

Special Town Meeting, Feb. 20, 1953

A special town meeting of the inhabitants of Boxford qualified to vote in elections and in town affairs was called in the Town Hall, Boxford, on Friday, the 20th day of February, 1953, at 8:00 p.m. The meeting was adjourned to the First Congregational Church.

After a prayer by Rev. Charles Atkins, the warrant was read by William J. Greener, Jr. the moderator. In consideration of Article I, J. Stuart Haywood, Chairman of the Schoolhouse Committee, explained the preliminary plans as submitted by Ashton, Huntress, and Pratt, Architects, and Engineers, for the construction of four classrooms and a general purpose room at the site of the Aaron Wood School. Mr. Pratt, of the above firm, was given permission by unanimous vote to answer questions by the voters of the town. The Planning Board approved the plans by a majority vote.

The following action was taken:

Article I Voted unanimously that the town approve the preliminary plans as submitted by Ashton, Huntress, and Pratt for the construction of four classrooms and a general purpose room at the site of the Aaron Wood School and to proceed with construction in accordance with such plans.

Article II Voted that the town raise and appropriate the sum of \$146,000.00 for the purpose of constructing a school building according to plans and specifications drawn by the firm of Ashton, Huntress, and Pratt of Lawrence, on land owned by the town, or to be acquired out of said sum, and for originally equipping and furnishing said building; said sum to be raised in the following manner:

(1) to authorize the treasurer, with the approval

of the selectmen, to borrow the sum of \$130,000.00 under the authority of Chapter 645 of the acts of 1948 and amendments thereto, and to issue notes of the town therefor, said notes to be payable in accordance with Chapter 44 of the General Laws, so that the whole loan shall be paid in not more than 20 years from the date of issue of the first note, and to bear interest at a rate not exceeding 2 1/2 % per annum; and

(2) the balance of \$16,000.00 to be raised by transfer from one or more of the following sources, viz:

(a) Post-War Rehabilitation Fund with its accumulations;
(b) Town Farm Fund with its accumulations;
and (c) available surplus cash; - the amount to be transferred from each source to be determined by the selectmen with the approval of the Finance Committee.

(see note at end for record of vote)

Article III Voted unanimously that the town convey to Archer N. & Estelle M. French a triangular parcel of land fronting on Middleton Rd. 28.92' by 92.19' by 84.11' and to acquire from Archer N. & Estelle M. French in exchange therefore a triangular piece of land to the rear thereof adjoining the Aaron Wood School Property 85.81' by 79.44' by 26.83' as designated in survey drawn up by Dana F. Perkins & Sons dated Feb. 19, 1953 in order to straighten out the bounds of the school property.

Article IV Voted unanimously that the town acquire land from Mrs. Etta French abutting land now owned by Archer French, the boundary to be a straight line continuing from adjusted boundary of Archer French as in Article 3 to land of Russell, or whatever extra land is required to bring the boundary 25' from the building as required by zoning bylaw.

As an amendment to the above, it was first

Special Town Meeting, Feb. 20, 1953 (cont'd)

voted that the cost of the above acquisition be paid out of the appropriation made in Article 2.

Article II Voted unanimously that the School House Committee be continued, that they be directed to supervise the construction of the school building, and be authorized to make any necessary changes of minor detail in the preliminary plans provided the same do not increase the overall cost of the construction.

Article VI Voted that the following resolution be incorporated in the town records, and a copy sent to Dr. & Mrs. Winthrop P. Haynes by the Town Clerk:

Whereas, Dr. and Mrs. Winthrop P. Haynes of Boxford have kindly and generously given to the Town of Boxford for school ground purposes their plot of land located on Middleton Road and Main St. Boxford

Be It Resolved: That the citizens of Boxford in Town Meeting assembled on February 20th, 1953, do hereby express their gratitude and thanks to Dr. & Mrs. Winthrop Haynes for their gift

And, Be It Further Resolved: That a copy of this resolution be sent by the Town Clerk to Dr. & Mrs. Winthrop P. Haynes, and a copy of the same be spread upon the Town Records of Boxford.

