

Approved

**TOWN OF GRANTHAM
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
BUDGET HEARING MINUTES
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 2018**

The budget hearing was called to order at 5:00pm on February 15, 2018 by Chairman Warren Kimball. The meeting was held in the Grantham Town Building, Lower Level at 300 Route 10 South, Grantham, New Hampshire.

Present were: Chairman Warren Kimball; Selectman Constance Jones; Selectman Andy Gelston; Town Administrator Melissa White; Administrative Assistant Ann Jasper; Police Chief John Parsons; Police Sergeant Vince Cunningham; Patrolman Ryan Gamble; Police Department Secretary Judy DiPadova; Fire Chief Jay Fountain; EMD/Deputy Fire Chief Dave Beckley; Transfer Station Supervisor Chris Scott; Road Agent Jeff Hastings; Activities Director Marsha Googins; Town Clerk/Tax Collector Ken Story; Moderator Lorie McClory; Library Director Dawn Huston; Library Trustee Tod Lloyd; Doug Hackett of Hanover Dispatch Center; Brenda Molloy; C. Peter James; Jean Liepold; and Sheridan Brown

Attendees were given copies of the 2018-2019 proposed budget and warrant articles.

**ARTICLE 1 – Election of Officers
(By Official Ballot at the Polls March 13, 2018 from 10am – 7pm)**

Town Administrator White reviewed the budget summary:

Estimated Budget Summary

Item	Prior Year (FY2018)	Ensuing Year (FY2019)
Total Operating Budget	\$3,387,874	\$3,621,572
Special Warrant Articles	\$313,817	\$355,603
Individual Warrant Articles	\$137,743	\$116,865
TOTAL Appropriations	\$3,839,434	\$4,094,040
Less: Amount of Estimated Revenues & Credits	\$1,419,402	\$1,449,688
Estimated Amount to be raised by taxes	\$2,420,032	\$2,644,352

- The proposed budget, after revenues and credits, is \$2,644,352; an increase of \$224,320 or approximately 9.27% over the prior year (FY2018).

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- It takes approximately \$46,500 to affect the tax rate by \$.10. This budget would increase the tax rate by approximately \$0.50.
- A property assessed for \$250,000 would pay approximately \$125 more in property taxes.

Summary of Major Increases

- \$69,000 for health benefits
- \$35,800 for salary increases
- \$40,593 for the Police Department
- \$49,475 for Police On-Call Coverage
- \$22,765 for the replacement on the 2013 Police Cruiser
- \$19,100 for Thermal Imaging Camera's and AED's for the Fire Department

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/Not Recommended by the Selectmen (Majority vote required)

Account Title	Budget 2017/2018	Proposed 2018/2019	Change Increase or (Decrease)
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
TOTAL	\$1,364,678	\$1,467,333	\$102,655

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Administrator White explained the increases as follows:

Administration/Selectmen's Office:

- Added \$10,000 to allow for the hiring of a part-time person to provide for coverage when full-time staff is on vacation or otherwise unavailable.
- Salary increases - \$6,000

Town Clerk/Tax Collector:

- Costs associated with the three elections - \$1,500
- Salary increases - \$2,500

Supervisors of the Checklist:

- Salaries associated with holding three elections - \$4,400 (Supervisors and Ballot Clerk's)

Personnel Administration:

- Health benefits - \$69,000
- Payroll taxes & NHRS - \$9,000

Jean Liepold asked why the large increase for the Supervisors of the Checklist. White explained that there are three Supervisors of the Checklist and three upcoming elections and this is to pay for the time required for the work they have to do for each election including the scanning after each election which they estimated to be \$3,300. There are also seven mandated sessions required by Statute, 30 day letters, updating files, etc. Liepold stated that she hoped some of this money would be used to update the voter checklist which she was told only needed to be done every 10 years and asked when they were planning to update it. Selectman Jones said, unfortunately, there was no one here to answer that question. Jones said she didn't know when the last update was done but would check into it.

C. Peter James asked if the \$69,000 for health benefits included the Highway Department and Police Department. White answered yes, it included all full time employees.

