



2000 Town Meeting Minutes
GRANTHAM
May 13, 2000

ss. STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

SULLLIVAN COUNTY

Moderator Merle Schotanus called the 224th Grantham Town Meeting to order on May 13, 2000 at 10:10 AM. The delay was necessitated by the line of residents needing to sign in with the Supervisors of the Checklist.

The convocation was offered by Howard Beardsley and was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by Troop 60 Brownies. The Moderator asked Selectman Bill Hutchins to speak on the Town Report Dedication pages. Bill spoke of Jim Peirce who retired from the Recreation Department. Bill commented that Jim was the initial Recreation Director. He had all the heartaches and headaches of a beginning department. Jim fixed the problems, did the scheduling and took it from ground zero. Please stand up, Jim, and be recognized. Those in attendance applauded. Bill then spoke of Earline Moulton Pillsbury. She was a genteel and gracious lady who gave freely of her time. Bill felt privileged to introduce this memorial. The audience applauded.

Moderator Schotanus recognized the assistant town moderator and the school moderator, Carl Hanson. Carl spoke of the outcome of the School Elections.

The Moderator then introduced the Town Officers; Town Clerk/Tax Collector Rita Eigenbrode, Selectmen Bill Hutchins, Alden "Chick" Pillsbury, Connie Jones and Town Administrator Tina Stearns. Police Chief Russel Lary is in attendance running the video camera so that we have a tape of this Town Meeting. The Supervisors of the Checklist are Deborah Cheever, Cindy Towle and Alan Walker. Page 7 of the Town Report has the list of all the Town Offices. Moderator Schotanus corrected two entries under Trustees of the Dunbar Free Library that were listed in error. Dudley Smith replaces Charles Pearce and Barbara Jones replaces Suzanne Lower.

Four ballot clerks were appointed by the Moderator to assist in counting secret ballots. They were Pam Hanson, Lorie McClory, Sarah Barton and Connie Howard.

The Moderator announced that he would conduct the meeting under the Rules that have been used since 1977 and read as follows:

1987

1. No article may be brought up for reconsideration unless it is brought up immediately after the vote has been determined and announced.
2. Passing over an article is not in the spirit of the meeting and will be ruled out of order.
3. Registered voters only will be seated on the main floor and in the center section of the bleachers. Non-voters will be seated in side sections of the bleachers. Non-voters who

are not officers of the Town may be allowed to address the meeting only if the Town votes to permit it.

4. Whenever a voter wishes to speak, he or she will address the moderator and identify her or himself.
5. The moderator will conduct a secret "yes-no" ballot when five voters make a written request prior to voice or division vote on any article open for discussion (RSA 40:4a).
6. The moderator will take a secret "yes-no" ballot when seven or more voters question any non-ballot vote immediately after the vote is declared, and before any other business is conducted (RSA 40:4b).
7. All proposed amendments to articles will be submitted in writing to the moderator prior to discussion of the amendment.

This was moved and seconded and passed by unanimous voice vote.

Moderator Schotanus stated that official ballot voting occurred at the first part of Town Meeting, May 9, 2000. On that day the Moderator announced the hours the polls would be open, 10:00am – 6:00pm. He then announced that a protest petition submitted by Harold LaValley, per RSA 675:5 had been posted and Article 2 now required a 2/3 majority vote.

ARTICLE 1: To choose by ballot and major^{T^U} vote for the ensuing years the following positions were voted on May 9, 2000:

Selectmen

Michael John Hayward, Sr.....307

Town Clerk/Tax Collector (1 year)

Rita Eigenbrode470

Treasurer (2 years)

Christopher Scott450

Trustee of Trust Fund

Constance B Howard460

Planning Board

Carl Hanson 56

Brian Molloy (1 year) 6

Library Trustee

Catherine Seavey437

Terry Beaulieu 14

Cora Lee Woodworth (1 year).....431

Supervisor of Checklist

Deborah Cheever444
Cemetery Trustee
Dennis W Howard.....460
Moderator
Merle Schotanus.....455

