunds	Account	Levy for Year of this Report	2022	2021	2020
Property Taxes	3110	\$8,887.83			
Resident Taxes	3180				
Land Use Change Taxes	3120				
Yield Taxes	3185				
Excavation Tax	3187				
Interest and Penalties on Delinquent Taxes	3190		\$2,278.10		
Interest and Penalties on Resident Taxes	3190				

<b>Total Debits</b>		<b>\$8,887.83</b>	<b>\$4,815,173.10</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>
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**Credits**

Remitted to Treasurer	Levy for Year of this Report	Prior Levies		
		2022	2021	2020
Property Taxes	\$7,952.83	\$4,808,388.00		
Resident Taxes				
Land Use Change Taxes				
Yield Taxes				
Interest (Include Lien Conversion)		\$2,068.10		
Penalties		\$210.00		
Excavation Tax				
Other Taxes				
Conversion to Lien (Principal Only)		\$4,507.00		
<input style="width: 300px;" type="text"/>				
Discounts Allowed				

Abatements Made	Levy for Year of this Report	Prior Levies		
		2022	2021	2020
Property Taxes	\$935.00			
Resident Taxes				
Land Use Change Taxes				
Yield Taxes				
Excavation Tax				
Other Taxes				
<input style="width: 300px;" type="text"/>				
Current Levy Deeded				



**New Hampshire**  
 Department of  
 Revenue Administration

**MS-61**

Uncollected Taxes - End of Year # 1080	Levy for Year of this Report	2022	Prior Levies	
			2021	2020
Property Taxes	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Resident Taxes	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Land Use Change Taxes	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Yield Taxes	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Excavation Tax	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Other Taxes	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Property Tax Credit Balance	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Other Tax or Charges Credit Balance	<input type="text"/>			
<b>Total Credits</b>	<b>\$8,887.83</b>	<b>\$4,815,173.10</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>

For DRA Use Only	
Total Uncollected Taxes (Account #1080 - All Years)	<b>\$0.00</b>
Total Unredeemed Liens (Account #1110 - All Years)	<b>\$4,768.40</b>





**Lien Summary**

**Summary of Debits**

	Last Year's Levy	Prior Levies (Please Specify Years)		
		Year: 2022	Year: 2021	Year: 2020
Unredeemed Liens Balance - Beginning of Year			\$3,311.34	
Liens Executed During Fiscal Year		\$4,723.32		
Interest & Costs Collected (After Lien Execution)			\$379.48	
<b>Total Debits</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$4,723.32</b>	<b>\$3,690.82</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>

**Summary of Credits**

	Last Year's Levy	Prior Levies		
		2022	2021	2020
Redemptions			\$3,266.26	
Interest & Costs Collected (After Lien Execution) #3190			\$379.48	
Abatements of Unredeemed Liens				
Liens Deeded to Municipality				
Unredeemed Liens Balance - End of Year #1110		\$4,723.32	\$45.08	
<b>Total Credits</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$4,723.32</b>	<b>\$3,690.82</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>

For DRA Use Only	
Total Uncollected Taxes (Account #1080 - All Years)	<b>\$0.00</b>
Total Unredeemed Liens (Account #1110 - All Years)	<b>\$4,768.40</b>



**NEW CASTLE (323)**

**1. CERTIFY THIS FORM**

Under penalties of perjury, I declare that I have examined the information contained in this form and to the best of my belief it is true, correct and complete.

Preparer's First Name

Priscilla

Preparer's Last Name

Hodgkins

Date

6/23/2023

**2. SAVE AND EMAIL THIS FORM**

Please save and e-mail the completed PDF form to your Municipal Bureau Advisor.

**3. PRINT, SIGN, AND UPLOAD THIS FORM**

This completed PDF form must be PRINTED, SIGNED, SCANNED, and UPLOADED onto the Municipal Tax Rate Setting Portal (MTRSP) at <http://proptax.org/nh/>. If you have any questions, please contact your Municipal Services Advisor.

**PREPARER'S CERTIFICATION**

Under penalties of perjury, I declare that I have examined the information contained in this form and to the best of my belief it is true, correct and complete.

*Priscilla Hodgkins TAX collector*

Preparer's Signature and Title

**NEW CASTLE PUBLIC LIBRARY**  
**STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS**  
**Fiscal Year ending June 30, 2023**

<b>CASH ON HAND 6/30/2022</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>72,911</b>
<b>RECEIPTS</b>		
Town Appropriation	\$	106,700
School Appropriation	\$	6,213
Designated Gifts		
Smyser	\$	706
Other	\$	1,080
Undesignated Gifts	\$	14,572
Interest	\$	40
<hr/>		
<b>TOTAL RECEIPTS</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>129,311</b>
		=====
<b>DISBURSEMENTS</b>		
Books and Audio	\$	5,744
Children's Books	\$	1,630
DVDs	\$	455
Periodicals	\$	1,229
Programs	\$	2,045
Payroll, Payroll Taxes & Insurance	\$	102,272
Operations	\$	1,930
Technology	\$	2,405
<hr/>		
<b>TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>117,710</b>
		=====
<b>NET INCREASE IN CASH</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>11,601</b>
<b>CASH ON HAND 6/30/23</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>84,512</b>

<b>TOWN OF NEW CASTLE, NEW HAMPSHIRE</b>		
<b>REPORT OF THE TREASURER</b>		
<b>for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2023</b>		
The following is the balance of all accounts in the custody of the Treasurer		
as of June 30, 2023:		
<b>MUNICIPAL FUNDS:</b>		
General Fund	\$	728,182.91
CD's	\$	1,500.00
Conservation Funds	\$	94,556.19
Town Clerk DMV	\$	3,000.00
<b>ENTERPRISE FUNDS:</b>		
Water	\$	127,515.85
Sewer	\$	309,599.58



*Photo Courtesy of Jim Cerny*



## TREASURER'S REPORT

Upon review of the Treasurer's monthly statements, I'm pleased to report that our town continues to operate on solid financial ground in spite of the ongoing uncertainty surrounding us. For nine years straight, we again did not have to obtain a Tax Anticipation Note saving us thousands of dollars in legal and interest costs. Our fiscal year begins on July 1st, but property tax payments, our major source of revenue, do not arrive until mid-November, at best, which in prior years required bank loans to bridge the gap. Through astute financial management these loans were not required this year and it's my goal to continue on the same path in the future.

The Treasurer is responsible for the custody, deposit, and disbursement of all town funds, an ongoing task. Bank deposits from all departments are made during every week, payroll is disbursed every other week as are accounts payable. It's the Treasurer's duty to keep all records up to date and ensure the accounts are correctly balanced.

Another duty of the Treasurer is to manage and invest town funds in appropriate investment vehicles allowed by NH RSA. Over the past year, interest rates have improved from historic lows, and our fine working agreement with TD Bank's Government Banking Division resulted in a number of short term CD's earning significant interest on our excess funds. Take note of the past two-and-a-half years: For the period ending 6-30-22, we earned \$931, for the period (reported here) ended 6-30-23 we earned \$13,448, and for the past 6 months through 12-31-23 our earnings are \$59,504, with 6 months remaining in the fiscal year. Please know your Treasurer continually works to earn more interest on our funds, in the form of safe, government sanctioned, investment opportunities.

I am always available to you, our residents, should anyone have questions regarding the duties of the Treasurer. In closing, it's been my pleasure to be of service to you these past ten years, and I look ahead at many more years to come.

Respectfully Submitted,

Tom F Smith  
Treasurer

## REPORT OF THE TOWN CLERK

We officially became a “one-check” town for vehicle and boat transactions in July 2023. From this point forward, residents only need to fill out one check to the Town of New Castle for the town and State fees. The Town Clerk’s office completes an ACH transaction twice per week to transfer the State portion.

New legislation was passed effective 7/1/2023 regarding Electric and Plug-in hybrid vehicles:

- “Battery electric vehicles, as defined in RSA 236:132, I, shall be assessed a surcharge of \$100” (yearly)
- “Plug-in hybrid vehicles as defined in RSA 236:132, V, shall be assessed a surcharge of \$50” (yearly)

As of May 2023, the Town Clerk and Tax Collector’s office have officially been separated. Priscilla Hodgkins is the New Castle Tax Collector, and Joann Ireland is Deputy Tax Collector. Priscilla’s desk is currently located in the Select Board Administrative office.

### Reminders:

Most transactions at the Town Clerk’s office require identification, so please remember to bring your license or other appropriate government-issued ID with you.

Our town’s website (<https://www.newcastlenh.org>) has many resources, where you can also sign up for notices. The Town Clerk’s section (<https://www.newcastlenh.org/town-clerk>), has many links for residents to download forms and has a direct link to the NHDMV.

As a courtesy, we send out monthly DMV reminders. Residents are encouraged to register their vehicles on-line through the E-REG logo on the MAIN PAGE of our website. If residents prefer, they can mail in their registration renewals. Please include the registration reminder, correct check amount (Town of New Castle), and a self-addressed stamped envelope.

Town Clerk Hours: Monday, Wednesday, Thursday 8:00 am – 12:00 pm. Please remember that even if the Town Clerk’s office is closed, the mail slot at the front door is available for Renewals (never Ballots).

Respectfully Submitted,

Lisa K. English  
Town Clerk

**MOTOR VEHICLE/TOWN CLERK REVENUE**  
**(\*INCLUDES VITAL RECORDS & MISC. INCOME)**

<b>FISCAL YEAR</b>	<b>AMOUNT</b>
<b>2019</b>	<b>\$342,293</b>
<b>2020</b>	<b>\$345,303</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>\$344,243</b>
<b>2022</b>	<b>\$355,540</b>
<b>2023</b>	<b>\$359,855</b>

Respectfully Submitted,

Lisa K. English  
Town Clerk



*Photo Courtesy of Jim Cerny*

## VITAL REPORTS – TOWN OF NEW CASTLE

### BIRTHS RECORDED IN NEW CASTLE

07/01/2022 – 06/30/23

Child's Name	Birth Date	Birthplace	Father's Name	Mother's Name
Stebbins, Hannah Bellows	04/1/2023	Exeter, NH	Stebbins, Herbert Benjamin	Stebbins, Candice McBride

### DEATHS RECORDED IN NEW CASTLE

07/01/2022 – 06/30/23

Name of Deceased	Date of Death	Place of Death
Lanham, Ruth Elizabeth	08/18/2022	Portsmouth
Reed Jr, Peter	08/23/2022	New Castle
Beard, Rebecca C	09/09/2022	Portsmouth
Doherty, Bernard John	11/09/2022	Portsmouth
Baker, Patricia Anne	11/10/2022	Hampton
Murphy Jr, Frederick Sugden	12/10/2022	Dover
Homicz Jr, Alphonse Joseph	01/10/2023	Dover
Arsenault, Joanne Louise	01/15/2023	Portsmouth
McCarthy, Nancy	01/23/2023	Portsmouth
Dubois, Paul Arthur	02/14/2023	Portsmouth
Borden, David Anthony	05/03/2023	New Castle

### MARRIAGES RECORDED IN NEW CASTLE

07/01/2022 – 06/30/23

Person A Name	Person B Name	Date	Location
Blackford, Sulane	McDonough, John Carlton	09/16/2022	Raymond



## PROPERTY TAX RATES & WARRANT TOTALS

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
<b>Rate</b>	<b>\$6.19</b>	<b>\$6.30</b>	<b>\$4.78</b>	<b>\$4.50</b>	<b>\$4.98</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$4,507,457</b>	<b>\$4,627,672</b>	<b>\$5,099,947</b>	<b>\$4,812,895</b>	<b>\$5,335,347</b>

## REPORT OF THE ANIMAL CONTROL

Dog licenses issued for Fiscal Year 2023	54
License fees and dog fines remitted to Treasurer	\$383.50

Respectfully Submitted,

Donald White  
Chief of Police

## REPORT OF THE POLICE DEPARTMENT

Again, we are here with another year that has passed by, 2023 was a good year. Let me start off by saying the Police Department truly would like to thank the residents of New Castle for their ongoing support during the last 12 months, if we could thank every resident individually, we would.

As I'm typing this annual report, today's forecast is heavy rain and wind, so if you are like everyone else, I'm sure we are all looking forward to summer and warmer weather and longer days of daylight.

As we approach summers warmer weather, we ask everyone to remember to check their vehicle registrations and dog license to make sure they are current and up to date and to include an updated New Castle town sticker on their vehicle.

The Town of New Castle has been discovered for being a beautiful place to drive or walk through all year long. As we approach May 15, 2024, we will lower the speed limit along Route 1-B in New Castle till September 15, 2024, as has proven the slower vehicles keep the roads safer for pedestrian and bicycle traffic to enjoy. You will see our speed / traffic counter flashing your speed to help remind everyone to drive to the posted speed limits.

A big reminder about the school zone, please watch your speed during the morning and afternoon hours. I would like to thank the New Castle school crossing guards for their dedication in the morning and braving the New Hampshire seacoast unpredictable weather, good job and many thanks from the police department for your assistance. As for those looking to help keep the Crossing Guard program going, feel free to reach out to me if you are looking to join.

In closing, we have a new officer we hired a few months back, Graham Courtney. He used to work here for us as a part-time officer over 10 years ago. He left us to pursue a career with Fish & Game, well 10 years later Graham Courtney is back part-time with us. Please welcome him back and we look forward to his knowledge as a game warden. Also, Chris Pollock by the time you read this he will be out of the NH Police Academy and is now one of our Full-Time police officer, job well done Chris.

A quick reminder, feel free to fill out a vacation house check form before leaving. I will end with this, be safe, be kind, stay healthy and enjoy your summer.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Chief Donald A. White Jr.  
Police Chief

## NEW CASTLE POLICE STATISTICS

911ABANDONED / HANGUP	15
ACCIDENT WITH INUURY	1
ANIMAL CONTROL COMPLAINT	50
ACCIDENT WITH PROP DAMAGE	6
ACCIDENT HIT AND RUN	3
ASSIST DPW	3
ALARM- BURGLAR	20
ASSIST MV DISABLED	2
ASSIST MV LOCKOUT	1
ASSIST MV OTHER	2
ASSIST NON POLICE AGENCY	5
ASSIST OTHER POLICE DEPT	30
ASSIST CITIZEN	65
BAR CHEK	5
BUILDING /PROPERTY CHECK	2784
CODE ENFORCEMENT	2
CIVIL STANDBY	2
CRUISER MAINTENANCE	134
COMMUNITY POLICING	3
CRIMINAL MISCHIEF	5
COURT	7
CHECK UP	2
DISTURBANCE	4
DIRECTED PATROL	38
EXTRA PATROL	14
ASSIST FIRE DEPT	30
FIRE MEDICAL AID	65
FINGERPRINT – NONCRIMINAL	5
FRAUD	2
FOLLOW-UP	29
HARASSMENT	1
HOUSE CHECK	11
ILLEGAL DUMPING	1
INFO- POLICE	8
JUVENILE OFFENSE	3
LOUD NOISE COMPLAINT	2
LEGAL SERVICE	2
MUTUAL AID	2
COMPLAINT	6

MISSING PERSON	3
MV COMPLAINT	6
NOTIFICATION	13
OFFICER WANTED	5
PARKING COMPLAINT	11
PARKING ENFORCEMENT	78
POLICE INFORMATION	11
POLE DOWN	1
FOUND/ LOST PROPERTY	27
PUBLIC ASSIST – OTHER	6
PURSUIT	1
ROAD HAZARD	15
SUSPICIOUS AUTO	19
SCHOOL CROSSING	111
SHOTS FIRED	2
SEX OFFENSE	2
SUSPICIOUS PERSONS	5
SERVE RESTRAINING ORDER	3
SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY	25
SUSPICIOUS HOMLAND SECURITY	1
TREE DOWN	2
TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT	241
CRIMINAL TRESPASS	11
TRAINING	6
TRAFFIC STOP	675
THEFT	5
UNWANTED SUBJECT	5
VANDALISM	1
VIN VERIFICATION	3
WELL-BEING CHECK	11
WIRE DOWN / HANGING LOW	8
WATER RESCUE	1
WALKTHROUGH / EXTRA PATROL	78
TOTAL ENTRIES	4807

## **REPORT OF THE FIRE DEPARTMENT/EMERGENCY MGT**

Greetings Great Islanders! 2023 was another positive year for your fire, medical and emergency management departments. All department members did a fantastic job keeping the island safe and provided professional, timely responses to every request for service. A special thanks to them for their dedication and to all of you for your support. The following is a summary of our year:

There were 160 calls for service.

76 were requests for medical aid, 22 fire alarm activations, 25 were requests to check hazardous conditions and there were two water/ recreational area water rescues.

A wide array of other calls included fuel leaks, outside equipment fires and assisting residents with the installation of home safety devices.

Mutual aid was provided to our surrounding communities on fifteen occasions assisting them with everything from structure fires to medical calls.

Training was conducted on fire suppression, search/ rescue, and medical emergencies, in addition to water rescue and radiological emergency response.

All town departments participated collectively in the federal radiological emergency response exercise cycle, given our proximity to Seabrook nuclear power plant, and received top scores.

We enrolled many members in new programs of study ranging from Emergency Services Instructor to Firefighter One and Certified Fire Officer under our focus on formal education.

We met with area departments to bolster aid during emergencies, contributed to regional emergency planning and have engaged with our neighbors to better streamline service during large scale events.

The department continued to reach out into the community and beyond the borders of the island whenever possible. We saw many of you during our 400<sup>th</sup> celebration events, the Fourth of July parade, at school field day and on the Commons with Santa.

In the year ahead I hope to see you around town as we enjoy all Great Island has to offer!

Respectfully Submitted,

Ted Hartmann

Fire Chief/ EMD



## REPORT OF THE PLANNING BOARD

Usually, this annual Planning Board report starts with a recounting of the usual requests for a Conditional Use Permit for building within the wetland or tidal land buffers. What was unusual this year was the number of requests allowing for work IN the tidal land itself. Yes, the effects of climate change have arrived at our shores in New Castle with a vengeance. From the end of December into January 2024 storms ravaged our shoreline tearing apart seawalls and depositing boulders where no boulders existed before. Consequently, emergency permits were issued to oceanfront homeowners by the Department of Environmental Services (DES) to shore up their devastated seawalls and revetments. This work needed to be done immediately to prevent further erosion and threats to septic systems.

None of this came as a surprise to the Master Plan Committee which has been diligently researching, writing, editing, reviewing, and finally producing the updated 2024 Master Plan. A large part of that plan deals with the projected impact of sea level rise and mitigating its impact in the next 10 years. The report thoroughly incorporates public input and reflects what residents' treasure about our community and the wish to preserve what is historic and valuable and integrate what is novel and forward-thinking.

And, now back to usual. Each year we recognize the comings and goings of Planning Board members. In June, we sadly gave our thanks and goodbyes to Margaret Sofio but welcomed Anne Crotty, a new member with a legal background. In addition, Iain Moodie transitioned off the board leaving an opening for us to welcome Nancy Euchner as our newest alternate.

This year we must also acknowledge the hardworking members of the Master Plan Committee: Chair, Pamela Yonkin, Conni White, Jane Lannon, Rodney Rowland, Kathy Richards, Lorne Jones and Peter Schwab. They are relieved to know that a new Master Plan is only required every 10 years.

And how would the Planning Board function without the support of our Building Inspector/Code Enforcement Official, Russ Bookholz and our competent recorder-of-all-words-spoken, Meghan Rumph. And finally, many thanks to the Planning Board members who consistently show up and do the work, Anne Crotty, Nancy Euchner, Lorne Jones, Rich Landry, Kate Murray, and Bill Stewart.

Respectfully Submitted,

Darcy Horgan, Chair

## **REPORT OF THE HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION**

The New Castle Historic District is an important feature of our community, cited by residents and by those seeking to live here as one of the main features they find attractive about our town. The HDC seeks to preserve this historic fabric while approving changes and new construction that do not take away from the historic streetscape.

It is important for New Castle residents to know if their home lies within the historic district boundaries when they contemplate making significant changes. The HDC has retained the Rockingham Planning Commission to produce a better map of our Historic District that will clearly show the limits of the district and the identity of each parcel within it. This map when completed will be added to the Town website. The HDC also offers work sessions for property owners to meet with the board to review and discuss their plans prior to making a formal application for approval.

The HDC is striving to accommodate residents who wish to install photovoltaic and solar thermal systems on their homes while preserving the integrity of the historic streetscape. Guidelines for how this may be accomplished and what information needs to be presented are provided on the Town website under the Historic District Commission.