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/Not Recommended (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)
TOTAL	\$694,821	\$748,024	\$53,203

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White explained as follows:

Police Department:

- Salary increases - \$6,000
- Overtime - \$4,500
- Medical Services - \$3,500
- Uniforms & Equipment - \$8,000
- Cruiser Equipment (replacement of 2 cameras) - \$13,000
- Radio Replacement - \$5,500

FAST Squad:

- Training - \$4,000
- Ambulance services - \$3,500
- Salaries - \$1,000

Fire Department:

- Tires (Tanker) - \$2,600
- Portable scene lights (2) - \$1,800

Chief Parsons explained the following increases for the Police Department:

The \$13,000 for cruiser equipment (replacement of 2 cameras) are the cruiser video systems. Four of them were purchased in 2008 and they are all beyond end of life. They are no longer made and would be very expensive to fix, if fixable at all. The new models are compatible with body cameras if they were to move that way down the road. This also cuts down on the amount of time an officer has to spend in court.

The \$8,000 for uniforms and equipment is a one-time expenditure to purchase ballistic helmets and plate carriers for all of the officers. This is extra protection that an officer can use in a potentially hostile or involved situation, not something that will be used every day. He referenced the active shooter situation at DHMC several months ago and said that this material is meant to increase an officer's survivability in a violent confrontation which increases the chances of them being able to do their jobs and get people out safely.

The \$6,000 allocation for salaries is to try to keep them in line with other departments. He said there are at least 27 other police departments in New Hampshire that are currently looking for full time officers.

The \$5,500 for radio replacement is to purchase a radio base station to keep the radios operational. The current radio base station is beyond its end of life. He said it went down over two weeks ago and was out of service for over a week because they had to cobble together a power supply in order to get it to work. He added that they can use the \$5,500 as an in-kind matching grant with the New Hampshire Department of Homeland Security to work towards updating and creating an emergency operations center.

The \$4,500 in overtime. He said he has worked in Grantham since 2006 and when something came out of the overtime budget, it was not only because of caseload but also if an officer worked during a holiday. It was not differentiated out. He said as an example, last budget cycle, the overtime budget was \$10,500 and they spent \$9,800 of it. This year they have spent 8,700 of the \$10,500 to date. The \$4,500 represents paying out at least

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one shift for 12 holidays based upon his top step patrolman's salary. He took the average of the three main people who would be working to come up with the \$4,500.

The \$3,500 for medical services are for AED equipment which has an expiration date and by 2019 they are going to have to replace all the pads that go with the AED's, officer's individual first aid trauma type kits in which the supplies have a shelf life and fitness for duty evaluations. He said last year a record number of police officers committed suicide. They have a very stressful job. The company that they contract with for pre-employment psychological testing offers a fitness for duty evaluation for \$2,500. He said if all of his officers are heading north in the north bound lanes and if he gets any inclination that somebody is about to turn their blinker on and head south, he wants to send them for a medical exam. He said he owes that to them as a manager and we owe that to our people to be sure that they are okay based upon things that they have to see or do as a result of their job.

Liepold asked how many police officers are on duty. Chief Parsons replied four full time and three part time officers.

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/Not Recommended (Majority vote required)

