



TOWN OF GRANTHAM NEW HAMPSHIRE

TOWN MEETING MARCH 14, 2006

SS. STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

SULLIVAN COUNTY

Moderator Merle Schotanus called the 230th Annual Grantham Town Meeting to order at 10:00am. Pastor Ron Bruce was invited to offer the invocation. The Moderator asked Dick Mansfield to lead the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Moderator Schotanus stated that it is historically significant that this is the inaugural meeting of the Town of Grantham in its new municipal building. This year's town report is dedicated to all those involved with the new building. The Moderator asked Selectman Harold Haddock to speak. Selectman Haddock stated that for the first time in 230 years of town meetings we have a building that was built specifically for that purpose and general government operations. The Selectmen would like to dedicate this building to the people of Grantham and we wish you use it well over the coming years.

Moderator Schotanus stated that the meeting having been properly warranted as it is certified on page 18 of the Town Report and by the authority vested in him by the laws of the State of New Hampshire declared the 230th Annual Town Meeting officially open for business. The polls officially opened at 10 am and will remain open until 7 pm for ballot voting for articles 1 through 9 on the Town Warrant.

The Moderator suggested that questions about the zoning amendments on the ballot be directed to the members of the Zoning Board after the meeting. He recognized the members who were in attendance: Dick Mansfield, Conrad Frey, Marjorie Bostrom, and Myron Cummings.

Moderator Schotanus recognized Carl Hanson, School District Moderator, for announcements regarding the Grantham School District. Mr. Hanson stated that the business meeting would be held on March 21, 2006 at 7 pm. The polls are open today for the election of school board offices.

The Town Officers in attendance were as follows: Rita Eigenbrode, Town Clerk/Tax Collector; Selectman William Hutchins; Selectman Harold Haddock; Selectman Connie Jones; and Town Administrator Tina Stearns. The Moderator then introduced Chief Russell Lary, running the video camera; Supervisors of the Checklist Deborah Cheever, Donna Stamper, Sandra Noordsy and assistant Cynthia Towle, Deputy Town Clerk/Tax Collector; Victoria Smith, Assistant Moderator, overseeing the ballot box. The ballot clerks were Lori McClory, Sarah Barton, Connie Howard and Sandy Palermo.

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Moderator Schotanus proposed that the 2006 Town Meeting rules be adopted with the addition of a 7th rule. It would read as follows:

Registered voters only will be seated in the center section of the meeting hall.
Non-voters will be seated in the visitor's gallery located in the area bounded by the inside pillars and the inside wall of the meeting hall.

It is necessary to put this rule in so that we can assure everyone that the voters are being separated from the non-voters. Seeing that there were no questions concerning the proposed rules for the 2006 Town Meeting it was moved and seconded to accept the rules for 2006. The Town Clerk was directed to make them part of the current record.

Passed by Unanimous Voice Vote

2006 Town Meeting Rules

1. Non-voters who are not officers of the town may be allowed to address the meeting only if the town votes to permit it.
2. All voters will direct their remarks to the moderator. Whenever a voter wishes to speak, he or she will address the moderator and identify him or herself.
3. Unless superseded by State law, reconsideration of a vote on any article should be brought up immediately after the vote has been declared. A vote on the issuance of bonds or notes over \$100,000 cannot be reconsidered at the same meeting. The town may also vote to restrict reconsideration of any other vote in the same manner.
4. The moderator will conduct a secret "yes-no" ballot vote when five voters make a written request prior to a voice or show of hands vote on any article open for discussion.
5. Any ruling by the moderator can be challenged. The moderator will conduct 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.
6. All proposed amendments to articles will be submitted in writing to the moderator prior to discussion of the amendment.
7. Registered voters only will be seated in the center section of the meeting hall. Non-voters will be seated in the visitor's gallery located in the area bounded by the pillars and the inside wall of the meeting hall.

Moderator Schotanus noted that articles 1 through 9 would be voted by ballot and articles 10 through 26 would be open for discussion and voted at this meeting.

