

## TOWN OF ENFIELD

### 2011 TOWN MEETING MINUTES

Moderator David Beaufait called the meeting to order at 9:25 am on Saturday, March 12, 2011 at the Enfield Elementary School. He led the audience in the pledge of allegiance.

He pointed out that the Town Report was dedicated to Nancy Foley, and dedicated the Town Meeting to her. The Selectmen presented certificates of appreciation to outgoing board members. Meredith Smith, Chairman of the Heritage Committee, presented their annual award to Paul Mirski. The Moderator introduced the head table: Selectmen Cummings, Crate and Kluge, Town Manager Steven Schneider, Town Attorney James Raymond, Chairman of the Budget Committee Doug Pettibone, Budget Committee members, Alisa Bonnette, Executive Assistant and Town Clerk Carolee Higbee. He explained the rules of order.

Chief of Police Richard Crate and President of the FAST Squad Richard Martin presented Sergeant Scott Thompson and EMTs Kim Withrow and Sam Provenza with certificates of appreciation for their outstanding service saving a life during a medical emergency call on January 14th at Marsten Lane.

The Moderator presented the results of Articles 1 and 2, which were voted on by ballot on Tuesday, March 8th:

Article 1. To choose by ballot all necessary Town Officers for the ensuing year.

For One Year: One Library Trustee  
Shirley A. Green 303

For Three Years: One Selectman  
John W. Kluge 295

One Town Clerk  
Carolee T. Higbee 318

One Treasurer  
Donna Perillo 304

One Trustee of Trust Funds

Cynthia Hollis 296

One Cemetery Trustee

Mary E. Quintana 298

One Fire Ward

David J. Crate, Sr. 293

One Library Trustee

Bart Thurber 298

One Zoning Board of Adjustment Member

Craig Daniels 271

Three Budget Committee Members

Lori Saladino 249

Gayle Hulva 269

Annabelle Danforth 23 write-in votes

Article 2. Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment #1, as proposed by the Enfield Planning Board, for the Town of Enfield Zoning Ordinance as follows?

To see if the Town will vote to correct conflicting definitions in Appendix A (Land Use Definitions) by striking the definition of "Multiple Family Dwelling" and retaining the definition of "Dwelling, Multi-family".

Strike the following:

Multiple Family Dwelling: A permanent structure used as a residence consisting of two, three or four dwelling units.

Retain the following:

Dwelling, Multi-family: A dwelling designed for residential use by three or more families living separately from each other in individual attached dwelling units.

The Planning Board recommends passage of this article by a vote of 5-0.

Article 2 passed as printed. Yes 263, No 41.

Article 3: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the Budget

Committee's and Selectmen's recommended sum of five million, seventy-one thousand, three hundred four and 00/100 dollars, (\$5,071,304), for general municipal operations. This article does not include special or individual articles addressed.

The Board of Selectmen recommends this article by a vote of 3-0.  
The Budget Committee recommends this article by a vote of 6-0.

D. Crate made the motion to accept the article as printed, F. Cummings seconded the motion. D. Pettibone discussed the article for the Budget Committee, pointing out that the tax rate has no increase over 2010. D. Stewart made the motion to increase the budget by \$235,000, R. Stewart seconded the motion. Mr. Stewart said that he would like the monies to be spent as follows: \$75,000 on paving, \$60,000 for an F350 truck with plow, and the remaining \$100,000 for Department of Public Works capital reserve for a road grader. J. Raymond pointed out that an amendment may change the article's dollar amount, but any purposes for the money are recommendations only and not binding to the Board of Selectmen.

P. Mirski, L. Carrier and J. Kluge all spoke against the amendment. All believed that increasing the budget this year is premature. E. McLaughlin suggested that the Town sell some of its assets to raise money. C. Howes suggested using a local garage to fix the equipment. R. Stewart and D. Stewart spoke in favor of the amendment. L. LaCroix moved the question, K. Quirk seconded. Audience in favor of moving the question. A voice vote was taken on the amendment: failed. P. Mirski pointed out that there are no separate articles for regional association funding and thanked B. Thurber for devising a formula to deal with these. He said that the State has no plans to cut funding to the Town and that property taxes may rise with the County building a new jail. J. Patten moved the question, D. Kiley seconded. Audience in favor of moving the question. A voice vote was taken on Article 3; passed.

