

Town of Gilmanton
Town Meeting Minutes
March 14, 2009

Voter Turnout: 398 of 2,480 = 16%

To the inhabitants of the Town of Gilmanton in the county of Belknap in said state, qualified to vote in Town Affairs:

You are hereby notified to meet at the Gilmanton Academy in said Gilmanton on Tuesday, the Tenth day of March 2009, next at 7:00 of the clock in the forenoon, to act upon the following subjects:

ARTICLE #1: To choose all necessary Town Officers for the year ensuing. Polls are open from 7a.m. to 7p.m.

Action will be taken on the remaining articles at the Business Meeting at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday March 14, 2009 at the Gilmanton School, 1386 NH Route 140.

The Moderator opened the meeting at 10:35 A.M. He asked all present to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance with the Pastor Linda Bolton leading the pledge. Mr. Sisti asked the body to remain standing for a moment of silence to remember those who have passed. Mark thanked Linda for leading the Pledge and announced to the body that she had recently retired as pastor of the Gilmanton Community Church and wished her well. The results of the election were read and the new officers were told the oath of office for the newly elected officers would be administered at the close of the business meeting. The Moderator stated the rules for the day and told the body there would be no personal comments and asked everyone to keep commentary at a productive level. He announced that there were a few petitions filed for a secret ballot vote on Article #23 and a secret ballot vote will take place for that article. Mr. Sisti then stated that all articles would be kept in the order as they are set forth in the town report. He stated to the body that the yellow cards issued by the supervisors must be used for all requests for hand counts and all individuals making motions or seconds must please identify themselves by stating their name. The results of Article #1 Ballot voting were read.

ARTICLE #2: To see if the Town will vote to change the purpose of an existing Public Safety Building Construction Capital Reserve Fund created in 2007 to the New Municipal Buildings for Police and/or Fire Departments Capital Reserve Fund. **(2/3 Vote required)** The passage of this article is necessary for article 3 to be voted on.

Stanley Bean **moved** Article #2; **seconded** by Mark Sawyer.

The Moderator calls Article #2 to a voice vote.

Voice vote too close to call, Moderator Sisti calls for a hand count.

Hand Count: Yes – 210* No - 45

ARTICLE #2 PASSES AS MOVED (2/3 MAJORITY) BY HAND COUNT.

ARTICLE #3: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Seventy Five Thousand Dollars (\$75,000.00) for the purchase of 12 acres of land to build a new Police Department said funds to come from the New Municipal Buildings for Police and/or Fire Departments Capital Reserve Fund. This article is contingent upon Article 2 passing. (Recommended by Budget Committee \$0,000.00 Recommended by Board of Selectmen \$75,000.00).

Donald Guarino **moved** (\$75,000) Article #3 as written; **seconded** by Brett Currier.

ARTICLE #3 FAILED BY VOICE VOTE.

ARTICLE #4: To see if the municipality will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Three Million Eighty Four Thousand One Hundred Eighty Seven Dollars (\$3,084,187.00) for the support of Town Government and for the payment of statutory obligations of the Town for the 2009 fiscal year, as stated below, exclusive of all other warrant articles. (Recommended by Budget Committee \$3,084,187.00, Recommended by Board of Selectmen \$3,106,534.00).

	<u>BUDGET COMMITTEE</u>	<u>SELECTMEN</u>
Selectmen	\$ 950,973.00	\$ 958,815.00
Police Dept.	464,297.00	469,667.00
Fire Dept.	473,662.00	477,535.00
Highway Dept.	906,398.00	909,459.00
Solid Waste	235,657.00	236,997.00
Building Dept.	<u>53,200.00</u>	<u>54,061.00</u>
TOTAL	\$3,084,187.00	\$3,106,534.00

Stan Bean **moved** (\$3,084,187) Article #4; **seconded** by Frank Bosiak.

Amendment #1: Robert G. Hyslop made a motion to amend Article #4 to level fund this article to last year's budget, less five percent.

