

TOWN DELIBERATIVE SESSION MINUTES

February 5, 2011

Moderator Jerry Little asked everyone present to rise for the pledge of allegiance. While everyone was standing, Moderator Little asked those present to keep standing while he read the residents that passed away in 2010. He then asked for moment of silence.

Chairman Clow was then recognized to give the state of the town address.

Moderator Little then proceeded to inform everyone his rules of procedure that were to be followed for today's meeting.

With no further questions or comments Moderator Little proceeded onto the articles.

ARTICLE 5

Shall the Town raise and appropriate, as an operating budget, not including appropriations by special warrant articles and other appropriations voted separately, the amounts set forth on the budget posted with the warrant or as amended by vote of the first session, for the purposes set forth therein, totaling Four Million Eight Hundred Thirty One Thousand Five Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$4,831,550.00)? Should this article be defeated, the Default Budget shall be Four Million Seven Hundred Twenty-Seven Thousand Three Hundred Seventy-Four Dollars (\$4,727,374.00) which is the same as last year, with certain adjustments required by previous action of the Town or by law; or the governing body may hold one special meeting, in accordance with RSA 40:13, X and XVI, to take up the issue of a revised Operating Budget only.

	Department	Proposed	Default
A	TOWN OFFICERS SALARIES	\$ 21,533.00	\$ 21,533.00
B	TOWN OFFICERS EXPENSES	\$ 17,265.00	\$ 16,765.00
C	ELECTIONS & REGISTRATIONS	\$ 12,700.00	\$ 12,700.00
D	TAX COLLECTOR	\$ 39,836.00	\$ 39,261.00
E	FINANCE COMMITTEE	\$ 00.00	\$ 00.00
F	ASSESSING OFFICE	\$ 117,461.00	\$ 117,211.00
G	LEGAL FEES	\$ 54,000.00	\$ 54,000.00
H	FINANCE ADMINISTRATOR	\$ 75,589.00	\$ 75,539.00
I	TOWN CLERKS OFFICE	\$ 119,433.00	\$ 117,988.00
J	SELECTMAN'S OFFICE	\$ 170,762.00	\$ 170,732.00
K	CABLE COMMITTEE	\$ 1,640.00	\$ 1,640.00
L	TRUSTEES OF TRUST FUNDS	\$ 15.00	\$ 15.00
M	LAND USE	\$ 25,641.00	\$ 25,341.00
N	GENERAL GOVERNMENT BUILDINGS	\$ 54,308.00	\$ 53,308.00
O	CEMETERIES	\$ 31,828.00	\$ 31,828.00

P	INSURANCE	\$ 156,255.00	\$ 156,255.00
Q	ADVERTISEMENTS AND DUES	\$ 7,125.00	\$ 7,125.00
R	POLICE DEPARTMENT	\$1,406,939.00	\$ 1,321,559.00
S	EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT	\$ 4,150.00	\$ 4,150.00
T	FIRE DEPARTMENT	\$ 266,398.00	\$ 261,888.00
U	AMBULANCE BILLING SERVICE FEES	\$ 8,000.00	\$ 8,000.00
V	BLDG DEPT/ CODE ENFORCEMENT	\$ 89,479.00	\$ 89,321.00
W	FOREST FIRES	\$ 3,660.00	\$ 3,660.00
X	TOWN MAINT / HIGHWAY DEPT	\$1,203,023.00	\$ 1,201,683.00
Y	STREET LIGHTING	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 4,000.00
Z	TRANSFER STATION	\$ 346,738.00	\$ 346,219.00
AA	SEWER DEPARTMENT	\$ 12,939.00	\$ 12,939.00
BB	WATER DEPARTMENT	\$ 2,100.00	\$ 2,100.00
CC	ANIMAL CONTROL	\$ 15,606.00	\$ 15,606.00
DD	HEALTH OFFICER	\$ 4,711.00	\$ 4,711.00
EE	WELFARE	\$ 38,962.00	\$ 38,962.00
FF	PARKS AND RECREATION	\$ 43,888.00	\$ 40,388.00
GG	LIBRARY	\$ 181,023.00	\$ 176,567.00
HH	PATRIOTIC PURPOSE	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00
II	CONSERVATION COMMISSION	\$ 1,355.00	\$ 1,207.00
JJ	ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,500.00
KK	AGRICULTURAL COMMISSION	\$ 15.00	\$ 00.00
LL	DEBT SERVICE	\$ 218,143.00	\$ 218,143.00
MM	ONE TIME ACCRUAL PAYOUTS	\$ 73,030.00	\$ 73,030.00

TOTAL EXPENDITURE	\$ 4,831,550.00	\$ 4,727,374.00
LESS ANTICIPATED REVENUE	\$ 2,529,763.00	
TOTAL TO BE RAISED BY TAX	\$ 2,301,787.00	
DIVIDED BY VALUATION/1000	\$ 949,007.00	
ESTIMATED TAX IMPACT	\$ 2.42	

(**Recommended** by Board of Selectmen.)

