

Town of Farmington  
Board of Selectmen Public Meeting Minutes  
Monday, January 16, 2023  
Selectmen's Chambers  
356 Main Street-Farmington, NH 03835

**Board Members Present:**

Gerry Vachon, Chairman  
Charlie King, Vice Chairman  
Penny Morin  
Ann Titus  
Doug Staples

**Others Present:**

Ken Dickie, Town Administrator

**1). Call to Order:**

Chairman Vachon called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

**2). Pledge of Allegiance:**

All present stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

**3). Non-Public Session A:**

**Motion:** (King, second Morin) to enter non-public session under RSA 91-A: 3 II (a, b) Compensation, Hiring passed 5-0 by a roll call vote (Vachon, King, Morin, Titus, Staples-aye) at 5:32 p.m.

**Motion:** (Staples, second Titus) to come out of non-public session passed 5-0 at 6:17 p.m.

**4). Reconvene Public Session:**

Chairman Vachon reconvened the public session at 6:26 p.m.

**5). Public Input:** None

**6). Review of Minutes:**

**November 7, 2022-Public Minutes** No errors or omissions

**Motion:** (Staples, second Titus) to accept the minutes as written passed 5-0.

**December 19, 2022-Non-Public Sessions A & B-** No errors or omissions

**Motion:** (Morin, second Titus) to accept the minutes as written passed 5-0.

**January 9, 2023-Public Minutes-** No errors or omissions

**Motion:** (Staples, second Morin) to accept the minutes as written passed 4-0-1 (Titus abstained)

**January 9, 2023-Non-Public Minutes A-G-** No errors or omissions

**Motion:** (Morin, second Staples) to accept the minutes as written passed 4-0-1 (Titus abstained).

## **7). Old Business:**

**Road Update-** Mr. Dickie said he asked Highway Dept. Supervisor Ed Brannan for an update and he gave him this report (as 01/13/23). He said as Mr. Brannan stated they worked on issues with Meetinghouse Hill Rd., Chestnut Hill, Ridge Rd., and lower and upper Ten Rod Rd. He said they have Reservoir, Poor Farm, Dodge Crossing and they still have pot holes on Meaderboro Rd. and Ten Rod Rd. so they will be working on Ten Rod Rd. the later part of this week because of the sink hole that opened up on Bunker St. at the culvert where you enter the street and go down the little hill at the northwest side of the culvert. He said it looks like the culvert has broken away on one side from the cement allowing when we had a lot of rain for the water to get up in that crack and start washing out. He said we have a sink hole from the stream all the way up to the road and they will have to open that up and back fill it and get it so it's solid until spring so they can take a better look. Then they'll be back on the dirt roads the later part of the week on lower and Ten Rod Rd. he said.

Mrs. Morin asked if they could add that sink hole to our FEMA report as part of the damage from the high rain water.

Mr. Dickie said he would have Mr. Brannan record it so it's part of it.

Mr. King read aloud his last sentence which is "In the weeks to come we will also be investing a considerable amount of time in the maintenance and repair of the trucks and equipment as it is very much needed" and asked if there were a bunch of equipment issues that became apparent during the storm or if anything significant happened.

Mr. Dickie said they blew a line or a piston on the backhoe and that set them back as they were using the backhoe to fix the wash out on Ten Road Rd. and to spread gravel on the dirt roads.

Mr. Staples said they were down a truck at the beginning of this morning and then Bob had a truck that had a problem that he was bringing back to work on.

Mr. Dickie said he thought they brought the grader out to spread the gravel on Dodge Cross Rd. because of the backhoe being down.

Mrs. Morin said she wondered why they used the backhoe not the grader to spread the dirt.

Mr. Vachon said or the loader with a bigger bucket. He asked why they were using the backhoe to spread gravel.

Mr. Dickie said they were using it for the washout up on Ten Rod Rd.

Mr. Vachon if they were digging it out of the trucks to put gravel in.

Mr. Dickie said no to bucket them in for the whole washout for that quarter of a mile length.

Mrs. Morin said it doesn't seem like the right tool for the job.

Mr. King asked why they wouldn't be using our excavator if they were placing it in a trench along the roadside.

Mr. Dickie said he believes at the time Bob was still out and they were down to Ed as the only other one that knew how to run the excavator and he was busy with other things so they left Joey with the backhoe.

Mr. Staples said the excavator was tied up too on Poor Farm Rd. for a while fixing that culvert.

**Potential Warrant Articles-NH Bond Bank Debt Schedule Estimates-** Mr. Vachon asked if these articles have gone through NH Dept. of Revenue Administration review yet.

Mr. Dickie said no and that they won't go to the DRA until they have the Selectmen's and Budget Committee's vote on them. He said he contacted legal counsel and the DRA and he got the template from legal that the DRA uses and started populating the templates.

He said he also contacted our auditing firm Plodzik & Sanderson for a rough estimate of what our undesignated fund balance was and it came back at \$2,520,378. He said he has been working with Finance Administrator Kelly Heon and they still have some expenses coming in from 2022 and they still have one week of payroll to go against the 2022 budget so he reduced it as available funds to \$2,420,000 to give them room for the bills coming in for 2022. He said asked the auditor what the balance would need to be to maintain the 8% and he calculated that it needs to be \$1,951,957 so that left us with roughly \$500,000 to go against warrant articles.

Mr. King said it could be used for warrant articles or to buy down the tax rate at the next tax rate setting.

Mr. Dickie said the total for the warrant articles he put together here and the money the board looked at putting towards the articles is \$344,000.

Mr. Vachon said for the first article (Bud Com recommended sum for municipal operations) they have to wait until after Wednesday to see what the Bud Com says.

Mrs. Morin said that will be their first pass on the articles and they won't be voting on them.

Mr. Staples said they are not going to vote on the Town budget on Wed. that is just this board presenting the proposed budget to them and then they'll have a hearing on it.

Mr. Vachon asked for the deadline date for warrant article submissions.

Mr. Dickie said they have to be submitted by Feb. 7.

**Revenue Sharing Request-**He said the only other one that he knows of and he is not sure of was in regards to an e-mail he received from School Board member Tim Brown inquiring about the Town's Special Revenue Fund for the local cable TV channel. He gave the board copies of Mr. Brown's e-mail and asked Mr. King (who is also a School Board member) if he could expound on Mr. Brown's request.

Mr. King said he hasn't seen this and after reading Mr. Brown's e-mail he said he is asking about the funds that come in from the fees charged to cable subscribers that goes 100% to the Town and he is requesting that that money be shared between the school district and the Town because to date the town has been paying 100% of their costs funded through taxation to fund their broadcasting.

He read aloud the last sentence of Mr. Brown's e-mail which states "While the school is in the process of a total upgrade on their system with federal funding, this change would ensure that the system is kept up to date at no tax bill expense." He said in consideration of this, it seems at times we have a surplus based on what we typically expend and asked if they could get the

historical data to see what our expenses are vs. our revenues for this.

