

APPROVED
MINUTES OF THE BUDGET & BOND PUBLIC HEARING
11 January 2016

PRESENT: Mark Fougere, Chairman
Kevin Federico, Vice Chairman
Mike Putnam, Member
Gary L. Daniels, Member
Kathy Bauer, Member
Mark Bender, Town Administrator
Darlene J. Bouffard, Recording Secretary
Niko Giokas, Videographer

Department Heads & Senior Staff:	Arene Berry, Recreation Director
	Karen Blow, Human Resources
	Dave Boucher, Water Utilities Director
	Susan Drew, Welfare Director
	Tina Philbrick, Executive Assistant
	Craig Frye, Police Captain
	Lincoln Daley, Community Development Director
	Marti Noel, Assessor
	Ricky Riendeau, DPW Director
	Michelle Sampson, Library Director
	Jack Sheehy, Finance Director

Members of the Public

BUDGET ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:
Matt Lydon-Chairman
Karen Mitchell
Jim Roccio
Peggy Seward

WATER COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:
Robert Courage
Mike Putnam
Dale White

Chairman Fougere opened the public hearing at 6:30 p.m. thanking everyone in attendance. All in attendance were invited to join in the Pledge of Allegiance. Chairman Fougere introduced members of the Board of Selectmen. Chairman Fougere then introduced, Dale White – Water Commissioner, Mike Putnam, Water Commissioner, and Bob Courage, Water Commissioner. Water Utilities Director Dave Boucher was also introduced.

Chairman Fougere indicated that tonight’s hearing is for the Town Budget and Bond Hearing, but the warrant articles will also be reviewed in order for the public to voice their opinion on all items. Chairman Fougere explained if any members of the public wish to comment or have questions, they should please use a microphone in order to be heard on the PEG Access Live broadcast.

Bond Hearings

WARRANT ARTICLE 3 - LIBRARY BUILDING PROJECT – BOND - \$5,618,000

Chairman Fougere read the bond wording as follows:

1 Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the gross project budget sum of Five Million Six Hundred
2 Eighteen Thousand (\$5,618,000) Dollars for the construction and equipping of a new Library building and
3 expanded parking lot, associated site work, demolition of existing library building and other structures and
4 to authorize the Selectmen to raise this appropriation by accepting a donation from Library Trustee Trust
5 Funds in the amount of \$500,000 as well as additional funds raised – a minimum of \$10,000 - and bor-
6 rowing not more than \$5,108,000 in bonds, bond anticipation notes, or notes therefore in accordance with
7 the Municipal Finance Act (RSA 33) and, further, to authorize the Selectmen to issue and negotiate such
8 bonds, bond anticipation notes, or notes and to determine conditions and the rate of interest thereon, with
9 such funding to be repaid from general taxation, and to authorize the Selectmen and/or Library Trustees
10 to contract for and expend any Federal or State aid that may be available for this purchase, and to au-
11 thorize the Selectmen and/or Library Trustees to take all other necessary action to carry out this project,
12 said actions to include anything necessary to prepare said land so that it would be available for the con-
13 struction of such a facility and expanded parking lot including due diligence, site assessments and demo-
14 lition of existing structures? This is a Special Warrant Article in accordance with RSA 32. Note: As this
15 is for issuance of long-term debt, this vote requires, under State law, sixty percent (60%) affirmative vote
16 to pass. The Board of Library Trustees supports this Article (7-0). The Board of Selectmen does not sup-
17 port this Article (1-4). The Budget Advisory Committees does not support this Article (3-6).

18
19 There were no other comments.

20
21 Seeing no questions, Chairman Fougere moved to the next article.

22
23
24 **WARRANT ARTICLE 4 - STORM SEWER VIDEO INSPECTION - BOND – \$216,000**

25
26 Chairman Fougere read the bond wording as follows:

27
28 Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Two Hundred Sixteen Thousand (\$216,000) Dol-
29 lars to perform an inspection of the Town’s Stormwater System with the assistance of video observation
30 equipment, and to authorize the Selectmen to raise this appropriation by borrowing not more than
31 \$142,800 in bonds, bond anticipation notes, or notes therefore in accordance with the Municipal Finance
32 Act, (RSA 33) and, further, to authorize the Selectmen to issue and negotiate such bonds, bond anticipa-
33 tion notes, or notes and to determine conditions and the rate of interest thereon, it being further under-
34 stood that the anticipated source of \$142,800 of said funding will be a loan from the State Revolving
35 Fund, with the further understanding that the Board of Selectmen are authorized to enter into an agree-
36 ment with the State of New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services to accept 33.9% or
37 \$73,200 forgiveness of the project cost upon completion of the project? Information thus obtained will be
38 assessed and incorporated within the Town’s Asset Management System to assist with planning for fu-
39 ture repairs and maintenance decisions. Federal stormwater permit requirements, in addition, necessitate
40 an evaluation of discharges to the stormwater system which can be performed more efficiently and cost-
41 effectively with data obtained from this program. This is a Special Warrant Article in accordance with
42 RSA 32. Note: As this is for issuance of long-term debt, this vote requires, under State law, sixty percent
43 (60%) affirmative vote to pass. Board of Selectmen supports this Article (5-0). The Budget Advisory
44 Committee supports this Article (9-0).

45
46 There were no comments.

47
48 Seeing no questions, Chairman Fougere moved to the next article.

