

APPROVED

1998 TOWN MEETING  
TOWN OF HANOVER  
Tuesday, May 12, 1998  
Hanover High School Gymnasium

The annual Town Meeting of the Town of Hanover, New Hampshire was convened on May 12, 1998 at 7:00 a.m. by the Town Moderator, Harry Bird, at the Hanover High School Gymnasium. Moderator Bird explained that the polls would be open from 7:00 a.m. until 7:00 p.m. for the purpose of voting for the candidates for Town Offices and for all other articles requiring vote by official ballot as set forth in Articles One through Five of the Town Meeting Warrant.

Moderator Bird noted that there were hearing assistive devices for those with hearing impairments.

After the polls were closed at 7:00 p.m., the following five articles which were voted on were tabulated.

**ARTICLE ONE:** To vote (by nonpartisan ballot) for the following Town Officers:

One Selectman, to serve for a term of three (3) years:

John P. Colligan	670 (elected)
Jack H. Nelson	504 (defeated)

One Treasurer, to serve for a term of one (1) year:

Michael J. Ahern	1,057 (elected)
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One Library Trustee to serve for a term of three (3) years:

John S. Stebbins	1,067 (elected)
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One Trustee of Trust Funds to serve for a term of three (3) years:

Lawrence R. Draper	1,058 (elected)
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One Town Clerk to serve for a term of three (3) years:

Dianne Quill	1,068 (elected)
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One Supervisor of the Checklist to serve for a term of six (6) years:

Helena D. Conrad	1,037 (elected)
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One Supervisor of the Checklist to serve for a term of four (4) years:

M. Lee Udy	1,046 (elected)
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One Moderator to serve for a term of two (2) years:

Harry H. Bird	1,084 (elected)
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Such other Town Officers as may be required by law.



Moderator Bird explained that there is a conflict with State law which requires the bond issue on Article 6; but whether or not the Town decides to approve that bond issue depends on what is decided as a meeting tonight dealing with Articles 7 through 9. Approval for Articles 7 through 9 would be needed before a bond issue would be considered. To deal with this conflict, Moderator Bird stated that it is the intent, unless there are objections, to reverse the order of the Articles, and deal with Articles 7 through 9 first, coming back to Article 6 if the voters wish to do so.

Moderator Bird indicated that the intent is to let the motion under Article 7 be as specific as it needs to be, but also to let the presenters provide the audience with a picture of the whole proposal. Depending on the vote on Article 7, the meeting would then proceed to Articles 8 and 9 to specifically carry out what is needed. If all three Articles are passed, the meeting would then return to Article 6, which is the bond issue; Article 6 requires a 2/3 majority vote by paper ballot.

**ARTICLE SEVEN:** Shall we adopt the provisions of RSA 162-K, creating authority to establish municipal economic development and revitalization districts.

**Selectman Walsh moved that the Town vote to adopt the provisions of RSA 162-K of the New Hampshire Revised Statutes Annotated creating authority to establish municipal economic development and revitalization districts. The motion was seconded by Selectman Connolly.**

Selectman Walsh stated that he was gratified to see so many people in attendance at Town Meeting. He stated that a year ago the Selectmen created a Parking Facilities Task Force chartered with the following: To examine the options for a facility which is integrated with development by Dartmouth College on an adjacent Fleet parcel or a free standing facility on the Water Company lot plus a required sliver of land from Fleet; to assess the impacts of either of these options on parking and circulation in downtown in general, and to make recommendations relative to changes in the directionality of streets as it appears warranted to best join the proposed facility; to develop a financing plan which first focuses on a structure which will be self-supporting from parking revenue, but which may require support of deficits especially in the early years from levies on the parking district; and to present a comprehensive proposal to the Selectmen, the voters, and the Town Meeting in May of 1998. He stated that the Task Force has worked diligently for the past eleven months, and has unanimously recommended that the Town undertake the development of a parking facility which is integrated with development by Dartmouth College on the adjacent Fleet parcel.

Selectman Walsh wished to recognize members of the Parking Facilities Task Force: Chairman Jay Pierson; Roy Banwell; Bill Baschnagel; Bill Breed; Ann Bunnell; Jay Campion; Dave Cioffi; and Bob Drape who constituted sitting members of the task force. Guests included Paul Olsen from Dartmouth College, Clint Bean from the Hanover Chamber of Commerce, Julia Griffin and Michael Gilbar from the Town of Hanover, and Sgt. Patrick O'Neill from the Hanover Police Department.

Selectman Walsh explained the Articles relating to the parking structure. He stated that Article Seven would give the Town the authority to create a tax increment financing district; in a sense, this would be the Town enabling itself to do something which is allowed under State law. Article Eight would create that district. Article Nine would authorize the Selectmen to enter into easements and land transfers necessary for the development to proceed. Selectman Walsh stated that all three Articles require a simple majority voted either by voice vote, standing vote, or if requested, by a paper ballot. If all three Articles pass, Article Six would

then be voted. Selectman Walsh explained that Article Six would authorize the Town to float a \$5.1 million dollar bond issue to raise capital for the facility. Article Six would be voted by paper ballot.

Jay Pierson, Chairman of the Parking Facilities Task Force, presented the proposal, and showed slides regarding the proposed parking structure. He explained that the attempt was to create a facility that was compatible with both the downtown district and acceptable to people within the community, including neighbors and abutters. Currently there are approximately 600 parking spaces available to the public, and another 500 spaces which are private spaces not available through the Parking District. The proposal intends to create a parking facility that has 300 parking spaces, ending up with a net increase in spaces available to the public of 228. Beginning with 300 spaces, 42 spaces will be lost as a result of the parking lot that will be displaced. Due to zoning requirements, Dartmouth College will have approximately 130 spaces of which they will lease back to the Town 100 spaces, resulting in 228 new spaces available to the public.

Regarding financing, Mr. Pierson explained that there will be a deficit of approximately \$235,000 after the debt service of a 30 year, 5.25% tax exempt bond. He emphasized that the financing plan will not impact any of the residential property taxes currently being paid. Mr. Pierson stated that each downtown merchant is required to pay some tax on their parking spaces, and others who may have deficits due to zoning requirements are also charged a fee. The Task Force proposes to increase those fees and taxes to the downtown property owners. He noted that there is a \$52,000 line item currently in the Parking District budget which was used primarily for one-time improvements to parking facilities. The Task Force anticipates keeping that \$52,000 as part of the parking district. Mr. Pierson indicated that one of the Articles is to create a tax increment district which is permitted by law in New Hampshire, so that incremental tax that is created by the new development within a particular area can be used in order to service the debt requirements.

Mr. Pierson stated that the greatest burden of additional fees to downtown property owners would fall on Dartmouth College, followed by six other top downtown property owners, who would see increases in a range of \$3,000 to \$4,500 as additional parking district tax. All other downtown property owners would account for approximately \$45,000, resulting in about \$98,000 which would help to finance the project.

Mr. Pierson indicated that there is an agreement with Dartmouth College which provides that the College would be the prime contractor and developer of the project; at the completion of the project, the Town will buy the parking facility from Dartmouth College for \$5.1 million dollars. Ownership of the parking facility will be owned and managed by the Town. He explained that another part of the agreement calls for a cap on the cost of the project; amounts in excess of \$17,000 up to \$18,500 representing soft costs in the estimates could be the responsibility of the College; Dartmouth College has indicated that they would help finance some of the overage that may occur, but is not anticipated to occur.

At the conclusion of the project, there will be land that will be conveyed to the Town that is part of land that is being occupied by the parking facility. Easements will be granted to the Town by the College that will allow some of the parking spaces to be located underneath the development of the College. Mr. Pierson noted that easements will also be provided to access the parking facility from Lebanon Street. A long term lease will be entered into with Dartmouth College whereby Dartmouth will be able to lease up to 30 parking spaces, at no cost to the



College. He added that there will be short-term leases with Dartmouth leasing to the Town the 100 spaces at below market rates, which the Town has the option of leasing out to interested parties at the then market rate. Finally, there will be an educational exemption whereby Dartmouth College, over the life of the bond issue, will not be requesting any educational exemption from property taxes.

Mr. Pierson stated that benefits to the Town include the addition of 9,000 s.f. of land, a cap on the cost of the project, a fixed contract, a turn key operation, a project that will be able to be accessed from Lebanon Street, a project scale that will keep the buildings low and make them accessible and reasonable for the neighborhood. Benefits to the College include the addition of 30 parking spaces for the College's development, five of which will be permanent spaces with the rest available to them but not designated in any way, and proximity to a good parking facility for their development.