He said when they took on an additional cable network in this area and TDS came into it those monies are directed into the Technology Fund so they might also want to look at that because those were revenues that weren't potentially needed to manage this were diverted into the Technology fund but those are fees that are received to the Town that we offset our costs with. He said not only do we have Breezeline which is this, we have TDS which goes into another account for our technology which might be \$10,000 or \$15,000 a year and asked for the total amount that comes into the town and what we are spending a year to run our system. We have 2 costs, the cost to run our system and the cost of the technology we use to update it so we have to see what our running cost is and how much we spend on a 5 year cycle to stay current. Then we'll at least have numbers to consider this and without analyzing it we don't know how much is really available he said.

Mr. King said during his prior time on the board he thought of this but he never brought it to the board but being on both boards he has seen how they do it and they have to fund theirs 100% through taxation so it's a reasonable request. He asked if we have some surplus funds here how we would share that but we really need to look at our running and upgrade cost and if they are going to do it they need a warrant article to go before the town that makes sense.

Mrs. Titus said he put to pay school employees stipends and asked if they can do that legally.

Mr. King said we do that here and Cable TV Coordinator Robert Hall gets paid a stipend for his time.

Mrs. Titus said that's right but he works for the Town.

Mr. King said if the Town did revenue sharing with the school they would have the ability to do with it as they see fit. He said it's no different than us taking that revenue and this is how we do it-we have labor and we have equipment. He said if they go to the voters with a warrant article to share the revenue then they have the right to do it the same as we do it.

Mrs. Titus noted that it is only a stipend and doesn't include any benefits to those employees.

Mr. King said that is how we do it here.

Mrs. Morin asked if he doesn't see that it would be a wash whether we give them the money or buy down the tax rate.

Mr. Vachon said they can't buy down the tax rate with that fund and that fund is just for that.

Mr. King said it goes in there and accumulates and the last monies that came from TDS go directly into technology when it wasn't needed for here so that is what a prior board did.

Mrs. Titus said they need to have an amount that they are looking for.

Mr. King said they need to know the total amount of revenue in those 2 funds and what our expenses are to even consider it.

Mr. Dickie said he would ask Mrs. Heon to provide them with that information.

Mr. King asked if they were going to review and approve these warrant articles tonight.

Mr. Vachon said they can review and approve most of them but they don't have a number for

the top one and the second to last one.

**Establish a Contingency Fund**-Mr. Dickie said on the second to the last one at the last meeting Mr. King mentioned potentially wording an article in such a way that if they didn't have adequate money in the warrant article they would be allowed to go out to the general fund. He said in working with legal counsel they said they could put in a contingency fund warrant article with the wording they see on the handout which is as follows: "To see if the town will vote to establish a contingency fund pursuant to RSA 31:98-a for the current year for unanticipated expenses that may arise and further to raise and appropriate the sum of \$\_\_\_\_\_..."

He said for example if they were going to put \$100,000 in the levee CRF and they decide to go with the engineering firm for \$250,000 they need to put in another \$150,000 in that and this would allow them to go to general fund to put that \$150,000 with the \$100,000 to cover the expenses for the levee. He said there are multiple towns that do this so it's not something new created just for Farmington so he put it in there to see what the board thought about it.

Mrs. Morin said it made her think of the words "slush fund" and she didn't like this idea at all. She said if they need it in another fund, they need to do it from the undesignated fund balance and if it isn't there it isn't there.

Mr. King said it allows them to set it aside but then it says if there is any (appropriation) remaining in the fund at the end of the year it will lapse and go to the general fund so it's putting it over here in an area they have access to but they already have access to the undesignated fund balance and if it's going to fall back to the general fund its already in the general fund.

He said the way that it is structured it doesn't do anything for them because it would be setting it aside, going back every year and they typically have about \$500,000 in the undesignated fund balance and 1% of the \$7 million budget (this fund shall not exceed 1% of town budget during the preceding year excluding capital expenditures and amortization of debt) is only \$70,000. He said if they do that it's another \$70,000 they are raising and appropriating through taxation that they probably don't need. He said this year the budget was pretty tight but even with that they're looking at \$500,000 in the undesignated fund balance and he is surprised it is that high. It's good that it's that high especially when we have some big ticket items we're looking at whether it's the bridges warrant article or the unknown levee cost as they work through that with FEMA. I'd be more inclined to not have that and raise the dollar amount in the warrant article for the levee he said.

Consensus of the board was to remove this warrant article and Mr. Vachon asked Mr. Dickie to strike it from the list of proposed warrant articles.

**General Municipal Operations** -Mr. Vachon said they can't do anything with the first one (Bud Com recommended operating budget number) because they don't have a number and they can't vote on an unknown number.

Mrs. Morin asked if they have to have a number for Wed. when they take it to the Bud Com.

Mr. Vachon said they have the proposed budget from this board but it's not set from them.

Mr. King said the Selectmen have a number but the Bud Com is the one who sets the number.

Mrs. Morin asked if they would put the Selectmen's number in there as a placeholder for the purpose of going to the Bud Com.

Mr. Vachon said they can put that number in there but they can't vote on it and it will just be sitting there until the Bud Com approves the proposed budget and their number has to go in if they make any recommended reductions.

Mr. Dickie said he was going to pitch it to the Bud Com on Wed. and the final hearing for the budget is on Jan. 25 so next Mon. they could make this solid and the Bud Com will vote on them at the hearing once they have the warrant in front of them.

Mr. Vachon said the Selectmen have 3 meetings until the warrant articles have to be in as of Feb. 7 and the Bud Com has meetings on the Jan. 18 and the 25<sup>th</sup> so the Selectmen would have 2 meetings after the 25<sup>th</sup>. He said they would have to come back to this one because they can't do anything with it until they get a number for the budget from them.

**Hornetown Rd. and River Rd. Bridges**-to raise and appropriate \$1.6 million (gross budget) for the design, permitting, construction and relocation of the bridges; to authorize the issuance of not more than \$1.4 million in bonds or notes; to authorize the withdrawal of \$200,000 from the Bridge & Road Design Capital Reserve Fund and to authorize the Selectmen to apply for and accept any federal, state or private funds to reduce the amount that must be bonded or to pay the debt service on such bonds or notes.

Mr. King asked who drafted this article.

Mr. Dickie said it was between the Town Attorney and himself.

Mr. King said at the bottom of the article it says "3/5 ballot vote required" and asked why that was required over a simple majority.

Mr. Dickie said he would ask legal on that but he assumed it was because it's a bond because both bond warrant articles say 3/5 ballot vote required not a simple majority.