ARTICLE 1 – ELECTION OF OFFICERS

To choose by ballot and major vote for the ensuing years as enumerated:

Harold Haddock, Jr.	Selectman	3 years
Carl Hanson	Planning Board	3 years
Karen Ryan	Planning Board	3 years
Constance Howard	Trustee of the Trust Funds	3 years
Thomas E. Buckman	Cemetery Trustee	3 years
Judith Danzoll	Library Trustee	3 years
Don Noordsy	Library Trustee	3 years
Janet Goodrow	Supervisor of the Checklist	6 years
Victoria H. Smith	Town Moderator	2 years

ARTICLE 2 – Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 1 proposed by the Planning Board for the town Zoning Ordinance as follows?

Revise Article III – F Flood Plain Conservation District to include the latest insurance study and maps by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA); to add new requirements to Article VIII – H-3 Variances for any variances granted within the flood plain overlay district; and to include a new Article XI – Definitions applicable specifically to the flood management ordinance. **RECOMMENDED BY THE PLANNING BOARD**

Rationale: FEMA has requested that all towns in the State of New Hampshire adopt the above changes to their Zoning Ordinances so that they may continue to be eligible for the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP).

**YES 425 NO 39
PASSED BY OFFICIAL BALLOT**

ARTICLE 3 – Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 2 proposed by the Planning Board for the town Zoning Ordinance as follows:

Add a new paragraph to Article IX Administration and Enforcement authorizing the Zoning Board of Adjustment to request reasonable fees for the expense of consultant services or investigative studies which may be required for a particular application as permitted in RSA 673:16. **RECOMMENDED BY THE PLANNING BOARD**

Rationale: The State Office of Energy and Planning recommends this amendment in the handbook for local officials “The Board of Adjustment in New Hampshire” released in January 2005. This is to allow the Board to have access to information in more complex applications where specialized knowledge is required to come to a prudent decision.

**YES 391 NO 66
PASSED BY OFFICIAL BALLOT**

ARTICLE 4 – Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 3 proposed by the Planning Board for the town Zoning Ordinance as follows:

Completely revise, expand and reorganize Article VI – Special Provision: Cluster Residential Development to better assist applicants as well as the Planning Board in applying the parameters for this form of subdivision which allows reduced lot dimensions but maintains the density permitted in the Rural/Residential District. **RECOMMENDED BY THE PLANNING BOARD**

Rationale: Cluster residential development is an important form of development permitting smaller sized lots which allows for the preservation of more permanent open fields/woods than possible in a regular subdivision development and also lessens the need for extended roads and utility lines within the development.

**YES 384 NO 79
PASSED BY OFFICIAL BALLOT**

ARTICLE 5 – Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 4 proposed by the Planning Board for the town Zoning Ordinance as follows:

Add a new article to allow collection of impact fees which are an assessment on development, including subdivision, other building construction or land use change to help meet the needs occasioned by this development for any necessary improvements or additional facilities owned or operated by the town such as local or regional schools, roads, municipal facilities, public safety facilities, recreational facilities and waste management. **RECOMMENDED BY THE PLANNING BOARD**

Rationale: Continued development could put a strain on existing Town infrastructure and require infrastructure improvement and/or expansion. The imposition of impact fees, if deemed necessary, would help the Town better afford any new facilities rather than placing the entire financial burden on the Town.

**YES 390 NO 70
PASSED BY OFFICIAL BALLOT**

ARTICLE 6 – Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 5 proposed by the Planning Board for the town Zoning Ordinance as follows:

Revise Article IX – C Administration and Enforcement to incorporate recent rulings by the State of New Hampshire concerning the collection of fines for violations of the Zoning Ordinance and the Town’s right to recover attorney’s fees pursuant to any legal action. **RECOMMENDED BY THE PLANNING BOARD**

Rationale: The suggested changes reflect updated rulings by the State of New Hampshire and are contained in RSA 676:17.

**YES 402 NO 58
PASSED BY OFFICIAL BALLOT**

ARTICLE 7 – Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 6 proposed by the Planning Board for the town Zoning Ordinance as follows:

Add a new Rural Residential District with minimum five (5) acre lot size for low density residential development in three remote areas of the town having limited physical access; to minimize the difficulty and hazard of supplying municipal services; and to decrease the potential for increased traffic congestion. **RECOMMENDED BY THE PLANNING BOARD**

Rationale: The Town of Grantham’s recently approved Master Plan recommended the formation of larger lot sizes in the more remote areas of Town to minimize the problems cited above and to help preserve to a degree the rural visual environment.

