

1 The inhabitants of the Town of Gilmanton in the County of Belknap in the state of New Hampshire qualified to
2 vote in Town affairs are hereby notified that the two phases of the Annual Town Meeting will be held as follows:

3 **First Session of Annual Meeting (Deliberative Session):**

4 Date: Saturday February 5, 2022 (and Saturday February 12, 2022 as needed)

5 Time: 9:00 AM (9:00 PM on Saturday February 12, 2022 as needed)

6 Location: Gilmanton Elementary School – 1386 NH Rt 140, Gilmanton, NH

7 Details: School deliberative Session first, then Town deliberative session

8 **Second Session of Annual Meeting (Official Ballot Voting)**

9 Date: Tuesday, March 8, 2022

10 Time: 7:00 AM to 7:00 PM

11 Location: Academy Building – 503 Province Rd, Gilmanton NH

12 Details: Voting is upstairs in the Auditorium

13 **GOVERNING BODY CERTIFICATION**

14 We certify and attest that on or before January 25, 2022, a true and attested copy of this document was posted
15 at the place of meeting and at the Gilmanton Academy Town Office, the Gilmanton Corners Post Office and
16 the Gilmanton Iron Works Post Office and that an original was delivered to the Town Clerk/Tax Collector.

17
18 MARK E. WARREN CHAIRMAN, BOARD OF SELECTMEN
19 VINNIE BAIOCCHETTI SELECTMAN
20 EVAN COLLINS SELECTMAN
21

22 *Town Deliberative session opens at 9:24am following the School Deliberative session.*

23 *Mark Sisti, Moderator – Explain their positions (indiscernible) Don't be shy out there again, I want to remind*
24 *you that the importance of this is the explanation and the importance of this is that you raise questions now.*
25 *The election is March 8th, it is from 7 am to 7 pm. I have to start this meeting from the beginning and as we*
26 *always start these meetings, we start with the Pledge of Allegiance. I'll ask Mr. Forst to lead us in that now.*

27 *(Pledge of Allegiance, led by Brian Forst)*

28 **ARTICLES FOR VOTING**

29 **Article #1: Election of Officials**

30 To elect those running for office.
31

32 *Mark Sisti, Moderator – Thank you. On March 8th, starting at 7 am there will be a list of individuals that are*
33 *placing their names before the citizens of the Town for election and those will be, those will be up to you to*
34 *decide as to who, as to whether those individuals are elected for office. I'm going to start with article two.*
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ZONING WARRANT ARTICLES

Article #2: Zoning Ordinance Amendment # 1

Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment #1 as proposed by the Planning Board for the Town Zoning Ordinance as follows: to see if the Town will amend Article III.F Signs to remove any wording which regulates on the basis of content to allow for all signs be treated equally, by adding definitions for a permanent sign intending to be in place longer than 90 days and a temporary sign to be not permanently attached, adding exempt signs to be governmental, traffic control devices, street numbers, and warning signs, expanding what may constitute a flashing or moving sign, to increase the size of signs not in the business & light business zones to 25 sq.ft. from 9 sq.ft. and to allow two permanent signs per lot versus one in the business and light business zones.

Recommended by the Planning Board: Yes

Discussion:

No Discussion

Article will appear on ballot as written.

WARRANT ARTICLES

Article # 03: Operating Budget **Est tax impact \$5.105**

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 within the warrant or as amended by vote of the first session, for the purpose set forth therein totaling Four Million, Six Hundred and Seventy-Three Thousand, Three Hundred and Forty-Two Dollars (\$4,673,342). Should this article be defeated, the default budget shall be Four Million, Three Hundred and Twenty-Three Thousand, Three Hundred Fifty-Five Dollars (\$4,323,355) 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.

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen: Yes

Recommended by the Budget Committee: Yes

Mark Sisti, Moderator – I would like a motion on this article.

MOTION Brian Forst

SECOND Vinnie Baiocchetti

Discussion:

Moderator – Is there any discussion on article three as presented? I see one hand up, and if you want to address the body please come to the Mic, state your name, and go to it.

(indiscernible)

Don Guarino, Meeting House Rd – Mr. Moderator we're talking operating budget, right?

Moderator – That is correct.

Don Guarino – And I can speak on anything that I'm concerned about?

Moderator – With regard to the operating budget, yeah.

Don Guarino – OK, for the body I want to mention that last year when I was looking at the worksheet I had noticed large increases in positions that are normally part time, let's say secretarial positions, zoning board, historic district commission, conservation commission, I'm looking at the worksheet right now and actually if the audience has the same worksheet I have, because I was drawn to this last year I saw huge increases that, you

87 know, for instance a secretary for historic district commission being appropriated, this is a number that is not
88 correct. A thousand dollars last year being two thousand dollars. Being on a number of historic district
89 commission previously, I know that it doesn't increase like that on an annual basis. That type of work for let's
90 say, a number of people showing up asking for specifics on the historic district commission. So if you look at
91 these, if you look at these this year again, and the thing that really comes to mind, is you see the department
92 head request, you know like, for instance take the planning board. The department head request is \$13,535,
93 but you see the amount appropriated nearly doubled. You go, you go to the historic district commission, you
94 see a department head request of, if I have this correct, \$624, and then you see a budgeted amount for nine
95 thousand something. The only - there has to be an explanation. I saw this movement last year and, and to see
96 these numbers be so large and have actually sat on them, as a selectmen's representative on these boards,
97 this, what's going on here? You have a department head request substantially less, I mean we're talking
98 substantial, and then we have the executive branch bringing forward these really large numbers, in thousands
99 of dollars, so that's, that's the explanation I want.

100 Moderator – OK.

101 Don Guarino – Thank you.

102 Moderator – No thank you, Don. Who wants to answer?

103 Brian Forst – Don, can you hang on for just a minute so we can discuss this, cause I'm not, I'm not following
104 your question, so can you, can you just sit there for a second so I can try and answer your question. I'm not
105 understanding what you just said.

106 Don Guarino – I'll do it again.

107 Brian Forst – No, no. You don't need to do it again. I understand what you're saying, but I don't know where
108 you got some of these numbers from because I don't have them, so help me out. On the historic district
109 commission, the department head requests \$624. Correct?

110 Don Guarino – Yes.

111 Brian Forst – OK, and the Selectmen recommended \$624 and the budget committee recommended \$624, so
112 where is this thousand-dollar number you're coming up with?

113 Don Guarino – It goes back to my question that I said I noticed last year, that's where the, that was the issue.
114 So if I go, I see my mistake Brian. So if I go to the actual expenditures for 2021, and what was budgeted, what
115 was then, what happened? What was going on? Because my real, my real issue, is the monies that were
116 appropriated last year become the default budget, right Brian? So if we had budgeted last year actually thirty-
117 something thousand or whatever it is in one of these lines, that becomes our default budget. It does Brian.

118 Moderator – We're going to go...

119 Brian Forst - I understand what you're saying. And, and the reason these numbers look quite a lot different this
120 year from what they looked like last year, is I've got all of it right here. There is a reorganization of how these
121 positions are being paid. In other words, some are, some are much lower, like the planning board was \$36,000
122 last year, this year it's \$13,000. Some of them, if you look in the executive, the executive budget is up
123 considerably. \$515 last year to \$256, \$256,793 this year, \$515. We were presented with solid documentation
124 of what is needed where. In other words, the historic district commission had a lot of, a lot in their budget for
125 clerical, which has now been removed and all put into the executive budget where it belongs, that is where
126 these people are employed. So that's why these numbers look different, as far as the default budget, the whole
127 number of the default budget, because the numbers here have moved, your whole numbers are still the same,
128 and at the end of the day, as a former selectman you understand that the Town operates on the whole budget
129 not a line by line budget. In other words, there's a whole number that the selectmen have to operate on,
130 correct?

131 Don Guarino- You're correct.

132 Brian Forst – So, I understand what you're saying, but the fact that last year's number was much higher and
133 this year's number is lower, does not illustrate that that would be the case if we fell into default, if the default
134 budget were to pass. The line items do not fall back, you do not fall back to the line items for each year, you fall
135 back to the dollar amount.