Mr. King said that makes it 60% not 51% that would have to approve the articles. He said they will need to have the information available to the Bud Com on what they are thinking of doing whether it's a 10, 15 or 20 year bond with those rates so they can give them the payment schedules if they ask for them.

Mr. Dickie said he sent the board the latest information from the NH Municipal Bond Bank Finance Director Doreen Chester.

Mr. King said they are also going to have to speak to this at Town Meeting. He said it is giving them the authority to do it after the fact but it would be good for information for the taxpayers on this is what they're looking at, this is the tax impact on a 10, 15 or 20 year bond and this is what they are leaning to and these are the reasons why.

Mrs. Morin asked if it would be on the ballot itself the day before or is it a ballot vote at Town Meeting. She said they've had to go in the past with the school district to do a ballot. We would

have to have a lot of workshops if that's the case that it needs to be a ballot vote because that puts it so it won't happen on the floor at Town Meeting she said.

Mr. King said they will have to make sure to discuss that thoroughly at least a couple of times about what it's going to cost, the payment schedules, tax impact over those years on both of these. He said they probably have all the information on the first one the second they need to fill in some holes.

Mr. Dickie said he has a phone call tomorrow on the second one.

Mr. Vachon asked if they wanted a number on that one for the tax impact because the biggest thing that people look at is the tax impact with just having nothing there and saying we can do what we want. We need to have an idea if we are going to go 10, 15, or 20 years with the interest rate and what the tax impact would be everybody knows he said.

Mrs. Morin said she thought the consensus of the board was that they all agreed that 20 years was more than they wanted to do.

Mr. King said maybe they need to determine that now so they can add the tax impact as Mr. Vachon suggested.

Mr. Vachon said they know people are going to ask how much this will make their taxes go up and it looks like it is all over the place. He said it's anywhere from 31 cents to 17 cents by the end of it for the 15 year bond. He said he was looking at that one because it not a set amount and the next page is a set amount.

Mr. King said one is level principal and the other one is level interest.

Mrs. Morin asked if the rate was 5% to where we are today and she thought it hadn't gone up that high.

Mr. King said they are estimating on a 5.25% or a 5% when its 2 points lower than that.

Mr. Vachon said it was in 2022.

Mr. Dickie said Ms. Chester explained that for the 15 year nothing was updated to bring us up to 2023 because they haven't sold any 15 year bonds yet.

Mrs. Morin said she didn't think they should go past 15 years.

Mr. Vachon said he didn't think so either with the shape of our bridges and infrastructure.

Mr. King said if they go with level interest which is his preference because the amount paid per year is the same just like a standard loan a 10 year is 32 cents vs. a 15 year which is 24 cents. He said if the rate comes closer to down to 3% that would drop it so the 32 cents on the 10 years is probably the worst case scenario. I would lean to a 10 year bond because its \$200,000 less interest and we know as we get further down the road we may have to ask for additional bonds and the last thing I want them to do is to start piling up. If there is not going to be any state bridge aid for 10 years we may have another bridge project to bring before the voters say 5 years from now and if you push it all off into the future you are going to be stacking them on top of each other he said.

He said it potentially has the least amount of interest paid, the least amount of interest for the

note and the difference is probably going to come down to less than 8 cents for 5 years.

**Motion:** (King, second Morin) to have the tax impact calculated on a 10 year bond at level debt which would make the payment per year consistent;

**Discussion:** Mrs. Titus said that works out better and she liked the way he said that because if they go longer and there's another bridge coming up it's going to be more money.

Mr. Vachon said it's roughly 32 cents at this time is what we're looking at for that one.

Mr. King said they have the data so if they can put it on there, and they'll have to ask the attorney that would be the number. He said he believes they should have it on there but there may be some reason they can't.

Mrs. Morin said she thought the Public Safety Building was at Town Meeting and that it wasn't on the ballot and that was a bond.

Mr. King said that is one of our most recent similar warrant articles which was what they did for the Public Safety Building but he couldn't remember it. He asked if that was a 3/5 vote and what year that was.

Mrs. Morin asked how they get the 2.71% bond sale and if they could give the taxpayers the range where 5% is the worst case scenario and it could be as low as 3%. She asked how they can lock into a lower rate.

Mr. King said it's only at the time when it goes out so when we put forth somebody will buy that bond and depending how much they want to buy the bond is how much they give to us so it actually buys down the rate. He said usually it has to do with the financial security of the town and then they'll say I know that they're pretty secure so they'll be more aggressive to buy that bond. If we had a poor credit rating they would be less likely to bid on it and go the other way. He said he didn't think they could give a firm fixed number because they don't know until it goes out and they don't know what that is.

Mr. Vachon asked without knowing if they can add that information to the warrant article if the board still wanted to take a vote on that or wait until they get that information next week.

Mr. King said they could take a vote on it and if they can add it they will add it and if they can't they can't because it needs to be a legal opinion on whether they can add it and if it needs to be a 3/5 ballot vote. He said for the next one the taxpayers are certainly going to want to know what the tax impact is on \$7.2 million. He said they know what the potential funding source is so the net principal amount would be \$4 million and he was not saying they couldn't get additional grants on top of that but these are the ones that come with this project at a minimum so these need to know what the bond impact would be on \$4 million and will probably have to ask that on a 15 or 20 year schedule because he didn't think 10 years would work on this one.

**Vote:** The motion passed 5-0.

#### **Supply and Treatment Improvements to the Town Water System-**

**Motion:** (King, second Titus) to approve the second warrant article with the same conditions:



the tax impact added if we can and to question if a 3/5 ballot vote is required and why is it required;

**Amendment:** by Mr. King: to include the tax impact based upon a 15 year fixed interest schedule for the well

Mrs. Titus accepted the amendment.

Mr. King said they could revisit it if they need to and make a change but to at least to get the number- fixed interest for 15 years but to also ask for the 20 year number.

Mr. Vachon then read aloud the proposed warrant article so the viewers at home would know what they were talking about which is as follows: "To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate a sum of (\$7,200,000 gross budget) for the purpose of supply and treatment improvements to the Town's municipal water system, work will include, but not be limited to designing and construction of a solution to increase supply and improve water quality, particularly iron and manganese and to comply with new drinking water standards required for manganese, the work may include a replacement well, associated treatment or another option if it is found to be the solution that is in the best interest of the Town; and to authorize the issuance of not more than \$5,760,000 of bonds or notes in accordance with the provisions of the Municipal Finance Act (RSA Ch. 33) and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to issue and negotiate such bonds or notes, to determine the rate of interest thereon, and to take such actions as may be necessary to affect the issuance, negotiation, sale and delivery of such bonds or notes as shall be in the best interests of the Town; furthermore to fund a portion of this work using American Rescue Funds Act grant (ARPA) in the amount of \$1,440,000; additionally to participate in the State Revolving Fund (SRF) RSA 486:14 established for this purpose and other funding agencies if desired; and further to authorize the Board of Selectmen to apply for, accept and expend such monies as become available from the federal and state governments or other sources and pass any vote relating thereto (3/5 ballot vote required). Clarifying Notes: the Town has secured an ARPA grant of \$1,440,000 for this project reducing the loan amount to \$5,760,000; additionally, up to 30% principal forgiveness is offered by NHDES to reduce the principal of the bond if this article passes (30% forgiveness is \$1,728,000; The net principal amount would be \$4,032,000)".

