

**TOWN OF PARSONSFIELD
ANNUAL TOWN MEETING WARRANT
September 9 and 10, 2016**

To: Gloria Hermance, a resident of the Town of Parsonsfield, in the County of York, State of Maine,

GREETINGS:

In the name of the State of Maine, you are hereby required to warn and notify the Inhabitants of the Town of Parsonsfield in said County and State, qualified to vote by law in Town affairs, to meet at the Town Office at 634 North Road in Parsonsfield on Friday, the 9th day of September, AD 2016 at 2 PM to act upon Articles 1 and 2. The polling hours are 2 PM until 8 PM for Article 2.

And to notify and warn said Inhabitants to meet at the Town Office at 634 North Road in Parsonsfield on Saturday, the 10th day of September, AD 2016 at 9 AM to act on articles 3 through 47 set out as follows:

Article 1:

To choose a moderator to preside at said meeting.

Clerk Gloria Hermance opened the meeting at 2pm on Friday, September 9, 2016. She entertained nominations for moderator. Mr. Robert Heard of Porter was nominated. No other nominations were received. Mr. Heard was elected moderator. The polls were opened shortly after by Moderator Heard, and shortly after that, Moderator Heard appointed Ms. June Ferland to be Deputy Moderator. Ms. Ferland took over the responsibilities of running the election.

Article 2:

To elect by secret ballot the following Town officers:

1 Selectman, Assessor, Overseer of the Poor	3 Year Term
1 Town Clerk, Treasurer, Tax Collector, Registrar of Voters	3 Year Term
1 Road Commissioner	3 Year Term
1 School Board Director, MSAD 55	3 Year Term
1 School Board Director, MSAD 55	2 Year Term
1 Planning Board Alternate member	5 Year Term
3 Budget Committee Members	3 Year Term
1 Budget Committee Member	2 Year Term
1 Budget Committee Member	1 Year Term
1 Piper Free High School Fund Director	3 Year Term
1 Piper Free High School Secretary and Treasurer	5 Year Term

The polls closed at 8pm. Counting took place to completion, ending at 10:30pm. The results of the election can be found at the end of these minutes.

The Town Meeting portion was opened at 9:00am on Saturday, September 10, 2016 by Moderator Heard with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Moderator Heard suggested that it was proper to take articles out of order if so voted by the electorate. Specifically, he mentioned that Articles 44, 45 and 46 might want to be acted on early, and he would entertain a motion as such. Barbara Conover made a motion to take Articles 44, 45 and 46 out of order and act on them at this time. Judy Ingram seconded a motion. Motion passed unanimously with no discussion.

Article 44 (taken out of order):

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$46,971.00 to complete the four year "Law Enforcement Services" contract ending on December 31, 2016 (6 Months), signed and agreed to on November 27, 2012 by the Town of Parsonsfield. (Acct. 5218)

Recommendations Budget Committee: None, Selectmen: Yes

Judy Ingram made a motion to accept the article as written and Tiffany Brendt seconded. There was no discussion and the article passed unanimously.

Article 45 (taken out of order):

To see if the Town will raise and appropriate the sum of \$63,916.00 in order to contract for a full time (40 hours/wk.) York County Sherriff for Parsonsfield. Contract period January 1, 2017 to June 30, 2017. (Acct. 5218)

Recommendations Budget Committee: None, Selectmen: Yes

Judy Ingram made a motion to accept the article as written and Louis Aubuchont seconded. There was no discussion and the article passed unanimously.

Article 46 (taken out of order):

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$24,558.00 to be placed into a York County Sherriff Capital Reserve Fund. Contract period July 1, 2017 to September 30, 2017. (Acct. 5218)

Recommendations Budget Committee: None, Selectmen: Yes

Tiffany Brendt made a motion to accept the article as written and Louis Aubuchont seconded.

Judy Ingram asked why this was needed? Selectman Bower replied that the prior two articles covered the contract through June 30, 2017 and we needed to extend that period through town meeting 2017.

Bruce Thibodeau asked what this contract amount covers. Does it cover the car, insurance and other items? Selectmen Bower responded that the contract was all inclusive and there are no additional fees.

It was noted that there was a representative from the York County Sherriff's Department present. Judy Ingram made a motion to allow him to speak, the motion was seconded by Tiffany Brendt and passed unanimously. Paul Mitchell, Patrol Commander, came before the electorate and answered questions.

