

*Finance Dir*

**2017**

**MINUTES OF THE  
224th MEETING OF THE  
TOWN OF MILFORD**

Submitted by Darlene J. Bouffard

Date: 3/24/17

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2017

224<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the  
Town of Milford

February 4th 2017 – Deliberative Session

March 18<sup>th</sup> 2017 – Elective Session (postponed from 3/14/17 due to inclement weather)

Total Registered Voters: 11,135

Number of Voters at Deliberative Session: 84

Total Votes Cast: 1865

The Deliberative Session of the Annual Town Meeting opened at 9 o'clock in the forenoon in the Town Hall Auditorium.

The Moderator, Peter Basiliere, opened the meeting and advised that the inhabitants qualified to vote were called upon to act upon the Warrant in accordance with Senate Bill #2, more precisely known as New Hampshire RSA 40:13, officially known as the "Official Ballot Referendum form of Meeting". This was the twenty-third Town Meeting under this law.

The Chairman of the Board of Selectmen put a motion on the floor, seconded by the Chairman of the Budget Advisory Committee and voted unanimously in the affirmative to suspend the reading of the Warrant.

The inhabitants were called upon to transact all business other than voting, and were advised by the Moderator that on March 14, 2017, (postponed to March 18 due to inclement weather) the Second Session, voting by official ballot, would take place with the polls opening at 6 a.m. and closing no earlier than 8 p.m., to be held at the Milford Middle School Gymnasium, to act upon all matters of the Warrant as well as election of officers and other matters to be voted upon.

Present for the meeting were: Board of Selectmen, Mark Fougere, Chairman, Kevin Federico, Vice Chairman, Michael Putnam, member, Katherine Bauer, member; and Gary Daniels, member. The Budget Advisory Committee: Matt Lydon, Chairman, Bert Becker, Karen Mitchell, Peggy Seward, Jim Roccio, Chris Pank, Robert Courage, with Cara Barlow absent.

Board of Water and Sewer Commissioners: Mike Putnam, Chairman, Robert Courage, member and Dale White, member. Town Staff: Town Clerk, Joan Dargie; Town Administrator, Mark Bender; Police Chief, Michael Viola; Police Captain, Craig Frye; Director of Public Works, Rick Riendeau; Fire Chief, Jack Kelly; Director of Community Development, Lincoln Daley; Finance Director, Jack Sheehy; Welfare Director, Susan Drew; Recreation Director, Arene Berry; Water Utilities Director, David Boucher; IT Director, Bruce Dickerson; Executive Assistant, Tina Philbrick; Community Media Director, Michael McNerney, Wendy Hunt, Milford Improvement Team Director, Marti Noel, Assessor; Town Counsel, William Drescher.

Election Officer present: Joan Dargie, Town Clerk

Audio Assistance and video taping was done by Michael McNerney, assisted by Dave Bosquet and Mitchell Hemmer.

The Minutes were prepared by Darlene J. Bouffard.

The invocation was delivered by the Fire Department Chaplain Gary Williams who talked about diversity, unity and different viewpoint but in the end we are all humans. It is important to have the respect today to support each other with our different opinions. It is okay to disagree. Today we have an opportunity to express our opinion in an open forum. Chaplain Williams gave the blessing.

The assembly was led in the Pledge of Allegiance by Pete Basiliere, Moderator.

The Moderator advised the assembly that the Annual School District Deliberative Session will take place on February 9, 2017.

The Moderator advised the assembly that the Board of Selectmen will be meeting this afternoon to discuss their support/lack of support on the warrant articles. The Budget Advisory Committee will be meeting on Sunday to discuss their support/lack of support on the warrant articles. The Moderator also noted that this year the ballot will include details of the support or lack of support for the ballot questions to be voted upon, as had been done in the past, but will not include numbers for or against.

The Moderator recognized and thanked Town Counsel, William Drescher, for his presence at this meeting.

The Moderator announced that the Milford Dollars for Scholars has provided various foods and coffee for purchase, which is available in the Banquet Hall.

The Chairman of the Board of Selectmen, Mark Fougere introduced the members of that Board: Gary Daniels, Katherine Bauer, Michael Putnam and Kevin Federico. Moderator Basiliere also introduced the Town Administrator, Mark Bender, and the preparer of the minutes, Darlene Bouffard. He introduced Jack Sheehy, Director of Finance and William Drescher, Town Counsel. Town Clerk Joan Dargie was introduced. Board of Selectmen Chairman Fougere noted that Bill Roche passed away the other day and asked for a moment of silence for the man who reached the age of 100 and was a good citizen of the community. Chairman Fougere indicated that Selectman Bauer has chosen to not seek re-election and thanked her for the many years of service; Kathy has been on the Planning and Zoning Board and the Board of Selectmen and has held other positions. People like Kathy help this town run. Without volunteers, Milford would not function as a community and we would not be as great a place to live. Selectman Bauer thanked everyone, stating it has been an honor to serve the town of Milford.

The Chairman of the Budget Advisory Committee, Matt Lydon, introduced members of that Committee: Bert Becker, Karen Mitchell, Peggy Seward, Jim Roccio, Chris Pank, Robert Courage and Cara Barlow (absent), he explained that the Budget Advisory Committee is appointed by the Moderator and that all are volunteers. Matt Lydon, BAC Chairman, indicated that the role of the Budget Advisory Committee (BAC) is to advise the Board of Selectmen and Town Administrator in putting together the budget and developing positions of support or non-

support. The BAC meets with the Town Administrator, Finance Director, Department Heads, representatives of local organizations and other representatives of warrant articles.

The Moderator introduced the Board of Water and Sewer Commissioners: Michael Putnam, Chairman, Robert Courage and Dale White.

The Moderator explained to the inhabitants that this session of Town Meeting is to put the articles on the Warrant into the form of questions which would then be placed on the Ballot. This ballot would then be voted upon at the second session of this Town Meeting on March 14, 2017. He added that this official ballot would include all the usual ballot issues such as voting for officers and zoning issues, together with the Warrant Articles before this session but in the form of questions. The complete School Warrant will also be part of the official ballot to be voted on at the second session on March 14, 2017.

The Moderator advised that this meeting would be conducted from the Warrant as posted and as provided at this meeting. It would be assumed that the Board of Selectmen has moved the question and that the Budget Advisory Committee has seconded it unless otherwise stated. Should the Budget Advisory Committee not support an article, then the Moderator will assume it is seconded by a member of the Board of Selectmen. After all discussion is complete he would instruct the Town Clerk to place the question on each article on the ballot.

Moderator Basiliere indicated that today we need to decide on the wording for the ballot and agree on an amount of what we will vote on in March. We will also vote on important positions in March. It was moved, seconded and voted in the affirmative that the Moderator would not read each ballot question on the Warrant.

Moderator Pete Basiliere stated he would conduct the Town Meeting following the "Moderator's Rules". These rules were provided in written form to all individuals present at this meeting. Those rules are as follows:

"New Hampshire law authorizes the moderator to establish rules of procedure for the Deliberative Session and also gives the voters the power to overrule the moderator's rules and rulings. These Rules of Procedure are how the moderator intends to govern the meeting, in the absence of any challenges to the rules, to ensure a fair and orderly meeting.

1. Registered Milford voters must check in at the checklist table, where they will receive a sticker that must be worn while in the hall and a voting card. Anyone wishing to speak must wear this sticker in order to be recognized.
2. Non-residents will be allowed to speak only after a positive vote by the meeting on a motion to allow the non-resident(s) to speak.
3. When a vote is called for, registered voters will vote on the motion by holding up their voting card. The moderator will cast a vote only to break a tie or to create a tie.
4. Anyone wishing to speak must do so at the microphone located at the center aisle. A "Point of Order" may be called out from your seat but the question must be asked at the microphone. Please state your name and street address your first time at the microphone. For subsequent trips to the microphone, stating your name will be sufficient.
5. All questions or comments must be directed to the moderator, not to individual officials, committee members or audience members.
6. Except for presenters explaining proposed articles, speakers have a three minute time limit. If the speaker asks a question, one follow-up question is allowed before stepping away from the microphone. If the speaker has additional questions about or comments on a particular issue, they may be raised only after all other speakers already in line have spoken.
7. Affirmative motions to "call the question" limit debate and require a second and then a simple majority vote to pass. Anyone wishing to call the question must do so from the microphone. A speaker may not call the question immediately after speaking on the issue.
8. The motions to call the question and to restrict reconsideration are not debatable. Upon a second, the moderator will ask for a vote by the meeting.
9. Upon an affirmative vote to call the question, anyone already in line as well as members of the Board of Selectmen and the Budget Advisory Committee who had already indicated a desire to address the topic will be permitted to speak on the issue.
10. Discussion and voting will be taken one amendment at a time.
11. While a proposed amendment to a dollar amount may be made verbally, an amendment that changes the language of a question must be submitted in writing. Time will be allowed for the voter to write the proposed

language on a piece of paper. Important note: Except for the dollar amounts, the language of the warrant article for the operating budget is stipulated by state statute and may not be changed.

12. The meeting may, on an article-by-article basis, restrict subsequent reconsideration of the vote on a warrant article. Upon a vote to restrict reconsideration, the moderator will prohibit any further action on that question. The motion to restrict reconsideration does not have to be made immediately after the original vote.

13. An affirmative vote to restrict reconsideration may be reconsidered. If the restriction is overturned, however, by statute the actual reconsideration will take place at a recessed session of the town meeting held at least seven days later (RSA 40:10).

14. The Moderator shall take a secret yes/no ballot vote when seven or more voters who are present question any non-ballot vote immediately after the moderator declares the result of the vote and before any other business is begun (RSA 40:4-b).

15. A petition for secret ballot must be submitted to the moderator prior to the vote by at least five voters. The five voters must be present when the petition is submitted.

16. Five voters present may request a recount of any vote taken by secret yes/no ballot if the request is made immediately after the announcement of the result. Further, the moderator will order a recount immediately if the secret yes/no vote margin is less than 10 percent (RSA 40:4-a).

17. All speakers must be courteous and must address the issues, not the individuals who are raising them. The Moderator will not allow personal attacks or inappropriate language. The Moderator may command a police officer or legal voter to remove from the meeting and detain any person conducting himself or herself in a disorderly manner (RSA 40:9).

18. Any of the Moderator's Rule(s) may be overturned by a simple majority vote."

The Moderator explained that each article can be discussed, debated and deliberated and after that one of two actions needs to be taken. The original wording of the warrant article can be maintained in which case it will appear on the Ballot as it is in the Warrant, and no vote is required because nothing was changed. The other action is to vote to amend the wording of the warrant article. If this amendment is approved the amended article is placed on the Ballot. To amend the wording, a simple majority vote is all that is required.

The Moderator requested that each individual wishing to speak, make every effort to limit discussion in an effort to avoid a lengthy town meeting. He requested precise presentations be made also. Voter identification is required but is not necessary to vote, so if you have an identification, bring it in, if you do not have one there is another process to sign an affidavit and the State now requires voters to be photographed if no identification is presented.

