

# TOWN OF GRANTHAM NEW HAMPSHIRE

## TOWN MEETING MINUTES

MARCH 27, 2018

SS. STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

SULLIVAN COUNTY

Moderator Lorie McClory introduced herself and called the 242<sup>nd</sup> Annual Town Meeting to order at 5:01 pm. She asked those present to turn off their cell phones or set them to 'vibrate.' The assembly was lead in the Pledge of Allegiance by Girl Scout Troop #12260. The Girl Scouts thanked the town for inviting them to open town meeting. After the pledge was recited, the Moderator thanked them.

The Moderator reminded those residents in attendance to sit within the posts in the room so that they will be allowed to vote on all articles. Non-voters were instructed to sit behind the barrier on the east side of the room. She also reminded residents to be sure to pick up their yes/no paper ballots if they have not already, as those will be necessary for any secret ballot votes. Emergency exits and rest rooms were identified. The Moderator asked if there were any residents who were new to town meeting. She welcomed those who raised their hands and thanked them for coming. She also advised residents to pick up a copy of the Town Report at the rear of the room, as a copy of the warrant is included within.

The Moderator stated "...that the meeting having been properly warned as certified on page 21 of the Town Report and by the authority vested in me by the laws of the State of New Hampshire I do now declare the 242<sup>nd</sup> Annual Meeting of the Town of Grantham officially opened for business."

The Moderator introduced Selectmen G. Warren Kimball and Peter Garland (it was noted that Selectman Constance Jones was absent due to illness); Town Administrator Melissa White; Town Clerk/Tax Collector Ken Story; Deputy Town Clerk/Tax Collector Penny Palmer; and the Supervisors of the Checklist Donna Stamper and Sandra Noordsy (she noted that the third Supervisor, Suzanne Goldman, was not present due to a conflict). She also introduced the Assistant Moderator, Carl Hanson, who is also the school district moderator, and thanked him. The complete list of town officers is on pages 6-11 of the Town Report. She also identified the four ballot clerks who will assist if a secret ballot is requested: Mike Holdowsky, Paula Dorr, Terry Dorr and Dan McClory.

The Moderator then noted that state law vests the Moderator with the authority to establish rules of procedure, and also vests the meeting with the power to overrule the Moderator's rules or rulings; in other words, if the Moderator makes a ruling and anyone present is unhappy with that decision, that decision can be challenged. The Moderator announced that she would not read the rules unless this was requested. She added that Rules #2, 4, 6, 8 and 9 are prescribed by state law and RSAs 40:7, 40:10, 40:4-a and 40:4-b. Rule 10 was specifically put in place to accommodate this meeting. She added that the rules will be found on pages 13-14 of the town report.

The Moderator then announced that there were three administrative motions she needed before proceeding. She asked for a motion to dispense with the reading of the rules. Ruth Ann Eastman of 9 Fairway Drive moved and Rob Fogg of 22 Draper Mill Road seconded. She then asked for a motion to adopt the rules of the meeting and to ask the Clerk to make the rules part of the permanent record of the meeting. Rae Tober of 27 Clearwater Drive moved and Carl Hanson of 20 Route 114 seconded. The Moderator added that it is important for all who address town meeting to use the microphone so that speakers can be clearly identified in the minutes. Finally, the Moderator then asked for a motion to allow non-resident town officers and consultants to address the meeting as needed. Rob Fogg of 22 Draper Mill Road moved and Mike Holdowsky of 50 Anderson Pond Road seconded.

