

# Town of Haverhill

## New Hampshire

### Warrant and Budget with Minutes

2017

To the inhabitants of the Town of Haverhill in the County of Grafton in the State of New Hampshire qualified to vote in Town affairs:

You are hereby notified to meet at the James R. Morrill Municipal Building in North Haverhill Village on Tuesday, March 14, 2017 at eight o'clock in the forenoon to act on the following Town matters. Articles One and Two will be decided by written ballot. The polling booths will be open from 8:00 AM to 6:00 PM. At 6:00 PM the Town meetings will adjourn and reconvene on Saturday March 18, 2017 at 9:00 AM at the Haverhill Cooperative Middle School, in said Town of Haverhill for consideration of all remaining articles on this warrant. The Town Meeting will be called to order at this time, then suspended until the conclusion of the School District meeting, the School District Meeting will then be called to order and acted upon, so that the activities of the Town Meeting may immediately follow the conclusion of the School District Meeting.

*The moderator, Alfred J Holden, brought the town meeting to order at 9:00 am, giving credit to Archie Steenburgh for donating the gavel being used. Members of the VFW then conducted the Pledge of Allegiance. Immediately following this, Wayne Fortier moved to recess the town meeting, seconded by Richard Guy, to allow the school meeting to proceed. By voice vote the town meeting was recessed at 9:07 am with the understanding that the rest of the meeting would follow the conclusion of the school meeting.*

*Following a short lunch break, Lynn Wheeler moved to bring the meeting back to order, seconded by Ruth Ranno. The moderator called the meeting back to order at 12:39 pm.*

#### **Article 01: Election of Officials**

To choose by non-partisan ballot a Selectman for a term of three (3) years; a Selectman for a term of three (3) years; and a Trustee of Trust Funds for a term of three (3) years.

*Article #1 & #2 were decided by ballot*

#### **Article 02: Town Manager Form of Government**

"Do you favor continuation of the Town Manager plan as now in force in this Town?" [By Petition]

*Article #1 & #2 were decided by ballot*

#### **Article 03: Announce Results of Article 1 & 2**

To announce the results of the balloting on Articles One and Two.

*The moderator announced the outcome of articles #1 & #2. The article results were declared as follows: For select board members: Darwin Clogston received 166; Tom Friel received 259; Alfred "Fred" Garofalo received 260, Mr. Friel and Mr. Garofalo were declared the winners. For Trustee of the Trust Funds: Marie*

*Bigelow (unopposed) received 389 and declared the winner. [There were 411 ballots cast]*

*Ballot Question of keeping the Town Manager plan of government received 281 Yes votes and 124 No votes. The article passed.*

#### **Article 04: Election of Cemetery Commissioner**

To choose a Cemetery Commissioner for a term of three (3) years; and to choose any other necessary Town official.

*Cemetery Commissioner was moved by Pat Brady, and seconded by Regis Roy. Regis Roy made a motion to re-elect whomever is up for re-election and was seconded by Dan Brady. Regis Roy motion to select board to nominate any other necessary officials and Dan Brady seconded. The article passed.*

#### **Article 05: Acceptance of Annual Reports**

To hear the reports of the Selectmen, Town Manager, Treasurer, Cemetery Commissioners, Airport Commissioners, Recreation Commissioners, Heritage Commissioners, Conservation Commissioners, and any other Town officers and committees heretofore chosen and pass any vote relating thereto.

*The article was moved by Regis Roy and seconded by Pat Brady. There was no discussion, and the article passed.*

#### **Article 06: Appointment of Advisory Budget Committee**

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Town Moderator to appoint an Advisory Budget Committee to review the Town Manager's preliminary budget and to present to the Selectboard their recommendations as to any modifications thereto.