Mr. Pierson identified the following organizations that have endorsed the project: The Hanover Selectmen on a 5 - 0 vote; the Parking and Transportation Board; the Parking Facilities Task Force; Hanover Improvement Society, which is anticipating making a monetary contribution; Howe Library Trustees; Chamber of Commerce; Hanover Rotary and The Friends of Hopkins Center.

Moderator Bird asked for questions or discussion on this Article.

David Laragna acknowledged the work of the Parking Facilities Task Force, but voiced his opposition to the project. He noted that more cars are not making the quality of his life better, and is concerned on the effect this parking facility will have on Rosey Jekes, which is the sort of community gathering space that is vital to communities. He stated that while he is sure the project would result in benefits to some and short-term gains of money, social costs are invariably not included when these projects are discussed. He proposed closing the entire downtown area to automobiles and making it so attractive that people would go to existing parking areas to be bussed into Town.

Another member of the audience noted that while he feels it is admirable to add 228 spaces to downtown, he questioned how the vehicles would exit from the facility during busy times. Mr. Pierson noted that the only exit proposed is at South Street, and they do not anticipate heavy traffic at any particular point in time. He stated that approximately no more than 50 percent of the spaces would be leased spaces, so that there would be transient users of the remaining spaces who would come and go at all different times of the day. Mr. Pierson stated that the Parking Facilities Task Force is currently working with a traffic consultant on the exit. The traffic consultant has indicated that the project will not materially increase traffic at any of the major intersections.

Winifred Stearns, a resident who lives on the corner of Currier and Dorrance, stated that she feels the traffic impact on Currier Street would be very intense. She indicated that she will support the parking facility as she feels the Town needs the parking spaces, but does not believe it will reduce traffic as projected. Ms. Stearns stated she feels the Town will be cognizant of the problems along Currier Street.

Dr. Christopher Coughlin asked for an explanation of wheelchair accessibility and the accommodation of vans with extra high roofs in connection with the height and width of the parking spaces. Mr. Pierson stated that according to law a number of handicapped parking spaces have been identified. He noted that access to the facility is available at two levels which are at grade; one off Lebanon Street, which will access the top level of the platform, and another from South Street which will access the facility at the next level down. Mr. Pierson indicated that there is no elevator incorporated in the planned construction. He added that the top level would be accessible for any of the vans with extra high roofs necessary for the handicapped.

Raymond Lundquist, a resident of Occum Ridge, noted that the recent planning document from Dartmouth College suggests that one of the College's planning objectives is to maintain a rural environment in Hanover, and he requested a response as to how that stated planning objective is consistent with the proposed parking facility. Secondly, he asked what endeavors were made to coordinate traffic planning with the new bridge, the heavy traffic downtown and the parking facility. He also asked if the experts retained to make the parking analysis were retained by people in favor of the facility, and whether as part of their study they made any endeavors to determine whether the parking facility would increase the amount of traffic coming into Hanover or merely facilitate moving the present traffic around.

Selectman Walsh stated that he was not able to speak for the College, but spoke regarding the Town's Master Plan. He stated that maintaining the character of Hanover is a very important part of the Town's master plan which is adopted by the Town Planning Board. Within the Master Plan is a defined Central Business District which is established by Zoning and voted by the voters of the Town of Hanover. That Central Business District was established in 1960 or 1970 with various limits on boundaries with regard to height as well as footprint. Selectman Walsh stated that this project does not seek to expand the Central Business District or create the allowance of new uses. Rather, it is fulfilling something that was voted by the voters of Hanover 30 or 40 years ago when the Zoning Ordinance was adopted.

Selectman Walsh explained that parking on this particular site was considered in the 1970s and again in 1992, possibly in parallel with work on the new bridge, which work was aborted at that time. Currently, the new bridge was already under construction as the Parking Facilities Task Force looked at the issue of circulation. He noted that the experts hired included a group of traffic consultants who have worked nationally and for Hanover for a number of years. The traffic consultants looked at entrances, exits, and whether an increase in traffic could be accommodated by the street pattern, and came to the conclusion that there would be no significant degradation of service. Selectman Walsh noted that the other set of consultants was a parking structure operator who operated facilities around the nation for profit, who was brought in to serve as a design consultant and to check the Parking Facilities Task Force numbers. He stated that neither group of consultants came in with anything to gain and with their professional reputations at stake.

Regarding the financing and taxing of the business district, an audience member stated that the reason businesses are in favor of the project is because they are dependent on people coming in from out of town requiring parking. He feels they are not businesses who are primarily there to serve Hanover residents, and added that if the Town is interested in having small business that can serve residents, it needs to make sure that it does not become too expensive for those small businesses to exist downtown.

Jay Campion stated that he is a downtown business person, and he feels his business serves the residents of Hanover. He stated that he would like more parking spaces for people in Town to be able to come and shop, and he tries to provide goods and services for the people in Hanover.

Bob Lane, a Greensboro Road resident, wondered if the Hanover Conservation Commission or Conservation Council had voiced a position on the parking structure project. He stated that he feels Hanover is on a course to begin to encourage non-automobile traffic, and it is appropriate to begin to accomplish that.

An audience member asked if the 35% increase in parking spaces represents the maximum allowable parking spaces at the new site or is a calculation based on the current needs that exist or that will exist over the next five years. Mr. Pierson answered that there is no formula in Town that restricts the project to 228 spaces, but rather the spaces are the result of the economics involved in construction of the facility. If the size of the facility were to be increased, it could either go up or down; the Task Force felt that increasing the height of the facility would encroach on the character of the community, and developing underground sites would add significantly to the cost of the project.

Jerry Mitchell, a Hanover business person, stated that he hopes the item will pass and is hoping to have better parking downtown for Hanover residents.

Steve Alden reminded the voters that the proposal is not just for a parking lot, but also for the creation of a development to include additional stores and offices. He is concerned that the additional parking spaces will result in the addition of more stores or the converting of other parking lots to buildings. He also asked about the nature of the lease back of the parking spaces.

Selectman Walsh noted that there was discussion early in the project whether the new spaces created in the facility could be used for zoning credits to allow more construction on lots that are not built on now, and the answer was no. The spaces are to alleviate the crunch in Town as opposed to enabling development of land which is not fully developed in the Central Business District.

Ms. Friedman asked if the \$5.1 million dollar bond was just for the parking structure, or also for the building. Selectman Walsh answered that the \$5.1 million dollar bond is for the parking structure alone. He added that the design of the building, its layout, height, etc., has to go through zoning review and site plan review in front of the Planning Board. He explained that action of the Town Meeting will not short circuit planning or zoning regulations.

A member of the audience asked if there was a public wash room planned for the parking facility. Mr. Pierson answered that the final plans for the facility are not complete in that regard, but that there will be opportunities for comments to be sure this type of thing is covered in the final facility design.

Moderator Bird re-read the motion of Selectman Walsh. By a voice vote, the audience was in favor of proceeding to vote on Selectman Walsh's motion.

There being no further discussion, a voice vote was taken on Selectman Walsh's motion. The motion **PASSED** and Article Seven was **ADOPTED**.

**ARTICLE EIGHT:** To see if the Town will vote to find that the provision of public parking in Downtown Hanover is a matter of utmost importance to the prosperity of the Town as a whole, and to vote to establish a development district under RSA 162-K consisting of tax parcel 34-38-1 located at 7 Lebanon Street (Fleet drive-thru), tax parcel 34-39-1 located at 10 East South Street (water company property), and tax parcel 34-40-1 located at 1 Currier Place (Baxter parking lot); and to adopt the proposed development program and tax increment financing plan for the district.

Selectman Walsh moved that the Town vote to find that the provision of public parking in Downtown Hanover is a matter of utmost importance to the prosperity of the Town as a whole, and to vote to establish a development district under RSA 162-K consisting of tax parcel 34-38-1 located at 7 Lebanon Street, known as the Fleet drive-thru, tax parcel 34-39-1 located at 10 East South Street, known as the water company property, and tax parcel 34-40-1 located at 1 Currier Place, known as the Baxter parking lot; and vote to adopt the proposed development program and tax increment financing plan for the district as required by RSA 162-K which was approved by the Board of Selectmen after a public hearing held on April 13, 1998. The motion was seconded by Selectman Connolly.

Selectman Walsh stated that in the previous Article, the Town was enabled to create a tax increment financing district; voting yes on this Article would create that district so that increases in taxes from the district could then be used to meet the deficits for the parking facility, if it is approved.

Moderator Bird asked for questions or discussions on this Article. Hearing none, he re-read the motion of Selectman Walsh. By a voice vote, the audience was in favor of proceeding to vote on Selectman Walsh's motion.