49
50
51 **WARRANT ARTICLE 5 – WASTEWATER UV DISINFECTION REPLACEMENT – BOND -**
52 **\$950,000**

53
54 Chairman Fougere read the bond wording as follows:

55
56 Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Nine Hundred Fifty Thousand (\$950,000) Dollars
57 (to replace the current 1991 UltraViolet Disinfection System) and to authorize the Selectmen to raise this

1 appropriation by borrowing not more than \$950,000 in bonds, bond anticipation notes, or notes therefore
2 in accordance with the Municipal Finance Act, (RSA 33) and, further, to authorize the Selectmen to issue
3 and negotiate such bonds, bond anticipation notes, or notes and to determine conditions and the rate of
4 interest thereon, such funding to be repaid from income received from wastewater users provided that
5 such bonds or notes shall be the general obligation of the Town and to authorize the Water and Sewer
6 Commissioners and or the Board of Selectmen to contract for and expend any Federal or State aid that
7 may be available for this project and to take all other necessary actions to carry out this project? This critical
8 process disinfects treated wastewater prior to discharging into the Souhegan River. This is a Special
9 Warrant Article in accordance with RSA 32. **Note:** As this is for issuance of long-term debt, this vote re-
10 quires, under State law, sixty percent (60%) affirmative vote to pass. This is a Special Warrant Article in
11 accordance with RSA 32 and is paid for by the wastewater user fees. The Board of Commissioners sup-
12 ports this Article (3-0). The Budget Advisory Committee supports this Article (8-0-1).

13
14
15 Water Utilities Director Dave Boucher said this is a new project for the wastewater facility and he asked Dave Mer-
16 cer to explain the process. Mr. Mercer provided all present with a handout regarding wastewater treatment; this was
17 put on the CIP Phase I for replacement of the UV system. The facility was constructed in 1982, so the equipment is
18 about 34 years old. The equipment is operating 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Typically the equipment will last 20
19 years. We are looking to get another 20 years out of the plant. The Board of Commissioners goal is to only raise
20 the rates every three years. So they asked us to break up the project over time, so a schedule was created and this
21 was what became the first priority. At the end of 2014, the manufacturer came out and said the equipment would no
22 longer be supported nor replacement parts manufactured. This is the most critical part of the treatment of the water.
23 Three panels of UV lamps must be treating the water. Right now, all the panels of lights must go all the time. The
24 Board of Commissioners wanted a price in hand prior to deliberative session. At the January 30 session, the num-
25 bers will be in hand. Construction is anticipated early in October 2016 if it passes. Gil Archambault asked if people
26 will be handed another increase. Dave Boucher said no. Janet Langdell, asked if this increases the capacity? Dave
27 Boucher said no, it is replacing aged equipment. Increasing the capacity is another project.

28
29 There were no further questions or comments. Seeing no questions or comments, Chairman Fougere moved to the
30 next article.

31 32 33 **TOWN BUDGET HEARING**

34
35
36 Chairman Fougere read the article as follows and then turned the budget hearing over to Town Administrator Mark
37 Bender :

38 39 **WARRANT ARTICLE 6 - TOWN OPERATING BUDGET - \$14,045,313**

40
41 Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate, as an operating budget not including appropriations by
42 Special Warrant Articles and other appropriations voted separately, the amounts set forth on the budget
43 in an amount totaling Fourteen Million, Forty-five Thousand, Three Hundred Thirteen (\$14,045,313) Dol-
44 lars? Should this Article be defeated, the operating budget shall be Thirteen Million, Seven Hundred
45 Eighty-five Thousand, Forty-four (\$13,785,044) Dollars which is the same as last year, with certain ad-
46 justments required by previous actions of the Town, or by law; or the governing body may hold one spe-
47 cial meeting, in accordance with RSA 40:13 X and XVI, to take up the issue of a revised operating budget
48 only. This is a Special Warrant Article in accordance with RSA 32. The Board of Selectmen supports this
49 Article (4-1). The Budget Advisory Committee supports this Article (0-0).

50
51 After a brief presentation about the budget given by Town Administrator Mark Bender, Chairman Fougere indicated
52 the Board of Selectmen has been discussing that this budget is a 2.7% increase from last year. The Board struggled
53 due to a lack of increase in the property assessments in town. The last few years, tax revenue has been anemic, a
54 \$120,000 increase in tax revenue in a four year period. It has been a struggle and he hopes with the changing econ-
55 omy, the assessments will increase. Town Administrator Mark Bender provided an outline and thanked the Select-
56 man Daniels for his analysis on state wide programs, to explore options and we feel we can reduce the gas costs by

1 approximately \$15,000. This would affect DPW, police and ambulance budgets and would bring the budget down
2 to a 2.6% increase from the 2015 budget.

3
4 Last week, Chairman Fougere said the Board discussion was about fuel, which the town was purchasing from the
5 State. In times of fluctuating gas prices, we pay more through the state, with the fuel costs going down, we are pay-
6 ing too much, after looking at the options, we found savings of \$15,000. Mr. Bender noted the 3% increase for em-
7 ployees; this impacts all departments including the water utilities. A Compensation Committee is working on this,
8 the 3% is merit based. It is a 1% base amount and the balance is based on performance. A final review will be from
9 Human Resources and the Town Administrator. The process is being worked on and will be finalized over the next
10 few weeks.

11
12 The Ambulance is running \$41,000 over the 2015 budget due to increased call volume. There is an Assessing in-
13 crease for the required 5-year reval which is due in 2016. In 2016, there are four elections which increases the
14 Town Clerk budget. Gil Archambault asked about property and liability insurance and if the town is insured for \$50
15 million. Jack Sheehy, Finance Director, responded that the insurance is still the same as it has been.