Voted that expression of sympathy be sent to Mr. Daniel B. H. Powers, aged 99, and Mrs. Powers in connection with his illness.

Voted to adjourn at 10:30 p.m.

A true record
E. Laurence Colby, clerk

Art II The vote under article II was conducted by secret ballot with the use of check lists and the results were 147 yes, 32 no, and 1 blank. The checkers and tellers were Helen F. Hoogerzeil, Baron P. Fryer, Franklin C. Roberts, Jr., Nathaniel N. Love, Jr., and Clinton E. French, and Thomas E. Cargill, Jr. assisted by the moderator and town clerk.

A true record

E. Laurence Colby, clerk

Annual Town Meeting, March 2, 1953

The annual town meeting of the Town of Boxford was held in Lincoln Hall, on March 2, 1953. The meeting was called to order at 8:00 p.m. by William J. Greenler, Jr., the moderator, and a moment of silent prayer was observed. The following action was taken:

Art. 1 Voted to approve the reports of the Town Officers and Committees as printed in the Town Report.

Article 2 Voted to adopt budget as amended.

Art. 3 Voted to appropriate the sum of \$500.00 for the maintenance of Road Machinery, said amount to be transferred from the Road Machinery Fund.

Art. 4 Voted to appropriate \$2,000.00 for the Reserve Fund, said amount to be transferred from Overlay Reserve,

Art. 5 Voted to appropriate from Surplus Revenue the sum of \$1,000 to meet the state and County allotments for highways, and any other highway re-location,

Annual Town Meeting, March 2, 1953 (cont'd)

- Art. 5^(cont'd) repair or construction done in anticipation of reimbursement, said money when reimbursed to be credited to Surplus Revenue.
- Art. 6 Voted to authorize the Town Treasurer, with the approval of the Selectmen, to borrow money from time to time, in anticipation of the revenue of the financial year beginning Jan. 1, 1953, and to issue a note or notes therefor, paying within one year, and to renew any note or notes as may be given for a period of less than one year in accordance with Section 17, Chapter 44, of the General Laws.
- Art. 7 Voted to pass over this article
- Art. 8 Voted to pay town labor \$1.25 per hour for the ensuing year, with the exception of the heads of departments to receive \$1.50 per hour.
- Art. 9 Voted to authorize the Assessors to use such free cash in the Treasury as they deem best for the purpose of reducing the tax rate for the current year.
- Art. 10 Voted to authorize the Board of Selectmen to establish a Committee to study the fire protection needs of the town.
- Art. 11 Voted to raise and appropriate \$400.00 to be divided equally between the two libraries for the use towards the maintenance of the same.
- Art. 12 Voted to appropriate \$327.52 refunded from the County on account of dog licenses, said sum to be divided equally between the libraries at the two ends of the town.

- Art. 13. Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,000.00 to continue the improvement of Main St. from the section completed in 1952 toward West Boxford,
- Art. 14 Voted to install a street light at the intersection of Mt. Vernon Road and Main St. in West Boxford.
- Art. 15 Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$2,000.00 for the improvement of Depot Road; said money to be used in conjunction with any money allotted by the State or County, or both, for this purpose under the provisions of Chapter 90.
- Art. 16 Voted unanimously to amend the zoning by-law by adding to Section V, subsection 1A:
Special permits may also be granted, after public hearing, for the adaptation of existing buildings or structures for occupancy by three families where the Board of Appeals finds a) that such occupancy and use is not detrimental to the surrounding property or the public welfare, b) that the original intended use of such building or structure has become impractical or unprofitable and that the denial of such special permit would work a hardship upon the owner; and provided further that the plans for such adaptation of the building or structure shall be submitted to and approved by the Board of Appeals prior to the granting of the special permit.
- Art. 17 Voted to pass over
- Art. 18 Voted to adjourn at 9:30 pm.

