Mr. Green:

Public notice of meetings of the planning board do not need to be published in newspaper in general circulation in the town. Notice of planning board meetings must be posted in two public places, one of which may be the town's website as provided in RSA 91-A:2 (II).

On the other hand, notice of public hearings must be published in a newspaper for zoning amendment hearings under RSA 675:7, for hearings to adopt a master plan or subdivision, site plan and historic district regulations under 675:6 and for the adoption of an official map, RSA 674:11.

Under RSA 676:4 when the planning board holds public hearings on proposed subdivisions and site plans the board may choose to require notice by publication, but that is not required. If your subdivision and site plan regulations call for notice of public hearings to be published in a newspaper of general circulation the board can vote to change this by eliminating the notice by publication if the board wishes. Such a change would only apply to hearings by the planning board on a proposed subdivision or site plan.

Stephen C. Buckley, Esquire
Legal Services Counsel
New Hampshire Municipal Association
25 Triangle Park Drive
Concord, NH 03301
1-800-852-3358 ext. 3408
legalinguiries@nhmunicipal.org