Moderator Basiliere asked if voters have not yet checked in, please do so now; you must have a green sticker and card in order to vote. Please turn off your cell phone. Hard copies of information are available at the back of the room. The Board of Selectmen will take their final votes immediately after this session. The Budget Advisory Committee will meet afterwards also to cast its final votes. Food and drink is available in the Banquet Hall, feel free to support Dollars For Scholars. There will be a thirty minute recess for lunch around noon.

Chairman Fougere moved to allow that the following non-residents be allowed to speak, to which Selectman Daniels seconded and all were in favor:

Wendy Hunt  
Rick Riendeau  
Jack Sheehy  
Mike McInerney  
Dave Boucher  
Bruce Dickerson  
Bill Drescher  
Marti Noel  
Mark Bender  
Lincoln Daley  
Tim Herlihy  
Fred Elkind  
David Mercier  
W. Steven Clifton

## ARTICLE 1 – ELECTION OF OFFICERS

The results of the voting for Town Officers and School Officers is as follows:

### TOWN OFFICERS:

#### Selectman – 3 Year Term

*Laura Dudziak	654
Suzanne Fournier	605
*Mike Putnam	908
Susan I. Smith	558
Roger Tilton	362

#### Cemetery Trustee – 3 Year Term

Leonard J. Harten	692
*Kris Jensen	821

#### Library Trustee – 3 Year Term

*Lynn R. Coakley	894
Jennifer E. O'Brien-Traficante	574
*Sarah Philbrick-Sandhage	1113

#### Trustee of Trust Funds – 3 Year Term

*Tina Philbrick	1510
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#### Water-Wastewater Commissioner – 3 Year Term

*Robert Courage	1556
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\* Deemed elected by the Moderator.

## ARTICLE 2 – BALLOT VOTE – ZONING CHANGES

To vote on Planning Board proposed zoning changes and amendments.

The Planning Board SUPPORTS all Amendments:

### Ballot Vote No. 1

1. Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment #1 as proposed by the Milford Planning Board for the Town of Milford Zoning Ordinance as follows:

*AMENDMENT #1:* Amend the Milford Zoning Ordinance, Article VIII: Administration, Section 8.02.5 by deleting language and inserting new language to increase the minimum square foot area for accessory structures requiring a building permit and to apply this standard to all accessory structures.

Topical Description of Proposed Amendment: The proposed amendments replace and insert new language to increase the minimum square footage for accessory structures that require a building permit from 120 square feet to 200 square feet for consistency with the International Residential Building Code (2009), Section R105.2. The amendments also apply the 200 square foot minimum area requiring a building permit from storage sheds to all accessory structures. As a result, individuals seeking to construct an accessory structure exceeding 200 square feet use would require a building permit. This proposed change would further clarify and expedite the permitting and construction of smaller accessory structures within the Town. The proposed amendments were reviewed and supported by the Planning Board and Board of Adjustment.

The Planning Board supports Amendment #1 by a unanimous vote of 6-0.

Ballot Title: Building Permits – Accessory Structures

The voting on this amendment (Ballot Vote #1) is as follows:

YES: 1499 NO: 285 passed

**Ballot Vote No. 2**

2. Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment #2 as proposed by the Milford Planning Board for the Town of Milford Zoning Ordinance as follows:

*AMENDMENT #2:* Amend the Milford Zoning Ordinance, Article IV: Definitions, Section 4.01.0 by replacing the definition of an Accessory Dwelling Unit in it entirety and Article X: Administrative Relief, Section 10.02.6 Accessory Dwelling Units by deleting and inserting new language to be in conformance with revised New Hampshire Statutes Annotated 674:71 – 674:73.

Topical Description of Proposed Amendment: The proposed amendments seek to replace and insert new language to further clarify and revise the local definition and regulations pertaining to Accessory Dwelling Units in conformance with the revised New Hampshire Statutes Annotated 674:71 – 674:73 that will become effective June 2017. The amendments also incorporate general administrative changes. The proposed amendments were reviewed and supported by the Planning Board and Board of Adjustment.

The Planning Board supports Amendment #2 by a unanimous vote of 6-0.

Ballot Title: Accessory Dwelling Units

The voting on this amendment (Ballot Vote #2) is as follows:

YES: 1482 NO: 272 passed

**Ballot Vote No. 3**

3. Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment #3 as proposed by the Milford Planning Board for the Town of Milford Zoning Ordinance as follows:

*AMENDMENT # 3:* Amend the Milford Zoning Ordinance, Article VI: Overlay Districts, Section 6.02.0 Wetland Conservation District by replacing said section in its entirety with revised language and renumbering sections accordingly to further clarify the extent and regulated areas within the Wetland Conservation District, resolve potential inconsistencies with State and local permitting and regulations, and further clarify the permitted uses and uses that require a Special Exception for wetland/wetland buffer disturbance.

Topical Description of Proposed Amendment: The proposed amendments seek to update outdated references and definitions within the Wetland Conservation District for consistency with State and Federal permitting and regulations. The amendments further seek to clarify and revise the location and regulated areas of the Wetland Conservation District related to buffer areas, protected surface waters, and properties subject to the Shoreland Water Quality Protection Act. Lastly, the amendments seek to further clarify and update permitted accepted uses in the Wetland Conservation District and simplify and consolidate the uses requiring a Special Exception Permit for wetland/wetland buffer disturbance. The proposed amendments were reviewed and supported by the Planning Board, Board of Adjustment, and Conservation Commission.

The Planning Board supports Amendment #3 by a unanimous vote of 6-0.

Ballot Title: Wetland Conservation District

The voting on this amendment (Ballot Vote #3) is as follows:

YES: 1460 NO: 288 passed



### **WARRANT ARTICLE 3 - RECONSTRUCTION OF TOWN ROADS - \$2,000,000 BOND**

Selectman Mark Fougere moved that Warrant Article 3 be placed on the ballot. Selectman Daniels seconded. Warrant Article #3 as presented at the Deliberative Session is as follows:

Shall the town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$2,000,000 to reconstruct approximately 11 miles of roads as detailed using Cartegraph Data by the Department of Public Works and to authorize the issuance of bonds or notes therefore of not more than \$2,000,000 in accordance with the provisions of the Municipal Finance Act (RSA 33) and to authorize the Selectmen to issue and negotiate such bonds or notes, with a term not to exceed 10 years and to determine the rate of interest and other conditions in their judgment? This is a Special Warrant Article in accordance with RSA 32. Note: As this is for issuance of long-term debt, this vote requires, under State law, sixty percent (60%) affirmative vote to pass. Board of Selectmen supports this Article (5-0). The Budget Advisory Committee supports this Article (8-0). This Article has no tax impact this year.

Selectman Fougere explained that the Board of Selectmen has been working on this for a number of years, it is a priority; there will be a presentation from DPW Director Rick Riendeau. This is something that has been talked about for many years. BAC Chairman Matt Lydon indicated the BAC supports this article 8-0; there are eleven miles of roads that will be taken care of over 2-3 years. Town Administrator Mark Bender asked Mr. Riendeau to make a short presentation in which he explained the process to be followed.

Mr. Riendeau talked about the eleven miles of road that will be taken care of; it will take a little while to get started and take about four years total. All roads were evaluated and a network was complete of the condition of each road. There are 85.6 miles of road in Milford; during the assessment the overall condition of roads is rated a 65 which is a fair overall condition. 40.1% of those roads are in the fair category, the worse the roads, the more money it takes to fix. The sooner we take care of the roads, the cheaper. This bond will take care of some good roads and some bad. It cannot be all the bad roads, it will be both. A storm water video will be shown later to talk about that warrant article. DPW will work in conjunction with the Water Utilities Department.

Steve Takacs, Whitten Road, asked if this bond is in addition to the regular budget to maintain roads, and how much is in the budget for that. Chairman Fougere answered there is \$320,000 in the budget for road maintenance, this bond is in addition to the budget.

Hearing no further questions or comments, the Moderator instructed the Town Clerk to place Ballot Question #3 on the Ballot as originally worded and in accordance with State statute.

The results of the official ballot voting at the Elective Session on Article #3 is as follows:

YES: 1470 NO: 333 passed

Article #3 passed.

### **WARRANT ARTICLE 4 – WASTEWATER EMERGENCY BACK-UP GENERATOR REPLACEMENT – BOND - \$375,000**

Selectman Fougere moved that Warrant Article 4 be placed on the ballot. Selectman Daniels seconded. Chairman Fougere deferred to the Board of Commissioners. Warrant Article #4 as presented at the Deliberative Session is as follows:

Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$375,000, to replace the current 1979 Cummings Generator, and to authorize the issuance of bonds or notes therefore of not more than \$375,000 in accordance with the provisions of the Municipal Finance Act (RSA 33) and to authorize the Selectmen to issue and negotiate such bonds or notes, to determine the rate of interest and other conditions in their judgment? This generator powers the wastewater treatment facility in the event of a power outage. Note: As this is for issuance of long-term debt, this vote requires, under State law, sixty percent (60%)

affirmative vote to pass. This is a Special Warrant Article in accordance with RSA 32 and is paid for by the wastewater user fees. The Board of Commissioners supports this Article (0-0). The Budget Advisory Committee supports this Article (8-0-1).

Water/Wastewater Director Boucher asked that Dave Mercier come up to do a presentation. Mr. Mercier is here at the request of the Water Utilities Commissioners. Mr. Mercier explained this request is for a standard generator. The wastewater facility was built between 1979 and 1981; the facility is over 35 years old and has had no major upgrades. The equipment is old and tired. In order to get another 20-30 years out of the plant it would cost \$10 million. A 10-year Capital Improvements Plan identifies the improvements and breaks them up into 20 smaller projects and spreads them out over a ten year period in order to prioritize the upgrades. Currently we have already completed the first three projects on that plan. Last year Mr. Mercier was here for task number one for the UV improvement and that project is now complete. The Board of Commissioners (BOC) want to make the long range plan more affordable. The cost increase to water users would be once every three years. Rather than looking to take care of the next three projects, the BOC is looking to only get the back-up generator this year. It is a 38 year old generator and replacement parts are getting more and more difficult to find. This generator provides electricity to the entire plant in case of an outage. This piece of equipment is critical at the plant. The CIP estimated \$355,000; it has been written in the warrant at \$375,000 to account for inflation. This project can be handled without a rate increase this year. A contract is in place and Mr. Mercier is here today to help everyone understand it so that voters can decide in March, which will be followed by a bid schedule. A four-month construction duration is expected so it should be complete by September.

Mr. Lydon indicated the BAC supports this warrant article 8-0-1.

There being no further questions or comments, the Moderator instructed the Town Clerk to place Ballot Question #4 on the Ballot as originally worded and in accordance with State statute.

The results of the official ballot voting at the Elective Session on Article #4 is as follows:

YES: 1325 NO: 445 passed

Article #4 passed

## **WARRANT ARTICLE 5 – STORM SEWER VIDEO INSPECTION - BOND – \$73,200**

Selectman Fougere moved that Warrant Article 5 be placed on the ballot. Selectman Daniels seconded. Warrant Article #5 as presented at the Deliberative Session is as follows:

NOTE – This warrant article is needed to correct wording of Article 4 approved by voters in 2016. There was a discrepancy in language that resulted in an underfunding from the state. This article is a correction for that language, provides 100% of the expected funding and does not represent additional work or unanticipated cost.

Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$73,200 to perform a video inspection of the Town's Stormwater System, and to authorize the Selectmen to raise this appropriation by borrowing not more than \$73,200 in bonds, or notes in accordance with the Municipal Finance Act, (RSA 33) and, further, to authorize the Selectmen to issue and negotiate such bonds, or notes and to determine conditions and the rate of interest including 20% or \$14,640 forgiveness upon completion of project? The anticipated source of \$73,200 of said funding will be a loan from the State Revolving Fund. Information thus obtained will be assessed and incorporated within the Town's Asset Management System to assist with planning for future repairs and maintenance decisions. Federal stormwater permit requirements, in addition, necessitate an evaluation of discharges to the stormwater system which can be performed more efficiently and cost-effectively with data obtained from this program. This is a Special Warrant Article in accordance with RSA 32. **Note:** As this is for issuance of long-term debt, this vote requires, under State law, sixty percent (60%) affirmative vote to pass. Board of Selectmen supports this Article (5-0). The Budget Advisory Committee supports this Article (9-0). **This Article has no tax impact this year.**

Selectman Fougere indicated this item was on the ballot last year and passed, however there was a language issue with the State. This warrant article is not a new expenditure, it is to clean up the language to be compliant with the State requirements. The BAC supports this 9-0.

Bob Willette asked if this was voted on, and passed last year, why are we voting on \$73,000 again? Town Administrator Mark Bender explained the problem was we were trying to approve \$246,000 and it stated \$142,000 on the ballot. The State did not allow Milford the additional money due to the error so this warrant article will fund the balance so the town will still get the 20% forgiveness from the State of NH, this just makes us whole with the state. It will go into the tax rate for 2017. Bob Willette asked if the town had a bond item last year? Town Administrator Mark Bender responded we did not, but we will for 2017.

There being no further questions or comments, the Moderator instructed the Town Clerk to place Ballot Question #5 on the Ballot as originally worded and in accordance with State statute.

The results of the official ballot voting at the Elective Session on Article #5 is as follows:

YES: 1265 NO: 526 passed

Article #5 passed

## **WARRANT ARTICLE 6 - TOWN OPERATING BUDGET - \$13,973,281**

Selectman Fougere moved that Warrant Article 6 be placed on the ballot. Selectman Daniels seconded. Warrant Article #6 as presented at the Deliberative Session is as follows:

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 on the budget for the purposes set forth herein, totaling \$13,973,281? Should this Article be defeated, the default budget shall be \$13,962,733 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 (5-0). The Budget Advisory Committee supports this Article (9-0). This Article has an estimated tax impact of \$0.164 over the 2016 Budget or (\$16.40 on a home value of \$100,000)

Selectman Fougere explained the Board of Selectmen took a lot of time reviewing the budget this year. We were very cognizant of people's input over the past year. Town Administrator Mark Bender presented a 2016 year in review and the 2017 operating budget, debt and fund balance. Where Milford taxes stand as compared to other NH towns; we are sixth highest of 31 communities. Improvements to the town included South Street which was opened up and utilities went underground; the whole project has made a big difference in the appearance. A few items yet to be completed are the Fletcher Superfund site which now has a spectacular view of the Souhegan River; that will be complete sometime in 2017. Mill Street has been re-opened, Osgood Pond has been dredged and the fishing pier will be installed in 2017. Keyes Park is continuing to be worked on, the Recreation Fields at Heron Pond have been complete. Guardrail work on North River road has been done; bricks around the oval have been reset and continues into 2017. The Swing Bridge and Gregg Crossing Bridge are ongoing. The Ambulance Volunteer staff was changed to part time paid staff; once that change was made, there have been no problems of an ambulance out of service. The new Town Clerk extended the hours and is now open M-F 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. with Tuesday being open until 6:30 and has also gone to the one check system and accepts debit and credit cards. The street lights were looked at to consider moving to LED bulbs. The BAC recommended that the town look at capital reserve funds so we have warrant articles this year to create some of those. The Recreation Department is always looking to create new programs and the Ovalcam has been a hit and is sometimes used on WMUR. 2016 was a very productive year, town staff, volunteers have assisted with all of the work done and now it is time to move into 2017.

There was an increase in the budget of \$169,000 from 2016. The default budget is \$10,000 less than the proposed budget. A lot of effort went into this proposed budget. The BAC, staff and the Board of Selectmen had good input. Right now, there is unanimous support for the operating budget and he hopes the town supports it as well. The items that were reduced from 2016 and the items that increase in the 2017 budget are identified. A reduction in the Assessing budget due to the reval being done every five years is reflected, as well as a reduction from full time to part time position is also reflected. A lease expired which saves money and fewer elections in 2017 shows a decrease. A 2% overall wage increase for staff is included and there was a workman's compensation increase. Ambulance staff moving from volunteer to part time is reflected as an increase in the ambulance budget. There were benefit increases which every business is seeing in their health insurance premiums; overall there were 8 departments showing an increase and 10 departments showing a decrease. Employee benefits and insurance is the largest increase. If all warrant articles are approved by voters, the tax rate would actually go down by .23%. We have projected the non-property tax revenue will increase by about \$7 million. Property assessments are expected to increase. The roads warrant article, if approved, would not impact the tax rate until 2018. The bridge projects capital reserve fund is being reduced to \$175,000. For the past four years we have been very close to the budget with spending at 98%.

Mark Bender indicated the town portion of the tax rate will go down, the school deliberative session is scheduled for February 9. Erna Johnson said she does not have town water/sewer, and asked if she will be helping to pay for those warrant articles? Water Utilities Director Boucher explained that those fees come from the Water budget, if you do not have water or sewer, then you are not paying for those articles.

BAC Chairman Lydon indicated the BAC supports this budget and wanted to thank everyone involved in creating the budget for trying to keep the increase at a modest level. We have one concern with the budget, the \$10,000 for refurbishment of the police cruiser. There was money in the 2016 budget for two police cruisers, the plan is to purchase one new cruiser and refurb one; the BAC is concerned about the safety with the refurb cruiser. With the budget coming in with such a modest increase, it is felt that the police should just buy a new cruiser rather than refurb. It might be fine for other vehicles but the BAC does not feel it is appropriate for cruisers. Selectman Fougere said the Board of Selectmen feels safety is paramount, the budget failed the past few years, and the Board of Selectmen tried every way to save some money, we are going to try to see if this works. If it does not, we will have to buy a new cruiser, we want to make sure the police have vehicles that work. We felt it was a method we want to explore if it is not successful we move forward, if not, we know longer do it.

Steve Takacs, Whitten Road, appreciates the work put into the budget, noting last year the town budget failed and you went to the default. Later in the year, it comes up that the town would build the playing fields at Heron Pond Road with no permission from the town to build those fields. \$60,000 was spent on the fields in a default budget year. The point is everyone complains about the default budget and having no money, but you can pay for the fields without town support. Selectman Fougere said the Board talked about it initially and decided to build the fields utilizing town staff which is where the money came from, the \$60,000 spent was in salaries because we felt it was a priority to build fields, and the Board felt we could do the project in house. There were a lot of objections from some people that added additional cost to the project. It was money that was already in the budget to do work on the town property.

Michael Conley, Elm Street, commended the Board and the Town Administrator on the budget and is interested in more efficient lighting and if there are plans to further save in looking at renewables or long term investments like different sources of energy for different buildings. Selectman Fougere responded that the town went to a program for fuel for the town vehicles to save money. The heating system in this building is over 20 years old and is inefficient. That is a way the Board will be looking to save money.

Steve Story, Reserve Way, asked what exactly is the revenue coming in. Town Administrator Mark Bender answered that income comes from property taxes and non-property tax revenue. Finance Director Jack Sheehy added that \$5.4 million comes in, most of that is property taxes, motor vehicle registrations and ambulance fees. We were over what was projected in 2016, which was 7.9% higher than 2015. Mr. Story asked where does the excess money go? Mark Bender answered it goes into the fund balance which is used as an emergency fund, for example if the HVAC system broke down. Mr. Story said you might want to show where the excess goes if it is not used to offset the taxes. Mark Bender indicated the town is projecting to come in at \$200,000 to be added to 2016 fund balance.

There being no further comments or questions, the Moderator instructed the Town Clerk to place Ballot Question #6 on the Ballot as originally worded and in accordance with State statutes.

The results of the official ballot voting at the Elective Session on Article #6 is as follows:

YES: 1248 NO: 556 passed

Article #6 passed.

## **WARRANT ARTICLE 7 - WATER DEPARTMENT OPERATING BUDGET - \$1,442,008**

Selectman Fougere moved that Warrant Article 7 be placed on the ballot. Selectman Daniels seconded. Chairman Fougere deferred to Dave Boucher to present the warrant article.

Warrant Article #7 as presented at the Deliberative Session is as follows:

Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum \$1,442,008 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 operating budget shall be \$1,429,898 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 (0-0). The Budget Advisory Committee supports this Article (7-0-1).

Water Utilities Director Dave Boucher pointed out that the Water Department Operating Budget for 2017 shows a slight increase from the 2016 budget. Employee benefits and a 2% payroll increase are part of that as well as replacement of radios and pump stations to remain compliant with the FCC. The 2016 inspections showed that \$98,000 in repairs are needed at the Mayflower tank. Matt Lydon indicated that the BAC supports this 7/0, noting that it is funded by user fees. There being no further questions or comments, the Moderator instructed the Town Clerk to place Ballot Question #7 on the Ballot as originally worded.

The results of the official ballot voting at the Elective Session on Article #7 is as follows:

YES: 1334 NO: 452 passed

Article #7 passed

## **WARRANT ARTICLE 8 - WASTEWATER TREATMENT OPERATING BUDGET - \$1,947,540**

Selectman Mark Fougere moved that Warrant Article 8 be placed on the ballot. Selectman Daniels seconded. Warrant Article #8 as presented at the Deliberative Session is as follows:

Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,947,540 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 operating budget shall be \$1,954,302 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 (0-0). The Budget Advisory Committee supports this Article (7-0-1).

Water Utilities Director Boucher indicated the sewer rehabilitation and slip lining will be done in 2017 and wage increases and benefits as well. Chairman Lydon indicated the BAC supports this article 7/0. The Board of Commissioners supports this article.

There being no further questions or comments, the Moderator instructed the Town Clerk to place Ballot Question #8 on the Ballot as originally worded above.

Selectman Daniels moved to restrict reconsideration of Warrant Articles 3-8. Selectman Federico seconded. All were in favor. Motion passed.