136 Don Guarino – Yes, but if we're speaking the default budget, and we took these departments which were in the
 137 2021 operating budget, then the default budget for 2021 is substantially higher than I think it should have been.

138 Brian Forst – So, so what you're....

139 Don Guarino – No, I've switched my question. That the, originally, you answered my original question.
 140 Because you placed the real costs in the executive branch and you took the numbers wherever they came
 141 from last year and you actually put, and they represent historic district commission, \$624, that's what it's
 142 represented. But then it, it begs the question Brian, if we put all this money into the executive branch, what was
 143 going on in 2021, that it was sitting in, there's no way that you spend \$30,000, lets just make a number up on
 144 one of these departments, what was going on? I can see now, you can say oh well we put that money now in
 145 the executive branch, that reflects it much better, the secretary or whatever, but just take the historic district
 146 commission, it's going to operate in 2022 basically on \$624, so why wouldn't they ask why did it operate in
 147 2021, what's the amount for 2021?

148 Brian Frost - \$4381, but what we're saying is the \$624 is the cost for the historic district to operate without its
 149 clerical cost. The clerical cost is now moved into the executive line.

150 Don Guarino – Brian, is that really a fair way to represent a department? Wouldn't it be better to the taxpayer if
 151 I look on zoning or historic district, that I see, for instance, I'll just make a number up, \$2,200 to operate the
 152 historic district, \$600 for postage mailings, you know, \$1600 for the secretary. And now I've got to look in the
 153 executive budget to try to find out where all the secretarial costs are going? Do you like it that way? Yourself?

154 Brian Forst – Personally I think it is much, much more professionally done this way than it is to try to pick out all
 155 of the clerical and all of the separate places that is dollars here, dollars there, now it's – you know Don, that it's
 156 one or two people doing multiple, multiple jobs, and to have it displayed in each category in my eyes, it is
 157 nowhere near as clean as what's brought forth here, where it's displayed one time. This is a, this is what it
 158 costs the taxpayer to have this person sitting in the Town offices and doing their job. The fact that their job is
 159 divided four ways, it doesn't show up in four budgets anymore, it shows up in one budget.

160 Don Guarino – Did you really feel as a selectman that it was that difficult to see....

161 Moderator – OK hold on a second.

162 Don Guarino – OK I won't go that way.

163 Moderator – OK hold on. I mean, I don't mind the discussion, the fact that I'm actually learning something, and
 164 I appreciate what's going on here but I think we're kind of like, we're tilling the soil a little bit too deep here.

165 Don Guarino – Alright well I'll just end with this: the, I would have to spend probably a fair amount of time to
 166 look through this operating budget to try to figure out where all these secretarial costs and all these executive
 167 branch costs are going, to bring a budget with the executive from a quarter of a million to a half a million
 168 dollars, and that is the way I'm going to end my statement.

169 Moderator – Thank you, and Don that was actually helpful, thank you. Thank you. Any other discussion on
 170 article three? Yes- you have to state your name for the record.

171 David Strang, Copp Rd – I'm very concerned about the size of these numbers. If you look in the first paragraph
 172 for article three, the proposed budget of \$4,673,342 compared to last year's figure of \$4,323,355, that
 173 represents an increase of 8.1%. Granted, you, you say that, that has certain adjustments required by previous
 174 action et cetera, such that in the first bold paragraph below you say it's a 9.09% increase compared to last
 175 year. Those are both above the CPI inflation rate of 7%. That's what it is right now. It's going higher, folks.
 176 Gasoline alone is up nearly 70% compared to election time in November 2020, and it's going to go higher. Oil
 177 is up to \$92 a barrel on the world exchange. We're going to be paying close to \$4 a gallon by this fall, and
 178 because everything is transported by petroleum byproducts, our food, our lumber, everything is going to cost
 179 more. But people's salaries are not increasing by nearly 10%, which is what our budget is doing. I think we
 180 need to show some consideration for the people of this Town, and go back to the drawing board and find a way
 181 to lower this budget figure so that we are not above the rate of inflation, but below the rate of inflation. Thank
 182 you.

183 Moderator – Anybody want to address that?

184 Brian Forst – Well I guess one thing I would like to interject into your statement, is that last year's operating
 185 budget was not \$4,323,355, it was actually voted at \$4,266,613 for the operating budget of the Town last year.

So, that would only expedite your argument, that we have increased even more than what you have illustrated. I guess at this point, what I would like to interject, or what I would like to say is that the budget put forth, the numbers put forth here are the result of the budget committees work. We took recommendation from the school, recommendation from the Town, and we formulated budget numbers to present. Most of these increases are directly related to the statement you have made: inflation, salaries have gone up, or we have proposed that salaries are going to increase, we've proposed an awful lot of the expenses of this Town are around their, the employees, and a lot of departments are suffering losing employees to the outside sector because we can't compete, so a lot of the presentations that we took this year was around supporting our employees, supporting them through salary increases, supporting them through things like that. In this operating budget, there is not, in my eyes, in my eyes, there is not a great amount of area to cut without reducing services. If you want to spend less money, if the taxpayer wants us to spend less money, we need to hear that in the beginning and then we need to figure out which services this Town isn't going to provide for people, because I don't see, I have studied these numbers, I've spent a lot of my time, I have been looking at these numbers to sit here today and defend them, and, or not defend them, but to present them to the people so you can decide, you're ultimately, the voter is the ultimate buck stop there, but in two more warrant articles, there's a warrant article that is to propose two positions on the fire department, two EMT positions on the fire department, that was originally in the operating budget. The budget committee did not feel comfortable with that, we asked that something different be done, so now the taxpayer can decide if that hundred and some odd thousand dollars is something that they wish to do. I just don't, I understand your concerns, I'm a taxpayer, I have family members that are taxpayers in this Town, but we are not going to be able to stay in, this increase is an increase, I understand that, but it's a, I would define it as a modest increase, not an astronomical increase. Yes, the percentage numbers look big, but the percentage numbers look bigger here because we are talking 4 million dollars and not 12 million dollars. When you look at the school budget, you go oh, it's a small increase. It's a bigger number. It's one of the arguments I've had all year long. If you give raises across the board at a certain percentage, the guy that's making the small money doesn't get much of a raise, the guy that's making the big money gets a big raise. It's a system that is set up the way it is, and I don't know how to make it different. But, that is my response to the question.

Dave Strang - I appreciate all the work you and the budget committee have done, I think it's got to be incredibly boring work, worse than watching paint dry, however when we look at the reality of these numbers we're above the rate of inflation and I think if some of these are contracted increases, we've got to look at ways of paring our government down to make this affordable for the citizenry. For example, you have a position posted for a community development administrator. We're a small Town of about four thousand people, we don't need a community development administrator. I grew up in Harvard Massachusetts, which was almost an identical size, community development is something that happens naturally, we don't need someone overseeing that any more than we need administrator of the morning sunrise. There are some things that will happen without us, and I think it's time we say do we need this position, since we're looking at a nearly 10% increase in our operating budget, I think you ought to be tasked with saying, what positions can we eliminate so that the ones we do keep are competitive with other Towns and we don't lose people to those other Towns, but we still make government affordable for our citizens.

Mark – Alright. Thank you. Any other comments, discussion? Article three as presented hearing no amendments, that's how its going to be presented on March 8th, 7am. Let's move on to article four.

Article will appear on ballot as written.

Article #04: Fire Truck Replacement

Est tax impact \$0.00

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$850,000.00 to purchase and equip a new Fire Truck with \$555,000.00 coming from the unassigned fund balance, and \$295,000.00 coming from the Refurbish/Replace Fire Truck Capital Reserve Fund. This is a non-lapsing warrant article per RSA 32:7 VI and will not lapse until the purchase of the Fire Truck is complete or until December 31, 2027, whichever comes first.