In order for the HDC to make sound, informed decisions about proposed work on properties in the district, applicants need to provide clear drawings and images of the proposed work together with information about the materials, windows and trim. These details are needed to understand the style and compatibility of the proposed work with the historic district. Site walks are another helpful tool for assisting board members to understand the proposed project in relation to the site, abutting properties, and surrounding streets. Views of a project from any street are taken into consideration when determining the historic compatibility of a project.

Please bear in mind that the historic character of a property brings value to the owner and our community. Disregarding our historic values is a disservice to all.

Respectfully Submitted,

Etoile Holzaepfel, Chair

## REPORT OF THE ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT

New Hampshire state law provides that a town, such as New Castle, may adopt zoning ordinances, and further provides that “zoning ordinances shall be designed:

- (a) To lessen congestion in the streets;
- (b) To secure safety from fires, panic and other dangers;
- (c) To promote health and the general welfare;
- (d) To promote adequate light and air;
- (e) To prevent the overcrowding of land;
- (f) To avoid undue concentration of population;
- (g) To provide the adequate provision of transportation, solid waste facilities, water, sewage, schools, parks, child day care;
- (h) To assure proper use of natural resources and other public requirements;
- (i) To encourage the installation and use of solar, wind or other renewable energy systems and protect access to energy sources by the regulation of orientation of streets, lots and buildings; establishment of maximum building height, minimum setback requirements, and limitations on type, height, and placement of vegetation, and encouragement of the use of solar skyspace easements under RSA477.

Zoning ordinances may establish buffer zones or additional districts which overlap existing districts and may further regulate the planting and trimming of vegetation on public and private property to protect access to renewable energy systems.” [NHRSA 674:17]

Of course, there are many unique circumstances that residents often feel should allow exceptions to the general rules of the New Castle Zoning Ordinances. Consequently, RSA Section 674:33 provides that among other powers the zoning board of adjustment has the power to “authorize upon appeal in specific cases, a variance from the terms of the zoning ordinance” if the applicant demonstrates that the applicant’s proposal meets the five criteria for a variance set forth in the NHRSA 674:33, see also Section 10.5 of our Zoning Ordinance.

Our volunteer board heard twelve (12) cases in 2023. A complete list of cases and the minutes of each meeting of the ZBA is available on the town of New Castle website at: <https://www.newcastlenh.org/zoning-board-adjustment>.

The chair wishes to thank board members: Mark Gardner, John Fitzpatrick, Rebecca Goldberg, Ben Lannon, Margaret Sofio (now retired), Richard Landry, Alyson Tanguay and Matt Taylor for their service to the town and their contributions to the ZBA. The Board also wishes to extend our appreciation to Russ Bookholz, New Castle Building Inspector, Bernice Barnes and the Select Board, and our secretary, Meghan Rumph, for their help to the ZBA throughout the year.

Respectfully Submitted,

Todd Baker, Chair



*Photo Courtesy of Jim Cerny*



## REPORT OF THE CONSERVATION COMMISSION



### **Year Highlight:**

#### Plans for a new Culvert on Pit Lane

Last year's annual report stated that the conservation committee studied the wetlands on either side of Pit Lane – known as Pit Lane A and B. It's worth highlighting that the NH Department of Environmental Services had identified the culvert crossing as being of high value for the future of wetland migration, which will happen because of flooding and increased annual precipitation. This underscores the significance of the study and suggests that the culvert crossing replacement is a vital project to undertake.

With future tidal flooding coming into Lavenger Creek from the Back Channel and migrating into Pit Lane A, then onto Pit Lane B, the study concluded the rotting steel culvert under Pit Lane should be replaced with a concrete culvert.

The best explanation of this study can be found in a YouTube video filmed and produced by David Murray from ClearEye Photo.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ntWF34Zc-48>

The commission, with the help of Tracy Degnan from Rockingham Conservation District, has applied for a NOAA grant, which, if received, will pay for the new culvert and an additional study of the wetland on the east side of Route 1B at Pit Lane.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jim Cerny, Interim Chair of the Conservation  
Commission

Conni White, Past Chair of the Conservation  
Commission



Flooding Wentworth Road at Pit Lane in January 2024. Jim Cerny photo



Causeway December 2023. Jim Cerny photo

# REPORT OF THE WATER & SEWER COMMISSION

## Water Utility

### **Water Meters**

We continued the work started in 2022 to improve the accuracy and efficiency of collecting water usage data: 1) the Advanced Meter Infrastructure (AMI); an automatic water meter reading system and 2) the wholesale replacement of water meters.

The Public Works staff have achieved 100% installation of the automatic water meter reading system. Additionally, the interface into the Town's "Accufund" accounting software was completed that allows for the downloading of meter readings into the software to minimize billing errors by eliminating the manually intensive meter reading process.

We are on track to replace 10% of our water meters each year over a 10-year period, currently we are 20% complete. The industry standard is to replace meters every 10-15 years because they typically start to "run slow" as they age, i.e. they register less consumption than used. The adverse effect of this is a decrease in revenue from both water and sewer customers, while water and sewer expenses only increase.

### **Water Asset Management Plan**

In 2022, the Commission applied for and received a \$62,800 grant from the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services for engineering services to develop a water system asset management program. This asset plan is in a GIS format that not only maps the system but includes year of installation, material, useful life, diameter/size and condition of water system. Work began on the project in FY 2023 and is expected to be completed by the end of FY 2024.

### **Older Water Mains**

We had a failure of a 4" main on Mainmast Circle, 1960's vintage, and repairs were made. Once the water asset management plan is complete, we can start planning for future water main replacements. Meanwhile, the Commission continues to grow the capital reserve fund for these future projects and major repairs.

### **Lead / Copper Rule Water Services Verification**

In an effort to remove lead from drinking water, the EPA released the Lead and Copper Rule Revisions (LCRR). This rule requires all water systems to develop an inventory of their service lines, identifying the material of the pipe. Once inventoried, the water

system needs to develop a replacement plan to address potential lead in any service connection that it serves. Inventories are due in October 2024 and will be publicly available at that time. New Castle Public Works has begun this inventory and will complete it over the next year.

### **Sewer Utility**

We continued to be reminded of the fragility of our sewer infrastructure.

### **Inflow and Infiltration Definitions**

**Inflow** - Is stormwater that enters the sewer system through rain leaders, basement sump pumps or foundation drains illegally connected to the sewer. **Infiltration** - Occurs when groundwater seeps into sewer pipes through cracks, leaky pipe joints and/or deteriorated manholes. **Together** - Inflow and infiltration place a burden on collection systems and wastewater treatment facilities. This “gray” water is not metered and so all customers bear the expense of having it collected and processed.

### **Sewer Manhole Remediation Phase 1 Project**

We experienced yet another significant **Inflow & Infiltration** event on/about 23 December 2022. This was a key motivating factor in submitting the Manhole Remediation Project in the FY23 round of the “Clean Water State Revolving Fund” funding competition, i.e. we were now going to shift our attention from a broad all-encompassing project to targeting the 22 manholes that are effected by flooding by high sea levels to be fixed sooner rather than later, and we managed to get ranked #1 in the competition with New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services. This work is currently scheduled for the summer of 2024.

### **Sewer Collection System Audit / Manhole Inspection**

Our Public Works Superintendent, Chris Robillard utilized our membership resource with the Granite State Rural Water Association to arrange for this audit / inspection. The audit focuses on locating and identifying **Inflow & Infiltration** points within the system. This work, including a system wide smoke test and visual inspections of the sewer manholes is scheduled for July 2023.

### **Sewer Asset Management Plan**

The Commission applied for and received a \$30,000 grant from the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services for engineering services to develop a wastewater system asset management program. This asset plan is in a GIS format that not only maps the system but includes year of installation, material, useful life, diameter/size, and condition of sewer system. Work is scheduled to begin FY 2024.



## **Emergency Diesel Generators**

As discussed in our 2022 annual report, the electrical services, and generators at the Town's three (3) sewer pump stations are in need of replacement. The engineering design is in full swing including effects of sea level rise, concluding that we should raise the elevation of the generator pads at River Road and Steamboat Lane by two feet. Additionally, wetlands permit applications have been submitted to the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services & the Town of New Castle. Because of long lead times for purchasing the generators, physical on-site work will most likely not begin until 2025. We expect to bid on the project by May 2024.

## **Sawtelle Bridge Force Main Crossing**

The Commission applied for and received a \$100,000 grant from the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services for engineering planning and preliminary design services for the replacement of the force sewer main under the bridge deck. This was approved at the May 2023 Town Meeting and is expected to have the State's final approval in October 2023.

## **Sewer Agreement with the City of Portsmouth**

The sewer agreement the Town had with the city lapsed in 2008 and was not successfully renegotiated at that time. The Town initiated a dialogue with City officials in October 2021 and successfully negotiated a new wholesale sewer agreement in June 2023, which is a fairer rate (\$11.39 per Unit) than the retail rate (\$14.89 per Unit) we were paying to the City of Portsmouth.

This has allowed us to add to our sewer capital reserves which, as reported in the last two years, have been woefully underfunded. Further, keep in mind that the manhole remediation and the electrical systems upgrade projects will place pressure on future budgets. These two projects will either be paid for (to some degree) by the capital reserves and/or paid through increased sewer rates.

## **New Castle is a Co-Permittee of the Peirce Island Wastewater Treatment Facility**

We have been formally designated as a "co-permittee" of the Peirce Island Wastewater Treatment Facility by the EPA and NHDES. Among other things, this will increase the administrative burden on our Public Works staff and will require careful/greater adherence to City of Portsmouth sewer ordinances.

As you can see from the content of this annual report, your commission remains attentive to the integrity of the infrastructure. We are fortunate to have Chris Robillard and Aaron White who continually provide excellent operations and maintenance services to our water and sewer systems.

I would be remiss if I did not acknowledge and thank the many years of volunteer service of membership on the Commission by Walter Liff, John Ireland and Norman Houle.

- Walter Liff served for a total of 31 years of membership, 26 of those years as Chair of the Commission.
- John Ireland served for a total of 16 years of membership and was as Vice Chair during his tenure.
- Norm Houle served for a total of 18 years of membership, 5 of those years as Chair of the Commission.

Thank you, Gentlemen, for your service!

Respectfully Submitted,

Richard H. White

Chairman, Water & Sewer Commission



*Photo Courtesy of Jim Cerny*

## REPORT OF THE NEW CASTLE ENERGY COMMITTEE

The goals of the New Castle Energy Committee [NCEC] are to:

- Coordinate Town energy conservation and energy efficiency activities with municipal officials, departments, zoning and planning boards, town committees, elementary school, businesses, residents, and other community groups or activities.
- Work with town officials to develop a capital improvement plan that includes energy cost saving strategies and emission reductions.
- Develop a comprehensive energy plan or strategies for the town.
- Evaluate municipal energy use and operations on an annual basis.
- Identify for the town the cost savings, Return on Investment (ROI), as well as a payment structure over the useful life of the equipment/systems/ product.
- Identify sources of funding including regional, state, and federal grants, and organize fundraising activities.
- Recommend revisions and/or the development of regulatory and planning documents.
- Coordinate outreach and awareness activities in the community.

At the recommendation of the New Castle Energy Committee, the New Castle Town Administrator and Selectboard members gave approval, and we were accepted into the Municipal Technical Assistance grant program on February 24, 2023. NCEC conducted walk through's with Eversource in the 4 buildings: Rec Center/Library, DPW, Town Hall and Public Safety. On March 17th Margaret Dillon of SEEDS conducted the energy audits and thermal imaging of the Rec Center and DPW. The other two buildings, Town Hall and Public Safety, were completed in the fall, and the reports were completed by the end of December 2023.

The Audits covered the building envelope and thermographic imaging, existing equipment-systems and performance, and recommendations for future improvements. The Audits and weatherization improvements have been submitted to the Town Administrator for use in the budget planning process. Eversource has developed an incentive program for Towns to execute the identified energy efficiency improvements from the Energy Audits.

We also worked with the New Castle Master Plan Committee to develop an Energy Chapter that will assist the planning board on energy conservation and energy efficiency strategies.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sandra Bisset,  
Chair

## REPORT OF THE LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

I am happy to report on another busy and exciting year at our library. In addition to our robust circulation of materials, the library continues to develop a wide array of successful programming. The focus of our programming development has been to bring our community together around healthy living, technology skills, and lifelong learning topics. It's been a great year on all fronts, here's an overview of our year.

*Children's Program attendance* 1,499 – 67% increase

*Adult Program attendance* 2,267 – 195% increase

### **Adult Programming – Special Initiatives:**

- Monadnock Falconry (82 attending)
- Notes From Alaska (23 attending)
- UNH School of Marine Science & Ocean Engineering: from local coasts to global oceans (27 attending)
- Spotlight – former Boston Globe Head Librarian discussed investigation into Boston area priests (21 attending)
- Wildlife Encounters (63 attending)

### **Healthy Living Series:**

- Strength & Conditioning – Wednesdays & Fridays at 8:30am (15-31 at each class)
- Yoga – Tuesdays at 9am (18 participants)
- Walking Group – Thursdays at 8:30am (10 participants)
- Pickleball – classes & Drop-in Play (5-12 at each drop-in)
- Presentations on healthy living topics – Supplements for Bone Health, Improving Balance, Intrinsic Muscle Strengthening, Strength & Flexibility Training for Golf & Racket Sports, Strength & Conditioning for Bone Health, Boosting Your Immune System, Medical Advocacy, Nutrition for Bone Health, Healthy Living for Your Brain & Body (14-25 per class)

### **Technology Series:**

- iPhone classes (15 participants)
- Libby & NH Downloadable Books (10 attending)
- How to Make a Photobook on Shutterfly (17 attending)
- Google Docs tutorial, Excel tutorial, iPhone Photography Tips, How to Download & Listen to Podcasts

### **Adult Regular Programming:**

- Library Book Group (14 members) & Men's Book Group (13 members)
- Community Reads & Let's Talk Books gatherings (25 participants)



- Discussion series – movies, documentaries, podcasts, newspaper articles (15 participants)
- Knitting Group (12 members)
- Cookbook Club (18 members)
- Bridge (17 participants)
- Mahjong (16 participants)
- Art Classes (17 participants)

### **Children’s Programming:**

- Summer Reading Program – Wildlife Encounters brought eight exotic animals, mystery reading bags, art day, games, & puzzles (15-37 children each week)
- 1000 Books Before Kindergarten
- Thursday & Saturday Story Times
- Community & MHT BINGO
- LEGO exhibit (71 attended – 43 adults/28 children)

### **School Librarian:**

The Library Director continues to be an active member of MHT’s staff working with the children and teachers. She spent 173 hours at MHT in 2022-23 school year – weekly Library Enrichment program, book groups, biography units, research projects, author studies, provides books to MHT for reading groups and projects.

Because of the generous donations from community members we are able to provide a rich and wide variety of materials and programs at our public library - we wouldn’t be able to do it without you! If you are not a member of the library, please come in for a tour and more information about our programs.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mary Ann Driscoll  
 Chair, Library Board  
 Jane Lannon  
 Pam Stearns



*Photo courtesy of Jim Cerny*

## REPORT ROAD AGENT

Last year, the DPW yard and Caretaker's Cottage driveway were paved. This finished the work from the water line replacement the year prior. Town roads are continually repaired and evaluated for paving through our Road Surface Management System. The paving plan is updated in the Capital Improvement Program (CIP) Committee to determine future funding needs.

As a reminder, the town has adopted an ordinance relative to vegetation intruding into the right of way. Brush growing into the roads impairs sight distance and poses a safety hazard. Please keep vegetation trimmed back.

Finally, as always, the department encourages residents to put up snow stakes. When there are inches of snow on the ground, it becomes near impossible to determine exactly where the road ends and your lawn begins.

Respectfully Submitted,

Chris Robillard

Public Works Superintendent, Road Agent



## REPORT OF THE RECREATION COMMISSION

Thanks to the Great Island 5K, we purchased an indoor pickleball net and striping in 2023. We now offer pickleball at the recreation building 7 days a week. You can reserve court time by clicking on the REC Desk link on the town's website or join Drop-In Pickleball any Tuesday or Thursday from 1:30 - 3:30pm.

If you are looking to increase your fitness and meet new people, the Recreation Committee has joined forces with the New Castle Public Library to offer a Healthy Living Series. The series includes a Strength & Conditioning class every Wednesday and Friday from 8:30 - 9:30 am and a yoga class on Tuesdays from 9:00 - 10:15 am. All abilities are welcome! Classes are held at the rec building. Questions can be directed to Christine Collins at the library.

Our annual Egg Hunt will be held on Saturday, March 30th at the New Castle Common. All children up to 6th grade are welcome. Grandparents be sure to bring your grandchildren!

Did you know that New Castle Recreation has a partnership with Rye Recreation? All New Castle residents are encouraged to sign up for any of the many Rye Rec. offerings. Visit <https://rye.recdesk.com/Community/Home>

Lastly, please join the 31st Great Island 5K on Sunday, October 13th. Town residents can enter for half price at [www.greatisland5k.org](http://www.greatisland5k.org). All runners and walkers are welcome! Look for details about our walking group as part of the Healthy Living Series in September.

Respectively Submitted,

Guy Stearns

## REPORT OF THE TOWN HISTORIAN

This past year has been a very busy one for your Town Historian. The major event of the year was organizing, planning and bringing to fruition the town's 400<sup>th</sup> anniversary event at New Castle Common. We had a Living History encampment for two days in June and a wonderful barn dance which was enthusiastically enjoyed by many. A big thank you to all who helped get this organized.

In the spring I presented the Boston Post Cane to Ted Barton and Elizabeth Thayer to honor them for being the two oldest residents of the town. I also spent every Wednesday afternoon at the Historical Society transcribing old documents and putting them online to help researchers.

Here are some of the requests I've handled this past year:

Book author/magazine writer – 2 requests for historical research

Genealogical info. requested for New Castle families – 6

New Castle house histories – 3

General New Castle historical requests – 2

New Castle cemetery research requests – 2

Real estate agents' requests – 2

New Castle Congregation Church request

New Castle Master Plan – research to correct historical errors

Peppercorn Ceremony – researched and wrote information for 4<sup>th</sup> of July ceremony

In October I moved to Washington state but have continued my duties as Town Historian. Feel free to contact me if you have any historical/genealogical questions and I'll be glad to assist you.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol White  
New Castle Town Historian  
cahwhite@comcast.net



## REPORT OF THE SUPERVISORS OF THE CHECKLIST

The three elected Supervisors of the Checklist are responsible for maintaining the accuracy and integrity of the voter records for the town of New Castle. Our tasks include registering new voters and making changes to the existing voter database in the cases of the death of a resident, voters moving out of town, or changes in party affiliation.

The Supervisors work closely with the Town Clerk and Town Moderator to ensure that election activities occur without incident. They prepare the voter check-in and check-out books and after the polls close, assist in preparing the documents submitted to the Secretary of State. They are also responsible for maintaining the New Castle voter data that is contained in the State's election database.

The Supervisors meet in formal session several times throughout the year where new voters may register and changes are made to the electronic database. These sessions are advertised on the Town's website. For those wishing to register to vote, please remember that you must bring a photo ID, proof of citizenship (birth certificate, passport, or naturalization papers), and proof of domicile which could be a copy of a lease, car registration, or utility bill.

If you want to see democracy in action, volunteer at an upcoming election. Be part of the process.

Respectfully Submitted,

Carl Roediger

Anne Miller

Julie Thomas



*Photo courtesy of Jim Cerny*

## REPORT OF THE CEMETERY TRUSTEES

In 2023, we sold 10 plots at Oceanside Cemetery totaling \$15,600, and 3 plots at Riverside's newly created "Shed lots" totaling \$2,800, equaling \$18,400 deposited in the Town's General Fund.

It was a great loss for the cemetery trustees this year to lose a long-time member and resident, Carol White. We will miss all her work with us as the past cemetery chairwoman and her 10 years as a cemetery trustee. However, we are gaining a new member and longtime resident that we are very excited about, Rodney Rowland!

Currently, the Cemetery Trustees are responsible for the constant maintenance of the 5 main cemeteries in Town: Oceanside (at the Common), Riverside (at the Causeway), Frost (in the center of town), Prescott (behind the Historical Society), and Marvin (behind the school). Only Oceanside Cemetery has plots for sale.

Cemetery Trustees meet regularly on the third Wed. at 4:30 each month. For anyone interested in purchasing a plot at Oceanside or reviewing the Rules and Regs of the cemeteries, please refer to the website at [newcastlenh.org](http://newcastlenh.org) and go to Cemetery Trustees. We are happy to walk you through the process in person as well. One of our big projects this year was to have the remainder of Oceanside Cemetery surveyed by a professional engineering company and to have the exterior of the cemetery marked with row numbers to make it easier to find a plot.