Moderator Sisti states to Mr. Hyslop that he needs a dollar figure for the bottom line.

Mr. Hyslop makes a **motion to amend** Article #4 to (\$3,045,226.94); **seconded** by Carl E. Moorehead.

Steve Goddard points out that Mr. Hyslop's intent was to decrease Article #4 to level fund to last year's budget *less five percent*. Moderator Sisti stated that this is absolutely correct and he will only take numbers. Mr. Goddard states the amount should be \$2,900,000.00 to meet the intent based on Mr. Hyslop's motion.

Mr. Hyslop makes a **motion to amend** to correct his original number for Article #4 to (\$2,900,000); **seconded** by Michael Jean.

The Moderator asks for those in favor of amending Article #4 to read in the amount of \$2,900,000 to raise their cards. Being that there were not a lot of cards showing, the Moderator asks for the cards to be put down and calls Amendment #1 to a voice vote.

AMENDMENT #1 FAILS BY VOICE VOTE.

Amendment #2: Debra Cornett **moved to amend** Article #4 to (\$3,086,049) adding \$1,862 to match the Town Clerk/Tax Collector's Department recommended budget; **seconded** by Tom Scribner.

AMENDMENT #2 PASSES BY VOICE VOTE.

Amendment #3: Brett Currier **moved to amend** Article #4 to (\$3,074,695) reducing \$11,354 from the Selectmen's budget; **seconded** by Michael Jean.

The Moderator calls Amendment #3 to Article #4 to a voice vote.
Voice vote too close to call, Moderator Sisti calls for a hand count.

Hand Count: Yes: 141* No: 121

AMENDMENT #3 PASSES BY HAND COUNT.

Amendment #4: Brett Currier **moved to amend** Article #4 to (\$3,076,584) to fund the salary adjustment lines for the Town Clerk/Tax Collector’s office to total \$1,889; **seconded** by Michael Jean.

The Moderator called amendment #4 to a voice vote.
Voice vote too close to call, Moderator Sisti calls for a hand count.

Hand Count: Yes: 209* **No:** Moderator determined a hand count of “no” was not necessary.

AMENDMENT #4 PASSES BY HAND COUNT.

There being no more discussion, the Moderator called Article #4 to a voice vote as amended in the amount of \$3,076,584.

ARTICLE #4 PASSES AS AMENDED (\$3,076,584) BY VOICE VOTE.

ARTICLE #5: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Three Hundred Fifty Three Thousand Six Hundred Fifty Seven Dollars (\$353,657.00) to be deposited in the following Capital Reserve Accounts. (Recommended by Budget Committee \$353,657.00, Recommended by Board of Selectmen \$353,657.00).

	<u>BUDGET COMMITTEE</u>	<u>SELECTMEN</u>
Cap. Res. Amb. Replacement	\$ 40,000.00	\$ 40,000.00
Cap. Res. Reval/Assessing	24,000.00	24,000.00
Cap. Res. Fire Eng. Rep.	81,800.00	81,800.00
Cap. Res. Town Septic Sys.	2,000.00	2,000.00
Cap. Res. Town Driveways	2,750.00	2,750.00
Cap. Res. Town Roofs	4,000.00	4,000.00
Cap. Res. Salt/Sand Covers	1,000.00	1,000.00
Cap. Res. Highway Equip.	60,690.00	60,690.00
Cap. Res. Recycling Equip.	5,867.00	5,867.00
Cap. Res. Fire Command Veh	2,800.00	2,800.00
Cap. Res. Police Cruisers	20,000.00	20,000.00
Cap. Res Public Safety Bldg	100,000.00	100,000.00
Cap. Res Bridges	2,500.00	2,500.00
Cap. Res. Replace Forestry 1	<u>6,250.00</u>	<u>6,250.00</u>
TOTALS	\$353,657.00	\$353,657.00

Stan Bean **moved** (\$353,657) Article #5; **seconded** by Frank Bosiak.