*2018 Town Meeting Rules (listed on pages 13-14 of the Town Report)*

1. *The Moderator will use the following general rules of procedure, the main purpose of which are to keep the meeting moving and not get bogged down in procedural quagmires.*
2. *Non-voters who are not officers of the town or consultants to the town may be allowed to address the meeting only if the town votes to permit it. A simple majority is required.*
3. *The Moderator will consider each Article as follows:*
  - A. *The Moderator will announce the Article number, and the text of the Article will be displayed on the overhead screen or will be otherwise made available at the Meeting. The Moderator need not read the full text of the Article.*
  - B. *The Moderator will recognize a member of the Board of Selectman or the petitioner (if a petitioned Article) to move the adoption of the Article.*
  - C. *If the Motion is seconded, the Moderator will recognize a member of the Board of Selectmen or the petitioner to explain the Article.*
  - D. *The Meeting will debate and then vote on the Article.*
4. *ALL voters will direct their remarks to the Moderator. Whenever a voter wishes to speak, he or she will go the microphone, address the moderator by first identifying him or herself and providing his or her street address. The microphone is necessary for accurate recording of the meeting.*
  - A. *If a voter is unable to reach one of the stand-up microphones, the voter should raise his/her hand and one of the hand-held microphones will be provided.*
  - B. *In order for everyone to have the opportunity to speak, speakers will be limited to three minutes (with the exception of initial presentations on warrant articles).*
  - C. *No one will be recognized to speak a second time until everyone who wishes to speak a first time has had the opportunity.*
  - D. *If you agree with someone, it is OK to say that instead of repeating something that has already been said.*
  - E. *The microphone will also be used by people wanting to “Call (or Move) the question.” Anyone shouting it out from his or her seat will not be recognized. This will avoid preempting people who are already in line to speak to an issue.*
  - F. *A motion to “Call the question” requires a 2/3 vote. If this motion is passed, all voters standing at a microphone or holding a microphone, and anyone seated at the head table who has previously told the Moderator that he/she wishes to speak on the Motion will be allowed to speak.*
  - G. *The Moderator shall have the right to refuse to recognize a Motion to Call (or Move) the question if, in the Moderator’s opinion, the voters have not yet had an adequate opportunity to discuss an issue.*

5. *All questions and comments should be addressed to the Moderator. The Moderator will choose who responds to the questions.*
6. *Unless superseded by State law, reconsideration of a vote on any article should be brought up immediately after the vote has been declared and may only be made by a voter who voted on the prevailing side of the vote to be reconsidered.*
  - A. *Mandatory Restriction: A vote on the issuance of bonds or notes over \$ 100,000 cannot be reconsidered at the same meeting. In accordance with RSA 33:8-a, if a motion to reconsider a ballot vote on a bond issue of over \$ 100,000 passes, the Article cannot be reconsidered until a reconvened Meeting that is at least seven (7) days after the original vote. With respect to bond votes, the restrictions on reconsideration automatically applies without the need for the Meeting to vote for it.*
  - B. *Optional Restriction: Voters may postpone reconsideration of any Article at this Meeting by voting to restrict reconsideration of the Article in accordance with RSA 40:10. If the Meeting passes such a motion, then the Article cannot be reconsidered until a reconvened meeting held at least seven (7) days after the date of the original vote.*
7. *The moderator will conduct a secret “yes-no” ballot when five voters make a written request prior to a voice or show of hands vote on any article open for discussion. All five voters must be present and identified.*
8. *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.*
9. *All proposed amendments to articles will be submitted in writing to the Moderator prior to discussion of the amendment.*
10. *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.*
11. *The Moderator will not accept negative motions which require a “no” vote to vote in the affirmative, such as “I move that we not adopt the budget.”*
12. *If the Meeting is not finished at 11:00PM, the Moderator may recess the Meeting to a future date.*

**ARTICLE 1 – Election of Officers**

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

Selectman	3 years
Planning Board	3 years
Planning Board	3 years
Trustee of Trust Funds	3 years
Cemetery Trustee	3 years
Moderator	2 years
Trustee of Dunbar Free Library	3 years
Trustee of Dunbar Free Library	3 years
Trustee of Dunbar Free Library	1 year
Treasurer	2 years

The Moderator noted that these positions were voted on by ballot at the March 13 election.

**ARTICLE 2 – General Government**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of one million, four hundred sixty-seven thousand, three hundred thirty-three dollars (**\$1,467,333**) to defray the cost of **General Government** operations. This article does not include appropriations contained in special or individual articles addressed separately.