### **2023 New Castle Deaths:** (average age of death: 86 years old )

- Arsenault, Joanne Died Jan. 15, 2023 Age 93
- Barrie, Sylvia Jean (Smith) Died May 6, 2023 Age 86.
- Borden, David Anthony Died May 3, 2023 Age 87.
- Crosby, Phyllis Died March 23, 2023 Age 94
- Correll, Virginia L. Died October 13, 2023 Age 80.
- Dubois, Paul Arthur Died February 14, 2023 Age 81.
- Homicz, Alphonse(Skip) Died Jan. 10, 2023 Age 77
- Jensen, Carl Died March 20, 2023 Age 85.
- McCarthy, Nancy Died January 23, 2023 Age 91.

**2023 Burials in Oceanside & Riverside Cemeteries, New Castle:**

- Barrie, Sylvia Jean (Smith) Died May 6, 2023 Full Burial/ May 19, 2023 Oceanside
- Bekins, Nancy (Connolly)(74) Died June 11, 2003 Cremation/ Sept. 27 2023 Riverside  
Shed lot
- Borden, David Anthony Died May 2, 2023 Cremation/ June 10, 2023 Riverside
- Connolly, Gerald W. Jr. Died Feb. 11, 2005 Cremation /Sept. 27, 2023 Riverside  
Shed lot
- Connolly, Mark M. (63) Died April 13, 2019 Cremation/ Sept. 27, 2023 Riverside  
Shed lot
- Correll, Virginia L. Died Oct. 13, 2023 Cremation /Oct. 28, 2023 Riverside
- Day, Betty Died April 5, 2015 Cremation / Aug. 15, 2023 Riverside
- Dubois, Paul Arthur(81) Died Feb. 14, 2023 Cremation /May 16, 2023 Oceanside
- Jensen, Carl (85) Died Mar. 20, 2023 Full Burial/ May 12, 2023 Oceanside
- Masi, Kathleen Clinton (69) Died Dec.10, 2018 Cremation/July 2, 2023 Oceanside
- McCarthy, John J. Jr. Died Aug.6, 2012 Cremation/ May 13, 2023 Riverside
- McCarthy, Nancy Died Jan.23, 2023 Cremation/ May 13, 2023 Riverside

Respectfully Submitted,

Terri Golter  
Maisley Jones  
Rodney Rowland



*Photo courtesy of Jim Cerny*

## REPORT OF THE BUILDING INSPECTOR

The New Castle Building Department remains to be very busy with all the new construction and renovations going on around town. Currently we are working under the following codes:

2018 International Residential Code

2018 International Building Code

2018 International Plumbing Code

2018 International Mechanical Code

2018 International Energy Conservation Code

2018 International Swimming Pool and Spa Code

2018 International Existing Building Code

2020, National Electric Code

2021 International Fire Code

A total of 264 permits were issued in the fiscal year 2023.

The total revenue generated was \$88,361.89, that represents \$11,207,759 in construction value, the following list represents the areas that the permits were issued.

Building 96	Electrical 41	Plumbing 28	Mechanical 61
Demolition 12	Generator 13	Entrance 1	Bldg Permit Extension 4
Shoreland 8			

Respectfully Submitted,  
Russ Bookholz  
Building Inspector / Code Enforcement Officer



## TRUSTEES OF THE TRUST FUNDS

New Castle's Trust Fund Assets totaled \$1,916,585 as of fiscal year ending June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2023, up from \$1,527,398 at the end of the prior year which is attributed to town warrant article receipts of \$738,267 less disbursements of \$400,189 plus income of \$51,089.

The Trustees of the Trust Funds (TOTF) hired Cambridge Trust Company (Cambridge) on July 31<sup>st</sup>, 2015. They currently administer two portfolios on behalf of the Trustees.

Performance Summary Reports for both the **New Castle Trust Funds** and **New Castle Capital Reserve (Expendable) Funds** as of June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2023, are included on a subsequent page of this report.

During FY 2022-2023, the Trustees of the Trust Funds held four meetings to manage Trustee matters and to support timely approval of fund distribution requests.

### Trust Funds

The Trustees manage several Trust funds: The Sidewalk Trust Fund, Marchand Fund, Library, and the Cemetery Maintenance Common Trust Fund. These Trust Funds are invested in a managed portfolio account at Cambridge. Sub-accounting for each of the trust funds was maintained by the investment advisor and reported to the Trustees monthly. The market value of the Trust Fund, excluding the Sidewalk Trust Fund on June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2023, was \$348,523. The fund's total annual return, before management fees, was down 6.70%. The portfolio asset allocation is comprised of cash/cash equivalents (1%), Fixed Income (54%), Equity (39%) and Alternatives (1%). The Sidewalk Trust Fund is maintained at Cambridge Trust and is kept in a checking and savings account totaling \$248,269 at 6/30/23.

## Capital Reserve (Expendable) Funds

The Trustees manage several capital reserve funds and expendable trusts: Special Education Fund, Tuition Expendable Trust Fund, (School) Grounds Expendable Trust, Town Vehicle & Equipment Trust Fund, Roads and Streets Capital Reserve Fund, Town Government Building and Facilities Capital Reserve Fund, Sewer, Water Department Expendable Trust Fund, WSC Sewer Capital Reserve Fund, and the WSC Water Capital Reserve Fund. These funds are invested in an expendable capital reserve fund account at Cambridge. Sub-accounting for each of the expendable capital reserve funds was maintained by the investment advisor and reported to the Trustees monthly.

Per RSAs in effect at the time of the creation of the Investment Policy Statement, the expendable capital reserve funds are conservatively invested in cash, certificates of deposits and a Federated Money Market Government Fund, which is why they are not assessed a fee by Cambridge.

The market value of the New Castle (expendable) capital reserve portfolio as of June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2023, was \$1,319,793 including School Funds (\$320,868) (Special Education, School Tuition and School Building). The fund's total annual return for the period was 2.64%.

A complete list and detailed summary of all Funds (Trust Funds and Capital Reserve Funds) overseen by the Trustees can be found on the Town website: [www.newcastlenh.org](http://www.newcastlenh.org).

### TOTF Activities during the FY 07/01/22 - 06/30/23:

During the Fiscal Year, the TOTF accomplished the following:

- Trustee Onboarding Policy – an electronic manual for efficiently onboarding new TOTF members was maintained in Fiscal 2023.
- Maintained List/Summary of all Town funds managed by TOTF can be found on the Town website. It provides: Title, Purpose, Agent to Expend, established date, RSA, along with a typed summary of the document which created the fund.

- The Trustees of the trust funds were sad to accept the resignation of James Wilbur as Treasurer. James did a great job creating electronic spreadsheets with month receipts disbursements and income for all funds. Also, Jim created the Trustee Onboarding Policy during his tenure. We are fortunate that Jim volunteered to be second alternate on the Board of Trustees.

### Trustees of the Trust Funds Website Information

The Town's website includes relevant information pertaining to the TOTF. The purpose of the TOTF section of the Town website is to keep residents of New Castle informed about the trust funds overseen by the Trustees, and to provide the required disclosure under RSA 910A (NH Right-to-Know Law). The website lists the next meeting date and agenda and the meeting minutes from prior meetings. Meeting notices are posted on the Town Calendar as well as bulletin boards located at the Town Hall and next to the New Castle Post Office. Applicable state laws (RSA's) will also be listed on the website for easy reference.

### The current Trustees of the Trust Funds and Terms:

Tim Driscoll, Chair (2024)

Ruth Zikaras, Treasurer (2026)

David Fitts, Secretary (2025)

Julia Thomas, First Alternate

James Wilbur, Second Alternate

**TOWN OF NEW CASTLE CAPITAL RESERVE FUNDS (EXPENDABLE)**: In Expendable Funds, both principal and interest may be spent. The Department of Justice TYPE classification for these funds is CAPITAL RESERVE.

1. Special Education Fund
  - a. Purpose – Meeting the unanticipated expenses of educating educationally disabled children.
  - b. DOJ Purpose: Capital Reserve
  - c. Agent to Expend – School Board
  - d. Established: March 13, 2002, at New Castle School District meeting, Article 2.
  - e. RSA 35:1-b
2. Tuition Expendable Trust Fund
  - a. Purpose – Meeting the expenses of unbudgeted students.
  - b. DOJ Purpose: Educational Purposes
  - c. Agent to Expend – School Board – Majority vote required.
  - d. Established March 14, 2017, at New Castle School District meeting Article 4. (Replaces previous fund created March 9, 2005).
  - e. RSA 198:20-c
3. (School) Grounds Expendable Trust
  - a. Given name: “Grounds Expendable Trust.”
  - b. Purpose – Renovating, maintaining, and performing professional studies to the Maude H. Trefethen School.
  - c. DOJ Purpose: Maintenance & Repair
  - d. Agent to Expend – School Board, Majority Vote Required
  - e. Established March 11, 2009, at New Castle School Board Meeting, Article 4.
  - f. RSA 35
4. Town Vehicle & Equipment Trust Fund
  - a. Purpose –This fund replaced Fire Truck Capital Reserve Fund.
  - b. DOJ Purpose: Capital Reserve
  - c. Agent to Expend – Select Board
  - d. Established May 13, 1997, at NC Town Meeting, Article 10; modified 5/10/2011
  - e. RSA 35
5. Roads and Streets Capital Reserve Fund
  - a. Purpose – Maintain town roads and streets.
  - b. DOJ Purpose: Maintenance & Repair
  - c. Agent to Expend – Select Board; Majority vote required.
  - d. Established May 10, 2016, at Town Meeting, Article XIV.
  - e. RSA 35:1
6. Town Government Building and Facilities Capital Reserve Fund
  - a. Purpose – Capital repairs, maintenance, and improvements of town buildings
  - b. DOJ Purpose: Capital Reserve
  - c. Agent to Expend – Select Board
  - d. Established at May 8, 2018 Town Meeting, Article XV.
  - e. RSA 35:1
- 7a. Sewer (funded by taxes)
  - a. Given name: Water and Sewer Dept. Depreciation Trust Fund, (designated in the Warrant for Sewer).



- b. Purpose – Maintenance, repair, and replacement of Sewer Department facilities
  - c. DOJ Purpose: Capital Reserve
  - d. Agent to Expend – Select Board, 2/3 vote required.
  - e. Authorized by the passage of Article IX, at the May 12, 2009, town meeting; replaced the Water and Sewer Department Depreciation Trust Fund.
  - f. RSA 35
- 7b. Water Department Expendable Trust Fund (funded by taxes).
- a. Purpose – Maintenance, repair, and replacement of Water Department facilities
  - b. DOJ Purpose: Capital Reserve
  - c. Agent to Expend: Select Board
  - d. Established May 12, 2009, at Town Meeting, Article X.
  - e. RSA 31:19a
- 8a. WSC Sewer Capital Reserve Fund (funded by rates)
- a. Purpose - Capital Reserve Fund under provisions in RSA 35:7, for purposes defined in RSA 35:1. Fund to be established only from surplus sewer rentals (rates paid), and no part thereof shall be made from appropriations by the Town.
  - b. DOJ Purpose: Capital Reserve
  - c. Agent to expend – Water and Sewer Commission
  - d. Established January 9, 2019, at Water & Sewer Commission meeting.
  - e. RSA 35:7 and RSA 35:1 and RSA 35:15
- 8b. WSC Water Capital Reserve Fund (funded by rates)
- a. Purpose - Capital Reserve Fund under provisions in RSA 35:7, for purposes defined in RSA 35:1. Fund to be established only from surplus water rentals (rates paid), and no part thereof shall be made from appropriations by the Town.
  - b. DOJ Purpose: Capital Reserve
  - c. Agent to expend – Water and Sewer Commission
  - d. Established January 9, 2019, at Water & Sewer Commission meeting.
  - e. RSA 35:7 and RSA 35:1 and RSA 35:15

**TOWN OF NEW CASTLE TRUST FUNDS**

The Dept. of Justice TYPE classification for these funds is TRUST.

1. Sidewalk Trust Fund - This is a Trust Fund, funded with private funds only. It is Expendable.
  - a. Purpose – Installing new municipal sidewalks and authorizing the Select Board to accept gifts, legacies, devices, or grants, if any, which may be available to said purpose. No public funds are to be solicited, appropriated, or accepted.
  - b. DOJ Purpose: Discretionary Benefit of the Town
  - c. Agent to Expend – Select Board.
  - d. Established May 12, 2015, at Town Meeting.
  - e. Authorized by RSA 31:19
2. Marchand Fund - This is a Trust created through a Will.
  - a. Given name: Andree Marchand Fund
  - b. Purpose - For the common good and welfare, to enhance and appreciate the public grounds of the Town, and, more specifically, that portion known as Great Island Common. Acquire by purchase seeds, flowering plants, shrubs, bushes and trees to be used only at the Great Island Common. No man-made construction authorized.
  - c. Non-expendable – Only income may be used for authorized expenditures. Any accrued income not expended for a period of three (3) years shall become principal.
  - d. Agent to Expend – Trustees of Trust Funds

- e. Established November 15, 1971
- f. Authorized by Charles Cohen will.
- 3. Cemetery Maintenance - This is a Common Trust Fund.
  - a. Purpose – Cemetery Funds
  - b. Non-Expendable
  - c. Agent to Expend - Cemetery Trustees
  - d. Established 27 Feb 1900
  - e. Authorized by RSA Title XXVI, Cemeteries; Burials; Dead Bodies, Ch 289, Cemeteries, Cemetery Trustees, Sec 289:9
- 4. Library
  - a. Purpose –Interest to be issued on a quarterly, semi-annual or annual basis for the purchase of books. Principal to be made available to Library Trustees with appropriate notice.
  - b. DOJ Purpose: Library
  - c. Agent to Expend – Library Trustees
  - d. Established May 31, 1996.
  - e. Authorized by RSA Title XVI, Libraries, Ch, 202-A, Sec 202-A:22



**TOWN OF NEW CASTLE,  
NEW HAMPSHIRE**

**ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT**

**AS OF AND FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED  
JUNE 30, 2023**

**TOWN OF NEW CASTLE, NEW HAMPSHIRE**  
**ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT**  
**AS OF AND FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED**  
**JUNE 30, 2023**

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# PLODZIK & SANDERSON

*Professional Association/Certified Public Accountants*

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## ***INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT***

To the Members of the Board of Selectmen  
Town of New Castle  
New Castle, New Hampshire

### **Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements**

#### ***Adverse and Unmodified Opinions***

We have audited the financial statements of the governmental activities, business-type activities, each major governmental and proprietary fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Town of New Castle, as of and for the year ended June 30, 2023, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Town of New Castle's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

#### *Summary of Opinions*

<b><i>Opinion Unit</i></b>	<b><i>Type of Opinion</i></b>
Governmental Activities	Adverse
Business-type Activities	Adverse
Water Enterprise Fund	Adverse
Sewer Enterprise Fund	Adverse
General Fund	Unmodified
Capital Project Fund	Unmodified
Aggregate Remaining Fund Information	Unmodified

#### ***Adverse Opinion on Governmental Activities, Business-type Activities and Proprietary Funds***

In our opinion, because of the significance of the matter discussed in the Matters Giving Rise to Adverse Opinion on Governmental Activities, Business-type Activities and Proprietary Funds section of the report, the accompanying financial statements do not present fairly the financial position of the Town of New Castle, as of June 30, 2023, or the changes in financial position in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

#### ***Unmodified Opinions on the Major Governmental Fund and Aggregate Remaining Fund Information***

In our opinion, accompanying the financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the major governmental fund and the aggregate remaining fund information for the Town of New Castle, as of June 30, 2023, and the respective changes in financial position for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

#### ***Basis for Adverse and Unmodified Opinions***

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAS). Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are required to be independent of the Town of New Castle and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audit. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our adverse and unmodified audit opinions.

*Town of New Castle  
Independent Auditor's Report*

***Matters Giving Rise to Adverse Opinion on Governmental Activities, Business-type Activities, and Proprietary Funds***

As discussed in Note 1-B to the financial statements, management has not recorded certain capital assets and related accumulated depreciation in the governmental activities, business-type activities, and proprietary funds and, accordingly, has not recorded depreciation expense on those assets. Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that those capital assets be capitalized and depreciated, which would increase the assets and net position and change the expenses of the governmental activities, business-type activities, and proprietary funds. The amount by which this departure would affect the assets, net position, and expenses of the governmental activities, business-type activities and proprietary funds has not been determined.

As discussed in Note 1-B to the financial statements, management has not recorded the long-term costs of retirement health care costs and obligations for other postemployment benefits related to the single employer plan in the governmental activities, business-type activities, and proprietary funds. Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that those costs be recorded, which would increase the assets, liabilities, decrease the net position, and increase the expenses of the governmental activities, business-type activities, and proprietary funds. The amount by which this departure would affect the assets, liabilities, net position, and expenses on the governmental activities, business-type activities and proprietary funds has not been determined.

***Emphasis of Matter – Change in Accounting Principle***

As discussed in Note 2-C to the financial statements, in the year ending June 30, 2023, the Town adopted new accounting guidance, GASB Statement No. 96, *Subscription-Based Information Technology Arrangements*. Our opinion is not modified with respect to this matter.

***Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements***

The Town of New Castle's management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, and for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is required to evaluate whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the Town of New Castle's ability to continue as a going concern for twelve months beyond the financial statement date, including any currently known information that may raise substantial doubt shortly thereafter.

***Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements***

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinions. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with GAAS will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Misstatements are considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, they would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user based on the financial statements.

In performing an audit in accordance with GAAS, we:

- Exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Town of New Castle's internal control. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluate the overall presentation of the financial statements.

***Town of New Castle  
Independent Auditor's Report***

- Conclude whether, in our judgment, there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the Town of New Castle's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit, significant audit findings, and certain internal control-related matters that we identified during the audit.

***Required Supplementary Information***

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that the following be presented to supplement the basic financial statements:

- Schedule of the Town's Proportionate Share of Net Pension Liability,
- Schedule of Town Contributions - Pensions
- Schedule of the Town's Proportionate Share of Net Other Postemployment Benefits Liability,
- Schedule of Town Contributions – Other Postemployment Benefits, and
- Notes to the Required Supplementary Information

Such information is the responsibility of management and, although not a part of the basic financial statements, is required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board who considers it to be an essential part of financial reporting for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic, or historical context. We have applied certain limited procedures to the required supplementary information in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, which consisted of inquiries of management about the methods of preparing the information and comparing the information for consistency with management's responses to our inquiries, the basic financial statements, and other knowledge we obtained during our audit of the basic financial statements. We do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the information because the limited procedures do not provide us with sufficient evidence to express an opinion or provide any assurance.

Management has omitted the Management's Discussion and Analysis that accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require to be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such missing information, although not a part of the basic financial statements, is required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board who considers it to be an essential part of financial reporting for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic, or historical context. Our opinions on the basic financial statements are not affected by this missing information.

***Supplementary Information***

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming opinions on the financial statements that collectively comprise the Town of New Castle's basic financial statements. The combining and individual fund schedules are presented for purposes of additional analysis and are not a required part of the basic financial statements.

The combining and individual fund financial schedules are the responsibility of management and was derived from and relates directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements. Such information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements or to the basic financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. In our opinion, the combining and individual fund schedules are fairly stated, in all material respects, in relation to the basic financial statements as a whole.