**YES 340 NO 81
PASSED BY OFFICIAL BALLOT**

ARTICLE 8 – Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 7 proposed by the Planning Board for the town Zoning Ordinance as follows:

Update Article III – I Shoreland/River Overlay District to reflect the most current version of “The Shoreland Protection Act RSA 483-B” including its addendum “Shoreland Protection Administrative Rules”. This document shall be applied for any determinations to be made within this overlay district. **RECOMMENDED BY THE PLANNING BOARD**

Rationale: The Department of Environmental Services (DES) requires using the updated version of the Shoreland Protection Act for any applications within the Shoreland/River Overlay District.

**YES 372 NO 45
PASSED BY OFFICIAL BALLOT**

ARTICLE 9 – Building Code Revisions

Are you in favor of allowing the Planning Board to make required revisions to the Building Code as adopted by the Grantham Town Meeting on March 13, 1990.

RECOMMENDED BY THE PLANNING BOARD

YES 355 NO 65

PASSED BY OFFICIAL BALLOT

ARTICLE 10 – Veterans’ Exemption – By Petition

It was moved and seconded: To see if the Town will vote to raise the Veteran’s Tax exemption from the standard veteran’s tax credit of \$50.00 to the optional veteran’s tax credit of \$500.00 as allowed by RSA 72:28 Standard and Optional Veteran’s Tax Credit, Title V, Taxation, Chapter 72, Persons and Property Liable to Taxation, Property Taxes.

Due to two of the Selectmen benefiting from the passage of this article there is no recommendation. The third Selectman is in support of this article. This article has an **estimated tax impact of 12 cents** (this equates to an appropriation of approximately \$71,500).

The Moderator recognized Connie Jones to speak to the article. Selectman Jones said the State of New Hampshire gives the towns the right to have an exemption from \$50 to \$500 and I feel that we are on the low side and that we should raise the exemption. The tax credit is deducted from the tax on your residential property. Mr. Siedel’s petition asks for the maximum amount of \$500. If that is what the town wants that is wonderful but anything above the \$50 would certainly be an improvement.

Art Siedel was recognized by the Moderator to speak about his petition. Mr. Seidel explained how his interest in increasing the exemption started. He then read from Section 72:28 pertaining to Standard and Optional Veteran’s Tax Credit. He ended by saying that hopefully we can raise this exemption to \$500. Sylvia Dowd was recognized by the Moderator and asked how many veterans there were in Grantham. Moderator Schotanus remarked that there are 141 veterans that are registered for the exemption.

PASSED BY MAJORITY VOICE VOTE

ARTICLE 11 – Activities Director – By Petition – Special Warrant Article

It was moved and seconded: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of sixteen thousand dollars (\$16,000) to establish a paid part-time Activities Director. This individual through standard annual events, as well as implementing random activities, is responsible for providing a sense of community for the people of Grantham. It is a year round part-time position. *The Board of Selectmen supports this Article (3/0).* This article has an **estimated tax impact of 3 cents.**

Moderator Schotanus recognized Selectman Haddock to speak to the article. Selectman Haddock said the Selectboard was enthusiastic about the article and he asked Laurie Field to speak and explain what is intended. Laurie stated that she has chaired nearly

every community event for the past 6 years in the Town of Grantham and it is difficult to do and hold down a full time job. She started the petition so that activities like Old Home Day and Easter Egg Hunt would become standard and people could enjoy them every year. Selectman Haddock said that a job description has been written and is on file in the Town Offices.

PASSED BY UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE

The Moderator recognized Stephen Prichard, State representative and resident of Grantham, to address the audience. Mr. Prichard offered his thanks to all the people that made the wonderful hall possible. He also applauded the governing body of Grantham. Through his work as a member of the Municipal and County Government Committee he hears many bills in hearings about the problems and the conflicts that go on in local government all over New Hampshire and he is thankful that he lives in Grantham.

ARTICLE 12 – General Government

It was moved and seconded: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$744,206 to defray the cost of **General Government** operations.