There being no further discussion, a voice vote was taken on Selectman Walsh's motion. The motion **PASSED** and Article Eight was **ADOPTED**.

**ARTICLE NINE:** To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to accept necessary easements and the transfer of a portion of parcel 34-38-1 for the purpose of acquiring the parking structure upon the completion of construction, and to execute leases for a portion of the parking spaces contained in the parking structure.

Selectman Walsh moved that the Town vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to accept the necessary easements and the transfer of a portion of parcel 34-38-1 for the purpose of acquiring the parking structure upon the completion of construction, and to execute leases for a portion of the parking spaces contained in the parking structure. The motion was seconded by Selectman Black.

Selectman Walsh noted that there are a number of land and easement transactions that need to be done to complete the parking facility project. He stated that there will be a public hearing in advance of these so that people have the opportunity to comment on this issue.

Moderator Bird asked for questions or discussions on this Article. Hearing none, he re-read the motion of Selectman Walsh. By a voice vote, the audience was in favor of proceeding to vote on Selectman Walsh's motion.

There being no further discussion, a voice vote was taken on Selectman Walsh's motion. The motion **PASSED** and Article Nine was **ADOPTED**.

**ARTICLE SIX:** To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen to purchase a parking structure in Downtown Hanover, and vote to raise and appropriate \$5,100,000 for that purpose; and further to authorize the Selectmen to borrow such sum under the New Hampshire Municipal Finance Act, RSA 33, by issuance of bonds or notes, and to take all action, including signing all documents, as may be necessary to carry out the purpose of this vote.

Selectman Walsh moved that the Town vote to authorize the Selectmen to purchase a parking structure in Downtown Hanover, and vote to raise and appropriate \$5,100,000 for that purpose; and to vote to authorize the Selectmen to borrow such sum under the New Hampshire Municipal Finance Act, RSA 33, by issuance of bonds or notes, and to take all action, including signing all documents, as may be necessary to carry out the purpose of this vote. The motion was seconded by Selectman Connolly.

Moderator Bird asked for questions or discussions on this Article. Hearing none, he re-read the motion of Selectman Walsh. By a voice vote, the audience was in favor of proceeding to vote on Selectman Walsh's motion.

Moderator Bird reminded the audience that voting on Article Six will be carried out by written ballot, requiring a 2/3 majority to pass.

**RESULTS:            YES 499    NO 61    ARTICLE PASSED**

**ARTICLE TEN:** To choose the following Town Officers to be elected by a majority vote:

One member of the Advisory Board of Assessors for a term of three (3) years;

Three Fence Viewers each for a term of one (1) year;

Two Surveyors of Wood and Timber each for a term of one (1) year;

Such other Officers as the Town may judge necessary for managing its affairs.

Selectman Manchester moved that the following persons be nominated for the following offices:

One member of the Advisory Board of Assessors for a term of three (3) years: Paul F. Young.

Three Fence Viewers and one alternate, each for a term of one (1) year: Frederick E. Croy, Edward C. Lathem, Edward Lobacz, and Robert Morris as alternate.

Two Surveyors of Wood and Timber each for a term of one (1) year: Willem Lange and John Richardson.

Ms. Connolly seconded the motion.

There was no further discussion or nominations from the floor regarding the nominations for Advisory Board of Assessors, Fence Viewers, and Surveyors of Wood and Timber, as shown above. A voice vote was taken on these nominations, and found to be in the affirmative.



**ARTICLE ELEVEN:** To receive reports from the Selectmen, Town Clerk, Treasurer, Collector of Taxes and other Town Officers and to vote on any motion relating to these reports and to receive any special resolutions that may be appropriate and to vote thereon.

Moderator Bird noted that there are a number of special resolutions that will be deferred to the end of the Town Meeting, with the exception of the Parks and Recreation Department Volunteer Service Award.

Sue Young, Chairman of the Hanover Parks and Recreation Board, presented the Volunteer of the Year Award:

"Every year the Hanover Parks and Recreation Board honors an individual from the community who personifies the spirit of volunteerism which is abundant in Hanover. As chairperson of this Board, it is my privilege and honor tonight to present the Hanover Volunteer of the Year Award to John Farnham. John Farnham is one of those unsung heroes who for years quietly goes about working for the children and having a tremendous impact on them. As a youth baseball coach for 8 years, an alpine and ski jumping coach for ten years, and as the Lebanon High School ski jumping coach for five years, John has not only taught the children the skills and strategies for each sport, but he has also instilled in them the values of fair play, hard work, teamwork and sportsmanship. John is a wonderful role model for these young athletes both on and off of the field. He encourages each child to do their very best, to respect their teammates, their opponents, and the officials, and all at the same time emphasizing having a good time rather than winning. He must be doing something right because he coached both of his sons in ski jumping to the Junior Olympics in Michigan this winter, and as many of us know here tonight, it is very difficult to teach your own children or coach your own children in anything. John's peers in the ski jumping world apparently also value his opinions and talents since they elected him Vice-Chairman of the U.S. Ski Association Ski Jumping Committee. John's work with the youth of Hanover, however, does not stop with athletics. John has been a Scout leader with the Boy Scouts of America in Hanover for the past 8 years working through the Cub Scouts and Boy Scouts with both of his sons. In this capacity John has taught the boys, among other things, about honor, duty, leadership and perseverance. He has been recognized by the local organization several times for all of his hard work and commitment to Scouting. I was going to say one more anecdote about John's commitment and dedication to his sport. Usually the recipient of this award, the Volunteer of the Year Award, doesn't know they are going to get it until it is announced at this meeting. Usually they are lured here by a relative on the basis of other reasons. John's baseball team had their very first game tonight, and it came down to either telling John about the award or rearranging a whole baseball schedule. So we ended up telling John. He is going to say he's headed back to the baseball field, but I think the game is already over, John. Congratulations."

Mr. Farnham accepted the Volunteer of the Year Award with appreciation, and stated that it was a pleasure working with the kids.

**Selectman Connolly moved that the reports from the Selectmen, Town Clerk, Treasurer, Collector of Taxes and other Town Officers as printed in the 1997 Town Report be accepted as well as any special resolutions. The motion was seconded by Selectman Black.**

Moderator Bird asked for questions or discussions on this Article. Hearing none, he re-read the motion of Selectman Connolly. By a voice vote, the audience was in favor of proceeding to vote on Selectman Connolly's motion.

There being no further discussion, a voice vote was taken on Selectman Connolly's motion. The motion **PASSED** and Article Eleven was **ADOPTED**.

**ARTICLE TWELVE:** To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate to pay the expenses of the Town for the 1998/99 fiscal year, for the purposes set forth in the Town budget.

Selectman Black moved that the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$10,791,042 to pay the expenses of the Town during the 1998/99 fiscal year, for the purposes set forth in the Town budget. The motion was seconded by Selectman Connolly.

Selectman Black noted that the proposed budget results in an increase in taxes of 2.2%. She wished to congratulate the entire Town staff, particularly the Town Manager, for bringing such a fine budget. Selectman Black noted that for the past four or five years, the increase has been kept under 3% each year, with much credit going to the administration.

Dr. Robert Keene stated that during the past year the Town has seen several glitches in the area of zoning code enforcement relative to various projects and infractions upon zoning. He appreciated the attempt to keep the budget down, but stated he is anxious to understand what measures the Town is taking to assist the Zoning Department and Code Officer to enable them to better enforce the rules, which he feels are not being enforced in a proper and equitable manner.

Selectman Black answered that several things are occurring to address the problem. At the present time, applications are being sought for two full-time positions. When the new Zoning and Code Administrator is hired, he or she will then hire a full-time assistant administrator resulting in a fully staffed office. Selectman Black stated that after the office is fully staffed more people will be added if necessary. She noted that the proposed budget will cover those additions if needed.

Nancy Bean, Chairman of the Hanover Finance Committee, stated that on February 20, 1998, the Hanover Finance Committee voted to support the Town of Hanover Budget for the 1998/99 fiscal year, as adopted by the Board of Selectmen. She also stated that the Hanover Finance Committee supports a further Article for appropriation of funds for CATV.

Moderator Bird asked for questions or discussions on this Article. Hearing none, he re-read the motion of Selectman Black. By a voice vote, the audience was in favor of proceeding to vote on Selectman Black's motion.

There being no further discussion, a voice vote was taken on Selectman Black's motion. The motion **PASSED** and Article Twelve was **ADOPTED**.

**ARTICLE THIRTEEN:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate up to \$80,000 for construction of a bicycle route/pedestrian path from Downtown Hanover to Medical Center Drive and to authorize funding by the withdrawal of this amount from the Capital Improvements Trust Fund.