**Recommended by the Selectmen** (Majority vote required)

<b>Account Title</b>	<b>Budget 2017/2018</b>	<b>Proposed 2018/2019</b>	<b>Change Increase or (Decrease)</b>
Selectmen’s Office	\$232,950	\$249,150	\$16,200
Town Clerk/Tax Collector	\$116,788	\$121,559	\$4,771
Supervisors of the Checklist	\$6,910	\$11,150	\$4,240
Financial Administration	\$40,200	\$41,200	\$1,000
Tax Maps/Assessing	\$43,000	\$41,000	(\$2,000)
Legal	\$30,000	\$35,000	\$5,000
Personnel Administration	\$694,990	\$772,517	\$77,527
Planning Board	\$4,050	\$4,250	\$200
Zoning Board of Adjustment	\$2,050	\$2,400	\$350
General Government Buildings	\$132,125	\$126,200	(\$5,925)
Cemeteries	\$19,600	\$19,800	\$200
Insurance (Property & Liability)	\$37,000	\$38,050	\$1,050
Regional Associations	\$4,015	\$4,057	\$42
Other General Government	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$0.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$1,364,678</b>	<b>\$1,467,333</b>	<b>\$102,655</b>

Selectman Kimball moved the article and Selectman Garland seconded. Selectman Kimball noted that this article addresses general government expenses and added that a review of the bottom line reveals that costs have not changed a great deal. He also thanked all the town employees who submitted budgets that did not increase the bottom line very much while still doing all that they do for the town. He welcomed questions and wanted everyone present to understand what was being requested. He then asked Town Administrator White to review the increases briefly, which she did. The Moderator then asked if there were any other comments or questions; hearing none, she called for a vote.

**Article 2 Passed unanimously by voice vote**

### ARTICLE 3 – Public Safety

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of seven hundred forty-eight thousand, twenty-four dollars (**\$748,024**) to defray the cost of **Public Safety** operations. This article does not include appropriations contained in special or individual articles addressed separately.

**Recommended by the Selectmen** (Majority vote required)

Account Title	Budget 2017/2018	Proposed 2018/2019	Change Increase or (Decrease)
Police Department	\$457,517	\$498,110	\$40,593
Ambulance (FAST Squad)	\$89,949	\$98,630	\$8,681
Fire Department	\$125,855	\$131,784	\$5,929
Building Inspection	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$0.00
Emergency Management	\$11,500	\$9,500	(\$2,000)
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$694,821</b>	<b>\$748,024</b>	<b>\$53,203</b>

Selectman Garland moved the article and Selectman Kimball seconded. Selectman Garland spoke to the article. He noted that both the Police Chief and the Fire Chief were present to address any questions. Town Administrator White then offered to speak to the increases, which she did; she then invited Chief John Parsons to speak in greater detail regarding the increases in the police budget. The Chief then addressed 1) the need to replace the four cruiser video camera systems, all of which were purchased in 2008 and are all beyond “end of life” in terms of the cost to repair and maintain. He also noted the improvements included in the new systems; 2) the need to upgrade uniforms and equipment – specifically, the purchase of ballistic helmets and plate carriers to increase officer safety; 3) the need to provide a roughly 3% increase in officer salaries to keep our pay scale competitive with other departments around the state; 4) the need to replace aging radio equipment at the police department; 5) the need to budget for sufficient overtime for all officers, including patrol overtime, case overtime, court appearances, holiday coverage, etc.; 6) the need to update all first aid kits carried by officers in their cruisers, including AEDs, trauma kits, etc. This increase also includes the cost of ‘fitness for duty’ evaluations that insure a given officer is ready to serve, especially when an on-the-job experience may have called that preparedness into question. The Chief then quoted statistics regarding the increase in officer suicides to underscore the importance of this issue. The Moderator then asked if there were any other comments or questions on the police portion of the budget. Dave Wood of 103 Road ‘Round The Lake asked a question regarding radio frequencies of the Grantham PD vs. that of Sullivan County and did that difference in radio frequencies matter and would the new radios effectively make it *more* difficult to communicate with Sullivan County law enforcement agencies. The Chief replied that it would not. Town Administrator White then spoke to the increases in the rest of the article. The Moderator then asked if there were any questions regarding the remainder of the article; hearing none, she called for a vote.