RECOMMENDED BY THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Account Title	Budget 2005/06	Proposed 2006/07
Selectmen's Office	125,716	121,513
Town Clerk/Tax Collector	84,705	87,654
Supervisors of the Checklist	0	2,000
Financial Administration	50,296	71,440
Tax Maps/Assessing	65,500	40,000
Legal	10,000	20,000
Personnel Administration	211,614	262,975
Planning Board	6,020	8,650
Zoning Board of Adjustment	4,240	3,340
General Government Buildings	78,850	79,550
Cemeteries	11,800	13,700
Insurance	21,000	31,000
Regional Associations	2,276	2,384
TOTAL	672,017	744,206

Moderator Schotanus recognized Selectman Bill Hutchins to speak to the article. Selectman Hutchins noted that the substantial increase in the total proposed is due to the Town Clerk/Tax Collector's higher cost for elections and office expenses. The Supervisors of the Checklist have been broken out of the Town Clerk/Tax Collector's budget. Financial Administration increased because of the new building, increased hours and an added receptionist for 30 hours a week. Legal has increased due to a couple of cases pending. Personnel Administration increase reflects that more people are using our medical insurance coverage and costs of health insurance have gone up substantially. Our Insurance has gone up because we have a new facility. Cemeteries have increased because we are contemplating water service to our Memorial Cemetery and to do a complete map overlay of all our existing cemeteries which are in reasonably good shape but haven't been totally documented to date.

PASSED BY MAJORITY VOICE VOTE

The Moderator recognized Selectman Bill Hutchins to ask Dennis Howard to come forward. Selectman Hutchins presented Dennis with an award to commemorate 20 years of service as the Cemetery Trustee in Grantham.

ARTICLE 13 – Public Safety

It was moved and seconded: To see if the Town will raise and appropriate the sum of \$459,388 to defray the cost of **Public Safety** operations. **RECOMMENDED BY THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN**

Account Title	Budget 2005/06	Proposed 2006/07
Police Department	297,925	307,683
FAST Squad	48,135	54,630
Fire Department	67,270	82,650
Forest Fire	375	375
Building Inspection	10,250	5,250
Emergency Management	0	8,800
TOTAL	423,955	459,388

The Moderator recognized Selectman Connie Jones to speak to article 13. Selectman Jones addressed the increase in the Police Department due to wage increases, dispatch, training, postage and gas. The Fast Squad is up because of the plan to purchase more extrication gear, 6 jackets, 2 radios and 2 pagers. The Fire Department's increase is in anticipation of hiring a part time person to man the station and for general supplies that are needed to maintain the Fire Department. The Building Inspection line is down because we did not use that position as much as we had in years past. Emergency Management is a new position. By law we are required to have an Emergency

Management Director. He is responsible for doing our emergency management manual. He must be certified and attend many classes.

Moderator Schotanus recognized Barbara Rogers who asked if the Town of Grantham paid anything to New London Ambulance for service to residents of Grantham; Selectman Jones answered \$25,000. The Moderator recognized Barbara Fuller and she asked what had changed at the Fire Department that required a part time employee. Selectman Jones read the job description for the position and when asked if that answered her question Barbara Fuller said yes. The Moderator recognized Brian Poljacik and he asked if volunteers did the responsibilities that were listed in the job description in the past. The answer was yes. Roger Woodworth was recognized next by the Moderator. Mr. Woodworth asked if there was a plan to designate someone to be concerned with the facilities here in this building. Selectman Hutchins answered by saying that Bruce St. Peter, Clerk of the Works, and the Selectmen had talks concerning this. Mr. St. Peter has agreed to coordinate meetings with key people in the Police Department, the Fire Department and possibly the general office staff to designate key people in case of an emergency and how to handle it. I think we are fortunate to have Mr. St. Peter incubate this until we have a three-stage manual of response in case of emergency. Moderator Schotanus recognized Bob Lagassa who asked if the Town had a cleaning contract for the building. Selectman Jones said that the contract was going out for bid.

PASSED BY UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE

ARTICLE 14 – Public Works

It was moved and seconded: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$544,264 to defray the cost of **Public Works** operation. **RECOMMENDED BY THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN**

Account Title	Budget 2005/06	Proposed 2006/07
Highway Administration	138,510	145,264
Highway Maintenance	105,800	97,500
Street Lights	2,400	2,400
Solid Waste Collection	113,900	116,100
Waste Disposal	179,600	175,000
Landfill Monitoring	8,000	8,000
TOTAL	548,210	544,264