Chairman Clow moved that Article 5 be accepted as written; Ray Kelly seconded the motion. Chairman Clow then turned the meeting over to Tina Connor, Finance Administrator to go through some power point screens. The first screen showed a pie chart showing a breakdown of how the budget is spent. Some of the ones that were noted were: 42% makes up wages and taxes; 15% are for contractual obligations like salt/sand; hauling; lawn care; support and maintenance on equipment and computers; professional services; education; uniforms; dispatch and cleaning. 9% is for health insurance; and 13% is for other expenses.

The next screen showed a three year budget history on major items like wages; health insurance; property and liability insurance; fuel and NH Retirement. The third screen showed the staffing for just the office building from 2009 to 2011, which

showed a decrease of 3 part time staff. The next screen showed the anticipated tax impact for 2011 as proposed and default. The difference is 10 cents. It also showed the anticipated increase if the proposed budget and all warrant articles passed would be 15.3 cents over the current rate of \$2.76. The last screen that had to do with the budget was just some ambulance billing information showing the amount taken in for 2010 and the amount spent on perdiem EMT's after passage.

Moderator Little then recognized Greg Elwood, Chairman of the Finance Committee who read their mission statement which states that they review and evaluate items based on short term and long term ramifications. They started their review in October. Mr. Elwood further added that after reviewing the increases for all the operating budgets for Weare, including the Town and two school districts, they believe that increased budgets and taxes are not sustainable for the taxpayers of Weare. With respect to the Town, they suggest that the Town operating budget be level funded to the 2010 approved operating budget in the amount of \$4,577,407.64 because they believe that, at this level of appropriation, the town services should not be materially affected, and the trend of increasing taxes should stop.

John Lawton, Oak Hill Rd, stated that the Board mentioned the possible 1% increase in the valuation in Town. He wanted to know if the Board could tell them what the number of building permits was this year compared to the past few. Chairman Clow responded that the 1% is typically what we have done in past years and it has been pretty close.

Neal Kurk, Mt. Dearborn Road, stated that he had a question about the default budget. More particular the inclusion of the \$88,000 in overtime for the police department when last year it was \$55,000. He asked if there was any legal justification for raising the amount above what was there last year.

Chairman Clow responded that in 2006 we passed the first collective bargaining union and that called for a 3 year contract with wages of 3.5% each year. In 2006 the overtime was approximately \$61,000. As the wages increased the amount paid for overtime also increases. This is 5 years later. One of the officers went without an increase and four to five of them received a 3.5% increase. It was never carried forward, which should have been done to compensate for the increases, therefore we should have \$33,000 more in the default in the overtime line. That was the thinking it is a real expense. It is tied to a contract approved by the voters and we feel it is appropriate. The reality is that \$55,000 has been on the books for the past 5 or more years and over that time the amount has grown. We have added officers and 24-7 coverage. It is ridiculous to think that we can live on \$55K when we are spending more than that.

Vice Chairman Butt would like to address the legal issue as to whether we have the authority. We have a legal opinion from LGC (Local Government Center) and he read the paragraph that stated how the governing bodies can determine defaults. One was a mathematical calculation. This board had taken a hybrid approach. We have taken each individual spending line and justify that expense. We have created default budgets less than previous years. We attempt to be realistic with items. We recognize budgets are tight and we do make an attempt to make sure it is realistic. He addressed the request from the finance committee. In the 2011 budget we have a one time expenditure and we don't have a choice. It is a contractual obligation. We have two employees retiring this year and we have to pay them their accrued time. With the Finance Committee recommending the 2010 amount we start in the hole because we have to cut \$73,000 for that contractual payment. We also didn't have all the snow every other day, like we have had this year.

Jim Franciscovich, Grandview Drive, wanted to inquire about the proposed \$85,000 over the default. What is included in the total increase in the Police Department? Chairman Clow responded even with the \$33,000 increase in overtime it doesn't come close to what is spent. We have had increased needs of Police Department in town creating a lot of overtime. There is a 3.5% increase of wages based on approving the collective bargaining agreement. Mr. Franciscovich asked no more positions? Chairman Clow responded, no not without asking the Town.

Janet Brown, Orchard Path, asked when the police officers are details how are they paid. Chairman Clow responded, the revolving fund from whoever is hiring them. There is an administrative charge as well as a vehicle charge. Earlier in the year we purchased two cruisers because there was money in the revolving fund. It has no tax impact to the Town. Mrs. Brown then mentioned retirement as it does reflect in their retirement when they retire. Chairman Clow stated that there is some current legislature with the State regarding this topic. It can reflect back if the total retirement salary comes in at above and beyond. It is not entirely into place, and it won't take place until June 30, 2011. Chairman Clow stated that he is not sure if the entire detail pay is figured in to that. Mr. Brown then asked if an officer is on detail can he be removed from that if we had an emergency. Chief Begin did not approach the microphone, but shook his head yes and stated if there was an emergency they can be taken off detail. Chairman Clow added that overtime has nothing to do with detail.

Janet Brown then stated that she has one comment that doesn't have to do with the police and that is that she is concerned with the snow load of this building as well as the other town buildings.

