

**2013 TOWN OF FARMINGTON  
TOWN MEETING MINUTES  
March 13, 2013**

Moderator, Christopher Somma opened the meeting at 7:05PM by introducing Boy Scout Troop 188 to do the presentation of the colors and lead in the Pledge of Allegiance. Chris told those present that Troop 188 was holding a bake sale in the media room to help the troop represent New Hampshire in Florida later this year. The Moderator then set up some ground rules relating to respecting one another and not talking over one another. He then introduced Charlie King to make a presentation. Charlie gave a presentation to Town Clerk-Tax Collector, Kathy Seaver, for her performance in the 2012 Presidential Election. Kathy was also given awards to mail to the following participants in that election: Gail Pitman, Debra Covey-Lee, Esther Parshley, Dorothy Bean, Keith Hussey, Christopher Somma, Margaret Hayes, Roxanne Pageau, Nora Varney, Mary Barron, Kathleen King, Eileen Ferland and Elaine Aylard. David Connolly was then introduced to present 3 awards for 2012 Conservation Citizens of the Year. These were presented to John Borg, Abigail Pagen-Allis and Rodney Thompson. Chris then read the results from the March 12, 2013 election of town and school officers and articles voted on. As he read the results for Selectmen, he thanked outgoing Selectperson Joan Funk for her years of service to the town.

**Article 3 Fire Vehicle Rescue Pumper Capital Lease Purchase**

To see if the Town will authorize the Board of Selectmen to enter into a seven year lease purchase of up to \$58,792 (Fifty Eight Thousand Seven Hundred & Ninety Two Dollars) a year for the purpose of leasing a Rescue Pumper for the Fire Department and to withdraw up to \$58,792 from the Fire Vehicles and Equipment Capital Reserve Fund to cover the first years payment of the Rescue Pumper. The remaining payments for this lease which totals up to \$352,752 will come from taxation in ensuing years. **This article is recommended by the Board of Selectmen. This Article is recommended by the Budget Committee. (2/3 Ballot Vote required)**

Arthur Capello made a motion to approve Article 3, seconded by Jim Horgan. Being no discussion, ballot voting began at 7:15. Once those in attendance had a chance to vote, we continued with Article 4 leaving the polls open until 8:15.

**Article 4. Operating Budget**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the Budget Committee recommended sum of **\$6,169,473** (Six Million, One Hundred Sixty Nine Thousand, Four Hundred and Seventy Three Dollars) for General Municipal Operations. (The Selectmen recommend \$6,169,473) This article does not include special or individual articles addressed separately. **(Majority Vote Required)**

Neil Johnson made a motion to approve Article 4, seconded by Jim Horgan. Emmanuel Krasner questioned a section in the auditors report on page 19 concerning postemployment benefits other than pensions. He questioned why we don't know what

our liability is and where the fund was that we had previously set up. Charlie King, Chairman stated that we do know approximately what it will cost us if the current long-term employees leave. Page 19 remarks do not refer to this fund. Neil Johnson pointed out on page 75 trustee balance of \$35,275 employee liability. John Scruton asked if this is related to the incremental cost of retiree health insurance costs. John Scruton and Pam Merrill, Finance Director concurred that the auditors were referring to GADSBY requirements which we, and many other towns, have not met. Article 4 was approved by a show of cards vote.

**Article 5. Public Buildings Maintenance CRF**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$10,000** (Ten Thousand Dollars) to be added to the previously established Public Buildings Maintenance Capital Reserve Fund. **This Article is recommended by the Board of Selectmen. This Article is recommended by the Budget Committee. (Majority Vote Required)**

Joseph Pitre made a motion to approve Article 4, seconded by Kathy King. Mary Barron asked to clarify that this sum is not included in the sum of article 4. It is not. Being no other discussion, Article 5 was approved by a show of cards vote.

**Article 6. Road Improvement and Paving CRF**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$50,000** (Fifty Thousand Dollars) to be added to the previously established Road Improvements & Paving Capital Reserve Fund. **This Article is recommended by the Board of Selectmen. This Article is recommended by the Budget Committee. (Majority Vote Required)**

Matthew Scruton made a motion to approve Article 6, seconded by Brian St. Onge. Being no discussion, Article 6 was approved by a show of cards vote.

**Article 7. Withdrawal from Special Revenue Fund/FCTV**

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to withdraw up to **\$60,000** (Sixty Thousand Dollars) of the revenue collected from Cable Franchise Fees to fund staff, offer programming and renegotiate the Cable Franchise Agreement for the Town of Farmington from the Special Revenue Fund previously established. No amount to be raised from taxation. **This Article is recommended by the Board of Selectmen. This Article is recommended by the Budget Committee. (Majority Vote Required)**

Arthur Capello made a motion to approve Article 7, seconded by Kathy King. Being no discussion, Article 7 was approved by a show of cards vote.

**Article 8. Withdrawal from Special Revenue Fund/ Police Outside Detail**

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the withdrawal of up to **\$80,000** (Eighty Thousand Dollars) to pay for the cost of Police Outside Details from the Police Department Outside Detail Special Revenue Fund previously established for this purpose. No amount to be raised from taxation. **This Article is recommended by the Board of Selectmen. This Article is recommended by the Budget Committee. (Majority Vote Required)**

Neil Johnson, made a motion to approve Article 8, seconded by Jim Horgan. Steven Henry asked Chief Willey to explain the fund. He did and explained that this is a wash. In the past, we have included it in the budget, but DRA has encouraged us to have a separate warrant article. Discussion ensued on withdrawing these monies and what would happen if we did not have this type of fund. After this discussion, Article 8 was approved by a show of cards vote.