Joseph Howes asked if we would have the same deputy? Mr. Mitchell replied Yes.

David Randall asked where the monies from parking fines went. Clerk Gloria Hermance said that they went into our general fund.

David Randall asked why some of the tickets were not paid. Deputy Cyr replied that he hasn't had time for enforcement of unpaid parking tickets.

Tiffany Brendt asked about statistics. Mr. Mitchell said that final statistics for the calendar year 2015 are available, and some more recent ones are shown on sheets available at the back of the room. He also cautioned that statistics can be misleading as the number and severity of calls has a big effect on the numbers.

Mark Bolton, Sacopee Rescue, noted that having the deputy has made their jobs easier, since quick response from the deputy allowed rescue to go to volatile scenes sooner.

Linda Marsh asked to verify that these 3 articles covered 5 quarters (15 months).

Selectman Bower confirmed this.

The article passed unanimously.

Now back in order of the warrant.

Article 3:

To see if the Town will vote to combine its various non-dedicated sources of income into a General Revenue Account from which it will pay its expenses as authorized by this Town Meeting.

Recommendations Budget Committee: Yes, Selectmen: Yes

Tiffany Brendt made a motion to accept the article as written and Richard Ahlberg seconded. There was no discussion and the article passed unanimously.

Article 4:

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen to use up to 50% of unappropriated Surplus balance to reduce the 2016 tax commitment.

Recommendations Budget Committee: Yes, Selectmen: Yes

Judy Ingram made a motion to accept the article as written and Louis Aubuchont seconded. There was no discussion and the article passed unanimously.

Article 5:

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen to borrow from the dedicated Town funds in anticipation of taxes. Said amount not to exceed 75% of the Town funds and be repaid with appropriate interest.

Recommendations Budget Committee: Yes, Selectmen: Yes

Judy Ingram made a motion to accept the article as written and Richard Ahlberg seconded. There was no discussion and the article passed unanimously.

Article 6:

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the municipal officers to spend an amount not to exceed 3/12 of the budgeted amount of the 2016 annual budget during the period from July 1, 2017 to Annual Town Meeting 2017.

Recommendations Budget Committee: Yes, Selectmen: Yes

Tiffany Brendt made a motion to accept the article as written and Judy Ingram seconded. There was no discussion and the article passed unanimously.

Article 7:

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen to close all unexpended appropriations and overdrafts into the unappropriated Surplus account.

Recommendations Budget Committee: Yes, Selectmen: Yes

Judy Ingram made a motion to accept the article as written and Daniel Flint seconded. There was no discussion and the article passed unanimously.

Article 8:

To see if the Town will vote to expend the following dedicated funds in accordance with State and Federal law:

Plumbing and Building Permit Fees

Animal Control Monies

LRAP-Local Roads Assistance Program (previously URIP)

FEMA Grant Monies
MEMA Reimbursements

Recommendations Budget Committee: Yes, Selectmen: Yes

Tiffany Brendt made a motion to accept the article as written and Judy Ingram seconded. There was no discussion and the article passed unanimously.

Article 9:

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the following amounts for compensation for the Town officers and/or employees for the ensuing year:

(Account 5103)

Selectmen, Assessors, Overseers of the Poor	\$ 24,000.00
Town Clerk/Treasurer, Tax Collector, Registrar of Voters	\$ 33,850.00
Deputy Town Clerk/Treasurer/Tax Collector	\$ 24,090.00
Registrar of Voters/Deputy Registrar of Voters	\$ 350.00
Selectmen's Assistant & Bookkeeper (4 ½ days per week)	<u>\$ 27,070.00</u>
Total	\$ 109,360.00

Recommendations Budget Committee: Yes, Selectmen: Yes

Judy Ingram made a motion to accept the article as written and Tiffany Brendt seconded. Judy Ingram asked why there is only one position for Town Clerk/Treasurer, Tax Collector and Registrar of Voters. Clerk Hermance noted that the positions were combined in the warrant at last year's town meeting. The article was voted on and passed unanimously.