Article 4: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of forty-six thousand one hundred and 00/100 dollars (\$46,100) for the purchase of land currently owned by the State of NH, located in the Northern Rail Corridor adjacent to McConnell Road and identified on the Enfield tax maps as Map36, Lot 18, to authorize the withdrawal of forty-six thousand one hundred and 00/100 dollars (\$46,100) from the Land Acquisition Capital Reserve Fund to offset this expenditure, and to authorize the exchange of this parcel with an approximately 3-acre portion of the parcel of land owned by Robert A. LaCroix and Robert R. LaCroix, located on Lovejoy Brook Road and identified on the Enfield tax maps as Map 15, Lot 5 and located adjacent to the property on which the municipal Prior Well is located and within the

wellhead protection area. The purpose of this property exchange is for acquisition of adjacent land which is otherwise subject to development. This will be a non-lapsing appropriation per RSA 32:7, VI and will not lapse until the purposes of this article are completed or by December 31, 2012, whichever is sooner.

#### Special Warrant Article

The Board of Selectmen recommends this article by a vote of 2-0 and 1 abstention.

The Budget Committee recommends this article by a vote of 6-0.

F. Cummings made the motion to accept the article as printed; J. Kluge seconded the motion. Town Manager S. Schneider spoke to the article, pointing out that the State Department of Environmental Services has recommended that the Town obtain control and take steps to purchase the full protective radius of the well.

M. Labounty wanted to know why we don't just purchase the land directly from Mr. LaCroix and that he didn't think the swap was a good idea. T. Jennings agreed that we should protect the well area but didn't think we should approve this. There was a paper ballot request for this Article. Yes 72, No 115. Article 4 failed.

Article 5: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of four hundred thousand and 00/100 dollars (\$400,000) for the purchase of the real property at 217 Main Street, [OLD GRAY'S MARINA SITE], also known as Map 32, Lot 48 of the Town Tax Map, for the purpose of developing, the site as an Enfield community educational and recreational facility, open to all residents of Enfield, which purchase shall be contingent upon the submission of an acceptable financing plan for improvements, maintenance and ongoing operations to the Board of Selectmen, to authorize the withdrawal of seventy-one thousand five hundred and 00/100 dollars (\$71,500) from the Land Acquisition Capital Reserve fund, and to authorize the withdrawal of up to one hundred thousand and 00/100 (\$100,000) from the 12/31/2010 unreserved fund balance to partially offset this expenditure. The remainder of the appropriation shall be raised through general taxation. This will be a non-lapsing appropriation per RSA 32:7, VI and will not lapse until the acquisition is completed or by December 31, 2012, whichever is sooner.

#### Special Warrant Article

The Board of Selectmen recommends this article by a vote of 3-0.

The Budget Committee does not recommend this article by a vote of 3-3.

J. Kluge made the motion to accept the article as printed; D. Crate seconded the motion. D. Smith made a presentation in favor of the article. He pointed

out that the Town has a critical need for access to Mascoma Lake and that this Article would provide that for generations to come. The existing house could be used for a community recreation and education facility. A non-profit group may be formed to raise funding to maintain the property. F. Cummings clarified that the Board of Selectmen recommended putting this article on the Warrant by a vote of 3-0; they did not specify any uses for the property. P. Mirski spoke in favor of the Article for the Budget Committee. He cited this as a great opportunity for the Town to have access to the lake. D. Stewart spoke against the Article for the Budget Committee. He doesn't believe that this is a critical acquisition at this time of economic hardship. The Town has other lakefront property on Johnston Drive.

S. Schneider pointed out that the Johnston Drive property is under lifetime leases to the people with cottages, and the property is not open to the public.

T. Finsterbush said that in his opinion the existing house needed to be torn down.

A. Gonzales pointed out that the existing house is very close to the water and we have to be mindful of pollution. She would rather the Town purchase the old motel property from the State.

S. Beaufait pointed out that the existing beach and boat launch area are very crowded and that if we are shortsighted we risk losing public access for future generations.

D. Kiley said that this is like a car dealer's promise that sounds great but then you read the fine print and find out that it isn't such a good deal. This would deplete the land acquisition fund and would keep costing us forever.

He pointed out that the little piece of property between this and the old motel property is privately owned.

R. Godfrey said that he can imagine this costing us more and more over the years and that we shouldn't be removing property from the tax rolls.

D. Smith said that he's had discussions with the owner of the middle piece of property and doesn't see a problem; sidewalks will join the properties along the road.

Also he's confident that funding will be found to maintain the property.

S. Stancek pointed out that over the years the Town did not have the foresight to buy the Mascoma Lodge or the LaSalette properties. Don't depend on the State owned old motel property.

The rail trail could someday be returned to working train tracks.

