

**APPROVED**  
**MINUTES OF THE BUDGET & BOND PUBLIC HEARING**  
8 January 2018

**PRESENT:** Mark Fougere, Chairman  
Kevin Federico, Vice Chairman  
Mike Putnam, Member  
Gary L. Daniels, Member  
Laura Dudizak, Member  
Mark Bender, Town Administrator  
Tina Philbrick, Recording Secretary  
Mitchell Hemmer, Videographer

**BUDGET ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

**WATER COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:**

Robert Courage  
Mike Putnam  
Dale White

Chairman Fougere opened the public hearing at 6:30 p.m. thanking everyone in attendance. Chairman Fougere then introduced Water Commissioners Dale White, Mike Putnam, and Bob Courage. Chairman Fougere thanked members of the Budget Advisory Committee. The Hearing will be held in accordance with RSA 40:14.

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 Hearing***

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### **WARRANT ARTICLE 3 - MAIN FIRE STATION UPGRADE – BOND - \$3,864,300**

Administrator Bender read the bond wording as follows:

Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate \$3,864,300 for design and construction of needed electrical upgrades, parking lot expansion, facility renovations, and expansion of the downtown fire station, and to authorize the Selectmen to raise this appropriation by borrowing not more than \$3,864,300 in bonds, bond anticipation notes, or notes therefore in accordance with the Municipal Finance Act, (RSA 33) and, further, to authorize the Selectmen to issue and negotiate such bonds, bond anticipation notes, or notes and to determine conditions and the rate of interest thereon, such funding to be repaid from general taxation, and to authorize the Selectmen to contract for and expend any Federal or State aid that may be available for this purchase. This is a Special Article in accordance with RSA 32. Note: As this is for issuance of long-term debt, this vote requires, under State law, sixty (60%) percent affirmative vote to pass. **The Board of Selectmen supports this Article (5-0). The Budget Advisory Committee supports this Article (9-0).**

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

## *Town Budget Hearing*

Chairman Fougere read the article as follows and then turned the budget hearing over to Town Administrator Mark Bender.

### **WARRANT ARTICLE 4 - TOWN OPERATING BUDGET - \$ 14,060,271**

Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate an operating budget, not including appropriations by special warrant articles and other appropriations voted separately, the amounts set forth in the budget for the purposes set forth herein, totaling \$14,060,271? Should this Article be defeated, the default budget shall be \$14,062,606, which is the same as last year with certain adjustments required by previous actions of the Town, or by law; or the governing body may hold one special meeting in accordance with RSA 40:13 X and XVI, to take up the issue of a revised operating budget only. This operating budget warrant article does not include appropriations contained in ANY other Warrant Article. **The Board of Selectmen supports this Article (4-0). The Budget Advisory Committee supports this Article (8-0-1). This Article has an estimated tax impact of \$0.34 less than the 2017 Budget or minus \$34.00 on a home value of \$100,000.**

Town Administrator Mark Bender thanked Chairman Fougere and the members of the Board of Selectmen, The Budget Advisory Committee, and staff for their work in helping with the 2018 budget. He then gave a brief presentation of budget decreases and increases by department. We are proposing a budget that is an increase of \$86,990 over the 2017 Operating Budget. The default budget is \$14,062,606. The operating budget is \$2,335 less than default budget. The budget includes a 2% salary increase. All departments were very responsible in the budget process. Current municipal tax rate is \$6.65. The Municipal portion of the tax rate has decreased each of the past three years. If the 2018 proposed operating budget and all warrant articles are approved, the municipal tax rate would decrease 4.7% to \$6.34. Non-tax revenue is projected to increase 5.5% to \$6,060,295. Net property assessment is projected to increase 1.7% to \$1,378,716,644. We proposed a very lean budget.

Selectman Putnam asked if the revenue projections were based on last year's numbers. Administrator Bender said yes. Selectman Daniels asked for an explanation of how we get to a default budget that is higher than the operating budget. Jack Sheehy, Finance Director said it's because we decreased cost. The default budget is last year's budget plus or minus contractual items and insurance. There is no wage increase in the default budget. The new budget eliminated a position in DPW. The default budget doesn't have to be less than the operating budget.