**Article 9. Withdrawal from Special Revenue Fund/Landfill Closure**

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the withdrawal of up to **\$66,202** (Sixty-Six Thousand Two Hundred Two Dollars) from the Landfill Closure Fund previously established. Funds were set aside to close the Landfill; this remaining balance will be used to perform additional responsibilities related to this closure which include Groundwater Monitoring & Reporting. No amount to be raised from taxation. **This Article is recommended by the Board of Selectmen. This Article is recommended by the Budget Committee. (Majority Vote Required)**

Jim Horgan made a motion to approve Article 9, seconded by Arthur Capello. Barry Elliott said he was curious what the balance would be once we take this money out. Keith explained that the balance is \$66,202. Steven Henry asked if we expect to use it all this year. Keith stated that we do not because right now groundwater monitoring and reporting is coming in about \$11,000 but we need to be prepared for the unexpected. Being no further discussion, Article 9 was approved by a show of cards vote.

**Article 10. Withdrawal from Special Revenue Fund/Building Inspection**

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the withdrawal of up to **\$30,224** (Thirty Thousand Two Hundred Twenty Four Dollars) from the Building Inspector Position Special Revenue Fund previously established. The purpose of the funding is to assist in paying for a Building Inspector. No amount to be raised by taxation. **This Article is recommended by the Board of Selectmen. This Article is not recommended by the Budget Committee. (Majority Vote Required)**

Joan Funk made a motion to approve Article 10, seconded by Jim Horgan. It was explained that the fund was to partially pay for the Building Inspector's salary. Mike Morin stated he could not find where we have a balance. It was explained that it was on page 48. He asked if there had been any thought of putting this person to part time. Charlie King responded in the negative. Fred Pitman inquired why Budget Committee does not recommend this withdrawal. Steven Henry stated that, at one time, it did fund the entire salary. The Budget Committee would like to see it a larger amount to allow more money to offset the salary if more money comes in. Gail Ellis made a motion to amend to withdraw up to \$45,000, seconded Joe Pitre. Steven Henry stated to clarify, this does not raise the salary, it just allows us to use more if it comes in. The amendment was approved by a show of cards vote. Richard Stanley made a motion to call question, seconded by Arthur Capello and approved by a show of cards vote. Article 10 was approved by a show of cards vote.

**Article 11. Withdrawal from Special Revenue Fund/Main Street School Operations & Maintenance Fund**

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the withdrawal of up to **\$33,907** (Thirty-Three Thousand Nine Hundred Seven Dollars) from the Main Street School Operations & Maintenance Fund previously established. The purpose of the funding is operating and maintaining the Main Street School Facility. No amount to be raised by taxation. **This Article is recommended by the Board of Selectmen. This Article is recommended by the Budget Committee. (Majority Vote Required)**

Ann Titus made a motion to approve Article 11, seconded by Steven Henry. Mike Morin asked a 2 part question. When was the fund established and what is fund balance? He was directed to the Trustees report in the Town Report. Richard Stanley asked what is the Main Street School and was told that it is the Municipal Office Building. Being no further discussion, Article 11 was approved by a show of cards vote.

Ballot voting then closed on Article 3.

**Article 12. Approve Mutual Aid Assistance**

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Fire Chief to send apparatus out of town, and to receive fire apparatus from other towns, in accordance with the provisions of the New Hampshire Revised Statutes, Annotated, Chapter 154 Sections 24-30 inclusive, as amended; such authority to be subject to the supervision and control of the Board of Selectmen. **(Majority Vote Required)**

Arthur Capello made a motion to approve Article 12, seconded by Jim Horgan. John Scruton questions if the Police department was also involved but do need authorization per state statute. Chief Willey stated he was correct, there is no legal requirement it is set up by statute. Public works also uses mutual aid according to Public Works Director, Scott Hazelton. Being no further discussion, Article 12 was approved by a show of cards vote.

**Article 13. Sale of Municipal Vehicles and Other Equipment**

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to sell in the best means possible, municipal vehicles and other equipment no longer needed, as determined by the Board of Selectmen with proceeds to go into the General Fund. **(Majority Vote Required)**

Jim Horgan made a motion to approve Article 13, seconded by Kathy King. Being no discussion, Article 13 was approved by a show of cards vote.

**Article 14. Land Swap**

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to Swap land with Cameron's Home & Garden Center on Route 11. The town will convey to Cameron's Home & Garden Center a portion of land consisting of approximately 47,500 square feet and approximately 600 +- feet of frontage on Route 11 that abuts their business. In exchange Cameron's Home & Garden Center will convey to the Town of Farmington

104,100 square feet and approximately 721 +- feet of frontage on River Road. ***All costs associated with this Land Swap will be the responsibility of Cameron's Home & Garden Center. (Majority Vote Required)***

Jim Horgan made a motion to approve Article 14, seconded by Neil Johnson. Emmanuel Krasner asked if anyone could tell us the value of 2 properties. Randy Orvis explained where the 2 lots were and the conservation value of the land on river road because it abuts other conservation land and will add to the value of that. Barry Elliott spoke of the history of this swap. There was no answer to the question of an appraised value of the properties in question. Being no further discussion, Article 14 was approved by a show of cards vote.

The results of Article 3 were read with it being approved as follows:  
Yes 81 No 15

**Article 15.** To transact such other business as may legally come before this meeting.  
**(Majority Vote Required)**

Motion to adjourn was made at 8:25, duly seconded and approved by a show of cards vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy L. Seaver  
Town Clerk-Tax Collector