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen: Yes

Recommended by the Budget Committee: Yes

(Majority vote required)

239 Mark Sisti, Moderator – Do I have a motion?

240 **MOTION** Brian Forst

241 **SECOND** Vinnie Baiocchetti

242 **Discussion:**

243 *No discussion*

244 **Article will appear on ballot as written.**

245

246 **Article #05: Fire Department Salary/ Wages**

247 **Est. tax impact \$0.207**

248 To see if the Town will authorize the creation of two, full time firefighter positions to allow for 24-hour
249 operational coverage. Further to authorize the Board of Selectmen to execute at-will employment contracts for
250 that purpose, and to raise and appropriate the sum of One-Hundred and fourteen thousand, five hundred
251 dollars (\$114,500.00) to pay the salary and benefits for said positions.

252 **Recommended by the Board of Selectmen:** Yes

253 **Recommended by the Budget Committee:** Yes

254

255 Mark Sisti, Moderator – I'd like a motion on that please.

256 **MOTION** Brian Forst

257 **SECOND** Vinnie Baiocchetti

258 **Discussion:**

259 *Moderator – This question is now before the general public, if there is any discussion or need for clarification,*
260 *now is the time.*

261 *Brian Forst – I would just like to make a comment that I wish for the taxpayers to understand that \$114,500 is*
262 *to fund these positions for 6 months in the upcoming year. It's not, in the following year that \$114,500 is not the*
263 *number that it will cost, it will cost more than that. And if anybody wants to chime in on whether I'm correct on*
264 *that, but I do want that illustrated that it was very important that we saw this presented this way, and I'm very,*
265 *very happy with the way it has been done, the way it was presented to the people, its just that \$114,500 is the*
266 *cost to do that once it's voted in, which will only be for the remainder of this year. The total cost in the ensuing*
267 *years is more money than this. Just so that everybody understands.*

268 *Moderator – Come on up. For the record Don, I've got to ask you to state your name again.*

269 *Don Guarino, Meeting House Rd - Why would a warrant article be submitted with a salary line that is less than*
270 *what it would take to operate for a year?*

271 *Brian Forst - Because these positions do not become effective until it is voted that we're going to do it. So, you*
272 *wouldn't vote a whole year's salary, it's not like a raise that's going to be retroactive, follow what I'm saying? If*
273 *you put the whole amount in here you're going to create a surplus in the budget, you don't need to create.*
274 *Which is, I wanted to make sure people understand that this is basically 6 months of the cost of this, not a*
275 *whole year of the cost. If you put the whole year in, you're not expending the first half. Correct? (indiscernible)*
276 *By the time they're hired it's going to be closer to a half.*

277 *Don Guarino – I have another question. This usually when we have the Town report, we can look at the chief's*
278 *report, number of calls, and I think, and I'm going completely by memory, it seems like it always averages 600*
279 *and something a year. It probably, it's feasible with pandemic that their calls increase, but did the budget*
280 *committee look at, when you made the recommendation on this, did you look to see if the overnight calls had*
281 *increased substantially? That actually warranted us, warrant us, to go from an overnight call department to*
282 *overnight full-time firefighters? Did you see call numbers that convinced you that we should be doing this?*

283 *Brian Forst – The vote on this was not unanimous. I am much more content with the way this is being*
284 *presented than to put it in the operating budget where there was no choice for the people to make this*

285 decision. A lot of the argument was around, and I understand completely where the chief came forward with
286 this, we once had the privilege in this Town of having a volunteer fire department. That ability to cover things
287 with volunteers is greatly, greatly, greatly diminishing. You don't have people that have time to do that, and you
288 don't have a lot of people that are certified to do that. And to send an ambulance out to somebody's residence,
289 and possibly be confronted with a life or death situation, to not have right people there, time is of the essence.
290 So, the reason this is presented is the chief feels that in order to provide this service to the Town this is what
291 we need to do. If the taxpayers don't wish to spend this money that's up to them. And, you know, it's not a, we
292 were presented numbers I don't think, in answer to your question Don, that I really saw a difference between
293 daytime and nighttime numbers, what I heard was we have full time day time people. From a certain point in
294 the day, you start requiring or relying upon the call people, and that is becoming more difficult. So, that would
295 be part of the reason to go in this direction.

296 Don Guarino – Then just one more question. So, if I saw a transition, I'm speaking to the budget committee, if I
297 saw a transition from a call department to a more let's say full time firefighter department, did you guys reduce
298 the call number? You know, let's say, just take a number, let's say call department was \$100,000 appropriated
299 for call firefighters, did you reduce it by a certain percentage to reflect that we were adding, or feasibly adding
300 two more full timers?

301 Brian Forst – At this point we did not because if this warrant article fails, there is no, and we reduce that
302 number for the upcoming, the budget season, this year, that would tie the fire chief's hands for this year.
303 However, if this moves forward, you will probably see that happen in the upcoming budget next year.

304 Don Guarino – You know what I just realized when you answered? This reflects to my thing on how default
305 budgets don't actually reflect the right number, because what will happen is the next year the call number will
306 be in the default budget, plus the \$114 thousand if the people vote for it. Thank you.

307 Moderator – Yes chief, you'll have to state your name.

308 Joe Hemple (Fire chief) – I just wanted to, just take a moment to, not clarify, but to address a couple of Don's
309 questions or concerns and maybe share it with the audience. Don mentioned call volume, an increase in call
310 volume, are we at the point where are seeing so many calls that they can't be managed? Our calls, as Don's
311 mentioned, you know, 600 this year, we hit 650 coming out of the gate, we see a steady increase over the
312 years. Our current operational period with full time staff is 7a-7p, and from 7p-7a we rely on call personnel. The
313 issue for the request in additional staffing and what we're finding is not based on the call volume itself, but
314 actually the level of service that we provide that our agency provides after 7pm. And we just can't at this point
315 with our mix of call personnel, assure that we are providing the same level of service that we do on the 7a-7p
316 operational period. We do not. We have difficulty getting folks out, we are operating at a different skill level,
317 and we're just not able to provide same means of critical care that we can in the first twelve hours of the day.
318 Just to clarify one other point, typically when you move to a 24hr staffing pattern you staff your station with two
319 providers for that 24-hour a day period. For us, and realizing we're not particularly at that place, we're going to
320 kind of implement a hybrid schedule where we're actually, this funding of these two additional guys will allow
321 us to staff one person for 24 hours a day, and then two guys 12 hours, and one guy 24. So, that one person
322 will alleviate 50% of our issues, if you will, that one person will either be an advanced EMT or be operating at
323 the paramedic level, and we will be able to have the assets and be able to be equipped to provide an
324 increased level of service for that 12-hour period. So, if we were to be asking you for two guys for 24-hours a
325 day, we would need 8 guys to be able to do that, which we are not, so this is a big step for us, I understand
326 that, but it's also, from my department, our management, we feel it's time to address it and to begin that
327 process, so.

328 Moderator – Thank you chief. Further questions, concerns? Again, you have to state your name for the record,
329 thank you.

330 David Strang, Copp Rd – Chief, of the 650 calls that I believe you quoted, how many are local calls meaning
331 within Gilmanton or the Iron Works vs mutual aid?

332 Joe Hemple – The majority of those calls are within our community, I would say you're looking at probably 70%
333 ourselves of the calls are within our community, 30% are probably outside of the community. We share
334 resources with Towns, Towns share resources with us, what we're finding now is we're having to bring in
335 assets out of our community to assist with our calls to a significant extent.

David Strang – So, just so that everyone understands, we're talking a little over one call per day on average. That is within our Town, or within the Iron Works. So this is a significant budget increase for the call volume we have within Gilmanton, and I think we need to keep that in mind. I agree with the concept of mutual aid and I think that's important, but we're asking to add a significant budget figure for a good portion of that being for the benefit of the surrounding Towns and I think that people need to keep that in mind. I have one question for the budget committee, is the estimated tax impact of .207 per thousand, is that based on the \$114,500 figure that you have there?

