



Alstead

The inhabitants of the Town of Alstead in the County of Cheshire 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 (Deliberative Session)

Date: Saturday, February 7, 2026

Time: 10:00 AM

Location: Alstead Town Hall, 9 Main St., Alstead, NH 03602

Second Session of Annual Meeting (Official Ballot Voting)

Date: Tuesday, March 10, 2026

Time: 8:00 AM – 7:00 PM

Location: Alstead Town Hall, 9 Main St., Alstead, NH 03602

GOVERNING BODY CERTIFICATION

We certify and attest that on or before January 26, 2026 a true and attested copy of this document was posted at the place of meeting and at the Municipal Offices and that an original was delivered to the Town Clerk.

Name	Position	Signature
Joel McCarty	Selectman	
Gordon Kemp	Selectman	
Joseph Levesque	Selectman	



Article 01 Election of Officers

To choose all necessary Town Officers for the ensuing year.

Article 02 Adoption of Proposed Zoning Amendment No. 1

Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 1 as proposed by the Alstead Planning Board to amend the Town Zoning Ordinance as follows: Updates the ordinance to conform with 2025 state law changes (RSA 674:71-73) by allowing one attached or detached Accessory Dwelling Unit (ADU) by right on lots with single-family dwellings and adding associated definitions and regulations. This article is recommended by the Planning Board. (Majority vote required)

Article 03 Adoption of Proposed Zoning Amendment No. 2

Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No.2 as proposed by the Alstead Planning Board for the Town's Zoning Ordinance as follows: Replaces "roadside produce stand for sale of products grown on-premises" with "Roadside Farm Stand" and adds associated definitions and regulations. This article is recommended by the Planning Board. (Majority vote required)

Article 04 Adoption of Proposed Zoning Amendment No. 3

Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No.3 as proposed by the Alstead Planning Board for the Town's Zoning Ordinance as follows: Amend Article IV, Section E OFF-STREET PARKING by changing the requirement shown in the table for "Residential" from "2 per Dwelling Unit" to "1 per Dwelling Unit" per 2025 updated RSA 674:16, VII. This article is recommended by the Planning Board. (Majority vote required)

Article 05 Operating Budget

To see if the Town will vote to 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 \$2,248,566. Should this article be defeated, the default budget shall be \$2,138,431, which is the same as last year, with certain adjustments required by previous action of the Town of Alstead or by law; or the governing body may hold one special meeting, in accordance with RSA 40:13, X and XVI, to take up the issue of a revised operating budget only. This article is recommended by the Select Board (3-0). (Majority Vote Required) (Tax impact: \$4.16 per \$1000)

Article 06 Paving Thayer Brook Road

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$430,000 for the purpose of paving portions of Thayer Brook Road, Corbin Road, and Rhoades Road. \$430,000 of said funds to come from unassigned fund balance. (Majority Vote Required) (No amount to be raised from new taxation) This article is recommended by the Select Board (3-0).



Article 07 Replace Thayer Brook Bridge

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$300,000 for the purpose of replacing the bridge on Thayer Brook Road that was destroyed in the 2023 flooding, and to authorize the withdrawal of \$120,000 from the Bridge Capital Reserve Fund created for that purpose, and \$180,000 to come from FEMA disaster reimbursement funds. (Majority Vote Required) (No amount to be raised from new taxation) This article is recommended by the Select Board (3-0).

Article 08 Create Reappraisal Capital Reserve Fund

To see if the Town will vote to establish a Reappraisal Capital Reserve Fund under the provisions of RSA 35:1 for the purpose of funding a reappraisal of the real estate in the Town of Alstead for tax assessment purposes, and to raise and appropriate the sum of \$7000 to be placed in this fund. (Majority Vote Required) (Tax impact: 2 cents per \$1000) This article is recommended by the Select Board (3-0).

Article 09 Create Fuel Station Capital Reserve Fund

To see if the Town will vote to establish a Fuel Station Capital Reserve Fund under the provisions of RSA 35:1 for the purpose of purchasing, upgrading, or replacing in part or in whole, the Fuel Station at the DPW garage, and to raise and appropriate the sum of \$500 to be placed in this fund. (Majority Vote Required) (Tax impact: Less than 1 cent (\$0.0016) per \$1000) This article is recommended by the Select Board (3-0).

Article 10 Add to Dam Capital Reserve Fund

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$50,000 to be added to the Dam Capital Reserve Fund previously established in 2025. (Majority Vote Required) (Tax impact: 16 cents per \$1000) This article is recommended by the Select Board (3-0).

Article 11 Add to Transfer Station Capital Reserve Fund

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$20,000 to be added to the Transfer Station Capital Reserve Fund previously established in 2015. (Majority Vote Required) (Tax impact: 6 cents per \$1000) This article is recommended by the Select Board (3-0).