ARTICLE 2: DEFEATED BY OFFICIAL BALLOT

A. *(Petitioned Article)* AMEND ARTICLE III ESTABLISHMENT OF DISTRICTS AND DISTRICT REGULATIONS to change BD Business District Area #1 as currently described in the Town of Grantham, New Hampshire, Zoning Ordinance, dated May 11, 1999 from BD – Business District zoning to RRD – Rural/Residential District. The zoning ordinance described BD “Area #1 – All that area west of New Hampshire Highway #10 by Skinner Brook; thence southerly along New Hampshire Highway #10 to the southernmost point of Grantham Tax Map parcel Map 226 Lot 20; thence northerly along the eastern boundary of the right-of-way of Interstate highway #89 to a point westerly from the starting point and perpendicular to New Hampshire Highway #10; thence easterly to the starting point.”

Rationale: To rezone Business District to allow stricter regulations regarding the type of use of the property.

(No recommendation by the Planning Board)

Yes 262 No 211 Needed 315(2/3) to pass

Moderator Schotanus recognized Selectman Chick Pillsbury. Selectman Pillsbury noted that if everything passed today the projected town portion of the tax rate would be \$2.35. He thanked everyone for coming and hoped they would vote it the way the Selectmen proposed it.

ARTICLE 3: It was moved and seconded, “To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$700,000 (gross budget) for the closure of the landfill and to authorize the issuance of not more than \$700,000 of bonds or notes in accordance with the provisions of the Municipal Finance Act (RSA 33) and to authorize the selectmen to issue and negotiate such bonds or notes and to determine the rate of interest thereon.

*2/3 Majority Ballot Vote Required
Special Warrant Article
The Selectmen recommend this appropriation.*

The moderator recognized Selectman Chick Pillsbury who requested that Article 3 be amended as follows: "To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$99,500. (gross budget) for Phase I of the Landfill and to authorize the issuance of not more than \$99,500 of bonds or notes in accordance with the provisions of the Municipal Finance Act (RSA 33) and to authorize the selectmen to issue and negotiate such bonds or notes and to determine the rate of interest thereon. The motion to amend was moved and seconded. The Moderator opened the discussion on the proposed amendment, which now requires a majority vote.

Selectman Pillsbury spoke to the amendment by stating that the proposed amount of money would be used to put asphalt around the transfer station, do drainage that is necessary to eliminate puddles of water and move the recycling boxes so that the transfer station is more user friendly. He read a letter from the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services regarding the landfill situation. This letter is on file at the Town Office. The amendment was moved and seconded.

Majority voice vote in the affirmative

Adjusted totals to include the amendment:

ARTICLE 3: "To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$99,500 (gross budget) for the closure of the landfill and to authorize the issuance of not more than \$99,500 of bonds or notes in accordance with the provisions of the Municipal Finance Act (RSA 33) and to authorize the selectmen to issue and negotiate such bonds or notes and to determine the rate of interest thereon.

Majority voice vote in the affirmative

ARTICLE 4: It was moved and seconded "To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$545,000 (gross budget) for the construction of a municipal building (town offices, police department, SAU office) and to authorize the issuance of not more than \$520,000 of bonds or notes in accordance with the provisions of the Municipal Finance Act (RSA 33) and to authorize the selectmen to issue and negotiate such bonds or notes and to determine the rate of interest thereon; furthermore, to authorize the withdrawal of \$25,000 from the Town Office Building Capital Reserve Fund created for this purpose.

*2/3 Majority Ballot Vote Required
Special Warrant Article
The Selectmen recommend this appropriation.*

The Moderator mentioned that there were sketches of the proposed municipal building. Selectman Pillsbury spoke of the Building Committee's many hours of study on this project and turned the discussion over to the Chairperson of the Building Committee, Charlie Amick Charlie

stated that the committee observed that the space of the town office was on the modest side. Studies showed that the existing building could be incorporated into the plans. Police Chief Lary spoke of the need for a larger and more modern Police Department. Concerns about the cost of 4 + acres of land to be purchased were raised by a number of residents. It was determined that the cost of the acreage was included in the amount mentioned in the article.