Selectman Nelson moved that the Town vote to raise and appropriate up to \$80,000 for construction of a bicycle route/pedestrian path from Downtown Hanover to Medical Center Drive and to authorize funding by the withdrawal of this amount from the Capital Improvements Trust Fund. The motion was seconded by Selectman Black.

Mary Anne Rankin, Chairman of the Bike/Recreational Path Committee, discussed Article Thirteen. She stated that many people were not satisfied with last year's proposed bicycle route; when it was determined that the funds could be held over for another year, the Board of Selectmen appointed a committee to look at possible alternatives for a bicycle route. Ms. Rankin indicated that the committee's short term goals were to look at different alternatives, with long term goals to look at possible routes for the future, both for recreation purposes and commuting.

Ms. Rankin stated that the proposed route begins at the Ledyard Bridge, and as part of the work being done on the road there will be a bicycle route put in all the way to the intersection where it meets Main Street. She explained the three possible ways of continuing from Hanover, and noted that the Department of Transportation is working to determine the safest and easiest route. Once the bicycle path reaches the Hanover Food Co-op, it will continue on Route 120 to a point where there are two possible alternatives. One alternative would be to go right at the stop light and continue up Medical Center Drive to the loop road of the hospital; the second alternative would be to continue up Route 120 to where David's House is located, go past the Daycare Center and continue to the Hospital. These alternatives are presented not only as a possible way to reach the Hospital, but also as a regional biking route that would connect with the route proposed by the City of Lebanon.

Bob Norman, a member of the committee, noted that the route will serve people from Lebanon and Norwich as well as Hanover residents. Regarding the estimated cost of \$365,000, Mr. Norman noted that the work to be done would not only include the painting of lines, but depending on the alternative selected, might also include widening of Medical Center Drive as well as moving of guardrails and access to an area near David's House where there is no current road to link up to Medical Center Drive. Mr. Norman stated that safety will be the primary feature of the route, and secondary to safety is the desire to keep the costs down and to be sure the environment is not impacted in a negative way.

Charles Sullivan, also a member of the committee, explained that the \$365,000 is the maximum total cost of the project, with the Town's share being \$80,000, or a 20% match. The total cost is being funded by the ISTEA program, which is a federal program administered through the New Hampshire Department of Transportation. Mr. Sullivan indicated that \$80,000 is a little more than 20% because it includes a 10% contingency. The committee's hope is that the alternative selected will come in under \$365,000, so that \$80,000 is the maximum that the Town would spend.

Hubert Kummel, of 55 Lebanon Street, asked if the green space between the sidewalk and the street on Lebanon Street was going to be removed. Ms. Griffin explained that on most of Lebanon Street from the intersection of Main Street to Sand Hill, the road will not be widened; the line along the road will simply be repainted to make the travelled way slightly narrower to accommodate a wider strip for bicyclists. After Sand Hill and travelling south on Route 120, there is a sufficient right of way to do shoulder widening and, in some cases, guard rail movement to result in more bicycle width without reducing the width of the travelled lane.

Mr. Kummel discussed the dangerous aspects of Lebanon Street, noting that the speed with which the cars travel in conjunction with the pedestrians and bicyclists will create added danger. He also referred to the additional dirt and trash that is created as a result of the extra traffic on the street, and noted that he feels the value of the houses along Lebanon Street has decreased each time more traffic has been added.

Scot Drysdale, a resident of Greensboro Road, stated that the proposed route made sense to him. He agreed with the previous speaker that the Sand Hill area was not especially safe for bikes, but felt that the goal is to make it a safer route. Mr. Drysdale stated that he was on the Bicycle Path Committee, and they had looked at many alternate routes, deciding that Lebanon Street was the flattest, most direct, easiest and safest route between the Hospital and Hanover. He indicated that he strongly supports Article Thirteen.

Dave Bradley spoke in favor of the bicycle path proposal, and suggested that for every bicycle that goes by the previous speaker's house rather than an automobile, the property would become more attractive.

Chris Kennedy, a resident of Lebanon Street, asked for clarification of the amount of work that will be done to the Lebanon Street portion of the proposed route. Ms. Griffin answered that from the Hanover Food Co-op to the top of the hill the only work that will be done is to move the stripe. There is not an adequate right-of-way to widen the pavement, but the Department of Transportation has indicated that they believe they can place a little more pavement along the curb line.

Elizabeth Crory asked if the federal money does not come through, would the \$80,000 be spent for a bicycle route without the ISTEA funds. Ms. Griffin answered that the State has already allocated ISTEA funds to the Town of Hanover, and that the funds only await the Town's approval at this Town Meeting. The Department of Transportation had agreed to give Hanover an extension of time until October 1, 1998 to utilize the funds.

Ms. Crory asked how much of the construction of the path will actually occur in Lebanon, and where the bulk of the money is being spent. Ms. Griffin explained that there is a portion of the path that is being constructed in Lebanon. The Department of Transportation has given Hanover two options that they are exploring for accessing the Hospital from the intersection of Route 120 and Medical Center Drive. One option is to go up the Medical Center Drive and arrive at the North entrance of the Hospital; this option appears to be the least expensive, but does not provide the most direct link to the Lebanon bicycle path project. The Bicycle Path Committee suggested an alternative of continuing down Route 120 South to Mt. Support Road near David's House; this proposal would involve an underpass and would appear to be a more expensive alternative. Ms. Griffin indicated that if the proposal is approved, the Bicycle Path Committee will make a recommendation once the two designs are received by the Department of Transportation. The Selectmen will then hold a public hearing this summer to decide which portion of the path Hanover wishes to commit to.

Mrs. Crowe noted that there are wonderful bicycle paths from the Carter Community Center to Enfield and Canaan, which the path from Mt. Support Road would be very close to. She suggested that future proposals allow the paths to be connected so that bikers are not limited to travelling only in Hanover.

Malcolm Swanson, a Lebanon Street resident, shared the concern that widening Lebanon Street would contribute to much faster traffic and more dangerous conditions. He asked for clarification of the statement that no widening of the road or construction is contemplated from the high school to the top of Sand Hill. Ms. Griffin explained that from the Hanover Food Co-op to the top of Sand Hill, the only work that the Department of Transportation can do is to move the white lines in to allow for a wider bicycle path. Travelling South toward Greensboro Road, there is room to put in more pavement and move some guard rails to allow for wider bicycle paths without having to reduce the width of the travelled way.

Patricia Higgins, a member of the Bicycle Path Committee, stated that one of the constraints that the committee had to work with is the fact that the path has to connect downtown Hanover with the Medical Center, which is located in Lebanon. This issue was built into the proposal that was submitted a few years ago.

Ann Crow asked for clarification of the link-up from the Ledyard Bridge or the Hanover Inn corner to the Hanover Food Co-Op. Ms. Griffin answered that as part of the Ledyard Bridge project, bikeways are included all the way to the Inn corner. At the Inn corner, bicyclists would traverse through downtown to the Co-op. She stated that it is not possible to add additional pavement width or take out parking to allow a bike lane. Signage will direct bicyclists to connect with the official beginning of the bikeway at the Co-op intersection. She added that a portion of the proposal includes good signage.

Chuck Wira asked if there were any plans to build a bike path on North Park Street. Ms. Griffin stated that there are no plans to widen North and Park Streets. She added that there would be the ability between the Town and College on a good portion of the properties on the West side of North and South Park Streets to tuck in some more pavement to allow for a bike path on one side. This is a future task of the Committee to examine as another phase of this project.

Ellis Rolett, a member of the Bicycle Path Committee, stated that the Committee was created by the Town with a three-year lifetime. This proposal is the short-term, one-year project, with an additional two years left to look at other issues. Secondly, he stated that there have been preliminary discussions with Dartmouth College regarding other routes that might be taken along the tennis courts and as part of the Chase Field re-development, to create other routes for bicyclists through town that might not involve Park Street or Lebanon Street.

Moderator Bird asked for questions or discussions on this Article. Hearing none, he re-read the motion of Selectman Nelson. By a voice vote, the audience was in favor of proceeding to vote on Selectman Nelson's motion.

There being no further discussion, a voice vote was taken on Selectman Nelson's motion. The motion **PASSED** and Article Thirteen was **ADOPTED**.

A member of the audience asked if he could call for a paper vote. Moderator Bird answered that a paper vote could have been requested before the question was called. In Town Meeting it is always possible for any five voters to call for a yes or no written ballot on any issue, but it must be done before the vote is called.