Mr. King said he didn't like the way this is worded because it says the work may include a replacement well. He said if he was sitting on the other side they would say this doesn't mean we're getting a well it says they're going to spend \$7.2 million and maybe they're just going to do treatment. He said they need to lead with a replacement well and associated treatment because he is not in favor of asking for \$7.2 million without any requirement of an additional replacement well. He said if they site a well location down by wells #4 and #5 he would think that part of the design would also make it so they could take water from well #5 and treat it as part of this solution along with treatment of the new well.

He said spending \$7.2 million just for treatment he would vote no because they need to lead

with we're adding a replacement well to replace #4 and #5 and that the attorney may have said this gives us the most options.

Mr. Dickie said he submitted what the engineering firm submitted to him.

Mr. King said he believes that is what they would ask for because it gives them the most flexibility to do whatever they want. He said if they are going to the town to ask for \$7.2 million they're going to pay for most of it and they're going to want to see substantial investment which is a new well with clean water with long term life.

Mr. Staples said when they talked to the state the idea was a new well and they were going to negotiate to get the land to put a new over there.

Mr. King said or wherever they need to site it.

Mrs. Morin asked if it should be in anticipation of a replacement well and associated treatment.

Mr. King asked how they would address the problem they have without a new one. He said their engineer told them it's going to be cost prohibitive regarding this treatment.

Mrs. Morin said maybe it just needs to say for the implementation of a new well.

Mr. King said a new well along with all of the associated treatment facility.

Mr. Staples asked if they should call the motion as failed and kick it back to Mr. Dickie and legal.

Mr. King said he could amend his motion to include the re-wording of this before they approve it. He said after reading it he is not in favor of approving it where it doesn't specifically say siting of an additional well along with the associated treatment for manganese and other things.

**Amendment:** by Mr. King: rewording the article to state it will include a new/replacement well

Mr. Vachon said they could change the word "may" in "the work may include a replacement well" to "will" to read "the work will include a replacement well".

Mrs. Morin asked if they wanted to get rid of "or another option if it is found..."

Mr. Staples said their other option was trying to talk us into hooking into Rochester which is a no-go.

Mr. King said that doesn't solve our problem because if we hitch into Rochester and we have a water need in July they can't give us any water. He said he didn't have a problem with discussion with them because in July we have plenty of water so if we make a connection they could buy it from us and then we could buy from them if we need to.

Mrs. Titus accepted the amendment.

**Vote:** The motion passed 5-0.

**Bridge and Road Design CRF-** to raise and appropriate \$100,000 to be added to the CRF and may be used to pay 20% of the required funding from the NH State Bridge Aid. No amount to be raised from taxation.

**Motion:** (Titus, second Staples) to accept the article;

**Discussion:** Mrs. Morin asked how they are raising the money and if it is from the undesignated fund balance.

Mr. King said it needs to state that in the article like in the next article.

**Amendment:** by Mr. King: to add "This sum to come from unassigned fund balance" ahead of No amount to be raised from taxation.

Mrs. Titus and Mr. Staples accepted the amendment.

**Vote:** The motion passed 5-0.

**Highway Dept. Motorized Equipment-** to add \$50,000 to the CRF to assist with the replacement of highway equipment. This sum is to come from unassigned fund balance. No amount to be raised from taxation.

**Motion:** (Titus, second Staples) to accept the article passed 5-0.

**Emergency Motorized Equipment-** to add \$50,000 to CRF with funds to come from the unassigned fund balance using 2022 ambulance billing revenues that were deposited in the general fund and no amount to be raised from taxation.

**Motion:** (Titus, second Morin) to accept the article;

**Discussion:** Mrs. Morin asked if they could also have a note stating the totals in these funds on the warrant.

Mr. King said he didn't think they could have it on the warrant but they could have it available.

Mr. Vachon said it would be in the Town Report.

Mr. King said they should have those numbers available for the Bud Com meeting so when they look at the warrant article they will understand if it's high or low or see the need if it's been depleted.

**Vote:** The motion passed 5-0.

**Town Reevaluation-** to add \$20,000 to CRF to come from the unassigned fund balance and no amount to be raised from taxation.

**Motion:** (Morin, second Titus) to accept the article passed 5-0.

**Landfill Groundwater Testing-** to withdraw \$32,000 from the Landfill Closure Fund CRF to test the groundwater at the closed landfill. No amount to be raised from taxation.

**Motion:** (Titus, second Morin) to accept the article;

**Discussion:** Mr. King asked if it should say to raise and appropriate \$32,000 to go into the Landfill Closure CRF for testing groundwater at the closed landfill.

Mrs. Morin asked if it was like a pass-thru it goes in and then we withdraw it right out.

Mr. King said we have this every year and asked if it was worded correctly like how we have been doing it historically. He said we are testing groundwater and are authorizing the withdrawal of said sum from CRF but it doesn't say the \$32,000 is going into that fund.

Mr. Dickie read aloud from a previous Town Report to see if the Town will raise and appropriate the sum of \$32,000 for the purpose of testing groundwater at the closed landfill and to authorize the withdrawal of said sum from the Landfill Closure Fund CRF. No amount to be raised from taxation.

Mr. King said that is exactly the same and that his question still is if it needs to say that money is going into that fund. He said it doesn't say that it says to raise and appropriate for testing

groundwater and to authorize the withdrawal of said funds from the Landfill Closure CRF.

Mr. Staples asked Mr. Dickie if he knew how much is in this account. He said there was a bunch of money put into this account when the landfill closed and last year when they had this discussion they asked what was in it and it was getting down to about that amount and they talked about having to put more in it.

Mr. King said that is what they have been doing because that money is pretty much all used up. He said he thinks it needs to say \$32,000 to be added to the Landfill Closure Fund.

Mr. Staples asked if the balance in this account was in the Town Report. He said he was pretty sure they were still withdrawing money from the account because there is still money in there, they're just getting permission to take it out just like they get permission to take it out (from other accounts).

Mr. King said this is giving permission to take out but it is also raising and appropriating \$32,000.

Mr. Staples read no amount to be raised from taxation and said that they would be taking the money out of this fund.

Mr. King asked where it says we're putting the money into the fund.

Mr. Staples said we're not it's already in the fund.

Mr. Vachon asked why it says we're raising and appropriating it.

Mr. Staples said we're not as it says it won't be taken through taxation.