16
17 Seeing no further questions or comments, Chairman Fougere moved to the next article.
18

19 WATER/WASTEWATER BUDGET HEARING

20
21 Chairman Fougere read the warrant article as follows:
22
23

24 **WARRANT ARTICLE 7 - WATER DEPARTMENT OPERATING BUDGET - \$1,393,395**

25
26 Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of One Million, Three Hundred Ninety three Thou-
27 sand, Three Hundred Ninety Five (\$1,393,395) Dollars to operate and maintain the Water Department,
28 said appropriation to be offset by income received from the water user charges, or take any other action
29 relative thereto? Should this article be defeated, the operating budget shall be One Million Three Hun-
30 dred Eighty Thousand, Five Hundred Eighty Five (\$1,380,585) Dollars which is the same as last year,
31 with certain adjustments required by previous actions of the Town, or by law; or the governing body may
32 hold one special meeting, in accordance with RSA 40:13 X and XVI, to take up the issue of a revised op-
33 erating budget only. This is a Special Warrant Article in accordance with RSA 32 and is paid for by the
34 water user fees. The Board of Commissioners supports this Article (0-0). The Budget Advisory Committee
35 supports this Article (0-0).
36

37 Water Utilities Director Dave Boucher, explained this budget is .8% over last years budget. The increase is for a
38 water rate study, which is part of the Master Plan. There is \$96,000 of new debt service but we can keep costs
39 down by new equipment repair which will be less than the previous year. Executive Assistant Tina Philbrick asked
40 that the Finance Director explain the default numbers. Jack Sheehy explained the default budget is the previous
41 year's budget.
42

43 There were no questions or comments. Chairman Fougere moved to the next article.
44

45 **WARRANT ARTICLE 8 - WASTEWATER TREATMENT OPERATING BUDGET - \$1,893,222**

46
47 Chairman Fougere read the warrant article as follows:
48

49 Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of One Million, Eight Hundred Ninety Three Thou-
50 sand, Two Hundred Twenty-two (\$1,893,222) Dollars to operate and maintain the Wastewater Treatment
51 Facility and the Sanitary Sewer Collection System, said appropriation to be offset by income received
52 from wastewater user charges, or take any other action relative thereto? Should this Article be defeated,
53 the operating budget shall be One Million, Eight Hundred Ninety Three Thousand, Two Hundred Twenty
54 Two (\$1,893,222) Dollars which is the same as last year, with certain adjustments required by previous
55 actions of the Town, or by law; or the governing body may hold one special meeting, in accordance with
56 RSA 40:13 X and XVI, to take up the issue of a revised operating budget only. This is a Special Warrant

1 Article in accordance with RSA 32 and is paid for by the wastewater user fees. The Board of Commis-
2 sioners supports this Article (0-0). The Budget Advisory Committee supports this Article (0-0).

3
4 Water Utilities Director Dave Boucher, explained this budget is similar to the Water budget with an increase of .9%
5 over 2015. The sewer rehabilitation is included in the budget. Town Administrator Mark Bender asked Mr. Bou-
6 cher how the Capital Reserve Fund is used and how much is in it. Mr. Boucher did not know how much was in the
7 account, but the money is transferred from water and sewer into the Capital Reserve Fund. We have some water
8 work planned on King Street, which would come out of the Capital Reserve Fund. There were no further questions
9 or comments.

10
11 Chairman Fougere opened the appropriation warrant articles portion of the hearing.

12 **Appropriation Warrant Articles**

13 **WARRANT ARTICLE 9 - BRIDGE REPLACEMENT CAPITAL RESERVE - \$350,000**

14
15 Chairman Fougere read the warrant article as follows:

16
17 Shall the town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Three Hundred Fifty Thousand (\$350,000) Dollars
18 to be placed in the Bridge Replacement Capital Reserve Fund? This fund was identified in the May 2014
19 Hoyle, Tanner Associates, Inc. study that identified needed rehabilitation for 18 Town bridges. The
20 \$350,000 builds upon the Bridge Replacement Capital Reserve approved by voters in 2015. Currently
21 nine bridges have been identified by the Department of Public Works as high priority projects for either
22 replacement or repair in place. This will be a Special Warrant Article in accordance with RSA 32. The
23 Board of Selectmen supports this Article (4-1). The Budget Advisory Committee supports this Article (0-
24 0).

25
26 There were no questions or comments. Chairman Fougere moved to the next article.

27 28 **WARRANT ARTICLE 10 - SIDEWALK TRACTOR PLOW WITH SANDER – 5-YEAR** 29 **LEASE/PURCHASE - \$41,000 (Annual Payment \$41,000/Total Purchase Price \$185,000)**

30
31 Chairman Fougere read the warrant article as follows:

32
33 Shall the town vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to enter into a 5-year lease/purchase agreement,
34 subject to a fiscal funding clause that will protect the Town in the event of non-appropriation, for the pur-
35 pose of lease/purchasing a sidewalk tractor plow with sander (it will replace the 2000 “Holder” tractor
36 plow with sander that has exceeded its useful life by five years), and to raise and appropriate the sum of
37 Forty One Thousand (\$41,000) Dollars for the first year’s payment for this purpose? The total purchase
38 price of this vehicle is One Hundred Eighty Five Thousand (\$185,000) Dollars. If this article passes, future
39 years’ payments will be included in the operating budget. This is a Special Warrant Article in accordance
40 with RSA 32. The Board of Selectmen supports this Article (0-0). The Budget Advisory Committee sup-
41 ports this Article (0-0).

42
43 Gil Archambault said the Board talked about buying a re-built sidewalk tractor plow, what is that status? Chairman
44 Fougere explained the Board looked into this but the voters turned down this article last year, so we could not go
45 purchase this vehicle for \$95,000 because the statute is very clear and it would be illegal for the town to buy that.
46 Mr. Archambault said so that could not be done? Chairman Fougere indicated if this article passes in March, the
47 Board will explore a used one again.