The Moderator declared the polls open for voting at 12:00 noon. The polls were closed at 1:00pm and the ballots were counted. **The article was 7 votes short of a 2/3 majority and was defeated.**

Yes 117 No 70

ARTICLE 5: It as moved and seconded "To have the portion of Miller Pond Road that is a Class VI Highway shall be open and remain open to all motorized vehicles. This warrant article shall override Ordinance #CLVIMP which was adopted by Grantham Board of Selectmen on January 26, 2000."

By Petition
2/3 Majority Ballot Vote Required
Special Warrant Article
The Board of Selectmen do not recommend this article.

The Moderator recognized Glenn Cary, one of the petitioners, to speak to the article. Before Mr Cary spoke the Moderator read the Ordinance #CLVIMP. Mr. Cary then said he did not feel that this public road should have been closed nor does he feel that any public road should be closed . Selectman Pillsbury explained that the Selectboard agreed to the closure to help the residents of Miller Pond Road maintain the condition of the road and to get emergency vehicles in there. The Board also suggested to the residents of Miller Pond Road that they get the road up to town standards and then petition the Town to take over the road. **The article was 52 votes short of a 2/3 majority and was defeated.**

Yes 39 No 98

ARTICLE 6: It was moved and seconded "Do you favor the return of the annual town meeting to the traditional second Tuesday after the first Monday in March, to elect all officials and to consider all warrant items, in keeping with the annual school district meeting on that date."

By Petition
Special Warrant Article
The Board of Selectmen do not recommend this article.

Moderator Schotanus announced that he had a petition for a secret yes no ballot signed by 5 registered voters. **The article was defeated.**

Yes 41 No 94

ARTICLE 7: It was moved and seconded "To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$404,170 to defray the cost of General Government operations."

Account Title	Budget 1999/2000	Expended 3/31/00	Proposed 2000/2001
Town Offices	89,508	57,896	81,250
Town Clerk/Tax Collector	49,950	30,593	53,211
Financial Administration	38,188	30,627	39,500
Tax Maps/Assessing	7,600	6,578	8,100
Legal	12,000	3,570	12,000
Personnel Administration.....	106,184	70,054	122,062
Planning Board.....	3,425	1,177	3,425
Zoning Board of Adjustment	1,550	1,670	1,600
General Government Buildings	67,350	42,772	47,775
Cemeteries.....	7,900	3,543	8,050
Insurance	24,000	20,159	26,000
Regional Associations.....	1,210	1,197	1,197
TOTAL	408,865	269,836	404,170

(majority vote required)
The Board of Selectmen recommend this article.

Selectman Pillsbury presented an amendment to Article 7. He proposed that the General Government Buildings line be increased from 47,775 to 87,775. He reasoned that since Article 4 did not pass the money was needed to effect repairs that were necessary to the existing Town Office.

The amendment was moved and seconded.

Unanimous voice vote in the affirmative

Adjusted totals to include the amendment:

Account Title	Budget 1999/2000	Expended 3/31/00	Proposed 2000/2001
---------------	---------------------	---------------------	-----------------------

Town Offices	89,508	57,896	81,250
Town Clerk/Tax Collector	49,950	30,593	53,211
Financial Administration	38,188	30,627	39,500
Tax Maps/Assessing	7,600	6,578	8,100
Legal	12,000	3,570	12,000
Personnel Administration.....	106,184	70,054	122,062
Planning Board.....	3,425	1,177	3,425
Zoning Board of Adjustment	1,550	1,670	1,600
General Government Buildings	67,350	42,772	87,775
Cemeteries.....	7,900	3,543	8,050
Insurance.....	24,000	20,159	26,000
Regional Associations.....	1,210	1,197	1,197
TOTAL	408,865	269,836	444,170

Unanimous voice vote in the affirmative

ARTICLE 8: It was moved and seconded "To see if the Town will raise and appropriate the sum of \$293,831 to defray the cost of Public Safety operations."

