

**WARRANT
STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE**

COUNTY OF SULLIVAN, SS

TOWN OF PLAINFIELD

To the inhabitants of the Town of Plainfield, in the County of Sullivan, in said State of New Hampshire, qualified to vote in town affairs:

You are hereby notified to meet at the Plainfield School gymnasium on Tuesday, the 11th day of March next at 8:00 o'clock in the forenoon to act upon the following subjects:

[Polls will be open until 7:00 P.M.]

ARTICLE 1. To choose by ballot: One selectman for three years, one moderator for three years, one trustee of trust funds for three years, one library trustee (west side) for three years, two library trustees (east side); one for two years one for three years, one cemetery trustee for three years, one Supervisor of the Checklist for six years and any other necessary town officers.

ARTICLE 2. To see what action the town will take with regard to the Plainfield Zoning Ordinances, **said change being recommended by the planning board:**

Question 1. Shall we rewrite the town's WETLAND CONSERVATION DISTRICT ORDINANCE to accomplish two goals? 1) Update the ordinance's terminology so that definitions and terms are consistent with current wetland delineation science and state of New Hampshire accepted practices. 2) Provide enhanced protections for ponds and wetland areas greater than ½ acre in size and for perennial streams by establishing a 50' buffer around these environmentally sensitive areas.

To accomplish these goals the existing ordinance will be amended as outlined below.

Section 2.3 WETLAND CONSERVATION AND FLOOD PLAIN OVERLAY DISTRICT BOUNDARIES

~~The Wetland Conservation District is hereby determined to be those areas delineated as poorly drained, very poorly drained soils or soil subject to flooding, as identified by the National Cooperative Soil Survey through field mapping surveys completed in 1973 by the USDA Soil Conservation Service and shown on field mapping photographic sheets for the Town of Plainfield, New Hampshire.~~

~~The soil types which the Soil Conservation Service has determined in its field mapping surveys to be poorly drained, very poorly drained or soils subject to flooding shall include the following:~~

Soil Symbol	Soil Name
Ch	Chocorua
Gw	Greenwood
Ha,Hb	Hadley
Lk	Limerick
Ls	Lyman
Lu,Ly	Moosilauke
Na	Naumbery
Ot	Ossipee

_____ Pg,Pl	_____ Pillsbury
_____ Pw	_____ Podunk
_____ Ra	_____ Raynham
_____ Ru	_____ Rumney
_____ Sa,Sb	_____ Saco
_____ Sg,Sh	_____ Stissing
_____ W	_____ Water
_____ Wn	_____ Winooski

_____ (a detailed explanation of soil types is included in the ~~Town of Plainfield Soils and their Interpretation for Various Uses and the Soil Survey of Sullivan County, New Hampshire~~ which is on file with the Planning Board and in the office of the Soil Conservation District, Sullivan County, New Hampshire.)

The Wetlands Conservation District is hereby defined as perennial streams, water bodies, or any area that is inundated or saturated by surface or ground water at a frequency and duration to support, and that under normal conditions does support, a predominance of vegetation typically adapted for life in saturated soil conditions, as set forth in RSA 674:55 and as further prescribed in rules adopted under RSA 482-A, together with a 50 foot buffer zone around such areas; and Flood Plains as delineated below.

Wetland Delineation:

1. On sub-division projects, for site-plan review purposes, and when evaluating building permit requests, wetlands shall be delineated on the basis of hydrophytic vegetation, hydric soils, and wetlands hydrology in accordance with the current New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services Wetlands Bureau Code of Administrative Rules (Env-Wt 301).
2. Delineations based on hydrophytic vegetation or hydric soils alone shall be sufficient for minimum impact projects that meet the criteria of Env-Wt 303.04, provided the vegetation or soil has not been disrupted by artificial planting or past dredging or filling.
3. A 50 foot, naturally vegetated, no build, buffer shall be shown on such plans for wetlands in excess of ½ acre of surface area and for all surface waters except intermittent streams and private ponds of less than ½ acre.
4. Wetlands less than ½ acre in size are excluded from the provisions of the Wetlands Conservation District, although State regulations may apply.

