



2021 **zoom** Webinar Series



2021 Legislative Preview: *Get Ready to Advocate*

January 27, 2021

NEW HAMPSHIRE MUNICIPAL ASSOCIATION

Presented by:

- ▶ *Margaret Byrnes, Executive Director*
- ▶ *Cordell Johnston, Government Affairs Counsel*
- ▶ *Becky Benvenuti, Government Finance Advisor*
- ▶ *Natch Greyes, Municipal Services Counsel*



Today's Speakers



Margaret Byrnes
Executive Director



Cordell Johnston
Government Affairs Director



Becky I. Benvenuti
Government Finance Advisor



Natch Greyes
Municipal Services Counsel



How to Sign up/Testify



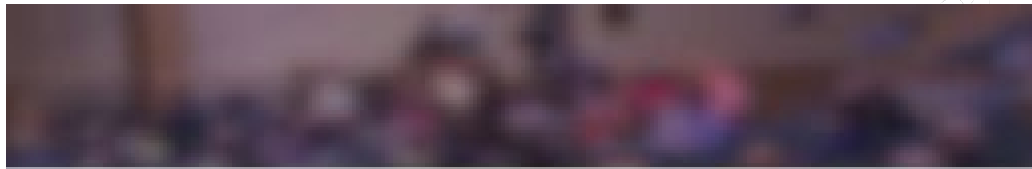
New Hampshire House of Representatives Public Guidance for Remote Committee Meetings

- ▶ To sign in to speak on a bill or to register support or opposition, you will utilize the newly created sign-in form located on the general court website available here: <http://gencourt.state.nh.us/house/committees/remotetestimony/default.aspx>
- ▶ You are encouraged to sign in well in advance of the hearing. If you not wish to speak on a bill or register support or opposition, but wish to view the meeting, you are encouraged to watch via the House of Representatives YouTube channel available here: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCxqjz56akoWRL_5vyaQDtvQ This new online form will allow you to sign in on a bill as soon as it has been scheduled for a hearing.
- ▶ [HOUSE REMOTE TESTIMONY DIRECTIONS](#)

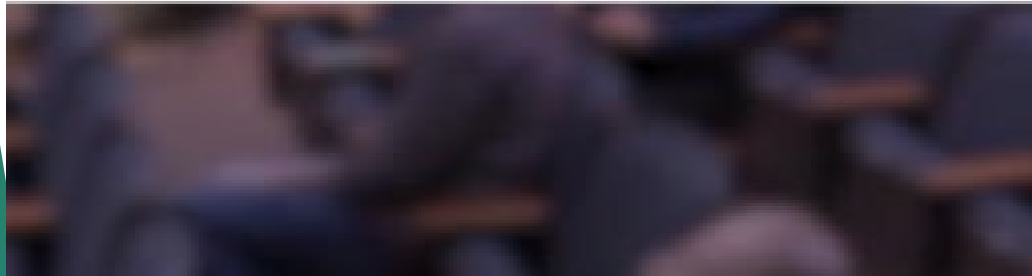
New Hampshire State Senate Public Guidance for Remote Committee Meetings

- ▶ To sign in to speak on a bill or to simply register support or opposition, you will utilize the newly created calendar sign-in form located on the general court website available here: <http://gencourt.state.nh.us/remotecommittee/senate.aspx> You are encouraged to sign in well in advance of the hearing. This new online form will allow you to sign in on a bill as soon as it has been scheduled for a hearing.
- ▶ [HOW TO SIGN IN AND TESTIFY BEFORE THE NH STATE SENATE](#)

Special 2021 Legislation



Annual Town Meeting Postponed



► SB 2 -
Postponement of
town meeting/pre-
processing of
absentee ballots

Zoning/Planning

- HB 132 - prohibits municipality from requiring more than ½-acre lot size if lot does not use well/septic tank
- HB 189 - requires allowance of up to three ADUs on single-family dwelling
- HB 284 - extends deadline for restoration of involuntarily merged lots



Zoning/Planning, continued



- HB 341 - requires allowance of up to four-family dwellings
- HB 588 - requires allowance of “tiny houses”
- HB 586 - training for land use board members; changes to review/approval process
- HB 288 - repeals housing appeals board