Paul Marsh, Colby Road, he would also remind the Town that if the rains this snow is all going down hill. Road repairs will be increased. The Finance Committee has

given a default figure but offered no back up or explanation to it. Mr. Elwood stated that there was an email sent to the Board but it didn't give any suggestions of cuts, it just indicated that they would share their thoughts at the meeting. The meeting didn't take place.

Frank Campana, Quaker Street, statement he has attend several meetings at the budget process. He was there long enough to get the philosophy and one comment he heard from a Selectman. That person felt that all they do is cut, cut, cut and in a tone of voice, he thinks it is very unfortunate that in this persons own household doesn't have to cut. On January 10th minutes, quite a bit of discussion of the Fire Department. The cost savings in the wage line for the EMTs he said that was minimal. The board felt they could reduce the wage line and what they did was is to take the \$10K and put it in the Fire Chief line and it doesn't instill a lot of confidence to him when a savings is mentioned and then put somewhere. He doesn't support the proposed budget but will support the default as printed here.

Russ Wagner, Winterberry Lane, question has to do with valuation number, is that anticipated net assessed valuation, realistic. Chairman Clow responded that the anticipated revenues come in from all sorts of revenue. Overall homes are over assessed, but that is not going to change and if that reflects a lower rate, then it will be balanced off. The increase in valuation will be offset with taxes.

Bill Alleman, Helen Dearborn Road, stated that he would like to hear more about the \$4,577,000 number from the Finance Committee. He makes a motion that the amount of \$4,577,407.64 as recommended by the Finance Committee; Russ Wagner seconded the motion.

Chuck Bolton, East Road, stated that he noticed that the Finance Committee recommendations have the same tax impact but there is a \$300K spending difference. He sympathizes with the Board and he has sat on the Finance Committee in the past, but what we all have to think about, the population is to have a less or lowered anticipated income, but the problem is, how our government reacts to it. We can't continue to increase government costs but decreased incomes. Chairman Clow stated that he doesn't think there is a discrepancy with the Finance Committees tax impact, all they did was just copy what the BOS did.

Greg Elwood, Finance Committee was recognized to explain the numbers, one is a correction, and they are looking to lower \$254,243 lower than proposed. Some of the numbers they have looked at but in now way to micromanage. Within the budget, some examples, \$207,000 in overtime in the Police Department. The Finance Committee is suggesting that is one line that might have been reduced by that amount. They realize that this is a bottom line budget. Another area is the retirement amount of \$73,000, as it is a one time hit. Last year the Town funded \$30,000 in a separate Capital Reserve fund for Employee retirements. There is cer-

tainly room in any budget for cuts and \$254,000 is huge. The number they recommended is for a level funded budget.

Chris Hague, Abijah Bridge Road, stated that she would like to comment on taking money from other lines. We are on our 11th default budget; every department has done as much cutting without cutting services. We had in some instances to reduce services. We are functioning below what we have the tools to do. There is no padding, we are at the bottom. Secondly, we all elect boards and committees with oversight of their monies expenses, a bottom line last minute cut takes away from what has been prepared. It is taking away the ability of the voters to hear where all the cuts will be made. We need to think about what has been proposed.

Brian Nase, Concord Stage Road, stated that the Finance Committee answered where the suggestions could be made, how would the board respond to that cuts. Chairman Clow responded if you look at the proposed budget it doesn't take into consideration items of we don't have control over. The retirement payouts have to be there, by law we have to pay them out. Last year we also had a very light winter as it stopped snowing in February. Salt and overtime for the Highway Department are higher this year. Chairman Clow went over the costs that we have no control over that totals \$210,000. Mr. Nase Brian asked what percentage the board has control over. Chairman Clow apologized but he didn't have that number.

Ray Kelly, Brown Ridge Road, he speaks in opposition of the motion to amend, the comments that he has heard from Chairman Clow reinforces his uneasiness with the cuts. Accepting to take a straight cut across seems to be fool hearted. We have had a hard winter. He didn't think the 10% cut does any justice for the Town. The budget that the BOS put together deserves to go to ballot as put forth. There is a default that takes into account what has to be done. You can't manage a Town with a 10% cut and urged people to not vote for this amendment.

Frank Campana stated he was in favor of the amendment. He asked why wasn't the decision of the board to put the retirement payouts of \$73,000 on a separate article and not in the proposed and default. Vice Chairman Butt stated that it was a contractual obligation. It is a one time expenditure and not included in the budget next year. Last year we put in \$30K and to date we have only \$9K left. We had one retirement and other employees that were entitled to cash in on used the majority of the capital reserve fund. The only way we can pay this obligation is to put it in both the proposed and default. Mr. Campana appreciates and accepts the explanation. It is truly a one time expenditure that will not be part of the next budget.

Greg Elwood, Finance Committee Chairman stated that it is not 10%; it is a 5.5% increase over last years.

Being there was no further discussion on the amendment, the moderator asked for a vote. The motion is "to amend Article 5 by removing the recommended total budget amount of \$4,831,550 and replacing it with the Finance Committee's amount of \$4,577,407.64".

