

SAMPLE BALLOT



OFFICIAL BALLOT  
ANNUAL TOWN ELECTION  
SALEM, NEW HAMPSHIRE  
MARCH 11, 2025

BALLOT 1 OF 2

*Jessan M. Hale*  
TOWN CLERK

INSTRUCTIONS TO VOTERS

- A. TO VOTE, completely fill in the OVAL to the RIGHT of your choice(s) like this: ●
- B. Follow directions as to the number of candidates to be marked for each office.
- C. To vote for a person whose name is not printed on the ballot, write the candidate's name on the line provided and completely fill in the OVAL.

FOR TOWN COUNCILOR

Vote for not  
For THREE Years more than THREE

BONNIE WRIGHT ☐

ROBERT MORIN ☐

PAUL PELLETIER ☐

KEITH STRAMAGLIA ☐

☐ (Write-in)

☐ (Write-in)

☐ (Write-in)

FOR BUDGET COMMITTEE

Vote for not  
For THREE Years more than TWO

MISSIE BANKS ☐

BRIAN THORNOCK ☐

☐ (Write-in)

☐ (Write-in)

FOR TOWN MODERATOR

Vote for not  
For ONE Year more than ONE

BERNARD W. CAMPBELL ☐

☐ (Write-in)

FOR LIBRARY TRUSTEE

Vote for not  
For THREE Years more than ONE

DAVID HICKERNELL ☐

DOUGLAS R. KNIGHT ☐

☐ (Write-in)

FOR TRUSTEE OF  
THE TRUST FUNDS

Vote for not  
For THREE Years more than ONE

GREGORY DAVIS ☐

☐ (Write-in)

FOR PLANNING BOARD

Vote for not  
For THREE Years more than TWO

SEAN LEWIS ☐

CHARLES SABA ☐

☐ (Write-in)

☐ (Write-in)

FOR ZONING BOARD  
OF ADJUSTMENT

Vote for not  
For ONE Year more than ONE

DANIEL GUILD ☐

☐ (Write-in)

FOR ZONING BOARD  
OF ADJUSTMENT

Vote for not  
For THREE Years more than ONE

DIONNE GARON ☐

☐ (Write-in)

ARTICLES

Article 02: Charter Amendment 1:

Shall the Town of Salem approve Charter Amendment 1 below relative to amending Section 3.2 of the Charter by clarifying the timeline for the Town Council's organizational meeting?

The proposed amendment relates to Section 3.2 of the Town Charter by specifying that the Town Council's organizational meeting shall occur within ten (10) calendar days following the certification of the annual town election results. The amendment further clarifies the timeline for the Councilors to take their oaths of office, adopt rules, and conduct business required by law or ordinance.

YES ☐  
NO ☐

Recommendations: Town Council: With Budget Committee: N/A

Article 03: Charter Amendment 2:

Shall the Town of Salem approve Charter Amendment 2 below relative to amending Section 3.3.1 of the Charter to clarify the residency qualifications for Town Council candidates and further create a new Section 3.3.5 requiring candidates to file a declaration of candidacy form?

The proposed amendment relates to Section 3.3.1 of the Town Charter by clarifying the qualifications for candidates running for the office of Town Councilor. The amendment removes the section requiring the candidate to be a resident of Town for at least one (1) calendar year but makes it necessary for them to be a registered voter of the town per RSA 669:19. Additionally, the amendment incorporates language consistent with state law requiring candidates to file a formal "declaration of candidacy" as part of their eligibility for office.

YES ☐  
NO ☐

Recommendations: Town Council: With Budget Committee: N/A

TURN BALLOT OVER AND CONTINUE VOTING

# SAMPLE BALLOT

ARTICLES CONTINUED

Article 04: Charter Amendment 3:

Shall the Town of Salem approve Charter Amendment 3 below relative to amending Section 8.7 of the Charter to align penalties for violations of the Charter with statutory authority and remove language creating enforceable misdemeanors?

The proposed amendment relates to Section 8.7 of the Town Charter by updating the language regarding violations and penalties to align with state law. The amendment removes the provision that makes willful violations of the Charter misdemeanors, as the Town does not have the statutory authority to create enforceable misdemeanors.

Recommendations:

Town Council: With

Budget Committee: N/A

YES

NO

Article 05: Charter Amendment 4:

Shall the Town of Salem approve Charter Amendment 4 below relative to deleting §2.10 of the Charter regarding campaign finance reporting?