**Article 3 Passed unanimously by voice vote**

### ARTICLE 4 – Police Cruiser

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen to enter into a three-year, \$65,000 lease/purchase agreement for the purpose of leasing to purchase a new 2018 Ford Expedition Police Special Service Vehicle, and to raise and appropriate the sum of \$22,765 for the first year’s payment for that purpose. This agreement contains an escape clause.

**Recommended by the Selectmen** (Majority vote required)

Selectman Kimball moved; Selectman Garland seconded. The Moderator then opened the floor for discussion. Town Administrator White provided background on the need to replace the existing vehicle. She then invited Chief Parsons to speak to the article. The Chief provided more detail and background, including the increase in the cost of a new cruiser. He emphasized the department’s ongoing efforts to reuse existing equipment when possible, but added that some of the equipment currently in use has been salvaged from not just one previous vehicle, but in some cases two previous vehicles. He added that newer equipment has significant safety features the older equipment does not offer and he reviewed a

number of these features. He also repeated a point Town Administrator White made, which is that the money the town allocates toward the purchase price can be used as a match toward a Homeland Security grant that can be used to serve the whole town. Specifically, the grant could be used to purchase a traffic security trailer that could be shared with the Fire Department and FAST Squad that would contain various traffic control devices, such as cones, barricades, etc. The grant could also be used to purchase an electronic sign board for messaging to motorists. The Moderator then asked if there were any other comments or questions; hearing none, she called for a vote.

#### **Article 4 Passed by Majority Voice Vote**

#### **ARTICLE 5 – Police Department On-Call Coverage**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$49,475 for the costs associated with the Police on-call coverage program.

#### **Recommended by the Selectmen (Majority vote required)**

Selectman Garland moved the article and Selectman Kimball seconded. Selectman Garland spoke to the article. He noted that the intent of this article is to enable the town to provide police coverage during times when we are currently counting upon state police coverage. Town Administrator White then asked Chief Parsons to speak to the article. The Chief gave some background on how this article came about, including consultations with the Selectmen regarding how to increase coverage by Grantham officers and improve response times. The Chief noted that the intent is *not* to wean ourselves totally from state police coverage. He then reviewed data regarding number of calls, state police responses, response times, etc. He provided further information on what it means to be ‘on call,’ the pay involved, and what an officer is paid to be ‘on call’ versus being called out. He added that an advantage of having this in place is that a number of the part-time officers are full-time employees of other nearby towns and may not always be available during time of need due to their commitments in their home towns. The Moderator then asked for questions. Tod Lloyd of 49 Hummingbird Hill raised the concern about the additional \$50,000 being added to the budget and that it is not a small additional expense. He added that passing this article now would mean that it would be added to the regular budget from now on. He also raised the concern about stressing our full-time officers with additional ‘on call’ duties. Deborah Cheever of 31 Allens Drive asked about the number of calls for checking locations and whether or not this ‘on call’ request would be properly used for deserving situations. The Chief addressed how these calls are evaluated and prioritized. Ms. Cheever then asked if the Chief thought this request could turn into a request for an additional full-time officer at next year’s meeting. The Chief responded that it could, depending on what the numbers show. Ms. Cheever then asked how calls are managed and prioritized regarding which calls would go to state police and which calls would go to an ‘on call’ officer. The Chief responded that the dispatcher in Newport would first send the call to the ‘on call’ officer, if one was available; if not, then the call would go to the state police. Rob Fogg of 22 Draper Mill Road then asked who would decide whether or not a fifth officer was called for, adding that it was his assumption that such a decision would have to pass through the Selectmen at some point, or is it totally up to the Chief. Selectman Kimball spoke to this question and reviewed the process by which the Chief brings concerns to the Selectmen and how any further action is taken, including bringing such decisions before the town at town meeting. Peter James of 28 Split Rock Road spoke to the fact that more and more emergency services are going to the formula proposed by the Chief. He mentioned the improvement in response times seen in other public services and that this process seems to work better. He emphasized the advantages of having local officers respond rather than officers from outside of town and the safety advantages in terms of familiarity with where residents live. He finished by saying he supported this article. Larry Shulman of 8 Turner Brae spoke in favor of this article, adding that any life-threatening situation where response times became an issue would convince many residents of how important this is. He added that he supports it. Drew Keith of 54 Brookridge Drive spoke about his work as a state police officer and gave his perspective on responding to local calls when Grantham officers are not available. He clarified the pay for ‘on call’ officers. He also asked about when during the day calls tend to come in that require state police coverage; Chief Parsons responded that he does not have that data. Mr. Keith emphasized that state police coverage is not always reliable and response times can be long. Rob Fogg made the follow-up comment that he supports this article, but that he remains concerned about the stress placed on officers with the extended hours required by the ‘on call’ responsibilities. The Chief responded that he would monitor the impact of the ‘on call’