A true record

E. Laurence Colby, town clerk

Adopted Budget for 1953

Selectmen	1050.00
Board of Public Welfare	300.00
Assessors	1400.00
Treasurer	425.00
Town Clerk	400.00
Collector of Taxes	1600.00
Accountant	1600.00
Registrars	100.00
Appeal Board	100.00
Building Inspector	200.00
Ware Inspector	200.00
Planning Board	25.00
Finance Committee	350.00
Elections	100.00
Board of Health	1500.00
Inspectors of Slaughtering	1000.00
Inspector of Animals	50.00
Sealer of Weights and Measures	35.00
Police	1600.00
Dog Officer	60.00
Deputy Game Warden	50.00
Tree Warden	600.00
Forest Warden	1500.00
Fire Warden	1000.00
Moth Suppression	1300.00
Dutch Elm Disease Control	800.00
Public Welfare	900.00
Old Age Assistance	6000.00
Disability Assistance	1000.00
Aid to Dependent Children	1500.00
Veteran's Benefits	1000.00
Schools	44,055.00
Vocational Education	300.00
Highways and Bridges, Selectmen's Fund	1000.00
Chapter 81 Maintenance	2800.00
Chapter 90 Maintenance	1000.00
Snow Removal and Sanding	7000.00
Street Lighting	650.00

Road Machinery Maintenance	500.00
Town Halls	2000.00
Public Grounds	250.00
Insurance	2200.00
Town Forest	200.00
Memorial Day	250.00
Soldier's Graves	225.00
Harmony Cemetery	50.00
Mt. Vernon Cemetery	50.00
Clerical	300.00
Selectmen's Contingent Fund	500.00
Morse House	100.00
Interest on Loans	400.00
Town Reports	500.00
Town Counsel	500.00
Land Taking	30.00
Bowford Village Cemetery	50.00
Civil Defense	600.00
Total Departmental Appropriations	\$ 93,255.00

Other Items

Article 11	400.00
" 13	1000.00
" 15	2000.00
	<u>3400.00</u>

Total to be raised + appropriated

\$ 96,655.00

Transfers

Article 3	500.00
" 4	2000.00
" 5	21,000.00
" 12	<u>327.52</u>

Total Transfers

\$ 23,827.52

Record of Town Election held March 3, 1953 in
Lincoln Hall, West Bosford

The meeting was opened 6:30 a.m.

The whole number of ballots cast - 178

All ballots were counted with the following result:

Moderator for one year	
William J. Greener, Jr.	173
Blanks	5

Selectman for three years	
Harry L. Cole	173
Harry E. Trask	2
Blanks	3

Assessor of Taxes for three years	
Harry E. Trask	162
Charles P. A. Nelson	1
Blanks	15

Assessor of Taxes for two years	169
Harry L. Cole	169
Charles P. A. Nelson	1
Blanks	8

Collector of Taxes	
Simon S. Pearl	169
Blanks	9

Town Clerk for three years	
E. Laurence Colby	167
Blanks	11

Constable (East Parish)	
Everett P. Gould	55
Nathaniel P. Love, Jr.	117
Blanks	6

Constable (West Parish)	
Walter H. Gamans	164
Clayton Nelson	1
Albert Frost	1
Blanks	12

Surveyor of Highways (East Parish)	
Clinton C. French	167
Blanks	11

Surveyor of Highways (West Parish)	
B. Robert Cunningham	162
Albert Frost	7
Blanks	9

School Committee for three years	
Archibald L. Dull	160
Blanks	18

Board of Health for three years	
Harry L. Cole	172
Blanks	6

Tree Warden	
Aleron H. Noyes	169
Blanks	9

Planning Board for five years	
Charles P. A. Nelson	159
Blank	19

The moderator declared the balloting closed at 1:30 p.m.
Caroline E. Nelson, clerk

A true copy

attest, E. Laurence Colby, clerk

Special Town Meeting, Feb. March 11, 1953

A special town meeting of the inhabitants of Boxford qualified to vote in elections and town affairs was called in Lincoln Hall, West Boxford, at 8:00 pm on March 11, 1953. After a moment of silent prayer, Moderator William J. Greener, Jr. read the warrant. The following action was taken:

Article I Voted unanimously that the vote under article II of the special town meeting of Feb. 20, 1953 be amended by striking out clause numbered "(2)" thereof, relating to the transfer of 16,000, and substituting therefor the following:
(2) that the balance of 16,000 be transferred and appropriated from available free cash.