On behalf of the Selectmen and the Town of Hanover, Selectman Walsh stated that he would like to publicly thank the Committee for its hard work. He recognized the following members of the Committee: Mary Anne Rankin, Chairman; Bob Norman; Ellis Rolett; Joseph Cravero; Bill Young; Winifred Stearns; Scot Drysdale; Charles Sullivan; Patricia Higgins; Steve Ketcham; Tom Linell; Hugh Mellert and Carol Weingeist.

Before proceeding with the rest of the Articles, Moderator Bird announced that next week Youth-in-Action will begin selling the limited edition of the board game, Hanover-Norwich-opoly. With overwhelming support from the business community, Youth-in-Action is selling these exciting, professionally produced board games to raise funds for their community service programs. Sales will start next week at the Hanover Co-op and at other downtown locations.



**ARTICLE FOURTEEN:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate up to \$40,000 for planning services for completion of a preliminary design for a Community Center and to authorize funding by the withdrawal of this amount from the Land Acquisition and Capital Improvements Trust Fund.

Selectman Black moved that the Town vote to raise and appropriate up to \$40,000 for planning services for completion of a preliminary design for a Community Center and to authorize funding by the withdrawal of this amount from the Land Acquisition and Capital Improvements Trust Fund. The motion was seconded by Selectman Walsh.

Selectman Black indicated that a committee had been formed consisting of and funded by the Hanover, Dresden and Norwich School Districts, the Norwich Selectmen, the Hanover Selectmen and Dartmouth College, to look at the broader global view of the Town's facilities needs. This Article addresses the need of Hanover for a Community Center. Selectman Black noted that 1,500 surveys were sent out, and 1,200 responses were received, which overwhelmingly indicated that Hanover does need some sort of community facility for activities and meetings. She indicated that funds requested in this Article would come from the Capital Projects and Land Acquisition Fund which was established 8 years ago by the Selectmen. Selectman Black explained that when land is put into current use it pays a much lower property tax; when the land is taken out of current use for development, there is a penalty tax. Each year a certain amount of that tax is estimated and placed into the General Fund as revenue. Any overage to that penalty tax for revenue goes into the Capital Projects and Land Acquisition Fund, which consists of approximately \$250,000 currently. Selectman Black noted that \$20,000 is budgeted as revenue in next year's budget.

Selectman Black stated that although there are no plans for a Community Center, there is a community response that one is required. In order to get plans to present at a future Town Meeting, it is necessary to have preliminary drawings. The funds are required so that the Town will be ready to proceed with decisions to be made in the future.

A member of the audience asked if funds could be derived from any other source. He feels this is a good project, but it does not seem appropriate for the funds to come from the Land Acquisition Fund as there will be many land acquisition needs in the future.

Selectman Black answered that the Capital Projects and Land Acquisitions Fund was purposely set up with a dual purpose, both land acquisition and for capital projects. The response from the questionnaires indicated that the new facility should not be built by tax funds.

John Colligan stated that he supports the idea of developing plans for a Community Center. He stated that he shares the concern about the source of funding, and would prefer the funding to be a part of the Public Facilities Study Committee, remembering that the charge given to that committee included looking at municipal facilities. He also agreed that there has not been adequate resources devoted to land acquisition, and that it might be advantageous to consider in addition to Hanover, Norwich and Dartmouth College to include other communities that might be stakeholders in a community center this would also create an opportunity to lower the overall cost to each of the beneficiaries.

Nan King noted that many communities allocate the penalty fund to land acquisition, and she understands that it is within the province of the town to decide what portion of the money is used for land acquisition. She questioned why capital improvement monies have to be taken from this fund.

Selectman Black explained that when the fund was established in 1989 by vote of Town Meeting, it was voted on and approved as a dual fund; one for capital improvements, and one for land acquisition. She noted that when land comes out of current use it generally goes into development, which requires additional needs for capital improvements such as new roads, additional equipment, etc. Selectman Black stated that the fund is growing at a healthy rate, and there will be money for land acquisition.

Cary Clark indicated that he is a member of the committee referred to by Mr. Colligan previously. He stated that the committee is made up of representatives from the Boards of Selectmen of Hanover and Norwich, three school boards, and the College, to consider the limited issue of the location of municipal facilities. It is felt that with the school districts considering facilities improvements, particularly Dresden with respect to a middle school and a high school, and the Howe Library conducting studies with respect to its future needs, and the committee with which he is involved studying where all of these facilities might best be located, it will be necessary to have an understanding of what the space needs of the facilities will be and what activities will occur in them. This in turn would dictate what type of land is appropriate and it would make sense to locate the facilities near each other. Mr. Clark stated that part of the work of his committee would be encumbered if the details of what a community center should consist of for Hanover is not determined. If the study is not funded and permitted to go forward in some detail, including space requirements, activities, parking, land use, etc., the Mr. Clark feels the work of his committee would be handicapped because there will not be enough information as to what the future community center should be and where it might be located.

Regarding voting on Article Six, Moderator Bird declared the polls closed and asked the Town Clerk and Ballot Clerk to count the votes.

Peter Morrison, also a member of the Public Facilities Study Committee, indicated that the committee is looking at a broader picture. With regard to Mr. Colligan's suggestion, Mr. Morrison does not believe the individual entities that contributed to the fund intended it to go to anything other than looking at the broader picture, not for a specific detailed study of the community center. He added that to take more than half of the money designated would have a significant effect on the ability of that committee to accomplish its goals.

Selectman Walsh stated that two Town Meetings ago there was a question on the warrant whether to purchase the Roberts property next to the Senior Center. The Town decided to purchase that property with a view toward improving the community center for senior citizens, and perhaps adding the Rec Department. Last spring, the Community Substance Abuse Advisory Committee sponsored a workshop of parents and students from the middle school and the high school where the question was asked what should be happening in Hanover to minimize drug and alcohol use among kids; the resounding answer was that Hanover needs a community center. Selectman Walsh noted that the Howe Library Trustees are looking at Howe Library needs and in which direction the Library should grow over time to meet the needs of the 21st century and its second 100 years. The thrust behind this funding is to take those four different needs and see if they can come up with a community center that works for all of the people of the Town of Hanover. He stated that he believes the issue is one that merits the support of the Town Meeting. Selectman Walsh indicated that the reason the \$40,000 is to come from the Capital Improvements and Land Acquisition Fund is because \$40,000 would result in an approximately 1% tax increase in the General Fund, and the Board of Selectmen and Town Manager set a goal to bring in a budget which was at or under the rate of inflation.

David Vincelette noted that last fall he noticed someone cutting trees on the Nature Preserve; that person was subsequently discovered to be a former Planning Board member who was removing the trees in order to enhance the view prior to selling his property. He feels that as the individual has stolen something of value from the Town of Hanover, which has been estimated at many thousands of dollars, he should be prosecuted and the monies resulting should be used to fund this Article rather than taking money out of a fund that is to purchase properties. Moderator Bird suggested that the speaker provide the pertinent information to the Board of Selectmen for their research.

An audience member asked where the remaining monies to build the community center were to come from. Selectman Black answered that the results of the survey indicated that the community center should be funded with private donations rather than tax funds, and noted that the Town will look for private funds first.

A member of the audience stated that he does not think it matters where the money comes from; the important thing is what it will do for the children and young adults in Hanover.

Steve Crory asked whether the Roberts property was still being considered as a community center, and stated his understanding that \$18,000 has already been spent on this research. Ms. Griffin answered that the Roberts property on Lebanon Street may be ideal for the Senior Center, but that it is much too small to house a full community center to meet the needs of everyone in Hanover. She stated that to date the Town has spent \$6,700 for the services of a survey consultant who assisted in putting the survey together, sent it out, compiled the results and has provided the Town with a report.

Moderator Bird asked for questions or discussions on this Article. Hearing none, he re-read the motion of Selectman Black. By a voice vote, the audience was in favor of proceeding to vote on Selectman Black's motion.

There being no further discussion, a voice vote was taken on Selectman Black's motion. The motion **PASSED** and Article Fourteen was **ADOPTED**.

Moderator Bird stated that before moving on to the next article, he wished to note that on May 23, 1998 it will be his privilege to present to Lilla Bradley the Granite State Award of the University of New Hampshire to recognize outstanding public service for a citizen of New Hampshire.

**ARTICLE FIFTEEN:** To see if the Town will vote to authorize execution of a long-term lease for the period from November 17, 1998 through November 16, 2007 for 1.37 acres of land owned by the Town of Hanover and which is part of the closed landfill site off Medical Center Drive, with Resource Optimization Technologies (ROT) for operation of a composting facility, including a lease payment to the Town of Hanover in the amount of \$1.00 per year.