February 27, 2024  
Concord, New Hampshire

*Plodzik & Sanderson  
Professional Association*

***BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS***



**EXHIBIT A**  
**TOWN OF NEW CASTLE, NEW HAMPSHIRE**  
**Statement of Net Position**  
**June 30, 2023**

	Governmental Activities	Business-type Activities	Total
<b>ASSETS</b>			
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 2,722,400	\$ 685,336	\$ 3,407,736
Investments	1,122,840	80,954	1,203,794
Taxes receivables	4,768	-	4,768
Account receivables	9,985	222,125	232,110
Intergovernmental receivable	4,244	20,046	24,290
Internal balances	(14,921)	14,921	-
Tax dedeed property, subject to resale	1,029	-	1,029
Capital assets:			
Other capital assets, net of depreciation	1,160,079	-	1,160,079
Total assets	<u>5,010,424</u>	<u>1,023,382</u>	<u>6,033,806</u>
<b>DEFERRED OUTFLOWS OF RESOURCES</b>			
Amounts related to pensions	409,156	14,232	423,388
Amounts related to other postemployment benefits	16,372	569	16,941
Total deferred outflows of resources	<u>425,528</u>	<u>14,801</u>	<u>440,329</u>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>			
Accounts payable	120,850	-	120,850
Accrued salaries and benefits	56,647	1,256	57,903
Intergovernmental payable	-	140,186	140,186
Escrow and performance deposits	16,001	-	16,001
Long-term liabilities:			
Due within one year	155,515	-	155,515
Due in more than one year	6,985,659	61,459	7,047,118
Total liabilities	<u>7,334,672</u>	<u>202,901</u>	<u>7,537,573</u>
<b>DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES</b>			
Unavailable revenue - overpayments	-	2,669	2,669
Amounts related to pensions	84,108	2,925	87,033
Total deferred inflows of resources	<u>84,108</u>	<u>5,594</u>	<u>89,702</u>
<b>NET POSITION</b>			
Net investment in capital assets	(4,129,055)	-	(4,129,055)
Restricted	334,201	829,688	1,163,889
Unrestricted	1,812,026	-	1,812,026
Total net position	<u>\$ (1,982,828)</u>	<u>\$ 829,688</u>	<u>\$ (1,153,140)</u>

The Notes to the Basic Financial Statements are an integral part of this statement.

**EXHIBIT B**  
**TOWN OF NEW CASTLE, NEW HAMPSHIRE**  
**Statement of Activities**  
**For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2023**

	Expenses	Program Revenues		Net (Expense) Revenue and Change in Net Position		Total
		Charges for Services	Operating Grants and Contributions	Governmental Activities	Business-type Activities	
<b>Governmental activities:</b>						
General government	\$ 685,273	\$ 32,723	\$ 969	\$ (651,581)	\$ -	\$ (651,581)
Public safety	1,081,282	57,056	68,524	(955,702)	-	(955,702)
Highways and streets	604,770	-	36,455	(568,315)	-	(568,315)
Sanitation	165,373	-	-	(165,373)	-	(165,373)
Health	33,052	-	-	(33,052)	-	(33,052)
Culture and recreation	321,365	156,131	-	(165,234)	-	(165,234)
Conservation	16,440	-	-	(16,440)	-	(16,440)
Total governmental activities	<u>2,907,555</u>	<u>245,910</u>	<u>105,948</u>	<u>(2,555,697)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(2,555,697)</u>
<b>Business-type activities:</b>						
Water	147,819	150,607	220	-	3,008	3,008
Sewer	552,168	674,685	-	-	122,517	122,517
Total business-type activities	<u>699,987</u>	<u>825,292</u>	<u>220</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>125,525</u>	<u>125,525</u>
Total	<u>\$ 3,607,542</u>	<u>\$ 1,071,202</u>	<u>\$ 106,168</u>	<u>(2,555,697)</u>	<u>125,525</u>	<u>(2,430,172)</u>
<b>General revenues:</b>						
Taxes:						
Property				2,578,519	-	2,578,519
Other				21,540	-	21,540
Motor vehicle permit fees				331,679	-	331,679
Licenses and other fees				105,956	-	105,956
Grants and contributions not restricted to specific programs				87,916	-	87,916
Unrestricted investment earnings				84,351	13,588	97,939
Miscellaneous				83,103	-	83,103
Total general revenues				<u>3,293,064</u>	<u>13,588</u>	<u>3,306,652</u>
Transfers				<u>5,700</u>	<u>(5,700)</u>	<u>-</u>
Total general revenues and capital outlay expenses				<u>3,298,764</u>	<u>7,888</u>	<u>3,306,652</u>
Change in net position				<u>743,067</u>	<u>133,413</u>	<u>876,480</u>
Net position, beginning, as restated (see Note 18)				<u>(2,725,895)</u>	<u>696,275</u>	<u>(2,029,620)</u>
Net position, ending				<u>\$ (1,982,828)</u>	<u>\$ 829,688</u>	<u>\$ (1,153,140)</u>

The Notes to the Basic Financial Statements are an integral part of this statement.

**EXHIBIT C-1**  
**TOWN OF NEW CASTLE, NEW HAMPSHIRE**  
**Governmental Funds**  
**Balance Sheet**  
**June 30, 2023**

	General	Capital Project	Other Governmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds
<b>ASSETS</b>				
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 1,779,872	\$ -	\$ 113,853	\$ 1,893,725
Investments	509,920	-	314,724	824,644
Taxes receivable	4,768	-	-	4,768
Accounts receivable	9,985	-	-	9,985
Intergovernmental receivable	4,244	-	-	4,244
Tax deeded property, subject to resale	1,029	-	-	1,029
Restricted assets:				
Cash and cash equivalents	828,675	-	-	828,675
Investments	298,196	-	-	298,196
Total assets	<u>\$ 3,436,689</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 428,577</u>	<u>\$ 3,865,266</u>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>				
Accounts payable	\$ 120,850	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 120,850
Accrued salaries and benefits	56,647	-	-	56,647
Interfund payable	14,921	-	-	14,921
Escrow and performance deposits	16,001	-	-	16,001
Total liabilities	<u>208,419</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>208,419</u>
<b>FUND BALANCES</b>				
Nonspendable	1,029	-	268,735	269,764
Restricted	492,735	-	65,466	558,201
Committed	1,009,152	-	94,376	1,103,528
Assigned	67,008	-	-	67,008
Unassigned	1,658,346	-	-	1,658,346
Total fund balances	<u>3,228,270</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>428,577</u>	<u>3,656,847</u>
Total liabilities and fund balances	<u>\$ 3,436,689</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 428,577</u>	<u>\$ 3,865,266</u>

The Notes to the Basic Financial Statements are an integral part of this statement.

**EXHIBIT C-2**  
**TOWN OF NEW CASTLE, NEW HAMPSHIRE**  
**Reconciliation of the Balance Sheet - Governmental Funds to the Statement of Net Position**  
**June 30, 2023**

Amounts reported for governmental activities in the Statement of Net Position are different because:			
Total fund balances of governmental funds (Exhibit C-1)		\$	3,656,847
Capital assets used in governmental activities are not current financial resources, therefore, are not reported in the governmental funds.			
Cost	\$	1,880,306	
Less accumulated depreciation		<u>(720,227)</u>	
			1,160,079
Pension and other postemployment benefit (OPEB) related deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources are not due and payable in the current year, and therefore, are not reported in the governmental funds as follows:			
Deferred outflows of resources related to pensions	\$	409,156	
Deferred inflows of resources related to pensions		(84,108)	
Deferred outflows of resources related to OPEB		<u>16,372</u>	
			341,420
Long-term liabilities are not due and payable in the current period, therefore, are not reported in the governmental funds.			
Note	\$	5,289,134	
Compensated absences		97,997	
Net pension liability		1,625,787	
Other postemployment benefits		<u>128,256</u>	
			<u>(7,141,174)</u>
Net position of governmental activities (Exhibit A)			<u><u>\$ (1,982,828)</u></u>



**EXHIBIT C-3**  
**TOWN OF NEW CASTLE, NEW HAMPSHIRE**  
**Governmental Funds**  
**Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balances**  
**For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2023**

	General	Capital Project	Other Governmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds
<b>REVENUES</b>				
Taxes	\$ 2,600,059	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,600,059
Licenses and permits	437,635	-	-	437,635
Intergovernmental	192,895	-	-	192,895
Charges for services	245,910	-	-	245,910
Miscellaneous	146,719	-	21,704	168,423
Total revenues	<u>3,623,218</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>21,704</u>	<u>3,644,922</u>
<b>EXPENDITURES</b>				
Current:				
General government	673,334	-	3,887	677,221
Public safety	1,169,690	-	-	1,169,690
Highways and streets	138,175	-	-	138,175
Sanitation	165,373	-	-	165,373
Health	33,052	-	-	33,052
Culture and recreation	319,914	-	-	319,914
Conservation	16,440	-	-	16,440
Capital outlay	499,609	1	-	499,610
Total expenditures	<u>3,015,587</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>3,887</u>	<u>3,019,475</u>
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over (under) expenditures	<u>607,631</u>	<u>(1)</u>	<u>17,817</u>	<u>625,447</u>
<b>OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)</b>				
Transfers in	9,639	-	-	9,639
Transfers out	-	(3,939)	-	(3,939)
Note proceeds	-	5,289,134	-	5,289,134
Total other financing sources (uses)	<u>9,639</u>	<u>5,285,195</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>5,294,834</u>
Net change in fund balances	617,270	5,285,194	17,817	5,920,281
Fund balances, beginning, as restated (see Note 18)	2,611,000	(5,285,194)	410,760	(2,263,434)
Fund balances, ending	<u>\$ 3,228,270</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 428,577</u>	<u>\$ 3,656,847</u>

The Notes to the Basic Financial Statements are an integral part of this statement.

**EXHIBIT C-4**  
**TOWN OF NEW CASTLE, NEW HAMPSHIRE**  
*Reconciliation of the Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and*  
*Changes in Fund Balances - Governmental Funds to the Statement of Activities*  
*For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2023*

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Amounts reported for governmental activities in the Statement of Activities are different because:

Net change in fund balances of governmental funds (Exhibit C-3)		\$ 5,920,281
Governmental funds report capital outlays as expenditures, while governmental activities report depreciation expense to allocate those expenditures over the life of the assets.		
Capitalized capital outlay	\$ 207,969	
Depreciation expense	<u>(106,887)</u>	101,082
Transfers in and out between governmental funds are eliminated on the Statement of Activities.		
Transfers in	\$ (3,939)	
Transfers out	<u>3,939</u>	-
Proceeds from issuing long-term liabilities provide current financial resources to governmental funds, but issuing debt increases long-term liabilities in the Statement of Net Position. Repayment of long-term liabilities is an expenditure in the governmental funds, but the repayment reduces long-term liabilities in the Statement of Net Position.		
Proceeds of debt		(5,289,134)
Some expenses reported in the Statement of Activities do not require the use of current financial resources, and therefore, are not reported		
Increase in compensated absences payable	\$ (8,503)	
Net change in net pension liability, and deferred outflows and inflows of resources related to pensions	18,927	
Net change in net other postemployment benefits liability and deferred outflows and inflows of resources related to other postemployment benefits	<u>414</u>	10,838
Changes in net position of governmental activities (Exhibit B)		<u><u>\$ 743,067</u></u>

**EXHIBIT D**  
**TOWN OF NEW CASTLE, NEW HAMPSHIRE**  
**Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balance**  
**Budget and Actual (Non-GAAP Budgetary Basis)**  
**General Fund**  
**For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2023**

	Budgeted Amounts		Actual	Variance
	Original	Final		Positive (Negative)
<b>REVENUES</b>				
Taxes	\$ 2,569,428	\$ 2,569,428	\$ 2,600,059	\$ 30,631
Licenses and permits	452,800	452,800	434,360	(18,440)
Intergovernmental	116,715	116,715	192,895	76,180
Charges for services	198,020	198,020	245,850	47,830
Miscellaneous	26,802	26,802	88,726	61,924
Total revenues	<u>3,363,765</u>	<u>3,363,765</u>	<u>3,561,890</u>	<u>198,125</u>
<b>EXPENDITURES</b>				
Current:				
General government	655,283	655,283	673,334	(18,051)
Public safety	1,273,895	1,273,895	1,169,690	104,205
Highways and streets	170,465	170,465	138,175	32,290
Sanitation	180,300	180,300	165,373	14,927
Health	35,777	35,777	33,052	2,725
Welfare	2,400	2,400	-	2,400
Culture and recreation	336,242	336,242	304,871	31,371
Conservation	19,218	19,218	18,768	450
Debt service:				
Interest	53,000	53,000	-	53,000
Capital outlay	322,235	445,969	564,289	(118,320)
Total expenditures	<u>3,048,815</u>	<u>3,172,549</u>	<u>3,067,552</u>	<u>104,997</u>
Excess of revenues over expenditures	<u>314,950</u>	<u>191,216</u>	<u>494,338</u>	<u>303,122</u>
<b>OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)</b>				
Transfers in	50	123,784	266,454	142,670
Transfers out	(590,000)	(590,000)	(590,000)	-
Total other financing sources (uses)	<u>(589,950)</u>	<u>(466,216)</u>	<u>(323,546)</u>	<u>142,670</u>
Net change in fund balances	<u>\$ (275,000)</u>	<u>\$ (275,000)</u>	170,792	<u>\$ 445,792</u>
Increase in restricted fund balance			(11,262)	
Unassigned fund balance, beginning			1,498,816	
Unassigned fund balance, ending			<u>\$ 1,658,346</u>	

The Notes to the Basic Financial Statements are an integral part of this statement.

**EXHIBIT E-1**  
**TOWN OF NEW CASTLE, NEW HAMPSHIRE**  
**Proprietary Funds**  
**Statement of Net Position**  
**June 30, 2023**

	Business-type Activities		
	Enterprise Funds		Total
	Water	Sewer	Enterprise Funds
<b>ASSETS</b>			
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 322,052	\$ 363,284	\$ 685,336
Investments	47,692	33,262	80,954
Accounts receivable	40,874	181,251	222,125
Intergovernmental receivable	20,046	-	20,046
Internal balances	10,109	4,812	14,921
Total assets	<u>440,773</u>	<u>582,609</u>	<u>1,023,382</u>
<b>DEFERRED OUTFLOWS OF RESOURCES</b>			
Amounts related to pensions	7,178	7,054	14,232
Amounts related to other postemployment benefits	287	282	569
Total deferred outflows of resources	<u>7,465</u>	<u>7,336</u>	<u>14,801</u>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>			
Current liabilities:			
Accrued salaries and benefits	628	628	1,256
Intergovernmental	50,391	89,795	140,186
Long term liabilities:			
Due in more than one year	31,019	30,440	61,459
Total liabilities	<u>82,038</u>	<u>120,863</u>	<u>202,901</u>
<b>DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES</b>			
Unavailable revenue - overpayments	2,669	-	2,669
Amounts related to pensions	1,475	1,450	2,925
Total deferred inflows of resources	<u>4,144</u>	<u>1,450</u>	<u>5,594</u>
<b>NET POSITION</b>			
Restricted	<u>\$ 362,056</u>	<u>\$ 467,632</u>	<u>\$ 829,688</u>

The Notes to the Basic Financial Statements are an integral part of this statement.



**EXHIBIT E-2**  
**TOWN OF NEW CASTLE, NEW HAMPSHIRE**  
**Proprietary Fund**  
**Statement of Revenues, Expenses, and Changes in Net Position**  
**For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2023**

	Business-type Activities		
	Enterprise Funds		Total
	Water	Sewer	Enterprise Funds
Operating revenues:			
User charges	\$ 137,128	\$ 672,970	\$ 810,098
Fees and interest	6,060	1,400	7,460
Miscellaneous	7,419	315	7,734
Total operating revenues	<u>150,607</u>	<u>674,685</u>	<u>825,292</u>
Operating expenses:			
Salaries and wages	17,019	16,314	33,333
Operation and maintenance	31,016	45,281	76,297
Contractual services	95,347	485,373	580,720
Materials and supplies	4,437	5,200	9,637
Total operating expenses	<u>147,819</u>	<u>552,168</u>	<u>699,987</u>
Operating gain	<u>2,788</u>	<u>122,517</u>	<u>125,305</u>
Nonoperating revenue:			
Interest income	7,441	6,147	13,588
Contributions and donations	220	-	220
Total nonoperating revenues	<u>7,661</u>	<u>6,147</u>	<u>13,808</u>
Other financing uses:			
Transfers out	<u>(5,700)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(5,700)</u>
Change in net position	4,749	128,664	133,413
Net position, beginning, as restated (see Note 18)	<u>357,307</u>	<u>338,968</u>	<u>696,275</u>
Net position, ending	<u>\$ 362,056</u>	<u>\$ 467,632</u>	<u>\$ 829,688</u>

The Notes to the Basic Financial Statements are an integral part of this statement.

**EXHIBIT E-3**  
**TOWN OF NEW CASTLE, NEW HAMPSHIRE**  
**Proprietary Fund**  
**Statement of Cash Flows**  
**For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2023**

	Business-type Activities		
	Enterprise Funds		Total
	Water	Sewer	Enterprise Funds
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES:</b>			
Receipts from customers and users	\$ 156,503	\$ 662,889	\$ 819,392
Payments to employees	(27,551)	(28,722)	(56,273)
Payments to suppliers	(126,124)	(548,770)	(674,894)
Net cash provided by operating activities	<u>2,828</u>	<u>85,397</u>	<u>88,225</u>
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM CAPITAL AND RELATED FINANCING ACTIVITIES:</b>			
Transfer to other funds	(5,700)	-	(5,700)
Transfer from other funds	-	7,541	7,541
Payment of performance deposit	-	(10,000)	(10,000)
Net cash used for capital and related financing activities	<u>(5,700)</u>	<u>(2,459)</u>	<u>(8,159)</u>
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM NON-CAPITAL FINANCING ACTIVITIES:</b>			
Contributions and donations	220	-	220
State revolving fund draw down	4,500	-	4,500
Net cash used for capital and related financing activities	<u>4,720</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>4,720</u>
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES:</b>			
Proceeds from sale of investments	17,254	-	17,254
Interest on investments	7,441	4,230	11,671
Net cash used by investing activities	<u>24,695</u>	<u>4,230</u>	<u>28,925</u>
Net decrease in cash and cash equivalents	26,543	87,168	113,711
Cash and cash equivalents, beginning as restated	295,509	276,116	571,625
Cash and cash equivalents, ending	<u>\$ 322,052</u>	<u>\$ 363,284</u>	<u>\$ 685,336</u>

**Reconciliation of Operating Gain to Net Cash Provided by Operating Activities**

Operating gain	\$ 2,788	\$ 122,517	\$ 125,305
Adjustments to reconcile operating gain to net cash provided by operating activities:			
Decrease (increase) in other receivables	5,896	(11,796)	(5,900)
Decrease in deferred outflows of resources	782	911	1,693
Decrease in accounts payable	(2,605)	(1,635)	(4,240)
Increase (decrease) in intergovernmental payables	4,676	(12,916)	(8,240)
Decrease in accrued salaries and benefits	(567)	(477)	(1,044)
Increase in compensated absences	181	-	181
Decrease in deferred inflows of resources	(7,458)	(9,811)	(17,269)
Decrease in net pension liability	(81)	(573)	(654)
Decrease in net OPEB liability	(784)	(823)	(1,607)
Total adjustments	<u>40</u>	<u>(37,120)</u>	<u>(37,080)</u>
Net cash provided by operating activities	<u>\$ 2,828</u>	<u>\$ 85,397</u>	<u>\$ 88,225</u>

The Notes to the Basic Financial Statements are an integral part of this statement.

**EXHIBIT F-1**  
**TOWN OF NEW CASTLE, NEW HAMPSHIRE**  
**Fiduciary Funds**  
**Statement of Fiduciary Net Position**  
**June 30, 2023**

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	<u>All Custodial Funds</u>
<b>ASSETS</b>	
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 203,413
Investments	<u>117,456</u>
Total assets	<u>\$ 320,869</u>
<b>NET POSITION</b>	
Restricted	<u>\$ 320,869</u>

The Notes to the Basic Financial Statements are an integral part of this statement.

**EXHIBIT F-2**  
**TOWN OF NEW CASTLE, NEW HAMPSHIRE**  
*Fiduciary Funds*  
**Statement of Changes in Fiduciary Net Position**  
**For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2023**

	All Custodial Funds
<b>ADDITIONS</b>	
Investment earnings	\$ 9,037
Taxes collected for other governments	2,230,261
Motor vehicle fees collected	73,739
Total additions	2,313,037
<b>DEDUCTIONS</b>	
Payments of taxes to other governments	2,230,261
Payments of motor vehicle fees to State	73,739
Total deductions	2,304,000
Net increase in fiduciary net position	9,037
Net position, beginning	311,832
Net position, ending	\$ 320,869

The Notes to the Basic Financial Statements are an integral part of this statement.

**TOWN OF NEW CASTLE, NEW HAMPSHIRE**  
**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
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**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
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**NOTE 1 – SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

The financial statements of the Town of New Castle, New Hampshire (the Town), have been prepared in conformity with U.S. Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP) for governmental units as prescribed by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) and other authoritative sources.

The more significant of the Town’s accounting policies are described below.

***1-A Reporting Entity***

The Town of New Castle is a municipal corporation governed by an elected 3-member Board of Selectmen. In evaluating how to define the Town for financial reporting purposes, management has considered all potential component units. The decision to include a potential component unit in the reporting entity is made by applying the criteria set forth by the GASB Statement No. 14 (as amended). The Town has no component units to include in its reporting entity.