Article 12 Add to Library Capital Reserve Fund

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$15,000 to be added to the Shedd-Porter Memorial Library Capital Reserve Fund previously established in 2010. Further, to name the Library Trustees as agents to expend from said fund. (Majority vote required) (Tax impact: 5 cents per \$1000) This article is recommended by the Select Board (3-0).



Article 13 Add to Ambulance Capital Reserve Fund

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,000 to be added to the Ambulance Capital Reserve Fund previously established in 1992. (Majority vote required) (Tax impact: Less than 1 cent (\$0.0032) per \$1000) This article is recommended by the Select Board (3-0).

Article 14 Add to Police Capital Reserve Fund

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$5,000 to be added to the Police Capital Reserve Fund previously established in 2011. (Majority Vote Required) (Tax impact: 2 cents per \$1000) This article is recommended by the Select Board (3-0).

Article 15 Add to Highway Capital Reserve Fund

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$215,000 to be added to the Highway Capital Reserve Fund previously established in 1988, \$75,000 to come from unassigned fund balance, and \$140,000 to come from new taxation. (Majority Vote Required) (Tax impact: 46 cents per \$1000) This article is recommended by the Select Board (3-0).

Article 16 Add to Vilas Pool Capital Reserve Fund

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1 to be added to the Vilas Pool Capital Reserve Fund previously established in 2020. (Majority Vote Required) (Tax impact: 0 cents per \$1000) This article is recommended by the Select Board (3-0).

Article 17 Add to Fire Department Capital Reserve Fund

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$20,000 to be added to the Fire Department Capital Reserve Fund previously established in 1992. (Majority Vote Required) (Tax impact: 6 cents per \$1000) This article is recommended by the Select Board (3-0).

Article 18 Add to Backup Generator Capital Reserve Fund

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$250 to be added to the Backup Generator Capital Reserve Fund previously established in 2024. (Majority Vote Required) (Tax impact: Less than 1 cent (\$0.0008) per \$1000) This article is recommended by the Select Board (3-0).

Article 19 Add to Bridge Capital Reserve Fund

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$25,000 to be added to the Bridge Capital Reserve Fund previously established in 2012. (Majority Vote Required) (Tax impact: 8 cents per \$1000) This article is recommended by the Select Board (3-0).



Article 20 Add to Police Department Body and Dash Camera Capital Reserve Fund

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$500 to be added to the Police Department Body and Dash Camera Capital Reserve Fund previously established in 2025. (Majority Vote Required) (Tax impact: Less than 1 cent (\$0.0016) per \$1000) This article is recommended by the Select Board (3-0).

Article 21 Fire Department Apparatus

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$350,000 for the purpose of purchasing fire apparatus, and to authorize the withdrawal of \$350,000 from the Fire Department Capital Reserve Fund created for that purpose in 1992. (Majority Vote Required) (No amount to be raised from new taxation.) This article is recommended by the Select Board (2-1).

Article 22 Fire Department Turnout Gear

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$12,200 for the purpose of purchasing new sets of turnout gear. (Majority Vote Required) (Tax impact: 4 cents per \$1000) This article is recommended by the Select Board (3-0).

Article 23 Fire Department Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA)

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1 for the purpose of purchasing SCBA air packs. (Majority Vote Required) (Tax impact: 0 cents per \$1000) This article is recommended by the Select Board (3-0).

Article 24 Police Department Computers

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$5,500 for the purpose of purchasing computers for the Police Department. (Majority Vote Required) (Tax impact: 2 cents per \$1000) This article is recommended by the Select Board (3-0).

Article 25 Financial Services

To see if the Town will vote to approve a three-year contract with Municipal Resources, Inc. for fund accounting software and managed financial services, with each year of the cost items of said contract as follows:

Fiscal Year 2026 - \$35,400

Fiscal year 2027 - \$35,400

Fiscal year 2028 - \$35,400

and further to raise and appropriate the sum of \$35,400 for the current fiscal year. If this Article passes, the annual cost for 2027 and 2028 will be included in the operating and default budgets for those years. (Majority Vote Required) (Tax impact: 11 cents per \$1000) This article is recommended by the Select Board (3-0).



Article 26 Design and Permit Dredging of Vilas Pool

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1 for the purpose of designing and permitting a project to dredge Vilas Pool. (Majority vote required) (Tax impact: 0 cents per \$1000)

Article 27 Appointed Town Treasurer

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board to appoint a town treasurer in accordance with RSA 41:26-e, rather than electing a treasurer. (Majority vote required) This article is recommended by the Select Board (3-0).

Article 28 Remove Portion of Lot from Town Forest

To see if the Town will vote to remove from Town Forest designation approximately 0.158 acres of Town-owned land located on the west side of Newell Pond Road, being part of Map 018 Lot 015, bordered generally by Lots 9, 16, and 17, and to return that portion to the general ownership and control of the Town. (Majority vote required) This article is recommended by the Select Board (3-0).

