

APPROVED
MINUTES OF THE BUDGET & BOND PUBLIC HEARING
9 January 2017

PRESENT: Mark Fougere, Chairman
Kevin Federico, Vice Chairman
Mike Putnam, Member
Gary L. Daniels, Member
Kathy Bauer, Member
Mark Bender, Town Administrator
David Bosquet, Videographer

Department Heads & Senior Staff:
Members of the Public

BUDGET ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBERS

WATER COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:

Robert Courage
Mike Putnam
Dale White

EXCUSED: Darlene J. Bouffard, Recording Secretary

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

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

Bond Hearings

WARRANT ARTICLE xx - RECONSTRUCTION OF TOWN ROADS - \$2,000,000 BOND

Chairman Fougere read the bond wording 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, 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 (0-0). **This Article has no tax impact this year.**

Chairman Fougere noted that this is a very important warrant article for the Board and it started out as a \$5 million item; we thought that would be too much to start with. This will take a couple of years to complete. Some will be completed in house and some will go out to bid. Selectman Daniels suggested continuing to go through the articles and then the Board can vote after initial review.

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2 There were no other comments.

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

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7 **WARRANT ARTICLE xx - WASTEWATER EMERGENCY BACK-UP GENERATOR**
8 **REPLACEMENT – BOND - \$375,000**

9
10 Chairman Fougere read the bond wording as follows:

11
12 Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$375,000, to replace the current 1979 Cummings
13 Generator, and to authorize the issuance of bonds or notes therefore of not more than \$375,000 in ac-
14 cordance with the provisions of the Municipal Finance Act (RSA 33) and to authorize the Selectmen to
15 issue and negotiate such bonds or notes, to determine the rate of interest and other conditions in their
16 judgment? This generator powers the wastewater treatment facility in the event of a power outage. **Note:**
17 As this is for issuance of long-term debt, this vote requires, under State law, sixty percent (60%) affirma-
18 tive vote to pass. This is a Special Warrant Article in accordance with RSA 32 and is paid for by the
19 wastewater user fees. The Board of Commissioners supports this Article (0-0). The Budget Advisory
20 Committee supports this Article (0-0).

21
22 Selectman Putnam commented that the equipment this will replace is from 1979 and it's getting tired and it runs the
23 entire facility so if it stops running, everything backs up so we kind of need it. It's just time to replace it. Dave Bou-
24 cher, Director of Water Utilities, explained the 1979 is the original generator that was installed with the facility in the
25 early 80's, it is still functioning however it is getting harder to replace the parts. The facility has to run 24/7, if it
26 doesn't we violate permit (State and Federal) regulations so it is important to replace it before an incident, it is regu-
27 larly serviced and the company that services it has also said it is time to start thinking about a new generator. We
28 have been working with an engineering company who came up with a plan, this is Phase 2 of that plan, to replace the
29 generator, it will go out to bid, the amount of this warrant article covers the engineering costs; we will look at possi-
30 bly getting a generator that runs off of natural gas since we have that at the facility

31
32 Seeing no further questions or comments, Chairman Fougere moved to the next article.

33
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35 **WARRANT ARTICLE xx – STORM SEWER VIDEO INSPECTION - BOND – \$73,200**

36
37 Chairman Fougere read the bond wording as follows:

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

43
44 Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$73,200 to perform a video inspection of the
45 Town's Stormwater System, and to authorize the Selectmen to raise this appropriation by borrowing not
46 more than \$73,200 in bonds, or notes in accordance with the Municipal Finance Act, (RSA 33) and, fur-
47 ther, to authorize the Selectmen to issue and negotiate such bonds, or notes and to determine conditions
48 and the rate of interest including 20% or \$14,640 forgiveness upon completion of project? The anticipated
49 source of \$73,200 of said funding will be a loan from the State Revolving Fund. Information thus obtained
50 will be assessed and incorporated within the Town's Asset Management System to assist with planning for
51 future repairs and maintenance decisions. Federal stormwater permit requirements, in addition, necessi-
52 tate an evaluation of discharges to the stormwater system which can be performed more efficiently and
53 cost-effectively with data obtained from this program. This is a Special Warrant Article in accordance with
54 RSA 32. **Note:** As this is for issuance of long-term debt, this vote requires, under State law, sixty percent
55 (60%) affirmative vote to pass. Board of Selectmen supports this Article (5-0). The Budget Advisory
56 Committee supports this Article (0-0). **This Article has no tax impact.**

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2 There were no questions or comments. Chairman Fougere moved to the next article.
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5 **TOWN BUDGET HEARING**
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8 Chairman Fougere read the article as follows and then turned the budget hearing over to Town Administrator Mark
9 Bender :

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11 **WARRANT ARTICLE xx - TOWN OPERATING BUDGET - \$13,973,281**
12