Mr. Vachon said that's because it comes from the unassigned fund balance and we're not putting a tax impact on it just like the rest of them.

Mrs. Morin said the first sentence says to raise and appropriate.

Mr. Vachon said when you raise and appropriate you're getting that money from somewhere so it should be coming from the unassigned fund balance into the Landfill Closure Fund CRF and then withdrawn for the testing of groundwater. He said it should say this sum to come from the unassigned fund balance and no amount is to be raised from taxation.

Mr. Staples said if you go down to the TV warrant article where we pay for that it says to raise and appropriate the sum of \$63,400 that money is already in that account and they are asking permission to take it out.

Mrs. Morin said you can't raise and appropriate because that means either they're taking it from the general fund or through taxation.

Mr. King said they're raising and appropriating but there is a revenue side that offsets that. He said Mr. Staples is saying we're raising it and it's coming out of that fund where there are already substantial funds in there and they should verify if there are substantial funds in there because that article is written the same way. But if there is no money in there then we will have to raise and appropriate it which would be a tax impact so we have to check that he said.

**Equipment Purchase and Repair-** to add \$3,000 to this CRF for the purchase and repair of equipment. This sum is come from the unassigned fund balance and no amount to be raised

from taxation.

Mr. King asked whose equipment purchase and repair CRF this is-the Town, Fire Dept. or Police Dept. He said if it is for Town equipment he is opposed because it's \$3,000. He then asked what is in this account and what its purpose is.

Mr. Vachon asked Mr. Dickie to get those answers for the board.

Mr. King said he was in favor of striking it to pare this down.

Mrs. Morin said this account had \$20,000 in it and apparently we spent \$20,000 this year and the balance is zero.

Mr. King asked if we know what the \$20,000 was spent for.

Mr. Vachon said it may have been spent for a head gasket, turbo or transmission repairs on 2 Town trucks and the 10-wheelers needed a ton of work this summer. He asked Mr. Dickie to check to see what this money was spent on.

**SCUBA CRF-** to add \$15,000 to the Self Contained Breathing Apparatus CRF. This sum is to come from the unassigned fund balance. No amount to be raised from taxation.

**Motion:** (King, second Staples) to approve the article passed 5-0.

**Replacement of HVAC-** to add \$5,000 to the CRF to replace the HVAC units at the Municipal Office Building. This sum is to come from the unassigned fund balance. No amount to be raised from taxation.

**Motion:** (King, second Titus) to approve the article passed 5-0.

**Community Television-** to raise and appropriate \$63,400 for staff payroll, cable TV programming, equipment and/or repairs associated with Farmington Cable TV with said funds to come from the Community Television SRF. No amount to be raised from taxation.

**Motion:** (Titus, second Morin) to accept the article;

**Discussion:** Mr. Dickie said he was going to look at the history here as required and depending on what he finds in the history and the amount of residual funds he is probably going to reduce this to \$60,000.

Mr. King asked if they wanted to hold off on this and if they were to consider revenue sharing with the school district then this whole warrant article would be worded differently or there could be 2 warrant articles.

Mr. Dickie said if they didn't spend everything over the last 5 years and they still have residual funding then there is really no reason to raise it to \$63,000 and keep it at \$60,000.

Mr. King said asked if they have to set it to what their revenue expectation is so if we're going to get \$70,000 next year they need to put it at \$70,000 even though we're not spending \$70,000. He asked if they could say we know we're going to get \$80,000 in revenue but we're only going to spend \$40,000.

Mr. Staples asked where the left over money would go.

Mr. King said it sits in that fund.

Mr. Staples asked if they withdraw the \$63,400 and don't use it if it goes back.

Mr. King said they only withdraw it as needed.

Mr. Vachon said that is the maximum amount they can withdraw just like the next article for the Building Inspector.

Mr. Staples said they ask for that much just in case something breaks so they can fix it.

Mr. Vachon said it would also be used for maintenance, upgrades, salaries, wear and tear and licensing agreements.

Mrs. Morin asked if they wanted to work on the cost sharing request on this budget or if that's something they need to work on for their next budget. She said it just doesn't seem like they can get all the information for cost sharing going quickly.

Mr. Staples said the school district budget has already been accepted by the Bud Com and is going to the floor.

Mr. King said they should be able to get that for next Monday's meeting.

Mr. Vachon said it would just be an additional warrant article and Mr. Dickie just has to see how much comes in every year and if they spend it all.

Mrs. Morin said she just looked at the TDS account (Future Technology) and it has \$1,137.

Consensus of the board was to hold off on this article until Mr. Dickie finishes looking into it.

**Building Inspector SRF-** to raise and appropriate \$106,885 to pay for the Bldg. Insp. and to withdraw said sum from the Building Inspector Position SRF. No amount to be raised by taxation.

**Motion:** (King, second Titus) to approve the article passed 5-0.

**Replace/Repair Salt Shed-** to raise and appropriate \$1,000 to be added to the Replacement/Repair Salt Shed CRF. No amount to be raised by taxation.

**Motion:** (Titus, second Vachon) to accept the article;

**Discussion:** Mr. King asked where they were putting this new shed.

Mr. Dickie said the proposed location is at the Highway Dept. garage.

Mr. Vachon said the idea is to get some money into it because we don't really have a shed.

Mr. Staples said we do have a shed and it is behind the Transfer Station. He said it is falling down and salt is running into the river and the NH Dept. of Environmental Services hates it.

Mr. King suggested trying to find a DES grant for the shed.

Mr. Staples said that's a good idea as they have all kinds of money they are giving away.

Mr. Vachon said other towns have built a fabric building on blocks which would have maintenance with it but it can be done fairly quickly and cheaply in-house although the lifespan of the fabric wouldn't be as long a building would be.

**Vote:** The motion passed 5-0.

**Levee CRF-** to raise and appropriate \$100,000 to be added to the Levee CRF. No amount to be raised from taxation.

**Motion:** (Titus, second Staples) to accept the article;

**Discussion:** Mr. King said in the 2023 Proposed Budget binder it shows there is only \$1,000 in

this fund.

Mr. Vachon asked if this one also has to state it would come from the unassigned fund balance. He then noted that is also missing from the previous article for the salt shed.

**Motion:** (Morin, second Vachon) to amend the previous motion to include the unassigned fund balance as the revenue source and to read this sum to come from the unassigned fund balance passed 5-0. (Salt shed warrant article)

**Amendment:** by Mr. Vachon: to include this sum to come from the unassigned fund balance Mrs. Titus accepted the amendment. (Levee warrant article)

Mr. King asked if that is all they want to put in there. He said if we have potentially \$500,000, the first one is \$100,000, then \$50,000....

Mr. Vachon said Mr. Dickie said the proposed total amount to be taken from the unassigned fund balance for the possible warrant articles is \$344,000.

Mrs. Morin said they need to re-order these in the order that they want them funded as well.