Chief Parsons explained that; the current police vehicle is a 2013 Ford Expedition with just over 60,000 driving miles. There is a formula that says for every hour that a vehicle is idling, it puts approximately 21 miles on it so by that calculation, if the vehicle idled for one hour a day for at least one year that comes out to 7,665 additional miles. Pursuant to the Capital Improvement Plan of 2014, that vehicle was supposed to be replaced during this current budget cycle. The \$65,000 includes the price of the vehicle itself which is \$39,870 and the rest of it would be going towards the video system that needs to be equipped in that car plus the addition of all of the lights. The lights that are on the 2013 Expedition right now came off of the Dodge Durango. There is also equipment in that Expedition that came out of the Chevy Tahoe which was before the Dodge Durango so they do try and get as much out of the equipment as they possibly can. All of the lights that are in the current vehicle are beyond end of life so if they go, they are kind of stuck. The new lights available on the market have increased safety features for the officer and also the motoring public; 1) there is a dim switch so the brightness can be turned down when sitting on the side of the road; 2) an automatic feature that turns off the side facing lights so the officer getting in and out of the car doesn't get blinded by it; and 3) a cruise button that turns the flashing lights off and leaves them on as a solid color so they won't wake up the whole neighborhood. As a bonus, they could also use up to the cost of the vehicle (\$39,870) as an in-kind match in grant with the New Hampshire Department of Homeland Security towards the purchase of additional highway safety equipment such as an enclosed trailer that they could load with traffic cones, traffic signs and traffic barriers. These can be utilized by not only the Police Department but the Fire Department and the Highway Department. Plus, he would like to get a message sign board like the one used on Route 12A that could be used by the Police Department, the Fire Department, the Highway Department, the Transfer Station and Town Administration to put up messages on the side of the road.

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Liepold asked if this would be a lease or purchase. White stated that DRA requires the language in a warrant article to read lease/purchase but it is essentially a purchase.

Liepold asked if the town will get trade in money for the 2013 Expedition. Chief Parsons explained that he can't answer that now because these vehicles are special service vehicles that are not available to the public so you can't look up trade in value on Kelly Blue Book or anything like that and when he last spoke with the dealership they were not ready to commit to a price.

Liepold asked if the town is locked in or if they have to vote on it each year. White said it is voted on each year.

James clarified that the payment would be \$22,765 each year and if they voted it down after the second year, the vehicle would go back. White confirmed and added that if they voted for it each year and paid for it for the three years, the town would own it.

Liepold asked why there is an escape clause. White explained that the escape clause allows for a majority vote and if it's approved this year and not next year, the vehicle can go back without penalty.

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/Not Recommended (Majority vote required)

Chief Parsons said he has tried to think of ways to increase Grantham's police coverage of the town and reduce the reliance of the State Police. He explained that if there is not a Grantham Police Officer on duty, the call gets transferred to the State Police. Whether or not a Trooper actually responds depends on their staff and their manpower and you could potentially get a Trooper coming from Troop C, Troop D or Troop F. If there is no one working, the call goes to a supervisor that makes a determination on whether or not someone gets woken up out of bed to respond here or whether you get a phone call or whether you don't get a response at all. He said this program would be that when the regular shift officer goes off duty, someone would be on call so if a call came in for Grantham, the officer would come in and deal with the call. He said during fiscal year 2015-2016 there were 73 calls that went to State Police; during 2016-2017 there were 131 calls; and as of February 7th for this fiscal year, we are at 75 calls. He said these calls are everything from motor vehicle complaints, motor vehicle accidents, assaults, domestics, medical calls involving a police response. He said they would be responding to all of these calls and calls that State Police will not routinely come to. He said this would give the town more control over what goes on here. He said this would not totally relieve the towns reliance on State Police, that there will be times when due to either illness or training or other events that he may not be able to fill the on call shift but this would go a long way towards bringing back control and giving us more say in what goes on here after hours.

Liepold asked about the amount per call. Chief Parsons said he modeled this program after Sunapee, Bradford and some other departments and explained that when an officer is on call, they are paid minimum wage so if it's six hours and they don't get called out, it's six hours of minimum wage. If they get called out, it's a three hour minimum of overtime at their regular rate of pay. He said he based this amount by averaging his three officers pay rate at three calls per week.

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Liepold commented that the State Troopers do not charge us. Selectman Jones said they are not always available; you may get a Trooper to come out or they can say this is not worth us coming out; you will have to wait until morning.

Deputy Fire Chief Dave Beckley stated that from the Fire Department side, they can end up on the interstate at 2:00am and have to wait for a Trooper to come from Concord and having someone more local would get them off the interstate quicker. Chief Parsons added that sometimes there is a slow ambulance response time because they are waiting for an officer because they are not going into a situation where there is a crime in progress without one.