13 Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate an operating budget, not including appropriations by special
14 warrant articles and other appropriations voted separately, the amounts set forth on the budget for the
15 purposes set forth herein, totaling \$13,973,281? Should this Article be defeated, the default budget shall
16 be \$13,962,733 which is the same as last year with certain adjustments required by previous actions of
17 the Town, or by law; or the governing body may hold one special meeting in accordance with RSA 40:13 X
18 and XVI, to take up the issue of a revised operating budget only. This operating budget warrant article
19 does not include appropriations contained in ANY other Warrant Article. This is a Special Warrant Article
20 in accordance with RSA 32. The Board of Selectmen supports this Article (5-0). The Budget Advisory
21 Committee supports this Article (0-0). **This Article has an estimated tax impact of \$0.164 over the**
22 **2016 Budget or (\$16.40 on a home value of \$100,000)**
23

24 Town Administrator Mark Bender thanked Chairman Fougere and the members of the Board of Selectmen and
25 Budget Advisory Committee and staff for their work in helping with the 2017 budget. We are proposing a budget
26 that is an increase of \$168,000 over the 2016 Default Operating Budget; the difference between the proposed budget
27 and the default budget is fairly slim. Voters have not approved the budget for the past two years, we have heard
28 them and we have listened to their votes. The Department Heads came forward with a very responsible budget and
29 we still made some cuts. The proposed budget does include a 2% wage increase, the overall effect of that increase is
30 about \$81,000
31

32 There were a total of 8 departments showing an increase to their budget and there were 10 departments that showed
33 decreases. The area with the largest increase was in employee benefits which showed a 5.4% increase. The current
34 municipal tax rate is \$7.12, if the proposed operating budget is approved and all of the warrant articles that we are
35 discussing tonight are approved at the amounts presently stated in the warrant articles, the municipal rate would de-
36 crease 3.2% to \$6.89. The reason for that is we are projecting a non-tax revenue increase of 4.8% or \$260,000.
37 There is no tax impact for the roads in 2017, but we are projecting it at \$.19 starting in 2018. We have proposed a
38 very lean budget for 2017. We appreciate the Selectmen and the BAC for their support of the budget.
39

40 Jennifer Siegrist was wondering about the three bond issues, what happens if the bonds don't pass this year? Two
41 smaller ones and one large one for the roads. Chairman Fougere responded that all the warrant articles will go to
42 ballot, a deliberative session will be held in a few weeks, they could get changed at that time, and if they stay on the
43 warrant they will go to town vote and if they don't pass, we will reassess next year. Ms. Siegrist replied that if the
44 Wastewater backup generator does fail and all the sewage water backs up, what is the plan? Chairman Fougere
45 asked the Director of Water Utilities Dave Boucher to respond. Mr. Boucher stated the town would have to get an
46 emergency generator, a sizable generator which isn't cheap and for every day that runs, we are paying for it but it's
47 not a permanent fix until we can either find a replacement part for the generator we have or go to the Capital Im-
48 provement Fund to pay for one. Ms. Siegrist asked if there is enough money? Mr. Boucher responded he would
49 hope so at the time. Ms. Siegrist asked about the cost of bonding all of these items, and just heard that the town has
50 come in under budget by \$200,000, asking if some of these things could be handled with some of that money without
51 the added cost of financing? Chairman Fougere responded that the Board was discussing that earlier in the meeting
52 and we are taking \$100,000 of that money and applying it to potentially buying a cruiser and if the repair of one
53 cruiser doesn't work applying another \$50,000 to repair a dump truck if the warrant article doesn't pass. The re-
54 maining \$200,000 may end up staying in the general fund or fund balance. The Fund Balance is an account that we
55 have to have in place for emergencies that the Department of Revenue likes to have between 5-15% so we are at the
56 bottom end of it at 5.4%.

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2 Finance Director Jack Sheehy indicated Bond articles need 60% of the vote, they need a super majority so it's not
3 just a simple majority and the generator is with the wastewater fund, so if it didn't pass, we couldn't use the money
4 from the General Fund to pay for it, it would have to come out of the Wastewater Fund, they are separate funds.

5
6 Seeing no further questions or comments, Chairman Fougere moved to the next article.
7

8 WATER/WASTEWATER BUDGET HEARING

9
10 Chairman Fougere read the warrant article as follows:
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13 **WARRANT ARTICLE xx - WATER DEPARTMENT OPERATING BUDGET - \$1,442,008**

14
15 Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum \$1,442,008 to operate and maintain the Water De-
16 partment, said appropriation to be offset by income received from the water user charges, or take any
17 other action relative thereto? Should this article be defeated, the operating budget shall be \$TBD which is
18 the same as last year, with certain adjustments required by previous actions of the Town, or by law; or the
19 governing body may hold one special meeting, in accordance with RSA 40:13 X and XVI, to take up the
20 issue of a revised operating budget only. This is a Special Warrant Article in accordance with RSA 32 and
21 is paid for by the water user fees. The Board of Commissioners supports this Article (0-0). The Budget
22 Advisory Committee supports this Article (0-0).
23