***1-B Basis of Accounting and Measurement Focus***

The accounts of the Town are organized on the basis of funds, each of which is considered a separate accounting entity. The operations of each fund are accounted for with a separate set of self-balancing accounts that comprise its assets, deferred outflows of resources, liabilities, deferred inflows of resources, fund equity, revenues, and expenditures or expenses, as appropriate. Governmental resources are allocated to and accounted for in individual funds based upon the purposes for which they are to be spent and the means by which spending activities are controlled.

***Government-wide Financial Statements*** – The Town’s government-wide financial statements include a Statement of Net Position and a Statement of Activities. These statements present summaries of governmental and business-type activities for the Town accompanied by a total column. Fiduciary activities of the Town are not included in these statements.

These statements are presented on an “economic resources” measurement focus and the accrual basis of accounting. Accordingly, all of the Town’s assets, deferred outflows of resources, liabilities, and deferred inflows of resources, including capital assets and long-term liabilities, are included in the accompanying Statement of Net Position, with the exception of the capital assets and related accumulated depreciation, which have been omitted because they have not been inventoried at historical cost. In addition, long-term costs of retirement healthcare and obligations for other postemployment benefits have also been omitted because the liability and expense have not been determined. The Statement of Activities presents changes in net position. Under the accrual basis of accounting, revenues are recognized in the period in which they are earned while expenses are recognized in the period in which the liability is incurred, regardless of the timing of related cash flows. As in the Statement of Net Position the Town has not recorded depreciation expense nor other postemployment benefit expense in this statement. The types of transactions reported as program revenues for the Town are reported in two categories: 1) charges for services and 2) operating grants and contributions.

Certain eliminations have been made to interfund activities, payables, and receivables. All internal balances in the Statement of Net Position have been eliminated, except those representing balances between the governmental activities and the business-type activities, which are presented as internal balances and eliminated in the total primary government column.

***Governmental Fund Financial Statements*** – Include a Balance Sheet and a Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balances for all major governmental funds and nonmajor funds aggregated. An accompanying statement is presented to reconcile and explain the differences in fund balances and changes in fund balances as presented in these statements to the net position and changes in net position presented in the government-wide financial statements. The Town has presented all major funds that met those qualifications.

Governmental fund financial statements are reported using the *current financial resources* measurement focus and the *modified accrual basis* of accounting. Revenues are recognized as soon as they are both measurable and available. Revenues are considered to be available when they are collectible within the current period or soon enough thereafter to pay liabilities of the current period. For this purpose, the Town generally considers revenues to be available if they are collected within 60 days of the end of the current fiscal period, with the exception of reimbursement-based grants, which use a period of one year. Property taxes, licenses, and permits, intergovernmental revenue, and interest associated with the current fiscal period are all considered to

**TOWN OF NEW CASTLE, NEW HAMPSHIRE**  
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be susceptible to accrual and so have been recognized as revenues of the current fiscal period. Expenditure-driven grants are recognized as revenue when the qualifying expenditures have been incurred and all other grant requirements have been met. All other revenue items are considered to be measurable and available only when cash is received by the government.

Expenditures generally are recorded when a liability is incurred, as under accrual accounting. However, debt service expenditures, as well as expenditures related to compensated absences and claims and judgments, are recorded only when payment is due.

The Town reports the following major governmental funds:

**General Fund** – is the Town’s primary operating fund. The general fund accounts for all financial resources except those required to be accounted for in another fund. The primary revenue sources include property taxes, State grants and motor vehicle permit fees. The primary expenditures are for general government, public safety, highways and streets, sanitation, culture and recreation, debt service and capital outlay. Under GASB Statement No. 54, *Fund Balance Reporting and Governmental Fund Type Definitions* guidance, the library, and expendable trust funds are consolidated in the general fund.

**Capital Project Fund** – is used to account for the activities related to the construction/renovations of Town property and/or equipment.

Additionally, the Town reports the following fund types:

**Special Revenue Funds** – are used to account for the proceeds of specific revenue sources that are legally restricted to expenditures for specified purposes.

**Permanent Fund** – is used to record activity of legal trusts for which the interest on the corpus provides funds for the permanent funds including the Town’s cemetery operations.

All the governmental funds not meeting the criteria established for major funds are presented in the other governmental column of the fund financial statements. The Town reports two nonmajor governmental funds.

**Proprietary Fund Financial Statements** – Include a Statement of Net Position, a Statement of Revenues, Expenses, and Changes in Net Position, and a Statement of Cash Flows for each major proprietary fund and for the non-major funds aggregated.

Proprietary funds are reported using the “economic resources” measurement focus and the accrual basis of accounting. Accordingly, all assets, deferred outflows of resources, liabilities (whether current or noncurrent), and deferred inflows of resources are included on the Statement of Net Position. The Statement of Revenues, Expenses, and Changes in Net Position presents increases (revenues) and decreases (expenses) in total net position. Under the accrual basis of accounting, revenues are recognized in the period in which they are earned while expenses are recognized in the period in which the liability is incurred, regardless of the timing of related cash flows.

Operating revenues in the proprietary funds are those revenues that are generated from the primary operations of the fund. All other revenues are reported as non-operating revenues. Operating expenses are those expenses that are essential to the primary operations of the fund. All other expenses are reported as non-operating expenses.

The Town reports the following major proprietary funds:

**Water Fund** – accounts for the activities related to the operation of the water treatment plant, wells, and water system. Under GASB Statement No. 54, *Fund Balance Reporting and Governmental Fund Type Definitions*, guidance the expendable trust funds are consolidated in the water fund.

**Sewer Fund** – accounts for the activities related to the operation of the sewer treatment plant, pumping station, and sewer lines. Under GASB Statement No. 54, *Fund Balance Reporting and Governmental Fund Type Definitions*, guidance the expendable trust funds are consolidated in the sewer fund.

**Fiduciary Fund Financial Statements** – Include a Statement of Fiduciary Net Position and a Statement of Changes in Fiduciary Net Position. The Town’s fiduciary funds are private purpose trust and custodial funds, which are custodial in nature and do not involve measurement of results of operations. These funds are accounted for on a spending, or “economic resources” measurement focus and the accrual basis of accounting as are the proprietary funds explained above.

**TOWN OF NEW CASTLE, NEW HAMPSHIRE**  
**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
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The Town reports the following fiduciary funds:

**Custodial Fund** – are custodial in nature and do not involve the measurement of operating results. A custodial fund is used to account for assets held on behalf of outside parties, including other governments.

***1-C Cash and Cash Equivalents***

The Town considers all highly liquid investments with an original maturity of three months or less to be cash equivalents. Deposits with financial institutions consist primarily of demand deposits and savings accounts.

The treasurer is required to deposit such moneys in solvent banks in state or the Public Deposit Investment Pool pursuant to New Hampshire RSA 383:22. Funds may be deposited in banks outside of the state if such banks pledge and deliver to a third party custodial bank or the Federal Reserve Bank, collateral security for such deposits, United States government or government agency obligations or obligations to the State of New Hampshire in value at least equal to the amount of the deposit in each case.

***1-D Restricted Assets***

Certain Town assets are classified as restricted assets because their use is restricted by statutory limitation.

***1-E Statement of Cash Flows***

For purposes of the Statement of Cash Flows, the Town considers all highly liquid investments (including restricted assets) with a maturity when purchased of three months or less and all local government investment pools to be cash equivalents.

***1-F Investments***

State statutes place certain limitations on the nature of deposits and investments available as follows:

New Hampshire law authorizes the Town to invest in the following type of obligations:

- Obligations of the United States government,
- The public deposit investment pool established pursuant to RSA 383:22,
- Savings bank deposits,
- Certificates of deposit and repurchase agreements of banks incorporated under the laws of the State of New Hampshire or in banks recognized by the State treasurer.

Any person who directly or indirectly receives any such funds or moneys for deposit or for investment in securities of any kind shall, prior to acceptance of such funds, make available at the time of such deposit or investment an option to have such funds secured by collateral having a value at least equal to the amount of such funds. Such collateral shall be segregated for the exclusive benefit of the Town. Only securities defined by the bank commissioner as provided by rules adopted pursuant to RSA 386:57 shall be eligible to be pledged as collateral.

**Fair Value Measurements of Investments** – In accordance with GASB Statement No. 72, *Fair Value Measurement and Application*, except for investments measured using net asset value (NAV) as a practical expedient to estimate fair value, the Town categorizes the fair value measurements of its investments within the fair value hierarchy established by US GAAP. The fair value hierarchy categorizes the inputs to valuation techniques used for fair value measurement into three levels as follows:

**Level 1** – Level 1 inputs are quoted prices (unadjusted) for identical assets or liabilities in active markets. A quoted price for an identical asset or liability in an active market (e.g., an equity security traded on a major exchange) provides the most reliable fair value measurement and, if available, should be used to measure the fair value in that particular market.

**Level 2** – The categorization of an asset/liability as Level 1 requires that it is traded in an active market. If an instrument is not traded in an active market, it may fall to Level 2. Level 2 inputs are inputs that are observable, either directly or indirectly, but do not qualify as Level 1.

**Level 3** – Reporting entities may use unobservable inputs to measure fair value if relevant observable inputs are not available, thereby allowing for situations in which there is little, if any market activity for the asset or liability at the measurement date. These unobservable inputs are considered Level 3.

**TOWN OF NEW CASTLE, NEW HAMPSHIRE**  
**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
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The fair value hierarchy gives the highest priority to Level 1 inputs and the lowest priority to Level 3 inputs. In certain instances where the determination of the fair value measurement is based on inputs from different levels of the fair value hierarchy, is the level in the fair value hierarchy based on the lowest level of input that is significant to the fair value measurement. Investments are reported at fair value. If an investment is held directly by the Town and an active market with quoted prices exists, such as for domestic equity securities, the market price of an identical security is used to report fair value and is classified in Level 1. Corporate fixed income securities and certain governmental securities utilize pricing that may involve estimation using similar securities or trade dates and are classified in Level 2. Fair values for shares in registered mutual funds and exchange-traded funds are based on published share prices and classified in Level 1.

In determining fair value, the Town utilizes valuation techniques that maximize the use of observable inputs and minimize the use of unobservable inputs to the extent possible.

***1-G Receivables***

Receivables recorded in the financial statements represent amounts due to the Town at June 30. They are aggregated into a single accounts receivable (net of allowance for uncollectibles) line for certain funds and aggregated columns. They consist primarily of taxes, billing for charges, and other user fees.

***1-H Capital Assets***

Capital assets are reported in the applicable governmental activities column in the government-wide financial statements but are not reported in the fund financial statements. Capital assets are defined by the Town as assets with an initial individual cost of more than \$10,000 and an estimated useful life in excess of 5 years. Such assets are recorded at historical cost or estimated historical cost if purchased or constructed. Donated capital assets are recorded at acquisition value at the date of donation. When purchased, such assets are recorded as expenditures in a governmental fund and capitalized as assets in the government-wide Statement of Net Position.

Major outlays for capital assets and improvements are capitalized as projects are constructed. The costs of normal maintenance and repairs that do not add to the value of the asset or materially extend asset lives are not capitalized.

Capital assets of the Town are depreciated using the straight-line method over the following estimated useful lives:

	<u>Years</u>
<b>Capital Asset Classes:</b>	
Equipment and vehicles	5 - 25

***1-I Interfund Activities***

Interfund activities are reported as follows:

***Interfund Receivables and Payables*** – Activity between funds that are representative of lending/borrowing arrangements outstanding at the end of the fiscal year are referred to as “due to/from other funds” (i.e., the current portion of interfund loans). All other outstanding balances between funds are reported as “due to/from other funds.” Interfund receivables and payables between funds are eliminated in the Statement of Net Position.

***Interfund Transfers*** – Interfund transfers represent flows of assets without equivalent flows of assets in return and without a requirement for repayment. In governmental funds, transfers are reported as other financing uses in the funds making the transfers and other financing sources in the funds receiving the transfers. In proprietary funds, transfers are reported after nonoperating revenues and expenses. In the government-wide financial statements, all interfund transfers between individual governmental funds have been eliminated.

***1-J Property Taxes***

Property tax billings occur annually and are based on the assessed inventory values as of April 1 of each year. Warrants for the year were issued on November 18, 2022, and due on December 21, 2022. For any regular property taxes issued, the interest accrues at a rate of 8% on bills outstanding after the due date and 14% on tax liens outstanding.



**TOWN OF NEW CASTLE, NEW HAMPSHIRE**  
**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
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Property tax receivables are recognized on the levy or lien date, which is the date the tax warrant is issued. Current year property tax receivables represent taxes levied but not remitted to the Town at June 30, 2023, and unpaid taxes. The succeeding year property tax receivable represent taxes certified by the Town to be collected in the next fiscal year for the purposes set out in the budget for the next fiscal year. Although the succeeding year property tax receivable have been recorded, the related revenue is reported as a deferred inflow of resources in both the government-wide and fund financial statements and will not be recognized as revenue until the year for which it is levied.

In connection with the setting of the tax rate, Town officials with the approval of the Department of Revenue Administration, establish and raise through taxation an amount for tax abatement and refunds, known as overlay. This amount is reported as a reduction in tax revenue and is adjusted by management for any reserve for uncollectable taxes at year-end. The property taxes collected by the Town include taxes levied for the State of New Hampshire, New Castle School District, and Rockingham County, which are remitted to these entities as required by law.

The Town net assessed valuation as of April 1, 2022, utilized in the setting of the tax rate was as follows:

Total assessment valuation with utilities	\$ 1,074,926,896
Total assessment valuation without utilities	\$ 1,073,118,196

The tax rates and amounts assessed for the year ended June 30, 2023 were as follows:

	Per \$1,000 of Assessed Valuation	Property Taxes Assessed
Municipal portion	\$2.42	\$ 2,604,992
School portion:		
State of New Hampshire	\$1.06	1,139,881
Local	\$0.31	332,305
County portion	\$0.71	758,075
Total	\$4.50	\$ 4,835,253

***1-K Accounts Payable***

Accounts payable represent the gross amount of expenditures or expenses incurred as a result of normal operations, but for which no actual payment has yet been issued to vendors/providers as of June 30, 2023.

***1-L Deferred Outflows/Inflows of Resources***

*Deferred outflows of resources*, a separate financial statement element, represents a consumption of net position or fund balance that applies to a future period(s) and thus will not be recognized as an outflow of resources (expenses) until then. The Town has two items that qualify for reporting in this category. Deferred outflows related to pensions and deferred outflows related to OPEB are reported in the government-wide Statement of Net Position for various estimate differences that will be amortized and recognized over future years.

*Deferred inflows of resources*, a separate financial statement element, represents an acquisition of net position or fund balance that applies to a future period(s) and so will not be recognized as an inflow of resources (revenue) until that time. Although certain revenues are measurable, they are not available. Available means collected within the current year or expected to be collected soon enough thereafter to be used to pay liabilities of the current year. The Town has two types of items which qualify for reporting in this category. Deferred inflows of resources related to pensions and OPEB are reported in the government-wide Statement of Net Position for various estimate differences that will be amortized and recognized over future years. Property taxes not collected within 60-days of the fiscal year end, subsequent period tax commitments and taxes collected in advance are all reported as deferred inflows of resources. In addition, unavailable revenues from grants and donations arises when the related eligible expenditures will not be made until the subsequent period.

**TOWN OF NEW CASTLE, NEW HAMPSHIRE**  
**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
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***1-M Compensated Absences***

General leave for the Town includes vacation, sick, and retirement stipend pay. General leave is based on an employee's length of employment and is earned ratably during the span of employment. Upon retirement or termination, employees are paid full value for any accrued general leave earned as set forth by the Town's personnel policy.

Vested or accumulated general leave that is expected to be liquidated with expendable available financial resources is reported as an expenditure and a fund liability of the governmental fund that will pay it. Amounts of vested or accumulated general leave that are not expected to be liquidated with expendable available resources are maintained separately and represent a reconciling item between the fund and government-wide presentations.

***1-N Long-term Obligations***

In the government-wide financial statements and proprietary fund financial statements, long-term debt and other long-term obligations are reported as liabilities in the governmental activities, business-type activities, or proprietary fund Statement of Net Position.

In the fund financial statements, governmental fund types recognize bond issuance costs, during the current period. The face amount of debt issued is reported as other financing sources. Issuance costs, whether or not withheld from the actual debt proceeds received, are reported as expenditures.

In accordance with GASB Statement No. 88, *Certain Disclosures Related to Debt, Including Direct Borrowings and Direct Placements*, the Town utilizes the following classifications to categorize the financial transaction:

**Direct Borrowings** – financial transactions for a note or a loan where the Town negotiates certain terms with a single lender and are not offered for public sale.

***1-O Defined Benefit Pension Plan***

GASB Statement No. 68, *Accounting and Financial Reporting for Pensions – an amendment of GASB Statement No. 27* and as amended by GASB Statement No. 71, *Pension Transition for Contributions Made Subsequent to the Measurement Date* and GASB Statement No. 82 *Pension Issues – an Amendment of GASB Statement No. 67, No. 68 and No.73* requires participating employers to recognize their proportionate share of collective net pension liability, deferred outflows of resources, deferred inflows of resources, and pension expense, and schedules have been prepared to provide employers with their calculated proportionate share of these amounts. The collective amounts have been allocated based on employer contributions during the respective fiscal years. Contributions from employers are recognized when legally due, based on statutory requirements.

The schedules prepared by New Hampshire Retirement System, and audited by the plan's independent auditors, require management to make a number of estimates and assumptions related to the reported amounts. Due to the inherent nature and uncertainty of these estimates, actual results could differ, and the differences may be material.

***1-P Postemployment Benefits Other Than Pensions (OPEB)***

The Town maintains two separate other postemployment benefit plans, as follows:

***New Hampshire Retirement System Plan*** – For the purposes of measuring the total other postemployment benefit (OPEB) liability, deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to OPEB, and OPEB expense, information about the fiduciary net position of the New Hampshire Retirement System OPEB Plan (the plan) and additions to/deductions from the plan's fiduciary net position has been determined on the same basis as they are reported by the New Hampshire Retirement System. For this purpose, the plan recognizes benefit payments when due and payable in accordance with the benefit terms. Investments are reported at fair value, except money market investments and participating interest earning investment contracts that have a maturity at the time of purchase of one year or less, which are reported at cost.

***Single Employer Plan*** – The Town maintains a single employer plan but has not obtained an actuarial report calculating the other postemployment benefit liability, deferred outflows of resources, and deferred inflows of resources in accordance with Government Accounting Standards Board pronouncement No. 75, *Accounting and Financial Reporting for Postemployment Benefits Other Than Pensions*.

**TOWN OF NEW CASTLE, NEW HAMPSHIRE**  
**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
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***1-Q Net Position/Fund Balances***

***Government-wide Statements*** – Equity is classified as net position and displayed in three components:

**Net investment in capital assets** – Consists of capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation, and reduced by the outstanding balances of any notes or other borrowings that are attributable to the acquisition, construction, or improvement of those assets. If there are significant unspent related debt proceeds at year-end, the portion of the debt attributable to the unspent proceeds are not included in the calculation of net investment in capital assets. Because the Town has not reported all of its capital assets, this amount is a negative balance.

**Restricted net position** – Results when constraints placed on net position use are either externally imposed by a third party (statutory, bond covenant, or granting agency) or are imposed by law through constitutional provisions or enabling legislation. The Town typically uses restricted assets first, as appropriate opportunities arise, but reserves the right to selectively defer the use until a further project.

**Unrestricted net position** – Consists of net position not meeting the definition of the preceding categories. Unrestricted net position is often subject to constraints imposed by management which can be removed or modified.

***Fund Balance Classifications*** – GASB Statement No. 54, *Fund Balance Reporting and Governmental Fund Type Definitions*, provides more clearly defined fund balance categories to make sure the nature and extent of the constraints placed on a government's fund balances are more transparent. The following classifications describe the relative strength of the spending constraints:

**Nonspendable** – Amounts that cannot be spent because they are either (a) not in spendable form (such as prepaid items, inventory, or tax deeded property subject to resale); or (b) are legally or contractually required to be maintained intact.

**Restricted** – Amounts for which constraints have been placed on the use of the resources either (a) externally imposed by creditors (such as through a debt covenant), grantors, contributors, or laws or regulations of other governments; or (b) imposed by law through constitutional provisions or enabling legislation.