The results of the official ballot voting at the Elective Session on Article #8 is as follows:

YES: 1459 NO: 323 passed

Article #8 passed

Prior to the presentation of Warrant Article 9 – Bridge Replacement Capital Reserve, Ambulance Director Eric Schelberg and Budget Advisory Commission member Peg Seward did a short presentation regarding capital reserve funds and the reason for them. Director Schelberg indicated that a capital reserve fund is a savings account for future expenses that will be experienced. He thanked members of the capital reserve committee for bringing this to the Board of Selectmen. The capital reserve funds are set up to assist with large expenditures for the town that are expected. Peg Seward explained the current capital reserve fund for highway and bridges had been formed three years ago and has been a successful. The bridges have been worked on in 2016 and in 2017 it also has included engineering. There is a balance in the fund and it can be used during the year if something comes up. Osgood Pond also has a capital reserve fund. Money has been spent out of it and that is ongoing. The Brox community land fund has no balance because the old police station has not been sold yet (which would fund that capital reserve fund). The Board of Water Commissioners has used capital reserve funds to have work done and not impact taxes.

Mr. Schelberg said the capital reserve fund committee researched options that were out there and looked at accounts that were already set up but not used since about 2006. He said we are looking at the capital reserve funds once again. Other towns are using these accounts to save up the money for large projects. We are aligning ourselves with the Amherst model. Ms. Seward said there are advantages and disadvantages to these funds. One advantage is that we can set up the fund for a specific purchase that the money will be used for. It must be specified; it is like a savings account that you put money aside for a future purchase. The capital reserve fund can be used toward a purchase and depending on what the town needs you can ask for different amounts. A disadvantage is that you are putting money aside but not buying anything for 5-10 years. So the money is saved but the town might not benefit this year but in the future the town will benefit. If there is enough money in the account for a purchase, you can ask for money, but you already have some put away so less is required from the taxpayers. This allows the tax rate to stay more constant, it also allows the Board of Selectmen to draw on an account in an emergency. Mr. Schelberg said the committee recommended to the Board of Selectmen to establish five different accounts and they are supporting them as a funding method. This is modeled after Amherst. We are also looking to utilize the Capital Improvement Plan, which is for items costing over \$75,000. Ms. Seward indicated one of the funds being requested in this years ballot is an ambulance Capital Reserve Fund; ambulances are expensive. The authority is given to the Board of Selectmen to spend that money. Some items only require Board of Selectmen authorization and some require voter approval.

Mr. Schelberg said the funding level is a total of \$330,000 for the five capital reserve funds on the 2017 ballot. The Board of Selectmen decided not to have a fund for DPW heavy equipment this year. By having the capital reserve fund, when it comes time to purchase the equipment, a portion of the money will be in a “savings account” waiting for a purchase.

Paul Bartolomucchi, BAC, indicated the Keyes Expansion capital reserve fund is to begin implementation of the Keyes expansion, those funds would be specifically for those efforts which will be done over ten years. This concluded the capital reserve fund presentation.

Moderator Basiliere indicated that the presentation was to let people know what a capital reserve fund is for and how it is used. Selectman Daniels said the recommendation is for the Board of Selectmen to be the agent for expenditure of the funds. The Board would be the authorizing agent up to \$75,000, over that amount would require town vote to spend funds. Moderator Basiliere asked if there were questions on capital reserve funds.

Chuck Kurtz, Boulder Drive, asked why can't you just move the money into these funds instead of going into fund balance? Mark Bender responded there is a statute that keeps the town from doing that. A capital reserve fund can only be funded by a town vote. Chuck asked who's statute? Mark Bender said under NH State law, we can only fund these through a warrant article. Jennifer Siegrist, Osgood Road, asked are the capital reserve funds interest bearing accounts? Finance Director Jack Sheehy answered yes they are remitted from the General Fund and are monitored by the Trustees of the Trust funds and there is not a lot of interest. Ms. Siegrist asked if the agent can be changed? Mr. Schelberg said yes when we talk about each of them the language can be amended today. We have recommended that the major purchases require that the voters authorize the expenditure of funds. The building renovation capital reserve fund should have the Board of Selectmen as agent since it could be an emergency expenditure and it could not wait until town vote. That is written into the warrant article and the language can be amended. Ms. Siegrist thanked the Board of Selectmen and BAC for looking into this so that instead of financing everything, this seems like it will save the town a lot of money but she has concern with the town as agent for facilities.

Town Attorney Drescher said the amendment of articles must be written a certain way, you cannot change the purpose, you are limited in how much you can change the warrant article. Moderator Basiliere said if someone wants to change the agent, it has not been presented that way. Finance Director Jack Sheehy said the debt payment is not just interest, it is the principal reduction. Selectman Fougere commented that the field that were built at Heron Pond did not violate any rules or regulations of the State, they all received permits from the state and also nothing was illegal. Regarding the Fund Balance excess, Tim Finan, Berkeley Place, asked if more could be put in fund balance if there were extra motor vehicle revenue, for example, it does not automatically go into fund balance. When the tax rate is set Mr. Finan asked if we can apply any excess toward the tax rate? Jack Sheehy answered that is correct.

Steve Takacs, said the Fund Balance of \$2 million is for emergencies, the Board of Selectmen can use that money in an emergency situation, the capital reserve fund is to save for specific items, it seems that the town has already been taxed for it and now we will be taxed again for the warrant article, Mr. Takacs does not like setting aside this money that does not earn interest, or that the Board of Selectmen took money to go and build those fields, he thinks it is double dipping, the town people should be able to vote on everything. He does not trust the Board of Selectmen to be the agent to spend this money. Selectman Fougere responded the fund balance is not in a fund that is hanging around, we need a court order to get that money taken out, and we can talk about each warrant article. We can talk about the Brox ball fields, the decision was made because there was a need in the community, we made the decision and we can agree to disagree on that.

Bob Willette said the Trust Funds are separate from the town budget and asked if the Trustees have anyone to answer to? Jack Sheehy said the Trustees of the Trust Fund put the money into an interest bearing account and then expenditures from the base amount are based on a decision made by legislative body or by the Board of Selectmen, but the money is in an interest bearing account.

## **WARRANT ARTICLE 9 – BRIDGE REPLACEMENT CAPITAL RESERVE - \$175,000**

Selectman Fougere moved that Warrant Article 9 be placed on the ballot. Selectman Daniels seconded. Warrant Article #9 as presented at the Deliberative Session is as follows:

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 \$175,000 builds upon the Bridge Replacement Capital Reserve approved by voters in 2016. Currently nine bridges have been identified by the Department of Public Works as 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 (8-0). **This Article has an estimated tax impact of \$0.130 or (\$13.00 on a home value of \$100,000)**

Selectman Federico explained this article will continue to fund the bridge projects. In 2017 the plan is for repair of two bridges and is moving forward.

Chairman Lydon indicated the BAC supports this warrant article 8-0. Selectman Fougere said this is an existing account, not a new one.

There being no further questions or comments, the Moderator instructed the Town Clerk to place Ballot Question #9 on the Ballot as originally worded and in accordance with state statute.

**The results of the official ballot voting at the Elective Session on Article #9 is as follows:**

**YES: 1349 NO: 456 passed**

**Article #9 passed**

Selectman Federico moved to amend warrant articles 10, 11, 12, 13, 14 and 15 to identify the correct statute 35:1 (instead of 33:1) Selectman Daniels seconded. All were in favor.

#### **WARRANT ARTICLE 10 - PUBLIC SAFETY COMMUNICATION EQUIPMENT REPLACEMENT – CAPITAL RESERVE - \$40,000**

Selectman Fougere moved that Warrant Article 10 be placed on the ballot. Selectman Daniels seconded. Warrant Article #10 as presented at the Deliberative Session is as follows:

Shall the Town vote to establish a Capital Reserve Fund under the provisions of RSA 31:1 for the purpose of Public Safety Communications Equipment Replacement, 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 (8-0). **This Article has an estimated tax impact of \$0.030 or (\$3.00 on a home value of \$100,000).**

Selectman Putnam explained the current radio system for emergency management is about 35 years old. If we had a capital reserve fund for this ten years ago we would be all set to purchase it. This is an item to replace the equipment, it is important to get this voted in.

Matt Lydon indicated the BAC supports this warrant article 8/0. Tom Schmidt, Granite Town Media, asked if this warrant article is for MACC Base or Town Departments? Selectman Federico said this is just for town departments not MACC Base. It is for Police, Fire and DPW. Bob Willette said we just saw capital reserve funds for certain things, does this warrant article meet the requirements? Attorney Drescher responded it does. Peg Seward said this warrant article should identify what is covered; if MACC is included it should be listed it should specifically be listed so voters know what it is actually for. Attorney Drescher asked if the town wants to exclude MACC? Peg Seward said for all intents and purposes the intent should be included per the RSA. Attorney Drescher indicated the article should be amended and would be allowable. Selectman Federico indicated that MACC base is not included here, it is for town departments, it is a capital reserve fund for town departments. Attorney Drescher indicated the article should specify "excluding MACC Base." Peg Seward moved to amend this article as such which was seconded. Bob Willette said it is a good idea to have the amendment for transparency and he thinks it is a good idea. Amendment passed.



There being no further questions or comments, the Moderator instructed the Town Clerk to place Ballot Question #10 on the Ballot as amended and in accordance with State statute.

The results of the official ballot voting at the Elective Session on Article #10 is as follows:

YES: 1251 NO: 541 passed

Article #10 passed

### **WARRANT ARTICLE 11 - FIRE APPARATUS REPLACEMENT – CAPITAL RESERVE - \$25,000**

Selectman Fougere moved that Warrant Article 11 be placed on the ballot. Selectman Daniels seconded.

Warrant Article #11 as presented at the Deliberative Session is as follows:

Shall the Town vote to establish a Capital Reserve Fund under the provisions of RSA 31:1 for the purpose of Fire Apparatus Replacement, and to raise and appropriate the sum of \$25,000 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 (8-0). This Article has an estimated tax impact of \$0.019 or (\$1.90 on a home value of \$100,000).

Selectman Putnam indicated the town has seven pieces of fire apparatus equipment ranging from \$250,000 to \$1 million, we spent \$11,000 just in interest on the ladder truck in 2016. We can avoid that by starting a capital reserve fund so we will not get whacked with large expenses all at once.

Matt Lydon indicated the BAC support this article 8/0. Dennis, Foxmoor Circle indicated \$25,000 is not a big number, why not have \$100,000? Selectman Putnam responded the equipment is in good shape right now, so it will be a while before we need another large piece of fire apparatus. Fire Chief Jack Kelly said the rescue is the next piece to be purchased, it is 30 years old, the pump rescue will be another purchase and that will coast about \$650,000 and firetrucks are over \$1 million, They will come up in the 2018 CIP. Dennis asked why not put in \$100,000? Mr. Schelberg responded the committee recommended between \$50,000-\$75,000 as annual funding for fire apparatus. This year, understanding we are proposing a lot of capital reserve funds, the Board of Selectmen felt it should be at a smaller amount to start it. Matt Lydon indicated the \$25,000 is just the amount for this year, it is not the target amount for a down payment, it will be added to.

There being no further questions or comments, the Moderator instructed the Town Clerk to place Ballot Question #11 on the Ballot as originally worded and in accordance with State statute.