24 Water Utilities Director Dave Boucher, indicated he brought hand outs which are in the back of the room. The Wa-
25 ter Department budget has a 3.5% increase over last year's budget, part of the increase is due to debt service where
26 the payments that had been half payments are now whole payments, the 2% wage increase and employee benefits
27 along with depreciation of equipment.
28

29 Janet Langdell asked if the TBD in the warrant articles will be filled in with a number by deliberative session? Fi-
30 nance Director Jack Sheehy answered that they will be filled in.
31

32 There were no further questions or comments, Chairman Fougere moved to the next article.
33

34 **WARRANT ARTICLE xx - WASTEWATER TREATMENT OPERATING BUDGET - \$2,004,250**

35
36 Chairman Fougere read the warrant article as follows:
37

38 Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$2,004,250 to operate and maintain the
39 Wastewater Treatment Facility and the Sanitary Sewer Collection System, said appropriation to be offset
40 by income received from wastewater user charges, or take any other action relative thereto? Should this
41 Article be defeated, the operating budget shall be \$TBD which is the same as last year, with certain ad-
42 justments required by previous actions of the Town, or by law; or the governing body may hold one special
43 meeting, in accordance with RSA 40:13 X and XVI, to take up the issue of a revised operating budget on-
44 ly. This is a Special Warrant Article in accordance with RSA 32 and is paid for by the wastewater user
45 fees. The Board of Commissioners supports this Article (0-0). The Budget Advisory Committee supports
46 this Article (0-0).
47

48 Water Utilities Director Dave Boucher, explained that this budget is also paid for through sewer fees and has a 4.7%
49 increase over last year's budget; the debt service has full payments this year, the wage increase, employee benefits
50 increase and heavy equipment depreciation which is seeing some equipment that will need to be replaced.
51

52 Town Administrator Mark Bender indicated in 2016 the UV system was replaced, is that debt service increase in the
53 2017 budget? Mr. Boucher responded that it is not, the completion will be this year so that will be in next year's
54 budget.
55

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

1
2 Chairman Fougere opened the appropriation warrant articles portion of the hearing.
3

4 **Appropriation Warrant Articles**

5 6 **WARRANT ARTICLE xx - BRIDGE REPLACEMENT CAPITAL RESERVE - \$175,000**

7
8 Chairman Fougere read the warrant article as follows:
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10 Shall the town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$175,000 to be placed in the Bridge Replacement
11 Capital Reserve Fund? This fund was identified in the May 2014 Hoyle, Tanner Associates, Inc. study that
12 identified needed rehabilitation for 18 Town bridges. The \$175,000 builds upon the Bridge Replacement
13 Capital Reserve approved by voters in 2016. Currently nine bridges have been identified by the Depart-
14 ment of Public Works as high priority projects for either replacement or repair in place. This will be a Spe-
15 cial Warrant Article in accordance with RSA 32. The Board of Selectmen supports this Article (5-0). The
16 Budget Advisory Committee supports this Article (0-0). **This Article has an estimated tax impact of**
17 **\$0.130 or (\$13.00 on a home value of \$100,000)**
18

19
20 There were no questions or comments. Chairman Fougere moved to the next article.
21

22 23 **WARRANT ARTICLE xx - PUBLIC SAFETY COMMUNICATION EQUIPMENT** 24 **REPLACEMENT – CAPITAL RESERVE - \$40,000**

25
26
27 Chairman Fougere read the warrant article as follows:
28

29 Shall the Town vote to establish a Capital Reserve Fund under the provisions of RSA 31:1 for the purpose
30 of Public Safety Communications Equipment Replacement, and to raise and appropriate the sum of
31 \$40,000 to be placed in this fund? Expenditures from this fund will require a vote at town meeting. This will
32 be a Special Warrant Article in accordance with RSA 32. The Board of Selectmen supports this Article (5-
33 0). The Budget Advisory Committee supports this Article (0-0). **This Article has an estimated tax im-**
34 **act of \$0.030 or (\$3.00 on a home value of \$100,000).**
35

36 Janet Langdell asked if this is MACC Base? Vice Chairman Federico responded that this is portable radios, radios
37 that go in vehicles but not MACC Base.
38