Brian Forst – Correct, that would be based on the numbers put in front of you. We cannot give you an impact on a number we don't have.

David Strang – OK. I respectfully state that you can't put that figure on this warrant article. You are misleading the people. You have to tell them what the full annual cost will be. You can't give them the first six-month figure. That would be like me if I were a car salesman, telling you can own this new Ford Explorer for \$5,000, but that's the down payment and not tell people that you have to pay a \$1,000 a month, so by the end of the year the actual cost is \$17,000, not \$5,000. So, you have to tell the taxpayers what this will cost annually if this is approved, not what it's going to be in 2022 for the first 6 months, that is misleading. And since this has now been spoken about in an open meeting, to go forward with this figure would be willfully misleading the people, and I really don't want to see you subject to a charge of that, so I would request that you adjust this figure so that people understand the full annual cost of this warrant article were it voted in.

Moderator – Thank you. Any further comments? And you'll have to state your name.

Paula Gilman, Hawkins Lane, lower Gilmanton - I would like to see a show of hands in this room of how many individuals have had to call 911 to their home to respond to an imminent death. Unfortunately, I don't want to embarrass my mate, but, sorry I'm shaking, this happened to us. May, 11 2020. Thank God our fire department, EMTs, paramedics, arrived in less than 15 minutes, after we called. It was a life or death situation. It happened during the day, at 10:30 am. What if this had happened at 10:30 pm? Would they have been able to respond in less than 15 minutes? They got there just in time. Personally, I don't care what it costs, because whatever those costs are, are not worth the death of any individual. Thank you.

Moderator – Thank you, any further comments with regard to that article? Come on up.

Drew Taylor, Loon Pond Rd – I'm just curious to learn for my sake and maybe others that are not as well informed either on the mutual assistance component of this, is that something that we pay other Towns to assist us with?

Joe Hemple, fire Chief – It is not. It's a mutual aid agreement, so we share our assets with other Towns and they share their assets with us.

Drew Taylor – OK, so there would be no offset in financial impact from the benefit of mutual assistance, thank you for clarifying.

Moderator – Thank you. Any further comments, concerns?

Maura Thomas, Town Clerk – I have question, Chief said that it would not?

Moderator – Hold on we need one clarification (for the minutes)

Maura Thomas, to Chief Hemple, you said it would not? Chief Hemple confirms, Maura Thomas thanks him.

Moderator – Thank you. Anything further? OK, I'm going to move on, we're going to article six.

Article will appear on ballot as written.

Article # 06: Add to existing ETFs Non-Capital Expendable Trust Funds and CRFs Capital Reserve Funds

Est. tax impact \$0.244

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of One-Hundred and Thirty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$135,000.00) to be deposited in the previously established Non-Capital Expendable Trust Funds (ETF) and Capital Reserve Funds (CRF) are identified below.

Highway Equipment (CRF)	\$ 70,000.00
Highway Vehicle Equip/Repair (ETF)	\$ 10,000.00
Revaluation (CRF)	\$ 20,000.00
Non CR Welfare Fund (ETF)	\$ 25,000.00
Transfer Station Vehicle & Equip Rep(ETF)	\$ 5,000.00
Cemetery Maintenance/Improvements (ETF)	\$ 5,000.00
	<hr/>
TOTAL	\$ 135,000.00

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen: Yes

Recommended by the Budget Committee: Yes

(Majority vote required)

Mark Sisti, Moderator – Do I have a motion?

MOTION Brian Forst

SECOND Vinnie Baiocchi

Discussion:

No Discussion

Article will appear on ballot as written.

Article # 07: Town Driveways

Est. tax impact \$0.145

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Eighty Thousand Dollars (\$80,000) to be deposited in the previously established Town Driveways Capital Reserve Fund (CRF).

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen: Yes

Recommended by the Budget Committee: Yes

(Majority vote required)

Mark Sisti, Moderator – Do I have a motion?

MOTION Brian Forst

SECOND Vinnie Baiocchi

Discussion:

No Discussion

Article will appear on ballot as written.

Article # 08: Establish Non-Capital Reserve Fund Infrastructure Repairs & Updates

Est. tax impact \$0.181

To see if the Town will vote to establish a new Non-Capital Reserve Fund for the purpose of repairing, paving, and updating roadways, drainage systems, and other infrastructure and to raise and appropriate the sum of One Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$100,000.00) to be deposited in this fund, and to appoint the Board of Selectmen as agents to expend from said fund.

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen: Yes

Recommended by the Budget Committee: Yes

(Majority vote required)

Mark Sisti, Moderator – Do I have a motion?

MOTION Brian Forst

SECOND Vinnie Baiocchetti

Discussion:

Moderator – Is there discussion on article eight? Come on up.

Mark Warren, Meeting House Road – I'm sitting here representing myself individually and not the Board of Selectmen. We established this article initially because one of the goals and what we are hearing from the residents is that we need to invest more into our road system, and so this is where this article initially was birthed, in an infrastructure article. However, we have since also found that there are some deficiencies in our transfer station in their electrical systems that we don't have a fund for, and so, as we're putting this together realizing, is the intent just roads or is the intent infrastructure for the Town, and it reads that it can be infrastructure for other things but it also reads that if you're just to read the first part, it just think it's just for roads, and I just want to make sure there's clarity here on the front end that, that this fund would be used for things other than roads although the initial intent is. So the question I have, is there some language that we should be adding to that includes buildings and building systems, or as it stands, I just want to make sure that residents are clear on what we're voting for, that if monies were expended out of this that were not for roads per se, but it is for infrastructure, that we wouldn't have a misunderstanding from the voters, saying hey we thought this was just for roads, and so I think this for me, was just saying could there be additional language added to say: buildings and building systems, to be more, to have more clarity, or is it as it reads where it says other infrastructure, that would cover us for if we needed to do that.

Moderator – That's a good idea. I'm going to defer to learned legal counsel on my left to see whether or not we can expand the definition of infrastructure or if your explanation on the record covers that particular explanation. So, if you'll take over for one second, this is Town counsel for this morning.

Brandon O'Donnell, Town Counsel – Yes. So, the language that is stated here in the warrant article typically has to control how that money can be spent in the future and it has to be for one of the purposes distinctly stated in the article. If you add any more limiting language, or an explanation that clarifies those other infrastructure measures, that would make it more clear in the future when someone was going to expend that.

Moderator – Right. Here's my question just for clarification Mark, what specifically are we talking about with regard to other infrastructure?

Mark Warren – So, for instance, if there's some infrastructure that needs to be upgraded at the transfer station, electrical systems like \$12,000 worth. We don't have fund for that, and yet it's infrastructure for the Town and even though there's language here for the purposes of maintaining and updating other road infrastructure, a lot of people think of infrastructure as roads but we want to make sure, or at least I want to make sure, that if the selectboard chooses to expend for other infrastructure things, that there is clarity enough, or that there's not going to be a backlash that says wait a second, we thought this was just for roads and not for other infrastructure, and as it's written it says other infrastructure, I just want to make sure there's enough clarity that covers any misunderstanding.

471 Moderator – Alright, my question then to legal counsel, is going to be can you actually add specifics to this
 472 particular article, does that change the very nature of what we're dealing with? If we're adding specifics, does it
 473 substantially change the nature of the article?

474 Brendan O'Donnell, Town counsel – It depends what you're adding, right? I think that if the goal is that this was
 475 related to infrastructure repairs and updates, as far as roadways and drainage systems, that if the change is
 476 related to those terms and sufficiently similar, and you're just clarifying it's the same purpose of the article, and
 477 voters would have been aware (indiscernible)

478 Moderator – OK, that makes it clear for me, now hold on, that's not the end of it, alright? We just got the
 479 thumbs up that you can actually modify that language you understand that? So, if you want to make a specific
 480 change to the language, you can move to amend that article.