The results of the official ballot voting at the Elective Session on Article #11 is as follows:

YES: 1334 NO: 476 passed

Article #11 passed

### **WARRANT ARTICLE 12 – TOWN FACILITIES RENOVATION AND MAJOR REPAIR REPLACEMENT – CAPITAL RESERVE - \$25,000**

Selectman Fougere moved that Warrant Article 12 be placed on the ballot. Selectman Daniels seconded.  
Warrant Article #12 as presented at the Deliberative Session is as follows:

Shall the Town vote to establish a Capital Reserve Fund under the provisions of RSA 31:1 for the purpose of Town Facilities Renovation and Major Repair, and to raise and appropriate the sum of \$25,000 to be placed in this fund, and to appoint the Board of Selectmen as agents to expend from this fund with individual expenditures from this fund greater than \$75,000 requiring a vote at Town meeting?

The Board of Selectmen supports this Article (5-0). The Budget Advisory Committee supports this Article (6-2). This Article has an estimated tax impact of \$0.019 or (\$1.90 on a home value of \$100,000).

Selectman Fougere indicated this capital reserve fund account is for town facilities to start an account for repairs in any town facility. The Board of Selectmen would be limited so spend up to \$75,000, anything more would have to go to town meeting. Matt Lydon indicated the BAC supports this 6/2.

Judy Hohenendahl asked if this includes all the town buildings? Selectman Fougere responded not the Library because that is overseen by the Library Trustees not the Board of Selectmen. Ms. Hohenendahl moved to add "excluding Wadleigh Memorial Library" to the language. Janet Langdell seconded.

Matt Lydon asked if there is a legal reason why it cannot include the Library? Town Administrator Mark Bender responded that under NH Statute 202.6 it specifically excludes the Library, It would need a separate capital reserve fund. Moderator Basiliere noted it is a legal requirement that the Board of Selectmen does not have the authorization to spend on the Library. Attorney Drescher said the Libraries are under the control of the Trustees of the Library.. Both can use town money, if the Board of Selectmen had the ability to spend money on town buildings and the Library asked them for it, they could do that. The amendment proposed is appropriate if you are trying to preclude that from happening. Matt Lydon, will not support the amendment because the Library does have significant needs at the facility. Tim Finan agreed with Mr. Lydon's comments; when we start putting a negative in the warrant article, it gets confusing for voters. The Library is a town building. If there is money needed to fix something, the town should have the ability to do that. Tim Finan will not support the amendment.

Moderator Basiliere called the vote. Amendment failed.

Steve Takacs indicated the Board of Selectmen should not be the agent, it should go to the voters. Mr. Takacs moved to change the agent from the Board of Selectmen but instead it should go to voters to approve. Attorney Drescher said if it is not specifically stated that they are the agent, it must go to town vote. Water Commissioner Dale White disagrees with the suggested amendment, it is a capital reserve fund, if we cannot trust the Board of Selectmen to spend in an emergency, it is disrespectful. A reserve fund is necessary in an emergency in all the buildings and to not allow the Board of Selectmen to make that decision is inappropriate.

Jennifer Siegrist, Osgood Road, and Mike Hannon, Stone Court, both agreed that the town elected these people to make decisions for us and do not support the proposed change, the Board of Selectmen need our support to make the decision. Selectman Daniels reminded that voters that the town runs under SB-2 so if there are 20 buildings and something happens, we would have to wait until town vote to make the repairs after deliberative session and town vote. If you had a bad year, it could cost over the \$75,000 just to get a temporary repair to get to town meeting and have it voted on.

Bob Willette does not think it should come to town vote, it should be done by the Board of Selectmen. Peg Seward said if we do not separate Library from this one, a warrant article could be presented for just the Wadleigh. If we do not separate them, could they set one up just for the Library? Attorney Drescher said yes they could. Moderator Basiliere called the vote. Amendment failed.

There being no questions or comments, the Moderator instructed the Town Clerk to place Ballot Question #12 on the Ballot as originally worded and in accordance with State statute.

The results of the official ballot voting at the Elective Session on Article #12 is as follows:

YES: 1154 NO: 646 passed

Article #12 passed

### **WARRANT ARTICLE 13 – AMBULANCE VEHICLE REPLACEMENT – CAPITAL RESERVE - \$25,000**

Selectman Fougere moved that Warrant Article 13 be placed on the ballot. Selectman Daniels seconded.

Warrant Article #13 as presented at the Deliberative Session is as follows:

Shall the Town vote to establish a Capital Reserve Fund under the provisions of RSA 31:1 for the purpose of Ambulance Vehicle Replacement, and to raise and appropriate the sum of \$25,000 to be placed in this fund? Expenditures from this fund will require a vote at town meeting. The Board of Selectmen supports this Article (4-1). The Budget Advisory Committee supports this Article (8-0). This Article has an estimated tax impact of \$0.019 or (\$1.90 on a home value of \$100,000).

Selectman Federico explained the ambulances are getting more and more expensive; the Board of Selectmen support this capital reserve fund 4/1. BAC Chairman Matt Lydon said the BAC supports this 8/0.

There being no questions or comments, the Moderator instructed the Town Clerk to place Ballot Question #13 on the Ballot as originally worded and in accordance with State statute.

The results of the official ballot voting at the Elective Session on Article #13 is as follows:

YES: 1074 NO: 741 passed

Article #13 passed

#### **WARRANT ARTICLE 14 – KEYES PARK EXPANSION COMMITTEE PROJECT CAPITAL RESERVE- \$25,000**

Selectman Fougere moved that Warrant Article 14 be placed on the ballot. Selectman Daniels seconded.

Warrant Article #14 as presented at the Deliberative Session is as follows:

Shall the Town vote to establish a Capital Reserve Fund under the provisions of RSA 31:1 for the purpose of design, development and construction of improvements to Keyes Memorial Park, and to raise and appropriate the sum of \$25,000 to be placed in this fund, and to appoint the Board of Selectmen as agents to expend from this fund up to \$75,000 and individual expenditures from this fund greater than \$75,000, such as building construction, will require a vote at Town meeting?. The Board of Selectmen supports this Article (5-0). The Budget Advisory Committee supports this Article (4-0-5). This Article has an estimated tax impact of \$0.019 or (\$1.90 on a home value of \$100,000).

Selectman Daniels indicated this capital reserve fund is for the renovation of Keyes Park and 127 Elm Street. Matt Lydon indicated the BAC support this 4/0/5. Janet Langdell hopes that everyone got a the page out back explaining the capital reserve funds and thanked the Board of Selectmen for bringing forward the recommendation of bringing them back to Milford. Does it limit the spending over the life time of the work? No it just needs to come back to the voters. It does not put a cap on the lifetime amount to spend.

Janet Langdell moved to amend the language to include the expansion report for the foundation of the expansion. The committee believes the report desires it all together and so that voters will know what they are voting on. In ten years, when the needs might be different the report still will hold. Selectman Fougere said the Board talked with them about this and the Board appreciates the effort of the committee to come up with the Master Plan. Selectman Daniels said the plan was presented six weeks ago, the Board feels it is a policy document and the Board has not discussed the recommendations nor have they adopted the plan, it is a plan but we have not talked about the pros and cons of the report, the concern is tying the hands of the future Board of Selectmen to only do what is listed in that report. If it is not in that report, we could not address something that may come up. Selectman Fougere stated the Board of Selectmen has not had a chance to really discuss the document, since it has been budget time but it could restrict the Board in the future. Selectman Daniels said the committee did provide a good report but the language as proposed is open ended. That plan could change in a way that was not intended. Moderator Basiliere called the question. Amendment passed.

Paul Bartolomucci, BAC, noted that this could provide ways to get additional funding for the park, since many of the grants require matching funds to be available. Selectman Daniels asked if the intent was to only spend up to 2017 Town of Milford-February 4, 2017 Town Meeting Minutes-Town Vote March 18, 2017 (postpone date)

\$75,000 each year? Ms. Langdell responded that is not the intent. Selectman Daniels asked if it would preclude using the existing building as a temporary location for the DMV? Ms. Langdell responded that people would need to read the report that was based on what information was available at the time it was written. Not all information was available at that time. If the Board of Selectmen needs more information, or the state wanted to help renovate the building it might bring it to a different conclusion. This land was purchased for recreational purposes.

The concern of the BAC in supporting this amendment is that it does not want to create a temporary home for the DMV, since that is not something that should come from the capital reserve fund. If the State has money to make a temporary facility happen, we can talk about that.

Bob Willette asked if the Permatatch building is part of this property? Selectman Fougere said it is. Suzanne Fournier, Woodward Drive, asked if we can add to the language to say the Board of Selectmen are agents with consent of the BAC? Attorney Drescher responded that is a not legal amendment, only the Board of Selectmen can be the legal agents.

Matt Lydon would like to see the report referenced so that it prevents anything other than recreation use being done.

Peg Seward moved to remove "to expend from this fund up to \$75,000..." because it is confusing. All were in favor. Amendment passed. Peg Seward understands the concern but when we discuss Brox and the plan, it is amended accordingly, maybe add "as recommended in the report" since the report gives the basis of what the plan is. She thinks it needs to be in there.

Janet Langdell moved to amend the warrant article as follows: "...development and construction of improvements to Keyes Memorial Park, as outlined in the Keyes Memorial Park Expansion Committee Report (December 2016, and as amended), and to raise ...". Majority was in favor. Motion passed.

There being no further discussion or comment on Article #14, the Moderator instructed the Town Clerk to place Ballot Question #14 on the Ballot as amended and in accordance with State statute.

The results of the official ballot voting at the Elective Session on Article #14 is as follows:

YES: 1121 NO: 671 passed

Article #14 passed

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

Selectman Fougere moved that Warrant Article 15 be placed on the ballot. Selectman Daniels seconded. Warrant Article #15 as presented at the Deliberative Session is as follows:

Shall the Town vote to establish a Capital Reserve Fund under the provisions of RSA 31:1 for the purpose of Revaluation of Real Estate Assessment to meet our constitutional and statutory requirement that periodically these assessments are at full and true value, and to raise and appropriate the sum of \$15,000 to be placed in this fund, and to appoint the Board of Selectmen as agents to expend from this fund? The Board of Selectmen supports this Article (5-0). The Budget Advisory Committee supports this Article (8-0). Article has an estimated tax impact of \$0.011 or (\$1.10 on a home value of \$100,000).

Selectman Daniels explained that every five years, the town must re-evaluate all properties in the town by State statute and Federal law. By setting up a capital reserve fund the money would be there when this comes up.

BAC Chairman Lydon indicated the BAC unanimously supports this warrant article.

There being no discussion or questions, the Moderator instructed the Town Clerk to place Ballot Question #15 on the Ballot as originally worded and in accordance with State statute.

Selectman Daniels moved to restrict reconsideration of Warrant Articles 9-15. Selectman Federico seconded. All were in favor. Motion passed.