*The article was moved by Archie Steenburgh, and seconded by Mike Conrad. Mike Bonanno spoke in agreement of the article. The moderator thanked the advisory budget committee for their work, both for the school and the town. The article passed.*

#### **Article 07: Operating Budget 2017**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Three Million Nine Hundred Ninety Eight Thousand Five Hundred Ninety Nine dollars (\$3,998,599) for general municipal operations. This article does not include appropriations contained in special or individual articles addressed separately. (Majority vote required)

*The article was moved by Wayne Fortier, seconded by Regis Roy. Kristin Ross spoke in support of recycling, and also in support of giving the recycling contract to Dan Marsh, who had submitted the lowest bid being \$32,850. Ms. Ross made a motion to amend the article to include recycling money to the budget; seconded by Seth Hurst. It was noted by Chris Luurtsema that businesses wouldn't be able to recycle there and that the Board was unable to come up with a plan useful to the entire town. Carol Reed spoke to the clarification of adding money for a specific item does not guaranty it will be spent for that purpose. This was confirmed by the lawyer. Much discussion followed. The question was moved by Steve Wheeler, seconded by Regis Roy. The amendment did not pass. The original article was then passed.*

#### **Article 08: Vehicle Capital Reserve Fund**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000) to be added to the Vehicle Capital Reserve Fund previously established. The Selectboard supports this article. The Advisory Budget Committee supports this article. (Majority vote required.)

*The article was moved by Archie Steenburgh, and seconded by Lynn Wheeler. Wayne Fortier mentioned that the amount was increased by \$10,000 and precipitated by Darwin Clogston. Mr. Clogston suggested a need for more money in the account. The article passed.*

#### **Article 09: Buildings Capital Reserve Fund**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000) to be added to the Buildings Capital Reserve Fund previously established. The Selectboard supports this article. The Advisory Budget Committee supports this article. (Majority vote required.)

*The article was moved by Donnie Hammond, and seconded by Mike Bonanno. There was no discussion, and the article passed.*

#### **Article 10: Fire Vehicle Capital Reserve Fund**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Sixty Thousand Dollars (\$60,000) to be added to the Fire Vehicle Capital Reserve Fund previously established. The Selectboard supports this article. The Advisory Budget Committee supports this article. (Majority vote required.)

*The article was moved by Regis Roy, and seconded by Barb Dunn-Dutile. Mike Bonanno commented that fire equipment and vehicles are expensive. North Haverhill bought a truck a few years ago, and Haverhill Corner is getting one this year. Archie Steenburgh asked what the amount of the balance is currently and told there was a zero balance. The article passed.*

#### **Article 11: Road Construction/Reconstruction Capital Reserve**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of One Hundred and Fifty Thousand dollars (\$150,000) to be added to the Highway Road Construction and Reconstruction Capital Reserve Fund previously established. The Selectboard supports this article. The Advisory Budget Committee supports this article. (Majority vote required.)

*The article was moved by Mike Conrad, and seconded by Mike Bonanno. There was no discussion, and the article passed.*

#### **Article 12: White Mountain Mental Health Association**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Six Thousand and Twelve dollars [\$6,012] for the support of the White Mountain Mental Health Association. (Majority vote required.)

*The article was moved by Lesa Lakeman-McDonald, and seconded by Barb Dunn-Dutile. Carol Reed expressed concerned about the money going or not going to Haverhill Residents and knowing how the money is spent. Chris Luurtsema stated that there are procedures in place for groups that request money from the town. They must fill out forms regarding how the money is used. With permission from the crowd, George Thurston spoke for the article. Monies go directly to Haverhill residents. Insurances are billed for services, but clients that do not have insurance are not turned away. In those instances, a sliding fee scale is used. Regis Roy moved the question, and Mike Bonanno seconded. The article passed.*

#### **Article 13: Alumni Hall Visitors' Center and Court St Arts**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Nine Thousand dollars [\$9,000] for the support of the Alumni Hall Visitors' Center and Court St Arts Performing Arts Center. (Majority vote required.)

*The article was moved by Sandy Holden Knapp and seconded by Doug McDonald. David Heintz spoke in support of the money and keeping cultural arts in the area. Sandy Holden Knapp also spoke in support of the versatile programs. Wayne Fortier moved the question, seconded by Mike Bonanno. The article passed.*

**Article 14: North Country Home Health and Hospice**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Fifteen Thousand dollars [\$15,000] for the support of North Country Home Health and Hospice. (Majority vote required.)

*The article was moved by Regis Roy, and seconded by Barb Dunn Dutile. There was no discussion, and the article passed.*

**Article 15: RSVP**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of One Thousand dollars [\$1,000] for the support of the RSVP program. (Majority vote required.)