Selectman Putnam asked how confident are we on the revenue projections. Jack said he tries to stay conservative especially with the state figures. He has been keeping it the same as the year before. If we get a little more, we benefit from it and in the Fall the tax rate may go down a bit. Chairman Fougere asked Selectman Federico if he wanted to vote on the operating budget. Selectmen Federico said he is for it. The Board's position for the Town Operating Budget is now 5/0.

Hearing no further questions or comments, Chairman Fougere asked the Water Commissioner to speak for the next two articles.

## *Water/Wastewater Budget Hearing*

Bob Courage read the warrant articles as follows:

### **WARRANT ARTICLE 5 - WATER DEPARTMENT OPERATING BUDGET - \$ 1,520,953**

Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum \$1,520,953 to operate and maintain the Water Department, said appropriation to be offset by income received from the water user charges, or take any other action relative thereto? Should this article be defeated, the default budget shall be \$1,480,538 which is the same as last year, with certain adjustments required by previous actions of the Town, or by law; or the governing body may hold one special meeting, in accordance with RSA 40:13 X and XVI, to take up the issue of a revised operating budget only. This warrant article is paid for by the water user fees. **The Board of Commissioners supports this Article (3-0). The Budget Advisory Committee supports this Article (0-0).**

Bob Courage said that they have a 5.5% increase in the water operating budget. One addition is for a truck driver laborer. We had an employee retire several years ago, and we never replaced him. The activity with the economy and additional buildings in Milford has put a strain on the employees of the water department. We have, in addition to our wells, 57 miles of water pipe, over 3,500 customers and 497 hydrants and service calls. The new position will be approximately \$38,300. We had an update in the distribution system mapping of \$12,000, and an increase in employee benefits of \$9,300. The Curtis Well sub-station interior fence/paving was \$5,000 to include work on the water storage tank of \$6,500. We also replaced a utility truck mounted air compressor for \$8,000, and included a 2% merit increase. We had one decrease of debt service of \$13,300. Total increase is \$78,945 over 2017.

Chairman Fougere asked if the commissioners took a vote on the warrant article. Bob said yes, 3/0. Bob added that they have a capital reserve in the water and sewer department and in the operating budget under depreciation we put \$240,000 a year into the capital reserve and from that we do various projects. This year we are going to spend \$220,000 on a water main on King Street, where we had several water breaks. We have a contract with a ground water investigating firm to review all of the prior testing in Milford and are looking into other areas to search for ground water. We have been unsuccessful so far. They are the best and hopefully they will find water.

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

**WARRANT ARTICLE 6 - WASTEWATER DEPARTMENT OPERATING BUDGET - \$  
2,069,450**

Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$2,069,450 to operate and maintain the Wastewater Treatment Facility and the Sanitary Sewer Collection System, said appropriation to be offset by income received from wastewater user charges, or take any other action relative thereto? Should this Article be defeated, the default budget shall be \$2,030,870, which is the same as last year, with certain adjustments required by previous actions of the Town, or by law; or the governing body may hold one special meeting, in accordance with RSA 40:13 X and XVI, to take up the issue of a revised operating budget only. This warrant article is paid for by the wastewater user fees. **The Board of Commissioners supports this Article (3-0). The Budget Advisory Committee supports this Article (0-0).**

Bob Courage said that they have a budget increase of 6.3%. The increase is \$121,000. This includes new debt service on the ultraviolet disinfectant system upgrade and the emergency new generator for a total of \$118,700. We also have increases amounting to \$18,000 for process odor control chemicals and grit screening disposal. We have offsets of \$31,900 in employee benefits and 2% pay increases. Chairman Fougere asked if the commissioners took a vote on the warrant article. Bob said yes, 3/0.