The moderator asked for a show of voter cards. The results: Yes – 17; No – 53, therefore the motion fails and the amendment fails.

The discussion then went back to Article 5 as proposed by the Board of Selectmen.

John Lawton moved to amend the proposed budget to \$4,787,729, which reflects the one time retirement payout of \$73,000 and it includes a 3% increase over the Finance Committee's recommendation of \$4,577,407. Frank Campana 2nd the motion. Chairman Clow stated that if he tried to address the motion he would really just be repeating everything he said earlier.

Carl Knapp, River Road, clarified that the \$4,577,407.64 figure is what was adopted in 2010.

Frank Campana stated that he would support the amendment it sounds a little more reasonable. It addresses the one time retirement and the 3% sound reasonable.

Being there was no further discussion on the amendment, the moderator asked for a vote. The motion is "to amend Article 5 by removing the recommended total budget amount of \$4,831,550 and replacing it with the amount of \$4,787,729, which reflects an increase of 3% over the prior year's budget, plus the contractual retirement payout amount of \$73,000".

The moderator asked for a show of voter cards. The results: Yes – 18; No – no number was give, but it exceeded the 18, therefore the moderator made the determination that the motion fails and the amendment fails.

Once again we are back to Article 5 as published in the warrant. No further amendments were offered.

Janet Brown stated she has one thing to say and that is hats off to the people in the Town office when it has come to settling issues and doubling up on duties. It's too bad it doesn't trickle down, the Police Department was mentioned. These are issues that need to be looked at by the Board of Selectmen. People in town are hurting and she would like to see other departments do the same as the Town Office.

A suggestion to call the question was offered.

Without any further amendments the moderator asked that all those in favor of the Town budget to appear on the warrant as printed please indicate by saying aye and then he asked for the nays. The ayes appeared to have it and Article 5 will appear on the warrant as originally written.

Forrest Esenwine pointed out that if it didn't change he didn't think we had to vote. It was not necessary.

Ray Kelly moved to restrict reconsideration on Article 5; Tina Connor seconded the motion, all in favor.

ARTICLE 6

Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of Three Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$350,000.00) for the purchase of a replacement fire truck and fund this appropriation by authorizing the withdrawal of said sum from the previously established Weare Fire Department Vehicle Replacement Special Revenue Fund?

Estimated tax impact= 0.00

(Recommended by Board of Selectmen.)

Vice Chairman Butt moved to accept Article 6 as read, Chairman Clow seconded the motion. Assistant Chief Richards was recognized to speak. Mr. Richards stated that the plan will be to move the 1990 truck to the East Weare Station. It is newer and carried 1500 gallons of water which would be good in that area. It was always the intention to replace but they have held off until there were enough funds to purchase it.

Greg Elwood, Finance Committee stated that unfortunately at the budget hearing no case was made to justify the purchase of a brand new fire truck. This purchase would deplete this special revenue fund which would result in a higher tax impact in the future.

Without any further amendments the moderator stated that Article 6 will appear on the warrant as printed.

A motion was made and seconded to restrict reconsideration, all in favor.

ARTICLE 7

Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of Twenty Four Thousand Dollars (\$24,000.00) for the purchase of pagers for the Fire Department. The previously established Fire Department Communication Capital Reserve Fund is depleted; therefore the whole amount will be raised by taxation?

Estimated tax impact= \$0.0253

(Recommended by Board of Selectmen.)

Vice Chairman Butt moved to accept Article 7 as read, Raymond Eaton seconded the motion. Assistant Chief Richards was recognized to speak. Mr. Richards stated that this was originally a Capital Improvement item that needed to be moved up because as of 2012 there is a mandate that the old pagers can't be converted after that and they would not be able to be alerted if there was an emergency.

Gregg Elwood, Chairman of the Finance Committee stated that they are recommending this article as the department's pagers are old and outdated and this purchase will enhance public safety.

Frank Campana asked who was mandating it. Mr. Richards responded the Federal Government. Mr. Campana stated that if it was a Federal Mandate is their money available. Assistant Chief Richards stated that he didn't think there was any money.

Without any further amendments the moderator stated that Article 7 will appear on the warrant as printed.

A motion was made and seconded to restrict reconsideration, all in favor.

ARTICLE 8

Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of Thirty One Thousand Dollars (\$31,000.00) to purchase a new defibulator/AED machine for the Fire Department, and fund this appropriation by authorizing the withdrawal of Eighteen Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$18,500.00) from the previously established Fire Department Equipment Capital Reserve with the balance of Twelve Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$12,500.00) to be raised by taxation?

Estimated tax impact= \$0.0132

(Recommended by Board of Selectmen.)

Vice Chairman Butt moved to accept Article 8 as read, Jon Osborne seconded the motion. Rescue Captain Dan Gorman was recognized to speak. Mr. Gorman stated that this is a multi-purpose machine that would be replacing a model that is currently a 1999 model.

Greg Elwood, Finance Committee Chairman stated that they felt that public safety was an issue and they recommended.