Article 29 Exemption for Deaf or Severely Hearing-Impaired Persons

To see if the Town will adopt the provisions of RSA 72:38-b for an exemption for the deaf or severely hearing-impaired persons as follows: the exemption from assessed value for qualified taxpayers shall be \$15,000. To qualify, the person must:
meet the definition of a "deaf person or person with severe hearing impairment" under RSA 72:38-b (II);
be a resident of the State of New Hampshire for at least five (5) consecutive years prior to April 1 in which the exemption is sought;
occupy the property as his/her principal place of abode;
own the property (as defined in RSA 72:27(VI)) individually or jointly, or if owned by a spouse, they must have been married for at least five (5) consecutive years;
had in the calendar year preceding April 1 a net income from all sources of not more than \$37,000 if single and \$47,000 if married; and own net assets not in excess of \$94,500, excluding the value of the person's residence as described in RSA 72:38-b (III).
(Majority Vote Required) (Tax Impact: 0 cents per \$1000 for 2026. If passed, this Exemption will begin in 2027.) This article is recommended by the Select Board (3-0).

Article 30 Sale of Bragg Lane

To see if the Town will vote on whether to consider selling the lot known as Bragg Lane, tax map 011 Lot 128. (Majority Vote Required) This article is recommended by the Select Board (2-1).



Article 31 Voting Tabulator Contract

To see if the Town will vote to approve a five-year contract with VotingWorks for a vote tabulator system, annual support services, and election ballot programming and support, with each year of the cost items of said contract as follows:

Fiscal year 2026 - \$2000

Fiscal year 2027 - \$1500

Fiscal year 2028 - \$4000

Fiscal year 2029 - \$1500

Fiscal year 2030 - \$3000

and further to raise and appropriate the sum of \$6000 for the current year 2026, which includes the \$4000 purchase price of the system. (Majority Vote Required) (Tax impact: 2 cents per \$1000) This article is recommended by the Select Board (2-1).

Article 32 Rescind SB2

To see if the Town will vote to rescind the provision of RSA 40:13 (known as SB2). The Town of Alstead adopted SB2 on Tuesday, March 12, 1996. If rescinded, the official ballot will no longer be used for voting on all questions, but only for the election of officers and certain other questions for which the official ballot is required by state law. This would cause the Town of Alstead to return to traditional Town Meeting format. (3/5 Majority vote required) This article is recommended by the Select Board (3-0).

Article 33 Taxpayer Protection

Do we call on the New Hampshire Legislature to protect local taxpayers by ensuring adequate state revenues for essential services, and by avoiding policies that shift costs onto local property taxpayers?

This question arises because recent state budgets have reduced or eliminated key revenue sources, forcing towns and counties to raise property taxes to maintain education, healthcare, county nursing homes, public safety, and infrastructure. These shifts burden working families, strain local budgets, limit flexibility, and undermine long-term community prosperity. A state budget that prevents cost-shifting and restores municipal revenue sharing eases the tax burden on local property taxpayers and strengthens communities.

Be it further resolved that the Alstead Town Clerk shall send electronically the results of this vote to the Governor and all members of the General Court within 30 days.

(This Article is on the Ballot by Petition) (Majority Vote Required) (No amount to be raised from new taxation)

Article 34 Education Freedom Accounts

Shall we call on our legislators to protect taxpayers by requiring the Education Freedom Account program to provide fiscal and educational performance reports comparable to those required of public schools, and by limiting eligibility to families with demonstrated financial need?

This question is raised because state legislators recently removed all income limits from the Education Freedom Account program (vouchers), expanding it beyond its original purpose. These changes added tens of millions of dollars in costs while the program provides limited public information on how funds are spent or if educational standards are being met.



The voucher program is projected to cost \$110 million over the next two years, with no new revenue sources identified. This directs public funds to private education without reducing the expenses public schools are constitutionally required to cover, increasing pressure on local property taxes.

Be it further resolved that the Alstead Town Clerk shall send electronically the results of this vote to the Governor and all members of the General Court within thirty (30) days of this vote.

(This Article is on the Ballot by Petition) (Majority Vote Required) (No amount to be raised from new taxation)

Article 35 TO FORBID THE USE OF ELECTRONIC VOTE TABULATOR AND/OR VOTE COUNTING MACHINES IN THE TOWN OF ALSTEAD

To see if the voters of the Town of Alstead will prohibit the use of electronic ballot counting devices in Alstead in all elections. This warrant article would expressly forbid the Alstead Town Moderator or any Alstead representative from making any expenditures or entering into any contracts or contract negotiations for the procurement, use or demonstration of electronic vote counting devices.

(This Article is on the Ballot by Petition) (Majority Vote Required) (No amount to be raised from new taxation)

Article 36 REQUIRING HAND-COUNTING OF VOTES IN ALL ELECTIONS IN THE TOWN OF ALSTEAD

To see if the voters of the Town of Alstead will respect the will of the voters of Alstead and continue Alstead's long tradition of hand-counting votes in all elections.

(This Article is on the Ballot by Petition) (Majority Vote Required) (No amount to be raised from new taxation)