Amendment #1: Robert G. Hyslop **moved to amend** Article #5 to \$245,666; **seconded** by Ernie Hudziec.

Walter Mitchell speaks to point of order on a concern of this motion. The statute dealing with depositing money in capital reserve accounts requires a specific appropriation to a particular account. The motion made has reduced the overall amount; but has given no indication as to what amount goes in what account. His concern is that if the amendment stays as it is, we may wind up with a completely invalid article. Mr. Hyslop feels the exact dollar amount(s) should be determined by the Selectmen and the Budget Committee as they would have more knowledge as elected officials as to what could be cut and should, therefore, know where to cut. It was asked if language was added "...up to the determination of the Budget Committee working with the Board of Selectmen to make the appropriate deductions in the various capital reserve funds to be determined as they specify"? The Moderator refers the question to Walter Mitchell as legal counsel for the Town. It is of Mr. Mitchell's legal opinion that [the language] would not be helpful in the legality of the article. Janie Benson suggests we vote this amendment down as the legality is in question and readdress with another amendment specific to each dollar amount.

Laurie Sanborn asks for clarification of what the specific dollar figures are, to date, in each account. Stan Bean lists the following:

<i>Cap. Res. Amb. Replacement</i>	<i>\$117,075</i>
<i>Cap. Res. Reval/Assessing</i>	<i>75,884</i>
<i>Cap. Res. Fire Eng. Rep.</i>	<i>306,662</i>
<i>Cap. Res. Town Septic Sys.</i>	<i>6,324</i>
<i>Cap. Res. Town Driveways</i>	<i>8,695</i>
<i>Cap. Res. Town Roofs</i>	<i>12,647</i>
<i>Cap. Res. Salt/Sand Covers</i>	<i>3,162</i>
<i>Cap. Res. Highway Equip.</i>	<i>185,195</i>
<i>Cap. Res. Recycling Equip.</i>	<i>18,550</i>
<i>Cap. Res. Fire Command Veh.</i>	<i>12,647</i>
<i>Cap. Res. Police Cruisers</i>	<i>20,000</i>
<i>Cap. Res. Public Safety Bldg</i>	<i>365,249</i>
<i>Cap. Res. Bridges</i>	<i>22,300</i>
<i>Cap. Res. Replace Forestry 1</i>	<i>13,175</i>

The Moderator calls the amendment to a voice vote

AMENDMENT #1 FAILS BY VOICE VOTE.

Amendment #2: Israel Willard moves to amend Article #5 to \$0.00; seconded by Cindy Houghton.

Mr. Bean reminds the voters that if they vote the capital reserve lines to zero it will be a set back as to what we will have for what is scheduled to be replaced next year and puts the town in jeopardy of not having the equipment they need in responding to emergencies. The obligation of funding these items does not go away.

John Funk speaks to building a safety building today if we were to go out and get a bond and spread the cost of a bond over a twenty-year time period. He states, "... that bonding is a wonderful tool for accounts on significant capital expenses that spreads them out over many years so that people can enjoy the benefit of the improvement without having to wait. He states we have waited many years to build a safety building and as we keep putting money away saving for it, the price continues to go up...for some capital items of a smaller nature, we should put in a reserve because it doesn't make sense to go out and get a bond for these items..."

Brian Forst states, "... capital reserves earn interest as compared to if you borrow money you pay interest. If you borrow money versus saving money you need to add the interest you would have earned to the interest you're going to pay, that is your final cost..." As an example, he compared a fifteen year mortgage as to a thirty year mortgage and the substantial amount of interest that would get paid over the thirty years compared to the fifteen. "...Saving money is never going to be more expensive than borrowing money..."

Mr. Bean reminds the body that we did try to pass bonds to fund a safety building twice and twice it was voted down.

The Moderator called the second amendment to a voice vote.

AMENDMENT #2 FAILS BY VOICE VOTE.

Amendment #3: Ernest Hudziec moves to amend Article #5 by reducing the Cap. Res. Safety Building to \$0.00 reducing the bottom line for Cap. Res. to \$253,657; seconded by Elena Ball.

