

**TOWN MEETING MINUTES**  
**March 11, 2020**

The Moderator, Michael Morin, opened the meeting at 7:03 with the Boy Scout Troop 180 who posted the colors and led us in the pledge of allegiance. The Woman's Club then gathered. Joanne Doke said she would like to acknowledge two members who had been serving our community for a long time – Ann Titus and Penny Morin. They received a round of applause. Joanne then presented the 2020 Woman of the Year award to Sharon Turner. Sharon was recognized for her volunteer work. She has served on a lot of committees, but most recently the steering committee working to determine what will become of the old fire station. She can be seen tending the garden by the Municipal parking lot and working with the Historical Society and the curator of the Henry Wilson Museum. She also traps, rescues and rehomes feral and stray cats and an occasional stray pig. Sharon received a standing ovation and then thanked everyone for the honor. The Moderator welcomed everyone and reminded them to check in with supervisors of the checklists because we are counting cards not hands. He also reminded people to silence their cell phones and pointed out the exits. He announced that candidates in yesterday's election who were unopposed could be sworn in after this meeting. He then read the warrant and results of yesterday's election. He also announced that we would not be taking the articles in order.

**Article 01 Election of Officers**

To choose one Selectmen for three years, three Budget Committee Members for three years, one Treasurer for one year, one Trustee of the Trust Funds for three years, one Town Moderator for two years, and one Supervisor of the Checklist for six years. (Official Ballot)

**Article 02 Zoning Amendments**

To see if the Town will vote to adopt Amendment #1 as proposed by the Planning Board for the Farmington Zoning Ordinance as follows: (Official Ballot)

**Amendment 1**

To amend Zoning Ordinance Section 1.14 Definitions to add the following definitions: Abutter; Agritourism; Amusement Arcade; Amusement Park; Barn; Farm; Farmers Market; Garage, private; Gazebo/Pavilion; Gross Floor Area; Habitable Floor Area; Mixed-Use; Outdoor Recreation (low impact); Outdoor Recreation (high impact); Storage Shed; Vacant Lot; and Youth Recreation Camp; and to amend the following definitions: Accessory Dwelling Unit; Agriculture; Forestry; Principal Structure; and Principal Use.

Copies of the proposed amendment are posted at the Town offices and on the Town website. A copy of the full text of proposed Amendment 1 will be posted at the polling place.

Yes     455     No     196

**Article 03 Zoning Amendments**

To see if the Town will vote to adopt Amendment #2 as proposed by the Planning Board for the Farmington Zoning Ordinance as follows: (Official Ballot)

**Amendment 2**

To amend Zoning Ordinance Table 2.00 (C) Table of Permitted Uses to add to, and to revise, the uses allowed in the zoning districts, and to add the following language to Section 2.00 (E)(1) Special Exception General Standards: "(g) The proposed use is consistent in character with other Permitted uses allowed within the District where the use is proposed to be located and is consistent with the purpose of said District." Copies of the proposed amendment are posted at the Town offices and on the Town website. A copy of the full text of proposed Amendment 2 will be posted at the polling place.

Yes     445     No     237

#### **Article 04 Zoning Amendments**

To see if the Town will vote to adopt Amendment #3 as proposed by the Planning Board for the Farmington Zoning Ordinance as follows: (Official Ballot)

##### **Amendment 3**

To amend Zoning Ordinance Section 2.05 Village Center District to add additional purpose statements, to revise space and bulk standards, including maximum net residential density, minimum lot size, to add a minimum unit size, and to add language governing uses that are prohibited on the first floor of new construction and redevelopment buildings within the Village Center District. Copies of the proposed amendment are posted at the Town offices and on the Town website. A copy of the full text of proposed Amendment 3 will be posted at the polling place.

Yes     386     No     301

#### **Article 05 Zoning Amendments**

To see if the Town will vote to adopt Amendment #4 as proposed by the Planning Board for the Farmington Zoning Ordinance as follows: (Official Ballot)

##### **Amendment 4**

To amend Zoning Ordinance Section 3.16 Recreational Vehicles Parks or Campgrounds Section (B) to address storage of a single recreational vehicle on a lot, and to address temporary use of a recreational vehicle on a vacant lot, outside of recreational vehicle parks and campgrounds; and to strike and rewrite the definition of "Recreational Vehicle". Copies of the proposed amendment are posted at the Town offices and on the Town website. A copy of the full text of proposed Amendment 4 will be posted at the polling place.