481 Mark Warren – So I have language that I could propose, and did you want me to read that?

482 Moderator – Absolutely, if this is a motion to amend let's put it in that form.

483 Mark Warren – So I would like to make a motion to amend article eight to have the language be, and I'll just
 484 read it:

485 To see if the Town will vote to establish a new Non-Capital Reserve Fund for the purposes of repairing,
 486 maintaining, updating and paving the Town's infrastructure including roadways, drainage systems, (and
 487 this is where the add would be) buildings and building systems, and other infrastructure and to raise
 488 and appropriate the sum of One Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$100,000.00) to be deposited in this fund,
 489 and to appoint the Board of Selectmen as agents to expend from said fund.

490 Moderator – OK hold on Mark.

491 Unknown – Mr. Moderator would you mind reading that back once you have it down?

492 Moderator – Yeah, I think I've got it here. Alright, this is what I have and you tell me if I've got this substantially
 493 correct.

494 To see if the Town will vote to establish a new Non-Capital Reserve Fund for the purposes of repairing,
 495 maintaining, updating and paving the Towns infrastructure including roadways, drainage systems,
 496 buildings and building systems, and other infrastructure and to raise and appropriate the sum of One
 497 Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$100,000.00) to be deposited in this fund, and to appoint the Board of
 498 Selectmen as agents to expend from said fund.

499 Moderator – Am I correct Mark? Am I right?

500 Mark Warren – Pretty close. Did you want a copy of this?

501 Moderator – Yeah that would be great. Hold on. Alright I'm going to read this as proposed and we're going to
 502 mark this as the proposal. This document reads:

503 To see if the Town will vote to establish a new Non-Capital Reserve Fund for the purpose of repairing,
 504 maintaining, updating, and paving the Towns infrastructure including roadways, drainage systems,
 505 buildings and building systems, and other infrastructure and to raise and appropriate the sum of One
 506 Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$100,000.00) to be deposited in this fund, and to appoint the Board of
 507 Selectmen as agents to expend from said fund.

508 Moderator – I'm now presenting this to the Clerk so this is going to be your amendment, OK?

509 Mark Warren – Correct.

510 Moderator – Alright. Is legal counsel clear on the language?

511 Brendan O'Donnell, Town counsel – If I have it right it's after repairing (indiscernible) Town's infrastructure,
 512 including roadways drainage systems, adding new language about buildings and building systems, those were
 513 the two changes?

514 Moderator – Correct.

515 Brendan O'Donnell, Town counsel – OK and maintaining.

516 Vinnie Baiocchi – Adding maintaining to that also? I just want to reiterate.

517 Moderator – Yeah. We good then? Language good?

518 Brendan O'Donnell, Town counsel – Yeah, I think that would be fine based on the title and the original
519 language that this is the similar, the same purpose as the original article.

520 Moderator – OK good. So, we've got a motion to amend with that language, do I have a second on that?

521 **Second:** Joe Hemple

522 Moderator – It is seconded. Alright now this comes to a point in this particular meeting where we actually have
523 to do something like calling a vote, is there any discussion on this? We can. Mr. Forst.

524 Brian Forst - Mark, I understand exactly what you just did, but could I ask you to do one more, one more step?
525 Could you put Town owned in it, and because I think buildings and building systems is too vague, because
526 there's the the opportunity for, we understand what you're doing, but there is the opportunity for somebody
527 down the road to decide if they're going to spend money on a non-Town owned building, that the Town may be
528 doing something with and I feel that's not exactly the purpose here. I would like to see it say Town owned
529 buildings and building systems.

530 Moderator – So you want, let me just make it clear because we're moving around here on this language, the
531 further language would be right after drainage systems, Town owned buildings and building systems, correct?

532 Brian Forst – Correct.

533 Moderator – Is that OK? Alright, so now we've got a new request.

534 Mark warren – Do you want me to make a new motion?

535 Moderator – You have to.

536 Mark Warren – Yes, can I have that paper back?

537 Brian Forst – That is what I was thinking. I was trying to get this before we got here.

538 Mark Warren – No, it's OK. So where would Town-owned be on that?

539 Moderator – Town owned buildings.

540 Mark Warren – OK. So, I would like to amend on my previous motion to article eight to read this way:

541 To see if the Town will vote to establish a new Non-Capital Reserve Fund for the purpose of repairing,
542 maintaining, updating, and paving the Town's infrastructure including roadways, drainage systems,
543 Town owned buildings and building systems, and other infrastructure and to raise and appropriate the
544 sum of One Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$100,000.00) to be deposited in this fund, and to appoint the
545 Board of Selectmen as agents to expend from said fund.

546 Moderator – OK, that's the language presented, that's the motion.

547 **Second:** Brian Forst

548 Moderator – It's seconded. Is there discussion on the new language? Yes, please. We've got one right here.

549 Alec Bass, Potter Road – I just felt like the intention that this warrant article was for roadways infrastructure
550 which is an enormous cost for the Town and I am worried when you start making the pot too big to give to
551 whatever, funds not going where they are intended, and costs only escalate, and roads are always kicked to
552 the curb, so that's just my concern is just to focus money where it's needed, even if we don't realize it.

553 Moderator – Thank you. Yes. I'm sorry Don, you have to state your name.

554 Don Guarino, Meeting House Rd – Mr. Forst we've sat in a lot of these meetings with warrant articles, and I'm
555 trying to recall, but I thought that maybe the last budget meeting or the public hearing meeting was the last
556 time that the language for a warrant article could ever be changed and that the only thing that could be
557 changed were the dollar amounts, that seems like I've heard this discussion before that the warrant, like
558 remember we're setting the warrant tonight? Wasn't that many times at the public hearing prior to the first
559 deliberative session?

560 Moderator – OK let me interrupt a little bit OK, you may have noticed that I was deferring to legal counsel on
561 this Mr. Guarino. I was doing that for a specific reason. And that was so that we could address your concern. I

believe we've addressed your concern. That it has been encapsulized, and that the intent of this particular article has been preserved and has now been clarified. So that's where we are.

Don Guarino – (indiscernible) I have one other statement. This is discussion right?

Moderator – Well it's discussion on this particular language on this warrant article. Go ahead.

Don Guarino - On this warrant article. I would recommend that the after you place in buildings and the other things that are in there, Town owned buildings into this warrant article, the fact that it has that line again that says other infrastructure, and we're living in a modern time now, and we've all heard human infrastructure, so I mean if we're trying to prevent abuse ten years from now of somebody taking funds and using it in a different place, I don't like the words other infrastructure, if we're being specific. That's the end of my comments. Thank you.

Moderator – Thank you. Any other comments or discussion on the amended language? Now that article eight, Mark can I have that sheet? It's supposed to be on record. Thank you. Alright, no further discussion, we've got a motion, we've got a second, we've had discussion, and now we vote on the proposed amended language of article eight. I'll bring it to the floor. Let me read it so that we're clear here because we've had a couple of alterations:

To see if the Town will vote to establish a new Non-Capital Reserve Fund for the purpose of repairing, maintaining, updating, and paving the Town's infrastructure including roadways, drainage systems, Town owned buildings and building systems, and other infrastructure and to raise and appropriate the sum of One Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$100,000.00) to be deposited in this fund, and to appoint the Board of Selectmen as agents to expend from said fund.

Moderator – all those in favor of article eight as amended please indicate by holding up your pink card. OK, let's give me in opposed. Ayes have it overwhelmingly. Article eight is amended, we move on to article nine.

Original Warrant Article:

Article # 08: Establish Non-Capital Reserve Fund Infrastructure Repairs & Updates

Est. tax impact \$0.181

To see if the Town will vote to establish a new Non-Capital Reserve Fund for the purpose of repairing, paving, and updating roadways, drainage systems, and other infrastructure and to raise and appropriate the sum of One Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$100,000.00) to be deposited in this fund, and to appoint the Board of Selectmen as agents to expend from said fund.

Amended Warrant Article:

Article # 08: Establish Non-Capital Reserve Fund Infrastructure Repairs & Updates

Est. tax impact \$0.181

To see if the Town will vote to establish a new Non-Capital Reserve Fund for the purpose of repairing, maintaining, updating, and paving the Town's infrastructure including roadways, drainage systems, Town owned buildings and building systems, and other infrastructure and to raise and appropriate the sum of One Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$100,000.00) to be deposited in this fund, and to appoint the Board of Selectmen as agents to expend from said fund.