AMENDMENT #3 PASSES BY VOICE VOTE.

Cindy Houghton makes an inquiry to the Moderator in regard to a petition submitted to move petitioned Article #23 forward. Mr. Sisti responds, "...we will take the town warrant articles first...and then the petitioned warrant articles..."

Amendment #4: Laurie Sanborn **moves to amend** Article #5 by reducing the Cap. Res. Safety Building to \$0.00; Cap. Res. Police Cruisers \$10,000 and Cap. Res. Fire Eng. Rep. to \$0.00, reducing the bottom line for Cap. Res. to \$161,857; **seconded** by John Funk.

The Moderator calls Amendment #4 to a vote.
Voice vote too close to call, Moderator Sisti calls for a hand count.

Hand Count: Yes – 217* No – 161

AMENDMENT #4 PASSES BY HAND COUNT.

ARTICLE #5 PASSES AS AMENDED (\$161,857) (Cap. Res. Safety Building to \$0.00; Cap. Res. Police Cruisers \$10,000 and Cap. Res. Fire Eng. Rep. to \$0.00) BY VOICE VOTE.

ARTICLE #6: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of One Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$100,000.00) for the purpose of doing a statistical update of the assessments in the Town of Gilmanton. And to fund this appropriation by authorizing the withdrawal of Seventy Five Thousand Dollars (\$75,000.00) from the Capital Reserve Reval/Assessing Update account with the rest to be funded by taxation. (Recommended by Budget Committee \$100,000.00, Recommended by Board of Selectmen \$100,000.00).

Stan Bean **moved** (\$100,000.00) Article #6; **seconded** by Mark Sawyer.

ARTICLE #6 PASSES (\$100,000) BY VOICE VOTE.

ARTICLE #7: To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of One Hundred Sixty Thousand Dollars (\$160,000.00) for the purpose of building a new Salt/Sand shed at the Highway Garage in Gilmanton Iron Works and to fund this appropriation by authorizing the withdrawal of One Hundred Sixty Thousand Dollars (\$160,000.00) from the Capital Reserve Highway Sheds Fund. (Recommended by Budget Committee \$160,000.00, Recommended by Board of Selectmen \$160,000.00).

Stan Bean **moved** (\$160,000.00) Article #7; **seconded** by Mark Sawyer.

ARTICLE #7 PASSES (\$160,000) BY VOICE VOTE.

ARTICLE #8: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Forty Thousand Dollars (\$40,000.00) for the purpose of repairing and erecting the cupola at the Academy Building located at 503 Province Road. (Not recommended by Budget Committee, Not recommended by Board of Selectmen).

John Funk **moved** (\$40,000) Article #8; **seconded** by Randy Perkins.

Amendment #1: George Roberts **moved to amend** Article #8 to add the following language, “That 40,000 be adopted and that monies received from the stimulus program be used to repair the cupola at the Academy and further any other funds either private or public be used for the same reason of reducing the sum appropriation of \$40,000.”; **seconded** by Michael Jean.

The Moderator calls Amendment #1 to a vote.
Voice vote too close to call, Moderator Sisti calls for a hand count.

Hand Count: Yes – 117 No – 159*

AMENDMENT #1 FAILS BY HAND COUNT.

ARTICLE #8 AS DRAFTED FAILS BY VOICE VOTE.

ARTICLE #9: To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of Twenty Seven Thousand Five Hundred Nineteen Dollars (\$27,519.00) for the purchase of a new police cruiser and to fund this appropriation by authorizing the withdrawal of Twenty Seven Thousand Five Hundred Nineteen Dollars (\$27,519.00) from the Police Cruiser Capital Reserve Fund. This is the normal rotation of replacement of police vehicles. (Recommended by Budget Committee \$27,519.00, Recommended by Board of Selectmen \$27,519.00).

Stan Bean **moved** (\$27,519.00) Article #9; **seconded** by Mark Sawyer.