Selectman Black moved that the Town vote to authorize execution of a long-term lease for the period from November 17, 1998 through November 16, 2007 for 1.37 acres of land owned by the Town of Hanover and which is part of the closed landfill site off Medical Center Drive, with Resource Optimization Technologies (ROT) for operation of a composting facility, including a lease payment to the Town of Hanover in the amount of \$1.00 per year. The motion was seconded by Selectman Walsh.

Selectman Black explained that the plot could be leased annually to ROT without going through Town Meeting, but in order to get a 10 year lease it is required to be brought to Town Meeting. She noted that the Town has signed an agreement with Dartmouth College and Casella Waste Management to form ROT to build a composting facility. ROT will compost Hanover's biosolids from the waste water treatment plant, as well as yard waste from the Town of Hanover and Dartmouth College and pre-plate waste from Thayer Dining Hall. It will be a demonstration facility and will serve as a prototype for other communities in the State, but a 10 year lease is required to get it up and running. Selectman Black stated that the equipment should be arriving within a week and the facility should be in operation within a month.

An audience member asked if the items to be composted go through a separate composting process. Selectman Black answered that there will be two identical bins running, one for sludge and one for everything else.

Anne Morris asked if there are hazardous materials in the closed landfill, and how well the landfill was closed. Selectman Black stated that the landfill had received all necessary approvals from the State for closure, and was being monitored. Ms. Griffin added that the landfill has approximately 50 ft. of fill on top. She stated that the Town went through a year and a half long process to receive approval from the Department of Environmental Services to place the composting facility on the periphery of the landfill. The landfill continues to be monitored, and no negative results have been received from the monitoring tests.

Nan King asked if the end product resulting from the compost facility will be available to the townspeople. Selectman Black answered that it would depend on how much of the final product is created; some of it will be used on playing fields and Town properties, and Dartmouth College will use some on their lawns and gardens. She noted that if there is some remaining, she thinks it will be made available to the public.

Bob Norman stated he was delighted to hear that the composting facility will be a demonstration project, but voiced his concern about the use of sludge as a fertilizer because of the possibility that it might contain heavy metals. He asked if this project could assure the Town that it would be getting rid of this type of material. Ms. Black explained that before the sludge can be composted it will be tested for every type of metal imaginable, and that everything above the allowable limits will not be composted but will be disposed of in landfills.

Moderator Bird asked for questions or discussions on this Article. Hearing none, he re-read the motion of Selectman Black. By a voice vote, the audience was in favor of proceeding to vote on Selectman Black's motion.

There being no further discussion, a voice vote was taken on Selectman Black's motion. The motion **PASSED** and Article Fifteen was **ADOPTED**.

**ARTICLE 16.** To see if the Town will vote to authorize the purchase of 2.0 acres of land currently owned by the State of New Hampshire located at the southeast corner of Route 120 and Greensboro Road (tax map 25, parcel 31) for the sum of \$800. Funds are currently available for purchase in the Proposed FY 1998/99 operating budget. This parcel adjoins the Town-owned parcel upon which the Public Works Department is located.

Selectman Manchester moved that the Town vote to authorize the purchase of 2.0 acres of land currently owned by the State of New Hampshire located at the southeast corner of Route 120 and Greensboro Road (tax map 25, parcel 31) for the sum of \$800. Funds are currently available for purchase in the Proposed FY 1998/99 operating budget. This parcel adjoins the Town-owned parcel upon which the Public Works Department is located. The motion was seconded by Selectman Black.

Selectman Manchester explained that the parcel of land was offered to Hanover by the State of New Hampshire early last summer, and the Town feels that the acquisition of this land would give the Town flexibility as far as the Public Works Department is concerned with regard to future expansion. In addition, it would be beneficial for noise pollution and any other type of pollution that might be generated from the Public Works Department, or in connection with the location of the intersection of Route 120 and Greensboro Road.

Moderator Bird asked for questions or discussions on this Article. Hearing none, he re-read the motion of Selectman Manchester. By a voice vote, the audience was in favor of proceeding to vote on Selectman Manchester's motion.

There being no further discussion, a voice vote was taken on Selectman Manchester's motion. The motion **PASSED** and Article Sixteen was **ADOPTED**.

**ARTICLE SEVENTEEN:** To see if the Town will vote to change the filing deadline for Elderly Exemption applications from March 1 to August 1 prior to setting the tax rate, as allowed by State law. The change is intended to be effective April 1, 1999. (ballot vote required)

Selectman Black moved that the Town vote to change the filing deadline for Elderly Exemption applications from March 1 to August 1 prior to setting the tax rate, as allowed by State law. The change is intended to be effective April 1, 1999. The motion was seconded by Selectman Walsh.

Selectman Black explained that this Article is for the purpose of making Hanover's ordinances and laws follow State law.

Moderator Bird stated that this Article requires a written ballot.

Bernie Waugh asked for more explanation from the Selectmen as to why they wish this change to occur. He stated that current law states that elderly people who might be subject to an exemption can now apply for it at the time they get their tax bill. If this Article is voted and approved, it is possible that the elderly people might get their tax bill, try to apply for the exemption, and be told that they had to apply the previous August. Mr. Waugh stated that this Article is not in favor of the elderly getting the exemption to which they are entitled.

Ms. Griffin asked for clarification from Mr. Waugh. Mr. Waugh stated that he works for the Municipal Association and is involved in legislation of this type. He noted that two to three years ago all of the tax exemptions and credits applications were moved forward to the March after the tax rate is set; for example, for the tax year beginning April 1, 1998, a person would have until March, 1999 to apply for any exemptions or credits for that year. This option of moving the date back to August as set forth in this Article was initiated by the City of Nashua.



Moderator Bird stated that after a conference with Town Manager Griffin, she informed him that the matter is not urgent. Moderator Bird recommended that a motion be made to indefinitely postpone discussion of this Article.

**Bernard Waugh moved to indefinitely postpone discussion and voting on Article Seventeen. The motion was seconded from the floor.**

Moderator Bird asked for questions or discussions on this Article. Hearing none, he re-read the motion of Mr. Waugh. By a voice vote, the audience was in favor of proceeding to vote on Mr. Waugh's motion.

There being no further discussion, a voice vote was taken on Mr. Waugh's motion. The motion **PASSED** and voting and discussion of Article Seventeen was **INDEFINITELY POSTPONED**.

**ARTICLE EIGHTEEN:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate and authorize payment into the Capital Reserve Funds in the following amounts for the purpose for which such funds were established:

Police	\$ 40,000
Howe Library	\$ 10,000
Public Works	\$135,000
Fire Fund	\$ 70,000
Sidewalk Fund	\$ 59,000
Wastewater Treatment Plant Fund	\$100,000
Ambulance Fund	\$ 16,000
Parking Fund	\$ 12,700

Selectman Connolly moved that the Town vote to raise and appropriate and authorize payment into the Capital Reserve Funds in the following amounts for the purpose for which such funds were established:

Police	\$ 40,000
Howe Library	\$ 10,000
Public Works	\$135,000
Fire Fund	\$ 70,000
Sidewalk Fund	\$ 59,000
Wastewater Treatment Plant Fund	\$100,000
Ambulance Fund	\$ 16,000
Parking Fund	\$ 12,700

**The motion was seconded by Selectman Walsh.**

Selectman Connolly stated that this is the portion of the Town Meeting where money is put into all of the funds to prevent tax problems in subsequent years when capital purchases are required.

Moderator Bird asked for questions or discussions on this Article. Hearing none, he re-read the motion of Selectman Connolly. By a voice vote, the audience was in favor of proceeding to vote on Selectman Connolly's motion.

There being no further discussion, a voice vote was taken on Selectman Connolly's motion. The motion **PASSED** and Article Eighteen was **ADOPTED**.

**ARTICLE NINETEEN:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$280,500 for the purposes listed below, and to authorize funding these items by withdrawal from the listed capital reserve funds and to designate the Board of Selectmen as agents of the Town to expend such funds for the purposes for which such funds were established, in the following amounts as set forth in the Town Report:

Public Works	\$138,500
Sidewalk	\$ 60,000
Wastewater Treatment Plant	\$82,000

Ms. Connolly moved that the Town vote to raise and appropriate \$280,500 for the purposes listed below, and to authorize funding these items by withdrawal from the listed capital reserve funds and to designate the Board of Selectmen as agents of the Town to expend such funds for the purposes for which such funds were established, in the following amounts as set forth in the Town Report:

Public Works	\$138,500
Sidewalk	\$ 60,000
Wastewater Treatment Plant	\$ 82,000

The motion was seconded by Selectman Black.