Hearing no further questions or comments, Chairman Fougere moved to Appropriation Warrant Articles

***Appropriation Warrant Articles***

**WARRANT ARTICLE 7 - BRIDGE REPLACEMENT CAPITAL RESERVE - \$ 175,000**

Shall the town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$175,000 to be placed in the Bridge Replacement Capital Reserve Fund? This fund was identified in the May 2014 Hoyle, Tanner Associates, Inc. study that identified needed rehabilitation for 18 Town bridges. The Board of Selectmen have authority to make expenditures from this fund. The \$175,000 builds upon the Bridge Replacement Capital Reserve approved by voters in 2014. **The Board of Selectmen supports this Article (5-0). The Budget Advisory Committee supports this Article (9-0). This Article has an estimated tax impact of \$0.127 or \$12.70 on a home value of \$100,000.**

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

**WARRANT ARTICLE 8 - DPW VEHICLES AND HEAVY EQUIPMENT – CAPITAL RESERVE - \$40,000**

Shall the Town vote to establish a Capital Reserve Fund under the provisions of RSA 35:1 for the purpose of DPW Vehicles and Heavy Equipment, and to raise and appropriate the sum of \$40,000 to be placed in this fund? Expenditures from this fund will require a vote at town meeting. **The Board of Selectmen supports this Article (5-0). The Budget Advisory Committee supports this Article (9-0). This Article has an estimated tax impact of \$0.029 or \$2.90 on a home value of \$100,000.**

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

**WARRANT ARTICLE 9 - FIRE APPARATUS REPLACEMENT – CAPITAL RESERVE - \$25,000**

Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$25,000 to be placed in the Fire Apparatus Replacement Capital Reserve Fund? Expenditures from this fund will require a vote at town meeting. The \$25,000 builds upon the Fire Apparatus Replacement Capital Reserve approved by voters in 2017. **The Board of Selectmen supports this Article (5-0). The Budget Advisory Committee supports this Article (9-0). This Article has an estimated tax impact of \$0.018 or \$1.80 on a home value of \$100,000.**

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

**WARRANT ARTICLE 10 – TOWN FACILITIES RENOVATION AND MAJOR REPAIR REPLACEMENT – CAPITAL RESERVE - \$25,000**

Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$25,000 to be placed in the Town Facilities Renovation and Major Repair Replacement Capital Reserve Fund? Expenditures from this fund will require a vote at town meeting. The \$25,000 builds upon the Town Facilities Renovation and Major Repair Replacement Capital Reserve approved by voters in 2017. **The Board of Selectmen supports this Article (5-0). The Budget Advisory Committee supports this Article (9-0). This Article has an estimated tax impact of \$0.018 or \$1.80 on a home value of \$100,000.**

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

**WARRANT ARTICLE 11 - AMBULANCE VEHICLE REPLACEMENT – CAPITAL RESERVE - \$25,000**

Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$25,000 to be placed in the Ambulance Vehicle Replacement Capital Reserve Fund? Expenditures from this fund will require a vote at town meeting. The \$25,000 builds upon the Ambulance Vehicle Replacement Capital Reserve approved by voters in 2017. **The Board of Selectmen supports this Article (5-0). The Budget Advisory Committee supports this Article (9-0). This Article has an estimated tax impact of \$0.018 or \$1.80 on a home value of \$100,000.**

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

**WARRANT ARTICLE 12 - PUBLIC SAFETY COMMUNICATION EQUIPMENT REPLACEMENT – CAPITAL RESERVE - \$20,000**

Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$20,000 to be placed in the Public Safety Communication Equipment Capital Reserve Fund? Expenditures from this fund will require a vote at town meeting. The \$20,000 builds upon the Public Safety Communication Equipment Replacement Capital Reserve approved by voters in 2017. **The Board of Selectmen supports this Article (5-0). The Budget Advisory Committee supports this Article (9-0). This Article has an estimated tax impact of \$0.015 or \$1.50 on a home value of \$100,000.**

Janet Langdell wanted to clarify that this equipment isn't for MACC Base. Chairman Fougere said correct.