Account Title	Budget	Expended	Proposed
	1999/2000	3/31/00	2000/2001
Police Department.....	193,590	136,829	220,194
FAST Squad.....	20,608	16,083	25,862
Fire Department	44,350	19,595	47,400
Forest Fire	375	0	375
TOTAL	258,923	172,507	293,831

(majority vote required)

The Board of Selectmen recommend this article

Majority voice vote in the affirmative

ARTICLE 9: It was moved and seconded "To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$379,884 to defray the cost of Public Works operation."

Account Title	Budget	Expended	Proposed
	1999/2000	3/31/00	2000/2001

Highway Administration.....	193,964	102,236	190,166
Street Lights.....	2,400	900	2,400
Solid Waste Collection	73,808	48,921	76,318
Waste Disposal.....	75,000	69,397	86,000
Landfill Closure	25,000	5,471	25,000
TOTAL	370,172	226,925	379,884

(majority vote required)

The Board of Selectmen recommend this article.

The Moderator recognized Selectman Pillsbury who requested an amendment to this article. He asked to add \$25,000 to the Solid Waste Collection line. The amendment was moved and seconded.

Unanimous Voice vote in the affirmative

Adjusted totals to include the amendment:

Account Title	Budget 1999/2000	Expended 3/31/00	Proposed 2000/2001
Highway Administration.....	193,964	102,236	190,166
Street Lights.....	2,400	900	2,400
Solid Waste Collection	73,808	48,921	101,318
Waste Disposal.....	75,000	69,397	86,000
Landfill Closure	25,000	5,471	25,000
TOTAL	370,172	226,925	404,884

Selectman Pillsbury explained the need for an the increase was due to the increase in waste and recycle trucking. There seems to be less residents recycling. The increase was a 4.3CPI for haulage costs. Also,there was a vote by the Solid Waste District to add another \$20.00 per ton tipping fee to pay for the lateral land fill expansion for the ash land fill. This is why we need the \$25,000. We have a \$9.99 per ton as of 1/2001, as well.

Unanimous voice vote in the affirmative

ARTICLE 10: It was moved and seconded "To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$10,605 to defray the cost of Health and Welfare operations."

Budget	Expended	Proposed
--------	----------	----------

Account Title	1999/2000	3/31/00	2000/2001
Boarding Animals	500	160	300
Lake Sunapee Home Health.....	3,467	3,467	3,510
Meals on Wheels.....	500	0	500
Kearsarge Council on Aging.....	750	750	795
Southwestern Community Action Program.....	500	0	500
Town General Assistance	3,000	3,827	5,000
TOTAL	8,717	8,204	10,605

(majority vote required)

The Board of Selectmen recommend this article

Unanimous voice vote in the affirmative

ARTICLE 11: It was moved and seconded "To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the following sums for **Culture and Recreation.**"

Account Title	Budget	Expended	Proposed
	1999/2000	3/31/00	2000/2001
Recreation	3,000	2,087	4,000
Dunbar Free Library	72,122	49,050	74,500
Town Archives.....	500	101	1,000
Old Home Day	2,000	1,444	0
TOTAL	77,622	52,682	79,500

(majority vote required)

The Board of Selectmen recommend this article.

Unanimous voice vote in the affirmative

ARTICLE 12: It was moved and seconded "To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the following sums for **Conservation and Tax Anticipation Notes.**"

Account Title	Budget	Expended	Proposed
	1999/2000	3/31/00	2000/2001
Conservation Commission.....	1,500	838	1,100
Tax Anticipation Notes Interest.....	100	0	100

TOTAL 1,600 838 1,200

(majority vote required)
 The Board of Selectmen recommend this article.

Unanimous voice vote in the affirmative

ARTICLE 13: It was moved and seconded "To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate funds and authorize the use of funds from surplus to defray the cost, to be placed in previously established Capital Reserve Funds as follows:"

Account Title	Budget	Proposed
	1999/2000	2000/2001
Fire Department Capital Reserve.....	262,000	25,000
Mowers Capital Reserve	1,500	1,500
Highway Dept. Equipment Cap Reserve	12,000	30,000
Highway Dept Truck Cap Reserve	5,000	0
Radio Console/Accessories Cap Reserve	5,000	10,000
Town Office Building Capital Reserve.....	25,000	0
TOTAL	310,500	66,500

(majority vote required)
 The Board of Selectmen recommend this article

Selectman Jones proposed an amendment to this article. The amendment would add \$25,000 to the Town Office Building Capital Reserve and is necessary since Article 4 did not pass. The amendment was moved and seconded.

