

**RECORD
TOWN OF GRANBY
SPECIAL TOWN MEETING
JANUARY 9, 2017**

In accordance with the foregoing warrant, the inhabitants of the Town of Granby qualified to vote in elections and town affairs, met at the Granby Jr. Sr. High School on East State Street on January 9, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. then and there to act on the following articles, to wit:

The Moderator, Lynn Snopek Mercier opened the Special Town Meeting at 7:04p.m.with a quorum present (30 or more) 64 were in attendance at the time of opening. The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was lead by Select Board Chairman, Mark L. Bail, and the Town Officials along with the residents joined in.

The Moderator calls on the Town Clerk, Katherine A. Kelly-Regan, to certify that all the warrants were posted in accordance with the law.

The Clerk responds they have. The warrant for this Special Town Meeting was declared to be in order.

The Committees and Boards present at this STM:

Select Board: Chair, Mark L. Bail, Members, Louis M. Barry, and Stephen Chojnacki All Present sitting with the Select Board was the Town Counselor, Edward Ryan, Jr. and the Town Administrator, Christopher Martin.

Finance Committee: Chair, John Libera, Jr., Members, Robert Glesmann III; and James Hartley, Not Present Robert Cannon, and Scott Wilson.

School Committee: Chair, Emre Evren, Members, Jennifer Curran, P. Marie McCourt, Deanne Payne-Rokowski, and James Pietras All Present, sitting with the School Committee was the School Superintendent Sheryl Stanton.

Vote Counters & Checkers: Patricia Banas, Jeanne Crosby, Elaine Lafleur, Jeanne Merrill, and Debra Plath

Microphone Runner: Virginia Snopek

Police Officer: Stephen Marion

Guest –Thomas Scanlon-Certified Public Accountant

The Moderator Lynn Snopek Mercier calls for Article 1 of the STM at 7:06 P.M.
Motion 2nd

She now calls on Select Board member Louis Barry to read Article one, and Article two to the voters.

ARTICLE 1. move the Town votes to supplement each prior vote of the Town that authorizes the borrowing of money to pay costs of capital projects to provide that, in accordance with Chapter 44, Section 20 of the General Laws, the premium received by the Town upon the sale of any bonds or notes thereunder, less any such premium applied to the payment of the costs of issuance of such bonds or notes, may be applied to pay project costs and the amount authorized to be borrowed for each such project shall be reduced by the amount of any such premium so applied.

Only Majority Vote Required
Short discussion

Motion 2nd
Passed –Unanimous- Show of Hands

Mr. Barry explains Article 1 is necessary to vote through in order to be able to apply the premium to the bond.

ARTICLE 2. move the Town votes to approve and authorize the Board of Selectmen and Board of Assessors to sign the Payment In Lieu Of Tax (PILOT) agreement between the Town of Granby and Kearsarge Granby 6 LLC, Kearsarge Granby 7 LLC, Kearsarge Granby 5 LLC, Kearsarge Granby 2 LLC and Kearsarge Granby 1 LLC.

Only Majority Vote Required
Short discussion

Motion 2nd
Passed –Unanimous- Show of Hands

Mr. Barry explains how the tax agreement for the personal and real property between Kearsarge & the Town would work for Granby. Pilot payments \$10,900 per DC MW Based on a 0.650 MW DC System \$7,085/year. Full text was given out at the Special Town Meeting or it may be view in the Select Boards or Town Clerks office.

Select Board Member Stephen A. Chojnacki presents Article 3

ARTICLE 3. move the Town votes to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$178,113.50 for the purpose of funding the School Lunch deficit as of June 30, 2016.

Only Majority Vote Required
Long Discussion

Motion 2nd

FAILED -by Majority- Hand Count- Yes- 30 to No- 37

Select Board Chairman, Mark Bail speaks about how this has been going on for a few years and is confident that a solution will be made to correct this problem.

Emre Evren, School Committee Chairman, explains to the voters that the School is taking full responsibility for this, and is looking into resolving this problem as best as possible. It's also noted that Granby is not the only community in Massachusetts to have a deficit problem with the lunch programs.

John Libera, Jr., Finance Committee Chairman, speaks to the voters expressing how the Finance Committee wishes that the voters take in consideration to not vote in favor tonight on Article 3, and to have this Article brought back in May at another Special Town Meeting, in doing this it will allow more time to focus on larger areas in Town, and give more time to work out this problem with a final solution to make sure this will not happen again.

A Motion is called to vote and the Moderator, Lynn Snopek Mercier calls for a hand count due to the closeness of the vote. A Majority vote is all that is required for this vote to pass. A hand count is done and the final count is Yes- 30 and No-37. Article 3 Fails and will be presented in the Spring at the next Special Town Meeting.

Select Board Chairman Mark Bail presents Articles 4 & 5

ARTICLE 4. move the Town votes to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$122,501.29 for the purpose of funding the School Special Education Circuit Breaker deficit as of June 30, 2016.

Only Majority Vote Required
Short discussion

Motion 2nd

Passed –Unanimous- Show of Hands

John Libera, Jr, Finance Committee Chair, tells the voters that the Finance Committee is in favor of Articles 4 & 5 to pass because it's really not a deficit it's only moving the money to the proper account that it originally should have been placed into.

ARTICLE 5. move the Town votes to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$98,039.79 for the purpose of funding the School Choice deficit as of June 30, 2016.

Only Majority Vote Required
Short discussion

Motion 2nd

Passed –Unanimous- Show of Hands

Mr. Bail also explains that the money for Articles 4 & 5 is actually not a deficit because it was money that was moved into Free Cash when it should have been placed in the funding for School Special Education Circuit Breaker (Article 4), and School Choice(Article 5) therefore it's only moving from the Free Cash to the proper account that it should have originally been placed into, a vote is taken and both Article 4 & 5 passes Unanimously.

Select Board Member Stephen A. Chojnacki presents Article 6

ARTICLE 6. move the Town votes to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$8,000 for the purpose of purchasing chairs.

Only Majority Vote Required
Short discussion

Motion 2nd

Passed –Unanimous- Show of Hands

A question is asked why do we need to purchase chairs, and Mr. Bail explains that when we have larger meetings or school graduations the Town rents the chairs, and purchasing the chairs would be an investment that will pay for itself in the long run. A voter asks "why not take it out of Capital Improvement", and the answers for that is it's not enough of a request to fall under the Capital Improvement. The Moderator, Lynn Snopek Mercier calls for a vote and Article 6 Passes Unanimously

The Moderator motions to adjourn this STM
All in favor to adjourned:


Motion 2nd

Passed: Unanimous- Show of Hands

The business for this STM held on January 9, 2017 has been completed, all Articles have been voted on and the Moderator officially dissolves this STM at 7:55 P.M.

There were 72 voters and 6 non-voters who showed up to support and contribute in our town affairs.

Respectfully submitted,


Katherine A. Kelly-Regan
Town Clerk, CMMC