ARTICLE #9 PASSES (\$27,519) BY VOICE VOTE.

ARTICLE #10: To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of Eleven Thousand Dollars (\$11,000.00) for the purpose of replacing the fencing at the Recycling Facility and to fund this appropriation by authorizing the withdrawal of Eleven Thousand Dollars from the Recycling/Transfer Facility Capital Reserve Fund. (Recommended by Budget Committee \$11,000.00, Recommended by Board of Selectmen \$11,000.00).

Stan Bean **moved** (\$11,000.00) Article #10; **seconded** by Mark Sawyer.

Amendment #1: Steve Goddard **moved to amend** Article #10 to \$3,000.00; **seconded** by Ted Maltzie.

AMENDMENT #1 FAILS BY VOICE VOTE.

ARTICLE #10 AS DRAFTED PASSES (\$11,000) BY VOICE VOTE.

ARTICLE #11: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Seventy Eight Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$78,500.00) to be deposited in the following Non-Capital Reserve Accounts. (Recommended by Budget Committee \$78,500.00, Recommended by Board of Selectmen \$78,500.00).

	<u>BUDGET COMMITTEE</u>	<u>SELECTMEN</u>
Non-Cap Res Office Equip.	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 2,500.00
Non-Cap Res. Ins. Deductible	1,000.00	1,000.00
Non-Cap. Res Hydrants	22,000.00	22,000.00
Non-Cap. Res Welfare/Gen'l Aide	50,000.00	50,000.00
Non-Cap. Res Fire Dept Plant Main.	<u>3,000.00</u>	<u>3,000.00</u>
TOTAL	\$78,500.00	\$78,500.00

Stan Bean **moved** Article #11 (\$78,500.00); **seconded** by Mark Sawyer.

Amendment #1: Steve Goddard **moved to amend** Article #11 Non-Cap. Res. Welfare/Gen'l Aide to \$75,000 for a bottom line of \$103,500; **seconded** by Cindy Houghton.

AMENDMENT #1 FAILS BY VOICE VOTE.

ARTICLE #11 AS DRAFTED PASSES (\$78,500) BY VOICE VOTE.

ARTICLE #12: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Six Thousand One Hundred Fifteen Dollars (\$6,115.00) to replace the three computers, including monitors, software and installation at the Police department. (Recommended by Budget Committee \$6,115.00, Recommended by Board of Selectmen \$6,115.00).

Stan Bean **moved** (\$6,115.00) Article #12; **seconded** by Frank Bosiak.

ARTICLE #12 PASSES (\$6,115) BY VOICE VOTE.

ARTICLE #13: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Two Thousand Two Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$2,250.00) for the ATV Enforcement Grant. These grants are for salaries for officers doing ATV enforcement and will be reimbursed at 100% from the State of New Hampshire. These funds will not be expended unless the grants are received. (Recommended by Budget Committee \$2,250.00, Recommended by Board of Selectmen \$2,250.00).

Stan Bean **moved** (\$2,250.00) Article #13; **seconded** by Mark Sawyer.

ARTICLE #13 PASSES (\$2,250) BY VOICE VOTE.

ARTICLE #14: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Three Thousand Dollars (\$3,000.00) for Highway Safety Grants listed below. These grants are for salaries for the following details and will be reimbursed at 100% from the State of New Hampshire. These funds will not be expended unless the grants are received. (Recommended by Budget Committee \$3,000.00, Recommended by Board of Selectmen \$3,000.00).

Speed Detail	\$1,500.00
DWI Detail	<u>1,500.00</u>
TOTAL	\$3,000.00

Stan Bean **moved** (\$3,000.00) Article #14; **seconded** by Mark Sawyer.

ARTICLE #14 PASSES (\$3,000) BY VOICE VOTE.

ARTICLE #15: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Four Thousand Dollars (\$4,000.00) for rewiring the Pavilion at Crystal Lake Park to correct safety issues in the building. (Recommended by Budget Committee \$4,000.00, Recommended by Board of Selectmen \$4,000.00).