Article 10:

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate up to \$500 for a wage study for all Town employee positions. (Acct. 5104)

Recommendations Budget Committee: None, Selectmen: Yes

Daniel Flint made a motion to accept the article as written and Judy Ingram seconded. Barbara Conover asked who would do the survey and what purpose would it serve. Selectman Murphy replied that the selectmen would do the survey and it would help show whether the Town is paying its employees appropriately. Todd Crooker asked why there was no Budget Committed recommendation. David Bower replied that the article was presented by the selectmen after the budget committee had completed its meetings. Judy Ingram asked whether all positions would be looked at. Selectmen Murphy said yes. Joseph Howes asked what happened to the funds if they are not spent. Selectmen Murphy said they would go back into the general fund, as all other unexpended monies do. The article was voted on and passed with one vote in opposition.

Article 11:

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$4,000.00 for the Parsonsfield Planning Board members' and assistant's compensation for the ensuing year. The Planning Board members to receive \$15.00 per meeting attended and the Planning Board Administrative Assistant to receive up to \$15.00 per hour. (Acct. 5103)

Recommendations Budget Committee: Yes, Selectmen: Yes

Donna Riser made a motion to accept the article as written and Judy Ingram seconded. Todd Crooker asked why we pay the board members at all. Patty O'Day-Senior noted that it at least covered gas and time. Moderator Heard noted that it was a small recognition for the time they put in. John Lesko added that the board members put up with a lot and it's a thank you as well. David Bower noted that the increase from last year was due to the need for outside help updating the Zoning Ordinance. The article was voted on and passed unanimously.

Article 12:

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,450.00 for the Parsonsfield Zoning Board of Appeals members' and clerk's compensation for the ensuing year. The Appeals Board members are to receive \$15.00 per meeting attended, and a hired clerk for the Appeals Board up to the rate of \$15.00 per hour. (Acct. 5103)

Recommendations Budget Committee: Yes, Selectmen: Yes

Tiffany Brendt made a motion to accept the article as written and Judy Ingram seconded. There was no discussion and the article passed unanimously.

Article 13:

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the following sums for the compensation of the following Town employees, said employees to be paid up to the following amounts in each department: (Acct 5103)

Health Officer, yearly stipend	\$ 250.00
EMA Officer, yearly stipend	\$ 1,000.00
E911 Administrator, yearly stipend	\$ 700.00
Animal Control Officer, \$12.00 per hour as needed	<u>\$ 1,500.00</u>
Total	\$ 3,450.00

Recommendations Budget Committee: Yes, Selectmen: Yes

Judy Ingram made a motion to accept the article as written and Tiffany Brendt seconded. Joseph Howes asked if these positions would be included in the wage study. Selectman Bower said they would. Mr. Bower also noted that the ACO is shared with Cornish and we try to coordinate with them on the ACO wage.

The article was voted on and passed unanimously.

Article 14:

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$2,500.00 stipend plus 75% of Plumbing Permit Fees and all other CEO fees for compensation of the Code Enforcement Officer. (Acct. 5103)

Recommendations Budget Committee: Yes, Selectmen: Yes

Judy Ingram made a motion to accept the article as written and Louis Aubuchont seconded. There was no discussion and the article passed unanimously.

Article 15:

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$8,750.00 for Election Supervisors and Moderators, Election Workers, Building and Grounds Maintenance Workers, and other part time help per the following schedule: (Acct 5103)

Election Supervisors and Moderators	\$ 1,750.00
Election Workers up to \$10.00 per hour	\$ 4,000.00
Building & Custodial, and part time help @ up to \$12.00 per hour	<u>\$ 3,000.00</u>
Total	\$ 8,750.00

Recommendations Budget Committee: Yes, Selectmen: Yes

Judy Ingram made a motion to accept the article as written and Louis Aubuchont seconded. There was no discussion and the article passed unanimously.

Article 16:

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the following sums to cover General Governmental Expenses.

Acct. No.	Title	Amount
5101	Surety Bonds	\$ 800.00
5104	Professional Services	\$ 10,000.00
5106	Payroll Taxes	\$ 12,000.00
5107	Unemployment Compensation	\$ 4,000.00
5108	Medical and Dental Insurance	\$ 37,500.00
5109	Mileage	\$ 1,500.00
5110	Administrative Expenses	\$ 20,000.00
5111	Tax Acquired Property Expenses	\$ 3,000.00
5112	Unanticipated Expenses	\$ 5,000.00
5113	Computer Expenses	\$ 9,000.00
5120	Utilities – Town Buildings	\$ 20,000.00
5123	Municipal Buildings – General Maintenance	\$ 10,000.00
5150	Planning Board Expenses	\$ 4,050.00
5151	Appeals Board Expenses	\$ 1,000.00
5152	Southern Maine Regional Planning Commission Dues	\$ 589.00
5153	Twelve Town Group	\$ 300.00
5157	Saco River Corridor Commission	<u>\$ 300.00</u>
	Total General Governmental Expenses	\$ 139,039.00

Recommendations Budget Committee: Yes, Selectmen: Yes

Judy Ingram made a motion to accept the article as written and Elmer Runyon seconded. Myra Guild asked what the Professional Services are. Selectman Murphy replied that they were for the services of the town lawyer. Gloria Hermance added that they also cover the fees for the town audit.