Mr. Vachon said from the numbers he has there is more than enough to fund them all.

Mr. King said there is \$376,000 they didn't come up with because a couple of those are going to come from other revenue sources and asked if there is an estimated \$500,000 if they wanted to consider moving this to \$150,000 based upon the issues with FEMA. He said that would put it at \$425,000 and if there is not enough money that one doesn't get fully funded.

He said the engineer told them to start off with \$250,000 which he didn't want to start off with but at \$100,000 we may over expend that this year. He said it has to come from somewhere so if they put it in there and that one is last and if they fall short say we're \$400,000 then only \$125,000 would go in there.

Mrs. Morin asked if they wanted to do an "up to" amount.

Mr. King said no you just do \$150,000 and do what can be funded.

**Amendment:** by Mr. King: to move the sum to \$150,000

Mrs. Titus accepted the amendment.

**Vote:** The motion passed 5-0.

**Readopt Veteran's Tax Credit-** in accordance with RSA 72:27-a to readopt the provisions of RSA 72:28 II for an Optional Veteran's Tax Credit. If readopted the credit granted will remain at \$750 per year and eligibility shall be determined as set forth in RSA 72:28. If readopted and approved this article shall take effect for the 2023 property year.

Mr. Dickie said he was told we needed to have this in there. He said they amended it last year and we need to change it.

Mr. Vachon said it was voted by the taxpayers to bump it up to \$750 last year and asked if we have to do it again this year. He said it was \$500 and now its \$750 a year.

Mr. King said it says to readopt it and if readopted the credit granted will remain at \$750 a year.

Mr. Vachon said he wondered why we have to readopt something that was already voted by the taxpayers.

Mr. King said maybe there's some requirement in the RSA.

**Motion:** (Morin, second Titus) to accept the article;

**Discussion:** Mrs. Titus asked if they can raise this if they want to.

Mr. Vachon said no that is the max.

Mrs. Titus asked if \$750 is for all the towns and if that is what everybody gets.

Mr. Vachon said it depends on what the town approves because we were only at \$500 but the max was \$750.

Mrs. Titus asked if they could raise that on the floor at Town Meeting if they wanted to.

Mr. Vachon said he didn't believe so because the RSA states it's a max of \$750 and that's for qualifying veterans. He said even going from \$500 to \$750 was a fair amount of difference in revenue to the Town and it wasn't like it was just a \$20,000 difference.

Mrs. Titus said if they could up it just to help some of the elderly people who are veterans that would offset their taxes but she gets it.

**Vote:** The motion passed 5-0.

Mr. Vachon asked Mr. Dickie if he could have the information the board asked for next week.

Mr. Dickie said yes.

**Bud Com Package-** Mr. Vachon asked if that would be this fancy binder the board received tonight.

Mr. Dickie asked the board to leave it behind and he just wanted to give them a sample of what they are presenting to the Bud Com.

Some of the Selectmen said they had already written notes in the binders so Mr. Dickie said if there were any updates he would print them out and give them to the board.

Mr. Vachon said the front sheet contains the list of expenditures they have no control over such as the NH Retirement System, insurance, fuel, electricity as Mr. Dickie laid out there. He said the list also includes oil, gas, diesel, propane, salt, tipping fees and scale certifications that they can't do anything about unless they stopped services and closed the buildings down.

Mr. King said if he were to read this at a quick glance the increase is \$830,000 for the budget and out of that which are uncontrollable costs is only \$313,000 so the other \$500,000 are increases that we requested.

Mr. Vachon said it's what was requested or salaries and salaries and associated benefits aren't in this. He said its \$500,000 across all depts. and a lot of that is eaten up by salaries.

Mr. King said the only one he may not have included is if there are increases to salaries by union contract this year and that is not in here.

Mr. Dickie said he will put that in.

Mr. King said that would add to that \$313,000 say for the Teamsters it could be \$15,000 that would add to that and subtract from that \$830,000.

Mr. Vachon said that is higher than what they discussed earlier and he thought it was \$136,000 not \$146,000.



Mr. Staples said it was the Rec. Dept. and the grant for the park has to be in this.

Mr. Dickie said out of that its \$62,500 for the Town and up to ¼ of that can be in-kind and asked what the board wanted to put in for the dollar value- \$62,500 or \$31,250.

Mr. Vachon said he thought they had to put in the total for the grant (\$125,000) because they have to pay it out and then get reimbursed. He said if they expect to spend \$125,000 they have to put in \$125,000 and then they get reimbursed their 50%.

Mr. King said it should show \$62,500 on the revenue side of the budget.

Mr. Dickie said he put \$125,000 in the Rec. Dept. budget and he can only take \$62,500 out of that and the rest of it we're going to be responsible for.

Mr. Vachon said its \$62,500 on the revenue side of the Rec. Dept. budget for that grant but we have to pay it out and that's not on here. He said the \$125,000 increase to that line is not on this so it's not showing the \$125,000 on top of the \$313,000.

Mr. Staples said they have to plan for the whole thing even though we're getting it back.

Mr. Vachon said that would bump that \$313,000 to \$438,000 out of \$830,000 because they have to show the \$125,000 increase to the Rec. Dept. budget.

Mr. King said the Rec. Dept. grant should be \$125,000 but half of that is going to come back as revenue so the tax impact is only \$62,500. He said in the budget that's to be raised and appropriate it needs to be the full \$125,000 so that may change that \$8 million number.

Mr. Dickie said he included the amounts to be transferred to the CRF's but it would be more than \$344,000 because they raised the line for the levee by another \$50,000 so it would be \$394,000. He said the \$106,883 (Bldg. Insp.) is good, the TV is good for now, the landfill is good, and the Rec. grant will be \$62,500 to give them the impact of \$830,106 or \$1.46 on the tax rate.

Mr. Vachon said he thought it was \$1.36 on the sheet he showed him today and asked what got added since this morning.

Mr. Dickie said the Rec. Dept. \$62,500 grant got added.

Mr. Vachon asked if the \$65,000 made it go up 10 cents.

Mr. Dickie said yes and 20 cents is just around \$100,000. He said \$567,000 roughly is \$1 on the tax rate.

Mr. Vachon asked if there were any more questions on the Bud Com package.

Mrs. Morin said on the Possible Warrant Articles she found a typo and that "Horne Town" is one word.

Mr. King asked if the Rec. Dept. grant is \$62,500 not \$65,000 and it says \$65,000 on the budget sheet.

Mr. Dickie said the grant is \$62,500 and he would correct the errors.

#### **8). New Business:**

**Picture for Town Report-** Moved to the end of the meeting

**SRPC Contract with Town for 2023-** Mr. Vachon said this is the contract with the Strafford Regional Planning Commission.