Paul Marsh asked where the device would be housed. Mr. Gorman responded that they would be on the ambulances. It will replace the existing one.

Without any further amendments the moderator stated that Article 8 will appear on the warrant as printed.

A motion was made and seconded to restrict reconsideration, all in favor.

ARTICLE 9

Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of Four Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$400,000.00) for road reconstruction and resurfacing of roads? Of the \$400,000.00, the sum of Two Hundred Ninety-Two Thousand Eleven Dollars and Fifty-Five Cents (\$292,011.55) is anticipated to be received from Highway Block Grant Funds from the State of New Hampshire (Pursuant to RSA 235) with One Hundred Seven Thousand Nine Hundred Eighty-Eight Dollars and Forty-Five Cents (\$107,988.45) to be raised by taxation.

Estimated tax impact= \$ 0.1138

(Recommended by Board of Selectmen)

Selectman Donison moved to accept Article 9 as read, Chairman Clow seconded the motion. Selectman Donison was recognized to speak. He stated that in 2008 Quaker Street was done; 2009 Thorndike Road was done and in 2010 Hodgdon Road was done. There are a couple of options for 2011 and that would be Route 149 to Reservoir Drive or Sugar Hill to Beach Hill Road, to top of hill.

Greg Elwood, Finance Chairman recommended utilizing the Block Grant money.

Neal Kurk questioned are the Board was still going to use the Highway Department to rebuild the roads or will the jobs be put out to bid. Chairman Clow responded stated that there has been no discussion on that.

Without any further amendments the moderator stated that Article 9 will appear on the warrant as printed.

A motion was made and seconded to restrict reconsideration, all in favor.

ARTICLE 10

Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of Two Hundred Ninety Thousand Dollars (\$290,000.00) for the purchase of a new truck and a new loader for the Highway Department. The previously established Highway Truck and Equipment Capital Reserve Fund is depleted, therefore the whole amount will be raised by taxation?

Estimated tax impact= \$ 0.3056

(Recommended by Board of Selectmen.)

Selectman Donison moved to accept Article 10 as read, Chairman Clow seconded the motion. Selectman Donison stated that this article is to replace a 1994 6-wheel dump truck that is not able to be used anymore out of safety. This will also replace a 2004 Hyundai loader that we have spent over \$11,000 on just in 2010.

Gregg Elwood, Finance Chairman stated that did not recommend this article, because they believe that a quarter of a million dollar expense is not needed in the Town of Weare. Selectman Donison stated that these pieces of equipment are part of the Capital Improvements Plan. Mr. Elwood just felt that the quarter of a million seems excessive.

Frank Campana, Quaker Street, stated that he felt that the town lost a qualified road agent, if this article was to pass, who do we have that is qualified to find the right model, etc. Chairman Clow responded that right now the board has right in front of us and we are trying to create an updated job description and proceed to advertise and pick a qualified person to fill that position. He believes that between the expertises that we have on staff there now and a new hire, a good decision will be made.

Forrest Esenwine moved to amend the article to insert the word "used" in front of truck and in front of loader. The reason for doing this is that there might be a good used piece of equipment out there, saving some tax dollars. Chairman Clow seconded the motion.

Frank Campana, Quaker Street stated that he would support the amendment falling back to his previous statements. Regardless of a new person with credentials, they won't have a proven track record to the Town for some time. He is reluctant to putting some faith in a new person.

Janet Brown, Orchard Path, stated that they personally have a lot of equipment themselves she thinks we should get out of the used federal equipment. We have had our issues with some of the equipment, but we should look at a reputable company to help us out. Chairman Clow stated that when the board has seen large items we see the same vendors that are reputable. We will be looking for a trusted vendor, not particularly the specifications.

Paul Marsh, Colby Road, stated that he would recommend a new vehicle will get a warranty a used vehicle is used and has been used. Used equipment will cost more and a sooner replacement than a new.

Frank Campana, Quaker Street, stated again in support of an amendment, just like homes, cars, etc in light of the economy there are probably some contractors out there that have been foreclosed on that we may be able to take advantage of and doesn't agree with the previous speaker.

The Moderator read the amended article as follows:

"Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of Two Hundred Ninety Thousand Dollars (\$290,000.00) for the purchase of a used or new truck and a used or new

loader for the Highway Department. The previously established Highway Truck and Equipment Capital Reserve Fund is depleted, therefore the whole amount will be raised by taxation?"

A vote was taken on the amendment and the amendment passed.

A motion was made and seconded to restrict reconsideration, all in favor.

ARTICLE 11

Shall the Town approve the one year collective bargaining agreement reached between the Board of Selectmen and the *American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees (AFSCME)* Union for the Public Works Employees, beginning April 1, 2011?

Estimated tax impact = \$ 0.00

(Recommended by Board of Selectmen)

Selectman Donison moved to accept Article 11 as read, Chairman Clow seconded the motion. Selectman Donison was recognized to speak. He stated that approximately 2 years ago the staff voted to move forward as a union and a result of this the Town is required to negotiate an agreement with them. For the past 2 years we have been negotiated and have come to an agreement which in order to be complete, it needs to be voted on by the Town.