*The article was moved by Doug McDonald, seconded by Regis Roy. Mike Bonanno spoke in support, describing the RSVP program. Pat Brady spoke in support regarding some of the programs offered. Doug McDonald moved the question and seconded by Tom Friel. The article passed.*

**Article 16: Horse Meadow Senior Center**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Twenty Two Thousand dollars [\$22,000] for the support of the Horse Meadow Senior Center. (Majority vote required.)

*The article was moved by Pat Brady, seconded by Barb Dunn Dutile. Pat Brady, President of Grafton County Senior Citizens Counsel, spoke in support of Horsemeadow Senior Center. Deb Whitaker, Director of HMSC, was approved to speak and gave information regarding the center. Darwin Clogston spoke in support of the center as well. The article passed.*

**Article 17: Tri-County Community Action**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Two Thousand dollars [\$2,000] for the support of the Tri-County Community Action program. (Majority vote required.)

*The article was moved by Wayne Fortier, and seconded by Regis Roy. There was no discussion, the article passed.*

**Article 18: Court Appointed Special Advocates**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Five Hundred dollars [\$500] to support Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA). (Majority vote required.)

*The article was moved by Donnie Hammond, seconded by Robert Roudebush. Mike Bonanno spoke in support of CASA. The article passed.*

**Article 19: Ammonoosuc Community Health Services, Inc.**

To See if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Six Thousand dollars [\$6,000] for the support of Ammonoosuc Community Health Services, Inc. (ACHS), a non-profit community health center. (Majority vote required.)

*The article was moved by Lynn Wheeler, seconded by Mike Bonanno. There was no discussion, and the article passed.*

**Article 20: Burch House**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Two Thousand Eight Hundred and Forty dollars [\$2,840] for the support of Burch House. (Majority vote required.)

*The article was moved by Regis Roy, seconded by Dan Brady. There was no discussion, and the article passed.*

**Article 21: Home and Community Health Services**

Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Six Thousand (\$6,000) to help support the home health, maternal and child health, and hospice care provided in patients' homes and in community settings by Visiting Nurse and Hospice for VT and NH. (Majority vote required) [By Petition]. The Advisory Budget Committee does not support this article. The Board of Selectmen does not support this article.

*The article was moved by Wayne Fortier, seconded by Regis Roy. Terry Highland, representing Visiting Nurse & Hospice of VT & NH, was given permission to speak. Archie Steenburgh asked why the board chose not to support. Mike Bonanno felt that it was in conjunction with article #14. Regis Roy asked Mr. Highland how he explained it was not in conjunction with article 14. Mr. Highland explained that NH allows overlapping services and doesn't deny patient services for changing agencies. The article passed.*

**Article 22: Tires/Electronics Collection**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Three Thousand dollars (\$3,000) for a Tire and Electronics collection day. (Majority vote required)

*The article was moved by Regis Roy, seconded by Leigh Reney. Regis Roy asked if old TVs are included in this. The answer was yes. David Lackie asked if there was a cost associated with each item. Wayne Fortier mentioned that at the last one an example was \$3 per tire. Ken King spoke that it is a small cost per item. The article passed.*

**Article 23: Homeless Outreach**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Two Thousand Two Hundred and Fifty dollars (\$2,250) for Tri-County CAP Homeless Outreach. (Majority vote required).

*The article was moved by Regis Roy, seconded by Dan Brady. There was no discussion, and the article passed.*

**Article 24: Food Pantry**

To see if the Town will raise and appropriate the amount of Four Thousand Six Hundred Ninety Five Dollars (\$4,695) for the support of the Good Shepherd Ecumenical Food Pantry, a 501 (c) 3 non-profit organization, with the mission of providing an emergency food supply for those who need assistance in Haverhill and surrounding communities. (Majority vote required) [By Petition] The Advisory Budget Committee supports this article. The Board of Selectmen supports this article.