Mr. Dickie said he e-mailed copies of the contract to the board and also provided printed copies in their meeting packets and it is for Kyle Pimental (SRPC Principal Regional Planner, Farmington Director of Planning & Community Development).

**Motion:** (Morin, second Vachon) to accept the contract with the Strafford Regional Planning Commission passed 5-0.

**9).Town Administrator's Business:**

Mr. Dickie said he had nothing more to discuss in public.

**Rekeying the Municipal Office Building-** Mrs. Morin asked if they have moved anywhere on the keys for the building.

Mr. Dickie said he is working with Chief Reinert and is looking into key fobs and what the cost is and he hoped to have an update for the board next Monday.

Mr. Vachon said there was a lock company doing something here on Friday when he got here.

**E-Mail from Hoyle Tanner-** Mr. King said the board received an e-mail from Engineer Josif Bicja regarding the 165 page contract with the Town and that Mr. Bicja made some assumptions in his e-mail that he would like to discuss. He said he put a start date of May 1 and a completion date of 10/27/23 and he didn't know if that is enough time and he didn't want to box us in and asked what they need to put in there to make it feasible.

He said Mr. Bicja is asking for contractors to be on the NH Dept. of Transportation Pre-Qualified Contractors list. He said he was opposed to making that a hard and fast requirement but he was not opposed to saying that is preferred but not a requirement because they may have a qualified bidder that has chosen not to be on this year's list. This is not a NH DOT project, there is no government funding so our level of red tape should be reduced to save us money and all my comments here are regarding that theme he said.

Mr. King said Mr. Bicja is asking contractors to provide 5% of the contract price bid bond so that means they set aside or give us 5% of the bid up front and he is opposed to that. He said that is only going to turn people away.

He said he has a request for liquidated damages which is if they don't meet the deadline. He said he is not opposed to the liquidated damages but we should have the ability to waive that based upon the situation. He said if they can make the case for these are the delays that happened and they wanted us to waive the liquidated damages for 30 days it should be mutually agreeable not automatic because there may be some things out of their control.

He said Mr. Bicja also specified that the Town hold a 10% retainer for each payment application which means we are retaining 10% of the payment so if they obtain 20% substantially complete we're holding back 10% of it. He said he is opposed to doing that and the 5% bond up front so he wanted to alert people of all these requirements that he is putting in.

Mr. King said the next one is when in contract to provide payment and performance bonds and he is not opposed to that because the job has to be completed. He said but if you have a performance bond and then you say you're going to hold back 10% to make sure you finish that

is what the bond is for. So we're adding financial requirements 3 layers deep on this project, 5% up front, then 10% retainer and then we're going to make them get a bond which is an additional cost he said.

He said didn't have an issue with requiring a certificate of insurance. He said he did have an issue with the specified work hours that say Mon.-Fri. and that should opened up to all week if the contractors/subcontractors want to work on Sat. or Sun. to stay on schedule. He said the hours of operation are reasonable for construction next to houses but it should be expanded or they could say the work hours are 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. and not say they're restricted because it could rain on Mon. and Tues.

He said there is a general theme to this that this a DOT program and we're going to throw the book at you as far as all these requirements. He said that is not what this is we need to have assurances, we need to have qualified contractors with proper bonding but we need to turn down some of these other requirements so we'll get some qualified bidders that may not be on this contractors list. He gave the example of the addition to highway barn the construction company quoted it and when the Town said they wanted them to bond it they said if that was required they weren't going to do the job because it adds all these complications and this job isn't big enough to deal with all those complications.

He said he wanted to build in some ability for the Town to work with somebody we want to work with but to make sure we have assurances. He said the most recent construction projects we've had done (the highway garage and the Public Safety Building) were done successfully by local contractors so if you put these requirements in here you're going to get a high price and somebody coming out of Mass that has a full staff to handle this paperwork.

Mr. King said he thought in talking with Mr. Bicia he will understand that perspective and they can dial that back or at least put in abilities to consider other qualified people. He asked the board if any of them disagreed with what he said.

Mr. Vachon said there should be specifications in there on how many how many yards of concrete, how many yards of asphalt, rebar, etc. for the bridge repairs and rolling through the 165 pages it's a bunch of filler stuff-the bonds, certificates, hours of work, etc.

Mr. King said and this is just for bridge repairs not for a new bridge.

Mr. Dickie said he wanted to ask him if he was getting this confused with the 2 bridges they want to do because there's all these requirements for the big project we want to do not these small repairs.

Mr. King said for some of the work they would be foolish to even ask for a bond such as repaving the deck. He said a reputable company will give us a quote and stand behind their work we would have it inspected and have an engineering company oversee it and inspect it.

**FEMA Update-** Mr. King asked if there was any update on FEMA and the levee.

Mr. Dickie said he has a call in tomorrow to Stevens Engineering and he would give the board an update on that next week. He said Paul Turner stopped in and he told him that he did some

insurance investigation and for his place (Turner Liberty Ins.) where its located (364 Main St.) it's about \$3,000 a year for flood insurance.

Mr. King asked if they have had no direct contact from FEMA or Stevens Engineering. He said they will need Stevens to quantify a scope of work in the next 3 months for us to do to get on track with FEMA for them to consider. He said it needs to say this is what we need to do ASAP and the scope of services for them to do that and for us to agree to get this moving. If we can't come to a consensus we're going to have to find somebody else. They work for us not for FEMA and we want to be as aggressive as we can to get as many waivers as we can like on the free board he said.

He said the levee has been here since 1959 and the water hasn't come over the levee ever so it is reasonable to ask for a waiver of the requirement for an additional 6" to 1ft. in some locations because we have how many years of history.

**Cemetery Assoc. Meeting-** Mr. King asked if there have been any discussions with the Cemetery Assoc. about setting up a meeting with them (regarding a possible location for a Town well).

Mr. Dickie said he asked Mrs. Heon to set one up with them and he will follow up with her tomorrow to see when they want to schedule it.

Mr. King suggested that he, Mr. Vachon and Mr. Dickie meet with them and hopefully it will be a good discussion and they can come to a consensus pretty quickly to present to the board that will provide a foundation for going forward with this warrant article. He said it's important to have that discussion before Town Meeting because if they're asked at Town Meeting where this is going to be we can at least say this is where it is and we have a tentative agreement with the Cemetery Assoc. for the land swap or whatever we need to do.

**Child Care Center Report-** Mr. Staples asked Mr. Dickie if he has received the annual report from the Farmington Child Care Center about the Fire Dept. and Code Enforcement inspections. Mr. Dickie said he did not recall getting one and he will look to see if he did get one.

Mr. King said they also owe us an annual report on the children that go there as part of the requirements for their renewed lease. He said he didn't know if those safety issues were one of them but there is required reporting so they are kept abreast of who is using the facility and to what extent.

Mr. Staples said they are supposed to report on how many of the children are Farmington residents and how many of them are from out of town.