This amendment relates to §2.10 of the Town Charter, which requires the Town Council to adopt a Town Ordinance mandating campaign finance reporting for candidates and interest groups participating in municipal elections. The proposed amendment deletes §2.10 entirely from the Charter.

Recommendations:

Town Council: With

Budget Committee: N/A

YES

NO

Article 06: Charter Amendment 5:

Shall the Town of Salem approve the amendments to Article 6 of the Town Charter to revise and enhance the Code of Ethics for Elected and Appointed Officials (EOOs), providing clearer definitions, roles, and expectations? These amendments clarify the exclusion of Town employees from Article 6, establish mandatory annual ethics training for EOs, and ensure more comprehensive guidance to support the Ethics Committee's responsibilities.

The proposed amendments to Article 6 of the Town Charter aim to modernize and clarify the Code of Ethics for Elected and Appointed Officials (EOOs). Key changes include:

• Refined Definitions: Ensuring consistency in the use of terms such as EOs and excluding Town employees from the provisions of this Article.

• Annual Training Requirement: Mandating the Ethics Committee to provide annual training for all EOs to strengthen understanding and adherence to ethical standards.

• Enhanced Ethics Committee Roles: Clarifying processes and responsibilities of the Ethics Committee, including investigation protocols, advisory opinions, and complaint handling.

• Alignment with Intent: Reinforcing the original goals of the Charter to promote integrity, transparency, and accountability among public officials.

YES

NO

These revisions are designed to better support ethical governance and uphold public trust in Salem's government.

Recommendations:

Town Council: With

Budget Committee: N/A

Article 07: CWSRF Loan - Stormwater Management Planning

\$100,000

Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of One Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$100,000) for the purpose of stormwater planning work to improve receiving water quality through the development of a watershed management plan for Arlington Pond, and to authorize the issuance of not more than \$100,000 of bonds or notes in accordance with the provisions of the Municipal Finance Act (RSA 33), and to authorize the Town Council to issue and negotiate such bonds or notes and to determine the rate of interest thereon, and to further authorize the Town Council to offset a portion of said appropriation by applying for and accepting a Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) loan, it being understood that repayment of the loan may include up to 100% principal forgiveness. This project is contingent upon approval of a CWSRF loan application. Requires a 3/5 ballot vote.

Recommendations:

Town Council: With

Budget Committee: With

YES

NO

Article 08: 2025 Operating Budget

\$73,861,954

Shall the Town raise and appropriate as an operating budget, not including appropriations by special warrant articles and other appropriations voted separately, the amounts set forth on the budget posted with the warrant or as amended by vote of the first session, for the purposes set forth therein, totaling \$73,861,954? Should this article be defeated, the default budget shall be \$62,713,012, which is the same as last year, with certain adjustments required by previous action of the Town or by law; or the Town Council may hold one (1) special meeting, in accordance with RSA 40:13, X and XVI, to take up the issue of a revised operating budget only.

Recommendations:

Town Council: With

Budget Committee: Without

YES

NO

Article 09: 2025 Road Construction and Engineering Program

\$3,400,000

Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Three Million Four Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$3,400,000) to be added to the Roadway Capital Reserve Fund previously established in 1990 for the purpose of repair and/or reconstruction of existing roads, associated drainage improvements, right-of-way work as necessary, and engineering? Shall the Town further authorize the Town Council to accept any and all State Aid or other revenue source that may become available for this work and to take any other action relative thereto including acquiring or conveying interests in real property necessary to complete the work? The funds will be used for the improvement, reconstruction, maintenance, crack sealing, drainage, and associated attributes as necessary for complete streets engineering and construction of roads as outlined in the Annual Road Program.

Recommendations:

Town Council: With

Budget Committee: With

YES

NO

GO TO NEXT BALLOT AND CONTINUE VOTING

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BALLOT 2 OF 2

*Susan M. Hale*  
TOWN CLERK

ARTICLES CONTINUED

**Article 10: Municipal Equipment Purchases and Facility Improvements**

\$277,840

Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Two Hundred Seventy-Seven Thousand Eight Hundred Forty Dollars (\$277,840) for the purpose of funding the following municipal facility improvements and equipment purchases?