Liepold asked if this would use all seven officers. Chief Parsons said it would only involve the full time officers and added that this goes hand in hand with the officers who are in town having assigned patrol cars and those patrol cars going home so they can respond right from their dooryard to go out and take care of whatever needs to be done without having to come to the station first.

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/Not Recommended (Majority vote required)

The Police and Fire departments have been trying for a couple of years to improve communications to achieve better coverage, but due to the geography of Grantham and the basin in which we are located, it makes it tough for radio transmissions.

This equipment is beyond the end of its useful life. The equipment was acquired with state grants in 1999 for the Police Department and 2000/2001 for the Fire Department. Due to its age, parts for repairing the system have been increasing difficult to obtain so when the system breaks down, it can take longer to get it back online.

By upgrading this equipment, not only will the ability of our emergency services be able to communicate more effectively, but up to \$120,000 of this appropriation can be used towards an in-kind grant to outfit the EOC which was approved in the Master Plan for Grantham Town Hall.

Chief Parsons explained that a lot of the current communications equipment is outdated and doesn't work; that there are a lot of places in town where he and members of the Fire Department can only communicate on a landline telephone. He said he does not receive any radio reception and the Fire Department is in the same boat. Sometimes they end up at a home where there is no landline or cell phone service. He displayed some large colorized maps of different areas of town that were created by Burlington Communications with the help of Doug Hackett of the Hanover Dispatch Center. The maps showed signal strength in different areas. He said the Police Department communicates one of two ways, either by a portable radio or by a radio in the cruiser and it works off of two things: 1) the antenna that is at the Police Station or 2) the antenna on top of the water tower at Eastman. He went over the maps showing signal strength or lack thereof and how the new radio system would improve communications. The Police Department portion of the cost would be \$120,000 and the rest would be the Fire Department cost.

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Liepold asked if Homeland Security would pay for any of this. Chief Parsons stated that Homeland Security would not pay any of the \$120,000 Police Department portion because the Police Department is not a regional dispatch. The remaining \$25,000 would be the Grantham Fire Department's share of it with four other towns that are part of the regionalization and the rest would be grant money. He asked Doug Hackett of the Hanover Dispatch Center to confirm. Hackett said that was correct and explained that, currently, the system that they are on now is a nine site simulcast system that covers the Hanover Dispatch's coverage area north of Grantham. The proposal is to add three more sites which would be the water tower in Eastman, the B repeater in Springfield and a cell tower that is in Canaan which would basically cover here. There is a big gap and, unfortunately, Grantham and Springfield sit in a geographical bowl as far as radio coverage is concerned and it's hard to get into there. This simulcast system will cover a larger area. On the Fire Department side, they are proposing to do this regionally and get the four other towns which are Grafton, Enfield, Canaan, and Springfield that are currently on the same radio system as Grantham. Because this is a regional project, it has the ability to be funded 100% or 50% if the grant is successful. They will let him apply for it because it's a regional project so it is their intention to go through the Homeland Security process and put it in as a 100% grant. It doesn't mean they are going to get it but the current nine site simulcast was at a little over a half a million dollars and that was funded 90% by a Fire Act Grant. The current police simulcast that they are building in Hanover as a regional for six police departments was funded at 100%. His goal is to ask them to approve this three site simulcast addition at 100% and if they deny it, he has emergency management planning grants that will pay a 50/50 percentage. He explained that what Grantham has done is say we are going to put away \$25,000 and ask our neighboring towns to do the same thing over the course of a year or more and if we are unsuccessful in getting any grants at all, they will have the funds to do this. Unfortunately, in 1999-2000, when the State came out with the Law Net and the Fire Net project, they gave us all radios. Grantham benefited by getting base stations, radios for the fire trucks and portable radios for the firemen at no cost to the town. The problem is state wide now that all of these radios are obsolete. You can't get parts for them and the repeater that is on Deer Hill is beyond its life by seven years as is the Police Department's. Three years ago, he could go to one of twenty vendors and get parts overnight. Today they are in the position where he is calling 20 vendors to get one part. His concern is that as this equipment continues to get older, they will someday not be able to get a part and there will be no coverage at all until we do an emergency expenditure to get that in place. So, their goal is to work together on the fire side and not spend more than \$25,000, potentially zero dollars and then that money can go back into the general fund.