48
49 There were no further comments. Chairman Fougere moved to the next article.

1
2 **WARRANT ARTICLE 11 - DUMP TRUCK (8 CUBIC YARD) – 5-YEAR LEASE/PURCHASE -**
3 **\$41,000 (Annual Payment \$41,000/Total Purchase Price \$185,000)**

4
5 Chairman Fougere read the warrant article as follows:
6

7 Shall the Town vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to enter into a 5-year lease/purchase agree-
8 ment, subject to a fiscal funding clause which will protect the Town in the event of non-appropriation, for
9 the purpose of lease/purchasing a dump truck (8 cubic yard), with the appropriate equipment for Highway
10 Department operation (it will replace the 2000 Sterling dump truck which will be 16 years old upon re-
11 placement), and to raise and appropriate the sum of Forty One Thousand (\$41,000) Dollars for the first
12 year's payment for this purpose? The total purchase price of this vehicle is One Hundred Eighty Five
13 Thousand (\$185,000) Dollars. If this article passes, future years' payments will be included in the operat-
14 ing budget. This is a Special Warrant Article in accordance with RSA 32. The Board of Selectmen sup-
15 ports this Article (3-2). The Budget Advisory Committee supports this Article (0-0).
16

17 Seeing no questions or comments, Chairman Fougere moved to the next article.
18

19 **WARRANT ARTICLE 12 – TRACTOR/BACKHOE/LOADER – 5-YEAR LEASE/PURCHASE -**
20 **\$32,100(Annual Payment \$32,100/Total Purchase Price \$145,000)**

21
22 Chairman Fougere read the warrant article as follows:
23

24 Shall the Town vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to enter into a 5-year lease/purchase agree-
25 ment, subject to a fiscal funding clause which will protect the Town in the event of non-appropriation, for
26 the purpose of lease/purchasing a tractor/backhoe/loader, with the appropriate equipment for Highway
27 Department operation (it will replace the 2001 tractor loader backhoe) and to raise and appropriate the
28 sum of Thirty Two Thousand One Hundred (\$32,100) Dollars for the first year's payment for this purpose?
29 The total purchase price of this vehicle is One Hundred Forty Five Thousand (\$145,000) Dollars. If this
30 article passes, future years' payments will be included in the operating budget. This is a Special Warrant
31 Article in accordance with RSA 32. The Board of Selectmen supports this Article (4-1). The Budget Advi-
32 sory Committee supports this Article (0-0).
33

34
35 Seeing no questions or comments, Chairman Fougere moved to the next article.
36

37 **WARRANT ARTICLE 13 - KINDER MORGAN PIPELINE LEGAL FEES - \$40,000**

38
39 Chairman Fougere read the warrant article as follows:
40

41 To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Forty Thousand (\$40,000) Dollars to be
42 expended at the discretion of the Select Board in opposition to the proposed Northeast Energy Direct
43 high pressure gas pipeline and/or to minimize the impact thereof on the land and people of the Town, in-
44 cluding, but not limited to, expenditures for legal representation and consultants, land use planning and
45 consultation, public information purposes, administrative and court filing fees, participation in multi-town
46 coalitions, and any and all other expenses reasonably related to opposing said pipeline project and/or
47 mitigating the effects thereof? This will be a non-lapsing appropriation per RSA 32:7, VI and will not lapse
48 until December 31, 2017. The Board of Selectmen supports this Article (5-0). The Budget Advisory
49 Committee supports this Article (0-0).
50

51 Janet Langdell asked how the \$40,000 was derived? As an NRPC member, Ms. Langdell talks to other towns and
52 they expended more than that, so how was \$40,000 identified and is it part of a Town Administrator Group to buy
53 in and how much do other towns put in? Mr. Bender said the reason the expense is less than other towns is because
54 we will work in conjunction with the coalition which is a group of 14 other towns that are unanimously opposed to
55 the gas pipeline. There was a formula put together based on minimum expense by each town of \$10,000 and then
56 the balance of the total appropriation is based on assessed valuation of each town. Even some of the smaller towns
57 will pay a sizable amount because of the minimum amount. Ms. Langdell asked what is the total? Mr. Bender re-

1 sponded said he can talk about it afterwards but there is attorney-client privilege involved as well. There is some
2 strategy that Kinder Morgan could use. Ms. Langdell said this group had a lawyer on board last year, asking what
3 was Milford’s expense for last year? Mr. Bender said it was \$10,000.

4
5 Seeing no further questions or comments, Chairman Fougere moved to the next article.

6
7 **WARRANT ARTICLE 14 - SOCIAL SERVICES - \$35,000**
8

9
10 Chairman Fougere read the warrant article as follows:

11
12 Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Thirty Five Thousand (\$35,000) Dollars for the
13 purpose of providing funding to Social Service agencies for Milford residents or take any other action rela-
14 tive thereto as proposed by the Social Services Committee and submitted to the Board of Selectmen?
15 This is a Special Warrant Article in accordance with RSA 32. The Board of Selectmen supports this Arti-
16 cle (5-0). The Budget Advisory Committee supports this Article (0-0).

17
18 Welfare Director Susan Drew explained the \$35,000 would be granted among ten agencies. Chairman Fougere ex-
19 plained that a new process was started for these funds, there was a lot of discussion and good questions were asked
20 before the list came to the BOS. Selectman Daniels indicated the \$35,000 is not required, it is not a mandate.

21
22 Seeing no further questions or comments, Chairman Fougere moved to the next article.