program on his officers to insure that it is not doing more harm than good. The Moderator then asked if there were any other comments or questions; hearing none, she called for a vote.

**Article 5 Passed by Majority Voice Vote**

**ARTICLE 6 – Public Safety Communication Upgrades**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$145,000 for the cost of a Public Safety Simulcast Radio System to come from the General Fund Unassigned Fund Balance. No amount to be raised by taxation. This special warrant article will be a non-lapsing appropriation per RSA 32:7, VI and will not lapse until the project is completed or by June 30, 2023, whichever is sooner.

**Recommended by the Selectmen** (Majority vote required)

Selectman Kimball moved the article and Selectman Garland seconded. Chief Parsons spoke to the article. He noted that this is a joint effort between the police and fire departments to update their communications structure. He noted that a lot of the current equipment is well beyond ‘end of life’ and is outdated. He provided more detail on the issues that occur with the current system. He noted the coverage maps displayed on the west side of the room and explained what they mean in terms of coverage now and what is proposed. He emphasized the shortcomings of the current coverage and what it means for both the police and fire departments. He also explained that the partnership with the fire department makes us available for grants that could assist with the cost. Duncan Wood of 15 Pioneer Point asked about the five-year period included in the article. The Chief explained that this would be phased due to working with other towns and coordinating with their grant applications. Chief Jay Fountain spoke to the fact that if the grants come through, the cost to the town could be nothing. The Moderator then asked if there were any other questions; hearing none, she called for a vote.

**Article 6 Passed by Unanimous Voice Vote**

**ARTICLE 7 – Fire Department Thermal Imaging Cameras and AED’s**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$19,100 for the purchase of two thermal imaging cameras and three automatic external defibrillators (AED) for the Fire Department.

**Recommended by the Selectmen** (Majority vote required)

Selectman Garland moved the article and Selectman Kimball seconded. Selectman Garland mentioned that the current equipment is on its last legs; he added that the Fire Chief stressed the importance of being able to find someone in a room during conditions that offer less-than-ideal ideal visibility, and especially with older residents who need to be found more quickly. The Moderator then asked for any questions or comments; hearing none, the Moderator called for a vote.

**Article 7 Passed by Unanimous Voice Vote**

**ARTICLE 8 – Public Works**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of seven hundred seventy-nine thousand, three hundred ten dollars (**\$779,310**) to defray the cost of **Public Works** operations. This article does not include appropriations contained in special or individual articles addressed separately.

**Recommended by the Selectmen** (Majority vote required)

<b>Account Title</b>	<b>Budget 2017/2018</b>	<b>Proposed 2018/2019</b>	<b>Change Increase or (Decrease)</b>
Highway Administration	\$232,758	\$242,595	\$9,837
Highway Maintenance	\$177,200	\$175,700	(\$1,500)

Street Lights	\$4,000	\$3,000	(\$1,000)
Transfer Station	\$139,005	\$151,515	\$12,510
Waste Disposal	\$200,000	\$200,000	\$0.00
Landfill Monitoring	\$6,000	\$6,500	\$500
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$758,963</b>	<b>\$779,310</b>	<b>\$20,347</b>

Selectman Kimball moved the article and Selectman Garland seconded. Town Administrator White reviewed the increases. The Moderator then asked for any questions or comments. Ruth Ann Eastman of 9 Fairway Drive asked if someone could point out where the streetlights are in Grantham. Selectman Kimball responded that most of the streetlights are concentrated in the village, on Routes 10 and 114, and one near the entrance to Eastman. Town Administrator White noted that there are a total of twenty-six streetlights in town. The Moderator then asked if there were any other questions or comments on this article; hearing none, the Moderator called for a vote.