39 There were no further comments or questions. Chairman Fougere moved to the next article.
40

41 **WARRANT ARTICLE xx - FIRE APPARATUS REPLACEMENT – CAPITAL RESERVE -** 42 **\$25,000**

43
44 Chairman Fougere read the warrant article as follows:
45

46 Shall the Town vote to establish a Capital Reserve Fund under the provisions of RSA 31:1 for the purpose
47 of Fire Apparatus Replacement, and to raise and appropriate the sum of \$25,000 to be placed in this
48 fund? Expenditures from this fund will require a vote at town meeting. This will be a Special Warrant Arti-
49 cle in accordance with RSA 32. The Board of Selectmen supports this Article (5-0). The Budget Advisory
50 Committee supports this Article (0-0). **This Article has an estimated tax impact of \$0.019 or (\$1.90 on**
51 **a home value of \$100,000).**
52

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

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

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4 Chairman Fougere read the warrant article as follows:

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6 Shall the Town vote to establish a Capital Reserve Fund under the provisions of RSA 31:1 for the purpose
7 of Town Facilities Renovation and Major Repair, and to raise and appropriate the sum of \$25,000 to be
8 placed in this fund, and to appoint the Board of Selectmen as agents to expend from this fund? This will
9 be a Special Warrant Article in accordance with RSA 32. The Board of Selectmen supports this Article (5-
10 0). The Budget Advisory Committee supports this Article (0-0). **This Article has an estimated tax impact**
11 **of \$0.019 or (\$1.90 on a home value of \$100,000).**

12
13 Seeing no questions or comments, Chairman Fougere moved to the next article.

14
15 **WARRANT ARTICLE xx- AMBULANCE VEHICLE REPLACEMENT – CAPITAL RESERVE -**
16 **\$25,000**

17
18 Chairman Fougere read the warrant article as follows:

19
20 Shall the Town vote to establish a Capital Reserve Fund under the provisions of RSA 31:1 for the purpose
21 of Ambulance Vehicle Replacement, and to raise and appropriate the sum of \$25,000 to be placed in this
22 fund? Expenditures from this fund will require a vote at town meeting. This will be a Special Warrant Arti-
23 cle in accordance with RSA 32. The Board of Selectmen supports this Article (4-1). The Budget Advisory
24 Committee supports this Article (0-0). **This Article has an estimated tax impact of \$0.019 or (\$1.90 on**
25 **a home value of \$100,000).**

26
27 Seeing no further questions or comments, Chairman Fougere moved to the next article.

28
29 **WARRANT ARTICLE xx - KEYES PARK EXPANSION COMMITTEE PROJECT CAPITAL**
30 **RESERVE- \$25,000**

31
32 Chairman Fougere read the warrant article as follows:

33
34 Shall the Town vote to establish a Capital Reserve Fund under the provisions of RSA 31:1 for the purpose
35 of providing for the Keyes Park Expansion Committee Project, and to raise and appropriate the sum of
36 \$25,000 to be placed in this fund, and to appoint the Board of Selectmen as agents to expend from this
37 fund? This will be a Special Warrant Article in accordance with RSA 32. The Board of Selectmen supports
38 this Article (5-0). The Budget Advisory Committee supports this Article (0-0). **This Article has an esti-**
39 **imated tax impact of \$0.019 or (\$1.90 on a home value of \$100,000).**

40
41 The Keyes Park Expansion Committee came to the Board of Selectmen a few months ago with a very thorough
42 presentation including a Master Plan to deal with future growth at the Keyes Park and there are a number of recom-
43 mendations relative to the Park and what to do with the building included in the purchase and other improvements
44 that are necessary out there including parking, trails, ball fields, etc.

45
46 Seeing no questions or comments, Chairman Fougere moved to the next article.

47
48 **WARRANT ARTICLE xx - ASSESSING REVALUATION CAPITAL RESERVE - \$15,000**

49
50 Chairman Fougere read the warrant article as follows:

51
52 Shall the Town vote to establish a Capital Reserve Fund under the provisions of RSA 31:1 for the purpose
53 of Revaluation of Real Estate Assessment to meet our constitutional and statutory requirement that peri-
54 odically these assessments are at full and true value, and to raise and appropriate the sum of \$15,000 to
55 be placed in this fund, and to appoint the Board of Selectmen as agents to expend from this fund? This
56 will be a Special Warrant Article in accordance with RSA 32. The Board of Selectmen supports this Article

1 (5-0). The Budget Advisory Committee supports this Article (0-0). **Article has an estimated tax impact**
2 **of \$0.011 or (\$1.10 on a home value of \$100,000).**

3
4 Chairman Fougere explained every 5-6 years the town is required by the State to do a re-val and it can be a very ex-
5 pensive project and this will go towards that effort so that when we are due for another re-val we have some money
6 saved up.

7
8 Seeing no questions or comments, Chairman Fougere moved to the next article.