Greg Elwood, they are no recommendation as no information was provided.

Russ Wagner, Winterberry Lane, stated that he would like to know the details of what is in it before he votes on it. Chairman Clow responded that there is no salary schedule with this. The wages stay as they are at this time. This agreement basically parallels the Town's personnel policy with regard to the bonus, vacation, it refers back to the family leave, and there is nothing that is in this that they are not getting today. In the future there maybe a wage scale brought before the Town.

Neal Kurk, Mt. Dearborn Road, asked does this mean that the current Town employee benefit package is changing health care providers, does this include that change as well. Chairman Tom responded that they will be changing with the other Town employees.

Mr. Kurk further asked about the police. Chairman Clow responded that these are negotiated yearly and the Police contract is not on the ballot this year, therefore their contract will remain and their health insurance will not be changing.

Mr. Kurk asked if the part time employees are getting insurance. Vice Chairman Butt responded they are also a provision in the personnel policy as well to be purchased at a prorated amount.

George Mallete, Concord Stage Road, without any money attached shouldn't this just move forward. Laura Spector, Town Attorney stated that all warrant articles can be discussed any meeting, so the response is no.

Bill Alleman, Helen Dearborn Road, asked if the voters reject this what is the change, what the difference between passage and failure is. Chairman Clow responded, nothing it says the same as the personnel policy.

Heleen Kurk, Mt. Dearborn Road, asked how long the contract is. Selectman Don-ison responded one year.

Frank Campana, Quaker Street stated that it is very enticing to see a zero impact and has no problem with the Highway Department making a living. Next year we will be coming back with a wage scale, benefits, etc. similar to the Police Department. He felt the tax payer and town can be held hostage with these unions. This is not as rosy as it sounds.

Chairman Clow stated again, the same situation will arise like it did, we will go into negotiations again where it passes or not.

Laura Spector, Town Counsel stated that she has been told that where it is a new contract it has to be put forth and the Town has to vote on it.

Without any further amendments the moderator stated that Article 11 will appear on the warrant as printed.

A motion was made and seconded to restrict reconsideration, all in favor.

ARTICLE 12

Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of Twenty Thousand Dollars (\$20,000.00) for cemetery improvements and fund this appropriation by authorizing the withdrawal of said sum from Cemetery Trust Funds Cy Pres Account.

Estimated tax impact = \$ 0.00

(Recommended by Board of Selectmen)

Chairman Clow moved to accept Article 12 as read, Selectman Osborne seconded the motion. The moderator recognized Don Burke, Cemetery Trustee Chairman to speak. Mr. Burke stated that this article gives the Trustees the authority to get money from the Trust fund that can use for the interior of the cemeteries. It is basically for common maintenance.

Gregg Elwood, Finance Chairman stated that there is no tax impact to the voters and they believe the work is necessary and they are recommending this article.

Without any further amendments the moderator stated that Article 12 will appear on the warrant as printed.

A motion was made and seconded to restrict reconsideration, all in favor.

ARTICLE 13

Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of Forty Thousand Dollars (\$40,000.00) for work to be done to the Dow-Peaslee Cemetery located on Route 77 (Concord Stage Road) and fund this appropriation by authorizing the withdrawal of Twenty Seven Thousand Dollars (\$27,000.00) from the previously established Cemetery Construction Capital Reserve Fund with the balance of Thirteen Thousand Dollars (\$13,000.00) to be raised by taxation?

Estimated tax impact= \$ 0.0137

(Recommended by Board of Selectmen.)

Chairman Clow moved to accept Article 12 as read, Selectman Osborne seconded the motion. The moderator recognized Don Burke, Cemetery Trustee Chairman to speak. Mr. Burke stated that the Dow-Peaslee Cemetery is the one located up the hill from Colburn's Store on Route 77. The wall is falling down onto Rt. 77; it is within 18 inches of the road. The stones are coming out and the gravel is coming out as well. The State has been after the Town to get this fixed.

Janet Brown, Cemetery Trustee stated that it is a difficult area to get this done but the State is making us repair it. We will have to close one side down in order to fix it. Neal Kurk suggested going to the State for assistance. Mrs. Brown stated that this is more of a safety issue.

Gregg Elwood, Finance Chairman stated that they believe that it is essential to improve the structural integrity of this cemetery and are recommending this article.

Without any further amendments the moderator stated that Article 13 will appear on the warrant as printed.

A motion was made and seconded to restrict reconsideration, all in favor.

ARTICLE 14

Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of Six Thousand Dollars (\$6,000.00) to cover the costs of the Town's participation in one (1) local Household Hazardous Waste Collection in 2011? This warrant article has been designated by the Board of Selectmen as a Special Warrant Article so that the funds, if approved, may not be transferred for any other purposes.

Estimated tax impact = \$ 0.0063

(Recommended by Board of Selectmen)

Chairman Clow moved to accept Article 14 as read, Selectman Osborne seconded the motion. Chairman Clow explained that this is the one time for residents to clean out their garages and a way to dispose of the chemicals in a safe way. This covers the cost for a one day event.