The article was voted on and passed unanimously.

Article 17:

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the following sums to cover Protection Expenses:

Acct. No.	Title	Amount
5201	Worker's Compensation	\$ 6,000.00
5203	Insurances	\$ 20,000.00
5204	Kezar Falls Fire Department Expenses	\$ 45,375.00
5205	Fire Department Contracts	\$ 5,000.00
5207	Dispatch Fees	\$ 7,628.00
5209	Fire Truck Reserve	\$ 10,000.00
5210	Sacopee Rescue Expenses	\$ 17,000.00
5214	Street Lights	\$ 11,500.00
5215	Fire Hydrants	\$ 53,000.00
5220	Emergency Management Expenses	\$ 350.00

5230	Animal Control Expenses	\$ 2,000.00
5231	Harvest Hills Animal Shelter, Inc	<u>\$ 1,898.00</u>
	Total Protection Expenses	\$ 179,751.00

Recommendations Budget Committee: Yes, Selectmen: Yes

Richard Ahlberg made a motion to accept the article as written and Judy Ingram seconded. Jeffrey Wright asked if a street light survey had been done. He stated that he has asked for this every year for many years.

Paul Poulin noted that Sacopee Rescue held a yard sale recently. Mr. Poulin feels that Rescue should not have to do this to raise money. The towns should support them with what they need for an operating budget.

Moderator Heard added that insurance payments are the only income outside what the towns give them.

Mr. Poulin said we should give them more. Selectman Murphy noted that we have always approved the amount that Rescue asks for.

Gary Taylor said they should make every effort to collect fees. Mr. Heard said that the Rescue Board has done a good job with collections.

Jeffrey Wright said it's OK for them to raise additional money however they want.

Eleanor Watson noted that she was not charged a fee when Rescue responded but didn't transport the patient.

David Randall asked what happens to the old ambulances. Mark Bolton replied that they try to keep three operational ambulances. The old ones are sold.

The article was voted on and passed unanimously.

Article 18:

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$5,000.00 to be placed in the Sacopee Rescue Capital Reserve Fund. (Acct 5211)

Recommendations Budget Committee: None, Selectmen: Yes

Judy Ingram made a motion to accept the article as written and Tiffany Brendt seconded. There was no discussion and the article passed unanimously.

Article 19:

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$13,650.00 for professional valuation of real estate changes and maintenance of property records for the Town for tax assessment purposes (Acct. 5162)

Recommendations Budget Committee: Yes, Selectmen: Yes

Tiffany Brendt made a motion to accept the article as written and Richard Ahlberg seconded.

Barbara Conover asked if this was for a checkup. Selectman Murphy said that this was not a revaluation. It is only for the annual updates.

Richard Ahlberg asked if there is a reassessment when a property sells. Selectman Murphy said no, and that reassessments are triggered primarily by building permits.

Judy Ingram asked why this increased over last year. Selectman Murphy said that they had held the line for 2 or 3 years.

The article was voted on and passed unanimously.

Article 20:

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the following sums to cover Health and Sanitation Expenses:

Acct. No.	Title	Amount
5301	Solid Waste Tipping Fees	\$ 67,000.00
5302	Solid Waste Cartage	\$ 94,000.00
5306	Recycling Expenses	\$ 500.00
5311	Water Quality Tests	\$ 200.00
5312-New	Ossipee River Milfoil Abatement	<u>\$ 1,000.00</u>
	Total Health and Sanitation Expenses	\$ 162,700.00

Recommendations Budget Committee: Yes, Selectmen: Yes

Judy Ingram made a motion to accept the article as written and Tiffany Brendt seconded.

Jeffrey Wright asked why recycling wasn't on the website. David Bower said there was information on the website about recycling. Mr. Wright said he wanted the schedule to be on the calendar. Mr. Bower said he would do that.