Moderator Schotanus recognized Selectman Haddock for comments regarding this article. Selectman Haddock said there is an overall decrease in this category. In Highway Administration the increase is due to fuel costs. The major reason for the decrease is that we have less paving plans for next year. The only road that is going to be coated is Howe Hill Road. Arthur Magowan was recognized by the Moderator to speak about the Solid Waste Collection. Mr. Magowan stated that the Solid Waste Collection and Waste Disposal, together, is the largest single expenditure we have. He continued by saying that we should do as much recycling as possible. The Moderator recognized Mike Walker who asked why the area at the transfer station used to recycle reusable items was discontinued since recycling is highly recommended. Selectman Haddock said the area was closed down temporarily. It was done because of congestion during weekends. The whole transfer stations operation is going to be reexamined and we hope at that point we will be able to restore that operation. The Moderator then recognized Cynthia Bevins Chew and she inquired about the bridge from the elementary school. She wanted to know where it was in the budget. Tina Stearns, Town Administrator, stated that the town raised \$100,000 and we are trying for a grant, which would give us 75% of the cost. The proposed cost of the bridge is \$250,000. Therefore, money was not allotted because of the \$100,000 that we have and our chances of getting the grant are very good. The Moderator recognized Sandy Palermo for comments and a question. Mrs. Palermo stated that she lives off of Dunbar Hill Road and wanted to know why it hadn't been paved yet since it had been in the budget to do so for the past few years. Selectman Haddock answered by saying that the paving of Dunbar Hill Road is in the present year budget. Lori McClory asked if the Selectmen have considered mandatory recycling and if the next hazardous waste collection day had been scheduled? Selectman Haddock responded by saying that the Board encourages recycling. He continued by saying the Board had not found a town that had tried to impose mandatory recycling that had been successful. The hazardous waste day is planned for April 15, 2006.

PASSED BY UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE

ARTICLE 15 – Health and Welfare

It was moved and seconded: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$21,119 to defray the cost of **Health and Welfare** operations. **RECOMMENDED BY THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN**

Account Title	Budget 2005/06	Proposed 2006/07
Boarding Animals	300	300
Community Services	10,406	10,819
Town General Assistance	10,000	10,000
TOTAL	20,706	21,119

Moderator Schotanus recognized Selectman Hutchins to speak to this article. Selectman Hutchins took this opportunity to point out what is involved in Community Services. It is five operations; Lake Sunapee Home Health, Sullivan County Nutritional Service, Kearsarge Area Council on Aging, Southwest Community Action and West Central Services.

PASSED BY UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE

ARTICLE 16 – Culture and Recreation

It was moved and seconded: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$165,471 for **Culture and Recreation**. **RECOMMENDED BY THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN**

Account Title	Budget 2005/06	Proposed 2006/07
Recreation	24,900	18,610
Dunbar Free Library	107,629	141,361
Old Home Day	2,000	5,000
Archives	500	500
TOTAL	135,029	165,471

The Moderator recognized Selectman Jones to speak to the article. Selectman Jones commented that the largest increase is the Dunbar Free Library. Old Home Day increased \$3000 so that the town will have a large Old Home Day celebration, which will include the new municipal building. Cindy Covell was recognized for a question. Ms. Covell believes that money was budgeted for new ball fields when the land was acquired for the new building and would like to know the status of the ball fields. Selectman Haddock stated that Cindy Covell was right. The original concept was that we would devote some of this parcel of land to recreation. Unfortunately, when the wetlands issues were resolved it used up a large portion of the acreage. As a result, this is probably not the site for the baseball fields. Donna Stamper was recognized by the Moderator to speak about the increase in the Library. Mrs. Stamper stated the reasons for the increase; salary increase across the board, insurance coverage, part-time hire for Summer Reading Program and assistance for the librarian.

PASSED BY UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE

ARTICLE 17 – Conservation, Bond Notes, Interest and Tax Anticipation Notes
It was moved and seconded: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$196,163 for Conservation, Bond Notes, Interest and Tax Anticipation Notes.
RECOMMENDED BY THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Account Title	Budget 2005/06	Proposed 2006/07
Conservation Commission	800	1,100
Bond Payment	134,000	135,000
Bond Interest	65,110	59,963
Tax Anticipation Notes Interest	100	100
TOTAL	200,010	196,163

The Moderator recognized Selectman Haddock to speak to the article. Selectman Haddock stated that there was not much change in this particular article except with respect to interest. The interest on our two bond issues, one on the land fill, goes down as the principal is paid off. That is the reason for the decrease. The Conservation Commission has a slight increase related to the amount of work that they have been doing.