Selectman Connolly explained that the capital reserve for the Public Works Department includes the purchase of two trucks for \$58,000 each, a smaller truck for \$16,000, a compactor for \$3,500 and a leaf vacuum for \$3,000. The Sidewalk Capital Reserve Fund needs a sidewalk plow and machine; the Waste Water Treatment Plant Capital Reserve Funds need to commit about \$65,000 to purchase standby power for three pump stations, \$15,000 to replace a router for fine cleaning, and \$2,000 to replace a compactor.

Moderator Bird asked for questions or discussions on this Article. Hearing none, he re-read the motion of Selectman Connolly. By a voice vote, the audience was in favor of proceeding to vote on Selectman Connolly's motion.

There being no further discussion, a voice vote was taken on Selectman Connolly's motion. The motion **PASSED** and Article Nineteen was **ADOPTED**.

**ARTICLE TWENTY:** To see if the Town will vote to discontinue three vehicle reserve funds, including interest accrued through June 30, 1998 (the Code Vehicle Reserve Fund with \$13,743, the Recreation Vehicle Reserve Fund with \$1,562, and the Town Government Vehicle Reserve Fund with \$13,642) established for replacement of vehicles in three departments which no longer provide vehicles to Town staff.

Selectman Nelson moved that the Town vote to discontinue three vehicle reserve funds, including interest accrued through June 30, 1998 (the Code Vehicle Reserve Fund with \$13,743, the Recreation Vehicle Reserve Fund with \$1,562, and the Town Government Vehicle Reserve Fund with \$13,642) established for replacement of vehicles in three departments which no longer provide vehicles to Town staff. The motion was seconded by Selectman Black.

Selectman Nelson explained that funds exist in these three vehicle reserves which are no longer needed for vehicular purposes. As such, the Selectmen are recommending the discontinuation of these funds, the available monies to revert to fund balance to be used to offset taxes or other expenditures as determined by the Board of Selectmen.

Moderator Bird asked for questions or discussions on this Article. Hearing none, he re-read the motion of Selectman Nelson. By a voice vote, the audience was in favor of proceeding to vote on Selectman Nelson's motion.

There being no further discussion, a voice vote was taken on Selectman Nelson's motion. The motion **PASSED** and Article Twenty was **ADOPTED**.

**ARTICLE TWENTY-ONE:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$5,000 to support the services provided by CATV 6. These funds will be utilized as a partial match for a \$25,000 funding grant awarded to CATV 6 by a private foundation.

**Selectmen Walsh moved that the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$5,000 to support the services provided by CATV 6. These funds will be utilized as a partial match for a \$25,000 funding grant awarded to CATV 6 by a private foundation. The motion was seconded by Selectman Black.**

Selectman Walsh stated that CATV 6 is the Town's local cable access television station. It has received a grant of \$25,000, which requires that CATV 6 raise matching funds. Selectman Walsh explained that CATV 6 has been raising funds through a number of means, including a television auction, private donations, etc., and have asked the Town to contribute \$5,000. He stated that CATV 6 has become an important means for the Town's citizens to remain informed about Town government and local activities, and has played a special role in home access to Town government in the televising of School Board meetings and Selectmen's meetings. Selectman Walsh stated that the Board of Selectman unanimously support this Article.

Moderator Bird asked for questions or discussions on this Article. Hearing none, he re-read the motion of Selectman Walsh. By a voice vote, the audience was in favor of proceeding to vote on Selectman Walsh's motion.

There being no further discussion, a voice vote was taken on Selectman Walsh's motion. The motion **PASSED** and Article Twenty-One was **ADOPTED**.

**ARTICLE TWENTY-TWO:** (Article by Petition) To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$1,000 to be used by Hanover-Joigny Exchange, Inc. in the furtherance of cultural, student, and adult exchanges between the Town of Hanover and its sister city, Joigny, France.

**Selectman Manchester moved that the Town vote to raise and appropriate \$1,000 to be used by Hanover-Joigny Exchange, Inc. in the furtherance of cultural, student, and adult exchanges between the Town of Hanover and its sister city, Joigny, France. The motion was seconded by Selectman Walsh.**

Selectman Manchester noted that this Article was put on the Warrant by petition.

Petey Birnie, Vice-President of the Hanover-Joigny Exchange, explained the exchange program and why they are requesting funding. The Hanover-Joigny Exchange, Inc. is a small, not-for-profit corporation dedicated to the promotion of international friendship and cultural awareness through a low-cost, home-stay exchange program with the town of Joigny, France, which is located in Province of Burgandy. She explained that the program was initiated in 1991 for the purpose of exchanges between high school students. The students lived with families as a family member, paying their air fare but with all other expenses paid. Subsequently, Joigny indicated their interest in making this link formal by becoming a sister city to Hanover. The Board of Selectmen were approached, and expressed their enthusiasm.

She added that in the fall of 1993 a small group of people from Joigny came to Hanover to spend a week living with families. The following year a small group of people, including three of the then Selectmen, went to France. Since that time, the scope of the project has increased, continuing to run a two week high school student trip on an annual basis, but also including house exchanges. Five Hanover High School students have spent an entire semester in Joigny living with families, attending high school, and receiving credit for their schoolwork there. The goal of the Exchange is to continue to increase the scope of the program.

Regarding the request for funding, it was explained that the Town made a commitment to the program by becoming an official sister city in 1993. She feels it is appropriate that the Town supplement the fundraising efforts in order to fulfill this commitment. An immediate project is to produce a color brochure to increase public awareness of the program; there are funds needed for publication of newsletters and there is a significant cost of administering the program.

Nan King stated she was in favor of exchanges, but wondered what the difference is between this program and Experiments in International Living. She does not feel that exchanges should be limited to one community, and thinks there are other organizations that are doing the same type of thing as the Hanover-Joigny Exchange. Rather than supporting this organization, she wonders if the Town should instead support a broader organization for people who might like to become familiar with other countries.

The representative from the Hanover-Joigny Exchange noted that the Selectmen made Joigny an official sister city of Hanover, so she feels it does have a somewhat different status than other organizations. She added that the Hanover-Joigny Exchange did not wish to preclude exchanges anywhere else in the world, but by the Selectmen going to Joigny and signing the charter, the stamp of approval has been put on this particular exchange.

Moderator Bird asked for questions or discussions on this Article. Hearing none, he re-read the motion of Selectman Manchester. By a voice vote, the audience was in favor of proceeding to vote on Selectman Manchester's motion.

There being no further discussion, a voice vote was taken on Selectman Manchester's motion. The motion **PASSED** and Article Twenty-Two was **ADOPTED**.

**ARTICLE TWENTY-THREE:** Are you in favor of the recently enacted "user fee" system for the use of the White Mountain National Forest? (non-binding poll)

Selectman Black explained that letters had been received from the towns of Stark and Nelson asking Hanover to put this item on the ballot as simply an advisory matter. Both towns are located in the White Mountain National Forest Area. White Mountain National Forest is primarily in Coos County, and it is the park that has the most people visiting it in the United States. Selectman Black noted that the National Park Service has instituted a \$20 parking fee for users of the forest, and this has affected the Towns in that area. The results of the vote at this meeting will be sent to the Towns of Nelson and Stark.

Representative Copenhaver stated that the question should be why the delegation votes to cut funds to the National Forest Service which necessitates the institution of a fee for parking.

Bob Norman suggested that as long as the Forest Service engages in road building that costs the taxpayers money, and engages in low cost timber sales, they should not be asking people to pay a parking fee when they are wasting money doing things the public does not want them to do.

Selectman Walsh asked Moderator Bird to explain what a yes vote and a no vote mean. Moderator Bird stated that a yes vote is a vote in favor of the recently enacted user fee; a no vote is a vote not in favor of the recently enacted user fee.

Moderator Bird asked for questions or discussions on this Article. Hearing none, he re-read the wording of the Article. By a voice vote, the audience was in favor of proceeding to vote on Article Twenty-Three.

There being no further discussion, a vote by a show of hands was taken on Article Twenty-Three, indicating that the audience was not in favor of the recently enacted user fee.

**ARTICLE TWENTY-FOUR:** To transact any other business that may legally be brought before this Town Meeting.

Moderator Bird stated that there was a series of resolutions of thanks to be presented to retiring Town employees and commission members.