Judy Ingram talked about the recycling stickers available for \$2. Putting them on a trash can make a good recycling container with a cover.

Patty O'Day-Senior said that composting will help keep our tipping fees down. Food scraps are heavy and can be composted.

Lynn Sudlow asked why the trash and recycling pickup day had been changed to Friday.

Selectman Murphy said that only one bid was received and the hauler was going to pick up on Friday. If that bid had been rejected, we would not have had any pickup until a new bid process was complete, and there's no guarantee that others would bid.

David Randall wondered why we don't have a transfer station. He said we could join TriTown or do our own at the box shop property. Selectman Bower said the logistics of that are very involved.

John Lesko requested that information regarding the amount of trash hauled and recycling picked up be put in the article. People are dumping garbage if there is no pickup. Marion Wright asked why bins are not allowed, especially with Friday pickup. Selectman Murphy noted that the contract states curbside pickup, and bins are not curbside. Ms. Wright wondered why the trash hauler picked up some trash with a trailer. Selectman Bower said that we don't control what kind of vehicles they use. Barbara Conover noted that many elderly and infirm residents are unable to lift their trash cans, so she doesn't think a transfer station is a good idea. Gary Taylor wondered if there were other options. He said the plantation is already bad with dumped trash and people have been dumping next to his house. Nancy Bower noted that when she was here just on weekends, she took her trash home with her when she left. Wondered why other weekenders can't do that. Jeffrey Wright said he'd like to end discussion. Donald Winslow stated that this is not the first time that trash pickup has been on a day other than Monday. During the summer, he lives in a town with a transfer station and feels that a transfer station is not always the best idea. David Randall suggested that if the transfer station was open Sunday, that would work for weekenders. Donald Winslow said the one he uses is open Sunday and it doesn't work. Eleanor Watson moved the question. Seconded by Judy Ingram. The motion passed with one opposing vote. The article was voted on and passed with 3 opposing votes.

Article 21:

To see if the Town will vote raise and appropriate the following sums to cover Winter Road Maintenance and Sand and Salt Expenses:

Acct. No.	Title	Amount
5401	Winter Road Maintenance Contracts	\$ 254,000.00
5402	Sand and Salt (Purchase, preparation, rents)	<u>\$ 90,000.00</u>
	Total Winter Road Maint. and Sand & Salt Expenses	\$ 344,000.00

Recommendations Budget Committee: Yes, Selectmen: Yes

Tiffany Brendt made a motion to accept the article as written and Daniel Flint seconded. Jeffrey Wright questioned whether there are any hazardous chemicals in the sand and salt that is used. Selectman Murphy stated that the sand and salt are the same as the state uses. Donna Riser asked whether there is any money left from last year. It was explained that all unexpended monies revert to the general fund. The article was voted on and passed unanimously.

Article 22:

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the following amounts to cover Highway and Bridge Expenses per the following:

Acct. No.	Title	Amount
5403	General Maintenance	\$ 200,000.00
5404	Paving and Sealing	<u>\$ 170,000.00</u>
	Total Road Maintenance Expenses	\$ 370,000.00

Recommendations Budget Committee: Yes, Selectmen: Yes

Judy Ingram made a motion to accept the article as written and Tiffany Brendt seconded. Jeffrey Wright noted that patching must be properly prepared. Wesley Stacey stated that the state just fills holes and drives over them to pack it. Gary Taylor said we need a better plan. We need to get the roads back in shape before they get any further out of hand. Selectman Murphy noted that an estimate shows it will take about \$1,000,000 a year for ten years to bring our roads up to par. Tiffany Brendt asked if patching falls under maintenance. Yes. Donna Riser asked what the proper forum is to discuss the road maintenance. Selectman Murphy said that they will be meeting with Road Commissioner Maya Lary to discuss a work plan, and they would advertise when this would happen. Selectman Bower said that the prior road commissioner gave the selectmen a road inventory that showed what needed to be done to the worst roads. That now needs to be prioritized. Todd Crooker stated that he would like meetings like that to be at night so he could come. Gary Taylor asked why the road commissioner doesn't get paid for planning. Selectman Murphy stated that the way we are currently set up, we can only pay the road commissioner while he or she is working on the roads. Mr. Taylor stated that planning was working on the roads. Moderator Heard said under certain circumstances the road commissioner can be paid for planning. Todd Crooker moved the question. David Randall seconded. Motion passed with 2 in opposition. The article was voted on and passed unanimously.