**Article 8 Passed by Unanimous Voice Vote**

**ARTICLE 9 – Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day**

To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$10,000 to defray the cost of holding a household hazardous waste collection day for Grantham residents only.

**Recommended by the Selectmen** (Majority vote required)

Selectman Garland moved the article and Selectman Kimball seconded. Town Administrator White explained the fact that this event is held every other year. The Moderator then asked if there were any other questions or comments; hearing none, she called for a vote.

**Article 9 Passed by Unanimous Voice Vote**

*(Town Administrator White asked to be recognized by the Moderator. She then asked Chris Scott, transfer station supervisor, to confirm the date of this event. He replied that it will take place on Saturday, July 28, 9:00 am – 12:00 pm, here at Town Hall.)*

**ARTICLE 10 – Health and Welfare**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of forty-five thousand, nine hundred dollars (**\$45,900**) to defray the cost of **Health and Welfare** operations. This article does not include appropriations contained in special or individual articles addressed separately.

**Recommended by the Selectmen** (Majority vote required)

<b>Account Title</b>	<b>Budget 2017/2018</b>	<b>Proposed 2018/2019</b>	<b>Change Increase or (Decrease)</b>
Health	\$1,700	\$1,700	\$0.00
Boarding Animals	\$700	\$700	\$0.00
Community Services	\$17,500	\$18,500	\$1,000
Town General Assistance	\$25,000	\$25,000	\$0.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$44,900</b>	<b>45,900</b>	<b>1,000</b>

<b>Community Agencies:</b>	<b>Budget 2017/2018</b>	<b>Proposed 2018/2019</b>	<b>Change Increase or (Decrease)</b>
Lake Sunapee VNA	\$6,500	\$6,500	\$0
Newport Food Pantry	\$500	\$500	\$0
Sullivan County Nutrition Services	\$200	\$200	\$0

Kearsarge Area COA	\$3,900	\$3,900	\$0
Southwestern Community Services	\$900	\$900	\$0
West Central Services	\$3,500	\$3,500	\$0
Public Health Council of the Upper Valley	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$0
Visiting Nurse & Hospice of VT/NH	\$1,000	\$2,000	\$1,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$17,500</b>	<b>\$18,500</b>	<b>\$1,000</b>

Selectman Kimball moved the article and Selectman Garland seconded. Town Administrator White reviewed the single increase to the appropriation. The Moderator asked if there were any comments or questions; hearing none, she called for a vote.

**Article 10 Passed by Unanimous Voice Vote**

**ARTICLE 11 – Culture and Recreation**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of three hundred sixteen thousand, eight hundred ten dollars (**\$316,810**) for **Culture and Recreation**. This article does not include appropriations contained in special or individual articles addressed separately.

**Recommended by the Selectmen** (Majority vote required)

Account Title	Budget 2017/2018	Proposed 2018/2019	Change Increase or (Decrease)
Recreation	\$47,700	\$49,200	\$1,500
Dunbar Free Library	\$226,164	\$232,600	\$6,436
Activities	\$31,510	\$33,510	\$2,000
Archives	\$1,500	\$1,500	\$0.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$306,874</b>	<b>\$316,810</b>	<b>\$9,936</b>

Selectman Kimball moved the article and Selectman Garland seconded. Town Administrator White reviewed the increases. The Moderator asked if there were any comments or questions; hearing none, she called for a vote.

**Article 11 Passed by Unanimous Voice Vote**

**ARTICLE 12 – Conservation, Debt Principal, Debt Interest, and Tax Anticipation Note Interest**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of two hundred fourteen thousand, seven hundred twenty dollars (**\$214,720**) for **Conservation, Debt Principal, Debt Interest, and Tax Anticipation Note Interest**. This article does not include appropriations contained in special or individual articles addressed separately.