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

**WARRANT ARTICLE 13 - ASSESSING REVALUATION CAPITAL RESERVE - \$15,000**

Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$15,000 to be placed in the Assessing Revaluation Capital Reserve Fund? The purpose of Revaluation of Real Estate Assessment is to meet our constitutional and statutory requirement that periodically these assessments are at full and true value. The Board of Selectmen has authority to expend from this fund. The \$15,000 builds upon the Assessing Revaluation Capital Reserve approved by voters in 2017. **The Board of Selectmen supports this Article (5-0). The Budget Advisory Committee supports this Article (9-0). This Article has an estimated tax impact of \$0.011 or \$1.10 on a home value of \$100,000.**

Peggy Seward would like the town to put a capital reserve summary page in the Town Report. Selectman Daniels said that the Board of Selectmen has authority to expend from this fund, but this wording isn't in Warrant Article 7 Bridge Replacement Capital Reserve. He feels that it should be put in Warrant Article 7 as well. Administrator Bender said it would have to be inserted as, "expenditures from this fund would be authorized by the Board of Selectmen". Selectmen Federico said that on the Capital Reserve spreadsheet, he would like to see what out of the 18 bridges have been completed. Jack said that this information is available on the Trustees MS9 report. This report wasn't available for the Town Report last year, but we always have it available in the Town Hall. It is a good idea to have it in the Town Report as a separate article.

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

**WARRANT ARTICLE 14 - REPLACEMENT SIDEWALK PLOW LEASE/PURCHASE –  
\$155,000 (Annual Payment \$32,300/Total Purchase Price (\$155,000))**

Shall the Town vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen pursuant to RSA 33:7-e to enter into a 5-year lease/purchase agreement, subject to a fiscal funding clause, which will protect the Town in the event of non-appropriation, for the purpose of lease/purchasing a Sidewalk Plow, and to raise and appropriate the sum of \$32,300 for the first years payment? This will replace the 2000 Holder tractor plow with a sander that is no longer in service. This piece of equipment is used for winter maintenance to plow 13.6 miles of sidewalks during winter conditions. The total purchase price of this vehicle is \$155,000. If this article passes, future years' payments will be included in the operating budget. **The Board of Selectmen supports this Article (5-0). The Budget Advisory Committee supports this Article (0-0). This Article has an estimated tax impact of \$0.023 or \$2.30 on a home value of \$100,000.**

Chris Labonte asked how long has the sidewalk plow been out of service. Rick Riendeau, Public Works Director said about 2 years.

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

**WARRANT ARTICLE 15 - SOCIAL SERVICES - \$40,000**

Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$40,000 for the purpose of providing funding to Social Service agencies for Milford residents as proposed by the Social Services Committee and submitted to the Board of Selectmen? 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 (9-0). This Article has an estimated tax impact of \$0.029 or \$2.90 on a home value of \$100,000.**

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

**WARRANT ARTICLE 16 - NON-EMERGENCY COMMUNITY TRANSPORTATION BUS  
SERVICES – \$30,000**

Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$30,000 for the purpose of providing the Town's share of funding to the Souhegan Valley Transportation Collaborative (SVTC) in order to continue operating a regional, non-emergency, wheelchair-accessible transportation service providing rides within the designated service area to sen-



1 iors, people with disabilities, and the general public? This is a Special Warrant Article in accordance with RSA 32.  
 2 **The Board of Selectmen supports this Article (5-0). The Budget Advisory Committee supports this Article (9-**  
 3 **0). This Article has an estimated tax impact of \$0.022 or \$2.20 on a home value of \$100,000.**  
 4

5 Hearing no questions or comments, Chairman Fougere moved to the next article.  
 6

7 **WARRANT ARTICLE 17 - PUMPKIN FESTIVAL, HOLIDAY DECORATIONS AND**  
 8 **PLANTINGS - \$23,000**  
 9

10 Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$23,000 for purposes of Pumpkin Festival support by Public  
 11 Works, Police, Fire, and Ambulance Departments; purchase and planting of flowers for the Oval and Stone Bridge  
 12 areas; purchase of lights, garland, etc. for holiday decorations; or to take any other action relative thereto? This is a  
 13 Special Warrant Article in accordance with RSA 32. **The Board of Selectmen supports this Article (5-0). The**  
 14 **Budget Advisory Committee supports this Article (9-0). This Article has an estimated tax impact of \$0.017 or**  
 15 **\$1.70 on a home value of \$100,000.**  
 16