Flood Plain Delineation:

The Flood Plain Overlay District in this ordinance shall apply to all lands designated as special flood hazard areas by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) in its "Flood Insurance Study for the County of Sullivan, N.H." dated May 23, 2006 or as amended together with the associated Flood Insurance Rate Maps, and Flood Boundary & Floodway Maps dated May 23, 2006 which are declared to be a part of this ordinance and are hereby incorporated by reference.

The Connecticut River Shoreland Conservation Protection District (s) shall be as outlined in the text with all distances measured from the ordinary high water mark of the river, the so called "reference line."

In all cases where the two overlay districts are superimposed over another zoning district in the Town of Plainfield, that district whose regulations are the more restrictive shall apply.

Section 2.4 INTERPRETATION

- A. Whenever any uncertainty exists as to the boundary of any zoning district as shown on the District Map, the following rules shall apply:
- (1) Where zoning district boundary lines are indicated as following rights-of-way, they shall be construed as following the center lines of such rights-of-way.
 - (2) Where zoning district boundary lines are indicated as approximately parallel to the center lines of roads or highways, they shall be construed as being parallel thereto and at such distance therefrom as indicated on the District Map.
 - (3) Where zoning district boundary lines are indicated as following lot or property lines, they shall be construed as following such lot or property lines.
 - (4) Where zoning district boundary lines are indicated as following political boundary lines, they shall be construed as following such political boundary lines.
 - (5) Where zoning district boundary lines are indicated as following streams, they shall be construed as following center lines thereof or at such distance therefrom as indicated on the District Map.
- B. Whenever any uncertainty exists to the boundaries of the Wetland Conservation District or the Floodplain Overlay District the following rules shall apply:
- (1) In the event that an area is questioned as to its proper classification as poorly or very poorly drained inclusion in a Wetlands Conservation District soil subject to flooding in the Town of Plainfield and evidence to that effect is satisfactorily presented to the Board of Adjustment, the Board may determine that the restrictions contained in this Section shall not apply. ~~Such evidence may be obtained either by revision by the Soil Conservation Service of its soil maps or by adequate on-site soil investigation and analysis with such investigation and analysis to be reviewed by the Soil Conservation Service and presented in writing to the Board of Adjustment along with the findings of the Soil Conservation Service.~~ Evidence concerning the classification of wetlands or hydric soils may be presented in the following ways:
 - a. A written document signed by both the Zoning Administrator and the Conservation Commission Chairperson in which both affirm that they have visually inspected the area in question and agree that wetlands are not evident.
 - b. In lieu of a. above the Town Administrator shall have the discretion to retain a certified wetlands scientist to inspect the area in question and prepare a report for the ZBA.
 - c. In the event that either a or b above concludes that wetlands are likely present and the applicant wishes to continue the application process, the Applicant may retain an independent, certified soils scientist or certified wetland scientist to map the area in question at his/her own expense.

- (2) Flood elevation data found to be acceptable to the Federal Emergency Management Agency may be used to supplement the understanding of the location of floodplain boundaries.
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WETLAND CONSERVATION DISTRICT (W)

1. Specific Purposes

In the interest of public health, convenience, safety and welfare, the regulations of this District are intended to guide the use of land with extended periods of high water tables in order:

- a. To prevent the development of structures and land uses ~~on naturally occurring wetlands~~ which would contribute to the pollution of surface and ground water by sewage or other contaminants.
- b. To prevent the destruction of natural wetlands ~~which provide flood protection~~ which provide many benefits to the community including water purification, wildlife habitat, flood protection and such other reasons as those cited in RSA 482-A:1.
- c. To prevent unnecessary or excessive expense to the Town and to ~~to~~ the public which arise because of inharmonious use of ~~wetlands~~ the areas which comprise the Wetland Conservation District.
- d. To encourage those uses that can be appropriately and safely located in ~~wetland areas~~ the Wetland Conservation District.