Article 23:

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen to appropriate up to \$81,696.00 for maintenance of roads from current fiscal year LRAP (a State funded road maintenance program).

Acct. No.	Title	Amount
5404	Paving and Sealing of Town Roads	\$ 16,696.00
5415	Designated Road Maint. and Repair	<u>\$ 65,000.00</u>
	Total LRAP	\$ 81,696.00

Recommendations Budget Committee: Yes, Selectmen: Yes

Tiffany Brendt made a motion to accept the article as written and Judy Ingram seconded. Jeffrey Wright complained about crumbs left after paving. Said the contract should state that they must clean up after the paving process.

Marion Wright asked how we change how the road commissioner gets paid. Need an article in the town warrant to be voted on.

John Lesko moved the question. Judy Ingram seconded. Motion passed with one in opposition.

The article was voted on and passed unanimously.

Article 24:

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$5,000.00 plus any state or individual reimbursements to cover the General Assistance Program

(Acct. 5501)

Recommendations Budget Committee: Yes, Selectmen: Yes

Vera Matthews made a motion to accept the article as written and Eleanor Watson seconded. There was no discussion and the article passed unanimously.

Article 25:

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the following sums to cover Cultural and Recreation Expenses:

Acct. No.	Title	Amount
5602	Kezar Falls Public Library	\$ 5,500.00
5605	Sacopee Valley Recreation Council Expenses	\$ 3,500.00
5610	Parsonsfield/Porter Historical Society	<u>\$ 500.00</u>
	Total	\$ 9,500.00

Recommendations Budget Committee: Yes, Selectmen: Yes

Donna Riser made a motion to accept the article as written and Judy Ingram seconded. There was no discussion and the article passed unanimously.

Article 26:

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the following sums to cover Social Service Expenses:

Acct. No.	Title	Amount
5702	York County Community Action	\$ 1,250.00
5703	Visiting Nurses Association	\$ 1,500.00
5704	Southern Maine Agency on Aging	\$ 2,500.00
5713	Caring Unlimited	\$ 569.00
5609	Red Cross	\$ 750.00
5708	LifeFlight Foundation	<u>\$ 100.00</u>
	Total	\$ 6,669.00

Recommendations Budget Committee: Yes, Selectmen: Yes

Judy Ingram made a motion to accept the article as written and Tiffany Brendt seconded. There was no discussion and the article passed unanimously.

Article 27:

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the following sums to cover Miscellaneous Expenses:

Acct. No.	Title	Amount
5901	Mowing & Care of Veteran's Graves	\$ 4,000.00
5902	West Day Post of the American Legion	\$ 400.00
5903	Gravestone Repair/Cemetery Repairs	<u>\$ 1,000.00</u>
	Total	\$ 5,400.00

Recommendations Budget Committee: Yes, Selectmen: Yes

Tiffany Brendt made a motion to accept the article as written and David Randall seconded. Jeffrey Wright wanted to know if there is a veteran's grave in a cemetery, do we mow the rest of the cemetery. Our only responsibility is to mow the veterans' graves, so no.

Wesley Stacey said he has cleaned a number of cemeteries, but much more needs to be done.

Lois Pence asked if the state helps. No

Dan Flint noted that many cemeteries are private, so we can ONLY do the veterans' graves.

Joseph Howes called for a thank you to Wesley Stacey. Applause.

Gary Taylor wondered why the North Parsonsfield Cemetery fence hadn't been fixed.

Boiled down to time and money.

The article was voted on and passed unanimously.

Article 28:

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$2,200.00 for the Town's share of funding the Courtesy Boat Inspection Station at the Long Pond Boat Ramp. (Acct. 5217)

Recommendations Budget Committee: Yes, Selectmen: Yes

Judy Ingram made a motion to accept the article as written and Alan Wing seconded.

Judy Ingram gave a synopsis of the program: 555 boats this year versus 411 last year; no invasive plants were found; there are 7 inspectors who were there 3-7pm Fridays, 6am-6pm Saturday and Sunday.

Vera Matthews asked about West Pond. Tiffany Brendt noted that West Pond is infested with Curly Leaf Pond Weed. They are getting about \$13,000 this year to help with the control effort. There are many volunteers helping with the weed sucker boat. They have one diver.