**Recommended by the Selectmen** (Majority vote required)

Account Title	Budget 2017/2018	Proposed 2018/2019	Change Increase or (Decrease)
Conservation Commission	\$4,500	\$2,500	(\$2,000)
Town Hall Bond/Interest	\$80,733	\$77,773	(\$2,960)
Library Bond/Interest	\$63,505	\$61,455	(\$2,050)
Fire Department SCBA Lease	\$37,197	\$37,197	\$0.00
Police Cruiser Lease	\$14,740	\$14,740	\$0.00
Highway 1-Ton Lease	\$20,955	\$20,955	\$0.00
Tax Anticipation Notes Interest	\$100	\$100	\$0.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$221,730</b>	<b>\$214,720</b>	<b>(\$7,010)</b>

Selectman Kimball moved the article and Selectman Garland seconded. Town Administrator White reviewed the increases, including where the town stands in terms of how much time remains on the principal bonds. The Moderator asked if there were any comments or questions; hearing none, she called for a vote.

**Article 12 Passed by Unanimous Voice Vote**

**ARTICLE 13 – 2014 Highway Plow Truck Lease Final Payment**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$31,603 for the final payment of the 2014 Highway Plow Truck Lease with said funds to come from the Highway Equipment Capital Reserve Fund. No amount to be raised from taxation.

**Recommended by the Selectmen** (Majority vote required)

Selectman Garland moved the article and Selectman Kimball seconded. Selectman Kimball reminded everyone that this is the final payment on this truck. The Moderator then called for further discussion; hearing none, the Moderator called for a vote.

**Article 13 Passed by Unanimous Voice Vote**

**ARTICLE 14 – Land Purchase**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$65,000 to come from the General Fund Unassigned Fund Balance for the purchase of land and buildings located at 275 Route 10 South, Tax Map 233, Lot 76.

**Recommended by the Selectmen** (Majority vote required)

Selectman Kimball moved the article and Selectman Garland seconded. Kimball gave information on the lot and the location, noting the small wood-frame garage building that is there now. He noted that the location would provide a second access point to the school; it could also prove to be advantageous should the fire department decide to expand. The Moderator then asked for further discussion or questions. Peter James, 28 Splitrock Road, commented noted that Route 10 is our main street and that it largely looks pretty good, though there could be a few improvements. He stated that he believed the removal of the garage and the clearing of the lot adjacent to the brook for a park would be a great use of the site. He said he was in favor of the article. Claudia Cozens-Hoffman, 784 Olde Farms Road, mentioned the concern about the evacuation of the school if necessary, and she emphasized her belief that this would be an advantage of owning this lot. The Moderator then called for further discussion; hearing none, the Moderator called for a vote.

**Article 14 Passed by Majority Voice Vote**

**ARTICLE 15 – Capital Reserve and Expendable Trust Funds**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of one hundred seventy-nine thousand dollars (**\$179,000**) to come from the General Fund Unassigned Fund Balance and to be placed in previously established **Capital Reserve and Expendable Trust Funds, as listed below**. No amount to be raised from taxation. This article does not include appropriations contained in special or individual articles addressed separately.

**Recommended by the Selectmen** (Majority vote required)

<b>Account Title</b>	<b>Budget 2017/2018</b>	<b>Proposed 2018/2019</b>	<b>Change Increase or (Decrease)</b>
Highway Equipment CRF	\$100,000	\$60,000	(\$40,000)
Transfer Station Equipment CRF	\$30,000	\$25,000	(\$5,000)
Library Building Repair CRF	\$15,000	\$5,000	(\$10,000)

Town Building Maintenance CRF	\$30,000	\$10,000	(\$20,000)
Fire Department Apparatus CRF	\$75,000	\$50,000	(\$25,000)
Police Vehicles CRF	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$0.00
Public Safety ETF	\$20,000	\$0.00	(\$20,000)
Town Office Equipment CRF	\$1,000	\$2,000	\$1,000
Municipality Revaluation CRF	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$0.00
Town Clerk/Tax Collector Equipment CRF	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$0.00
Town Emergency Repair ETF	\$10,000	\$5,000	(\$5,000)
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$303,000</b>	<b>\$179,000</b>	<b>(\$124,000)</b>