17 Chris Labonte asked if the Pumpkin Festival was still run by a town organization. Chairman Fougere said that it was  
 18 run by the Chamber last year. Chris asked if we get any money back from the Chamber. Chairman Fougere said no.  
 19 They are planning to bring that up to the Chamber soon. Chris asked that if anyone wanted to have an event, could  
 20 they put it on a warrant article so the tax payers could pay for it. The tax payers are paying for this festival and not  
 21 seeing any benefit from it. Chairman Fougere said that some people don't feel it has value, and some do. He feels  
 22 that it has a significant amount of value. It's the biggest in the state and brings many people into the community.  
 23 Chris said he feels that with such a lean budget, he thinks we could spend it on something else instead of having the  
 24 money leave Milford. Chairman Fougere said that they will be speaking with the Chamber soon; they just haven't  
 25 had time yet. Selectmen Putnam pointed out that the \$23,000 isn't just for Pumpkin Festival support. It's also used  
 26 for Holiday Decorations and Plantings. Chris Labonte said that we didn't decorate this season like we have in the  
 27 past. Administrator Bender said MIT also bought new banners. Chris asked how much is spent on the decorations.  
 28 Administrator Bender said that he didn't have that information with him, but he would get it. Selectman Federico  
 29 said that he thought it was \$6,000 but he wasn't sure. Everyone agreed that \$6,000 was too high. Administrator  
 30 Bender said that Chris has some good points; they have raised those questions with the director that organizes the  
 31 event. They are being receptive and we will discuss revenue further. Chris asked if they would get to it before the  
 32 deliberative session. Administrator Bender said no. Chris assumes that it's just the Chamber that is going to run the  
 33 festival. Administrator Bender said no, it's still MIT, the Chamber and the Town. Janet Langdell asked if there were  
 34 budget figures, expenses and revenue from last year's festival. Administrator Bender said no, we don't have it. Ad-  
 35 ministrator Bender asked if she would like the town to get it, or would she like to get it from MIT. Janet said the  
 36 town. Janet asked what the over-sight committee was, she has never heard of it. Chairman Fougere said he was re-  
 37 ferring to MIT. We have been having discussions with MIT and the Chamber about how we are going to proceed  
 38 with the Festival, to include if MIT was going to fold. We are still in the discussion stage. Janet said that if this is a  
 39 town event how is the town looking to continue it, she wouldn't think that going forward with this event it should be  
 40 tied to one individual. Chairman Fougere said it would all be part of the discussion. We have the same questions as  
 41 you have. Janet asked if there would be a solid plan prior to voting in March. Chairman Fougere said no. Wade  
 42 Campbell asked with everything being so confusing on the article the Board voted 5/0. From what everyone else is  
 43 saying, why is it even on the warrant because no one even knows where the money is going. Administrator Bender  
 44 re-read the warrant article to explain that it is for Town support by Public Works, Police, Fire, and Ambulance De-  
 45 partments. There is nothing in here about sharing revenue. It only mentions that the town is providing \$23,000 for  
 46 support for the festival through those specific departments. We consistently spend \$20,000 plus for those services.  
 47 Wade said he still feels that they should self-contain and we shouldn't have to for it. Administrator Bender said that  
 48 is why it's on the warrant so that the town's people can vote to support or not to support it. Last year 64% of voters  
 49 supported it. Wade said that he is looking at pumpkin festival and most of the voters see that, and not the rest of it.  
 50 Administrator Bender said that it's pretty clear. Janet said she wanted to clarify why she is asking questions. We are  
 51 being asked to vote primarily for support of emergency and DPW expenses related for the pumpkin festival. Since it  
 52 started it's been used for a town project or organization, something within the town of Milford. Now comes a change  
 53 within the lead organization and they have had a change in how they are going to run their organization and mission.  
 54 We now have another regional party that is not a Milford organization. Do we want to bother to support this if it's  
 55 not a Milford based organization. Some people may say that it's helping all the non-profits, and it is, but this event  
 56 can generate a lot of money for the end organization.  
 57