**Committed** – Amounts that can be used only for specific purposes pursuant to constraints imposed by formal action of the legislative body (Town Meeting). These amounts cannot be used for any other purpose unless the legislative body removes or changes the specified use by taking the same type of action that was employed when the funds were initially committed. This classification also includes contractual obligations to the extent that existing resources have been specifically committed for use in satisfying those contractual requirements.

**Assigned** – Amounts that are constrained by the Town's intent to be used for a specific purpose but are neither restricted nor committed. This intent can be expressed by the Board of Selectmen through the budgetary process.

**Unassigned** – Amounts that are available for any purpose. Positive amounts are reported only in the general fund.

When multiple net position/fund balance classifications are available for use, it is the government's policy to utilize the most restricted balances first, then the next most restricted balance as needed. When components of unrestricted fund balance are used, committed fund balance is depleted first followed by assigned fund balance. Unassigned fund balance is applied last.

In the general fund, the Town strives to maintain an unassigned fund balance to be used for unanticipated emergencies of \$300,000. The Board of Selectmen will review this information each year in order to determine the appropriate amount of unassigned fund balance to be used to reduce the property tax rate.

***1-R Use of Estimates***

The financial statements and related disclosures are prepared in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States. Management is required to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets, deferred outflows of resources, liabilities, and deferred inflows of resources, the disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements, and revenues and expenses/expenditures during the period reported. These estimates include assessing the collectability of accounts receivable, the useful lives of capital assets, net pension liability, other postemployment benefit liability, and deferred outflows and inflows of resources related to both pension and other postemployment benefits, among others. Estimates and assumptions are reviewed periodically, and the effects of revisions are reflected in the financial statements in the period they are determined to be necessary. Actual results could differ from estimates.

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**1-S Material Change in Fund Classification**

The accompanying financial statements reflect a change in classification from the prior year. Specifically, permanent fund which are used to account for resources held in trust for use by the Town, did not qualify as a major fund for the current fiscal year. As such it was reclassified to the nonmajor governmental funds.

**NOTE 2 – STEWARDSHIP, COMPLIANCE, AND ACCOUNTABILITY**

**2-A Budgetary Information**

General governmental revenues and expenditures accounted for in budgetary funds are controlled by a formal integrated budgetary accounting system in accordance with various legal requirements which govern the Town’s operations. At its annual meeting, the Town adopts a budget for the current year for the general fund as well as the major water and sewer proprietary funds. Except as reconciled below, the budget was adopted on a basis consistent with US generally accepted accounting principles.

Management may transfer appropriations between operating categories as deemed necessary, but expenditures may not legally exceed budgeted appropriations in total. All annual appropriations lapse at year-end unless encumbered.

Encumbrance accounting, under which purchase orders, contracts, and continuing appropriations (certain projects and specific items not fully expended at year-end) are recognized, is employed in the governmental funds. Encumbrances are not the equivalent of expenditures, and are therefore, reported as part of the assigned fund balance at year-end, and are carried forward to supplement appropriations of the subsequent year.

State statutes require balanced budgets but provide for the use of beginning unassigned fund balance to achieve that end. For the fiscal year 2023, none of the beginning general fund unassigned fund balance was applied for this purpose and \$275,000 was voted from unassigned fund balance as a transfer to the capital reserve funds.

**2-B Budgetary Reconciliation to GAAP Basis**

While the Town reports financial position, results of operations, and changes in fund balance on the basis of generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP), the budgetary basis as provided by law is based upon accounting for certain transactions on a basis of cash receipts, disbursements, and encumbrances. The Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balance – Budget and Actual is presented for the major governmental fund which had a budget. Differences between the budgetary basis and GAAP basis of accounting for the general fund are as follows:

Revenues and other financing sources:	
Per Exhibit D (budgetary basis)	\$ 3,828,344
Adjustment:	
Basis difference:	
GASB Statement No. 54:	
To record miscellaneous income of the blended funds	61,328
To eliminate transfers between the general fund and blended funds	(256,815)
Per Exhibit C-3 (GAAP basis)	<u>\$ 3,632,857</u>
Expenditures and other financing uses:	
Per Exhibit D (budgetary basis)	\$ 3,657,552
Adjustment:	
Basis differences:	
Encumbrances, ending	(67,008)
GASB Statement No. 54:	
To record expenditures of the blended funds during the year	15,043
To eliminate transfers between the general fund and blended expendable trust funds	(590,000)
Per Exhibit C-3 (GAAP basis)	<u>\$ 3,015,587</u>

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**2-C Accounting Change**

Governmental Accounting Standards Board Statement No. 96, *Subscription-Based Information Technology Arrangements*, was implemented during fiscal year 2023. The objective of this Statement is to better meet information needs of financial statement users by (a) establishing uniform accounting and financial reporting requirement for subscription-based information technology arrangements (SBITAs); (b) improving the comparability of financial statements among governments that have entered into SBITAs; and (c) enhancing the understandability, reliability, relevance, and consistency of information about SBITAs. This Statement (1) defines a SBITA; (2) establishes that a SBITA results in a right-to-use subscription assets (an intangible asset), and a corresponding subscription liability; (3) provides the capitalization criteria for outlays other than subscription payments, including implementation costs of a SBITA; and (4) requires note disclosures regarding a SBITA. To the extent relevant, the standards of SBITA are based on the standards established in Statement No. 87, *Leases*, as amended. The Town has assessed all potential agreements that may be applicable for reporting under GASB Statement No. 96 and have determined that none of the agreements have met the requirements of the pronouncement.

**DETAILED NOTES ON ALL FUNDS**

**NOTE 3 – CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS**

The Town’s deposits are entirely covered by Federal Depository Insurance Corporation (FDIC) or by collateral held by the Town’s agent in the Town’s name. The FDIC currently insures the first \$250,000 of the Town’s deposits at each financial institution, per case custodian. Deposit balances over \$250,000 are insured by the collateral. As of year-end, the carrying amount of the Town’s deposits was \$3,611,149 and the bank balances totaled \$3,136,136.

Cash and cash equivalents reconciliation:

Cash per Statement of Net Position (Exhibit A)	\$ 3,407,736
Cash per Statement of Fiduciary Net Position - Fiduciary Fund (Exhibit F-1)	<u>203,413</u>
Total cash and cash equivalents	<u><u>\$ 3,611,149</u></u>

**NOTE 4 – RESTRICTED ASSETS**

Cash and investments are classified as restricted for the following purposes:

Cash and cash equivalents:	
General fund:	
Library	\$ 86,505
Capital reserve funds	<u>742,170</u>
Total restricted cash and cash equivalents	<u>828,675</u>
Investments:	
General fund:	
Capital reserve funds	<u>298,196</u>
Total restricted assets	<u><u>\$ 1,126,871</u></u>

**NOTE 5 – INVESTMENTS**

Note 1-F describes statutory requirements covering the investment of the Town funds. The Town holds investments that are measured at fair value on a recurring basis. Because investing is not a core part of the Town’s mission, the Town determines that the disclosures related to these investments only need to be disaggregated by major type. The Town categorizes its fair value measurements within the fair value hierarchy established by generally accepted accounting principles.



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The Town has the following recurring fair value measurements as of June 30, 2023:

	Fair Value Hierarchy
	Level 1
Investments type:	
Common stock	\$ 142,012
Certificates of deposit	1,041,365
Fixed income exchange traded funds	137,873
Total fair value of investments	\$ 1,321,250

**Interest Rate Risk** – This is the risk that changes in market interest rates will adversely affect the fair value of an investment. Generally, the longer the maturity of an investment the greater the sensitivity of its fair value to changes in market interest rates. The Town does not have a formal investment policy that limits investment maturities as a means of managing its exposure to fair value losses arising from increasing interest rates.

**Custodial Credit Risk** – This is the risk that in the event of the failure of the counterparty (e.g., broker/dealer) to honor a transaction, the Town will not be able to recover the value of its investments or collateral securities that are in the possession of an outside party. All the Town’s investments are held by third parties in the Town’s name. The Town does not have custodial credit risk policies for investments.

**Concentration of Credit Risk** – The Town places no limit on the amount it may invest in any one issuer. More than 5% of the Town’s investments are in common stock, certificates of deposit, and fixed income exchange traded funds. These investments are 18%, 66%, and 17%, respectively, of the Town’s total investments.

Investment reconciliation:

Investments per Statement of Net Position (Exhibit A)	\$ 1,203,794
Investments per Statement of Fiduciary Net Position - Fiduciary Funds (Exhibit F-1)	117,456
Total investments	\$ 1,321,250

**NOTE 6 – TAXES RECEIVABLE**

Taxes receivable represent the amount of current and prior year taxes which have not been collected as of June 30, 2023. Taxes receivable by year are as follows:

Property:	
Unredeemed (under tax lien):	
Levy of 2022	\$ 4,723
Levy of 2021	45
Net taxes receivable	\$ 4,768

**NOTE 7 – OTHER RECEIVABLES**

Receivables at June 30, 2023, consisted of accounts (billings for police details, water, sewer, and other user charges) and intergovernmental amounts arising from grants. Receivables are recorded on the Town’s financial statements to the extent that the amounts are determined to be material and substantiated not only by supporting documentation, but also by a reasonable, systematic method of determining their existence, completeness, valuation, and collectability.

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**NOTE 8 – CAPITAL ASSETS**

Capital asset activity for the year ended June 30, 2023 is as follows:

	Balance, beginning	Additions	Balance, ending
<b>Governmental activities:</b>			
At cost:			
Being depreciated:			
Equipment and vehicles	\$ 1,672,337	\$ 207,969	\$ 1,880,306
Less accumulated depreciation:			
Equipment and vehicles	(613,340)	(106,887)	(720,227)
Net book value, all governmental activities capital assets	\$ 1,058,997	\$ 101,082	\$ 1,160,079

Depreciation expense was charged to functions of the Town based on their usage of the related assets. The amounts allocated to each function are as follows:

<b>Governmental activities:</b>		
Public safety		\$ 83,072
Highways and streets		23,815
Total depreciation expense		\$ 106,887

**NOTE 9 – INTERFUND BALANCES AND TRANSFERS**

**Interfund Balances** - The composition of interfund balances as of June 30, 2023 is as follows:

	Receivable Fund	Payable Fund	Amount
Water proprietary fund		General	\$ 10,109
Sewer proprietary fund		General	4,812
			\$ 14,921

The outstanding balances among funds result mainly from the time lag between the dates that (1) interfund goods and services are provided or reimbursable expenditures occur, (2) transactions are recorded in the accounting system, and (3) payments between funds are made.

**Interfund Transfers** - The composition of interfund transfers for the year ended June 30, 2023 is as follows:

	Transfers In:
	General Fund
Transfers out:	
Capital project fund	\$ 3,939
Water proprietary fund	5,700
Total	\$ 9,639

During the year, transfers are used to (1) move revenues from the fund with collection authority to the fund responsible for expenditure and (2) move general fund resources to provide an annual subsidy.

**NOTE 10 – INTERGOVERNMENTAL PAYABLES**

Amounts due to other governments at June 30, 2023 consist of the following:

	Business-type Activities		
	Water Fund	Sewer Fund	Total
Balances due to the City of Portsmouth water and sewer department	\$ 25,845	\$ 89,795	\$ 115,640
State revolving loan *	24,546	-	24,546
Total intergovernmental payables due	\$ 50,391	\$ 89,795	\$ 140,186

\*These amounts are related to drawdowns on the Town's state revolving loan for the water system improvement project. This liability will be converted into long-term debt when the project is completed, and the Town will enter repayment.

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**NOTE 11 – DEFERRED OUTFLOWS/INFLOWS OF RESOURCES**

Deferred outflows of resources are as follows:

	Governmental Activities	Business-type activities		
		Water Fund	Sewer Fund	Total
Amounts related to pensions, see Note 13	\$ 409,156	\$ 7,178	\$ 7,054	\$ 14,232
Amounts related to OPEB, see Note 14	16,372	287	282	569
Total deferred inflows of resources	<u>\$ 425,528</u>	<u>\$ 7,465</u>	<u>\$ 7,336</u>	<u>\$ 14,801</u>

Deferred inflows of resources are as follows:

	Governmental Activities	Business-type Activities		
		Water Fund	Sewer Fund	Total
Payments received in advance of warrants being issued	\$ -	\$ 2,669	\$ -	\$ 2,669
Amounts related to pensions, see Note 13	84,108	1,475	1,450	2,925
Total deferred inflows of resources	<u>\$ 84,108</u>	<u>\$ 4,144</u>	<u>\$ 1,450</u>	<u>\$ 5,594</u>

**NOTE 12 – LONG-TERM LIABILITIES**

Changes in the Town's long-term liabilities consisted of the following for the year ended June 30, 2023:

	Balance July 1, 2022	Additions	Reductions	Balance June 30, 2023	Due Within One Year	Due In More Than One Year
<b>Governmental activities:</b>						
Note payable - direct borrowing	\$ -	\$ 5,289,134	\$ -	\$ 5,289,134	\$ 155,515	\$ 5,133,619
Compensated absences	89,494	8,503	-	97,997	-	97,997
Net pension liability	1,182,022	443,765	-	1,625,787	-	1,625,787
Net other postemployment benefits	125,397	2,859	-	128,256	-	128,256
Total long-term liabilities	<u>\$ 1,396,913</u>	<u>\$ 5,744,261</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 7,141,174</u>	<u>\$ 155,515</u>	<u>\$ 6,985,659</u>
<b>Business-type activities:</b>						
Compensated absences	\$ 267	\$ 181	\$ -	\$ 448	\$ -	\$ 448
Net pension liability	57,204	-	(654)	56,550	-	56,550
Net other postemployment benefits	6,069	-	(1,608)	4,461	-	4,461
Total long-term liabilities	<u>\$ 63,539</u>	<u>\$ 181</u>	<u>\$ (2,262)</u>	<u>\$ 61,459</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 61,459</u>

The long-term note is comprised of the following:

	Original Amount	Issue Date	Maturity Date	Interest Rate %	Outstanding at June 30, 2023	Current Portion
<b>Governmental activities:</b>						
Note payable - direct borrowing:						
Drinking Water SRF	\$ 5,289,134	2023	2043	1.26%	<u>\$ 5,289,134</u>	<u>\$ 155,515</u>

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The annual requirements to amortize the general obligation note outstanding as of June 30, 2023, including interest payments, is as follows:

Fiscal Year Ending June 30,	Note - Direct Borrowings		
	Principal	Interest	Total
2024	\$ 155,515	\$ 149,881	\$ 305,396
2025	240,918	64,478	305,396
2026	243,944	61,452	305,396
2027	247,008	58,388	305,396
2028	250,110	55,286	305,396
2029-2033	1,298,466	228,514	1,526,980
2034-2038	1,382,085	144,895	1,526,980
2039-2043	1,471,088	45,891	1,516,979
Totals	<u>\$ 5,289,134</u>	<u>\$ 808,785</u>	<u>\$ 6,097,919</u>

All debt is general obligation debt of the Town, which is backed by its full faith and credit, and will be repaid from general governmental revenues.

**Bonds Authorized and Unissued** – Bonds and notes authorized and unissued as of June 30, 2023 were as follows:

Per Town Meeting Vote of	Purpose	Unissued Amount
May 2021	Repair and replace private water lines	\$ 550,000
May 2022	Upgrade sewer pump station	241,250
May 2023	U.S. Coast Guard property	5,000,000
		<u>\$ 5,791,250</u>

**NOTE 13 – DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLAN**

**Plan Description** – The New Hampshire Retirement System (NHRS or the System) is a public employee retirement system that administers one cost-sharing multiple-employer defined benefit pension plan (Pension Plan), a component unit of the State of New Hampshire, as defined in Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement No. 67, *Financial Reporting for Pension Plans* – an amendment of GASB Statement No. 25. The Pension Plan was established in 1967 by RSA 100-A:2 and is qualified as a tax-exempt organization under Sections 401(a) and 501(a) of the Internal Revenue Code. The Pension Plan is a contributory, defined benefit plan providing service, disability, death and vested retirement benefits to members and their beneficiaries. Substantially all full-time state employees, public school teachers and administrators, permanent firefighters and permanent police officers within the State are eligible and required to participate in the Pension Plan. The System issues a publicly available financial report that may be obtained by writing the New Hampshire Retirement System, 54 Regional Drive, Concord, NH 03301.

**Benefits Provided** – Benefit formulas and eligibility requirements for the Pension Plan are set by state law (RSA 100-A). The Pension Plan is divided into two membership groups. State and local employees and teachers belong to Group I. Police and firefighters belong to Group II.

Group I benefits are provided based on creditable service and average final salary for the highest of either three or five years, depending on when service commenced.

Group II benefits are provided based on age, years of creditable service and benefit multiplier depending on vesting status as of 1/1/12. The maximum retirement allowance for Group II members vested by 1/1/12 (45 years of age with 20 years of service or age 60 regardless of years of creditable service) is the average final compensation multiplied by 2.5% multiplied by creditable service.

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For Group II members not vested by 1/1/12 the benefit is calculated the same way, but the multiplier used in the calculation will change depending on age and years of creditable service as follows:

Years of Creditable Service as of 1/1/12	Minimum Age	Minimum Service	Benefit Multiplier
At least 8 but less than 10 years	46	21	2.4%
At least 6 but less than 8 years	47	22	2.3%
At least 4 but less than 6 years	48	23	2.2%
Less than 4 years	49	24	2.1%

Members of both groups may qualify for vested deferred allowances, disability allowances and death benefit allowances, subject to meeting various eligibility requirements. Benefits are based on AFC or earnable compensation and/or service.

**Contributions:** The System is financed by contributions from both the employees and the Town. Member contribution rates are established and may be amended by the State legislature while employer contribution rates are set by the System trustees based on an actuarial valuation. Group I members are required to contribute 7% of earnable compensation and group II members (police and fire) are required to contribute 11.55% and 11.80% respectively. For fiscal year 2023, the Town contributed 30.67% for police, 29.78% for fire and 13.75% for other employees. The contribution requirement for the fiscal year 2023 was \$182,884, which was paid in full.

**Pension Liabilities, Pension Expense, Deferred Outflows of Resources, and Deferred Inflows of Resources Related to Pensions** – At June 30, 2023 the Town reported a liability of \$1,682,337 for its proportionate share of the net pension liability. The net pension liability was measured as of June 30, 2022, and the total pension liability used to calculate the net pension liability was determined by an actuarial valuation as of that date. The Town’s proportion of the net pension liability was based on a projection of the Town’s long-term share of contributions to the pension plan relative to the projected contributions of all participating towns and school districts, actuarially determined. At June 30, 2022, the Town’s proportion was 0.03% which was the same as its proportion measured as of June 30, 2021.

For the year ended June 30, 2023, the Town recognized pension expense of \$137,382. At June 30, 2023 the Town reported deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions from the following sources:

	Deferred Outflows of Resources	Deferred Inflows of Resources
Changes in proportion	\$ 55,685	\$ 80,576
Changes in assumptions	89,487	-
Net difference between projected and actual investment earnings on pension plan investments	63,758	-
Differences between expected and actual experience	31,574	6,458
Contributions subsequent to the measurement date	182,884	-
Total	<u>\$ 423,388</u>	<u>\$ 87,034</u>

The \$182,884 reported as deferred outflows of resources related to pensions results from the Town contributions subsequent to the measurement date will be recognized as a reduction of the net pension liability in the year ended June 30, 2024. Other amounts reported as deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions will be recognized in pension expense as follows:

Fiscal Year Ending June 30,	
2023	\$ 37,058
2024	46,635
2025	(30,291)
2026	100,068
Thereafter	-
Totals	<u>\$ 153,470</u>



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**Actuarial Assumptions** – The collective total pension liability was determined by a roll forward of the actuarial valuation as of June 30, 2021, using the following actuarial assumptions which, accordingly, apply to 2022 measurements:

Inflation:	2.0%
Salary increases:	5.4% average, including inflation
Wage inflation:	2.75% (2.25% for teachers)
Investment rate of return:	6.75% net of pension plan investment expense, including inflation

Mortality rates were based on the Pub-2010 Health Retiree Mortality Tables with credibility adjustments for each group (Police and Fire combined) and projected fully generational mortality improvements using Scale MP-2019.

The actuarial assumptions used in the June 30, 2021, valuation were based on the results of the most recent actuarial experience study, which was for the period July 1, 2015 – June 30, 2019.

