

Town of Barrington  
Highway Department  
PO Box 660  
226 Smoke Street  
Barrington, NH 03825



Phone: (603) 664-0166  
Website  
[www.barrington.nh.gov](http://www.barrington.nh.gov)

## **Barrington Highway Department Budget** **Narrative**

01-4311-01-4410- Highway Dept Salary – Reflects anticipated wage increase for Road Agent. This is a \$6,224 increase over 2023.

01-4311-01-4111- Highway Dept. Full Time Hourly Wages –This line reflects anticipated wage increases for full time employees. This is a \$29,984 increase from 2023.

01-4311-01-4112— Highway Dept. Part Time and Temp Hourly Wages. This line was reactivated to hopefully fund the hiring of a part time mechanical maintenance person who would also be called upon to do the mowing at all of our buildings. This line stands at \$28,721 over the \$1 dollar placeholder from last year.

01-4311-01-4140—Highway Dept. Overtime—This line has not been recently overspent so it can stand at \$55,000

01-4311-01-4154—Highway ET Buyout---Has not recently been overspent so can be kept at \$10,000

01-4311- 01-4290--- Highway employee benefits reflects increases in insurance etc. This line has increased by \$4,758.

01-4311-01-4349---Highway consultants – Pays for the Town engineers we use on an ongoing basis. This line can stay at \$25,000.

01-4311-01-4431—Building Maint. Covers ongoing routine garage maintenance and upfitting of the rear building. This line remains at \$1,5000

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01-4311- 01-4442—Highway -Equipment Rental – This line covers our rental excavator, vibratory roller, and occasional hydraulic hammer. This line can remain at \$30,000.00.

01-4311-01- 4531—Highway Dept. Communications – Covers department cell phones . Line remains at \$1000.00

01-4311-01-4540—Highway Advertising – Not advertising in newspaper any more . Line has been reduced to a placeholder .

01-4311-01- 4560—Conferences and training –Covers educational seminars for road agent ,administrative assistant ,and crew . Line stays at \$1000.00

01-4311- 01-4570 --Highway Dues and fees – Covers enrollment fees for various municipal organizations . Line stays at \$300.00

01 4311-01-4611—Highway offices supplies – Increasing costs causes this line to be increased from\$1000.00 to \$1200.00 ,an increase of over 10%.

01-4311-01 -4612—Highway postage – Postage will increase due to invasive species eradication notices being mailed to residents . This line will go up from \$100.00 to \$200.00,an increase of over 10%.

01-4311-01- 4652—Highway Safety Equipment /Uniforms – Covers uniforms ,workboots and personal protective gear. Workboot prices have gone up necessitating this line to be raised from \$12,000.00 to \$13,000.00.

01-4311-01-4661—Highway – Equip /Tools /Hardware /Supplies – Covers shovels ,rakes etc. To keep up with normal price escalation ,this line will be increased from \$4000.00 to \$4500.00 ,an increase of over 10%.

01-4312- 01- 4344—Highway -Layouts and reestablishments – This line was consolidated into consultants a few years ago . Carries a placeholder of \$1.00.

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01-4312-01- 4350—Highway—Road Maint .-Contracts /Mowing – This line is basically used to cover tree work at this point . The price of tree contractors is going up ,plus the Town is getting severely overgrown on a lot of different roads . Last year we started a systematic approach to canopy trimming which made a big difference on those roads . To continue this process ,we will need to raise this line from\$30,000.00 to \$35,000.00 ,an increase of over !0%.

01-4312- 01- 4433- Highway -Vehicle Maintenance – This line covers all the maintenance and parts on our trucks and equipment . We tried to lower this line previously thinking that the newer equipment we have purchased would negate a lot of repairs . Unfortunately ,the remaining older equipment really took a downturn and brought us back up to where we were. Also , the growing lack of mechanical aptitude amongst my crew is forcing me to send a lot of repairs to outside vending to make sure things are done right . There have been a lot of costly mistakes in house . I have started to send all the vehicles to get P.M.'d professionally every six months to ensure that the new vehicles we are buying are getting the attention that the investment requires . This process needs to continue until we can see our way clear to getting a person in here whose primary focus is to take care of these vehicles . The current line will be exhausted and probably negative by year end . This line needs to increase from the current \$65,000.00 to \$75,000.00 ,an increase of over !0%.