9
10 **WARRANT ARTICLE xx – LED LIGHTING, ENERGY SAVINGS PROJECT - \$110,000**

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12
13 Chairman Fougere read the warrant article as follows:

14
15 Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$110,000 for the purpose of installing energy-
16 efficient street lighting and other outside lighting? The Town anticipates annual energy cost savings of
17 approximately \$36,000 and an incentive rebate of approximately \$44,000 resulting in a payback of less
18 than 2 years. This will be a non-lapsing appropriation per RSA 32:7, VI and will not lapse until the lighting
19 is complete or by December 31, 2021. This is a Special Warrant Article in accordance with RSA 32. The
20 Board of Selectmen supports this Article (5-0). The Budget Advisory Committee supports this Article (0-0).
21 **This Article has an estimated tax impact of \$0.049 or (\$4.90 on a home value of \$100,000).**

22
23 Chairman Fougere explained this Board discussed this at length and this is an extremely good deal for the communi-
24 ty and is a very quick payback and we think it is a very good investment.

25
26 Bob Willette asked if the rebate is guaranteed or is that something that “may happen”. Town Administrator Mark
27 Bender responded that the rebate is not guaranteed but it factors into this, if we did not get the rebate, we’d be hard
28 pressed to move forward with the project; it’s funded through the utility company. That is part of the reason it is a
29 non-lapsing warrant article so that it can extend out over a number of years, chances are that we will not get the re-
30 bate in 2017 but we will try and get it in 2018.

31
32 Seeing no further questions or comments, Chairman Fougere moved to the next article

33
34 **WARRANT ARTICLE xx - DUMP TRUCK (8 CUBIC YARD) – 5-YEAR LEASE/PURCHASE -**
35 **\$40,000 (Annual Payment \$40,000/Total Purchase Price \$185,000)**

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38 Chairman Fougere read the warrant article as follows:

39
40 Shall the Town vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen pursuant to RSA 33:7-3e to enter into a 5-year
41 lease/purchase agreement, subject to a fiscal funding clause which will protect the Town in the event of
42 non-appropriation, for the purpose of lease/purchasing a dump truck (8 cubic yard), with the appropriate
43 equipment for Highway Department operation, and to raise and appropriate the sum of \$40,000 for the
44 first year’s payment? This will replace the 2000 Sterling dump truck which will be 16 years old upon re-
45 placement. The total purchase price of this vehicle is \$185,000. If this article passes, future years’ pay-
46 ments will be included in the operating budget. This is a Special Warrant Article in accordance with RSA
47 32. The Board of Selectmen supports this Article (3-2). The Budget Advisory Committee supports this Ar-
48 ticle (0-0). **This Article has an estimated tax impact of \$0.030 or (\$3.00 on a home value of**
49 **\$100,000).**

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

52
53 **WARRANT ARTICLE xx - TRACTOR/BACKHOE – 5-YEAR LEASE/PURCHASE - \$24,000**
54 **(Annual Payment \$24,000/Total Purchase Price \$110,000)**

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Chairman Fougere read the warrant article 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. This is a Special Warrant Article in accordance with RSA 32. The Board of Selectmen supports this Article (3-2). The Budget Advisory Committee supports this Article (0-0). **This Article has an estimated tax impact of \$0.018 or (\$1.80 on a home value of \$100,000).**

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

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

Chairman Fougere read the warrant article 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. This is a Special Warrant Article in accordance with RSA 32. The Board of Selectmen supports this Article (5-0). The Budget Advisory Committee supports this Article (0-0). **This Article has an estimated tax impact of \$0.019 or (\$1.90 on a home value of \$100,000).**

Finance Director Jack Sheehy spoke to the leasing company today and we may have to change the term of the lease to a 3-year instead of a 5-year lease, but that will not be known until Wednesday so the payment may go up

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

WARRANT ARTICLE xx - SOCIAL SERVICES - \$35,000

Chairman Fougere read the warrant article 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 (0-0). **This Article has an estimated tax impact of \$0.026 or (\$2.60 on a home value of \$100,000).**

Chairman Fougere explained the Social Services Committee was organized last year and provided some very valuable input to the Board of Selectmen as far as prioritizing which agencies should receive funding which has proved very helpful.

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

1 Janet Langdell asked if \$23,000 is sufficient for emergency services to attend Pumpkin Festival, last year we in-
2 creased it a little bit because there was not enough money to cover all the emergency services and do all the decora-
3 tions. Mark Bender explained this year the cost came in at \$22,600 so we were under the \$23,000 appropriated. Ms.
4 Langdell asked if there is money in this to do all the other things that this warrant article says it is going to do or
5 should this just be Pumpkin Festival without Holiday Decorations and Plantings? Mark Bender believes we spent
6 some money on the holiday decorations but he does not know the exact amount.
7

8 Seeing no further questions or comments, Chairman Fougere moved to the next article
9

10 **WARRANT ARTICLE xx – SUMMER BAND CONCERTS - \$9,000**
11

12 Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$9,000 for the purpose of holding the annual
13 summer evening Band Concerts (bands, sound system, crossing detail)? This is a Special Warrant Article
14 in accordance with RSA 32. The Board of Selectmen supports this Article (5-0). The Budget Advisory
15 Committee supports this Article (0-0). **Article has an estimated tax impact of \$0.007 or (\$0.70 on a**
16 **home value of \$100,000).**