Yes     370     No     312

#### **Article 06 Zoning Amendment**

To see if the Town will vote to adopt Amendment #5 as proposed by the Planning Board for the Farmington Zoning Ordinance as follows: (Official Ballot)

##### **Amendment 5**

To amend Zoning Ordinance Section 6.00 Accessory Dwelling Units to revise multiple parts of the Accessory Dwelling Units section to ensure compliance with state statute (RSA 674:71-73), to clarify the administrative process and the ADU requirements, and to allow detached ADUs upon satisfaction of certain conditions. Copies of the proposed amendment are posted at the Town offices and on the Town website. A copy of the full text of proposed Amendment 5 will be posted at the polling place

Yes     428     No     256

#### **Article 07 Zoning Amendment**

To see if the Town will vote to adopt Amendment #6 as proposed by the Planning Board for the Farmington Zoning Ordinance as follows: (Official Ballot)

##### **Amendment 6**

To amend Zoning Ordinance Section 3.00 to include a new Section 3.04 to allow subdivision of a rear lot from a front lot, as defined in Section 3.04, upon satisfaction of certain conditions, in certain zoning districts. Copies of the proposed amendment are posted at the Town offices and on the Town website. A copy of the full text of proposed Amendment 6 will be posted at the polling place.

Yes     443     No     246

### **Article 08 Plow Truck**

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen, as the governing body, to enter into a Seven (7) year lease/purchase agreement in the amount of \$137,867 for the lease/purchase of a new plow truck and to raise and appropriate the sum of \$21,788 for the first year's payment for that purpose. This lease/purchase agreement contains an escape clause. (Majority vote required).

NOTE: The Board of Selectmen will negotiate the interest rate on the lease/purchase as shall be in the best interest of the Town.

Selectmen Recommend: Yes (5-0) Budget Committee Recommend: Yes (7-0) Estimated Tax Impact: .04

Stephen Henry moved to accept Article 8 as written, seconded Sylvia Arcouette. Bruce Bridges motioned to change this to a 10-wheel dump truck because he feels a 6 wheeler is inadequate. This was seconded by Gary Rogers. Charlie King asked to hear from public works & the Board of Selectmen regarding the amendment. Gary stated that we would be replacing a 6-wheeler. A 10-wheeler is bigger than the truck it would be replacing. Arthur Capello pointed out that the warrant article doesn't specify the size so we can look at 10-wheel trucks as we continue to look at this lease/purchase. Les Leary said he thinks we have a desperate need to replace it, but we should leave it open. The amendment was not approved by a show of cards vote. Being no further discussion, Article 8 was approved by a show of cards vote.

### **Article 09 Pumper/Tanker Fire Truck and necessary fire equipment.**

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen, as the governing body, to enter into a ten (10) year lease/purchase agreement in the amount of \$515,604 for the lease/purchase of a new pumper/tanker fire truck and to raise and appropriate the sum of \$57,258.69 for the first year's payment for that purpose. This lease/purchase agreement contains an escape clause. (Majority vote required).

NOTE: The Board of Selectmen will negotiate the interest rate on the lease/purchase as shall be in the best interest of the Town.

Selectmen Recommend: Yes (5-0) Budget Committee Recommend: Yes (7-1)

Estimated Tax Impact: .11

Ann Titus made a motion to approve Article 9 as written, seconded by Sylvia Arcouette. The Fire Chief explained that we are replacing the 1991 pumper which has been out of service for almost 4 years. This will bring us back up to three and help with water supply for fires when needed. Being no discussion, Article 9 was approved by a show of cards vote.

### **Article 10 Operating Budget**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the Budget Committee recommended sum of \$7,167,884 for General Municipal Operations. This article does not include appropriations contained in special or individual articles addressed separately.