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

**WARRANT ARTICLE 18 – AFSCME CONTRACT - \$21,572**

Shall the Town vote to approve the cost items included in the one year extension of the Police Officers' Collective Bargaining Agreement (CBA) reached between the Board of Selectmen and Local 3657 of the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees (AFSCME) for contract year April 1, 2018 to March 31, 2019, which calls for the following increases in salaries and benefits, and to further raise and appropriate \$21,572 for fiscal year 2018? Said sum represents the additional costs over those of the current appropriation at current staffing levels paid in 2018 in the expiring Agreement. Upon approval of this Article, said cost allocation is to be transferred to the General Operating Budget or take any other action relative thereto. **The Board of Selectmen supports this Article (5-0). The Budget Advisory Committee supports this Article (9-0). This Article has an estimated tax impact of \$0.016 or \$1.60 on a home value of \$100,000.**

	2018	2019
	Estimated	Estimated *
<b>Wages</b>	\$ 16,482	\$ 5,494
<b>Fringe Benefits</b>	\$ 5,090	\$ 1,841
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$ 21,572</b>	<b>\$ 7,335</b>

NOTE:

The contract calls for a 2.0% increase plus up to any additional merit increase which exceeds the 2.0% and is approved in the operating budget for all other employees not in the AFSCME bargaining unit.

\*These figures represent the estimated increases for the first three months of 2019 to cover salary increases to contract termination date of March 31, 2019.

Selectmen Putnam mentioned a typo in the note section. Administrator said they would fix it. Selectman Putnam said he thought they did away with the me too clause in the note. Chairman Fougere said they would discuss it later.

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

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

Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$9,000 for the purpose of holding the annual summer evening Band Concerts (bands, sound system, crossing detail)? 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 (9-0). This Article has an estimated tax impact of \$0.007 or \$.70 on a home value of \$100,000.**

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

**WARRANT ARTICLE 20 - FUNDING OF THE ANNUAL LABOR DAY PARADE – \$10,000**

Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$10,000 for the purpose of funding bands, musicians and other allied expenses directly attributed to the annual Labor Day Parade? 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 (8-0-1). This Article has an estimated tax impact of \$0.018 or \$1.80 on a home value of \$100,000.**

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

**WARRANT ARTICLE 21 - MEMORIAL, VETERANS & LABOR DAY PARADES AND RECOGNITION - TOWN SUPPORT - \$6,500**

Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$6,500 for the purpose of town support relative to the observance of Memorial, Veterans and Labor Day Parades? These funds shall be used to cover parade costs incurred

by Public Works, Police Department and other Town departments, and to purchase flags to be placed on the graves of veterans on Memorial Day. Departmental support costs and materials associated with the provision of these services will be charged against this appropriation. 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 (9-0). This Article has an estimated tax impact of \$0.015 or \$0.50 on a home value of \$100,000.

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

**WARRANT ARTICLE 22 - APPOINTING AGENTS TO THE KEYES PARK EXPANSION  
COMMITTEE PROJECT CAPITAL RESERVE – \$0**

Shall the town vote to appoint the Board of Selectman as agents to expend from the Keyes Park Expansion Committee Project Capital Reserve Fund. **The Board of Selectmen supports this Article (5-0). The Budget Advisory Committee supports this Article (8-1-0). This article has no tax impact.**