Selectman Kimball moved the article and Selectman Garland seconded. Selectman Kimball noted that the Selectmen worked to reduce the amount being put into this fund this year, knowing that at tax time it might help for there not to be such a dramatic change. The Moderator then noted that there is an amendment being proposed to this article. Tod Lloyd, 49 Hummingbird Hill, presented the following amendment:

“To see if the town will amend and increase the Library Building Repair Capital Reserve Fund to \$15,000 instead of the \$5,000 originally requested. Said funds to come from the General Fund Undesignated Fund Balance.”

Mr. Lloyd spoke to the background behind the request for the amendment, noting that the Children’s section of the library does not warm up like the rest of the building. It has been addressed with space heaters and other means, but this is not an optimal solution. The library was able to obtain, at no cost, an energy audit which resulted in a series of suggested improvements that will correct the situation. The selected solution bears a total cost of \$20,000, \$10,000 of which will be paid for by a grant from Eversource, leaving a need for \$10,000 from the town. The Moderator asked for discussion regarding the amendment *only*; hearing none, the Moderator called for a vote on the amendment.

**Amendment to Article 15 Passed by Majority Voice Vote**

The Moderator then moved on to the original article, as amended, and reread the article with the new amounts noted: the total sum for the amended warrant article is increased to \$189,000, with the Library Building Repair Capital Reserve Fund line item now being \$15,000. The Moderator asked for discussion regarding the article as amended; hearing none, the Moderator called for a vote.

**Article 15, as Amended, Passed by Unanimous Voice Vote**

**ARTICLE 16 – End of Meeting**

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.

**Recommended by the Selectmen (Majority vote required)**

Selectman Garland moved the article and Selectman Kimball. The Moderator noted that the Selectmen have nominated residents for the positions of Hog Reeves and Fence Viewers.

For Hog Reeves, the Selectmen have nominated Caitlin McGarry and John Bickford. The Moderator then asked for nominations from the floor; hearing none, the Moderator called for a vote.

**Elected by Majority Voice Vote**

For Fence Viewers, the Selectmen have nominated Susan Garrity and James Eibner. The Moderator then asked for nominations from the floor; hearing none, the Moderator called for a vote.

### **Elected by Unanimous Voice Vote**

The Moderator then asked if there was any other business to come before the meeting. Bob Wohlfort of 17 Forest Road asked about old Route 10 between Exit 14 and Eastman, noting the road is not in good shape and asked if the town has any plans to repave or otherwise repair it. Selectman Kimball responded that given its status as a state road, the town has no jurisdiction over it. He added that the state highway department had indicated their intent to complete some level of repair on the road and suggested this coming autumn, but impossible to promise anything.

Selectman Kimball then noted two people who deserved to be recognized: Selectman Connie Jones, who though not present due to illness has not missed a town meeting since she first became a Selectman in 1997, and Fire Chief Jay Fountain, who has done a great job holding things together at the Fire Department. He thanked them both. He also noted that Martha Norris, long-time administrative assistant in the Selectman's Office, will be retiring this summer and asked everyone to wish her well when they see her. Finally, he thanked Andy Gelston for filling in as Selectman over the winter.

The Moderator added that she had neglected to mention the dedication of the town report to Mary Hutchins, found on page 4 of the town report. She asked everyone to review the dedication and to thank Mary when you see her for all the hard work she has put in for the benefit of the town.

The Moderator then asked for a motion to dissolve the meeting. Chief Jay Fountain of 6 General Court moved and Chief John Parsons of 320 Olde Farms Road seconded. The Moderator then called for a vote.

### **Article 16 Passed by Majority Voice Vote**

The Moderator declared the 242<sup>nd</sup> Town Meeting adjourned at 6:35 pm.

A true copy attest,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Kenneth Story".

Kenneth Story, Town Clerk/Tax Collector