

Problem Statement:

Epsom residents have previously advised, via surveys and other communications, of the need for a community grocery store, pharmacy or similar business. Prior discussions with potential providers suggests that access to public water is a requirement, or a mitigating factor for investing in the town of Epsom, NH.

Request:

We ask that you vote to approve Warrant Article #13. The funding from this warrant article provides -

- The required funds to study and test new locations for an additional well site.
- Matching funds for grants which require it.
- Validation to NHDES that when the Town is seeking opportunities for larger federal funding dollars it shows the Town supports this expansion.

Benefits of Expanding Public Water Access:

1.	Increased water supply	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Provides a larger and more reliable water supply to meet growing needs● Delivers essential resource for residential and commercial activities● Ensures the Town of Epsom’s continued growth and prosperity● Expanding the commercial tax base can help minimize residential tax burdens
2.	Enhanced reliability, efficiency and resilience of water system	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Reduces risk of water shortages, leaks or service disruptions● Ensures residents and businesses have access to high quality water consistently.
3.	Enhanced fire protection	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Provides emergency responders with better access to water resources during emergencies● Enables faster and more effective response times
4.	Greater environmental sustainability	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Promotes water conservation and environmental stewardship● Preserves town water resources, protects the environment and becomes a model for responsible water management.

Why Now? Doesn’t the Town of Epsom have more important priorities?

Should the study conclude that new wells, or other infrastructure developments are needed, it may take upwards of 10 years to clear all the regulatory requirements and complete the project. The Town has started the process and invested in moving forward with the appropriate studies. The importance of continuing this process is if/when Federal or State funds become available priority will be given to projects that are already in process. Hence, the EDC is recommending we continue supporting the Town’s efforts with this project.