Selectmen Recommend: Yes (5-0) Budget Committee Recommend: Yes (8-0)

Estimated Tax Impact .12

Joshua Whitehouse made a motion to approve Article 10 as written, seconded by TJ Place. Brian Beaverstock made a motion to amend by increasing \$5837 to line 4550-4559 for the library, seconded by Penny Morin. Brian explain that during budget presentation they were told to bring any increases to this meeting. This represents 2.1% salary line increases and professional development increases after a wage study was conducted. Sylvia Arcouette asked how much salaries and how many attend the program. Kayla Morin-Riordin stated that the attendance was 127 and it was offered twice a year and they would love to offer it more times. Sam Place stated that she was personally in favor and that it was discussed at the Budget Committee level, but the Budget Committee thought it was better left to this body. Kayla said that it is now limited it to 12 families and we currently have 9 children and 8 parents. Neil Johnson said that the Board of Selectmen had decided to level fund the Library because they have a trust account that has over \$500,000 in it and an additional \$30,000 from previous budgets that was left unspent. Blanche

Tanner said she had a general comment that we are trying to approve the image of the town and the Library is a central part of the community for all ages and stages of people. She wanted to see a show of support. Linda McElhiney said that they did mention the Mainstay account with over \$500,000 at the Budget meetings. Since then she has spoken to their advisor who recommends withdrawal of \$16,000 per year to offset their budget. For the \$30,000, Linda stated she is working diligently to track down all of the funding. She felt that in the past we may have money from benefactors that may have been placed in that account. Brian Beaverstock said that the Mainstay trust account has given \$272,000 to the town over the last few years which is the purpose of the perpetual trust. Sylvia Arquette asked how much of this increase is for salaries vs. professional development to which Brian responded that it was \$2,000 for professional development and the rest for salaries which is about a 2% increase. Howard Champagne said this was good discussion but he is against the amendment and felt that they should make better use of the funds they already have since his taxes went up \$2500 last year. Howard said that it is not going to do any good to add many more programs if it is too expensive to live here. Joshua Whitehouse made a motion to call the question, seconded by Jodi Connolly which was not approved by a show of cards vote. Tami Larock, Director of the Library said that when at the Budget Committee Neil referred to money as residuals, but that amount is money that is already committed. Neil thanked Tami for that clarification because it had not been made clear at the Budget Committee or the Board of Selectmen's meetings that it was earmarked. Being no further discussion, the amendment was approved by a show of cards vote. The Moderator reread Article 10 as amended to \$7,173,721. Being no discussion, Article 10 was approved, as amended, by a show of cards vote. Brian Beaverstock made a motion to restrict reconsideration which was seconded by Joshua Whitehouse. Neil Johnson stated that he recommended this not be passed because of the complexity of some of the articles and the bridge repair. We may need to revisit this later to cover other Articles. Penny Morin asked if it would be appropriate to table this Article until after the others. The Moderator said that we could not because it had already been voted on. There was discussion on why we voted on the other articles. Kathy Seaver said that the other two articles were not restricted so we can still go back to them. The motion to restrict reconsideration failed by a show of cards vote.

#### **Article 11 Department of Public Works Contract**

To see if the town will vote to approve the cost items included in the collective bargaining agreement reached between the Town of Farmington and the Teamsters local #633 which calls for the following increases in salaries and benefits at the current staffing level:

Fiscal Year	Estimated Increase
2020-2021	\$14,857
2021-2022	\$15,208
2022-2023	\$12,633

and further to raise and appropriate \$14,857 for the current fiscal year, such sum representing the additional costs attributable to the increase in salaries and benefits required by the new agreement over those that would be paid at current staffing levels. (Majority vote required)

Board of Selectmen Recommendations: Yes (5-0) Budget Committee Recommendations: Yes (8-0)

Tax Impact 2020-2021: .03

Tax Impact 2021-2022: .03

Tax Impact 2022-2023: .03

Stephen Henry made a motion to approve Article 11 as written, seconded by Neil Johnson. Neil spoke about the renewal of current contract which contains only salary adjustments of 3% this year, 2.5% for year 2 and 2% for the 3<sup>rd</sup> year. Penny Morin asked if we should change this to reflect that it is only an estimated impact. The town's attorney explained that you cannot change this wording, but the discussion informs everyone that it is only estimated. Penny did not wish to make the amendment. Being no further discussion, Article 11 was approved by a show of cards vote.

#### **Article 12 Reconsideration of DPW Contract**

Shall the Town of Farmington, if Article #11 is defeated, authorize the governing body to call one special meeting, at its option, to address Article #11 cost items only?

Neil made a motion to approve, seconded by Deborah Reed and approved by a show of cards vote.

