

Posting of Warrant for Annual & Special Meetings: *A Guide for Municipalities*



An Advisory of the New Hampshire Municipal Association
September 2026

Summary of Changes Pursuant to 2026 Chapter Law 341 (HB 1369)

Amendments to RSA 39:4 and :5, Posting of the Warrant for Annual and Special Meetings:

2026 Chapter Law 341 (HB 1369) amends RSA 39:4 and 5, Special Meetings and Posting Warrant. RSA 39:4 was repealed and replaced with new language. RSA 39:5 was amended. The new law updates the requirements for posting the warrant prior to a Special Meeting or Annual Town Meeting, creating some additional flexibility for posting the warrant for a Special Meeting and adding a new website posting requirement for the Annual Town Meeting warrant.

The amended RSA 39:4 requires the select board to choose any 2 of 3 options to post the warrant for a **special meeting**:

- Published once in a newspaper of general circulation in said town at least 7 days before the meeting.
- Posted at the place of the meeting and a like copy at one other public place in the town at least 14 days before the meeting.
- Posted on the town's Internet website, if such exists, at least 14 days before the meeting.

The select board may post the warrant in additional places, too.

For **annual town meetings**, the amended RSA 39:5 requires a copy of the warrant be:

- Posted at the place of the meeting; and
- Another public place in town; and,
- On the town's Internet website, if an Internet website exists.

The select board can also post the warrant in additional places if it chooses to.

Under the prior version, for an **annual town meeting**, the select board was only required to post the warrant at the location of the meeting and one other public place in the town. For a **special town meeting**, the same requirements applied, and there was an additional requirement to post the warrant in a "newspaper of general circulation."

Under the new version, the posting of the warrant for a special meeting in a "newspaper of general circulation" is no longer absolutely required; however, it can still be one of the two options utilized to satisfy the public posting and notification requirements.

Additionally, the previous RSA 39:4 and :5 were connected. The posting requirements in RSA 39:4 for Special Meetings were in addition to the requirements for posting the warrant in RSA 39:5. That is no longer the case. Each statute stands separately on its own.

Effective Date: October 18, 2026

Statutes Amended: RSA 39:4 and :5