David Randall stated that the state matches the Long Pond monies, but the match is decreasing, as it is for West Pond as more ponds inspect or become infested.

Eleanor Watson stated that the contract says we have to fund this.

Marion Wright offered kudos to the inspectors.

The article was voted on and passed unanimously.

Article 29:

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the refunded fees from Snowmobile Registrations to be split equally between the Sacopee Valley Snowdrifters, Inc. Snowmobile Club and the Route 11 Streakers Snowmobile Club, said sum to be the amount refunded by the State for the prior fiscal year (\$602.42). The money is to be used for purposes such as trail maintenance and construction or purchase of equipment and materials for the maintenance and construction of trails which are to be open to the public, free of charge, during the winter season. (Acct 5606)

Recommendations Budget Committee: Yes, Selectmen: Yes

Tiffany Brendt made a motion to accept the article as written and Alan Wing seconded.

Jeffrey Wright suggested that Hasty Road be closed. Myra Guild says she uses Hasty Road. Patty O'Day-Senior asked if the buses used Hasty Road. Marion Wright said they didn't, they use Route 153.

The article was voted on and passed unanimously.

Article 30:

To see if the town will vote to appropriate any franchise fees received in the prior fiscal year from Time Warner Cable, Inc. to be given to TV-2 for the purchase and maintenance of equipment and for operating costs (\$2,588.14). (Acct 5607)

Recommendations Budget Committee: Yes, Selectmen: Yes

Judy Ingram made a motion to accept the article as written and Tiffany Brendt seconded.

There was no discussion and the article passed unanimously.

Article 31:

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen, on behalf of the Town, to enter into a mutual aid agreement with the Town of Newfield's Fire Department, the Town of Limerick's Fire Department, and the Town of Effingham's Fire Department for fire protection and Effingham's Rescue for emergency first response medical care for the western area of Parsonsfield for the ensuing year. (Acct 5205)

Recommendations Budget Committee: Yes, Selectmen: Yes

Richard Ahlberg made a motion to accept the article as written and Judy Ingram seconded.

Myra guild asked about Newfield Rescue. It was noted that they are part of Newfield Fire.

The article was voted on and passed unanimously.

Article 32:

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$ 5,000.00 to be placed in the Municipal Building Capital Repair Fund. (Acct. 5155)

Recommendations Budget Committee: Yes, Selectmen: Yes

Donna Riser made a motion to accept the article as written and Judy Ingram seconded.

There was no discussion and the article passed unanimously.

Article 33:

To see if the Town will agree to enter into a contract with ReVision Energy for the installation of a rooftop solar electric system on the Municipal Building at 634 North Road. The contract cost of the system is \$26,778.00.

Recommendations Budget Committee: None, Selectmen: Yes

Louis Aubuchont made a motion to accept the article as written and Patty O'Day-Senior seconded.

A motion was made to allow Nick Sampson from ReVision Energy to speak. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously. Mr. Sampson explained the Power Purchase Agreement and that ReVision will honor the net metering agreement even if the state changes the program. He noted that the Town can't use the tax incentives available, but ReVision can, so they pass some of that savings on to the Town. The life of the system is estimated to be 40 years. It should be installed on a young roof. Discussion about the maintenance and upkeep.

The article was voted on and passed unanimously.

Article 34:

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$4,463.00 to be placed in a Solar Capital Reserve account. The additional contract amount (\$22,315.00) will be raised over the next five years. (Acct. 5121 – new)

Recommendations Budget Committee: None, Selectmen: Yes

Marion Wright made a motion to accept the article as written and Patty O’Day-Senior seconded.

There was no discussion and the article passed unanimously.

Article 35:

To see if the Town will vote raise and appropriate the following amounts for studies, redevelopment costs, repairs, and improvements at the Town owned property known as the Kezar Falls Woolen Mill:

Acct. No.	Title	Amount
5104	Professional Services	\$10,000.00
5111	Tax Acquired Property Expenses	<u>\$ 1,000.00</u>
		\$11,000.00

Recommendations Budget Committee: Yes ,Selectmen: Yes

Judy Ingram made a motion to accept the article as written and Patty O’Day-Senior seconded.

There was no discussion and the article passed unanimously.