Mr. King said he didn't necessarily need them to have them come here but the minimum reporting they are required to do should be given to the board.

**Recycling-** Mr. Staples said he was going to work with Mr. Dickie tomorrow to see if he can find the last numbers they had for the mixed recycling they sent out so they know the tonnage. He asked if he should write up a petitioned warrant article to get it through or if the board would be willing to discuss finding some ARPA funds for a warrant article for a recycling building.

Mr. King said he didn't want to bring up a warrant article and as a group they need to be realistic about what the cost is going to be, what they have set aside and whether they could put a warrant article to fund it through the undesignated fund balance or the ARPA funds. He said if they could take \$30,000 or \$40,000 from ARPA then it might only be another \$50,000. Mr. Staples said with the way the market is so unstable it would be hard to say this is what the value is but he can look at what we were pulling out and say this is what the savings will be from the trucking and the tipping fees.

Mr. King said that would be good information to have especially if it's going to go to a warrant article. He said they could say this is what we're looking to do so we can bring back some recycling but it's not going to be for all products.

Mr. Vachon suggested that Mr. Staples check with NHDES about any currently available or upcoming grants.

**Wrong Way Drivers-** Mrs. Titus said there are a lot of people going the wrong way on Mechanics Street and they're coming out onto Main St. and it has almost caused a couple of accidents. She asked if there was more signage that could be put up and not have people come out that way and she didn't know if there's a sign there anymore.

Mr. Dickie said he would see if they have a One Way sign.

Mr. King suggested he have the Police look at it and get a recommendation from them about additional signage. He said if it is clearly labeled it might be an enforcement issue and if it's not clearly labeled then it may need some additional signage.

Mrs. Titus said she didn't think it is clearly labeled and she did talk to the Police but if Mr. Dickie talks to them they may come up with a better idea to improve the situation.

**Resident E-Mail** – Mr. King asked if the board received an e-mail from resident Carol Canney regarding the Transfer Station holiday schedule.

The board members said they did not receive that e-mail.

Mr. King said he would forward it to them and it is a discussion about how the information on the Town website is not current and it talks about the holiday schedule and she made some suggestions. He gave Mr. Dickie a printed copy of the e-mail and asked him to review it and if he sees something that makes sense to come back to the board.

**Meeting Postings-** Mrs. Morin asked if they posted the Selectmen's meeting for Wed.'s Bud Com meeting because the entire board will be there.

Mr. Dickie said this past holiday was an unusual circumstance when one of the Town Office employees resigned and he didn't have anybody to update things. He said the new Admin. Assistant is being brought up to speed on how to update so that will be rectified and the Finance Admin is being trained and he is working his way through it so they have 3 people to backup instead of relying on one.

Mr. King asked Mr. Dickie to respond to the resident's e-mail and update her on what happened and what is being done about it.

Mr. Dickie said that he would do so and that the Bud Com meeting on Wed. has been posted. He said they posted for 5 p.m. for the Selectmen's public hearing on the bond issuance and the Bud Com meeting at 7 p.m. and there is also a Planning Board hearing. He said the bond hearing had to be posted for 7 days.

Mrs. Morin said when you click on the date on the website it says public hearing at 5 p.m. but doesn't say anything after that.

Mr. Vachon said they must post their attendance at the Bud Com meeting because a quorum of the board members will be there and asked Mr. Dickie to verify that that has been posted.

Mr. King said if something came up (at the Bud Com meeting) and they needed a decision of the board they would have a quorum and the meeting has been posted so they could have a discussion and address it.

Mr. Dickie said he stood corrected and he thought Mrs. Morin was referring to the Bud Com meeting itself being posted.

**10). Next Meeting:** Monday, January 23, 2023

**11). Town Administrator's Business:**

**Economic Development Committee Appointment-** Mr. Dickie then recalled that Jason Lauze would like to join the EDC and he has an application and a signature sheet from him that he gave to the board to review.

**Motion:** (Titus, second Morin) to accept Jason Lauze as a regular member of the EDC passed 5-0.

Mr. Vachon asked the board to gather together so Mr. Hall could take a group photo for the Annual Town Report before entering non-public session.

Mr. Hall did so and then left the meeting and the board entered non-public session as follows:

**12). Non-Public Session B:**

**Motion:** (Morin, second Titus) to enter non-public session under RSA 91-A: 3 II (a, c, I) Investigation of Charges, Reputation, Legal Advice passed 5-0 by a roll call vote (Vachon, King, Staples, Morin, Titus-aye) at 8:20 p.m.

**Motion:** (King, second Staples) to come out of non-public session passed 5-0 at 8:33 p.m.

**Motion:** (King, second Morin) to seal the minutes for a period of one year as disclosure would adversely affect the reputation of a person other than a member of the board passed 5-0 by a roll call vote (Vachon, King, Titus, Staples, Morin-aye).

**13). Non-Public Session C:**

**Motion:** (Morin, second Vachon) to enter non-public session under RSA 91-A: 3 II (a) Dismissal of a Public Employee passed 5-0 by a roll call vote (Vachon, King, Staples, Morin, Titus-aye) at 8:33 p.m.

**Motion:** (Vachon, second Staples) to come out of non-public session passed 5-0 at 8:38 p.m.

**14). Non-Public Session D:**

**Motion:** (Morin, second Staples) to enter non-public session under RSA 91-A: 3 II (c) Reputation passed 5-0 by a roll call vote (Vachon, King, Titus, Staples, Morin-aye) at 8:38 p.m.

**Motion:** (Morin, second Staples) to come out of non-public session passed 5-0 at 8:43 p.m.

**15). Non-Public Session E:**

**Motion:** (King, second Staples) to enter non-public session under RSA 91-A: 3 II (c) Reputation passed 5-0 by a roll call vote (Vachon, King, Morin, Staples, Titus-aye) at 8:43 p.m.

**Motion:** (King, second Staples) to come out of non-public session passed 5-0 at 8:47 p.m.

**16). Non-Public Session F:**

**Motion:** (King, second Morin) to enter non-public session under RSA 91-A: 3 II (c) Reputation passed 5-0 by a roll call vote (Vachon, King, Morin, Staples, Titus-aye) at 8:47 p.m.

**Motion:** (King, second Vachon) to come out of non-public session passed 5-0 at 9:01 p.m.

**17). Road Issue:**

Selectmen reported seeing and receiving complaints about Town plow trucks "flying" down some of the roads in town.

Mr. Dickie said he would address the issue with the Highway Dept. Supervisor.


**18). Adjournment:**

**Motion:** (Morin, second Staples) to adjourn the meeting passed 5-0 at 9:05 p.m.


Kathleen Magoon, Recording Secretary

\_\_\_\_\_  
Gerry Vachon, Chairman

  
Penny Morin

  
Douglas Staples

  
Charlie King, Vice Chairman

  
Ann Titus