Majority voice vote in the affirmative

Adjusted totals to include the amendment:

ARTICLE 13: "To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate funds and authorize the use of funds from surplus to defray the cost, to be placed in previously established Capital Reserve Funds as follows:"

Account Title	Budget	Proposed
	1999/2000	2000/2001

Fire Department Capital Reserve.....	262,000	.....	25,000
Mowers Capital Reserve	1,500	.....	1,500
Highway Dept. Equipment Cap Reserve	12,000	.....	30,000
Highway Dept Truck Cap Reserve	5,000	.....	0
Radio Console/Accessories Cap Reserve	5,000	.....	10,000
Town Office Building Capital Reserve.....	25,000	.....	25,000
TOTAL	310,500	.....	91,500

(majority vote required)

The Board of Selectmen recommend this article

Unanimous voice vote in the affirmative

ARTICLE 14: It was moved and seconded "To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$13,300 for the purchase of seven (7) Scott Air Paks for the Volunteer Fire Department, and authorize the use/transfer of \$13,300 of the June 30, 1999 fund balance in aforementioned amount for this purpose.

Special Warrant Article

The Board of Selectmen recommend this article.

Fire Chief Bob Seavey explained that an Scott Air Pak is a breathing apparatus used when fire personnel enter a burning building.

Unanimous voice vote in the affirmative

ARTICLE 15: It was moved and seconded "To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$25,000 for the development of a town baseball field, and authorize the use/transfer of \$25,000 of the June 30, 1999 fund balance in aforementioned amount for this purpose.

Special Warrant Article

The Board of Selectmen recommend this article.

Unanimous voice vote in the affirmative

ARTICLE 16: "To hear the reports of agents, officers, and committees heretofore chosen, to pass any vote relating thereto, and to transact any other business that may legally come before said meeting."

Moderator Schotanus announced that a "special" nominating committee recommended Charlie and Tammi Rogers for Hogreeves and Bob and Pauline Tonsberg for Fence Viewers for 2000. The Moderator declared the election of these people to their respective offices.

The Moderator recognized Pam Harkins, volunteer Vice-President of the Friends of the DFL. In error, Pam's name was not included on page 7, the list of Town Officers, in the Town Report. Moderator Schotanus recognized Tina Stearns and Connie Jones to comment about retiring Selectman Chick Pillsbury. Tina said that it was a pleasure to work with Chick. "He tells it like it is." Tina wrote the following poem being made part of this permanent record:

For many years he served the Town
On various boards he sat.
Never failing to let us down
His statements were matter of fact.

Always willing to hear
Whatever you might have to say.
Making it ever so clear
Like it or not – that's the way.

One of the few remaining of his type
A member of a dying breed.
Not easily caught up in the hype
Always willing to take the lead.

At times acting like a wild card
You always knew where you stood.
Hopefully he'll stay clear of the lard
'Cause everyone know – that stuff's no good.

Thank you, Chick, for over 20 years of service
The effort you gave will be hard to beat.
Your presence on the Board will be missed
For you there's always an empty seat.

Enjoy yourself!

The audience gave Chick a well deserved standing ovation. Chick was presented with a pocket watch and a pen knife. Chick spoke about how he enjoyed the various positions he had held over the years serving the people. Ella Reney was recognized and gave a vote of appreciation to Tina Stearns for an excellent Town Report. Also a vote of appreciation to the Building Committee, who did such a fine job.

There being no further business or reports, Moderator Schotanus declared the 224th Town Meeting adjourned at 3:05 P.M.

Rita Eigenbrode

A True Copy Attest:

Rita Eigenbrode

RITA EIGENBRODE, TOWN CLERK

DATE May 31, 2000