A motion to amend the original motion of by taking 7500 from Town Farm Funds instead of Post War Rehabilitation Fund, and 8500 from available free cash was ~~admitted~~ ^{defeated}, and the final vote was a second amendment to the original motion. The original motion called for 7500 from the Post War Rehabilitation Fund and the other 8500 from available free cash.

Article II The following resolution was unanimously voted:

Resolved that it be declared to be the sense of this meeting that under the vote taken under Article 10 of the annual town meeting of March 2, 1953, that the selectmen appoint a committee to determine the equipment necessary and it's cost, to provide West Boxford with equal fire protection services to that of East Boxford and Boxford Village: and thereby reduce the fire insurance rates of West Boxford to that of East Boxford and Boxford Village, by the most practical and economical means, and further,

That said committee report it's findings to the people not later than May 31, 1953 for

further action, and further,

That said committee be composed of five (5) members; two members from the fire dept, one from each end of town, the other three members to be citizens at large, two of whom shall reside in West Boxford.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 pm

A true record,

E. Laurence Colby, clerk

Special Town Meeting, December 11, 1953

A special town meeting of the inhabitants of Boxford qualified to vote in elections and town affairs was held in Lincoln Hall, West Boxford, at 8:00 pm on December 11, 1953. The meeting was called to order by William J. Greener, Jr., the moderator. After a prayer by Rev. William O. Hoover of the Second Congregational Church, the following action was taken:

Art. 1 Voted to appropriate from Surplus Revenue the sum of 1700.00 to meet the state allotment for highways, said money when reimbursed to be credited to Surplus Revenue.

Art. 2 Voted to make the following transfers to the school appropriation, viz: \$1,000.00 from Board of Health, 500.00 from Disability Assistance, 75.00 from Vocational Education, and 25.00 from Public Grounds.

Art. 3 Voted to transfer 200.00 from Interest on Loans to Public Welfare.

Dec. 11, 1953, cont'd

Art. 4 Voted to amend the following by-law adopted at the town meeting of Mar. 5, 1928 and approved by the Attorney General July 9, 1928:

"whoever being the owner or keeper of a hound shall permit it to run without chain or leash at any time between one half hour after sunset and one half before sunrise on property not owned or occupied by said by said owner or keeper shall be punished by a fine of ten dollars" by adding the following:

"The Selectmen are herewith authorized to issue licenses to use dogs at any time of day or night, in trailing and securing any animal which has been molesting crops, poultry or livestock."

A hand vote showed 69 yes, 2 no.

Art. 5 The following amendments to the zoning by law were adopted as follows:

Voted 55 yes, 0 no, to add to "E" in section II the following sentence: "Street Line" shall mean the boundary of the right of way laid out as a public way, or as a private way open to public use, as the case may be."

Voted 53 yes, none opposed, to add to "F" in section II the following: "The Description of a lot set forth in an application shall not be changed in any future application unless such future application conforms to this by-law, and no new description including part of an old lot shall be permitted unless the remaining part of the old lot shall conform to the yard and area regulations of this by-law."

Voted unanimously to amend section VII by adding a new subsection 10A as follows: "Trailers and other movable structures shall not be occupied as dwellings; except that for reasons of necessity or hardship, the Board of Appeals, after public notice and a hearing, may

Dec. 11, 1953 cont'd

grant temporary occupancy permits for such structures for dwelling purposes for not more than one year at a time in any part of town."