23
24 **WARRANT ARTICLE 15 - NON-EMERGENCY COMMUNITY TRANSPORTATION BUS**
25 **SERVICES - \$27,700**
26

27 Chairman Fougere read the warrant article as follows:

28
29 Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Twenty Seven Thousand Seven Hundred,
30 (\$27,700) Dollars for the purpose of providing the Town’s share of funding to the Souhegan Valley Trans-
31 portation Collaborative (SVTC) in order to continue operating a regional, non-emergency, wheelchair-
32 accessible transportation service providing rides within the designated service area to seniors, people
33 with disabilities, and the general public, or take any other action relative thereto? This is a Special War-
34 rant Article in accordance with RSA 32. The Board of Selectmen supports this Article (5-0). The Budget
35 Advisory Committee supports this Article (0-0).

36 Seeing no questions or comments, Chairman Fougere moved to the next article.

37
38 **WARRANT ARTICLE 16 – ARCHITECT FEES FOR FIRE DEPARTMENT EXPANSION**
39 **PROJECT - \$25,000**
40

41 Chairman Fougere read the warrant article as follows:

42
43 Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Twenty Five Thousand, (\$25,000) Dollars for the
44 purpose of hiring an Architect to review the upgrades needed to the downtown Fire Station? The Towns
45 Capital Improvement Plan proposes upgrades/repairs to the Fire Station that include: electrical upgrades,
46 building renovations, space efficiency improvements, and additional parking. This is a Special Warrant
47 Article in accordance with RSA 32. The Board of Selectmen supports this Article (4-1). The Budget Advi-
48 sory Committee supports this Article (0-0).

49
50 Peg Seward asked if the \$25,000 is an estimate or a defined price. Chairman Fougere explained this is an estimate
51 from the ambulance architect. Ms. Seward asked if there will be a definite price prior to the town vote? Chairman
52 Fougere indicated he would expect it to be like the ambulance, it will be put out to bid.

53
54 Seeing no further questions or comments, Chairman Fougere moved to the next article
55

WARRANT ARTICLE 17 - CONSERVATION LANDS FUND - \$20,000

Chairman Fougere read the warrant article as follows:

Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Twenty Thousand (\$20,000) Dollars for the purpose of adding it to the Conservation Lands Fund created in accordance with RSA 36-A, said lands fund being allowed to accumulate from year to year and to be available for the acquisition of property, conservation easements and other RSA 36-A allowable purposes, or take any other action relative thereto? Contributions further the protection of the town's natural resources. This is a Special Warrant Article in accordance with RSA 32. The Board of Selectmen does not support this Article (2-3). The Budget Advisory Committee supports this Article (0-0).

Seeing no questions or comments, Chairman Fougere moved to the next article

WARRANT ARTICLE 18 - PUMPKIN FESTIVAL, HOLIDAY DECORATIONS AND PLANTINGS - \$20,000

Chairman Fougere read the warrant article as follows:

Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Twenty Thousand (\$20,000) Dollars for purposes of Pumpkin Festival support by Public Works, Police, Fire, and Ambulance Departments; with the remaining balance for the purchase and planting of flowers for the Oval and Stone Bridge areas; purchase of lights, garland, etc. for holiday decorations; or to take any other action relative thereto? This is a Special Warrant Article in accordance with RSA 32. The Board of Selectmen supports this Article (5-0). The Budget Advisory Committee supports this Article (0-0).

Seeing no questions or comments, Chairman Fougere moved to the next article.

WARRANT ARTICLE 19 SUMMER BAND CONCERTS - \$9,000

Chairman Fougere read the warrant article as follows:

Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Nine Thousand (\$9,000) Dollars for the purpose of holding the annual summer evening Band Concerts (bands, sound system, crossing detail), or take any other action relative thereto? This is a Special Warrant Article in accordance with RSA 32. The Board of Selectmen supports this Article (5-0). The Budget Advisory Committee supports this Article (0-0).

Seeing no questions or comments, Chairman Fougere moved to the next article.

WARRANT ARTICLE 20 - FIREWORKS - \$8,500

Chairman Fougere read the warrant article as follows:

Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Eight Thousand Five Hundred (\$8,500) Dollars for the purpose of providing the Independence Day celebration fireworks display at a time and location to be determined by the Board of Selectmen, or take any other action relative thereto? This is a Special Warrant Article in accordance with RSA 32. The Board of Selectmen supports this Article (3-2). The Budget Advisory Committee supports this Article (0-0).

Gil Archambault would recommend bringing this down to \$6,500, we should take a few thousand off, that is the most we have ever paid. We could negotiate with the fireworks people, the vote is close for the Board, but \$8,500 is too much money. There is still time before deliberative session, it should be looked into. Recreation Director Arene Berry explained that before she came to Milford, there was a year the warrant article for fireworks did not pass and no fireworks here held. In an effort to work with Atlas, the vendor agreed to lower the cost and build it back up over time. The first year is was \$4,000 the second \$6,500 and the third \$8,500. With a contract, we were not obligated to have fireworks, but if we did have them, we had to use Atlas. That is where the \$6,500 came from.

1 That amount could be changed at deliberative session. That amount would not give us as big of a display however;
2 it would be significantly less.

3
4 Seeing no further questions or comments, Chairman Fougere moved to the next article

5
6 **WARRANT ARTICLE 21 - FUNDING OF THE ANNUAL LABOR DAY PARADE – \$7,500**

7
8 Chairman Fougere read the warrant article as follows:

9
10 Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Seven Thousand Five Hundred (\$7,500) Dollars
11 for the purpose of funding bands, musicians and other allied expenses directly attributed to the annual
12 Labor Day Parade? This is a Special Warrant Article in accordance with RSA 32. The Board of Select-
13 men supports this Article (5-0). The Budget Advisory Committee supports this Article (0-0).

14
15 Gil Archambault asked if this amount might be reduced? Selectman Daniels explained that will be discussed at a
16 later meeting.