Stan Bean **moved** (\$4,000.00) Article #15; **seconded** by Mark Sawyer.

ARTICLE #15 PASSES (\$4,000) BY VOICE VOTE.

ARTICLE #16: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00) to fund milfoil treatment for lakes in Gilmanton. (Recommended by Budget Committee \$500.00, Recommended by Board of Selectmen \$500.00).

Stan Bean **moved** (\$500.00) Article #16; **seconded** by Frank Bosiak.

Amendment #1: Mary McKenna **moved to amend** Article #16 to \$1,000.00; **seconded** by Maurice Munsey.

AMENDMENT #1 FAILS BY VOICE VOTE.

ARTICLE #16 AS DRAFTED PASSES (\$500) BY VOICE VOTE.

ARTICLE #17: To see if the Town will vote to accept a deed to the Beech Grove Cemetery from the Beech Grove Cemetery Association, at which time the cemetery will become a municipal cemetery for which the Cemetery Trustees have control of the sale of lots and maintenance.

Candace Daigle **moved** Article #17 as drafted; **seconded** by Carl Moorehead.

ARTICLE #17 AS DRAFTED PASSES BY VOICE VOTE.

ARTICLE #18: To see if the Town will vote to discontinue the following capital reserve funds, non-capital reserve funds and expendable trust funds. These funds all have zero balances. This article is a request of the New Hampshire Department of Revenue Administration.

Office Equipment
One-Ton Dump Truck
Radios/Pagers (Fire Department)
Highway Tractor/Loader
Defibrillators
Road Grader
Employee Severance Pay
Gilmanton Iron Works Town Hall Roof
Academy Building Roof

Rachel Hatch **moved** Article #18 as drafted; **seconded** by Betty Ann Abbott.

ARTICLE #18 AS DRAFTED PASSES BY VOICE VOTE.

ARTICLE #19: To see if the Town will vote to exempt 100% of the value of solar energy systems as defined in RSA 72:61 from real property taxation.

Rachel Hatch **moved** Article #19 as drafted; **seconded** by Nate Abbott.

ARTICLE #19 AS DRAFTED PASSES BY VOICE VOTE.

ARTICLE #20: To see if the Town will vote to exempt 100% of the value of wind powered energy systems as defined in RSA 72:65 from real property taxation.

Nate Abbott **moved** Article #20 as drafted; **seconded** by Michael Jean.

ARTICLE #20 AS DRAFTED PASSES BY VOICE VOTE.

ARTICLE #21: To see if the Town will vote to exempt 100% of the value of wood heating energy systems as defined in RSA 72:69 from real property taxation.

Richard de Seve **moved** Article #21 as drafted; **seconded** by Nate Abbott.

ARTICLE #21 AS DRAFTED PASSES BY VOICE VOTE.

ARTICLE #22: To see if the Town will vote to retain, for conservation purposes, 28 acres of land Tax Map 416 Lot 21, located on NH Route 140 conveyed to the town by Tax Collector's Deed on April 5, 1996. This property contains many wetlands and portions have been mapped and identified by the NH Fish & Game Department as Tier I habitats, indicating their very high importance for wildlife and ecological protection.

Donald Guarino **moved** Article #22 as drafted; **seconded** by Richard de Seve.

ARTICLE #22 AS DRAFTED PASSES BY VOICE VOTE.

ARTICLE #23: Submitted by Petition To see if the Town will raise and appropriate the sum of Seventy Five Thousand Dollars (\$75,000.00) for the annual operating expenses of the Gilmanton Year-Round Library. (Not Recommended by Budget Committee, Not Recommended by Board of Selectmen)

The Moderator announces to the Body that there have been petitions received for a secret ballot vote for this article that have been deemed valid. Mr. Sisti stated that at the end of any discussion for this Article he will allow one hour for the balloting to remain open. He further stated, "...we walked into this room as a community and we will walk out as a community no matter what the vote is..."

Janie Benson **moved** Article #23; **seconded** by John Dickey.