17
18 Seeing no questions or comments, Chairman Fougere moved to the next article.
19

20 **WARRANT ARTICLE xx – FIREWORKS - \$8,500**
21

22 Chairman Fougere read the warrant article as follows:
23

24 Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$8,500 for the purpose of providing the Independ-
25 ence Day celebration fireworks display at a time and location to be determined by the Board of Select-
26 men? This is a Special Warrant Article in accordance with RSA 32. The Board of Selectmen supports this
27 Article (3-2). The Budget Advisory Committee supports this Article (0-0). **Article has an estimated tax**
28 **impact of \$0.006 or (\$0.60 on a home value of \$100,000).**
29
30

31 Seeing no questions or comments, Chairman Fougere moved to the next article
32

33 **WARRANT ARTICLE xx - FUNDING OF THE ANNUAL LABOR DAY PARADE – \$7,500**
34

35 Chairman Fougere read the warrant article as follows:
36

37 Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$7,500 for the purpose of funding bands, musi-
38 cians and other allied expenses directly attributed to the annual Labor Day Parade? This is a Special
39 Warrant Article in accordance with RSA 32. The Board of Selectmen supports this Article (5-0). The
40 Budget Advisory Committee supports this Article (0-0). **Article has an estimated tax impact of \$0.006**
41 **or (\$0.60 on a home value of \$100,000).**
42

43 Selectman Putnam asked if confirmation has been received if this will take place or not? Chairman Fougere unfortu-
44 nately we have received news that the VFW will no longer be sponsoring this event. Mark Bender indicated that one
45 organization has expressed interest, no commitment, but interest in sponsoring the Labor Day parade. Chairman
46 Fougere explained if any groups out there want to organize/sponsor and manage this event, it would certainly be a
47 loss if it is not continued. Mark Bender noted that commitments have to be made, bands make arrangements and will
48 go elsewhere
49

50 Seeing no questions or comments, Chairman Fougere moved to the next article
51

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

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Chairman Fougere read the warrant article 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 (0-0). **Article has an estimated tax impact of \$0.004 or (\$0.40 on a home value of \$100,000).**

Janet Langdell asked how much of the \$6,000 is needed for the Labor Day Parade emergency services? Finance Director Jack Sheehy responded it is about the same for each event, like \$2,000 for each parade.

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

WARRANT ARTICLE xx – EXPANDING VETERAN'S CREDIT - \$0

Chairman Fougere read the warrant article as follows:

Shall the Town vote to modify the Veterans Tax Credit...

72:28-b All Veterans' Tax Credit. –

I. A town or city may adopt or rescind the all veterans' property tax credit granted under this section by the procedure in RSA 72:27-a.

II. The credit granted under this section shall be the same as the amount of the standard or optional veterans' tax credit in effect in the town or city under RSA 72:28.

III. The all veterans' tax credit shall be subtracted each year from the property tax on the veteran's residential property.

IV. A person shall qualify for the veterans' tax credit if the person is a resident of this state who 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 service; or the spouse or surviving spouse of such resident, provided that Title 10 training for active duty by a member of a national guard or reserve shall be included as service under this paragraph; provided however that the person is not eligible for and is not receiving a credit under RSA 72:28 or RSA 72:35. Source. 2016, 217:1, eff. Aug. 8, 2016. This is a Special Warrant Article in accordance with RSA 32. The Board of Selectmen supports this Article (4-0-1). The Budget Advisory Committee supports this Article (0-0). **Article has an estimated tax impact of \$0.060 or (\$.60 on a home value of \$100,000).**

Chairman Fougere explained that this is in response to new legislation passed in Concord and is regarding Veteran's Eligibility requirements. Selectman Daniels said there is a companion bill that is going through the Legislature this year that would allow the town to choose to phase in that amount, for Milford the cost is about \$88,000. If that cannot get fast tracked and approved by the time of town vote, there might be consideration given to phasing it in over three years.

Jim Roccio read an article in the newspaper and found that other towns plan to send out a notice to taxpayers with the tax bill to find out how many additional veteran's might take advantage of this credit so that they know the impact to the town prior to adopting. Selectman Daniels responded that has not been discussed however the Town Assessor has provided the Board information that about 800 additional veterans might be eligible. Mr. Roccio then asked if the credit is based on the valuation or is it a credit on the tax bill? Selectman Daniels responded that it is \$300 off the tax bill for the Town of Milford. Mr. Roccio asked if there are two names on the deed and both people are veteran's, would they both get the credit? Selectman Daniels answered that they are both eligible for the credit now. Milford has chosen to use a \$300 credit, towns may go anywhere between \$100-\$500.