### **Article 13 Police Contract**

To see if the town will vote to approve the cost items included in the collective bargaining agreement reached between the Town of Farmington and the NEPBA, Local #212 which calls for the following increases in salaries and benefits at the current staffing level:

Fiscal Year	Estimated Increase
2020 - 2021	\$16,689
2021-2022	\$17,106
2022-2023	\$17,533

and further to raise and appropriate \$16,689 for the current fiscal year, such sum representing the additional costs attributable to the increase in salaries and benefits required by the new agreement over those that would be paid at current staffing levels. (Majority vote required)

Board of Selectmen Recommendations: Yes (5-0) Budget Committee Recommendations: Yes (8-0)

Tax Impact 2020-2021: .03

Tax Impact 2021-2022: .03

Tax Impact 2022-2023: .03

Neil Johnson made a motion to approve Article 13 as written, seconded by Ann Titus. Neil Johnson said that there were primarily two changes with salary increases of 2.5% per year and a change in the amount of holdover for sick time to 160 hours holdover. Neil stated that it was an estimated tax impact. Stephen Henry asked if there were changes in health insurance. Neil stated that they can select either of the two current town policies. Being no further discussion, Article 13 was approved by a show of cards vote. A petition for a ballot vote had been presented to the Moderator and he read names to determine if they are voters who are currently in the room. The Moderator explained the procedure. Voting started at 7:45 and ended at 8:03. The Moderator chose to move on to other articles while the Supervisors were counting.

### **Article 14 Reconsideration of Police Contract**

Shall the Town of Farmington, if Article #13 is defeated, authorize the governing body to call one special meeting, at its option, to address Article #13 cost items only?

Stephen Henry made a motion to table seconded by Jodi Connolly and approved by a show of cards vote.

Neil Johnson made a motion to go to Article 24 next, not yet seconded when a motion to restrict Articles 8 & 9 was made by Bruce Manchester and seconded Ann Titus. Charlie King stated he was opposed because we have no idea what might be needed for the bridge. Motion to restrict failed by a show of cards vote. The vote on Article 13 was Yes 67 no 11. Tim Brown made a motion to take Article 14 off the table, seconded by Joshua Whitehouse. Stephen Henry asked what happens if we just leave it on the table and go on. Tim Brown withdrew his motion and Joshua withdrew his second. The Moderator said we would now go to Article 24.

### **Article 24 Bridges and Road Design CRF**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$5,000 to be added to the Bridges and Road Design Capital Reserve Fund, previously established. This is to pay 20% of the required funding from NH State Bridge Aid. This sum to come from the unassigned fund balance. No amount to be raised from the 2020 Taxation Year.

Selectmen Recommend: Yes (5-0)

Budget Committee Recommend: Yes (8-0)