The Moderator introduced Selectman Connolly for the reading of the following resolution:

**Resolution for William Fischel**

"William Fischel was born and lived in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania. He received his Undergraduate Degree from Amherst College and a Ph.D. in Economics from Princeton University. As an Assistant Professor of Economics at Dartmouth College, Bill and his wife Janice moved to Hanover in 1973. Bill's area of expertise is the economics of Land Use, a perfect body of knowledge for service on one of the Town's active Land Use Boards. As the author of "Economics of Zoning Laws" and "Regulatory Takings" Bill came to the Zoning Board of Adjustment in 1988 and has served since that time on the ZBA including the last four years as chairman.



Bill is a perfect example of the Hanover citizen who is willing to donate his time and knowledge freely for the benefit of his fellow townspeople. As anyone who has ever attended a Zoning Board meeting can attest, to keep the hearings on the level of fairness required of our litigious society, the Chairman requires a knowledge of zoning coupled to a saintly patience, in Bill we are blessed with both. Thank you Bill for unselfishly performing a difficult task for so long and sharing with us your knowledge of Land Use.

This Resolution will serve a double duty. Janice Fischel has served on the Planning Board for the past six years and has been a major contributor to the Master Plan as well as an active and innovative participant in the cases before the Board. Thank you Janice for your service and thank you both for your generosity to the people of Hanover."

The Moderator introduced Selectman Manchester for the reading of the following resolution:

**Resolution for Mary Soderberg**

"Mary Soderberg retired as Circulation Supervisor at Howe Library last December, but she'll still be accepting your fine money Wednesday mornings. After 22 years on the library staff, Mary decided this year to step down from the demanding job of managing the Circulation Department. Fortunately for everyone who can't imagine Howe without Mary, she'll continue to flash her bright smile across the desk for a few hours each week.

Mary is known for her extensive knowledge of books, her wit, her ability to communicate with the mobs of preschoolers who do library business on her watch, and her commitment to the highest standards of public service. Under Mary's leadership, circulation staff were encouraged to convey a calm and helpful demeanor no matter how chaotic the situation. Her favorite reminder was Willem Lange's observation that librarians are like ducks - appearing serene on the surface, but paddling like crazy underneath.

Mary's first career as a nursery school teacher worked to the staff's advantage. She applied the qualities of patience, humor, and attention to basics that are so effective with young children in her training of grownups. Her "students" - everyone who has worked at the Circulation Desk in recent years - will carry her lessons with them always.

Thank you, Mary, for your many years of exemplary service to the Town of Hanover. It's reassuring to know that your quilting projects, grandparent responsibilities, and community activities won't completely overshadow your ongoing dedication to Howe Library."

The Moderator introduced Selectman Nelson for the reading of the following resolution:

**Resolution for Roger H. Barnes**

"In May, 1971, Roger Barnes began working for the Hanover Fire Department.

Roger was a student in one of the first classes of Emergency Medical Technicians to be held in the State of New Hampshire. For the next twenty-six years, Roger Barnes would attend classes and training sessions to hone his skills in firefighting and emergency medicine. He was dedicated to providing the highest level of care and service he possibly could. Roger's ability to refurbish a rusted or broken piece of equipment will always be remembered.

Roger was known as "Jake" which in firefighting jargon means he was a very good firefighter - dedicated and always there in a time of need.

Roger, thank you for twenty-six plus years of service to the Town of Hanover."

The Moderator introduced Selectman Walsh for the reading of the following resolution:

**Resolution for Darryl A. "Zippy" Zampieri**

"Darryl A. Zampieri retired from full time police duty on June 27, 1997, after serving 22 years, the last 8 of which were here in Hanover. Darryl, or "Zippy" as he is more commonly known, started as a patrol officer in Tilton, New Hampshire. There for only a year, he moved on to Holderness where he worked his way up through the ranks to become their Police Chief. Eventually tired of being Chief and longing for the road, Zippy came to Hanover in 1989.

Zippy was our people person. He always had a smile on his face and embodied the concept of community policing long before it became today's watchword. Never confrontational, he nonetheless commanded the respect due a police officer by treating people with the utmost dignity, no matter how nasty or rude they may have been towards him.

Zippy was the kind of officer who could always be counted on to check every downtown business door during the midnight shift. Zippy was also the one you could count on for a restaurant review anywhere on the East Coast, and for that matter, any area he had traveled to.

So, anytime you are looking for a good place to eat or need a good officer for a traffic detail, just call Zippy. He may be gone from our full time roles, but he has not been forgotten. As long as there is a meal to be eaten or construction in Hanover, Zippy will be there to direct you. And when you are finished, you may hear him say to you, "Catch'ya later".

The Moderator introduced Selectman Black for the reading of the following three resolutions:

**Resolution for Jean Ulman**

"Are you your brother's keeper? This question has been asked of many of us, but it is the rare individual who rises forth, and is indeed our brother's and sister's keeper. Jean Ulman was one such person. At the time of her retirement this year, Jean had served in many capacities in Town, but to the residents of the Summer Street Housing Complex, and to our Town employees, Jean was not only the Town's Human Resources Director, but mother confessor, friend, and listening parent.

Jean started out as the secretary in the Town Manager's office, quickly moved into an administrative assistant's position, to Human Resources Director, becoming acting Town Manager for the months between the tenures of Cliff Vermilya and Julia Griffin. The Town Manager's right hand man, Jean was always available with a compassionate listening ear, and no problem was too small for her. She handled each and every task with grace and understanding. She worked with a sense of fairness, and explored all sides of an issue before making her decisions. As a selectman, I knew that Jean would be there, and would respond quickly to any of my questions or requests.

Much was asked of Jean, and she responded to each new task with competence and dedication. From putting together the Town Report, to cooking a Thanksgiving feast at the Senior Center, Jean was Johnny on the spot, always available and ready to pitch in. Keeping a Town moving smoothly in transition periods is no easy task, but Jean was up to the challenge.

We thank her for her guidance, for her compassion, and for being there when we needed her. May her Vermont life not pose as many daily problems for her, may she rest with the knowledge that her years of service set the tone for a kinder, gentler Hanover. Thank you Jean, for everything."

#### **Resolution for Don Elder**

"After twenty-eight years of employment in the Town of Hanover, how does one describe a person who has become a legend? Stating that he leaves big shoes to fill would not relate to the size of his feet but to the job he has done for the Town over the almost three decades of employment. Don Elder retired last week from being the superintendent of the Wastewater Treatment Plant in Hanover.

During his tenure he witnessed many changes for the treatment of wastewater, and watched the construction of the secondary treatment plant with interest. Little did he know, that shortly after the new plant came on line, he would advance to become the head honcho, and be in charge of the shake down and starting operations of the plant. He had to deal with strange metals appearing, even metals with names that were unpronounceable, with infiltrations in the system, and even with ducks swimming in the digesters!

Don kept the plant squeaky clean, hosted a luncheon for the local Rotary Club, and happily led tours for school groups and others, to see the plant in operation. The Garden Club greenhouse, which is attached to the sunny side of the plant, is a testimony to his willingness to accommodate the needs of the Town.

Even though he is leaving the wastewater treatment plant, we are happy to report that he is taking his sludge with him, as he begins new employment as the operator of ROT, the new Town and College composting facility. Thanks Don for your many years of service to Hanover, and we're glad you will still be with us in your new capacity."

#### **Resolution for Richard Hauger**

"Historians have long proclaimed the fame and wonders of King Richard and much prose and poetry have been penned about the monarch. Tonight I continue the litany of praise for him, but I speak not of ancient kings, but of Hanover's own King Richard, Richard Hauger.

Twenty-eight years to the day, Richard retired this January as Hanover's Public Works Director. He came to us, a young man, with inter-state highway engineering and construction on his resume, and over the years he molded, shaped, and developed a public works crew and facility that is a model for all communities. His Yankee ingenuity and Puritan work ethic served him well, as he witnessed changes in technology, governmental mandates, and environmental regulations that would have had a lesser man babbling incoherently.

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The King grew with the job, but first and foremost in any decision he made was his commitment to the citizens of Hanover. His was a service job, and service to the residents was his mission. No call went unanswered, and no request was too small. Richard understood that molehills could quickly become mountains if action wasn't taken.

A man with a ready smile and a man with knowledge and a love for his job and his community, Richard Hauger was indeed, King Richard. In honor of his service to our Town, the new public works facility has been named the Richard Hauger Public Works Facility. Stop by the palace and witness his legacy to the Town. Thank you Richard for your twenty-eight years with us."

Hearing no other business, the Moderator stated he would entertain a motion to permanently dissolve this meeting. The motion was made and seconded. The motion carried and the meeting was dissolved at 10:06 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Dianne Quill".

Dianne Quill, Town Clerk

Taken and Transcribed by:

Nancy A. Richards