Liepold asked how much is in the unassigned general fund right now. White said when they set the tax rate in the fall, the balance was \$2,103,957. Liepold asked why not use some of that to get rid of some of the tax increase. White explained that the town is required to keep at least two months of the general fund operating expenditures plus the Selectmen have a Fund Balance Policy that is set higher than that.

Lorie McClory asked if this gets approved if this is something they would do right away to get it done and then apply for the grant to get reimbursed or do they have to go through the grant process first. Hackett said he believes the Police Department is a go because there is no grant funding available for that because it serves one entity. The \$25,000 allocated for the Fire Department would sit there until they could successfully get the grant which is what he is recommending and he believes that if they wait until October-November of 2018, they will have an answer one way or another on a 100% grant or a 50% grant. He said they must go through the grant process first, that you can't do the work and get reimbursed afterwards and reiterated that Grantham's \$25,000 is only one fifth of the entire project with four other towns which will total \$125,000.

Approved

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/Not Recommended (Majority vote required)

Goal: To improve safety for both the Grantham Firefighter and members of the public.

AED – Automated External Defibrillator

An **AED** is a portable device that checks the heart rhythm and can send an electric shock to the heart to try to restore a normal rhythm. **AED’s** are used to treat sudden cardiac arrest.

- Using an **AED** immediately after sudden cardiac arrest can increase the chance of survival by more than 90%.
- The three primary response vehicles would be equipped with the AED’s; one in each of the engines and one in the utility truck.
- AED’s are much simpler to use than the heart monitor used by EMS. Firefighters are trained in CPR and AED usage.

Thermal Imaging Camera

Provides an image of the heat signature of objects, improves efficiency and effectiveness of firefighting activity.

1. Fire Attack
 - Size-up and locate fire from building exterior
 - Building structural integrity
 - Fire spread
 - See into walls
2. Search and Rescue
 - “See” through smoke, find victims, firefighters and fire.
 - Count and locate vehicle occupants at accidents, heat on the seats
 - Water Rescue – victims are warmer than water
3. Overhaul – Post Fire Activity
 - Reduce damage locating fire extension
 - Identify underground hot spots at wild land fires
4. Alarm Response
 - Find electrical issues, heat sources before they become a problem
5. Hazardous Material Incidents

This would replace the Fire Department’s current camera acquired in 2006, with two that are lightweight, less bulky and have newer technology. One camera for each of the engines.

Deputy Fire Chief Beckley explained that the Fire Department has a Thermal Imaging Camera that is old and heavy and does not have the capability of what they are asking for in this Warrant Article. He said it wouldn’t necessarily change how they do anything but would make it far more efficient. It would be much easier to locate where the fire is, where victims are and firefighters can make a quicker decision to determine if the building is still safe for firefighters to enter. They can see how the fire is advancing as they are working on it, how far it is in the wall and it can help to prevent unnecessary damage. He said in a search and rescue scenario, it helps them

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see where victims are or were, for example, if a driver is unable to tell if there was anyone in the car with them. It is also a great tool to look at the circuit breakers, what might be warmer or if something is overheating. They can also look at the outlets and see if something might be miswired in there and generating the heat that is causing the smoke. He said it makes it much easier and much more efficient. It gives them a quicker ability to find the source of the problem.

McClory asked if there was a break down as to how much for the AED's cost and how much for the Thermal Imaging Cameras. Beckley said about \$3,500 for the AED's and about \$7,500 for each camera. Fire Chief Fountain added that the cameras are tricky because depending on when they go to purchase them, there might be a sale on different models so what they priced for a middle of the road model, they may be able to get a top of the line model if they are having a good sale.

Liepold asked if the Police Department or Fast Squad had any AED's. Beckley said the Fast Squad has the heart monitor which is a much more complex system and they are specially trained in it. Beckley added that if you consider a fire, it's very stressful to the people it's happening to, a car accident is stressful and that puts them at risk. Additionally, tied for the number one killer of firefighters is cardiac arrest so this covers both victims and firefighters.

