



# TOWN OF BARRINGTON

NEW HAMPSHIRE

Office of the Town Administrator

## Important Information

Barrington Deliberative Session  
Saturday, January 30, 2021 – 9:00am  
Barrington Middle School  
IN-PERSON

The Town of Barrington will hold the annual Deliberative Session in-person with additional health and safety measures in place. Please review the important information below.

### **Warrant Details**

Each warrant article and details can be found at [barrington.nh.gov/2021warrant](http://barrington.nh.gov/2021warrant). Participants are encouraged to review the details prior to January 30<sup>th</sup> to ensure a fast and efficient meeting.

### **Health and Safety Details**

- Masks required pursuant to the [Governor's Emergency Order #81](#).
- Self-service health screenings (CDC questionnaire and touchless thermometer) will be available.
- Seating will be arranged to achieve a socially distanced environment; participants are asked to maintain social distancing with everyone outside their household.
- Air quality and circulation will be maximized using the bipolar ionization HVAC equipment at the Barrington Middle School.

### **Frequently Asked Questions:**

Q: Why is the Deliberative Session not a virtual event?

A: The State has not approved any methodology to confirm that all members of the public participating and voting during a virtual session are registered voters. Additionally, there is no approved method for conducting a secret written ballot vote (if necessary). See [guidance](#) prepared by the New Hampshire Municipal Association in coordination with the Attorney General and Secretary of State's Office.

Q: What is [House Bill 1129](#) and why is Barrington not utilizing these optional Town Meeting procedures?

A: Instead of a traditional Deliberative Session, HB1129 allows for two virtual information sessions where members of the public are able to ask questions, but only allows the Select Board to make changes to the warrant. Additionally, the first article on the ballot would ask voters if they approved of the optional procedures; if that article failed then all other articles, regardless of the vote, would be considered to have failed, and a special meeting would be required to address the budget. Finally, HB1129 requires drive-through voting. The provisions of HB1129 were determined to dilute the power of Barrington voters and not achieve the intent of the Town Meeting process.



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### Frequently Asked Questions (continued):

Q: Will the Deliberative Session be audio/video recorded?

A: Yes, the recording will be available on the [Town of Barrington YouTube Channel](#).

Q: Will the Deliberative Session be live streamed?

A: Yes, the meeting will be available live at [bit.ly/BarrDeliberative](http://bit.ly/BarrDeliberative).

Q: Will members of the public watching the live stream be able to ask questions or introduce amendments?

A: No, there will be no remote participation. The State has not approved any methodology to confirm that members of the public participating during a virtual session are registered voters.

Q: If the session will be more distanced, how will participants be able to see and hear?

A: The Town has contracted with a new audio/visual company to provide enhanced audio/video quality. A technician will be available during the entire session to monitor and adjust microphones/speakers, as necessary.

Q: What if a participant is unable to wear a mask during the session?

A: Masks are required pursuant to the Governor's Emergency Order #74. If, consistent with the exemptions cited in the Emergency Order, a participant is unable to wear a mask, they will be required to participate in a socially distanced area designated for attendees without masks.

Q: Where is information about the School (SAU 74) Deliberative Session?

A: The SAU 74 Deliberative Session is scheduled for Saturday, February 6, 2021 at 9:00am. Additional information can be found at [sau74.org](http://sau74.org).

Q: Who do I contact with additional questions or concerns?

A: Call or e-mail Conner MacIver, Town Administrator at (603) 664-7395 or [administration@barrington.nh.gov](mailto:administration@barrington.nh.gov).