Without a survey, Mr. Roccio asked how 800 additional veterans was reached? Selectman Daniels was not aware of how that number was reached. Mark Bender said a rough calculation was done based on the ones that are eligible now and extrapolated out over the population, it is a rough estimate. Selectman Daniels said we have about 400-500

1 now. Mr. Roccio asked if people already receiving the tax credit will continue to do so? Selectman Daniels re-
2 sponded that those who already receive the benefit will automatically be rolled into it.

3
4 Seeing no further questions or comments, Chairman Fougere moved to the next article.
5

6 **WARRANT ARTICLE xx – MERGE TOWN PROPERTIES WITH MILE SLIP TOWN FOREST -**
7 **\$0**

8
9 Chairman Fougere read the warrant article as follows:
10

11 Shall the Town vote to establish as Town Forest land, in accordance with RSA 31:110 through 31:113,
12 Town-owned parcels Map 45 Lot 2 and Map 45 Lot 20; and to consolidate said parcels with Mile Slip Town
13 Forest? The Town, through the Conservation Commission, will continue to have management and over-
14 sight responsibilities for all of these properties. This is a Special Warrant Article in accordance with RSA
15 32. The Board of Selectmen supports this Article (0-0). The Budget Advisory Committee supports this Ar-
16 ticle (0-0). **Article has no tax impact.**

17
18 Seeing no questions or comments, Chairman Fougere moved to the next article.
19
20

21 **WARRANT ARTICLE xx – AUTHORITY TO GRANT COMMUNITY REVITALIZATION TAX**
22 **RELIEF - \$0**

23
24 Chairman Fougere read the warrant article as follows:
25

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

33
34
35 Chairman Fougere this would allow a piece of property that meets statutory requirements, to have investments made
36 that would not be taxed for up to five years for that increase in investment. If this passes, there would be rules that
37 would be adopted to guide principals for the property. It would be on a case by case basis. This is an economic de-
38 velopment initiative.

39
40 Seeing no questions or comments, Chairman Fougere moved to the next article.
41
42

43 **WARRANT ARTICLE xx – CONSERVATION LAND FUND - \$20,000 - By Petition**

44
45 Chairman Fougere read the warrant article as follows:
46

47 Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Twenty Thousand (\$20,000) Dollars for the purpose of
48 adding it to the Conservation Land Fund created in accordance with RSA 36-A, said land fund being allowed to
49 accumulate from year to year and to be available for the acquisition of property, conservation easements and
50 other RSA 36-A allowable purposes, or take any other action relative thereto? Contributions further the protec-
51 tion of the town's natural resources. This is a Special Warrant Article in accordance with RSA 32. The Board of
52 Selectmen supports this Article (0-0). The Budget Advisory Committee supports this Article (0-0). **Article**
53 **has an estimated tax impact of \$0.015 or (\$1.50 on a home value of \$100,000).**
54
55

1 Janet Langdell asked how much is in this fund right now? That is a good question that Conservation can answer and
2 will be available at Deliberative Session February 4, according to Chairman Fougere.

3
4 Seeing no further questions or comments, Chairman Fougere moved to the next article
5

6 **WARRANT ARTICLE xx – SPORTS FIELDS ALONG HERON POND ROAD - \$0 – By Peti-**
7 **tion**

8
9 Chairman Fougere read the warrant article as follows:
10

11 Shall the voters approve the building of sports fields on Heron Pond Road even though it is against state
12 law to harm or disturb the endangered species living there and the Town has many necessary projects of
13 much higher priority such as road repair where the money to be spent on these sports fields could instead
14 be better used. The Board of Selectmen supports this Article (0-0). The Budget Advisory Committee sup-
15 ports this Article (0-0). **Article has no tax impact.**
16

17 Bob Willette does not understand this, what affect would it have if approved? Chairman Fougere the fields have
18 been built already, Bob Willete asked what does this warrant article do? Chairman Fougere said the petition warrant
19 article was given to the Board during July 2016. It has already been built, so it will do nothing. Seeing no questions
20 or comments Chairman Fougere closed the budget & bond hearing,
21 -----
22

23 The Board of Selectmen will now took a position on each warrant article:
24

25 Vice Chairman Federico said this is to vote our support for or against the warrant articles, the articles will be on the
26 warrant as was already previously voted on by the Board.
27