Voted 56 yes, 2 no, to amend section IX by striking out sub-section 2A. and substituting as follows: "In case of damage as set forth in the foregoing article, a building may be repaired or a building of the same type or of a type not deemed more detrimental to the surrounding property or the general welfare may be rebuilt on the same location upon special permit of the Board of Appeals."

Voted 56 yes, none opposed to amend section IX by adding a new subsection 3C as follows: "After public hearing the Board of Appeals may permit any building not conforming to the yard and area regulations of section XI to be replaced on the same location with another building if it finds that such other building is not more detrimental to the surrounding property or the general welfare and that considerations of lot size, location of cellar holes, or other considerations of practical economy make such replacement desirable."

Voted 58 yes, 2 no, to amend section XI, subsection 1 by striking out "thirty feet" in each instance and substituting "fifty feet" so as to read:
1. Front yards. No building shall be built or placed within fifty (50) feet of the street line, except that no building need be set back more than the average set back of the buildings on the lots on either side, a vacant lot or lot occupied by a building set back more than fifty (50) feet being counted as though occupied by a building set back fifty (50) feet; except that an accessory building or private garage may be built closer than fifty (50) feet from the street line under special permit of the Board of Appeals when they deem it not detrimental to the

Dec. 11, 1953 Cont'd

surrounding property, nor injurious to public welfare.

Voted to pass over the proposed changes in "rear yards" and "side yards" in subsections 2 & 3 of Section XI.

Voted 54-yes, 4 no, to amend subsection 4 of Section XI by striking out "one half acre" and substituting "one acre" and striking out "150 feet frontage" and substituting "200 feet frontage" so as to read: "Land laid out after the adoption of these by-laws shall provide for each dwelling the following ^{minimum} lot areas and dimensions: For a one family house, not under one acre and at least two hundred (200) feet frontage, said house not to occupy more than twenty percent (20%) of the area."

Voted 53 yes, none opposed, to amend Section XI by adding a new subsection 7 as follows: 7. Street width. No streets hereafter laid out for public use, in accordance with the Sub-division Control Law, shall be less than fifty (50) feet in width. No permit shall hereafter be granted for the erection of a building on a lot not fronting on a street unless a right of way shall be laid out at least fifty (50) feet in width and plans therefor filed with the Planning Board, and such a right of way shall thereafter be considered as a street for the purposes of this by-law."

Voted unanimously to amend Section XI by adding a new subsection as follows: 8. Any street laid out so as not to connect two existing streets shall provide a loop for adequate turning space for town vehicles."

Voted unanimously to change heading of last paragraph in Section XII from "K" to "H."

Voted unanimously to add a new subsection 12 to Section III to read as follows: 12. [Wherever proceedings under this by-law

Dec. 11, 1953 Cont'd

require the giving of notice by publication in a newspaper, mailing, or service by a civil officer, the costs thereof shall be borne by the applicant; and the Board of Appeals shall require the estimated costs to be advanced by him."

Voted unanimously that the above amendments shall not apply to land included in a plan of a sub-division approved by the Planning Board prior to the adoption of these amendments.

The votes in this article were taken by hand where figures are given, and were taken by voice when designated unanimous. The meeting followed the recommendations of the Planning Board in each case except Section XII, subsection 12, where "shall" was substituted for "may".

Art. 6. Voted unanimously that the present zoning Board of Appeals be constituted as the Appeal Board under the Sub-division Control Law, so called, as amended by Acts of 1953, Chapter 674.

Voted unanimously that the Planning Board as now constituted, consisting of seven members holding office for terms of five years as heretofore elected, shall be and continue to act as a Planning Board under the "Sub-division Control Law" as amended by Chapter 674 of the Acts of 1953; and that all actions and votes of the Planning Board heretofore be ratified and confirmed in so far as it is within the power of this meeting to do so."

Art 7. Voted unanimously to allow Mr. Earl Smith, an attorney from Marblehead, to address the meeting. Mr. Smith and five associates have purchased the Hopper farm on Bald Hill