T. Chase pointed out that the Shakoma Beach is small, with inconvenient parking. This may be our last chance to purchase lake access property.

K. Gotthardt questioned what the Board of Selectmen want to see for a financing plan.

J. Kluge said that they want to see a plan in writing and have not worked out any details yet.

L. Carrier presented concerns he has about the property. Using the overhead projector he outlined that the annual expenses for the property could be between \$22,000 and \$30,000, for heat, utilities, insurance, etc.

Just updating and outfitting the property could cost between \$230,000 and \$350,000, including outdoor lighting, sidewalks, picnic tables, rest rooms, etc.

He has talked to the Department of Resources and Economic Development about the old

motel property and sees that as better to concentrate on. This Article has an estimated tax impact of 42 cents per \$1,000 valuation but after you consider the expenditure from the Land Acquisition Fund and the withdrawal from the undesignated fund balance the tax impact is more like 73 cents per \$1,000 valuation. D. Adams thanked

Mr. Carrier for clarifying the costs. E. McLaughlin said that the people who support this do want to make a responsible decision as they pay taxes also.

J. Patten thanked Mr. Carrier and moved the question. H. Adams seconded.

C. Howes said that he thought this would be a benefit to the Town. R. Stewart said that she respected the generosity of the townspeople but the fund raising has no guarantee of success. Why should the Town purchase the property and then turn it over to a non-profit group? Let a non-profit buy it, then turn it over to the Town like the Lions Club did with the Community Building. A paper ballot vote was taken; Yes 69, No 122. Article 5 failed.

Article 6: Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of three hundred and 00/100 dollars (\$300) from the 12/31/2010 unreserved fund balance, for deposit into the Cemetery Maintenance Expendable Trust Fund, an expendable general trust fund previously established under the provisions of RSA 31:19-a for the purpose of maintaining cemeteries? This money represents 2010 revenue from the sale of cemetery lots in 2010 and is available to offset the appropriation.

#### Special Warrant Article

The Board of Selectmen recommends this article by a vote of 3-0.

The Budget Committee recommends this article by a vote of 6-0.

D. Crate made the motion to accept the article as printed; F. Cummings seconded the motion. There was no discussion. The article passed by a unanimous voice vote.

Article 7 Shall the Town establish an expendable general trust fund under the provisions of RSA 31:19-a, to be known as the Enfield Trails Fund for the purpose of printing future copies of the Enfield Trails Map, future revisions of the Enfield Trails Map, maintaining trails located within the Town of Enfield and creating new trails within the Town of Enfield; to designate the Board of Selectmen as agent to expend; and to raise and appropriate the sum of three hundred seventy and 00/100 dollars (\$370) from the 12/31/2010 unreserved fund balance, for deposit into the Enfield Trails Expendable Trust Fund. This money represents 2010 revenue from the sale of Enfield Trails Maps in 2010 and is available to offset the appropriation.

#### Special Warrant Article

The Board of Selectmen recommends this article by a vote of 3-0.  
The Budget Committee recommends this article by a vote of 6-0.

F. Cummings made the motion to accept the article as printed; J. Kluge seconded the motion. K. Gotthardt explained that he and James Taylor, the Director of Public Works, developed the trails map and received a \$1000 grant from Mascoma Savings Bank Foundation to have it printed. It is sold at the Town Offices for \$2.00 a copy. The expendable trust fund would be used for updating and printing future copies.

C. Aufiero and S. Hagerman pointed out that the trails on the map are not all town-managed trails.

Article 7 passed by a unanimous voice vote.

Article 8: To hear the reports of agents, auditors, committees, or any other officers heretofore chosen and pass any vote relating thereto.

J. Kluge made the motion to accept the article as printed; D. Crate seconded the motion. J. Gerding reminded people that the Supervisors of the Checklist will be conducting the 10-year purge of the checklist and people who haven't voted in the past four years will be removed. S. Stancek made the motion to direct the Board of Selectmen to carry out emergency repairs on Shaker Hill Road. C. Clark seconded the motion. Moderator Beaufait pointed out that this would be advisory only to the Board of Selectmen. D. Stewart said that the State should fix their own road.

C. Howes asked if there weren't any emergency funds to use for road repair. A voice vote was taken on the motion: passed.

The Moderator reminded everyone that there will be a 250th Town Anniversary celebration this summer, and that a Huse Park Watch Group has been formed.

S. Hagerman made the motion to close the meeting; L. Carrier seconded. The Moderator declared the meeting closed at 12:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Carolee T. Higbee  
Town Clerk/Tax Collector