The results of the official ballot voting at the Elective Session on Article #15 is as follows:

YES: 957 NO: 788 passed

Article #15 passed

At this point in the meeting, 12:40 p.m., Moderator Basiliere asked that Human Resources Director Karen Blow please step up to present the Town of Milford safety award. Karen Blow announced that this year's safety award for the individual is awarded to Russ Works who accepted the award and the department award is awarded to the Transfer Station. In Supervisor Tammy Scott's absence today, DPW Director Rick Riendeau accepted the award on her behalf.

#### **WARRANT ARTICLE 16 – LED LIGHTING, ENERGY SAVINGS PROJECT - \$110,000**

Selectman Fougere moved that Warrant Article 16 be placed on the ballot. Selectman Daniels seconded. Warrant Article #16 as presented at the Deliberative Session is as follows:

Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$110,000 for the purpose of installing energy-efficient street lighting and other outside lighting? The Town anticipates annual energy cost savings of approximately \$36,000 and an incentive rebate of approximately \$44,000 resulting in a payback of less than 2 years. This will be a non-lapsing appropriation per RSA 32:7, VI and will not lapse until the lighting is complete or by December 31, 2021. 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). This Article has an estimated tax impact of \$0.049 or (\$4.90 on a home value of \$100,000).

Selectman Federico explained this warrant article is to replace the halogen light bulbs with LED units; noting the town should see a pay back in less than two years.

BAC Chairman Matt Lydon indicated the BAC supports this 8/0.

Bob Willette asked if the \$40,000 is a fact, is that a definite number? Town Administrator Mark Bender has a meeting next week with Eversource to confirm that, the intent is the town will get the rebate when the money is there. We could hold off until 2018 if the rebate money is available and then do the change. Tim Finan asked if this would be all the street lights? Mark Bender said that Eversource owns the street lights, if we replace the units, we own the units, the decorative lights have just a bulb being replaced as opposed to a "unit" on the street lights. There are approximately 424 street lights plus the decorative lights. Tim Finan asked if there will be additional maintenance because we own the LED units? Mark Bender said the life span of LEDs is much longer and they are under warranty for ten years and Eversource will assist with the replacement but we will have to keep an inventory of the units. There is exposure to the town for the units.

Andy Hughes, Conservation Commission, said there are three different lights and getting public input is desired on what public like the best, some cast wider lights, some are brighter. There have been concerns raised in other parts of the country and there has been some resistance and opposition to this. Mark Bender said that was with the first LED light options when they first came out, but now there are many options to choose from.

There being no further questions or comments, the Moderator instructed the Town Clerk to place Ballot Question #16 on the Ballot as originally worded and in accordance with State statute.

The results of the official ballot voting at the Elective Session on Article #16 is as follows:

YES: 1272 NO: 511 passed

Article #16 passed

**WARRANT ARTICLE 17 – DUMP TRUCK (8 CUBIC YARD) – 5-YEAR LEASE/PURCHASE - \$40,000 (Annual Payment \$40,000/Total Purchase Price \$185,000)**

Selectman Fougere moved that Warrant Article 17 be placed on the ballot. Selectman Daniels seconded. Warrant Article #17 as presented at the Deliberative Session is as follows:

Shall the Town vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen pursuant to RSA 33:7-3e 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 dump truck (8 cubic yard), with the appropriate equipment for Highway Department operation, and to raise and appropriate the sum of \$40,000 for the first year's payment? This will replace the 2000 Sterling dump truck which will be 16 years old upon replacement. The total purchase price of this vehicle is \$185,000. If this article passes, future years' payments will be included in the operating budget. The Board of Selectmen supports this Article (3-2). The Budget Advisory Committee supports this Article (8-0). This Article has an estimated tax impact of \$0.030 or (\$3.00 on a home value of \$100,000).

DPW Director Rick Riendeau provided a brief presentation regarding DPW equipment and noted that this piece of equipment gets used for a lot of things including snow plowing. He has been tracking the costs of repairs for the current truck. The engine on the existing truck is in a condition that it may need to be refurbished soon.

Selectman Federico moved to amend the total cost to \$170,000 (\$37,000 annual payment, based on new information provided). Selectman Daniels seconded. Amendment passed.

Selectman Daniels indicated the existing truck was taken out of service for about 8.5 weeks last year and it was thought we might be able to keep it going for another year or two. Selectman Daniels is in the minority on this and feels we could put this purchase off until next year. BAC Chairman Lydon indicated after visiting the truck at DPW that is in need of replacement, the BAC felt it does in fact need replacement this year and the BAC is in favor of this warrant article.

There being no further questions or comments, the Moderator instructed the Town Clerk to place Ballot Question #17 on the Ballot as originally worded and in accordance with State statute.

The results of the official ballot voting at the Elective Session on Article #17 is as follows:

YES: 846 NO: 931 failed

Article #17 failed

**WARRANT ARTICLE 18 - PUBLIC WORKS GRADER –5-YEAR LEASE/PURCHASE - \$26,000 – (Annual Payment \$26,000/Total Purchase Price \$120,000)**

Selectman Fougere moved that Warrant Article 18 be placed on the ballot. Selectman Daniels seconded. Warrant Article #18 as presented at the Deliberative Session is as follows:

Shall the Town vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen pursuant to RSA 33:7-3e 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 used Grader, with the appropriate equipment for Highway Department operation, this will replace the 1974 Galion Grader that is inoperable, and to raise and appropriate the sum of \$26,000 for the first year's payment for this purpose? The total purchase price of this vehicle is \$120,000. 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 (8-0). This Article has an estimated tax impact of \$0.019 or (\$1.90 on a home value of \$100,000).

Selectman Putnam indicated this is a multi-use piece of equipment used primarily in winter scraping ice off the roads and digging things off the side of the road, and for snow removal, it is used for many other things as well. DPW Director Rick Riendeau indicated this is to replace the existing 45 year old grader, the existing grader had to be out of service because of the brakes. It is important to the upkeep of the roadways. One of the main things it is used for it to get water off the pavement. By not doing that, it creates pot holes and damage to the roads. This is for the lease/purchase of a good used grader for \$120,000. We can shim asphalt with this piece of equipment and use it for snow and ice removal and also for grading.

BAC Chairman Lydon indicated the BAC unanimously supports this.

Polly Cote, Dearborn Street, asked if there is any trade in value or scrap value on the old grader. Rick Riendeau responded there is probably a little value for it.

There being no further comments or questions, the Moderator instructed the Town Clerk to place Ballot Question #18 on the Ballot as originally worded and in accordance with State statute.

The results of the official ballot voting at the Elective Session on Article #18 is as follows:

YES: 1001 NO: 773 passed

Article #18 passed

**WARRANT ARTICLE 19 - TRACTOR/BACKHOE – 5-YEAR LEASE/PURCHASE - \$24,000  
(Annual Payment \$24,000/Total Purchase Price \$110,000)**

Selectman Fougere moved that Warrant Article 19 be placed on the ballot. Selectman Federico seconded. Warrant Article #19 as presented at the Deliberative Session is as follows:

Shall the Town vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen pursuant to RSA 33:7-3e 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 tractor/backhoe, with the appropriate equipment for Highway Department operation (it will replace the 2001 tractor/backhoe) and to raise and appropriate the sum of \$24,000 for the first year's payment for this purpose? The total purchase price of this vehicle \$110,000. If this article passes, future years' payments will be included in the operating budget. The Board of Selectmen supports this Article (3-2). The Budget Advisory Committee supports this Article (8-0). This Article has an estimated tax impact of \$0.018 or (\$1.80 on a home value of \$100,000).

Selectman Fougere indicated this piece of equipment is used at the Transfer Station, noting more money is being spent on this equipment to have it fixed that should be, the existing piece of equipment has served the town well.

DPW Director Rick Riendeau indicated this purchase is to replace a piece of equipment at the Transfer Station and would be a bigger one than what is current used, and it will also be used to re-build the roads. A comprehensive review was done last year on the 2001 tractor, for which \$75,000 has been spent over the last eight years on repairs. The cost for machine maintenance has risen 65%.

Selectman Putnam is in the minority on this, noting we have two pieces of equipment on the warrant this year that he feels we should be able to get one or two more years out of the existing equipment until some of the town debt drops off the books. BAC Chairman Lydon indicated the BAC unanimously supports this warrant article. In the last few years a tractor was purchased that was not big enough for what the Transfer Station needs. The one at the Transfer Station clearly needs to be replaced.

Steve Takacs, Whitten Road said in the last ten years, there have been several dump trucks and backhoes on the ballot. If we buy articles 17 and 19, will we see others next year? Chairman Fougere said this was on the ballot for the past 2 or 3 years but failed. Equipment fails eventually. It is used in the salt and sand. We do not put these on the warrant easily, it has been on the ballot but if it fails, we ask again.

BAC Chairman Lydon also said the BAC unanimously supports this warrant article.

There being no further discussion or questions on Article 19 the Moderator instructed the Town Clerk to place Ballot Question #19 on the Ballot as originally worded and in accordance with State statute.

The results of the official ballot voting at the Elective Session on article #19 is as follows:

YES: 844 NO: 925 failed

Article #19 failed

### **WARRANT ARTICLE 20 - SOCIAL SERVICES - \$35,000**

Selectman Fougere moved that Warrant Article 20 be placed on the ballot. Selectman Daniels seconded. Warrant Article #20 as presented at the Deliberative Session is as follows:

Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$35,000 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 (8-0). This Article has an estimated tax impact of \$0.026 or (\$2.60 on a home value of \$100,000).

Selectman Bauer indicated Social Services has been supported by Milford for many years. It is important for the town to participate in this program to assist people that need the help.

BAC Chairman Lydon indicated the BAC supports this 8/0; if the agencies were not there providing support to those who need it, the town would be assisting more. Steve Takacs is pleased that he agrees with Selectman Bauer on this, \$35,000 is the minimum we should be spending. Selectman Bauer thanked Chairman Lydon for articulating his thoughts on this.

There being no further discussion or questions on Article 20 the Moderator instructed the Town Clerk to place Ballot Question #20 on the Ballot as originally worded and in accordance with State statute.

The results of the official ballot voting at the Elective Session on article #20 is as follows:

YES: 1311 NO: 481 passed

Article #20 passed

### **WARRANT ARTICLE 21 - NON-EMERGENCY COMMUNITY TRANSPORTATION BUS SERVICES – \$30,000**

Selectman Fougere moved that Warrant Article 21 be placed on the ballot. Selectman Daniels seconded. Warrant Article #21 as presented at the Deliberative Session is as follows:

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 seniors, people with disabilities, and the general public? 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). This Article has an estimated tax impact of \$0.022 or (\$2.20 on a home value of \$100,000).



Selectman Bauer indicated that everyone has seen this bus in town, it is a great service for the citizens of town who have no transportation. Chairman Lydon indicated the BAC supports this 8/0; this bus enables people to live in Milford that do not have transportation to get around. Janet Langdell, Elm Street, said Milford consistently uses the highest percentage of rides. We need the town support for this service and she thanked everyone for their support. Steve Takacs asked if rides are up or down for the last year? Janet Langdell responded that the rides are up to about 36,000 for 4 of the last 5 years.