Greg Elwood, Finance Chairman stated they are recommending this. They believe that this continuing event is important to the safety of the lands and waters in Weare.

Frank Campana asked for some clarification. Chairman Clow stated that last year we spent a little over \$5,000 out of the \$6,000. Mr. Campana stated that his only comment is that old insecticides and stuff are being eliminated from the market place, so is this really going to continue.

Without any further amendments the moderator stated that Article 14 will appear on the warrant as printed.

A motion was made and seconded to restrict reconsideration, all in favor.

ARTICLE 15

Shall the Town raise and appropriate the non-transferable sum of Eight Thousand Dollars (\$8,000.00) for the purpose of purchasing fireworks for 2011 Weare Patriotic Celebration? This warrant article has been designated by the Board of Selectmen as a Special Warrant Article so that the funds, if approved, may not be transferred for any other purposes.

Estimated tax impact = \$ 0.0084

(Recommended by Board of Selectmen)

Selectman Osborne moved to accept Article 15 as read, Terry Wanyowski seconded the motion. Selectman Osborne stated that this is cost for just the fireworks for the Patriotic Celebration.

Gregg Elwood, Finance Chairman stated that they felt that it is an expense that would be put aside because of the economic condition.

Chairman Clow stated that he is quoting Evelyn Connor from past years; she feels that the Patriotic Committee would not be able to get the carnival and people to come without fireworks.

Heleen Kurk she would like to suggest that if this doesn't pass that as a community put cans around like they used to in the olden days. Without it there is not a celebration and that we should find another way to raise money.

Without any further amendments the moderator stated that Article 15 will appear on the warrant as printed.

A motion was made and seconded to restrict reconsideration, all in favor.

ARTICLE 16

Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum Six Thousand Seven Hundred Forty Three Dollars (\$6,743.00) for the purpose of adding additional support staff hours at the Weare Public Library as follows: 9 hours a year for maintenance; 15 hours weekly for desk pages and 2 hours weekly for cleaning? No additional benefits shall accrue to these positions. If this Article is approved, future funding for these additional hours will be included in the Weare Library operating budget.

Estimated tax impact = \$0.0071

(Recommended by Board of Selectmen)

Selectman Osborne moved to accept Article 16 as read, Paul Mash seconded the motion. Chris Hague explained that this is on the warrant as last year. We really need it. This is as stated. The pages are on at entry level. They can't meet their needs. They have lost staff over not having this. The real reason is that in a Town of 9,000 the recommendation is 216 hours of Full time and now we have 163 Full time hours. They are retooling to electronic media, they just don't check out books. The recommendation last year was to get volunteers but no one showed up this year. It is less than a penny.

Greg Elwood, Finance Chairman stated they are not recommending this article. They feel that they are trying to keep the budgets level and adding positions to a budget that will have a current and future tax impact is not prudent.

Paul Marsh, Colby Road, stated that a dirty building is an unhealthy meeting. We have children coming in and it is costing residents for sick children.

Without any further amendments the moderator stated that Article 16 will appear on the warrant as printed.

A motion was made and seconded to restrict reconsideration, all in favor.

ARTICLE 17

Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000.00) to allow the Conservation Commission to secure contracted services with the Town's Licensed Forester to prepare forest management plans; secure contracted services for the Town Forest maintenance, and fund this appropriation by authorizing the withdrawal of that sum from the Town Forest Account?

Estimated tax impact = \$ 0.00

(Recommended by Board of Selectmen)

Selectman Donison moved to accept Article 17 as read, George Malette seconded the motion. The moderator recognized Andy Fulton, Conservation Commission Chairman to speak. Mr. Fulton stated that this is a continuation of services agreement with Meadowsend Timber who is doing their ongoing harvesting.

Gregg Elwood, Finance Chairman stated they are recommending this as they feel there is an economic benefit to a managed forest.

Without any further amendments the moderator stated that Article 17 will appear on the warrant as printed.

A motion was made and seconded to restrict reconsideration, all in favor.

ARTICLE 18

Shall the Town vote to change the purpose of the Weare Tricentennial Expendable Trust Fund, established by Warrant Article 52 adopted by the voters in 1985 for the purpose of celebrating Weare's three hundredth anniversary in 2064, to include the purpose of funding a celebration of the Town's 250th Anniversary in 2014 and to appoint the Board of Selectmen as agents to expend from this trust fund?
(2/3 vote required for passage)

Selectman Osborne moved to accept the article as read, Chairman Clow seconded the motion. The moderator recognized Heleen Kurk to speak on this article.

Heleen Kurk, Mt. Dearborn Road, stated that in 1964 Weare celebrated its 200th anniversary. It was discovered in 1984 that there was money left over. There was \$1,856 in this account at that time and the vote was in the affirmative and accepted. The original fund was set aside to be used for the Town's 300th celebration. There has been a committee formed to have a 250th celebration in 2014. The Committee is looking to be able to tap into this fund in firming up this celebration. There will be more than this funds needed and any money left over will be left in there for the future.