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/Not Recommended (Majority vote required)

Account Title	Budget 2017/2018	Proposed 2018/2019	Change Increase or (Decrease)
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
TOTAL	\$758,963	\$779,310	\$20,347

Highway Department:

- Salaries - \$3,700
- Overtime - \$3,500
- Rental Equipment - \$2,000

Transfer Station:

- Salaries & associated overtime - \$9,000
- Safety equipment (AED) - \$2,000

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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/Not Recommended (Majority vote required)

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/Not Recommended (Majority vote required)

Account Title	Budget 2017/2018	Proposed 2018/2019	Change Increase or (Decrease)
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
TOTAL	\$44,900	45,900	1,000

Community Agencies:	Budget 2017/2018	Proposed 2018/2019	Change Increase or (Decrease)
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
Total	\$17,500	\$18,500	\$1,000

James asked if the town has an agreement with the Upper Valley Humane Society for boarding animals. White answered yes.

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/Not Recommended (Majority vote required)

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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
TOTAL	\$306,874	\$316,810	\$9,936

Recreation:

- Salaries (Athletics & Groundskeeper) - \$1,100
- Registration Fees - \$400

Library:

- Salaries - \$3,700
- Health benefits, NHRS and payroll taxes - \$3,800

Activities:

- Music in the Meadow - \$2,000

Liepold asked if we have an Activities Director. White said no. Liepold asked if there is money appropriated for it. White answered yes. Liepold asked how much and White said \$17,510.

James asked if the money for Athletics and Groundskeeper salaries is Glenn (Carey). White said it is.

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/Not Recommended (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
TOTAL	\$221,730	\$214,720	(\$7,010)

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Bonds & Notes:

- Town Hall Bond – year 14 out of 20
- Library Bond – year 3 out of 10
- Police Cruiser Lease/Purchase – year 2 out of 3
- Fire Department SCBA's Lease/Purchase – year 4 out of 5

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/Not Recommended (Majority vote required)

James asked what the life expectancy is of the truck beyond this year. Road Agent Hastings said it's the one that caught on fire and they put some money into it so they are hoping to get 10 years out of it.

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/Not Recommended (Majority vote required)

To clarify, Selectman Kimball explained that it's the lot with the small garage across from the Post Office.

Liepold asked if that was for the School or the Fire Department. Selectman Kimball said they could perhaps combine both of those situations because if there was a bridge, it could be used for the road access area which would not consume the entire lot so that leaves the remaining part of the lot for some sort of future expansion.

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/Not Recommended (Majority vote required)

Approved

Account Title	Budget 2017/2018	Proposed 2018/2019	Change Increase or (Decrease)
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)
TOTAL	\$303,000	\$179,000	(\$124,000)

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/Not Recommended (Majority vote required)

THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN RECOMMENDED THE FOLLOWING:

ARTICLE 2: *Unanimously approved to recommend this article.*

ARTICLE 3: *Unanimously approved to recommend this article.*

ARTICLE 4: *Unanimously approved to recommend this article.*

ARTICLE 5: *Unanimously approved to recommend this article.*

ARTICLE 6: *Unanimously approved to recommend this article.*

ARTICLE 7: *Unanimously approved to recommend this article.*

ARTICLE 8: *Unanimously approved to recommend this article.*

ARTICLE 9: *Unanimously approved to recommend this article.*

ARTICLE 10: *Unanimously approved to recommend this article.*

ARTICLE 11: *Unanimously approved to recommend this article.*

Approved

ARTICLE 12: *Unanimously approved to recommend this article.*

ARTICLE 13: *Unanimously approved to recommend this article.*

ARTICLE 14: *Unanimously approved to recommend this article.*

ARTICLE 15: *Unanimously approved to recommend this article.*

ARTICLE 16: *Unanimously approved to recommend this article.*

By unanimous vote, the meeting adjourned at 6:15pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Ann Jasper
Administrative Assistant