*The article was moved by Robert Roudebush, and seconded by Doug McDonald. Ed Ballam, President of GSEFP, spoke in support of article. He spoke of its use by many Haverhill residents, and thanked the generosity of community and its volunteers. Archie Steenburgh asked how many people have been served. Mr. Ballam said around 12,000 people in last 2 yrs. The article passed.*

**Article 25: Discontinuance of a Capital Reserve Fund**

To see if the Town will vote to discontinue the Revaluation Capital Reserve Fund created in 1994. Said fund has a zero balance. (Majority vote required)

*The article was moved by Pat Brady, seconded by Robert Roudebush. There was no discussion, and the article passed.*

#### **Article 26: Discontinuance of Haverhill/Bath Expendable Trust**

To see if the Town will vote to discontinue the following Haverhill/Bath Expendable Trust Fund. Said fund has a zero balance. (Majority vote required)

*The article was moved by Pat Brady, seconded by Lynn Wheeler. There was no discussion, the article passed.*

#### **Article 27: Adopt RSA 79E Community Revitalization Tax Relief**

Shall we vote to adopt the provisions of RSA 79-E which, if adopted, will allow the Board of Selectmen to grant tax relief for a limited number of years for substantial rehabilitation of structures located in the compact areas of the town, which will be designated by the Selectmen, to encourage the improvement and re-development of those areas."

*Prior to the finalization of the warrant, this article was amended by advice of legal counsel to state the following: Shall we vote to adopt the provisions of RSA 79-E which, if adopted, will allow the Board of Selectmen to grant tax relief for a limited number of years for substantial rehabilitation of structures located in the compact areas of town, which will be designated by the selectmen, to encourage the improvement and re-development of those areas? The article was moved by Wayne Fortier, seconded by Chris Luurtsema. Wayne Fortier spoke in support, stating that this is an incentive program and has structure by state statute. Bob Maccini asked what the purpose was. Mr. Fortier said that when new businesses come to town, wishing to use a building already in town, they may qualify with the guidelines. Lynn Wheeler asked what the limited number of years would be. Wayne stated they will be limited to 5 years. The article passed.*

#### **Article 28: Sale of Town Owned Land**

Do you favor continuation of the sale of town owned property known as Powder House Hill and other town owned property that are not collecting taxes? [Petitioned Warrant Article]

*The article was moved by Donnie Hammond, seconded by Regis Roy. Jeff Page suggested an issue with question and how the article was presented. Ref RSA 80:42. The select board did not write the article, and were not aware specifically what properties were included. Shirley Cobb, past president of Haverhill Historical Society spoke regarding Powder House Hill and against selling historical properties. Many others spoke for and many others against the article. Jeff Page motioned to separate Powder House Hill from article. "Do you favor the continuation of the sale of town owned property known as Powder House Hill?" The motion was seconded by Regis Roy. Archie Steenburgh made a point of order. With so much confusion and controversy surrounding this, he asked to table the motion if Mr. Page withdrew his amendment, which Mr. Page agreed to do. The article was tabled.*

#### **Article 29: Road Reconstruction**

Petition to make reconstruction of Lily Pond Road first priority. [Petitioned warrant article]

*The article was moved by Wayne Fortier, seconded by Regis Roy. Els Dini, resident of Lily Pond Rd, spoke to the condition of the road. Several other people spoke to the poor condition of the road. Mr. Fortier referred to the capital improvement to set aside funds to attend to such roads. Some funds from Highway attend to smaller projects. David Lackie, suggested taking up the tar and maintain as dirt road for now. The question was moved to end all discussion, seconded by Regis Roy. The article passed.*

**Article 30: Take any other action**

To take any other action that may legally come before this meeting.

*Moderator asked for voters to contact select board and school board continuing to give opinion on this form of having all business in one day. Mike Bonanno reminded everyone to visit the town website to get burn permits, to see the sign-up sheets for master plan at entrance of gym, and March 26<sup>th</sup> 4:30 – 6, will be a crime watch meeting. Wayne Fortier thanked the crowd for coming, referenced two dedications in town report, including a thank you to fellow board members, a thank to Darwin Clogston for his service and a welcome to Fred Garofalo. Another thank you to North Haverhill Girls Club and Hatchland Dairy was given. Amy Moore asked if other people were aware of the tax kiosk. Donnie Kimball asked if Clark Pond Rd was complete and the answer was no. The article was moved by Archie Steenburgh, seconded by Doug Teschner. The meeting was adjourned at 2:59pm.*

Respectfully Submitted  
Christine Gatcho