There being no further discussion or questions on Article 21 the Moderator instructed the Town Clerk to place Ballot Question #21 on the Ballot as originally worded and in accordance with State statute.

**The results of the official ballot voting at the Elective Session on article #21 is as follows:**

**YES: 1353 NO: 463 passed**

**Article #21 passed**

## **WARRANT ARTICLE 22 - PUMPKIN FESTIVAL, HOLIDAY DECORATIONS AND PLANTINGS - \$23,000**

Selectman Fougere moved that Warrant Article 22 be placed on the ballot. Selectman Daniels seconded. Warrant Article #22 as presented at the Deliberative Session is as follows:

Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$23,000 Dollars for purposes of Pumpkin Festival support by Public Works, Police, Fire, and Ambulance Departments; 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 (7-2). This Article has an estimated tax impact of \$0.017 or (\$1.70 on a home value of \$100,000).

Chairman Fougere indicated that the Board of Selectmen unanimously supports this. BAC Chairman Lydon indicated the BAC supports this 7/2, noting this warrant article provides funding for just the town departments to make the festival work and also for the plantings around the oval during the holidays. The minority feels that the Pumpkin Festival should fund itself. Last year \$809 was spent on holiday decorations out of these funds. The minority also feels that the decorations for the town should be funded separately.

MIT Director Wendy Hunt explained in the past the town supported \$20,000 in a warrant article. Last year it was increased to \$23,000 to include the actual cost that was needed from the town to put on the festival. MIT feels what the festival brings to the town is worth these costs. In Expedia.com, for State of NH activities, the Milford Pumpkin Festival is rated one of the top things to do in NH. Ms. Hunt provided a brief presentation.

Selectman Bauer thanked everyone in MIT, stating it is a great group of volunteers. People can come and have a good time at the Pumpkin Festival over the weekend. The Board of Selectmen supports this 5/0.

There being no further discussion or questions on Article 22 the Moderator instructed the Town Clerk to place Ballot Question #22 on the Ballot as originally worded and in accordance with State statute.

**The results of the official ballot voting at the Elective Session on article #22 is as follows:**

**YES: 1168 NO: 657 passed**

**Article #22 passed**

## **WARRANT ARTICLE 23 - SUMMER BAND CONCERTS - \$9,000**

Selectman Fougere moved that Warrant Article 23 be placed on the ballot. Selectman Daniels seconded. Warrant Article #23 as presented at the Deliberative Session is as follows:

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). Article has an estimated tax impact of \$0.007 or (\$0.70 on a home value of \$100,000).

Selectman Bauer indicated this is another easy one, the band concerts add to the quality of life in the community and the Board of Selectmen supports it unanimously. BAC Chairman Lydon added that the BAC supports this 9/0. Steve Takacs always supports the concerts and the \$9,000 has not changed for ten years. Last year 150-200 people attended each week.

There being no further discussion or questions on Article 23 the Moderator instructed the Town Clerk to place Ballot Question #23 on the Ballot as originally worded and in accordance with State statute.

The results of the official ballot voting at the Elective Session on article #23 is as follows:

YES: 1176 NO: 637 passed

Article #23 passed

#### **WARRANT ARTICLE 24 - FIREWORKS - \$8,500**

Selectman Fougere moved that Warrant Article 24 be placed on the ballot. Selectman Federico seconded. Warrant Article #24 as presented at the Deliberative Session is as follows:

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. The Board of Selectmen supports this Article (3-2). The Budget Advisory Committee supports this Article (7-2). Article has an estimated tax impact of \$0.006 or (\$0.60 on a home value of \$100,000).

Selectman Bauer is in favor of the fireworks, even if you live away from the oval area it is a great celebration. It is a wonderful Milford tradition. Selectman Daniels indicated he is in the minority of the Board of Selectmen and feels that this event was one of the least cost effective ways to run a program. All of the fireworks are over in about 20 minutes and the money could be better put elsewhere. The minority feels there are other ways to celebrate. This warrant article only allows fireworks not the staff requirements. BAC Chairman Lydon said the BAC feels this is a great way to celebrate the independence of our nation.

There being no further discussion or questions on Article 24 the Moderator instructed the Town Clerk to place Ballot Question #24 on the Ballot as originally worded and in accordance with State statute.

The results of the official ballot voting at the Elective Session on article #24 is as follows:

YES: 959 NO: 854 passed

Article #24 passed

#### **WARRANT ARTICLE 25 – FUNDING OF THE ANNUAL LABOR DAY PARADE – \$7,500**

Selectman Fougere moved that Warrant Article 25 be placed on the ballot. Selectman Daniels seconded. Warrant Article #25 as presented at the Deliberative Session is as follows:

Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$7,500 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 (7-0-2). Article has an estimated tax impact of \$0.006 or (\$0.60 on a home value of \$100,000).

Selectman Bauer indicated this parade is a wonderful event, people go and enjoy themselves. BAC Chairman Lydon said the BAC supports this 7/0. The Board of Selectmen is currently looking for another organization to support this event.

Jay Belewe believes the parade has been an institution in Milford since 1945. The VFW is changing and they are unable to help with the parade. He and Brendan Philbrick are working with them to bring the parade back to its former glory. Mr. Belewe remembers as a kid going to the parade and it was all about families. We are hoping that this can be transitioned easily. In the past the parade cost about \$11,000. The amount on the warrant article is \$7,500, it is difficult to get money from businesses around town. He would ask for the warrant article could be increased to \$10,000 and to bring back the carnival which would also bring in some revenue.

Moderator Bailiere asked if that was an amendment?

Jay Belewe moved to increase the warrant article to \$10,000, which was seconded. Amendment passed. Brendon Philbrick, a non-resident, asked if he could speak, all were in favor. Mr. Philbrick indicated he is shocked the article was only \$7,500. As of February 3, the VFW ceased to function. It costs \$11,500 to put on the Labor Day parade. We had to go out and raise money to make up the difference. We will have a committee to coordinate the event and bring it up to its former glory. Finance Director Jack Sheehy indicated the warrant article for 2016 for the Labor Day parade was \$7,500 and 2014 was \$5,000, this year it started at \$6,000 and was increased.

Janet Langdell indicated the reason it changed to \$7,500 is because the Keyes and Kaley Fund agreed to donate money. Karen Mitchell, BAC member, said when this came before the BAC nobody had come forward to coordinate the Labor Day parade. She asked if MIT would be willing to help to coordinate. Wendy Hunt said yes they would help. Tim Finan, Berkeley Drive, said this is such a great parade, we should give them the money they need to get it going. He feels it is too important to let it go.

Chairman Fougere said the Board of Selectmen heard that VFW might not be coordinating this parade anymore; the town was not trying to get it at all. The only hesitation was what should the town do and how much should the town provide. Jane Langdell agrees with providing the \$10,000 for the parade and would want to see the committee put together the plans in order to bring the parade into the future.

There being no further discussion or questions on Article 25 the Moderator instructed the Town Clerk to place Ballot Question #25 on the Ballot as amended and in accordance with State statute.

The results of the official ballot voting at the Elective Session on article #25 is as follows:

YES: 1166 NO: 645 passed

Article #25 passed

#### **WARRANT ARTICLE 26 – MEMORIAL, VETERANS & LABOR DAY PARADES AND RECOGNITION - TOWN SUPPORT - \$6,000**

Selectman Fougere moved that Warrant Article 26 be placed on the ballot. Selectman Federico seconded. Warrant Article #26 as presented at the Deliberative Session is as follows:

Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$6,000 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 (8-0-1). Article has an estimated tax impact of \$0.004 or (\$0.40 on a home value of \$100,000).

Selectman Daniels talked about the Board of Selectmen support for these parades. This warrant article is only for the emergency services provided by town employees at the parades. BAC Chairman Lydon indicated the BAC supports this warrant article 8/0/1. Jay Belewe is concerned with the lack of flags on the veteran's graves. As a kid, he remembers all the veteran graves had flags and the cemeteries should have a map of the graves of the veterans. He will take on that task with Brendan Philbrick. He wants to know where the money goes for the flags for the graves. It is a disgrace.

Moderator Basiliere believes that the graves did have flags placed on them. Selectman Daniels explained a few years ago the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) came forward and asked if the town could help with the costs of the flags. Selectman Daniels' understand is that the flags are put on the veteran graves before Memorial Day and then are taken down after for lawn mowing. Jay Belewe spoke with Troy at DPW and he was told the rule is that they are put out and then removed for mowing. Jay Belewe would like the flags there all summer. He would like the flags to stay up until Veteran's Day. Mr. Belewe would like it to be a community event with the Boy Scouts. Brendan Philbrick said the language said the flags were to be placed on Memorial Day at the graves of veterans; he would like to thank the Board of Selectmen and BAC for listening. Karen Mitchell, BAC, explained that the West Street cemetery is being mapped as an Eagle Scout project (for the graves of Veterans). Finance Director Jack Sheehy said the flags were added to the warrant article in 2015, but we have not had any requests to reimburse anybody for flags recently. In 2016 the full \$6,000 was expended, but there was no flag money requested from any one for reimbursement.

There being no further discussion or questions on Article 26 the Moderator instructed the Town Clerk to place Ballot Question #26 on the Ballot as originally worded and in accordance with State statute.

The results of the official ballot voting at the Elective Session on article #26 is as follows:

YES: 1359 NO: 454 passed

Article #26 passed

## **WARRANT ARTICLE 27 – EXPANDING VETERAN'S CREDIT - \$0**

Selectman Fougere moved that Warrant Article 27 be placed on the ballot. Selectman Federico seconded. Warrant Article #27 as presented at the Deliberative Session is as follows:

Shall the Town vote to adopt the provisions of RSA 72:28-B, All Veterans' Tax Credit? If adopted, the credit will be available to any resident, or the spouse or surviving spouse of any resident, who (1) served not less than 90 days on active service in the armed forces of the United States and was honorably discharged or an officer honorably separated from services and is not eligible for or receiving a credit under RSA 72:28 or RSA 72:35. If adopted, the credit granted would be \$300, the same amount as the standard or optional veterans' tax credit voted by the Town under RSA 72:28. The Board of Selectmen supports this Article (4-0-1). The Budget Advisory Committee supports this Article (9-0). Article has an estimated tax impact of \$0.060 or (\$.60 on a home value of \$100,000).

Selectman Fougere indicated this article is to change the Veteran's Tax Credit to reflect a change that came from Concord. The Board of Selectmen supports this article 4/0/1. Chairman Lydon indicated the BAC supports this warrant article 9/0.

There being no discussion or questions on Article 27 the Moderator instructed the Town Clerk to place Ballot Question #27 on the Ballot as originally worded and in accordance with State statute.