**Long-term Rates of Return** – The long-term expected rate of return on pension plan investment was selected from a best estimate range determined using the building block approach. Under this method, an expected future real return range is calculated separately for each asset class. These ranges are combined to produce the long-term expected rate of return by weighting the expected future real rate of return net of investment expenses by the target asset allocation percentage and by adding expected inflation. Following is a table presenting target allocations and long-term rates of return for 2022:

Asset Class	Target Allocation	30 Year Geometric Return
Broad US Equity (1)	30.00%	7.60%
Global Ex-US Equity (2)	20.00%	7.90%
Total public equity	50.00%	
Real Estate Equity	10.00%	6.60%
Private Equity	10.00%	8.85%
Total private market equity	20.00%	
Private Debt	5.00%	7.25%
Core U.S. Fixed Income (3)	25.00%	3.60%
Inflation	0.00%	2.25%
Total	100.00%	7.30%

**Discount Rate** – The discount rate used to measure the collective total pension liability was 6.75%. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumed that plan member contributions will be made at the current contribution rate and that employer contributions will be made at rates equal to the difference between actuarially determined contribution rates and the member rate. For purposes of the projection, member contributions and employer service cost contributions are projected based on the expected payroll of current members only. Employer contributions are determined based on the Pension Plan’s actuarial funding policy as required by RSA 100-A:16. Based on those assumptions, the Pension Plan’s fiduciary net position was projected to be available to make all projected future benefit payments to current plan members. Therefore, the long-term expected rate of return on Pension Plan investment was applied to all periods of projected benefit payments to determine the collective total pension liability.

**Sensitivity of the Town’s Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability to Changes in the Discount Rate** – The following table presents the Town’s proportionate share of the net pension liability calculated using the discount rate of 6.75% as well as what the Town’s proportionate share of the net pension liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is 1-percentage point lower (5.75%) or 1-percentage point higher (7.75%) than the current rate:

Actuarial Valuation Date	1% Decrease 5.75%	Current Single Rate Assumption 6.75%	1% Increase 7.75%
June 30, 2022	\$ 2,257,272	\$ 1,682,337	\$ 1,204,332

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**Pension Plan Fiduciary Net Position** – Detailed information about the pension plan’s fiduciary net position is available in the separately issued New Hampshire Retirement System Cost-Sharing Multiple Employer Defined Benefit Pension Plan financial report.

**NOTE 14 – POSTEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS OTHER THAN PENSIONS (OPEB)**

**14-A New Hampshire Retirement System (NHRS)**

**Plan Description** – The New Hampshire Retirement System (NHRS or the System) administers a cost-sharing multiple-employer other postemployment benefit plan medical subsidy healthcare plan (OPEB Plan). For additional system information, please refer to the 2022 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report, which can be found on the system’s website at [www.nhrs.org](http://www.nhrs.org).

**Benefits Provided - Benefit** amounts and eligibility requirements for the OPEB Plan are set by state law (RSA 100-A:52, RSA 100-A:52-a and RSA 100-A:52-b), and members are designated in statute by type. The four membership types are Group II, Police Officers, and Firefighters; Group I, Teachers; Group I, Political Subdivision Employees; and Group I, State Employees. The OPEB Plan provides a medical insurance subsidy to qualified retired members. The medical insurance subsidy is a payment made by NHRS to the former employer or its insurance administrator toward the cost of health insurance for a qualified retiree, his/her qualified spouse, and his/her certified dependent children with a disability who are living in the household and being cared for by the retiree. If the health insurance premium amount is less than the medical subsidy amount, then only the health insurance premium amount will be paid. If the health insurance premium amount exceeds the medical subsidy amount, then the retiree or other qualified person is responsible for paying any portion that the employer does not pay.

Group I benefits are based on creditable service, age, and retirement date. Group II benefits are based on hire date, age, and creditable service. The OPEB plan is closed to new entrants.

Maximum medical subsidy rates paid during fiscal year 2023 were as follows:

For qualified retirees not eligible for Medicare, the amounts were \$375.56 for a single-person plan and \$751.12 for a two-person plan.

For those qualified retirees eligible for Medicare, the amounts were \$236.84 for a single-person plan and \$473.68 for a two-person plan.

**Contributions** – The OPEB Plan is funded by allocating to the 401(h) subtrust the lesser of: 25% of all employer contributions made in accordance with RSA 100-A:16 or the percentage of employer contributions determined by the actuary to be the minimum rate necessary to maintain the benefits provided under RSA 100-A:53-b, RSA 100-A:53-c, and RSA 100-A:53-d. For fiscal year 2022, the minimum rates determined by the actuary to maintain benefits were the lesser of the two options and were used to determine the employer contributions due to the 401(h) subtrust. The State Legislature has the authority to establish, amend and discontinue the contribution requirements of the OPEB Plan. Administrative costs are allocated to the OPEB Plan based on fund balances. For fiscal year 2023, the Town contributed 3.21% for police and fire, and 0.31% for other employees. The contribution requirement for the fiscal year 2023 was \$16,578, which was paid in full.

**OPEB Liabilities, OPEB Expense, and Deferred Outflows of Resources Related to OPEB** – At June 30, 2023, the Town reported a liability of \$132,717 for its proportionate share of the net OPEB liability. The net OPEB liability was measured as of June 30, 2022, and the total OPEB liability used to calculate the net OPEB liability was determined by an actuarial valuation as of June 30, 2021. The Town’s proportion of the net OPEB liability was based on a projection of the Town’s long-term share of contributions to the OPEB plan relative to the projected contributions of all participating towns and school districts, actuarially determined. At June 30, 2022, the Town’s proportion was 0.04% which was an increase of 0.01% from its proportion measured as of June 30, 2021.

**TOWN OF NEW CASTLE, NEW HAMPSHIRE**  
**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
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**JUNE 30, 2023**

For the year ended June 30, 2023, the Town recognized OPEB expense of \$13,987. At June 30, 2023, the Town reported deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to OPEB from the following sources:

	Deferred Outflows of Resources
Net difference between projected and actual investment earnings on OPEB plan investments	\$ 363
Contributions subsequent to the measurement date	16,578
Total	\$ 16,941

The \$16,578 reported as deferred outflows of resources related to OPEB results from the Town contributions subsequent to the measurement date will be recognized as a reduction of the net OPEB liability in the year ended June 30, 2024. Other amounts reported as deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to OPEB will be recognized in OPEB expense as follows:

Fiscal Year Ending June 30,	
2023	\$ 60
2024	16
2025	(143)
2026	430
Thereafter	-
Totals	\$ 363

**Actuarial Assumptions** – The total OPEB liability in this report is based on an actuarial valuation performed as of June 30, 2021, and a measurement date of June 30, 2022. The total OPEB liability was determined using the following actuarial assumptions applied to all periods included in the measurement, unless otherwise specified:

Price inflation:	2.0% per year
Wage inflation:	2.75% (2.25% for teachers)
Salary increases:	5.4% average, including inflation
Investment rate of return:	6.75% net of OPEB plan investment expense, including inflation
Health care trend rate:	Not applicable, given that the benefits are fixed stipends

Mortality rates were based on the Pub-2010 Health Retiree Mortality Tables with credibility adjustments for each group (Police and Fire combined) and projected fully generational mortality improvements using Scale MP-2019.

The actuarial assumptions used in the June 30, 2021, valuation were based on the results of the most recent actuarial experience study, which was for the period July 1, 2015 – June 30, 2019.

**Long-term Rates of Return** – The long-term expected rate of return on OPEB plan investment was selected from a best estimate range determined using the building block approach. Under this method, an expected future real return range is calculated separately for each asset class. These ranges are combined to produce the long-term expected rate of return by weighting the expected future real rate of return net of investment expenses by the target asset allocation percentage and by adding expected inflation.

**TOWN OF NEW CASTLE, NEW HAMPSHIRE**  
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**JUNE 30, 2023**

Following is a table presenting target allocations and long-term rates of return for 2022:

Asset Class	Target Allocation	30 Year Geometric Return
Broad US Equity (1)	30.00%	7.60%
Global Ex-US Equity (2)	20.00%	7.90%
Total public equity	50.00%	
Real Estate Equity	10.00%	6.60%
Private Equity	10.00%	8.85%
Total private market equity	20.00%	
Private Debt	5.00%	7.25%
Core U.S. Fixed Income (3)	25.00%	3.60%
Inflation	0.00%	2.25%
Total	100.00%	7.30%

**Discount Rate** – The discount rate used to measure the total OPEB liability as of June 30, 2022, was 6.75%. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumed that employer contributions will be made under the current statute RSA 100-A:16 and that plan member contributions will be made under RSA 100-A:16. Based on those assumptions, the OPEB Plan’s fiduciary net position was projected to make all projected future benefit payments of current plan members. Therefore, the long-term expected rate of return on OPEB Plan investments was applied to all periods of projected benefit payments to determine the collective total OPEB liability.

**Sensitivity of the Town’s Proportionate Share of the OPEB Liability to Changes in the Discount Rate** – The following table presents the Town’s proportionate share of the OPEB liability calculated using the discount rate of 6.75% as well as what the Town’s proportionate share of the OPEB liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is 1-percentage point lower (5.75%) or 1-percentage point higher (7.75%) than the current rate:

Actuarial Valuation Date	1% Decrease 5.75%	Current Single Rate Assumption 6.75%	1% Increase 7.75%
June 30, 2022	\$ 144,087	\$ 132,717	\$ 122,815

**OPEB Plan Fiduciary Net Position** – Detailed information about the OPEB plan’s fiduciary net position is available in the separately issued New Hampshire Retirement System Cost-Sharing Multiple Employer Defined Benefit OPEB Plan financial report.

**14-B Town of New Castle Retiree Health Benefit Program**

The Town provides postemployment benefit options for health care to eligible retirees, terminated employees, and their dependents in accordance with the provisions of various employment contracts. The benefit levels, employee contributions, and employer contributions are governed by the Town’s contractual agreements. Expenses for the cost of providing health insurance for currently enrolled retirees are recognized in the general fund of the funds financial statements as payments are made.

The Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) issued Statement No. 75, *Accounting and Financial Reporting by Employers for Postemployment Benefits Other Than Pensions* in 2015. GASB Statement No. 75 requires state and local government employers to recognize the net OPEB liability and the OPEB expense on their financial statements, along with the related deferred outflows and inflows of resources. The Town has not fully implemented GASB Statement No. 75 at June 30, 2023, or contracted with an actuarial firm to assist in evaluating the impact of this standard on the Town. The amounts that should be recorded as the net OPEB liability and the OPEB expense is unknown.

**TOWN OF NEW CASTLE, NEW HAMPSHIRE**  
**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**AS OF AND FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED**  
**JUNE 30, 2023**

**NOTE 15 - ENCUMBRANCES**

The outstanding encumbrances are amounts needed to pay any commitments related to purchase orders and contracts that remain unperformed at June 30, 2023 are as follows:

General fund:	
Conservation	\$ 2,328
Capital outlay	64,680
Total general fund	<u>\$ 67,008</u>

**NOTE 16 – GOVERNMENTAL AND BUSINESS-TYPE ACTIVITIES AND FIDUCIARY FUNDS  
NET POSITION**

Governmental and business-type activities and fiduciary fund net position reported on the Statements of Net Position at June 30, 2023 include the following:

	Government-wide Financial Statements			Fiduciary Funds
	Governmental Activities	Business-type Activities	Total	
Net investment in capital assets:				
Net book value, all governmental activities capital assets	\$ 1,160,079	\$ -	\$ 1,160,079	\$ -
Less:				
Notes payable	(5,289,134)	-	(5,289,134)	-
Total net investment in capital assets	<u>(4,129,055)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(4,129,055)</u>	<u>-</u>
Restricted net position:				
Perpetual care - nonexpendable	268,735	-	268,735	-
Perpetual care - expendable	65,466	-	65,466	-
Water	-	362,056	362,056	-
Sewer	-	467,632	467,632	-
Individuals, organizations, and other governments	-	-	-	320,869
Total restricted net position	<u>334,201</u>	<u>829,688</u>	<u>1,163,889</u>	<u>320,869</u>
Unrestricted	<u>1,812,026</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,812,026</u>	<u>-</u>
Total net position	<u>\$ (1,982,828)</u>	<u>\$ 829,688</u>	<u>\$ (1,153,140)</u>	<u>\$ 320,869</u>

**NOTE 17 – GOVERNMENTAL FUND BALANCES**

Governmental fund balances reported on the fund financial statements at June 30, 2023 include the following:

	General Fund	Nonmajor Funds	Total Governmental Funds
<b>Nonspendable:</b>			
Tax deeded property	\$ 1,029	\$ -	\$ 1,029
Permanent fund - principal balance	-	268,735	268,735
Total nonspendable fund balance	<u>1,029</u>	<u>268,735</u>	<u>269,764</u>
<b>Restricted:</b>			
Library	86,505	-	86,505
Grants	406,230	-	406,230
Permanent - income balance	-	65,466	65,466
Total restricted fund balance	<u>492,735</u>	<u>65,466</u>	<u>558,201</u>
<b>Committed:</b>			
Expendable trust	1,009,152	-	1,009,152
Conservation	-	94,376	94,376
Total committed fund balance	<u>1,009,152</u>	<u>94,376</u>	<u>1,103,528</u>

*(Continued)*



**TOWN OF NEW CASTLE, NEW HAMPSHIRE**  
**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**AS OF AND FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED**  
**JUNE 30, 2023**

Governmental fund balances continued:

	General Fund	Nonmajor Funds	Total Governmental Funds
<b>Assigned:</b>			
Encumbrances	67,008	-	67,008
<b>Unassigned</b>	1,658,346	-	1,658,346
Total governmental fund balances	<u>\$ 3,228,270</u>	<u>\$ 428,577</u>	<u>\$ 3,656,847</u>

**NOTE 18 – PRIOR PERIOD ADJUSTMENTS**

Net position/fund balance at July 1, 2022, was restated to give retroactive effect to the following prior period adjustments:

	Governmental Activities	Business-type Activities	Proprietary Fund Water	Governmental Funds General	Capital Project
Restatement to opening fund balance/net position for:					
To reclassify the capital project fund to the general fund	\$ (5,219,609)	\$ 5,219,609	\$ 5,219,609	\$ -	\$ (5,219,609)
To record additional retainage in the capital project fund	(65,585)	-	-	-	(65,585)
To reclassify interfund with the water trust fund	37,000	(37,000)	(37,000)	37,000	-
Net position/fund balance as previously reported	2,522,299	(4,486,334)	(4,825,302)	2,574,000	-
Net position/fund balance as restated	<u>\$ (2,725,895)</u>	<u>\$ 696,275</u>	<u>\$ 357,307</u>	<u>\$ 2,611,000</u>	<u>\$ (5,285,194)</u>

**NOTE 19 – RISK MANAGEMENT**

The Town is exposed to various risks of loss related to torts; theft of, damage to, or destruction of assets; errors or omissions; injuries to employees; or natural disasters. During fiscal year 2023, the Town was a member of the New Hampshire Public Risk Management Exchange (Primex<sup>3</sup>) Workers' Compensation and Property/Liability Programs.

The New Hampshire Public Risk Management Exchange (Primex<sup>3</sup>) Workers' Compensation and Property/Liability Programs are pooled risk management programs under RSAs 5-B and 281-A. Coverage was provided from July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023 by Primex<sup>3</sup>, which retained \$2,000,000 of each workers' compensation loss, \$500,000 of each liability loss, and for each property loss it is based upon the Town's property schedule on file with Primex<sup>3</sup>. The Board has decided to self-insure the aggregate exposure and has allocated funds based on actuarial analysis for that purpose. The workers' compensation section of the self-insurance membership agreement permits Primex<sup>3</sup> to make additional assessments to members should there be a deficiency in contributions for any member year, not to exceed the member's annual contribution. GASB Statement No. 10 requires members of a pool with a sharing risk to disclose if such an assessment is probable, and a reasonable estimate of the amount, if any. In fiscal year 2022-23 the Town paid \$23,997 and \$23,422 respectively, to Primex for property, liability, and worker's compensation. At this time, Primex<sup>3</sup> foresees no likelihood of any additional assessment for this or any prior year.

The Town continues to carry commercial insurance for all other risks of loss. Settled claims resulting from these risks have not exceeded commercial insurance coverage in any of the past three fiscal years.

**NOTE 20 – TAX ABATEMENTS**

Governmental Accounting Standards Board Statement No. 77 defines tax abatements as a reduction in tax revenues that results from an agreement between one or more governments and an individual or entity in which (a) one or more governments promise to forgo tax revenues to which they are otherwise entitled and (b) the individual or entity promises to take a specific action after the agreement has been entered into that contributes to economic development or otherwise benefits the governments or the citizens of those governments.

The Town had no such agreements for the year ended June 30, 2023.

***TOWN OF NEW CASTLE, NEW HAMPSHIRE***  
***NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS***  
***AS OF AND FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED***  
***JUNE 30, 2023***

***NOTE 21 – CONTINGENT LIABILITIES***

The Town participates in various federal grant programs, the principal of which are subject to program compliance audits pursuant to the Single Audit Act as amended. Accordingly, the government's compliance with applicable grant requirements will be established at a future date. The amount of expenditures which may be disallowed by the granting agencies cannot be determined at this time, although the government anticipates such amounts, if any, will be immaterial.

***NOTE 22 – SUBSEQUENT EVENTS***

Subsequent events are events or transactions that occur after the balance sheet date, but before the financial statements are issued. Recognized subsequent events are events or transactions that provided additional evidence about conditions that existed at the balance sheet date, including the estimates inherent in the process of preparing the financial statements. Nonrecognized subsequent events are events that provide evidence about conditions that did not exist at the balance sheet date but arose after the date. Management has evaluated subsequent events through February 27, 2024, the date the June 30, 2023 financial statements were available to be issued, and the no events occurred that require recognition or disclosure.

***REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION***

**EXHIBIT G**  
**TOWN OF NEW CASTLE, NEW HAMPSHIRE**  
*Schedule of the Town's Proportionate Share of Net Pension Liability*  
**New Hampshire Retirement System Cost Sharing Multiple Employer Defined Benefit Plan**  
**For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2023**

	June 30, 2014	June 30, 2015	June 30, 2016	June 30, 2017	June 30, 2018	June 30, 2019	June 30, 2020	June 30, 2021	June 30, 2022	June 30, 2023
Fiscal year-end										
Measurement date	June 30, 2013	June 30, 2014	June 30, 2015	June 30, 2016	June 30, 2017	June 30, 2018	June 30, 2019	June 30, 2020	June 30, 2021	June 30, 2022
Town's:										
Proportion of the net pension liability	0.03%	0.03%	0.03%	0.03%	0.03%	0.03%	0.03%	0.03%	0.03%	0.03%
Proportionate share of the net pension liability	\$ 1,323,916	\$ 1,138,928	\$ 1,246,944	\$ 1,802,356	\$ 1,602,891	\$ 1,563,679	\$ 1,461,823	\$ 1,889,076	\$ 1,239,226	\$ 1,682,337
Covered payroll (as of the measurement date)	\$ 540,627	\$ 407,430	\$ 578,223	\$ 622,698	\$ 611,079	\$ 662,353	\$ 647,845	\$ 669,648	\$ 626,871	\$ 746,690
Proportionate share of the net pension liability as a percentage of its covered payroll	244.89%	279.54%	215.65%	289.44%	262.31%	236.08%	225.64%	282.10%	197.68%	225.31%
Plan fiduciary net position as a percentage of the total pension liability	66.32%	59.81%	65.47%	58.30%	62.66%	64.73%	65.59%	58.72%	72.22%	65.12%

The Note to the Required Supplementary Information – Pension Liability is an integral part of this schedule.

**EXHIBIT H**  
**TOWN OF NEW CASTLE, NEW HAMPSHIRE**  
*Schedule of Town Contributions - Pensions*  
**New Hampshire Retirement System Cost Sharing Multiple Employer Defined Benefit Plan**  
**For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2023**  
*Unaudited*

Fiscal year-end	June 30, 2014	June 30, 2015	June 30, 2016	June 30, 2017	June 30, 2018	June 30, 2019	June 30, 2020	June 30, 2021	June 30, 2022	June 30, 2023
Measurement date	June 30, 2013	June 30, 2014	June 30, 2015	June 30, 2016	June 30, 2017	June 30, 2018	June 30, 2019	June 30, 2020	June 30, 2021	June 30, 2022
Contractually required contribution	\$ 76,490	\$ 98,438	\$ 105,599	\$ 121,368	\$ 119,400	\$ 137,253	\$ 132,212	\$ 131,205	\$ 169,015	\$ 182,884
Contributions in relation to the contractually required contributions	76,490	98,438	105,599	121,368	119,400	137,253	132,212	131,205	169,015	182,884
Contribution deficiency (excess)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Town's covered payroll (as of the fiscal year end)	\$ 540,627	\$ 407,430	\$ 578,223	\$ 622,698	\$ 611,079	\$ 662,353	\$ 647,845	\$ 626,871	\$ 746,690	\$ 737,165
Contributions as a percentage of covered payroll	14.15%	24.16%	18.26%	19.49%	19.54%	20.72%	20.41%	20.93%	22.64%	24.81%

The Note to the Required Supplementary Information – Pension Liability is an integral part of this schedule.