Gregg Elwood, Finance Chairman stated that they are recommending this article as it allows money previously appropriated to be used at an earlier date.

Forrest Esenwine moved to remove the words "vote to" at the beginning of the article, Paul Marsh seconded the motion.

The moderator read the Article as amended:

Shall the Town change the purpose of the Weare Tricentennial Expendable Trust Fund, established by Warrant Article 52 adopted by the voters in 1985 for the purpose of celebrating Weare's three hundredth anniversary in 2064, to include the purpose of funding a celebration of the Town's 250th Anniversary in 2014 and to appoint the Board of Selectmen as agents to expend from this trust fund?

A vote was taken on the amendment, so the article will be printed as amended.

A motion was made and seconded to restrict reconsideration, all in favor.

ARTICLE 19

Shall the Town modify the purposes of the existing Capital Reserve Fund established under the provisions of RSA 35:1 and titled the Government Building and Maintenance Fund as to include the following purposes: maintenance, repairs, capital improvements, and professional services to/for Town buildings?
(2/3 vote required for passage)

Vice Chairman Butt moved to accept Article 19 as read, Chairman Clow seconded the motion. Vice Chairman Butt stated that this is a housekeeping change to the definition of the Government Building and Maintenance Fund. We ran into some issues with the Trustees with the definition when expenses needed to be made. New windows in the Town office agreed it was maintenance. Air conditioning was again agreed to maintenance. The rewording is to change any confusion. The services have been made to allow professionals to do architectural plans to ensure that work is being specked out and being done to professional standards. Studies can be misleading and the intent is a detailed engineering design for a repair or improvement.

Gregg Elwood, Finance Chairman stated they are not recommending this article. They believe that any professional studies about Town buildings are likely to have a future impact on the voters and should require a public hearing.

Without any further amendments the moderator stated that Article 17 will appear on the warrant as printed.

A motion was made and seconded to restrict reconsideration, all in favor

ARTICLE 20

Shall the Town vote to require a public hearing be held before any funds are expended from the Mildred Hall Trust Fund, previously established in 2005?

Vice Chairman Butt moved to accept Article 20 as read, Selectman Osborne seconded the motion. Vice Chairman Butt stated that Mildred Hall when she passed away left a sizeable amount of money to the Town, over \$1,000,000. It is being overseen by a subcommittee and the Board of Selectman has to approve the expense. There have been times that it has brought forth needing approval on short notice. This is sort of a speed bump but felt it was important for the public to provide input. There is currently approximately \$800K in the fund.

Paul Marsh moved to remove the words "vote to" from the article, Chris Hague seconded the motion.

Betty Straw stated that she is not sure she should be speaking to this or not. She is the Chairman of the Mildred Hall Committee. We have spent quite a bit on conservation to the Town; some of the items have been time sensitive. She appreciates that but if we have to have a public hearing it may cause some issues.

Laura Spector, Town Attorney stated that she has not looked at the will in quite some time, but there is no problem with having a public hearing, it would not be a problem as long as it is not changing her will.

Vice Chairman Butt read a part of Mildred Hall's will. This was also mentioned to members of the committee that we were moving in this direction. The reason for this is more for future boards but members of the advisory board knew we were headed in this direction.

The moderator read the Article as amended:

Shall the Town require a public hearing be held before any funds are expended from the Mildred Hall Trust Fund, previously established in 2005?

A vote was taken on the amendment, so the article will be printed as amended.

Heleen Kurk, Mt. Dearborn Road, is trying to understand how this article will affect the Mildred Hall committee going forward. If they recommend something to the Board of Selectmen, and prior to the public hearing the Board concurs, then you have a public hearing and at the public hearing people don't concur what happens then. Does it take away any power from the Mildred Hall Committee? The moderator asked Vice Chairman Butt to read from the will again. It is a recommendation to the board and they make the final vote.

Vice Chairman Butt stated that he didn't think this takes any power away from the committee or the Board. Chairman Clow stated that during the past year there were just two incidents asking for a certain amount to be contributed, in one case we got a lot of public input and it was after the fact, whether or not this would have changed the decision, but it certainly could have. He would have liked to have that information, but it may not have changed his mind. In some cases it might but it will be a healthy way of making a decision.

Betty Straw would like to make another point, one of the things they have discussed is getting together to get an advanced notice but for a variety of reasons that has not happened. She feels that this should not be supported at this time and if the Board of Selectmen have the power to have a public hearing she would like to see everyone get together first to discuss it. She doesn't feel comfortable supporting this at this time. She is not necessarily against it.

Without any further amendments the moderator stated that Article 17 will appear on the warrant as printed.

A motion was made and seconded to restrict reconsideration, all in favor

ARTICLE 21

To transact any other business which may legally come before this meeting?

Chairman Clow wanted to make one last announcement. He wanted to thank Jim Donison for two years of his service as a selectman for the Town of Weare.

Being there was no further action to come before this meeting, the moderator thanked everyone for being here.

Chairman Clow moved to adjourn; Selectman Osborne seconded the motion, all in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Naomi L. Bolton".

Naomi L. Bolton
Minute Taker