The results of the official ballot voting at the Elective Session on article #27 is as follows:

YES: 1477 NO: 332 passed

Article #27 passed

## **WARRANT ARTICLE 28 – MERGE TOWN PROPERTIES WITH MILE SLIP TOWN FOREST - \$0**

Selectman Fougere moved that Warrant Article 28 be placed on the ballot. Selectman Federico seconded. Warrant Article #28 as presented at the Deliberative Session is as follows:

Shall the Town vote to establish as Town Forest land, in accordance with RSA 31:110 through 31:113, Town-owned parcels Map 45 Lot 2 and Map 45 Lot 20; and to consolidate said parcels with Mile Slip Town Forest? The Town, through the Conservation Commission, will continue to have management and oversight responsibilities for all of these properties. The Board of Selectmen supports this Article (5-0). The Budget Advisory Committee supports this Article (9-0). Article has no tax impact.

Chairman Fougere indicated this article will expand the town forest. The Board of Selectmen and BAC unanimously support this warrant article.

There being no discussion or questions on Article 28 the Moderator instructed the Town Clerk to place Ballot Question #28 on the Ballot as originally worded and in accordance with State statute.

The results of the official ballot voting at the Elective Session on article #28 is as follows:

YES: 1571 NO: 227 passed

Article #28 passed

## **WARRANT ARTICLE 29 – AUTHORITY TO GRANT COMMUNITY REVITALIZATION TAX RELIEF - \$0**

Selectman Fougere moved that Warrant Article 29 be placed on the ballot. Selectman Federico seconded. Warrant Article #29 as presented at the Deliberative Session is as follows:

To see if the Town will adopt the Community Revitalization Tax Relief Incentive outlined in Chapter 79-E of state law giving the Board of Selectmen authority to grant Community Revitalization Tax Relief and to designate specific properties within the Commercial, Limited Commercial, and Residence A Zoning Districts, as defined by the Milford Zoning Ordinance, as meeting the standards for an eligible district as set forth in RSA 79-E:2 (A map of the Milford 79-E District and designated properties are available on the Town's website and Town Clerk's Office). The Board of Selectmen supports this Article (5-0). The Budget Advisory Committee supports this Article (9-0). Article has no tax impact.

Chairman Fougere explained this is an Economic Tax incentive for property revitalization. The Board of Selectmen and BAC support this. BAC Chairman Lydon explained this encourages people to improve or renovate existing properties and hold the assessed value steady for five years.

BAC member Peg Seward asked why does this warrant article not have any tax impact. Chairman Fougere explained there is no cost, this article is for properties who are getting renovated and whose current taxes will hold for five years and will then reflect the renovated property, the owners will still be responsible to pay property taxes, it will just remain at the original assessed value for five years. Attorney Drescher indicated the town does not know until it happens how many property owners will take advantage of this, which is why it states no cost impact.

There being no discussion or questions on Article 29 the Moderator instructed the Town Clerk to place Ballot Question #29 on the Ballot as originally worded and in accordance with State statute.

The results of the official ballot voting at the Elective Session on article #29 is as follows:

YES: 1428 NO: 343 passed

Article #29 passed

### **WARRANT ARTICLE 30 – CONSERVATION LAND FUND - \$20,000 - By Petition**

Selectman Fougere moved that Warrant Article 30 be placed on the ballot. Selectman Daniels seconded. Warrant Article #30 as presented at the Deliberative Session is 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 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 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 did not take a position on this article. The Budget Advisory Committee supports this Article (9-0). Article has an estimated tax impact of \$0.015 or (\$1.50 on a home value of \$100,000).

Conservation Commission Chairman Andy Hughes said this is the amount asked for every year, if this is voted in, it will take the balance in the fund to \$90,000. BAC Chairman Lydon indicated the BAC supports this 9/0. In 1999 the BAC suggested the Conservation Land Fund keep a balance of \$75,000 so that there are funds in case something becomes available. The BAC thinks that the balance should now be closer to \$125,000. Chairman Lydon moved to amend the amount to \$25,000 to get it closer to \$125,000. Motion was seconded. Judy Hohenendel recommended a vote. Steve Takacs asked what is the balance right now? BAC Chairman Matt Lydon responded it is about \$73,000. Amendment passed.

There being no further discussion or questions on Article 30 the Moderator instructed the Town Clerk to place Ballot Question #30 on the Ballot as amended and in accordance with State statute.

The results of the official ballot voting at the Elective Session on article #30 is as follows:

YES: 955 NO: 837 passed

Article #30 passed

### **WARRANT ARTICLE 31 – SPORTS FIELDS ALONG HERON POND ROAD - \$0 – By Petition**

Selectman Fougere moved that Warrant Article 31 be placed on the ballot. Selectman Federico seconded. Warrant Article #31 as presented at the Deliberative Session is as follows:

Shall the voters approve the building of sports fields on Heron Pond Road even though it is against state law to harm or disturb the endangered species living there and the Town has many necessary projects of much higher priority such as road repair where the money to be spent on these sports fields could instead be better used. The Board of Selectmen did not take a position on this article. The Budget Advisory Committee did not take a position on this article. Article has no tax impact.

Suzanne Fournier, Coordinator Brox Environmental Citizens Group (BECG), explained that some people want sports fields, but Kaley Park has 18 acres. BECG does not think we can afford building sports fields at Heron Pond.

The location is not good, there is no parking along the road leading to the school. Ms. Fournier moved to amend the warrant article since it was written many months ago, she would proposed to strike the original language and replace with what she has provided as follows "Shall the Town vote to build sports fields on Heron Pond Road that cost the town more than \$60,000 in 2016 mostly out of the Public Works budget for altering and grading the land that damaged habitat needed by state-endangered wildlife that are protected by the Endangered Species Conservation Act?"

Moderator Basiliere asked if this is permissible since it changes the wording of the original? Bob Willette asked if the fields are already built? Chairman Fougere responded yes they are, they are just waiting for grass to grow. Mike Hannon, Milford coach, indicated he is in favor of these fields, there are a lot more opportunities with the addition of sports fields in town. It brings benefits to the town and brings people together; he thanked the Board for taking these steps for the kids.

John Sneider asked if the amendment does not pass, will the warrant article go in as originally written? Moderator Basiliere responded yes the language can be amended. Lorna Willette loves that the fields will keep our kids involved in sports and keep them out of other things. Ruth said we owe our kids the opportunity to see nature, she does not know how we can create a good balance of places to play and places to walk.

Bob Willette asked when this land was bought, it was purchased for athletic fields and other town things. Chairman Fougere said this land had a Master Plan for a whole lot of uses. The \$60,000 included a lot of different costs including a lot of issues when we were building these fields which led to delays and led to the petitioner suing the town. Chairman Fougere would not support this amendment.

Steve Takacs said we have already built the fields so what are we voting on? Attorney Drescher said the amendment does not prevent the Board of Selectmen from building the fields which have already been built. Steve Takacs applauds Ms. Fournier for trying to keep nature, and asked if there is any more room in town for ball fields such as at Keyes or Kaley. Chairman Fougere responded that there was extensive research done and this was the least expensive place to get some fields in because there is so much stress on the existing fields.

Town Administrator Mark Bender explained the fields at Kaley have been planted and used for soccer and softball. Those fields need some work and they are planning on over-seeding them next year. Tim Finan asked if either of these proposed articles fail, does it impede the fields from being finished? Attorney Drescher responded no, it is just a sense of the meeting vote.

Ms. Fournier indicated when in court, Attorney Drescher told the court if the article fails he thought the Board of Selectmen would choose to leave the property alone. BAC Chairman Lydon said this has come up several times today about the \$60,000 spent on the fields. When the Board of Selectmen wants to do something like this, it seems to me that this is something the citizens should have voted on.

Selectman Daniels said the amendment is confusing because it asks us to do something that has already been done. Tina Philbrick indicated this is a moot point and a waste of time. We need to move on. In 2000, the fields were slated to be built, in 2014 they were in the CIP for 2018, if anything we should be proud of ourselves for getting this done early. Judy Hohenendel said if this passes, will this prevent other things from being built there? Attorney Drescher said no. Janet Langdell said when the Brox sale happened years ago the purpose of buying it was to use some of the land for community lands, out of which came a plan that has been amended with public hearings, so to say it was done behind closed doors is not right.

Moderator Basiliere called the question. Motion failed.

Tom Gardener said there is a Master Plan and it has school buildings and a lot of things. Does that mean the Board of Selectmen can build all of that without voter approval? Selectman Federico responded that back in 2007, he was asked by Bill Parker to be on the MCAA Master Plan Committee. That committee voted on the intention to build athletic fields on the community land (Brox), that has been talked about and voted on again and again. The Board of Selectmen went ahead after public hearings were held and it was approved. This addition of fields are going to take two years to grow grass. He is very happy that we are getting the fields started.

Tina Philbrick moved to amend the language as follows: "Shall the Voters approve the building of sports fields on Heron Pond Road even though the fields are already complete and the designation of sports fields were already approved in the Brox Community Lands Master Plan Updated in 2014." Motion was seconded.

Ms. Fournier indicated the subject of the original warrant article was the cost of the fields and the impact to the endangered species therefore it should not be allowed. Moderator Basiliere disagreed because the warrant article is about building sports fields on Heron Pond Road, he asked for town council input. Attorney Drescher said the subject of the warrant article is the building of fields on Heron Pond Road and the amendment is allowed.

Moderator Basiliere called the vote. Amendment passed.

There being no further discussion or questions on Article 31 the Moderator instructed the Town Clerk to place Ballot Question #31 on the Ballot as amended and in accordance with State statute.

Selectman Daniels asked for warrant article 27 to be reconsidered for the tax impact. Chairman Fougere seconded. All were in favor.

#### **WARRANT ARTICLE 27 – Reconsideration:**

Selectman Daniels asked that the \$0 in the title be removed. Peg Seward (BAC) asked about the tax impact. Town Assessor Marti Noel explained there was no tax impact because we will adjust based on the number of veterans that come forward. Steve Takacs asked if we can put TBD on the title? Attorney Drescher said that can be done. Tom Schmidt said by taking out the \$0 it makes it more confusing. Bob Willette thinks that because we are not appropriating any money, he thinks the \$0 should be removed.

Consensus was to remove the \$0 in the title for warrant article 27.

Selectman Daniels moved to restrict reconsideration of Warrant Articles 16-31. Selectman Federico seconded. All were in favor. Motion passed.

**The results of the official ballot voting at the Elective Session on article #31 is as follows:**

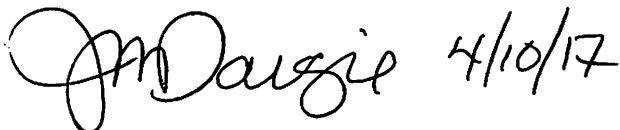
**YES: 1341 NO: 447 passed**

**Article #31 passed**

There being no further comments or questions, the Moderator advised the assembly that the Board of Selectmen and the Budget Advisory Committee will be meeting this afternoon to finalize their positions. Selectman Daniels stated the BOS will be meeting in the BOS room after leaving this meeting. Matt Lydon stated the BAC will be meeting on Sunday at the Library.

The Moderator adjourned the 2016 Town Meeting Deliberative Session at 3:02 p.m.

Joan Dargie, Town Clerk

Handwritten signature of Joan Dargie in cursive, followed by the date 4/10/17.