Estimated Tax Impact For 2020: .00

Total in the fund as of December 2019: \$109,052

Neil Johnson made a motion to approve Article 24, seconded by Elizabeth Johnson. Neil Johnson made a motion to amend to strike "to pay 20% of the required funding from NH State Bridge Aid." This will be used to do a temporary bridge to be placed. There is currently no state aid for bridges. This was seconded by Ann Titus. Stephen Henry asked how long the temporary bridge was going to last and asked if it is just a 6-month bandaid and the Moderator said that we are only addressing the removing of the 20% and Steve asked if we were not likely to get any aid in anytime soon to which Neil replied no. The amendment was approved by a show of cards vote. Neil Johnson made a motion to propose an amendment to change the amount to \$131,000 seconded by David Connolly. Neil stated that we will be building a temporary bridge for about \$300,000 which will give us more time to do the replacement for about 1.35 million rather than try to raise that amount immediately. The temporary bridge will support the full weight of fire/ambulance to give time and then it can be used at other bridge locations as each bridge repair is accomplished. When this meeting is over we are hopefully going to have reduced some of the other warrant articles and apply that to the bridge amount. Using this additional capital reserve and using some trust funds will have no impact on taxes this year. Tim Brown asked the board to speak to how it raises or lowers our priority for getting bridge aid money when it does come available. Neil explained that according to the engineering firm it has no impact on the rating on the bridge that is there now. Eventually the old bridge is still considered into the funding formula. We were afraid it would eliminate us but it will not affect any potential funds from state or federal funding. Linda McElhiney asked how much there is in unassigned fund balance. Arthur stated that if everything passes we will have approximately 7 percent. The Board of Selectmen waived their 8 percent policy to allow this to happen. Paul Turner asked when we anticipate completion so full traffic can resume. Neil stated that, according to engineering firm, by the end of the summer. Mike Morin questioned when is the end of summer? Neil said that at least September 1<sup>st</sup> for the start of school is the goal. Robert Todd asked how long the temporary bridge is good for. Neil said it has 10-15 years potentially. Robert Todd asked if there is a possibility we can go after it next year to go for the 1.4 million which Neil affirmed was the case. Robert Todd stated that their taxes went up \$2,000 last year so if it is good for 15 years we should take that into consideration. Penny Morin stated that we have 4 total bridges in need of repair. Paula Proulx said there are 4 red listed bridges but that doesn't mean that they all are in need of repair at this point. Bridges have come on the red list and dropped off over time. We have a capital reserve and are putting away money hoping to be considered shovel ready when money becomes available. Charlie King said he assumes we are trying to get an 80-20 match so it would be \$280,000 of the 1.4 million to replace the bridge. Charlie said so our expenditure is \$600,000 from now until replacement – correct?. Neil said yes but then we can move it and we have 3 other bridges to rotate it to until we can get those addressed. Charlie asked if we could just sell it and was it wise to keep it. The Board plans using it as a rotating basis. Charlie asked if those other bridges are that bad to which Neil pointed out that River Road is already closed. The Engineers are looking at the other two now. Kayla Morin-Riordin asked if that is the goal to get all 4 bridges replaced in the next 15 years to get the most use of the temporary bridge. Neil said yes the goal is to get them done in the lifetime of that bridge. In the future we can fund additional to build up the capital reserve fund so we have the 20% if money becomes available. Linda McElhiney asked how does this affect the stay at home rule because using undesignated fund balance. Arthur stated that it should have no impact on tax. The Moderator said that the subject has not changed. The amounts can be changed. Being no further discussion, the amendment was approved by a show of cards vote. The Town Attorney asked for a two-minute break to have a discussion with the board. She explained that she felt the amendment to take out the 20% may well violate the stay at home rule. She is recommending we put back in the 20% and say it may be used. Neil Johnson made a motion to add this may be used to pay a 20% match for the required funding from NH State Bridge Aid, seconded by TJ Place. Stephen Henry questioned how the original CRF was set up. Arthur said it was set up for bridge replacement at that time with no mention of the 20% matching funds. Being no further discussion, the amendment was approved by a show of cards vote. Gerald Vachon asked for a breakdown of the temporary bridge cost of \$250,000. Neil said that the actual bridge will be \$50,000 with the balance to do everything to install it. Tim Brown called for a point of order stating that this article getting keeps getting referred to as Article 15. He asked

it be clarified that it is Article 24. The Moderator clarified that it is Article 24. Neil stated that the bridge life is good for 10-15 years. Arthur Capello stated that they had talked with the engineer to have it designed to potentially be used on the other red listed bridges. Charlie King asked if we wouldn't we be better off getting a bond. Neil Johnson said that this warrant article was already written when the problem became evident so we would have to wait for next year or have a special meeting to bond. Paula Proulx said that a permanent bridge would take a lot of permitting and would not possibly even be able to be started for 1-2 years and that was not acceptable. Article 24 was approved, as amended, by a show of cards vote. A motion to restrict was made by Kayla Morin-Riordan, seconded by Joshua Whitehouse and approved by a show of cards vote.

### **Article 15 Elderly Exemptions**

Shall the town modify the provisions of RSA 72:39-a for elderly exemption from property tax in the Town of Farmington, based on assessed value, for qualified taxpayers, to be as follows: for a person 65 years of age up to 75 years, \$75,000; for a person 75 years of age up to 80 years, \$95,000; for a person 80 years of age or older \$125,000. To qualify, the person must have been a New Hampshire resident for at least 3 consecutive years, own the real estate individually or jointly, or if the real estate is owned by such person's spouse, they must have been married to each other for at least 5 consecutive years. In addition, the taxpayer must have a net income of not more than \$30,00 or, if married, a combined net income of less than \$50,00; and own net assets not in excess of \$75,000 excluding the value of the person's residence.