The motion for amendment passed and the Article will appear on ballot as amended.

Article # 09: Purchase Police Cruiser

Est. tax impact \$0.092

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Fifty-One Thousand Dollars (\$51,000) to purchase, equip and prepare for service a new Police Department cruiser. This is a non-lapsing warrant article per RSA 32:7 VI and will not lapse until the purchase of the Police Cruiser is complete or until December 31, 2024, whichever comes first.

609 **Recommended by the Board of Selectmen: Yes**

610 **Recommended by the Budget Committee: Yes**

611 **(Majority vote required)**

612

613 *Mark Sisti, Moderator – Do I have a motion on article nine?*

614 **MOTION** Brian Forst

615 **SECOND** Vinnie Baiocchetti

616 *Moderator – Thank you. Is there discussion on article nine? Come on up.*

617 *Jane Sisti, Geddes Rd – I was wondering if the Chief could just explain if this is a vehicle that is exactly the*
618 *same as the cruisers we have had or if there is anything different in this vehicle and what type of equipment*
619 *will be added to the vehicle.*

620 *Moderator – Thank you. If the chief wants to clarify or explain the last comment. Chief Currier you've got the*
621 *question.*

622 *Matt Currier, Police Chief - This is to replace a cruiser that we bought in 2012, this one is going to be Ford*
623 *F150 pursuit rated pickup truck, it will be fully equipped just like every other cruiser that we have in our fleet.*

624 *Moderator – Follow up. Into the microphone.*

625 *Jane Sisti –(indiscernible) So we are replacing a cruiser with a pickup truck, so we're actually not purchasing a*
626 *cruiser?*

627 *Matt Currier – It's a cruiser.*

628 *Jane Sisti – But it's a pickup truck.*

629 *Matt Currier – Correct.*

630 *Jane Sisti – OK. Thank you.*

631 *Moderator – Thank you. Any further questions or discussions on article nine? Seeing none, I'm moving on to*
632 *article ten. Article nine will be on your ballot as set forth.*

633 **Article will appear on ballot as written.**

634

635 **Article # 10: Purchase Security System for the Public Safety Building**

636 **Est. tax impact \$0.043**

637 To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Twenty-Four Thousand Dollars (\$24,000) to
638 purchase a new security system for the Public Safety Building.

639 **Recommended by the Board of Selectmen: Yes**

640 **Recommended by the Budget Committee: Yes**

641 **(Majority vote required)**

642

643 *Mark Sisti, Moderator – Is there a motion?*

644 **MOTION** Brian Forst

645 **SECOND** Vinnie Baiocchetti

646

647 **Discussion:**

648 *No Discussion*

649 **Article will appear on ballot as written.**

Article # 11: Energy Upgrades to Town Facilities

Est. tax impact \$0.072

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Forty Thousand Dollars (\$40,000) for the purpose of completing energy efficiency upgrades to various Town buildings as identified in the energy audit completed in 2021.

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen: Yes

Recommended by the Budget Committee: Yes

(Majority vote required)

Mark Sisti, Moderator – Is there a motion?

MOTION Brian Forst

SECOND Vinnie Baiocchetti

Discussion:

No Discussion

Article will appear on ballot as written.

Article # 12: Deeded Property Clean Up

Est. tax impact \$0.013

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Seven Thousand Dollars (\$7,000) for the cleanup and repair of properties taken by Town tax deed for the purpose of readying such properties for sale.

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen: Yes

Recommended by the Budget Committee: Yes

(Majority vote required)

Mark Sisti, Moderator – Is there a motion on article twelve?

MOTION Brian Forst

SECOND Vinnie Baiocchetti

Discussion:

No Discussion

Article will appear on ballot as written.

Article # 13: Sale of Town Properties

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen to sell the following properties in the Town of Gilmanton to be sold at public auction:

Map/Lot	Description	Acreage
118-027-001	Land Only Aspen Ave	0.48
119-045	Land Only Iris Ave	0.14
119-053	Land Only Locust Ave	0.14
122-122	Land Only Dock Rd	0.26
130-042	Land Only Winter St	0.491
130-051	Land Only Intervale Rd	0.339
131-083	Land Only Valley Shore Dr	0.36
132-096	Land Only Buck Ln	0.17
133-018	Land Only Moccasin Path	0.14
412-024	Land Only NH Rte 106	10.1
414-085	Land & Building 805 Province Rd	3.1
420-136	Land & Building 326 Allens Mill Rd	6.0

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen: Yes

Recommended by the Budget Committee: Yes

Mark Sisti, Moderator – I'll give you a couple of minutes just to review those, just to make sure, if you have questions this is the time.

Discussion:

Moderator – First of all, do I have a motion to accept article thirteen?

MOTION Brian Forst

SECOND Vinnie Baiocchetti

Moderator – Thank you. It's time for a discussion.

Patrick Hackley, Birch Ave, Sawyer Lake Village District – Thank you Mr. Moderator. Just had a question about process before these lots come before the Town for vote, there used to be a policy, although I don't know if it was a written policy, about non-conforming lots in the Sawyer Lake Village District that the taxpayers of that Village District had the first opportunity to bid on those. That was a, kind of a, I don't know if it was unwritten or written, just a clarification question. I don't know if you have any history on that Heather?

Heather Carpenter – Can you hear me? I'm not sure if it is a policy or not. The standard process for these types of lots are that they are reviewed by conservation, this is a housekeeping measure list aside from the one Allens Mills, all of them had been previously vetted in that process and reviewed. The RSA states that you have to bring them forward in the year and sell them in the year or it not to be brought back again. Unfortunately, we haven't had an auction for quite some time, so again, this is just a housekeeping measure, but as far as your, the policy of first come first serve or vs voters first, I don't know that it is written.

Patrick Hackley – OK, thank you. Just want to clarify for the record that it is a one-acre zoning ordinance in Sawyer Lake Village District. Thank you.

Moderator – Thank you. So, article thirteen has been moved and it has been seconded, is there any further discussion? Seeing none, it will appear on March 8th on your ballot.

Article will appear on ballot as written.

Article # 14: Land Use Change Tax

To see if the Town will vote to deposit 50% of all revenues collected for each parcel removed from current use pursuant to RSA chapter 79-A (the Land Use Change tax provision of the Current Use Assessment statute) to be deposited into the Town's Conservation Fund in accordance with RSA 36-A:5 III (Conservation Commission Statute), as is authorized by RSA 79-A:25 II for the purpose of evaluating, acquiring and/or managing conservation land, conservation easements or trail easements. This article only changes the amount of monies to be deposited in this fund which was revised and approved in 2007. (Currently this amount is \$2,500 plus 10% of any amount thereafter of the total annual revenues collected.)

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen: Yes

Recommended by the Budget Committee: Yes

Mark Sisti, Moderator – Do have a motion?

MOTION Brian Forst

SECOND Vinnie Baiocchetti

Discussion:

Moderator – Is there discussion? Yes sir.

Patrick Hackley, Birch Ave – Thank you Mr. Moderator. I am a member of the conservation commission. I just want to offer an amendment to correct the stated in parenthesis that is actually incorrect, it's not an accurate description of the current policy.

Moderator – OK, there are a couple of parentheticals. Is it the currently this amount is \$2,500?

Patrick Hackley – This would be the last parenthetical stated. I have a provision here. So it should say, currently this amount is \$2,500 plus 10% of any amount of each lot removed from the current use program. It's an important distinction because that is how this is currently calculated and how it's proposed to be calculated gives you more accurate picture of what the impact is to the general fund, versus the contribution of the conservation fund.

Moderator – OK, so the line which again, is what?

Patrick Hackley – Currently this amount is \$2,500 plus 10% of any amount per parcel or lot removed from current use, from the current use tax program.

Moderator – Do you have that in writing?