Purchase of a skid steer for Municipal Services: \$34,900

Paving the rear parking lot at Central Fire: \$100,000

Purchase of large garage lifts for the Fleet Division at Municipal Services: \$71,713

Replacement of flooring at the Fire Station and Town Hall: \$46,927

Replacement of windows at the Hose House (Old Fire Station): \$24,300

YES

NO

Recommendations:

Town Council: With

Budget Committee: Without

**Article 11: Other Post-Employment (OPEB) Trust Fund**

\$50,000

Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000) to be placed in the Other Post-Employment Benefits (OPEB) Trust Fund, previously established in accordance with New Hampshire RSA Chapter 31:19-c for the purpose of paying for other post-employment benefits to employees and their beneficiaries after their termination of service as provided in the law and administrative expenses, with \$40,000 to come from the taxation, \$5,000 from the sewer fund, and \$5,000 from the water fund?

YES

NO

Recommendations:

Town Council: With

Budget Committee: With

**Article 12: Town Facility Maintenance & Improvement Capital Reserve Fund**

\$50,000

Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000) to be placed in the Town Facility Maintenance and Improvement Capital Reserve Fund previously established in 2021 for the purpose of future repairs, improvements, and/or replacement for all municipal facilities?

YES

NO

Recommendations:

Town Council: With

Budget Committee: With

**Article 13: Kelley Library Capital Reserve Fund**

\$8,000

Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Eight Thousand Dollars (\$8,000) to be placed in the Kelley Library Building Capital Reserve Fund previously established in 2010 for the purpose of funding capital improvements to the building from unassigned fund balance?

YES

NO

Recommendations:

Town Council: With

Budget Committee: With

**Article 14: Adoption of Salem Community Choice Electric Aggregation Plan**

N/A

Shall the Town of Salem vote to adopt the Salem Community Choice Electric Aggregation Plan which authorizes the Town Council to develop and implement a Salem Community Choice Aggregation Program as described therein (pursuant to RSA 53-E)?

YES

NO

This program would allow the Town to provide Salem residents and businesses access to competitive markets for supplies of energy and related energy services. Majority vote required.

Recommendations:

Town Council: With

Budget Committee: N/A

**Article 15: Redistribution of Election Districts**

N/A

Shall the Town pursue a redistribution of the Town's election districts? This redistribution plan includes reducing the number of polling places from five to four by closing the Soule School polling district, relocating the Senior Center polling district to the Woodbury School, and renumbering the districts to ensure they are consecutive.

YES

NO

Recommendations:

Town Council: With

Budget Committee: With

**Article 16: By Petition: Kelley Library Elevator Repair**

\$15,083

By Petition: Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Fifteen Thousand Eighty-Three Dollars (\$15,083) for the purpose of being added to the Kelley Library Capital Reserve Fund to replace the elevator's rusted hydraulic fluid tank.

YES

NO

Recommendations:

Town Council: With

Budget Committee: With

TURN BALLOT OVER AND CONTINUE VOTING

# SAMPLE BALLOT

ARTICLES CONTINUED		
<b>Article 17: By Petition: The Upper Room</b>	<b>\$7,500</b>	<b>YES</b> <input type="radio"/>
By Petition: Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Seven Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$7,500) for the purpose of strengthening individuals and families by providing them with the education services and resources needed to lead healthy self-sufficient lives through The Upper Room, a Family Resource Center's 18 prevention, intervention, and engagement programs for children, youth, and families?		<b>NO</b> <input type="radio"/>
Recommendations: Town Council: Without		Budget Committee: Without
<b>Article 18: By Petition: Isaiah 58</b>	<b>\$10,000</b>	<b>YES</b> <input type="radio"/>
By Petition: Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000) for the purpose of providing housing and/or services to the unhoused or housing insecure population of the Town of Salem through Isaiah 58 NH?		<b>NO</b> <input type="radio"/>
Recommendations: Town Council: Without		Budget Committee: Without
<b>Article 19: By Petition: Field of Dreams</b>	<b>\$10,000</b>	<b>YES</b> <input type="radio"/>
By Petition: Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000) for the purpose of maintaining the Field of Dreams and raising funds for improvements?		<b>NO</b> <input type="radio"/>
Recommendations: Town Council: With		Budget Committee: With
<div>YOU HAVE NOW COMPLETED VOTING THIS BALLOT</div>		