Selectmen Recommend: Yes (5-0)

Budget Committee Recommend: Yes (7-0-1)

Penny Morin made a motion to approve Article 15 as written, seconded by Sylvia Arcouette. Tim Brown said that a lot of our elderly have everything in a trust and he wanted to know if this included them. The Town Attorney explained that the trust beneficiaries are entitled to this same benefit. Tim made a motion to amend the net income for couples from \$50,000 to \$60,000 seconded by Jeremy Squires. The amendment was approved by a show of cards vote. Article 15, as amended, was then approved by a show of cards vote.

### **Article 16 Town Employee Financial Obligation CRF**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$8,000 to be added to the Town Employee Financial Obligation Capital Reserve Fund previously established. This sum to come from the unassigned fund balance. No amount to be raised from the 2020 Taxation Year.

Selectmen Recommend: Yes (5-0)

Budget Committee Recommend: Yes (7-0)

Estimated Tax Impact for 2020: .00

Total in the fund as of December 2019: \$21,836

Elizabeth Johnson made a motion to approve Article 16 as written, seconded by Stephen Henry. Being no discussion Article 16 was approved by a show of cards vote.

### **Article 18 Recreation Equipment CRF**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$2,000 to be added to the Recreation Equipment Capital Reserve Fund, previously established for the replacement of equipment. This sum to come from the unassigned fund balance. No amount to be raised from the 2020 Taxation Year.

Selectmen Recommend: Yes (5-0)

Budget Committee Recommend: Yes (8-0)

Estimated Tax Impact for 2020: .00

Total in the fund as of December 2019: \$19,529

Stan Freeda made a motion to approve Article 18, seconded by Ann Titus. Neil Johnson made a motion to amend up to \$1,000, seconded by Ann Titus. Neil explained this is part the offset of the \$131000 added to Article 24. Being no discussion the amendment was approved by a show of cards vote. Article 18, as amended, was approved by a show of cards vote.

**Article 19 Reevaluation CRF**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$20,000 to be added to the Town Reevaluation Capital Reserve Fund previously established. This sum to come from the unassigned fund balance. No amount to be raised from the 2020 Taxation Year.

Selectmen Recommend: Yes (5-0)      Budget Committee Recommend: Yes (8-0)

Estimated Tax Impact for 2020: .00

Total in the fund as of December 2019: \$8,385

Stan Freeda made a motion to approve, seconded by Jodi Connolly. Neil Johnson made a motion to reduce to \$10,000, seconded by Ann Titus. Penny Morin asked if they were it will not be enough. Neil said that it will be approximately \$65,000 in 5 years and we may have to increase in coming year but we will adjust. The amendment was approved by a show of cards vote. Article 19, as amended, was approved by a show of cards vote.

**Article 20 Landfill Closure Fund CRF**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$31,429 for the purpose of testing groundwater at the closed landfill and to authorize the withdrawal of said sum from the Landfill Closure Fund Capital Reserve Fund previously established. No amount to be raised from the 2020 Taxation Year.

Selectmen Recommend: Yes (5-0)      Budget Committee Recommend: Yes (8-0)

Estimated Tax Impact for 2020: .00

Total in the fund as of December 2019: \$119,578

Stephen Henry made a motion to approve Article 20, seconded by Elizabeth Johnson. Being no further discussion, Article 20 was approved by a show of cards vote.

**Article 21 Fire Department Radios**

To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$15,000 for the purpose of purchasing New portable radios for the Fire Department. This sum to come from the unassigned fund balance. No amount to be raised from the 2020 Taxation Year.

Selectmen Recommend: Yes (5-0)

Budget Committee Recommend: Yes (8-0)

Joshua Whitehouse made a motion to approve Article 21 as written, seconded by Ann Titus. Being no discussion, Article 21 was approved by a show of cards vote.

**Article 22 Depreciation of Waste Water Treatment Plant**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$50,000 to be added to the Waste Water Treatment Plant Capital Reserve Fund previously established to help offset the depreciation of the plant, with \$25,000 to come from the Waste Water Enterprise Fund surplus and the remainder to come from the unassigned fund balance. The town will match what is deposited from the Waste Water Enterprise Fund surplus. No amount to be raised from the 2020 Taxation Year.

Selectmen Recommend: Yes (5-0)

Budget Committee Recommend: Yes (6-2) Estimated Tax Impact for 2020: .00

Total in the fund as of December 2019: \$311,095

TJ Place made a motion to approve Article 22 as written, seconded by Stephen Henry. Neil Johnson made a motion to amend to 0, seconded by Stephen Henry. Neil stated that, looking at this whole situation, the \$25,000 will be better utilized if moved over to the Capital reserve fund. Being no discussion, Article 22, as amended, was approved by a show of cards vote.