Right-to-Know Law

- HB 108 - requires public body to keep list of sealed minutes
- HB 206 - eliminates exemption for collective bargaining negotiation
- HB 232 - limits nonpublic sessions for discussion of property transactions
- HB 216, HB 630 - authorize virtual public meetings
- HB 481 - RTK ombudsman
- SB 39 - exempts police personnel records

Budgeting/Finance



- HB 459 - prohibits transfer of funds to “general ledger line item” with zero-dollar amount
- HB 243 - requires full line-item detail in electronic spreadsheet format
- HB 415 - similar to HB 243
- HB 545 - allows out-of-state banks to accept deposits and investments of public funds
- HB 585 - requires the issuance of dog licenses for one or three years and reduces the civil forfeiture fee and fine amounts. Requires clerks to keep rabies vaccine expiration records.

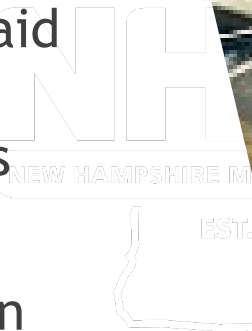
NH Retirement System

- HB 390 - extends amortization period for unfunded liability by 5 years
- SB 72 - requires 15 percent state contribution to employer share for teachers, police, and fire employees
- HB 274 - requires 5 percent state contribution for same
- HB 619 - reclassifies police/fire dispatchers as Group II members



State Aid Grants

- HB 398 - makes a \$12.7 million appropriation over 2 years to fund state aid grants for eligible wastewater projects
- HB 467 - makes a \$1 million appropriation over 2 years to fund state for public water system projects



Municipal Authority



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- ▶ HB 266 - “sanctuary cities”
- ▶ HB 307 - prohibits regulation of firearm use on municipally owned property
- ▶ HB 439 - eliminates city council authority to adopt ordinances “for the well-being of the city”

Town Meeting



- HB 67 - requires voting on both original and amended version of petitioned article in SB 2 towns

HB 374 - requires question of adopting SB 2 to be voted on by official ballot

Elections



- SB 46 - electronic poll books
- SB 47 - no-excuse absentee voting/pre-processing absentee ballots

Net Metering

- HB 106 - exempts “municipal hosts” from one-megawatt cap
- HB 148 - increases limit to five megawatts for municipal hydroelectric facilities
- HB 167 - increases limit to five megawatts for all customer-generators