PASSED BY UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE

ARTICLE 18 – Capital Reserve Funds
It was moved and seconded: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$131,500 to be placed in previously established Capital Reserve Funds.
RECOMMENDED BY THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Account Title	Budget 2005/06	Proposed 2006/07
Fire Department Capital Reserve	50,000	75,000
Ball Field Capital Reserve	5,000	5,000
Highway Equip Capital Reserve	30,000	30,000
Computers Capital Reserve	1,500	1,500
Transfer Station Capital Reserve	10,000	10,000
Police Vehicle Capital Reserve	10,000	10,000
TOTAL	106,500	131,500

The Moderator recognized Selectman Hutchins to speak to this article. Selectman Hutchins indicated that the biggest change is in the Fire Department Capital Reserve. They are hoping to put a program together to replace both the rescue and advance support vehicle.

PASSED BY UNANIMOUS VOICE VOICE

ARTICLE 19 – Highway Department One-Ton Truck

It was moved and seconded: To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$42,000 to purchase a new Highway One-Ton Truck and authorize the withdrawal of \$42,000 from the Highway Equipment Capital Reserve Fund created for that purpose.

RECOMMENDED BY THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN

The Moderator recognized Selectman Haddock who spoke to the article by saying that the current one ton truck is ten years old and in pretty desperate condition. It needs to be replaced.

PASSED BY UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE

ARTICLE 20 – Elderly Exemption

It was moved and seconded: Shall we modify the elderly exemptions from property tax in the Town of Grantham, based on assessed value, for qualified taxpayers, to be as follows: for a person 65 years of age up to 75 years, \$30,000; for a person 75 years of age up to 80 years, \$40,000; for a person 80 years of age or older, \$50,000. To qualify, the person must have been a New Hampshire resident for at least 6 years, own the real estate individually, or jointly, or if the real estate is owned by such person's spouse they must have been married for at least 5 years. In addition, the taxpayer must have a net income of not more than \$22,000, or if married, a combined net income of less than \$31,000; and own assets not in excess of \$65,000 excluding the value of person's residence.

RECOMMENDED BY THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN This article has an **estimated tax impact of 1 cent.**

Moderator Schotanus recognized Selectman Jones to speak to this article. Selectman Jones said that the Board is very supportive of this article. With property values increasing as they are in Grantham, there are seniors on fixed incomes who would benefit by this.

PASSED BY UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE

ARTICLE 21 – Disposition of Current Use Penalty

It was moved and seconded: To see if the Town will vote to increase the Disposition of Current Use Penalty Assessment (RSA 79-A:25) to place 100% of the revenues of all future payments collected pursuant to RSA 79-A:25 II in the Conservation Fund in accordance with RSA 36-A:5 III. The revenue transfer shall be at the time of collection.
RECOMMENDED BY THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN

The Moderator recognized Selectman Hutchins to speak to the article. Selectman Hutchins said that under the current policy 50% of use change tax goes in to the general fund and 50% goes to conservation. It is the Board's belief that to try and retain the rural aspect of Grantham it would be wise for long distance planning to put 100% of this revenue into the acquisition of open land.

PASSED BY UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE

ARTICLE 22 – Interest Earned on Bond Proceeds

It was moved and seconded: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$22,000 for the purpose of Miscellaneous Building Expenses to include additional election booths and authorize the use in that amount of June 30 fund balance for this purpose. (This amount will represent the interest earned on bond proceeds which was transferred to the general fund on or before June 30.) **RECOMMENDED BY THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN**

The Moderator recognized Selectman Haddock to speak to the article. Selectman Haddock said that when we financed this building through the State Bond Bank we received the amount of the proceeds of that mortgage. Before we had to pay out the sums to the builders, we invested this and earned interest on the proceeds. We request your permission to use the proceeds as expressed in the article. The Moderator recognized Lori McClory for a question. Mrs. McClory asked what miscellaneous building expenses were being talked about. Selectman Haddock responded by saying that we will have to do some landscaping around the fire pond; provide steps down to it and fencing around it during the summer. It is primarily things outside the building itself.