2. Permitted Uses

Any use that does not result in the erection of any structure or alter the ground surface configuration by the addition of fill, dredging or draining except as provided below:

Such uses include:

- a. Forestry and tree farming using best management practices as required by Env-Wt 304.05 to protect wetlands and surface waters from damage from soil erosion or other contamination;
- b. Agriculture using best management practices such as those referenced in RSA 431: 33-35 and those proposed by the USDA Natural Resource Conservation Service to protect wetlands and surface waters from damage from soil erosion or other contamination.
- c. Water impoundments and well supplies;
- d. Drainage ways--streams, creeks or other paths of normal runoff;
- e. Wildlife refuge;

- f. Parks and such recreational uses as are consistent with the purpose of creating the Wetland Conservation District as defined in ~~Sections 2.1 and 2.5~~ herein;
- g. Conservation areas and nature trails;
- ~~h. Open space as permitted by subdivision regulations and other sections of this ordinance.~~
- i. Access ways if essential to the productive use of the land and consistent with NH DES Dredge and Fill regulations;
- j. Utility rights of way or easements including power lines and pipelines which are constructed using best management practices and only if there is no feasible alternative.
- k. Any other use permitted under RSA 482-A and specifically authorized by the issuance of a NH Department of Environmental Services Permit shall be deemed a permitted use under this regulation

3. Prohibited Uses

- a. Any use which utilizes, stores, processes, or disposes of toxic substances which may pose a threat to surface or ground water quality is prohibited.
- b. Underground fuel storage tanks are prohibited.

4. Special Exceptions

- a. Special exceptions for the undertaking of a use not otherwise permitted in the Wetland Conservation District, which may include the erection of a structure, dredging, filling, draining, or otherwise altering the surface configuration of the land, may be granted by the Board of Adjustment, if it can be shown that such proposed use will not conflict with the specific purposes and intentions listed above in Paragraph 1, and if in compliance with RSA 482-A and the rules and regulations of the NH Department of Environmental Services Dredge and Fill Board. Proper evidence to this effect shall be submitted to the Board of Adjustment and shall be accompanied by review comments of the ~~Sullivan County Conservation District~~ Plainfield Conservation Commission concerning the environmental effects of such proposed use upon wetlands in question.
- b. Non-conforming structures which intrude into the Wetland Conservation District, including the buffer areas, and which exist prior to the adoption of this ordinance shall be permitted, including the reasonable maintenance thereof.
- c. Land owners with buffer areas which are not naturally vegetated at the time this ordinance is adopted will be encouraged, but not required, to replant those areas with an appropriate mixture of natural vegetation (i.e. indigenous ground cover, shrubs, or trees) using best management practices such as those outlined in the UNH Cooperative Extension publication "Landscaping at the Water's Edge: An Ecological Approach."

[] yes [] no

You are further notified to meet at the Plainfield School gymnasium on Saturday, the 15th of March next, at ten o'clock in the forenoon to act upon the following subjects:

ARTICLE 3. To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$1,846,500** to defray town charges for the 2008 fiscal year. The selectboard proposes the following budget:

1. Executive	\$151,260
2. Election/Registration/Vital Statistics	11,530
3. Financial Administration	58,800
4. Revaluation of Property	10,000
5. Legal Expenses	18,100
6. Personnel Administration	10,100
7. Planning and Zoning	10,200
8. General Government Buildings	8,150
9. Cemeteries	30,000
10. Insurance	37,800
11. Regional Associations	8,000
12. Police Department	272,355
13. Ambulance Service	29,000
14. Fire Departments -Plainfield	39,000
-Meriden	38,000
15. Building Inspection	8,800
16. Emergency Management	250
17. Hydrant & Forest Fire Expense	7,900
18. Dispatching for Fire, Police & Ambulance	16,000
19. Highway Administration	21,525
20. Highways and Streets	573,060
21. Road Projects	102,806
22. Street Lights	9,000
23. Solid Waste Collection	137,500
24. Solid Waste Disposal	63,610
25. Health Agencies	19,450
26. Animal Control	750
27. Welfare	7,758
28. Recreation Commission	19,235
29. Libraries - Plainfield	53,976
- Meriden	33,335
30. Patriotic	1,500
31. Conservation Commission	2,500
32. Principal Long-term debt	25,000
33. Interest Long-term debt	10,250
Total:	\$ 1,846,500

This budget is exclusive of other warrant articles.

The selectmen recommend this appropriation.

ARTICLE 4. To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$88,000** for the purchase of a new one ton dump truck with plowing and sanding equipment for the use of the highway department and to authorize the selectboard to withdraw the sum of **\$88,000** the Highway Vehicles Fund created in 1987. Further to authorize the selectboard to sell or trade the town's existing 1999 one-ton truck including its existing plowing and sanding equipment. The Selectmen recommend this appropriation.