### **Article 17 Add to Highway Dept Motorized Equipment CRF**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$5,000 to be added to the Highway Dept Motorized Equipment Capital Reserve Fund, previously established. This is to assist the town with the replacement of Highway Equipment. This sum to come from the unassigned fund balance. No amount to be raised from the 2020 Taxation Year.

Selectmen Recommend: Yes (5-0)      Budget Committee Recommend: Yes (8-0)

Estimated Tax Impact for 2020: .00

Total in the fund as of December 2019: \$100,807

Penny Morin made a motion to approve Article 17, seconded by Linda McElhiney. Stephen asked how much is cash on hand. Arthur Capello stated that it will be about \$880,000 because the Board of Selectmen don't want to go below 7%. Jodi Connolly asked what it was before and Arthur replied 8 %. Being no further discussion, Article 17 was approved by a show of cards vote.

### **Article 23 Equipment Purchases and Repair**

To see if the town will vote to establish an Equipment Purchases and Repair Capital Reserve Fund under the provisions of RSA 35:1 for purchasing and repairing equipment and buildings at the Transfer Station and to raise and appropriate the sum of \$3,000 to be placed in this fund. This sum to come from the unassigned fund balance.

No amount to be raised from the 2020 Taxation Year. Further, to name the Board of Selectmen as agents to expend from the said fund.

Selectmen Recommend: Yes (5-0)      Budget Committee Recommend: Yes (5-3)

Estimated Tax Impact for 2020: .00.

Ann Titus made a motion for Article 23 to be approved as written, seconded by Stephen Henry. Stephen asked if we can remove selectmen as agents and divide it into two questions. Town Attorney said we cannot remove and divide the question. Being no discussion, Article 23 was approved by a show of cards vote.

### **Article 25 Replacement of HV/AC units at Municipal Office**

To see if the town will vote to establish a Replacement of HV/AC Capital Reserve Fund under the provisions of RSA 35:1 for the replacement of the HV/AC units at the Municipal Office and to raise and appropriate the sum of \$15,000 to be placed in this fund. Further, to name the Board of Selectmen as agents to expend from the said fund. This sum to come from the unassigned fund balance. No amount to be raised from the 2020 Taxation Year.

Selectmen Recommend: Yes (5-0)      Budget Committee Recommend: Yes (6-2)

Estimated Tax Impact for 2020: .00

TJ Place made a motion for Article 25 to be approved as written, seconded by Jodi Connolly. Neil Johnson made a motion to amend to \$5,000, seconded by Deborah Reed. Stephen Henry said that they were told that the system is failing and wondered if the Board has a back-up. Arthur said that is why they left the \$5,000 because they still want to establish the fund, and he pointed out that our backup system is getting us through, so they reduced to offset tax increases to bridge. The amendment was approved by a show of cards vote. Being no further discussion, Article 25, as amended, was approved by a show of cards vote.

### **Article 26 Farmington Cable TV SRF**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$60,000 for the purpose of staff payroll, cable TV programming, equipment, and/or repairs associated with Farmington Cable TV, with said funds

to come from the Community Television Special Revenue Fund created for this purpose. No amount to be raised from the 2020 Taxation Year.

Selectmen Recommend: Yes (5-0)      Budget Committee Recommend: Yes (8-0)

Estimated Tax Impact for 2020 tax year: .00 Total in the fund as of December 2019: \$104,173

Sylvia Arcouette made a motion to approve Article 26 as written, seconded by TJ Place. Being no discussion, Article 26 was approved by a show of cards vote.

#### **Article 27 Fund Future Technology Improvements CRF by TDS Fee**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$7,000 to be added to the Future Technology Improvements Capital Reserve Fund previously established. Said funds to come from TDS Franchise Fees and no amount to be raised from taxation.

Selectman Recommend: Yes (5-0)      Budget Committee Recommend: Yes (8-0)

Estimated Tax Impact: .00

Total in the fund as of December 2019: \$17,975

Stephen Henry made a motion to approve Article 27 as written, seconded by Ann Titus. Stephen Henry ask why no money is being moved from this account. Arthur said they don't want to commit what you don't know you will get because this is funded by TDS fees. Being no discussion, Article 27 was approved by a show of cards vote.