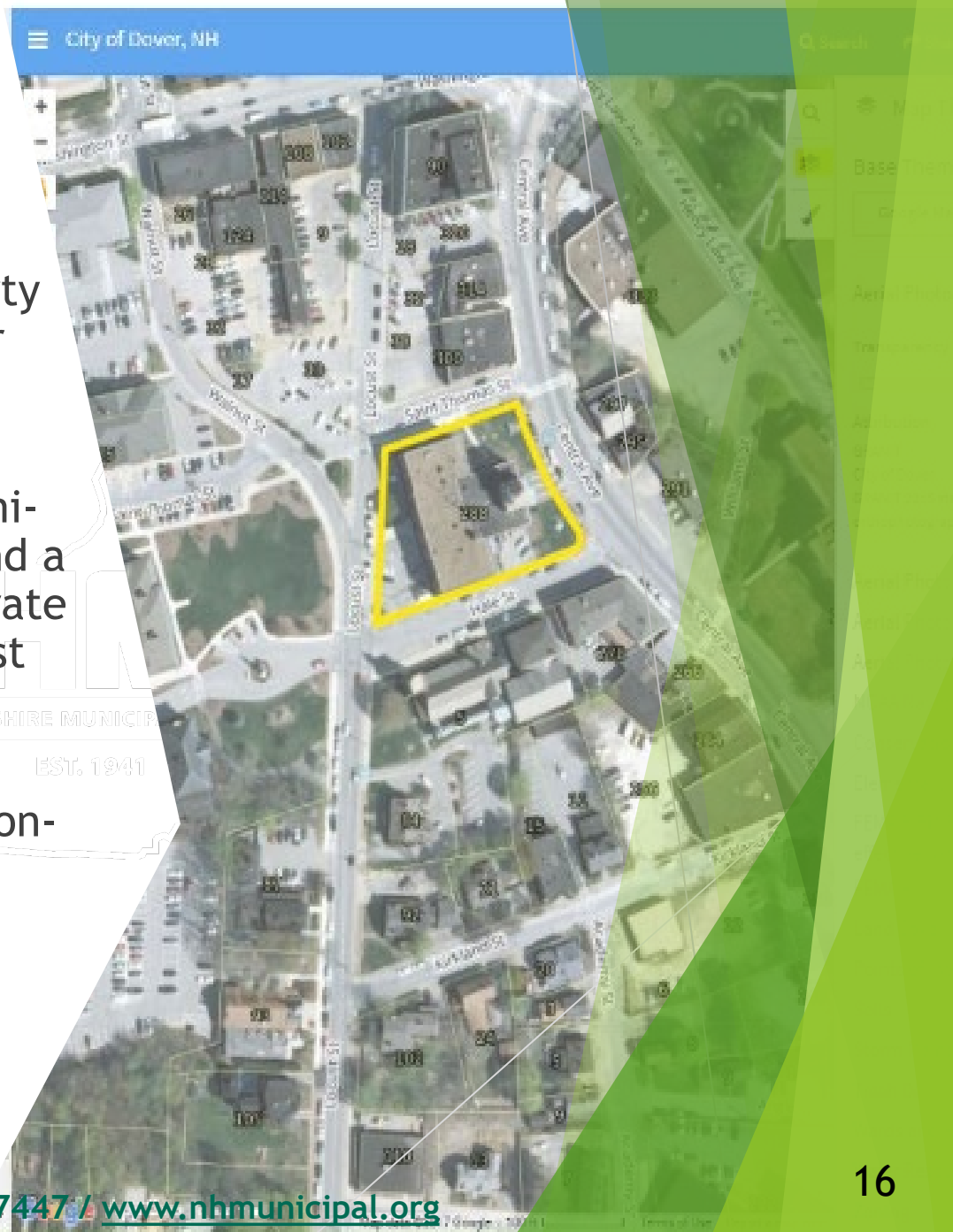


“Omnibus” Senate bills

- SB 83 – Optional town meeting procedure; pre-processing
- SB 85 & SB 88 -- broadband
- SB 86 – Third-party inspections; housing & conservation planning program
- SB 87 – Expenditure of water funds; fees for bad remittances; CRFs for lease/purchase; bonds over \$1 million
- SB 89 – Partial pre-processing
- SB 91 – Net metering
- SB 95 – Remote meetings
- SB 99 – M&R tax distributions
- SB 100 – Commission to study PILOTs
- SB 102 – Postponement of reappraisals

Property Taxes/Assessing

- **CACR 9** - Prohibits raising property taxes more than two percent per year, or one percent disabled or senior citizens
- **HB 383** - Permits towns with semi-annual or quarterly tax billing and a 15 percent or more anticipated rate increase to apply to DRA to adjust estimated tax bills to reflect the change
- **HB 467** - prohibits non-native, non-domesticated animals on land eligible for current use



Property Taxes/ Assessing, cont'd

- **HB 552** - suspends appraisal, assessment, and updating valuations under RSA 75 for tax year beginning April 1, 2021
- **HB 53** - enables a municipality to establish a community preservation and resilience program, funded through a property surcharge not to exceed 2%
- **HB 126** - extends period to notify mortgagee of tax lien execution to 60 days
- **HB 110** - requires adequate education grants be distributed to municipalities and requires municipalities to transfer the grants to their school districts



Miscellaneous



- **HB 379** - electronic notice in lieu of newspaper publication
- **HB 397** - exempts municipalities and others from shoreland permitting fees
- **HB 73** - requires electronic notice on DES' website and communication to municipalities of permits issued by DES

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Stay connected.

Through the collective power of cities and towns, NHMA promotes effective municipal government by providing education, training, advocacy and legal services.

NHMA's *Legislative Bulletin* is published each Friday during the legislative session (early January through the end of either May or June, depending on the year), highlighting NHMA policy bills and other bills of municipal interest as they move through the legislative process.

