



**TOWN OF
EPPING,
NEW HAMPSHIRE**

**SPECIAL TOWN
MEETING ON
TUESDAY
SEPT. 8, 2020**

**TOWN TO VOTE ON
WARRANT ARTICLE
FOR LAGOON
DECOMMISSIONING
AND SOLAR PROJECT**



DATE 8/2019	UNDERWOOD engineers 99 North State Street, Concord, N.H. 03301 Tel. 603-230-9898 Fax. 603-230-9899	EPPING WWTF - EXISTING CONDITIONS	FIG.
PROJECT 2312		EPPING WATER & SEWER COMMISSION EPPING, NH	3

Brochure produced by:



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SUGGESTED WARRANT ARTICLE
LAGOON DECOMMISSIONING AND
SOLAR PROJECT

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Thirteen Million, Five Hundred Twenty-Three Thousand Dollars (\$13,523,000.00) (gross budget) for the purpose of the engineering, design, decommissioning and closure of the Town’s sewage treatment plant sewage lagoons #1 and #2, which have been ordered closed by U.S. EPA, and to prepare the closed sewerage lagoon land area for the installation of a solar energy facility that will provide electricity to the Town’s adjacent sewerage treatment plant at an annual electricity cost savings estimated at \$180,000.00 per year (the “Project”); and, to authorize the issuance of Six Million, Two Hundred Thirty Thousand Dollars (\$6,230,000.00) in bonds or notes for such purpose, in accordance with the provisions of the Municipal Finance Act (RSA 33), and to authorize the Selectmen to issue, negotiate, sell and deliver such bonds and/or notes, and to determine the rate of interest thereon and the maturity and other terms thereof; and further, to authorize the Selectmen to apply for, obtain and accept Federal, State, or other aid, grants or other funds which may be available for the Project that may reduce the amount to be financed with bonds or notes, and to authorize the Selectmen to expend such monies as they become available and to comply with all laws applicable to the Project; and to authorize the Selectmen to take any other action or to pass any other vote relative thereto, with the remaining \$7,293,000.00 to come from Federal and State grant, aid or other funding, including a possible Community Development Block Grant. Without impairing the general obligation nature of the bonds or notes, it is the intention of the Town that the bond or note repayment shall be paid for by sewer users.

By ballot vote (3/5 vote required to adopt).

NEED FOR LAGOON
DECOMMISSIONING

- Lagoons are affecting the Nitrogen and Arsenic levels in the Lamprey River and Great Bay.
- 2016 EPA Administrative Order for Compliance requires:
 - Lagoon 1 be decommissioned by 12/31/2021
 - Lagoon 2 be decommissioned by 12/31/2032
- Decommissioning both Lagoons at the same time will take advantage of cost economies of scale and free up the site for solar construction.
- Showing a higher financial need yielded a larger grant offer (Town gets 1 lagoon done plus most of solar for free)

BENEFITS OF SOLAR

- Reusing existing land for green renewable energy generation
 - Reduce CO₂ emissions to help the environment
- Provide power to the Wastewater Treatment Facility and water and sewer facilities
 - Solar energy would save the Town of Epping approximately \$180,000 per year in energy costs

PROJECT COSTS

Legal Services	\$22,000
Engineering Design & Permitting	\$76,000
Construction Cost	\$11,721,500
Environmental (Relocate Turtles)	\$4,000
Construction Administration	\$305,500
Construction Contingencies	\$1,208,000
Funding Administration	\$22,000
Interest	\$164,000
TOTAL PROJECT COSTS (based on Year 2021 Costs)	\$13,523,000
Proposed Annual O&M Costs	\$18,850

FUNDING FOR \$13.523M PROJECT

- \$7.293M USDA Grant
- \$5.73M USDA 30 Year Loan (1.125% INT)
- \$0.5M Clean Water SRF 20-Year Loan (2.0% INT)
- \$254,000 Anticipated Annual Bond Repayment
 - \$180K Annual Solar Cost Savings to be applied to Bond
- \$74,000 Annual Sewer User Responsibility
 - 921 Total Sewer Connections
- \$74,000/921 = \$81 Annual Sewer User Fee Increase for Bond Repayment

WHAT IF WARRANT ARTICLE
FAILS?

- 53% USDA grant funding will be lost
- A 30-Year 1.125% Interest USDA Loan will be lost
- EPA AOC 2021 deadline will not be met
- Potential fines against Town
- Potential litigation against Town
- Work will still have to be done
- Cost without RD Grant would be \$615/user/year for 20 years

WHERE TO GO FOR FURTHER
INFORMATION

INFORMATIONAL SESSION:

WHEN: Saturday, August 29th from 10am until 2pm

WHERE: Epping Wastewater Treatment Plant located at 40 Lagoon Road, Epping, NH

RAIN DATE: Sunday, August 30th from 10am until 2pm