



STAFF REPORT

AGENDA ITEM #: 19-82
COUNCIL MTG. OF: July 16, 2019
FROM: Dave Caron, Town Administrator
OFFERED BY: Administration
PREPARED BY: Administration
SUBJECT: Update General Assistance Guidelines

INTRODUCTION:

To update the Town's General Assistance Guidelines.

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR COMMENTS

Please see comments within this staff report.

BACKGROUND

The Town has long adopted guidelines to assist the Town with processing requests for General Assistance. The Town has relied upon two documents from the New Hampshire Municipal Association to guide its process, The Art of Welfare Administration (2016) and the New Hampshire Model Welfare Guidelines for Welfare Administrators (2012).

DISCUSSION

Periodically, changes in law and nomenclature require that the guidelines be updated. In addition, the guidelines should reflect current economic conditions thus, the allowances for items such as rental housing has been adjusted.

FISCAL IMPACT

It is anticipated that these changes will have some fiscal impact to the Town, although the precise amount is indeterminable, as it is reliant upon the caseload as managed by Community Health Services. The Town does have adequate capacity within its Human Services budget to absorb any cost increases.

RECOMMENDED ACTION BY COUNCIL & MOTION

Staff recommends that the Town Council approve Resolution #2019-043 to continue fair and equitable administration of the Town's General Assistance Program.

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