



Town of Hooksett

WARRANT ARTICLE REQUEST FORM

Revised 1/31/2024

Date of Request: July 17, 2023

Date of Town Meeting: March 2024

Name of Department Submitting Request: Community Development

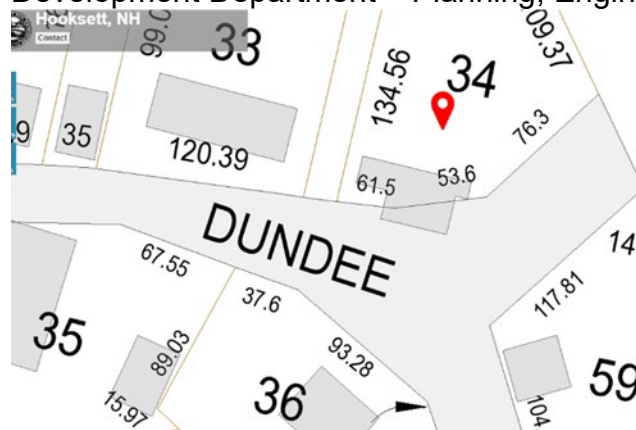
1. Please provide the wording of the proposed article.

Capital Reserve Funding – GIS Digital Parcel Recompile

To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$135,000.00** to be added to the Town Wide Digital Mapping Systems Capital Reserve Fund previously established. The estimated tax rate impact is \$0.04. Recommended by Town Council (6 Yes- 0 No); Not recommended by Budget Committee (2 Yes – 7 No).

2. Voters' Guide Explanation:

The purpose of this request is to conduct a flyover of the Town in order to correct inaccuracies in the Town's existing GIS mapping system. The flyover, performed with LIDAR technology, provides accurate topography, aerial photography, and locates rights of way and buildings in their current locations. These maps aid residents in completing building permits, developers in creating accurate plans for Planning Board review, and town staff so that all inquiries can be addressed accurately and efficiently. The GIS mapping program is a very important tool used by the Community Development Department – Planning, Engineering, and Building - in daily functions.



As noted in the pictures above, the current system does not accurately reflect the location of existing roadways or structures. The picture on the left is taken from the current GIS system. It shows the home located in the roadway, with most of the property encumbered by the right of way. As shown in the Google image to the right, the home is not in the roadway, is set adequately back from the right of way, and the right of way does not extend directly to the right of the home. The Town relies on accurate mapping data to advise developers and guide townwide infrastructure projects. Inaccuracies have potential to cause ownership disputes, unexpected and costly obstacles to underground infrastructure planning, and difficulty in obtaining exact locations of public rights-of-way.

The reserve for this project has a balance of \$133,882.67 as of December 31, 2023. The total cost of the project is estimated at \$537,000.00 and is tentatively scheduled for the fiscal year 2025-26. Without the flyover, the Town will continue to work with the existing outdated mapping data, and a comprehensive in-house update of official Town maps will not be possible aside from the official tax map which is provided to the Town by a third party.

3. If this article is not passed at Town Meeting or approved by the Town Council, what affect would this have on your department goals and programs.

Each division of the Community Development Department – Planning, Engineering, and Building – relies heavily on the use of maps in the basic performance of their respective functions. The Department utilizes maps, aerial photography, topographic plans, property surveys, and other planimetrics to develop infrastructure and site development plans with a high level of precision. Current zoning, utility infrastructure, wetlands, topography, and building footprint maps are very outdated and need to be revised. The Department has goals to update all current planning maps through 2026. The digital information provided by the proposed flyover would not only correct errors in the Town's existing maps but would also provide additional data necessary to comprehensively update all official Town maps. Updated GIS and mapping data will allow the Department to better aid developers, Town residents, utility providers, NHDOT, and other State agencies in all aspects of planning, building, and engineering. Without the flyover, the Town will continue to work with the existing outdated mapping data, and a comprehensive in-house update of official Town maps will not be possible aside from the official tax map which is provided to the Town by a third party.

4. Is any further information necessary for the deliberation? If the Town is able to coordinate this project with an adjacent community, the total cost will be greatly reduced. The cities of Manchester and Concord perform these flyovers at regular intervals. These details are forthcoming.

March 2023 Ballot: Failed 342 to 491 or 59% disapproval.

March 2022 Ballot: Passed 614 to 548 or 52% approval.