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

**WARRANT ARTICLE 23 - AUTHORITY TO GRANT INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT TAX  
RELIEF - \$0**

Shall the town adopt temporary property tax relief as outlined in RSA 72:80 for commercial and industrial development within approved zoning districts of the town? The intent is to provide incentives to businesses to build, rebuild, modernize, or enlarge with the town. The exemption shall apply only to municipal and local school property taxes. State education and county taxes are excluded from the exemption. The exemption shall be 50% percentage (not to exceed 50%) of the increase in assessed valuation attributed to new construction, additions, renovations or improvements and shall run for 10 years (maximum of 10 years). This is approved for industrial use only as defined in the statute. "Industrial uses" shall include all manufacturing, production, assembling, warehousing, or processing of goods or materials for sale or distribution, research and development activities, or processing of waste materials. If approved by voters, the percentage rate and duration shall be granted uniformly to all projects for which a proper application is filed. **The Board of Selectmen supports this Article (4-0). The Budget Advisory Committee supports this Article (0-0). This Article has no tax impact.**

Chairman Fougere said that at the earlier meeting the Board voted to change this warrant article to a 5 year term with 50% the first year, 40% the second year, 30% the third, 20% the fourth year and 10% the fifth year. The Board supported this 5/0. Audrey Frasier asked if this was only for new business or existing businesses that just started this year. Chairman Fougere said it was for any new construction, for example if a business adds on, and is an industrial user, that meets that definition. Audrey clarified that it wouldn't be for the Sand and Gravel business. Chairman Fougere said correct.

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

**WARRANT ARTICLE 24 - RENAME BRIDGE REPLACEMENT CAPITAL RESERVE FUND -  
\$0**

Shall the town vote to rename the Bridge Replacement Capital Reserve Fund to Bridge Repair and/or Replacement Capital Reserve Fund, and to include culverts greater than \$75,000 replacement cost. This would clarify the intent of the capital reserve fund which has always been "high priority projects for either replacement or repair in place". **The Board of Selectmen supports this Article (5-0). The Budget Advisory Committee supports this Article (9-0). This Article has no tax impact.**

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

**WARRANT ARTICLE 25 - SWING BRIDGE - \$0**

Should we ask voters to utilize bridge repair and/or replacement capital reserve funds along with donations as matching funds to refurbish the Swing Bridge when grant funds become available? The Swing Bridge has been placed on



the NH DOT Ten Year Plan. Rehabilitation funding is scheduled for 2020 and will require matching funds. Using the Bridge Capital Reserve Funds would expedite the work, should other grant funds become available. **The Board of Selectmen supports this Article (5-0). The Budget Advisory Committee supports this Article (8-0-1). This Article has no tax impact.**

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

#### **WARRANT ARTICLE 26 - MILE SLIP TOWN FOREST EASEMENT - \$0**

Shall the Town vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to transfer or convey such property rights in the below described parcel of town owned land as may be necessary so that the same shall be subject to a conservation easement, in perpetuity, the particular terms of the easement to be determined by the Board of Selectmen, with the concurrence of the Conservation Commission? Said authorization to include the authority to execute any and all deeds, documents or other instruments in the name of the Town that may be necessary to accomplish the foregoing. It is understood that the intent of this article is to cause the conservation easement to be held by a “qualified organization,” as defined in section 170(h)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, existing for the purchase of or holding of property interests or facilitating transactions relative thereto when such purchase carries out the purposes of RSA 36-A, said organization may be the Society for the Protection of New Hampshire Forests or other similar qualified organization as determined by the Board of Selectmen with the concurrence of the Conservation Commission. The property to which this authorization, if approved, will apply is land known as Map/Lot 50-9 and 55-5, which properties are commonly known as the Mile Slip Town Forest, the same having been acquired by the Town of Milford by purchase dated August 24, 2005 and recorded in the Hillsborough County Registry of Deeds at Book 7531 and Page 2372. **The Board of Selectmen supports this Article (3-2). The Budget Advisory Committee supports this Article (8-0-1). This Article has no tax impact.**

Hearing no questions or comments, Chairman Fougere said that per the meeting at 5:30, the Board of Selectmen decided to add a KENO warrant article. Selectmen Federico read the KENO article.