17
18 Seeing no further questions or comments, Chairman Fougere moved to the next article

19
20 **WARRANT ARTICLE 22 - MEMORIAL, VETERANS & LABOR DAY PARADES AND**
21 **RECOGNITION - TOWN SUPPORT - \$6,000**

22
23 Chairman Fougere read the warrant article as follows:

24
25 Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Six Thousand (\$6,000) Dollars for the purpose of
26 town support relative to the observance of Memorial, Veterans and Labor Day? These funds shall be
27 used to cover parade costs incurred by Public Works, Police Department and other Town departments,
28 and to purchase flags to be placed on the graves of veterans on Memorial Day. Departmental support
29 costs and materials associated with the provision of these services will be charged against this appropria-
30 tion. This is a Special Warrant Article in accordance with RSA 32. The Board of Selectmen supports this
31 Article (5-0). The Budget Advisory Committee supports this Article (0-0).

32
33 Gil Archambault asked why the BAC has not voted; he spent five years on the BAC and we have never had this
34 happen. They had more meetings this year and they know more about everything. The BAC have asked all the
35 questions, but they did not vote, they should have voted. They should have the courtesy to put a vote out there and
36 it should have been done before this meeting. They know the budget inside and out. Why can't they take a vote; I
37 am shocked. Something should have been done to let everyone know where they stand. The department heads have
38 been before the BAC 3 or 4 times. Mr. Archambault is very surprised they did not vote. He is disappointed they
39 did not vote; had he been on the BAC, he would have asked for a vote. Selectman Daniels said this is a bond and
40 budget hearing, it is a chance for the public to give their input. In Concord when we have hearings, we do not have
41 the public come in. Selectman Daniels does not fault the BAC at all, he does not feel the BOS should have taken a
42 position on things because it seems like our minds are already made up. The public should be able to come in and
43 give input and then make a decision. Gil Archambault said either we do it, or we don't. Selectman Bauer said the
44 other side to that is that some people rely on the BAC opinion because we know they have studied it all around.
45 Selectman Putnam said we can change our vote after public input. The public input does matter.

46
47 Matt Lydon, BAC Chairman, said the plan is to start voting on Wednesday, we will meet with the school budget
48 committee and get the big picture. The deliberative and voting takes a lot of time.

49
50 Seeing no further questions or comments, Chairman Fougere moved to the next article

51
52 **WARRANT ARTICLE 23 - TEAMSTERS UNION COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT**
53 **\$16,820 –**

54 This warrant article is currently in its final negotiations with the Teamsters and tomorrow a deci-
55 sion will be made if anyone has questions or comments. Selectman Daniels noted the Budget and Bond
56 hearing does not include the warrant articles, it is really just for the bond and budget items.

1
2 **WARRANT ARTICLE 24 – GRAVEL PIT RECLAMATION/RESTORATION & SALE OR**
3 **OTHER DISPOSITION OF RESOURCES - \$0**

4
5 Chairman Fougere read the warrant article as follows:

6
7 Shall the Town vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to reclaim/restore/revegetate a majority of the
8 existing fully excavated gravel pit area and sell or otherwise dispose of any existing mineral interests,
9 earth materials or other natural resources located on that portion of the Town owned property that is
10 commonly known as the BROX property, that is currently zoned Residential “R”, (said property currently
11 zoned as Residential “R” being known solely as Tax Map 38, Lot 58, on such terms and conditions, as
12 the Selectmen deem appropriate for such sale or other disposition and generally consistent with the Brox
13 Community Lands Mining Feasibility Study produced by Fieldstone Land Consultants (2016 Resources
14 Plan)? All revenue received from the sale of such materials shall be deposited in the General Fund. This
15 authorization shall NOT permit any such sale or other disposition to allow for the transfer of an interest in
16 such materials unless the same is, by its terms, limited to a period of not more than six (6) years in dura-
17 tion. This authorization to the Board of Selectmen will expire 20 years after approval. Any agreement
18 entered into by the Selectmen relative to the sale or other disposition of said materials shall contain lan-
19 guage which shall require the compliance with any statute, land use codes or their regulations which gov-
20 ern such activity. The Board of Selectmen supports this Article (5-0). The Budget Advisory Committee
21 supports this Article (0-0).
22

23 Seeing no questions or comments, Chairman Fougere moved to the next article
24

25 **WARRANT ARTICLE 25 - MODIFY SOLAR EXEMPTION – \$0**

26
27 Chairman Fougere read the warrant article as follows:

28
29 Shall the town elect to modify, in accordance with RSA 72:62 the Solar Energy Systems Exemption, ap-
30 proved in 1976, to be applied as exemption for the assessed value applied to the solar energy system
31 located on real property which is equipped with a solar energy system as defined in RSA 72:61, with a
32 maximum exemption amount not to exceed \$10,000? Currently the exemption has been applied as the
33 amount of the cost of the solar energy system, which is in excess of its contributory value and outside the
34 parameters of statute. The Board of Selectmen supports this Article (5-0). The Budget Advisory Commit-
35 tee supports this Article (0-0).
36

37 Town Assessor Marti Noel, explained this article has no tax impact, between permits and installs, the town has 39
38 properties with solar panels. Right now, Chairman Fougere explained, that if solar panels cost \$50,000, that is the
39 tax benefit each year. Ms. Noel agreed.
40

41 Seeing no further questions or comments, Chairman Fougere moved to the next article
42

43 **WARRANT ARTICLE 26 - ADJUSTMENT TO EXEMPTION AMOUNT FOR ELDERLY**
44 **EXEMPTION - \$0**

45
46 Chairman Fougere read the warrant article as follows:

47
48 Shall the town, pursuant to RSA 72:39-a and 72:39-b, modify the elderly exemptions from property tax in
49 the Town of Milford, based on assessed value for the qualified taxpayers, to be as follows: for a person
50 65 years of age up to 75 years \$69,000; for a person 75 years of age up to 80 years - \$103,000; for a
51 person 80 years of age or older \$137,000? To qualify, the applicant must satisfy all the conditions of RSA
52 72:39-a and 72:39-b that pertain to eligibility for this exemption as well as those contained in any other
53 applicable statute, including without limitation that they demonstrate that they have been a New Hamp-
54 shire resident for at least 3 consecutive years, that they own the real estate individually or jointly or, if the
55 real estate is owned by such person’s spouse, that they must have been married to each other for at least
56 five years and that they reside on the property. In addition, the taxpayer must have a income in each ap-

1 applicable age group of not more than \$38,600 if single, or if married, a combined income of not more than
2 \$46,000; and own net assets of not more than \$85,000, excluding the value of the person's primary resi-
3 dence. The Board of Selectmen supports this Article (5-0). The Budget Advisory Committee supports this
4 Article (0-0).

5
6 Gil Archambault asked if there is a re-assessment in 2016. Town Assessor Marti Noel indicated the values will be
7 set after, but a 3-4% increase is expected, so to keep the exemption at the same level, this exemption will be adjust-
8 ed, so that the elderly do not need to come up with more money. Mr. Archambault asked if this is to balance it out
9 with the new assessment? Ms. Noel said that is correct.

10
11 Seeing no further questions or comments, Chairman Fougere moved to the next article

12
13 **WARRANT ARTICLE 27 – DISCONTINUANCE OF LINDEN STREET EXTENSION – \$0**

14
15 Chairman Fougere read the warrant article as follows:

16
17 Shall the town, pursuant to the authority in RSA 231:43, vote to discontinue and abandon only that por-
18 tion of the Linden Street Extension laid out by the Board of Selectmen on August 22, 1914, pursuant to a
19 petition filed on July 22, 1914, which connects the north line of Riverview Street to a point 10 feet from the
20 south bank of the Souhegan River, so that any right which the Town has in and to said portion of said
21 roadway as a consequence of the vote on said petition is extinguished? The intent of this article is to in-
22 sure that title to the fee interest in the land under said roadway be hereafter unencumbered by any right
23 of the general public to use said portion of said extension as a public highway. This vote shall NOT be
24 construed to alter, in any way, the legal status of any other portion of the Linden Street Extension nor is it
25 intended to nor shall it be interpreted to effect any easements or other interests which the Town may
26 have over any part of said extension relating to the maintenance of sewer, water or other utilities. The
27 Board of Selectmen supports this Article (5-0). The Budget Advisory Committee supports this Article (0-
28 0).

29
30 Seeing no questions or comments, Chairman Fougere moved to the next article.

31
32 **WARRANT ARTICLE 28 – DISCONTINUANCE OF A PORTION OF SCARBOROUGH LANE -**
33 **\$0**

34
35 Chairman Fougere read the warrant article as follows:

36
37 Shall the town, pursuant to the RSA 231:43, vote to discontinue that portion of Scarborough Lane, so
38 called, consisting of the westernmost portion of the existing cul-de-sac located at the terminus of Scar-
39 borrough Lane as the same as depicted on the subdivision plan recorded in the Hillsborough County Reg-
40 istry of Deeds as plan #38585, and to authorize the Selectmen to execute any documents necessary to
41 implement this action and to convey any interest that the Town may have in said portion of said cul-de-
42 sac to the owner(s) of Tax Map 6 Lot 42-5, said premises being shown on said Plan? The intention is to
43 remove from public servitude that portion of the depicted cul-de-sac upon the Town acceptance of the
44 extension of Scarborough Lane as depicted on said Plan. The Board of Selectmen supports this Article
45 (5-0). The Budget Advisory Committee supports this Article (0-0).

46
47 Seeing no questions or comments, Chairman Fougere moved to the next article.

48
49 **WARRANT ARTICLE 29 – HITCHINER TOWN FOREST CONSERVATION EASEMENT – \$0**

50
51 Chairman Fougere read the warrant article as follows:

52
53 Shall the Town vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to transfer or convey such property rights in the below
54 described parcel of town owned land as may be necessary so that the same shall be subject to a conservation
55 easement, in perpetuity, the particular terms of the easement to be determined by the Board of Selectmen, with
56 the concurrence of the Conservation Commission, said authorization to include the authority to execute any
57 and all deeds, documents or other instruments in the name of the Town that may be necessary to accomplish

1 the foregoing? It is understood that the intent of this article is to cause the conservation easement to be held by
2 a “qualified organization,” as defined in section 170(h)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, existing for the
3 purchase of or holding of property interests or facilitating transactions relative thereto when such purchase car-
4 ries out the purpose of RSA 36-A, said organization as determined by the Board of Selectmen with the concu-
5 rrence of the Conservation Commission. The property to which this authorization, if approved, will apply is land
6 known as Map 42 Lot 2, which property is commonly known as the Hitchiner Town Forest, the same having
7 been acquired by the Town of Milford by deed of Hitchiner Manufacturing Co., Inc., dated November 25, 1985
8 and recorded in the Hillsborough County Registry of Deeds at Book 3421, Page 0526. The Board of Select-
9 men supports this Article (3-2). The Budget Advisory Committee supports this Article (0-0).

10
11 Seeing no questions or comments, Chairman Fougere moved to the next article.