#### **Article 28 Building Inspector Position SRF**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$75,000 for the purpose of paying for the Building Inspector and to authorize the withdrawal of said sum from the Building Inspector Position Special Revenue Fund previously established for this purpose. No amount to be raised by taxation.

Selectmen Recommend: Yes (5-0)      Budget Committee Recommend: Yes (8-0)

Estimated Tax Impact: .00

Total in the fund as of February 2020: \$4,755

TJ Place made a motion to approve Article 28, seconded by Ann Titus. Tim Brown asked if this paying our building inspector and, if so does this covers all expenses. It was explained that it covers the cost of all related expenses to the salary of the Building Inspector. Arthur Capello explained it is considered an employee position but it is funded by building permits. After discussion, Article 28 was approved by a show of cards vote.

#### **Article 29 Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus**

To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$20,000 to be added to the Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus CRF previously established. This sum to come from the unassigned fund balance.

No amount to be raised from the 2020 Taxation Year.

Selectmen Recommend: Yes (5-0)      Budget Committee Recommend: Yes (8-0)

Estimated Tax Impact for 2020: .00

Total in the fund as of December 2019: \$41,092

Elizabeth Johnson made a motion to approve Article 29 as written, seconded by David Connolly. Neil Johnson made a motion to amend to \$5,000, seconded by Ann Titus. Stephen Henry asked if we have an amount in mind and will this increase in future years. Neil Johnson said potentially yes. Being no further discussion, the amendment was approved by a show of cards vote. Article 29, as amended, was approved by a show of cards vote.

#### **Article 30 Lease of Copier**

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the selectmen to enter into a five-year lease agreement for \$15,330 (total 5-year cost for the purpose of leasing a Canon copier for the Municipal Office and Police Department, there is no payment due in 2020. This lease agreement contains an escape clause. (Majority vote required).

Selectmen Recommend: Yes (5-0) Budget Committee Recommend: Yes (8-0)

Estimated Tax Impact for 2020: .00

Jodi Connolly made a motion to approve Article 30 as written, seconded by Deborah Reed. Stephen Henry said he understood this to be 2 canon copiers one for the Municipal Office and one for the police and moved to amend to state this, seconded by Samantha Place. The amendment was approved by a show of cards vote. Article 30 was approved, as amended, by a show of cards vote.

### **Article 31 Sarah Greenfield Park Reserve Fund**

To see if the town will vote to establish a Sarah Greenfield Park Reserve Fund under the provisions of RSA 35:1-c for the purpose of maintenance, repair and upgrades of the Park to foster and encourage development of the lots within the Park and to raise and appropriate the sum of \$166,001 to be placed in this fund, said amount to come from "Fund 5 – Sarah Greenfield" and no amount to come from taxation. Further, to name the Board of Selectmen as agents to expend from said fund. (Majority Vote Required)

Selectmen Recommend: Budget Committee Recommend: No (4-4)

Estimated Tax Impact: .00

TJ Place made a motion to approve Article 31 as written, seconded by David Connolly. Linda McElhinney said she would like further clarification of this reserve fund. Paula Proulx explained that we currently have a fund 5 for Sarah Greenfield. Paula said that the fund was set up for repairs and infrastructure in 1997. The Auditors asked us to change it into a Capital Reserve Fund. The Town Attorney stated she was asked and could find no authority to set up the original fund. This is a more legal way to treat the fund because we have to restrict these funds. Penny Morin asked the board to speak about the repairs and upgrades to make it more effective. Paula Proulx said that as a board they haven't discussed what those will be yet. In the past it has been used for some road repairs and signs. A survey was done, there was an easement for a road for future expansion. Blanche Tanner asked why it was not a capital reserve. The Town Attorney said because it is not for capital improvement so the law treats it as just a reserve fund not a capital reserve fund. Brian Beaverstock asked why the Budget Committee didn't recommend that it pass. Stephen Henry said, speaking for himself, he took issue of the agents to expend being in the same article as creating the funds. He said he was not necessarily opposed to it, he just wanted to have them separated into two warrant articles. Article 31 was approved by a show of cards vote.

### **Article 32 All other business**

To allow the Town to conduct any other business that may come before this body.

Jodi Connolly made a motion to adjourn at 9:45, duly seconded and approved by a voice vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy L. Seaver, Town Clerk-Tax Collector