#### **WARRANT ARTICLE 27 – KENO**

Shall the Town vote to allow the operation of KENO within the town, pursuant to the provisions of NH RSA 284:41 through 51?. **The Board of Selectmen supports this Article (3-2). The Budget Advisory Committee supports this Article (0-0). This Article has no tax impact.**

Selectman Daniels asked if that language was satutorily required. Selectman Federico said he would find out tomorrow morning. Selectman Daniels said that he was certain that no one would understand the language. Chairman Fougere said they would provide a good explanation.

There was a discussion on whether or not petition warrant articles needed to be reviewed tonight. Jack said that if they weren't discussed tonight, the Board would have to have another hearing because the articles need to be part of the budget. Tina said that the petition warrant articles came in late this afternoon, she didn't include them tonight because it was too late to put them in the Board package. She would like to discuss them tonight to avoid having to have another hearing. Chairman Fougere said they weren't posted. Jack said they didn't need to be. Chairman Fougere said the per the RSA, the due date is tomorrow. Janet Langdell asked if we normally have Budget and Bond Hearing after the petition warrants are due. Tina said that they usually come in prior to the hearing and are discussed that night. Selectman Federico requested that we review the ones that are in house tonight because they are already here. If nothing else is submitted tomorrow, we won't need to have another hearing. Jack said that if petition warrant articles are submitted tomorrow, you would have to have a meeting next week. Administrator Bender asked why do we have a hearing on petition warrant articles. They have to go on regardless and as presented. Selectmen Daniels said it was his understanding that we only had to have a hearing tonight on bond items and budget, as a courtesy, we have always included the others although it isn't necessary. Jack said that is incorrect because anything that affects the budget requires a bond or budget hearing. Each warrant article that has a tax impact has to be discussed at this meeting. Administrator Bender said that there are two dates for petition warrant articles, one for bond items and one for regular items and he didn't think petition warrant articles needed to be discussed. Chairman Fougere said that we will discuss them tonight, we can get clarity tomorrow and if we have to hold another meeting we will.

Hearing no questions or comments, Chairman Fougere moved petition warrant articles.

**WARRANT ARTICLE 28 – FIREWORKS - \$8,500 by petition**

Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$8,500 for the purpose of providing the Independence Day celebration fireworks display at a time and location to be determined by the Board of Selectmen? This is a Special Warrant Article in accordance with RSA 32. No vote was taken.

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

**WARRANT ARTICLE 29 – KEYES PARK EXPANSION COMMITTEE PROJECT CAPITAL RESERVE - \$25,000 by petition**

Shall the town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$25,000 to be placed in the Keyes Park Expansion Committee Project Capital Reserve Fund? The purpose of this fund is for the design, development and construction of improvements to Keyes Memorial Park, as outlined in the Keyes Memorial Park Expansion Committee Report, (December 20, 2016 and as amended). The \$25,000 builds upon the Keyes Park Expansion Committee Project Capital Reserve approved by voters in 2017. No vote was taken.

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

**WARRANT ARTICLE 30 – CONSERVATION LAND FUND - \$20,000 by petition**

To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$20,000 to add to the Conservation Land Fund created in accordance with RSA 36-A, said land 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 purposes? Contribution furthers the protection of the town's natural resources.

Chairman Fougere asked what was the balance in the land fund. Chris Costantino said \$99,000.

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

**WARRANT ARTICLE 31 – COMPACT PART OF TOWN - \$0 by petition**

Shall the town designate the Town Community Lands (BROX) to be deemed a "Compact Part" of the town in accordance with RSA 644:13.

Chairman Fougere said that this has to do with BROX, if it were to pass it would mean no shooting, to include hunting will be allowed at BROX. We would have to look more into it, we just received it today.

Chairman Fougere indicated the public hearing for the 2018 Bond & Budget is now complete at 7:50 p.m. Vice Chairman Federico moved to adjourn this Budget & Bond Hearing. Selectman Daniels seconded. All were in favor. Motion passed 5/0.

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Chairman, Mark Fougere

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Member, Mike Putnam

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Vice Chairman, Kevin Federico

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Member, Laura Dudizak

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Member, Gary Daniels