Article 36:

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate \$20,000.00 from the Bartlett Doe Fund (credited to the Relief Account by vote of the Town on March 9, 1953) for the support of the common schools and said sum to be applied as partial payment of the school assessment for the ensuing year (Acct. 5801)

Recommendations Budget Committee: Yes, Selectmen: Yes

Tiffany Brendt made a motion to accept the article as written and Richard Ahlberg seconded.

There was no discussion and the article passed unanimously.

Article 37:

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen, on behalf of the Town, to accept or to refuse donations and bequests that may be offered to the Town and if accepted to spend the same in accordance with the wishes of the donor. Such expenditures shall be in addition to any other amounts raised or appropriated elsewhere for a similar purpose.

Recommendations Budget Committee: Yes, Selectmen: Yes

Tiffany Brendt made a motion to accept the article as written and Daniel Flint seconded.

There was no discussion and the article passed unanimously.

Article 38:

To see if the Town will vote to establish 60 days after commitment as the date when the 2016 real estate and personal property taxes will be due and payable, and to establish a rate of 7.00% interest to be charged on all unpaid taxes as of that date. (The maximum allowable rate set by the State is 7.00% per annum.)

Recommendations Budget Committee: Yes, Selectmen: Yes

Tiffany Brendt made a motion to accept the article as written and Daniel Flint seconded.

There was no discussion and the article passed unanimously.

Article 39:

To see if the Town will vote to establish a rate of 2% discount to be allowed on all real estate and personal property taxes paid in full within 30 days of commitment.

Recommendations Budget Committee: Yes, Selectmen: Yes

Patty O’Day-Senior made a motion to accept the article as written and Daniel Flint seconded.

There was no discussion and the article passed unanimously.

Article 40:

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the tax collector to accept prepayment of taxes, the amount collected not to exceed the previous year’s taxes. Interest on any prepayment will be zero percent.

Recommendations Budget Committee: Yes, Selectmen: Yes

Judy Ingram made a motion to accept the article as written and Tiffany Brendt seconded.

Marion Wright suggested that we do two or four payments for taxes.

The article was voted on and passed unanimously.

Article 41:

To see if the Town will vote to use the Tax Lien Mortgage method for the collection of unpaid taxes after the expiration of eight months from the commitment date, and to establish 7.00% as the rate of interest to be charged on all liens until paid in full. (The maximum allowable rate set by the State is 7.00% per annum.)

Recommendations Budget Committee: Yes, Selectmen: Yes

Alan Wing made a motion to accept the article as written and Tiffany Brendt seconded. Jeffrey Wright made a motion that we amend the article by reducing the interest rate to 6%. Marion Wright seconded. David Bower noted that our systems might not be able to handle a different interest rate for unpaid taxes and liened properties. Donna Riser said we should keep the maximum allowed rate. This is not a loan, it is money the Town needs and we need to collect it. The motion to amend was voted on. Three were for amending the article and many were against the amendment. The amendment did not pass. Back to the article as written. The article was voted on and passed with 3 in opposition.

Article 42:

To see if the Town will vote to establish 7.00% as the rate of interest it will pay on taxes that have been overpaid in excess of the full amount assessed in accordance with MRSA Title 36 Section 506-A.

Recommendations Budget Committee: Yes, Selectmen: Yes

Tiffany Brendt made a motion to accept the article as written and Patty O'Day-Senior seconded.

A discussion about what this article meant was held.

The article was voted on and passed unanimously.

Article 43:

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen to use monies from the Overlay Account for real estate and personal property tax discounts and tax abatements including any interest accrued thereon.

Recommendations Budget Committee: Yes, Selectmen: Yes

Donna Riser made a motion to accept the article as written and Thelma Lavoie seconded.

There was no discussion and the article passed unanimously.

Article 47:

To see if the Town will vote to exceed **the 2016 Municipal Property Tax Levy** per MRS Title 30-A. (An affirmative vote will allow this municipality to surpass the 2016 limit but requires that the 2016 limit will be used as the base for next year's limit calculation).

Recommendations Budget Committee: Yes, Selectmen: Yes

There were no motions on this article so it was passed over.

Deborah Sobczak asked to speak. She is a nonresident. A motion to allow her to speak was made, seconded and passed.

Ms. Sobczak wanted information on how to get our Zoning Ordinance updated to match the state guidelines in the Shoreland Zone. A discussion followed.

Motion to adjourn was made, seconded and passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 12:37pm.

Respectfully submitted,

**David F Bower
Town Clerk**