Patrick Hackley – I do not, but I can provide it.

Moderator – Yeah, why don't we do that. Just so we know for sure what the language is, OK?

Patrick Hackley – Sure.

Moderator – I'm ready for it any time you want to write it up.

Patrick Hackley – OK. I'll do it right now. Alright. You didn't make Mark do this, by the way. OK.

Moderator – Thanks. OK, I take it this is in the form of a motion to amend?

Patrick Hackley – Yes sir.

Moderator – And is there a second on that?

Second Brian Forst

Moderator – Seconded. Alright, the article fourteen is intact, so I'm not going to go through the whole thing except the last parenthetical phrase, and it should now be amended language as:

Currently this amount is \$2,500 plus 10% of any amount per parcel removed from the current use tax program.

Patrick Hackley – Current use tax program.

Moderator – Current use tax program. Do I have it right? OK, that's what's before the body. I have to, is there any further discussion on this before I call the vote?

Maura Thomas, Town Clerk – I have a question for clarification, the second part "any amount thereafter of the total annual revenues collected" is that being taken out, altogether?

Patrick Hackley – Yes, remove that totals revenue (indiscernible)

Moderator – Yes.

Town Clerk – OK, perfect.

Moderator – Yes. We good, clear now what we're doing here? Alright, why don't we do this: all in favor of the amended language please indicate by raising your pink cards. Looks overwhelming. Do we need to call for nays? Any nays? I see none. The amended language is thereby going to be placed on ballot before you. On the eighth.

Stephen Bedard – Mr. Moderator (indiscernible) don't we have to now vote on the article that's been amended?

Moderator – I think just did. We can, but, I mean, I think...

Stephen Bedard – In the past if you change the language you vote on the change, and then you come back and vote on the warrant article? (indiscernible)

Moderator – No, because that vote will take place on March 8th. We're merely placing before the body, on March 8th, the language that is in the warrant article. The warrant article has been amended.

Stephen Bedard – Thank you.

Moderator – Thank you. OK, Article fifteen.

Original Warrant Article:

Article # 14: Land Use Change Tax

To see if the Town will vote to deposit 50% of all revenues collected for each parcel removed from current use pursuant to RSA chapter 79-A (the Land Use Change tax provision of the Current Use Assessment statute) to be deposited into the Town's Conservation Fund in accordance with RSA 36-A:5 III (Conservation Commission Statute), as is authorized by RSA 79-A:25 II for the purpose of evaluating, acquiring and/or managing conservation land, conservation easements or trail easements. This article only changes the amount of monies to be deposited in this fund which was revised and approved in 2007. (Currently this amount is \$2,500 plus 10% of any amount thereafter of the total annual revenues collected.)

Amended Warrant Article:

Article # 14: Land Use Change Tax

To see if the Town will vote to deposit 50% of all revenues collected for each parcel removed from current use pursuant to RSA chapter 79-A (the Land Use Change tax provision of the Current Use Assessment statute) to be deposited into the Town's Conservation Fund in accordance with RSA 36-A:5 III (Conservation Commission Statute), as is authorized by RSA 79-A:25 II for the purpose of evaluating, acquiring and/or managing conservation land, conservation easements or trail easements. This article only changes the amount of monies to be deposited in this fund which was revised and approved in 2007. (Currently this amount is \$2,500 plus 10% of any amount per parcel removed from the current use tax program.)

The motion for amendment passed and the Article will appear on ballot as amended.

Article # 15: Conservation Commission Membership- Amendment

To see if the Town will vote to increase the membership of the Gilmanton Conservation Commission from 6 to 7 members as provided in RSA 36-A:3.

Recommended by the Conservation Commission: Yes

Discussion:

No Discussion

Article will appear on ballot as written.

Article# 16: Adopt All Veterans' Tax Credit

Shall the Town vote to adopt the provisions of RSA 72:28-b, All Veterans' Tax Credit? If adopted, the credit will be available to any resident, or the spouse or surviving spouse of any resident, who (1) served not less than 90 days on active service in the armed forces of the United States and was honorably discharged or an officer honorably separated from services and is not eligible for or receiving a credit under RSA 72:28 or RSA 72:35. If adopted, the credit granted will be \$500.00, the same amount as the standard or optional veterans' tax credit voted by the Town under RSA 72:28, and will be available effective April 1, 2022.

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen: Yes

Mark Sisti, Moderator – Do I have a motion on this?

MOTION Brian Forst

SECOND Vinnie Baiocchetti

Discussion:

No Discussion

Article will appear on ballot as written.

Article # 17: Support the Gilmanton Year-Round Library (by petition)

Est. tax impact \$0.085

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Forty-Seven Thousand, One Hundred Dollars (\$47,100) for partial funding of operating expenses of the Gilmanton Year-Round Library for Fiscal Year 2022.

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen: Yes

Recommended by the Budget Committee: Yes

Mark Sisti, Moderator – Do I have a motion?

MOTION Brian Forst

SECOND Vinnie Baiocchetti

Discussion:

No Discussion

Article will appear on ballot as written.

Article # 18: Support the Gilmanton Youth Organization

Est. tax impact \$0.010

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Five Thousand, Five Hundred Dollars, (\$5,500) for the purpose of supporting the Gilmanton Youth Organization (GYO), a recognized 501(c)(3) charitable organization that is operated for the express purpose of organizing and administering high-quality sports programs for the school-aged children of the Town of Gilmanton, as well as the continued operation, maintenance, and development of GYO Park.

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen: Yes

Recommended by the Budget Committee: Yes

Mark Sisti, Moderator – Is there a motion on article eighteen?

MOTION Brian Forst

SECOND Vinnie Baiocchi

Discussion:

No Discussion

Article will appear on ballot as written.

Article # 19: Support the New Beginnings Without Violence & Abuse

Est. tax impact \$0.002

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000) for the purpose of supporting New Beginnings Without Violence & Abuse which provides 24-hr crisis support operates a shelter and provides counseling for domestic/sexual assault victims.

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen: Yes

Recommended by the Budget Committee: Yes

Mark Sisti, Moderator – Do I have a motion?

MOTION Brian Forst

SECOND Vinnie Baiocchi

Discussion:

No Discussion

Article will appear on ballot as written.

Article # 20: Support the Community Action Program

Est. tax impact \$0.009

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000) for the continuation of services to the low-income residents of Gilmanton through the Laconia Area Center of Community Action Program Belknap-Merrimack Counties, Inc.

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen: Yes

Recommended by the Budget Committee: Yes

Mark Sisti, Moderator – Do I have a motion?

MOTION Brian Forst

SECOND Vinnie Baiocchetti

Discussion:

No Discussion

Article will appear on ballot as written.

Article # 21: Support the Lakes Region Mental Health Center

Est. tax impact \$0.014

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Seven Thousand, Five Hundred Dollars (\$7,500) to support the Lakes Region Mental Health Center (LRMHC), formerly known as Genesis, which provides integrated mental and physical health care to area residents with mental illness.

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen: Yes

Recommended by the Budget Committee: Yes

Mark Sisti, Moderator – Do I have a motion on article twenty-one?

MOTION Brian Forst

SECOND Vinnie Baiocchetti

Discussion:

No Discussion

Article will appear on ballot as written.

Article # 22: Support the Gilmanton Snowmobile Association

Est. tax impact \$0.005

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Two Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$2,500) for the purpose of supporting the Gilmanton Snowmobile Association, for the purpose of maintaining trails that are open to the public in a safe condition for use by snowmobilers, hikers, cross-country skiers, and equestrians in the Town of Gilmanton.

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen: Yes

Recommended by the Budget Committee: Yes

Mark Sisti, Moderator – Is there a motion?

MOTION Brian Forst

SECOND Vinnie Baiocchetti

Discussion:

Moderator – Is there any discussion with regard to article twenty-two. Yes, come forward.

Ron LeClerc, lower Gilmanton – The only think I would ask is that you would include snowshoers because my wife Sue and I use the trails constantly over the winter months. Just a little technicality.