Each *Legislative Bulletin* contains a brief analysis of key legislative developments during the past week, a legislative calendar listing municipal bills to be heard in the next two weeks, a call to action on scheduled hearings, and updates on federal issues of interest to municipalities. NHMA publishes the Final Legislative Bulletin at the close of the legislative session, providing a summary of all laws of municipal interest that were enacted during the session.

Sign up today to continue receiving NHMA's *Legislative Bulletin* in your inbox.

[SUBSCRIBE TO LEGISLATIVE BULLETIN HERE!](#)



WEEKLY MEMBERSHIP CALL

FRIDAYS AT 1:00 PM

NHMA Weekly Membership Call

NHMA legal and legislative attorneys host *a weekly call at 1:00 pm on Fridays* for municipal officials and employees on all municipal concerns, issues and matters. All member municipalities are encouraged to listen in.

[Get Teams Invite Here!](#)



[GET TEAMS INVITE HERE!](#)

nhmainfo@nhmunicipal.org / 603.224.7447 / www.nhmunicipal.org

Save ^{the} Date

Tuesday, March 2, 2021

2:00 - 4:30 pm



Managing Cybersecurity Risk for Local Government

A STATEWIDE CYBER SUMMIT

Join us to hear from Federal, State, and local government leaders regarding cybersecurity and learn about threats, resources, and capabilities.

This Summit will be held virtually.



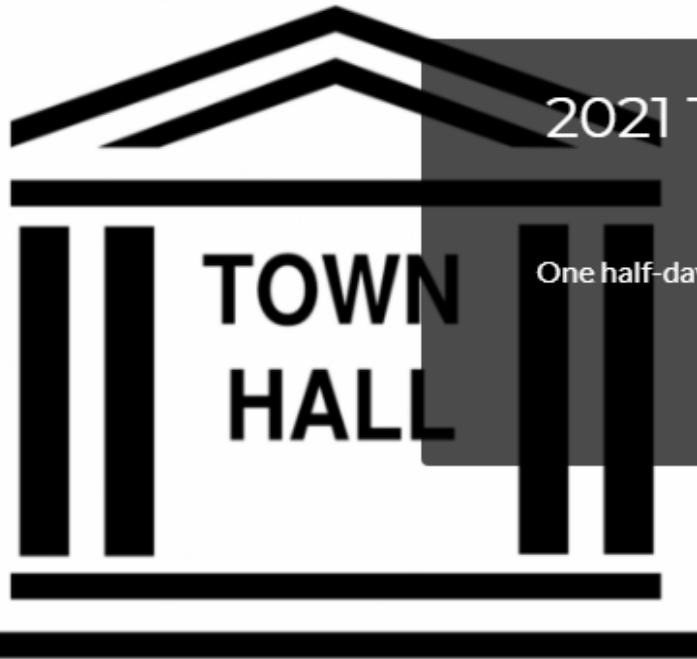
HOMELAND SECURITY
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT
NEW HAMPSHIRE DEPARTMENT OF SAFETY



CISA
CYBER-INFRASTRUCTURE

Primex
NH Public Risk Management Exchange





2021 Town & School VIRTUAL Moderators Workshops

One half-day workshop for Traditional Meetings (9:00 am - 2:00 pm, Saturday, February 6, 2021). Cost is \$55.00

REGISTRATION OPEN!

[REGISTER HERE!](#)

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New Hampshire Municipal Association

Free VIRTUAL workshops for newly-elected and seasoned municipal officials and employees of member municipalities .



2021 Local Officials Workshops

Free Virtual
Training Event!

SAVE THESE DATES!

9:00 am—4:00 pm, Tuesday, April 6, 2021

9:00 am—4:00 pm, Tuesday, May 18, 2021

Presented virtually by NHMA's Legal Services attorneys, these workshops provide municipal officials with tools and information to effectively serve their communities. Topics will include the Right-to-Know Law, ethics and conflicts, effective meetings, town governance, municipal roads, budget and finance, and more. Ample time allowed for questions, answers, and discussion.

For more information and to register visit: www.nhmunicipal.org



Attendees will receive a complimentary copy of NHMA's 2020 edition of the publication, *Knowing the Territory*.



SAVE THESE DATES!

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for joining us today



NHMA'S MISSION

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EST. 1941