**TOWN OF NEW CASTLE, NEW HAMPSHIRE**  
**NOTE TO THE REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION –**  
**PENSION LIABILITY**  
**FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED**  
**JUNE 30, 2023**

***Schedule of the Town's Proportionate Share of Net Pension Liability and  
Schedule of Town Contributions - Pensions***

***Changes in Benefit Terms*** – There were no changes in benefit terms for the current period.

***Changes in Assumptions*** – There were no changes in assumptions for the current period.

***Methods and Assumptions Used to Determine Contribution Rates*** – A full list of the methods and assumptions used to determine the contribution rates can be found in the most recent actuarial valuation report. This report can be located at [www.nhrs.org](http://www.nhrs.org).

As required by GASB Statement No. 68, and as amended by GASB Statement No. 71, Exhibits G and H represent the actuarial determined costs associated with the Town's pension plan at June 30, 2023. These schedules are presented to illustrate the requirement to show information for 10 years. However, until a full 10-year trend is compiled, information is presented for those years for which information is available.

**EXHIBIT I**  
**TOWN OF NEW CASTLE, NEW HAMPSHIRE**  
*Schedule of the Town's Proportionate Share of the Net Other Postemployment Benefits Liability*  
*New Hampshire Retirement System Cost Sharing Multiple Employer Defined Benefit Plan*  
*For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2023*  
**Unaudited**

Fiscal year-end	June 30, 2017	June 30, 2018	June 30, 2019	June 30, 2020	June 30, 2021	June 30, 2022	June 30, 2023
Measurement date	June 30, 2016	June 30, 2017	June 30, 2018	June 30, 2019	June 30, 2020	June 30, 2021	June 30, 2022
Town's proportion of the net OPEB liability	0.03%	0.03%	0.04%	0.04%	0.03%	0.03%	0.04%
Town's proportionate share of the net OPEB liability (asset)	\$ 135,810	\$ 124,048	\$ 186,780	\$ 165,764	\$ 146,135	\$ 131,466	\$ 132,717
Town's covered payroll (as of the measurement date)	\$ 622,698	\$ 611,079	\$ 662,353	\$ 647,845	\$ 669,648	\$ 626,871	\$ 746,690
Town's proportionate share of the net OPEB liability (asset) as a percentage of its covered payroll	21.81%	20.30%	28.20%	25.59%	21.82%	20.97%	17.77%
Plan fiduciary net position as a percentage of the total OPEB liability	5.21%	7.91%	7.53%	7.75%	7.74%	11.06%	10.64%

The Note to the Required Supplementary Information – Other Postemployment Benefit Liability is an integral part of this schedule.

**EXHIBIT J**  
**TOWN OF NEW CASTLE, NEW HAMPSHIRE**  
*Schedule of Town Contributions - Other Postemployment Benefits*  
*New Hampshire Retirement System Cost Sharing Multiple Employer Defined Benefit Plan*  
*For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2023*  
**Unaudited**

Fiscal year-end	June 30, 2017	June 30, 2018	June 30, 2019	June 30, 2020	June 30, 2021	June 30, 2022	June 30, 2023
Measurement date	June 30, 2016	June 30, 2017	June 30, 2018	June 30, 2019	June 30, 2020	June 30, 2021	June 30, 2022
Contractually required contribution	\$ 16,301	\$ 16,080	\$ 18,045	\$ 17,255	\$ 15,497	\$ 15,468	\$ 16,578
Contributions in relation to the contractually required contribution	16,301	16,080	18,045	17,255	15,497	15,468	16,578
Contribution deficiency (excess)	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>
Town's covered payroll (as of the fiscal year end)	<u>\$ 622,698</u>	<u>\$ 611,079</u>	<u>\$ 662,353</u>	<u>\$ 647,845</u>	<u>\$ 626,871</u>	<u>\$ 746,690</u>	<u>\$ 737,165</u>
Contributions as a percentage of covered payroll	2.62%	2.63%	2.72%	2.66%	2.47%	2.07%	2.25%

The Note to the Required Supplementary Information – Other Postemployment Benefit Liability is an integral part of this schedule.

**TOWN OF NEW CASTLE, NEW HAMPSHIRE**  
**NOTE TO THE REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION –**  
**OTHER POSTEMPLOYMENT BENEFIT LIABILITY**  
**FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED**  
**JUNE 30, 2023**

***Schedule of the Town's Proportionate Share of Net Other Postemployment Benefits Liability and  
Schedule of Town Contributions – Other Postemployment Benefits***

***Changes in Benefit Terms*** – There were no changes in benefit terms for the current period.

***Changes in Assumptions*** – There were no changes in assumptions for the current period.

***Methods and Assumptions Used to Determine Contribution Rates*** – A full list of the methods and assumptions used to determine the contribution rates can be found in the most recent actuarial valuation report. This report can be located at [www.nhrs.org](http://www.nhrs.org).

As required by GASB Statement No. 75, Exhibits I and J represent the actuarial determined costs associated with the Town's other postemployment benefits at June 30, 2023. These schedules are presented to illustrate the requirement to show information for 10 years. However, until a full 10-year trend is compiled, information is presented for those years for which information is available.

***COMBINING AND INDIVIDUAL FUND SCHEDULES***



**SCHEDULE 1**  
**TOWN OF NEW CASTLE, NEW HAMPSHIRE**  
**Major General Fund**  
*Schedule of Estimated and Actual Revenues (Non-GAAP Budgetary Basis)*  
**For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2023**

	Estimated	Actual	Variance Positive (Negative)
Taxes:			
Property	\$ 2,566,428	\$ 2,578,519	\$ 12,091
Interest and penalties on taxes	3,000	21,540	18,540
Total from taxes	<u>2,569,428</u>	<u>2,600,059</u>	<u>30,631</u>
Licenses, permits, and fees:			
Motor vehicle permit fees	375,000	331,679	(43,321)
Building permits	60,000	85,441	25,441
Other	17,800	17,240	(560)
Total from licenses, permits, and fees	<u>452,800</u>	<u>434,360</u>	<u>(18,440)</u>
Intergovernmental:			
State:			
Meals and rooms distribution	87,916	87,916	-
Highway block grant	19,799	36,455	16,656
Other	9,000	8,500	(500)
Federal:			
Other	-	60,024	60,024
Total from intergovernmental	<u>116,715</u>	<u>192,895</u>	<u>76,180</u>
Charges for services:			
Income from departments	<u>198,020</u>	<u>245,850</u>	<u>47,830</u>
Miscellaneous:			
Sale of municipal property	12,000	18,950	6,950
Interest on investments	1,000	43,604	42,604
Other	13,802	26,172	12,370
Total from miscellaneous	<u>26,802</u>	<u>88,726</u>	<u>61,924</u>
Other financing sources:			
Transfers in	<u>123,784</u>	<u>266,454</u>	<u>142,670</u>
Total revenues and other financing sources	3,487,549	<u>\$ 3,828,344</u>	<u>\$ 340,795</u>
Amounts voted from fund balance	275,000		
Total revenues, other financing sources, and use of fund balance	<u>\$ 3,762,549</u>		

**SCHEDULE 2**  
**TOWN OF NEW CASTLE, NEW HAMPSHIRE**  
**Major General Fund**  
*Schedule of Appropriations, Expenditures, and Encumbrances (Non-GAAP Budgetary Basis)*  
**For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2023**

	Appropriations	Expenditures	Encumbered to Subsequent Year	Variance Positive (Negative)
Current:				
General government:				
Executive	\$ 143,514	\$ 152,672	\$ -	\$ (9,158)
Election and registration	57,480	75,757	-	(18,277)
Financial administration	133,206	114,651	-	18,555
Revaluation of property	17,350	17,296	-	54
Legal	40,200	78,321	-	(38,121)
Personnel administration	-	8,485	-	(8,485)
Planning and zoning	10,444	7,788	-	2,656
General government buildings	148,510	145,111	-	3,399
Cemeteries	21,660	25,834	-	(4,174)
Insurance, not otherwise allocated	47,919	47,419	-	500
Other	35,000	-	-	35,000
Total general government	<u>655,283</u>	<u>673,334</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(18,051)</u>
Public safety:				
Police	652,523	611,138	-	41,385
Ambulance	5,000	5,000	-	-
Fire	541,806	486,645	-	55,161
Building inspection	66,572	65,020	-	1,552
Emergency management	7,994	1,887	-	6,107
Total public safety	<u>1,273,895</u>	<u>1,169,690</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>104,205</u>
Highways and streets:				
Highways and streets	164,965	133,485	-	31,480
Street lighting	5,500	4,690	-	810
Total highways and streets	<u>170,465</u>	<u>138,175</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>32,290</u>
Sanitation:				
Solid waste collection	175,000	156,703	-	18,297
Solid waste disposal	5,300	8,670	-	(3,370)
Total sanitation	<u>180,300</u>	<u>165,373</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>14,927</u>
Health:				
Administration	1,277	1,202	-	75
Pest control	23,500	20,850	-	2,650
Health agencies	11,000	11,000	-	-
Total health	<u>35,777</u>	<u>33,052</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,725</u>
Welfare:				
Administration and direct assistance	2,400	-	-	2,400
Culture and recreation:				
Parks and recreation	220,542	186,149	-	34,393
Library	106,700	110,379	-	(3,679)
Patriotic purposes	9,000	8,343	-	657
Total culture and recreation	<u>336,242</u>	<u>304,871</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>31,371</u>
Conservation	19,218	16,440	2,328	450
Debt service:				
Interest on long-term debt	50,000	-	-	50,000
Interest on tax anticipation notes	3,000	-	-	3,000
Total debt service	<u>53,000</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>53,000</u>

*(Continued)*

See Independent Auditor's Report.

**SCHEDULE 2 (Continued)**  
**TOWN OF NEW CASTLE, NEW HAMPSHIRE**  
**Major General Fund**  
*Schedule of Appropriations, Expenditures, and Encumbrances (Non-GAAP Budgetary Basis)*  
**For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2023**

	<u>Appropriations</u>	<u>Expenditures</u>	<u>Encumbered to Subsequent Year</u>	<u>Variance Positive (Negative)</u>
Capital outlay	445,969	499,609	64,680	(118,320)
Other financing uses:				
Transfers out	590,000	590,000	-	-
Total appropriations, expenditures, other financing uses, and encumbrances	<u>\$ 3,762,549</u>	<u>\$ 3,590,544</u>	<u>\$ 67,008</u>	<u>\$ 104,997</u>

**SCHEDULE 3**  
**TOWN OF NEW CASTLE, NEW HAMPSHIRE**  
**Major General Fund**  
**Schedule of Changes in Unassigned Fund Balance**  
**For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2023**

Unassigned fund balance, beginning (Non-GAAP Budgetary Basis)		\$ 1,498,816
Changes:		
Amounts voted from fund balance		(275,000)
2022-23 Budget summary:		
Revenue surplus (Schedule 1)	\$ 340,795	
Unexpended balance of appropriations (Schedule 2)	<u>104,997</u>	
2022-23 Budget surplus		445,792
Increase in restricted fund balance		<u>(11,262)</u>
Unassigned fund balance, ending, GAAP basis (Exhibit C-1)		<u><u>\$ 1,658,346</u></u>

**SCHEDULE 4**  
**TOWN OF NEW CASTLE, NEW HAMPSHIRE**  
*Nonmajor Governmental Funds*  
**Combining Balance Sheet**  
**June 30, 2023**

	Special Revenue		Total
	Fund	Permanent	
	Conservation	Fund	
<b>ASSETS</b>			
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 94,376	\$ 19,477	\$ 113,853
Investments	-	314,724	314,724
Total assets	<u>\$ 94,376</u>	<u>\$ 334,201</u>	<u>\$ 428,577</u>
<b>FUND BALANCES</b>			
Nonspendable	\$ -	\$ 268,735	\$ 268,735
Restricted	-	65,466	65,466
Committed	94,376	-	94,376
Total fund balances	<u>\$ 94,376</u>	<u>\$ 334,201</u>	<u>\$ 428,577</u>

See Independent Auditor's Report.



**SCHEDULE 5**  
**TOWN OF NEW CASTLE, NEW HAMPSHIRE**  
*Nonmajor Governmental Funds*  
**Combining Schedule of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balances**  
**For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2023**

	Special Revenue		Total
	Fund Conservation	Permanent Fund	
<b>REVENUES</b>			
Miscellaneous	\$ 573	\$ 21,131	\$ 21,704
<b>EXPENDITURES</b>			
Current:			
General government	-	3,887	3,887
Net change in fund balances	573	17,244	17,817
Fund balances, beginning	93,803	316,957	410,760
Fund balances, ending	<u>\$ 94,376</u>	<u>\$ 334,201</u>	<u>\$ 428,577</u>

See Independent Auditor's Report.

**SCHEDULE 6**  
**TOWN OF NEW CASTLE, NEW HAMPSHIRE**  
**Custodial Funds**  
**Combining Schedule of Fiduciary Net Position**  
**June 30, 2023**

	Custodial Funds			Total
	Taxes	School Trust Funds	State of NH Motor Vehicle	
<b>ASSETS</b>				
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ -	\$ 203,413	\$ -	\$ 203,413
Investments	-	117,456	-	117,456
Total assets	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 320,869</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 320,869</u>
<b>NET POSITION</b>				
Restricted	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 320,869</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 320,869</u>

**SCHEDULE 7**  
**TOWN OF NEW CASTLE, NEW HAMPSHIRE**  
**Custodial Funds**  
**Combining Schedule of Changes in Fiduciary Net Position**  
**For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2023**

	Custodial Funds			Total
	Taxes	School Trust Funds	State of NH Motor Vehicle	
<b>ADDITIONS</b>				
Investment earnings	\$ -	\$ 9,037	\$ -	\$ 9,037
Tax collections for other governments	2,230,261	-	-	2,230,261
Motor vehicle fees collected	-	-	73,739	73,739
Total additions	<u>2,230,261</u>	<u>9,037</u>	<u>73,739</u>	<u>2,313,037</u>
<b>DEDUCTIONS</b>				
Payments of taxes to other governments	2,230,261	-	-	2,230,261
Payments to other governments	-	-	73,739	73,739
Total deductions	<u>2,230,261</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>73,739</u>	<u>2,304,000</u>
Change in net position	-	9,037	-	9,037
Net position, beginning	-	311,832	-	311,832
Net position, ending	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 320,869</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 320,869</u>

## NEW CASTLE MUNICIPAL OFFICES

**Select Board's Office**

Mon., Tues, Wed., Thurs.  
Town Office Fax

603-431-6710 ext 1  
8am to 2pm  
603-433-6198

**Town Clerk**

Mon., Wed. & Thursday

603-431-6710 ext 2  
8am to noon

**Tax Collector**

603-431-6710 ext 43

**Finance Administrator**

Mon., Tues, Wed., Thurs.

603-431-6710 ext 16  
8am to 2pm

**Library**

Tuesday  
Wednesday  
Thursday  
Friday  
Saturday

603-431-6773  
12 to 5pm  
12 to 5pm  
9am to 3pm  
12 to 5pm  
9am to noon

**Fire/EMT's – Emergency**

Business Line  
Fire Fax

911 or 603-436-2515  
603-436-1132  
603-430-0162

**Police – Emergency**

Business Line  
Police Fax

911 or 436-3113  
603-436-3800  
603-436-7710

**Building Inspector**

Monday - Thursday

603-431-6710 ext 5  
7am to 2:30pm

**Land Use Assistant / REC Desk**

Monday - Thursday

603-431-6710 ext 12  
7am to 2:30pm

**All Town Boards**

603-431-6710

**Road Agent / DPW**

**Supr. Of Public Works**

603-431-6710 ext 4  
603-431-6710 ext 4

**Website**

[www.newcastlenh.org](http://www.newcastlenh.org)

**REC Desk (GIC Reservations)**

<https://newcastlenh.recdesk.com>

## CHARTER OF THE TOWN OF NEW CASTLE

William and Mary, by the Grace of God, of England, Scotland, France, and Ireland, King and Queen, Defenders of the Faith, &c., to all people to whom these presents shall Come Greeting. Know yee that Wee of our especiall Grace, certain knowledge, and meer motion, have Given and Granted And by these presents as farr as in us lyes, Doe give and Grant to our beloved Subjects, Men and Inhabitants, within and upon Great Island, within our Province of New Hampshire, in New England, and the lands to them belonging, Running from a point of Land there on the South side of Saggamores Creek, called Sampson's point, and from thence Southwest by the outside of the fenced land of Saggamores Creek to the head of Aaron Moses field to an old Hemlock Tree by the side of the Road way, and from thence upon the aforesaid Southwest point to the Road way, between Sandy Beach and Greenland, leaving Greenland about three miles to the Westwards soe forwards upon the same point to Hampton Bounds, and then East to the Sea, that the same be aa Towne Corporate by the name of New Castle to the men and Inhabitants thereof forever. And Wee doe these presents Give and Grant unto the said Men and Inhabitants of our towne of New Castle, all and every, the streetes, lanes and highways within the said Towne, for the Publique use and service of the Men and Inhabitants thereof and travellers there, together with full power, lycence and authority to the said men and inhabitants within the said town forever, to establish, appoint, order and direct the establishing, making, laying out, ordering amending and repairing of all streetes, lanes, highways, ferry places and Bridges, in and throughout the said Towne, necessary, needful and convenient for the Men and Inhabitants of the said towne, and for all travellers and passengers there: Provided always that our said Lycence soe as above granted for the establishing, making and laying out of streetes, lanes, highways, ferry places, and Bridges, be not extended or constructed to extend to the taking away of any person or persons Right of Property without his, her, or their consent, or by some knowne law of our Province: To have and to hold and enjoy, all and singular, the premisses aforesaid, to the said Men and Inhabitants of the said Towne of New Castle and their successors forever, Rendering and paying therefore unto us, our heirs and successors, or to such other office or officers as shall be appointed to receive the same yearly, the annual quitt rent or acknowledgement of Owne Peppercorn in the said Towne, on the five and twentieth day of October, yearly, forever. And for the better order, rule and government of the said Towne Wee doe by these presents Grant for us and our successors, unto the men and inhabitants of the said Towne, That yearly and every year upon the first Tuesday of March, forever, they, the said men and inhabitants of our said Towne shall elect and choose by the major part of them, two sufficient and able men, householders in the said Towne, to be Constables to the next Quarter Sessions of the Peace, to be held for the said Province, there to take the accustomed oaths appointed by Law for the Execution of their offices, under such penalties as the Law of our said Province shall appoint and direct upon refusall or neglect therein. And Wee doe by these presents Grant for us, our Heirs and successors, unto the men and Inhabitants of the said Towne, That yearly and every year upon the said first Tuesday of March, forever, they, the said men and Inhabitants of our said Towne, or the major part of them, shall elect and choose three men, Inhabitants and householders, within our said Towne, to be overseers of the poor and highways, or selectmen for our said Towne, for the year ensuing, with such powers, priviledges and authorities as any overseers or selectmen within our said Province have and enjoy or ought to have and enjoy. And wee doe further by these presents Give and Grant for us, our Heirs and successors, unto the men and inhabitants of the said Towne and their successors, forever, That they shall have and enjoy the use of the Ferry the days of the Fairs of New Castle, aforesaid, forever, to be held there every Wednesday, and one Fair for two dayes, to witt, on the first Tuesday and Wednesdayes of July, forever, together with all issues and profits to the said Market and Fair accrewing or happening, and all liberties and free customs, priviledges and emoluments to the said Market and Fair belonging or appertaining: To have and to hold said Market and Fair with issues and profits and liberties and free customs priviledges and emoluments to the same or either of them accrewing or happening, belonging or appertaining to the said men and Inhabitants of our said Towne of New Castle and their successors, forever.

In testimony whereof We have caused the Seal of our Province to be hereunto affixed.

Witness, John Usher Esqr., our Lievetennt. Governor and Commander in Chiefe of our said Province at our said Towne of New Castle, the thirtyeth day of May, in the fifth year of our Reigne, Annoque Domi 1693.

Jn. Usher.  
By the Lievt. Governours Command  
Theo. Davis Sec'ry.









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ARTIST'S SIGNATURE