John Dickey gave brief background of the Gilmanton Year Round Library with facts, figures and rationale for the request. “In 1998 Gilmanton was one of two communities in the state that did not have a year-round library services...a survey of the community was conducted during 1999 town meeting...the results of that survey showed that there was overwhelming support for a full service year-round library in the community...there was a response of about 300 questionnaires of that 94% indicated support...out of 1,500 voters this was statistically significant...the Gilmanton Year Round Library Association was formed in 1999 as a 501C3 non-profit corporation...fundraising started...after ten years of effort and commitment from many, many, many people in this community we have a completed and fully equipped library across the street from the school...the project has a current value of approximately 1.2 million dollars...\$450,000 came from individuals and businesses of that there were over 450 Gilmanton households that contributed monetarily to the project...over 600 in total...others outside of town...another \$162,000 was raised from foundations, grants...another \$158,000 was raised from a whole variety of fundraising activities...the remaining value of the project has come from donations of materials and waivers from the trades people who have been involved in the project and from thousands of hours of volunteers... and members of the association...building completed in the fall...12,000 books donated...community wide effort with a great deal of participation...now comes the request for the \$75,000 to handle operating expenses...we have been seeking an endowment that would provide yearly income for operating expenses that has not yet materialized, we will continue to seek that endowment...the goal from the beginning was to serve as a community gathering place...the \$75,000 request...budget was carefully prepared by analyzing the budgets of libraries in neighboring communities...the budget is predicated on the building being open five days a week for 25 – 30 hours, it’s also predicated on having a trained professional librarian on a part-time basis and a paraprofessional assistant...calculated tax impact would be approximately \$40.00 per household...to answer question...if this request is approved now would the town be obligated to fund the library forever? The answer is no...the statutes are quite clear...if the community were to establish, or accepts a library they would be obliged to fund the library at an adequate level...that’s not what’s being requested...simply operating expenses for the library...”

Extensive discussion ensued.

The Moderator announced that he will be opening the polls, however, there being one more petitioned warrant article that appeared to be non-contentious, he asked the body to quickly draw their attention to Article #24.

At 4:52 p.m. the Moderator declared the balloting to be open until 5:52 p.m.

At 6:03 p.m. the Moderator closes ballot voting, addressing Article #25 to hear reports. The meeting was left open with a recess for the counting of the ballots.

ARTICLE #23 FAILS BY SECRET BALLOT VOTE.

YES: 125

NO: 224*

ARTICLE #24: Submitted by Petition To see if the Town will vote to adopt an ordinance recognizing that groundwater and surface waters are a critical, finite, integrated natural resource that is becoming increasingly scarce and subject to heavy contamination as development pressures increase. Having clean, potable water is a basic human right, not the privilege of those who can afford it. Water is essential to the public health, and for all life. Our community's wildlife and plant life depend on sufficient amounts of pure water to sustain them.

In this regard, the Town has sought assistance from local and federal sources, including the Conservation Commission, regional planning Commissions, the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services, the U.S. Geological Survey, and private conservation groups to protect these resources.

Sue Hale – de Seve **moved** Article #24; **seconded** by Richard de Seve.

Richard de Seve withdrew his **second**; being there is no second, Article #24 is withdrawn.

ARTICLE #25: To hear reports of any Committees chosen and pass any votes relative thereto.

Mr. Sisti moved to hear reports or announcements or any comments to be made. There being none, he declared an official recess of the meeting until the counting of the ballots are done and invites all to stay for results of Article #23. He also asks anyone that was elected to town office on Tuesday to stay for the adjournment of the meeting to be given the Oath of Office. Meeting officially adjourned at 6:12 p.m.

Those present and taking the Oath of Office:

- Stanley O. Bean, Jr.
- Mark A. Sawyer
- Phyllis E. Buchanan
- Donald J. Guarino
- Frederick Buchholz

Respectfully Submitted,

Debra A. Cornett
Town Clerk/Tax Collector