- 28 Reconst of Town Roads Selectman Putnam moved to support, Vice Chairman Federico seconded 5/0
- 29 Wastewater Generator no vote required
- 30 Storm Water Video Inspection Vice Chairman Federico moved to support. Selectman Bauer seconded 5/0
- 31 Operating Budget Selectman Putnam moved to support. Selectman Daniels seconded. 5/0
- 32 Water Department no vote required
- 33 Wastewater Treatment no vote required
- 34 Bridge Replacement Reserve Selectman Putnam moved to support, Vice Chairman Federico seconded. 5/0
- 35 Public Safety Comm. Reserve Selectman Putnam moved to support, Vice Chairman Federico seconded 5/0
- 36 Fire Apparatus Reserve Selectman Putnam moved to support, Vice Chairman Federico seconded 5/0
- 37 Town Renovation Reserve Selectman Putnam moved to support, Vice Chairman Federico seconded 5/0
- 38 Ambulance Vehicle Reserve Vice Chairman Federico moved to support, Selectman Bauer seconded, Selectman
39 Putnam opposed 4/1
- 40 Keyes Park Expans Reserve Vice Chairman Federico moved to support, Selectman Putnam seconded 5/0
- 41 Assessing Reval Reserve Selectman Putnam moved to support, Vice Chairman Federico seconded 5/0
- 42 LED Lighting Vice Chairman Federico moved to support, Selectman Putnam seconded 5/0
- 43 Dump Truck Vice Chairman Federico moved to support, Selectman Bauer seconded, Selectman
44 Daniels and Selectman Putnam opposed. 3/2
- 45 Tractor / Backhoe Vice Chairman Federico moved to support, Selectman Bauer seconded, Selectman
46 Daniels and Selectman Putnam opposed 3/2
- 47 Grader Vice Chairman Federico moved to support, Selectman Bauer seconded 5/0
- 48 Social Services Selectman Putnam moved to support, Vice Chairman Federico seconded 5/0
- 49 Blue Bus Services Vice Chairman Federico moved to support, Selectman Putnam seconded 5/0
- 50 Pumpkin Festival Vice Chairman Federico moved to support, Selectman Bauer seconded 5/0
- 51 Summer Band Concerts Vice Chairman Federico moved to support, Selectman Bauer seconded 5/0
- 52 Fireworks Vice Chairman Federico moved to support, Selectman Bauer seconded; Selectman
53 Putnam and Selectman Daniels opposed 3/2
- 54 Labor Day Parade Vice Chairman Federico moved to support, Selectman Bauer seconded 5/0
- 55 Memorial Veterans Parade Vice Chairman Federico moved to support, Selectman Putnam seconded 5/0

APPROVED MINUTES OF BUDGET & BOND PUBLIC HEARING – 01/09/17

1 Veterans’ Credit Expansion Vice Chairman Federico moved to support, Selectman Bauer seconded; Selectman
2 Daniels abstained 4/0/1

3 Merge Town Properties Vice Chairman Federico moved to support, Selectman Daniels seconded. Select-
4 man Daniels encouraged people to vote no on this article. Vice Chairman Federico
5 said this is town owned land and we are adding one parcel to town-forest. After
6 some discussion, it was decided to obtain further information prior to voting.
7

8 Revitalization tax relief Vice Chairman Federico moved to support, Selectman Putnam seconded 5/0
9 Conservation Land Fund Vice Chairman Federico moved to support, Selectman Bauer seconded 5/0 Select-
10 man Daniels heard a question this evening about the balance in this fund, he would
11 like to know the answer to that prior to voting. Vice Chairman Federico withdrew
12 his motion. All concurred.
13

14 Sports Field Opposition tabled no vote taken
15

16 Vice Chairman Federico asked if the Board takes a position on petition warrant articles? Mark Bender said you can.
17 Selectman Daniels said we have gone both ways. Chairman Fougere thinks we should take a position against it.
18 Selectman Daniels said the way that it is worded we should vote yes. Selectman Daniels the language can always be
19 changed at deliberative session. Mark Bender said you do not have to take a position on petition warrant articles.
20 Selectman Daniels suggested the language be changed because it can be understood either way. This article was
21 tabled and not voted on.
22

23 Vice Chairman Federico asked that the summary prepared by Karen on the Budget Advisory Committee should be
24 shared with all residents through the website, social media, and other avenues because the document takes the war-
25 rant articles and breaks them down to what they are really asking for in simple terms and helps people understand
26 what each article is asking for. Mark Bender indicated the document is on the town website and we can add it to the
27 PEG channel and other places.
28

29 Chairman Fougere announced that the Board will be meeting Wednesday 1-18-17 with other Boards of Selectmen in
30 the auditorium to review the MACC agreement and capital purchases and discuss options. The meeting will be vide-
31 otaped.
32

33 Chairman Fougere indicated the public hearing for the 2016 Bond & Budget is now complete at 8:12 p.m. Vice
34 Chairman Federico moved to adjourn this Budget & Bond Hearing. Selectman Bauer seconded. All were in favor.
35 Motion passed 5/0.
36
37

38 _____
39 Chairman, Mark Fougere Member, Mike Putnam

43 _____
44 Vice Chairman, Kevin Federico Member, Kathy Bauer

48 _____
49 Member, Gary Daniels