ARTICLE 5. To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$127,500** to be placed in existing town capital reserve and general trust funds, pursuant to RSA 35:1 and RSA 31:19-a as follows:

RSA 35:1 funds:

\$10,000	Town Bridge Capital Reserve Fund created in 1994.
\$5,000	Revaluation Fund created in 1993.
\$50,000	Highway Vehicles Fund created in 1987.
\$50,000	Transportation Improvement Fund created in 2006.

RSA 31:19a funds:

\$10,000	Town Hall Repair Fund established in 1996.
\$2,500	Library Building Repair Fund established in 1992.

Further to name the selectboard as agents to expend on the transportation improvement fund created in 2006.

The selectboard is named agents to expend for the bridge fund, the town hall repair fund and the library building repair fund. The selectmen recommend this appropriation.

ARTICLE 6. To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1 (amount to be amended in during town meeting) to purchase approximately two (2) acres of land currently a portion of tax map 105 lot 12 located at 86 Bonner Road said premises being the open field adjacent to School Street. The Board of Selectmen recommends this appropriation.

ARTICLE 7. Shall we modify the elderly exemptions from property tax in the town of Plainfield, based on assessed value for qualified taxpayers to be as follows: for a person 65 years of age up to 75 years, \$64,000; for a person 75 years of age up to 80 years, \$92,000; for a person 80 years or older, \$141,000. To qualify, the person must have been a New Hampshire resident for at least 3 years; own the real estate individually or jointly, or if the real estate is owned by his/her spouse, they must have been married for at least 5 years. In addition, the taxpayer must have a net income of not more than \$23,500, or if married, a combined net income of less than \$30,000; and own net assets not in excess of \$65,000 excluding the value of the person's residence. This article is offered as part of the 2008 Assessment update project.

ARTICLE 8. Shall we modify the exemption for the disabled? The exemption, based on assessed value for qualified taxpayers shall be \$47,000. To qualify, the person must have been a New Hampshire resident for at least five years. In addition, the taxpayer must have a net income of not more than \$23,500 or if married a combined net income of not more than \$30,000; and own net assets of not more than \$65,000 excluding the value of the person's residence. This article is offered as part of the 2008 assessment update project.

ARTICLE 9. To see if the town will vote to establish, pursuant to RSA 72, exemptions from property taxation for solar (72:62) and wind (72:66) energy generation systems. The exemption will be 100% of the value of accessory use generation systems up to a maximum of \$50,000 in taxable value. Criteria for granting the exemption shall be that the installed system must generate energy for the owner's primary residence or place of business located on the site. The system, however, may transfer surplus energy to the established electrical grid. Commercial solar and wind generating facilities that represent the primary use of a property shall not be eligible for this exemption.

ARTICLE 10. To see if the town will vote to authorize the Town Clerk-Tax Collector to accept credit card payments pursuant to RSA 80:52-c for the electronic online collection of local taxes or

fees. The town will add to the amount due, in addition to any interest or penalties due, a service charge for the acceptance of the card. The amount of the charge shall be disclosed at the time of billing. The Board of Selectmen in coordination with the Town Clerk-Tax Collector may adopt rules and regulations regarding the collection procedures.

ARTICLE 11. To see if the town will vote to increase the real estate exemption on dormitories, dining rooms, and kitchens of Kimball Union Academy above the required \$150,000 as allowed in RSA 72:23, to one hundred (100) percent of the assessed value of property over which the town has statutory discretion.

ARTICLE 12. To see if the town will direct the selectmen to appoint, within 60 days of town meeting, a committee to continue the KUA/Plainfield study. The charge to this committee shall be to meet with representatives of the KUA administration and maintain an ongoing review of the relationship between the academy and the town, including any agreement pursuant to RSA 72:23, and to report its findings at next March's annual town meeting.

ARTICLE 13. To see if the town will vote to instruct the moderator to, until rescinded, annually appoint a finance committee (advisory only) of six Plainfield voters to advise the selectmen, and other officers of the town in the prudential affairs of the town.

ARTICLE 14. To see what action the town will take with respect to the reports of town officers.

ARTICLE 15. To transact any other business that may legally come before this meeting.

A True Copy Attest:

MARK H. WILDER

ROBERT W. TAYLOR

JUDY A. BELVEA, Plainfield Selectboard