01-4312-01-4435-Highway -Paved Roads – This line covers cold patch ,line striping ,and lately cracksealing ,which we implemented two years ago as part of the pavement management plan . It also covers knotweed remediation. The line will be overspent this year , and needs to be increased from \$85,000.00 to 100,000.00, an increase of over 10%.

01-4312-01-4439—Highway Street Signs /Maintenance— This covers all of our streetsigns and roadwork warning signs . The past year has seen a lot of stolen ,and destroyed signs ,plus the cost of the signs is going up. This line is already overspent .. This line needs to increase from \$6500.00 to \$7500.00 ,an increase of over 10%.

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01-4312-01-4452—Highway – Paving – This line will be completely expended by year end . Due to our use of more expensive mixes with more virgin asphalt and less recycled asphalt product ,plus the lane joint adhesive we are starting to implement , the prices have gone up. This line needs to increase from \$650,000.00 to \$700,000.00 ,which is actually still low , but there are also other funding sources at our disposal to enhance the line item amount .

01-4312-01-4662- Highway-Materials and Supplies – This line covers nuts and bolts ,structural steel , and most of all ,hydraulic fittings and hose which we are in process of building inventory of . The line will be used up by year end by building this inventory. The line can remain the same at \$11,000.00.

01-4312-02-4435—Highway -Gravel Roads – This line was combined with Gravel Road Upgrades . Contains a \$1.00 placeholder .

01-4312-03 – 4435—Highway Gravel Road Upgrades – The majority of what this line covers is the crushed stone we are using on our dirt roads in the spring time which has really solidified these roads ,and cut down on the amount of grading needed . Because of anticipated product increases , we are raising this line from \$40,000.00 to \$45,000.00 , an increase of over 10%.

01-4312-05-4350—Highway Winter Contractors – This covers the private contractors that help us clear the snow from our roads . We recently gave them a substantial raise to cover increased insurance costs required by the Town ,and the price of diesel fuel is ever rising , so we will be paying more to these contractors this winter than last . Any winter weather at all will expend the current line before year end . This line needs to be increased from \$125,000.00 to \$140,000.00 for an increase of \$15,000.00,an increase of over 10%.

01-4312-05-4432—Highway Winter Equip Maint /Parts and Supplies – This line is basically plow blades ,spreader chains ,hydraulic motors ,and gearboxes . We will be stocking up in the coming months ,so this line will be exhausted . Normal steel price increases dictate that this line should be increased from \$25,000.00 to \$27,000.00,for an increase of \$2,000.00.

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01-4312-05-4663- Highway -Operating supplies -Salt and Sand – This line will probably be exhausted by year end with any winter weather at all. There will probably be a price increase on the next contract . Also we use this line to cover the small angular stone that we use instead of sand on the dirt roads . We have an emergency fund for sand and salt ,so with that I mind ,we can do a relatively small increase on this line and consciously keep trying to use less salt . With all of this said ,we need to increase this line \$10,000.00 from \$215,000.00 to \$225,000.00.

01-4313-01-4435—Highway- Bridges ,Rails ,Culverts – Have been replacing a lot of bad culverts ,more next year . Price of plastic pipe has risen substantially since Covid . This line is getting increased \$3,000.00 from\$15,000.00 to #17,000.00, an increase of over 10%.

01-4339-01-4439—Town Dams -Gate Repair – The amount in this line was originally earmarked for siding on the gatehouse ,but due to reshuffling of personnel, due to other unforeseen construction issues that took precedence , the siding will have to be put off until next year. The \$10,500.00 in this line will be used this year to partially fund the engineering for the needed gate box repair . The amount in this line can remain the same at \$10,500.00

01-4339-01-4570—Town Dams ---Registration Fee--- Swain’s dam registration.  
This line can stay at \$2300.00