PASSED BY UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE

ARTICLE 23 – Sugarwood Lane

It was moved and seconded: To see if the Town will vote to accept Sugarwood Lane as a Class V road, such acceptance to be final upon the completion of necessary action of the Board of Selectmen once it has received approval of the as-built drawings, drainage easements from all property owners and the Selectmen are satisfied that the road has been brought up to standards set by the Board for Sugarwood Lane. **RECOMMENDED BY THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN**

Moderator Schotanus removed himself as Moderator for article 23 since he built the road in question and now lives on said road. He asked the Assistant Moderator Victoria Smith to replace him.

Assistant Moderator Smith recognized Selectman Connie Jones to speak to this article. Selectman Jones said that the people that live on Sugarwood Lane have been working on the road to get it up to standards so that the Town of Grantham would accept it. The residents have done almost all of the necessary work. The Town Engineer, Peter Blakeman has inspected the road and will do so again when they have put on an extra layer of gravel. Joe Newcomb, road agent, has been watching this. The Selectmen feel, that once everything is taken care of, this road should be accepted by the town as a classified road.

PASSED BY MAJORITY VOICE VOTE

ARTICLE 24 – Discontinue Radio Console Capital Reserve Fund

It was moved and seconded: To see if the town will vote to discontinue the Radio Console Capital Reserve Fund created in 1998. The remaining funds in the amount of \$500.00 plus accumulated interest to date of withdrawal are to be transferred to the town's general fund. **RECOMMENDED BY THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN**

Moderator Schotanus resumed his position and recognized Selectman Hutchins to speak to this article. Selectman Hutchins said that because of the reorganization of the Police Department the equipment is not needed.

PASSED BY UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE

ARTICLE 25 – Capital Improvement Plan Committee

It was moved and seconded: To see if the town will vote to allow the Board of Selectmen to establish a Capital Improvement Plan Committee, to study and report back to the town on the feasibility of establishing a Municipal Capital Improvement Plan, projected over a period of at least 10 years, in accordance with RSA 674:5. **RECOMMENDED BY THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN**

Moderator Schotanus explained that this article is related to article 5 which will be voted on by ballot. Article 5, which has to do with impact fees, cannot go into operation until this article is passed.

The Moderator recognized Selectman Haddock to speak to the article. Selectman Haddock said that the Board recommends planning how we are going to spend capital funds well in advance so there is adequate time to raise money, in addition to the ability to deal with impact fees. The Moderator recognized Arthur Magowan for a question. Mr. Magowan asked if it was desirable to come back with a plan for approval next town meeting or to come back with a feasibility report to do such a plan. Selectman Haddock said that first the committee has to be established and brought up to speed. He was not

sure that one year would accomplish all of what Arthur Magowan suggested, i.e. coming back with a plan. The intent is to get it done as soon as possible. The Moderator recognized Stephen Prichard for a question. Mr. Prichard asked if this article was related to the Master Plan and is this a way to fund and support it or is this separate from it. The Moderator responded by saying that yes, it is related. The Moderator than recognized Carl Hanson to further answer the question. Mr. Hanson said that one of the recommendations of the Master Plan, that we adopted in August, 2005, was that we put together a Capital Improvement Plan. The reason is that it will enable us to assess impact fees on future development as well as being prudent fiscal management.

PASSED BY UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE

ARTICLE 26 – End of Meeting

It was moved and seconded: 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.

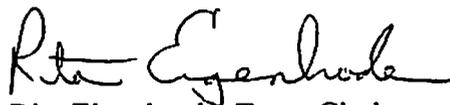
The Moderator recognized Cindy Towle to give her Hog Reeves report. Moderator Schotanus officially appointed Bob and Cynthia Chew as Hog Reeves and Dave and Sarah Beckley as Fence Viewers. There were no objections to these appointments.

Moderator Schotanus, as his last order of business before retiring from being Moderator was to turn over the Bleha gavel to the Selectmen so this gavel can be presented to the new Moderator as part of the tools of the trade.

Selectman Haddock stated that for the past 20 years Merle Schotanus has served this town extraordinarily well as Town Moderator. It is one of his many contributions to Grantham. He also served 14 years in the NH State Assembly representing our town. Rarely has there been an individual who has come into town and has made such an impact in the period of time that he has lived here. We all wish Merle well. The Town of Grantham presented Moderator Schotanus with a commemorative plaque. Moderator Schotanus gave an emotional thank you to all.

There being no further business or reports, Moderator Schotanus declared the 230th Town Meeting adjourned at 12:30 pm.

A True Copy Attest:



Rita Eigenbrode, Town Clerk
March 31, 2006