12
13
14 **WARRANT ARTICLE 30 – OPEN SPACE ACCESS – \$0**

15
16 Chairman Fougere read the warrant article as follows:

17 Shall the Town vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen, at the request of the Conservation Commission,
18 to convey a non-exclusive easement to Christopher Brown and Sarah Brown across a portion of Open
19 Space Lot 3-5 as shown on Hillsborough County Registry of Deeds Plan #34931 for the purpose of ac-
20 cess/egress by foot, vehicle, utilities or otherwise, to Map 3 Lot 6, said easement to be no greater than 15
21 feet in width and will extend from Falcon Ridge Drive, easterly from a point between Lots 3-5-5 and 3-5-6,
22 to the western boundary of Map 3 Lot 6? In exchange for the use of the Open Space, the Browns will
23 give to the Town an eight (8) acre conservation easement with a Trail Right of Way (ROW) for the hik-
24 ing/snowmobile trail that crosses their property. Provided, nevertheless, that this authorization shall be
25 null and void unless this conveyance is also approved by the Milford Conservation Commission, Board of
26 Selectmen, the Charitable Trust Division of the NH Attorney General’s office and the NH Superior Court,
27 if necessary, with such approvals to be obtained and the matter concluded no later than March 31, 2018.
28 The Board of Selectmen supports this Article (5-0). The Budget Advisory Committee supports this Article
29 (0-0).

30
31
32 Chairman Fougere indicated that once this is done, the Conservation Commission will have to work to keep it up,
33 maintain it, they will have to spend money to take care of it, it will cost each year for this maintenance. It is right
34 near personal property. Chairman Fougere stated that this does abut open space as part of the subdivision.

35
36 Audrey Frazier, Chair of Conservation Commission said this is an easement on private property, the terms do not
37 bind the town, we will monitor it to make sure nothing happens. Tree maintenance would be done by the property
38 owner. They will not harvest trees until they talk to the Conservation Commission. It abuts other open space. We
39 try to look at the open space to monitor it, that is what we do all over town. Gil Archambault said this is a scenic
40 road, since the ice storm there are trees in the river, trees are still there. It is not scenic, it is kept up by the Conser-
41 vation Commission. Rather than buy more land, we should look at this. When we get property, it needs to be main-
42 tained. Savage Road is currently a disaster area. It is good to get land, but it needs to be maintained. They do a
43 great job but need to spend more time and money before they get more land.

44
45 Chairman Fougere said we are just getting an easement in this warrant, we will not own the land. Mr. Archambault
46 said they should look to maintain what the town already owns. Ms. Frazier responded that the Conservation Com-
47 mission will take a look at Savage Road, we see it differently from other people, if the public sees something that
48 looks wrong, let us know and we will get out there. Mr. Archambault said the trees are in the brook and it cannot
49 flow. Selectman Bauer said these items are going in front of voters in March. If they do not like it, they can vote
50 against it. Janet Langdell indicated this is a win-win, it will give the people the ability to cross the lot, and there is
51 an eight acre easement with a right of way. This is a better quality of open space than the very small piece that we
52 are giving them the right to cross. Chairman Fougere said instead of accessing the property from North River Road,
53 the access would be unseen.

54
55 Seeing no further questions or comments, Chairman Fougere moved to the next article

56
57 **WARRANT ARTICLE 31 – PIPELINE AUTHORIZATION CONSENT - \$0 – By Petition**

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Chairman Fougere read the warrant article as follows:

Shall the voters of the Town of Milford New Hampshire consent to the construction of the North East Direct, Gas Pipeline project being imposed by Tennessee Gas Pipeline LLC, a Kinder Morgan Company? The Board of Selectmen did not take a position on this Article. The Budget Advisory Committee supports this Article (0-0).

Seeing no questions or comments, Chairman Fougere moved to the next article

WARRANT ARTICLE 32 – SALE OF A PORTION OF THE BROX PROPERTY - \$0 - By Petition

Chairman Fougere read the warrant article as follows:

Shall the town vote for the proposed sale of Town-owned, lots 38-9, 38-11, 38-12, 38-13 and 38-14 named in the Purchase and Sale Agreement entered into July 9, 2015 between the Town of Milford (seller) and Monadnock Economic Development Corporation (buyer)? The Board of Selectmen does not support this Article (0-5). The Budget Advisory Committee supports this Article (0-0).

Seeing no questions or comments, Chairman Fougere moved to the next article

WARRANT ARTICLE 32 – NEW HAMPSHIRE RESOLUTION TO GET BIG MONEY OUT OF POLITICS - \$0 - By Petition

Chairman Fougere read the warrant article as follows:

Shall the town vote to urge:
That the next President and Congress fight big money politics and restore government of, by, and for the people by championing the (1) Ban Super PAC's and overturn Citizens United, (2) Expose secret donors and require full transparency, (3) Ban bribes from big-money lobbyists and government contractors, (4) Establish small-donor, citizen-funded elections, (5) End gerrymandering and modernize voter registration, and (6) Close loopholes and enforce campaign finance laws?

That the New Hampshire State Legislature support concrete legislation to enact the "We the People" agenda.

That the record of the vote approving this article shall be transmitted by written notice from the selectmen to the NH congressional delegates and to New Hampshire's state legislators, and to the President of the United States informing them of the instruction from their constituents within 30 days of the vote. The Board of Selectmen did not take a position on this Article.

Chairman Fougere indicated the public hearing for the 2016 Bond & Budget is now complete at 8:12 p.m. Vice Chairman Federico moved to adjourn this Budget & Bond Hearing. Selectman Bauer seconded. All were in favor. Motion passed 5/0.

Chairman, Mark Fougere

Member, Mike Putnam

Vice Chairman, Kevin Federico

Member, Kathy Bauer

Member, Gary Daniels