Moderator – OK.

Ron LeClerc – Hikers, cross country skiers, and snowshoers, and equestrians.

948 Moderator – I don't mind your making a motion to amend. I don't know if hikers actually may include your
 949 request. I don't know if you're excluded if you're a snowshoer. I don't mind, OK, that doesn't matter, with
 950 discussion.

951 Vinnie Baiocchetti- I would have a question, because the Snowmobile Association has to get permission from
 952 separate landowners, to give or not give certain people rights to their properties, to go on their land, I'm not
 953 sure that that can be done.

954 Moderator – Alright, so there is a distinction.

955 Brandon O'Donnell, Town Counsel – The core part of this article is donating money to the Gilmanton
 956 Snowmobile Association for the purpose of maintaining trails, and you'd expect that whoever is allowed on
 957 those trails would be able to use those trails.

958 Moderator – Alright. I guess my question, I hate to be peeling this onion way deep here but, I mean, do you
 959 honestly believe that you would be excluded from the use of these specific trails?

960 Ron LeClerc – No, No I'm not, it just, you know extends the usage or just clarifies even further.

961 Moderator – Well, I don't think it extends, and I don't really think it clarifies, but, in fact I'm going to make a
 962 ruling that I believe it actually embraces your particular purpose.

963 Ron LeClerc – OK.

964 Moderator – Alright? Thank you. Anything else? OK, we're going to move on.

965 **Article will appear on ballot as written.**

966

967 **Article # 23: Support the Gilmanton Iron Works Private Library**
 968 **Est. tax impact \$0.002**
 969 To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000) for the
 970 purpose of supporting the Gilmanton Iron Works Library, a recognized 501(c)(3) charitable organization.

971 **Recommended by the Board of Selectmen: Yes**

972 **Recommended by the Budget Committee: Yes**

973

974 Mark Sisti, Moderator – Is there a motion on twenty-three?

975 **MOTION** Brian Forst

976 **SECOND** Vinnie Baiocchetti

977

978 **Discussion:**
 979 *No Discussion*

980 **Article will appear on ballot as written.**

981

982 **Article #24: Support Granite VNA formerly Central NH Visiting Nurses Association & Hospice**
 983 **Est. tax impact \$0.014**
 984 To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Seven Thousand Six Hundred Dollars (\$7,600)
 985 for the purpose of supporting Granite VNA which is a non-profit agency that provides health care, hospice care
 986 and maternal child health services.

987 **Recommended by the Board of Selectmen: Yes**

988 **Recommended by the Budget Committee: Yes**

989

990 Mark Sisti, Moderator – Do I have a motion?

MOTION Brian Forst

SECOND Vinnie Baiocchetti

Discussion:

No Discussion

Article will appear on ballot as written.

Article # 25: Support the Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) of NH

Est. tax impact \$0.002

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000) for the purpose of supporting the Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) of NH which provides, recruits, trains, and supervises volunteers to serve as advocates for abused and neglected children in the New Hampshire court system.

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen: Yes

Recommended by the Budget Committee: Yes

Mark Sisti, Moderator – Is there a motion?

MOTION Brian Forst

SECOND Vinnie Baiocchetti

Discussion:

No Discussion

Article will appear on ballot as written.

Article # 26: Support the Rocky Pond Association Milfoil

Est. tax impact \$0.002

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000) for the purpose of supporting the Rocky Pond Association in controlling the presence and proliferation of milfoil at Rocky Pond.

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen: Yes

Recommended by the Budget Committee: Yes

Mark Sisti, Moderator – Is there a motion?

MOTION Brian Forst

SECOND Vinnie Baiocchetti

Discussion:

No Discussion

Article will appear on ballot as written.

Article # 27: Support the Gilmanton July 4th Association

Est. tax impact \$0.009

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000) to support the Gilmanton 4th of July Association, a community organization, for the continuation of Gilmanton's 4th of July Parade, Fireworks, and other events.

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen: Yes

Recommended by the Budget Committee: Yes

Mark Sisti, Moderator – Is there a motion?

MOTION Brian Forst

SECOND Vinnie Baiocchetti

Discussion:

Moderator – Any discussion with regard to twenty-seven? Come on up.

Don Guarino, Fourth of July Association – I just want the audience to know that the \$5,000 is used for the display. Normally the display comes the weekend before the parade, so the (indiscernible), which is donations, actually helps pay for the trophies and ribbons for the people that participate in the parade. The display company, and I'm going by memory, said last year we spent \$4,500, and they said that with their insurance and their expenses, that they didn't expect the display to be any less than \$5,000. And so that's why this is listed as this appropriation. Thank you.

Moderator – Thank you, Don. Any further comment on twenty-seven? I'll move to twenty-eight.

Article will appear on ballot as written.

Article # 28: Support the Mid-State Health Center

Est. tax impact \$0.0001

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Two Hundred and Seventy Dollars (\$270) for the purpose of supporting the Mid State Health Center which is a non-profit agency that provides medical, dental, behavioral health, and substance use disorder treatment.

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen: Yes

Recommended by the Budget Committee: Yes

Mark Sisti, Moderator – Do I have a motion?

MOTION Brian Forst

SECOND Vinnie Baiocchetti

Discussion:

Moderator – Any discussion on twenty-eight? Come on up.

David Strang, Copp Rd. – Mid-State health center is a primary care practice that is primarily associated with Speare Memorial Hospital in Plymouth, not even in our county. Is there another satellite office that's maybe nearer to Gilmanton that we are being asked to financially support?

Heather Carpenter – I can answer that.

Moderator – Hold on, you've got to speak up. Go on.

Vinnie Baiocchetti – They provided about \$2,700 worth of services to the Town of Gilmanton last year, so this is about ten percent of what they would charge for the community.

076 David Strang – OK, but how did they do that because they're not physically in Gilmanton, and not even near
077 Gilmanton.

078 Vinnie Baiocchetti – They provided the services so they asked for the 10% in donation.

079 David Strang – I'm just a little concerned about this because again, this is a primary care practice that's
080 primarily based in Plymouth which is Grafton county, it's not even Belknap county, are we supposed to be
081 supporting Concord hospital and Concord primary care? Because they clearly provide mental health and
082 medical health to our residents. I mean, we are already being asked to make a charitable donation to Lakes
083 Region Mental Health, which also does mental health and substance abuse, so now we're doubling down on
084 this, and I don't think that we ought to say well it's only \$270, so it's a pittance, I think we're establishing a
085 precedent here. We're being asked to fund a private practice for medical purposes and I don't think that's the
086 business of Town government.

087 Moderator – Thank you. Any other further discussion?

088 Heather Carpenter – Mark, can I make a clarification please?

089 Moderator – Yeah.

090 Heather Carpenter – So, Mid-State has provided alternative care that not necessarily would be covered in our
091 own community, for instance dental to low income residents. This just is another way to offset our welfare.
092 This, you call a private practice, it's a 501c3 that has provided over \$2,700 worth of care to our residents and
093 have asked for \$270.

094 Moderator – Thank you. Any further discussion? Seeing none, I think that wraps up the articles and the
095 meeting for this morning. I just want to say, as I always have said in the last few years since we've gone to
096 SB2, I informally kind of, take a count of number of people that come to these things, and the amount of money
097 we spent with the representation that's here during this stuff and getting explanations. Today I count
098 approximately forty voters that have dedicated themselves this morning to this particular process. Now, we
099 have authorized for the ballot on March 8th, between the school and Town budget, over 17 million dollars. So,
100 again, this is the system you guys wanted, this is the system you have, and I am not in agreement with it, I've
101 been quite clear about that, I've been clear about it every year. We used to have many, many more people that
102 were much more educated with regard to the execution of what goes on in this particular community and how
103 we're spending our money. The questions and the discussion today was fruitful, it used to be fruitful for eight
104 hours and people used to get what was going on. So, I just leave it at that. Thank you, thanks for coming,
105 make sure you're there 7:00 am – 7:00 pm on March 8th.

106

107 10:48 am closure