

**TOWN COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**  
**Wednesday, March 11, 2015**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Sullivan called the meeting to order at 6:33 pm.

**ROLL CALL – ATTENDANCE**

Donald Winterton, Nancy Comai, Todd Lizotte, James Levesque, Adam Jennings, Robert Duhaime (arrived at 6:41 pm), Susan Orr (arrived at 6:40 pm), Chairman James Sullivan,  
Missed: David Ross, Dr. Dean E. Shankle, Jr. (Town Administrator) - travel

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

J. Sullivan: We have been advised that we may have some video difficulties. We apologize for that and hope it is working tonight.

**SPECIAL RECOGNITIONS**

- a. Hooksett Youth Achiever of the Month

T. Lizotte: This month's recipient is Takoda Mandeville. He is part of the Boy Scouts and is with Troop 104 at St. Catherine's Church in Manchester. Takoda's father nominated him and talked about his achievements as a Boy Scout. He is also a student at Cawley Middle School. One of the things he has accomplished is receiving his merit badge in swimming. He is a good example of someone who perseveres and achieves great things.

*Presentation of certificate and pin*

T. Lizotte: The medallion has the town seal and as Dr. Shankle has previously pointed out, the town seal has a representation of a brick factory which represents how industrious our town is; there is a tower up above looking out which represents the youth of the town looking to the future and hopefully doing good things; the Town Hall which represents our government; and the stream which represents commerce and communication and the fact that we continue to do great things in Hooksett. Congratulations to Takoda on being chosen.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

- a. Public: February 20, 2015

***T. Lizotte motioned to accept the public minutes of February 20, 2015. Seconded by N. Comai. Vote unanimously in favor; A. Jennings abstained due to prior absence.***

- b. Public: February 25, 2015

***N. Comai motioned to accept the public minutes of February 25, 2015. Seconded by J. Levesque. Vote unanimously in favor; T. Lizotte and D. Winterton abstained due to prior absence.***

- c. Non-public: February 20, 2015

***D. Winterton motioned to accept the non-public minutes of February 20, 2015. Seconded by T. Lizotte. Vote unanimously in favor; S. Orr and A. Jennings abstained due to prior absence.***

**AGENDA OVERVIEW**

Chair Sullivan provided an overview of tonight's agenda.

**PUBLIC HEARINGS**

None

**CONSENT AGENDA**

- a. Donation of \$500 from HealthTrust to the Hooksett Fire-Rescue Dept. to support staff in workplace health and safety

***T. Lizotte motioned to accept the consent agenda as written. Seconded by D. Winterton. Vote unanimously in favor.***

**TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT**

J. Sullivan: Dr. Shankle is in Jordan so Christine Soucie, our Finance Director, is filling in for him.

C. Soucie: Unfortunately, I currently do not have the report to provide to you tonight.

**PUBLIC INPUT: 15 Minutes**

Marc Miville, 42 Main St: On the agenda is the Town Council is here to deliberate and vote on the operating budget. I just want to be sure everyone is aware that the Budget Committee has already recommended it, and we are in the process of signing the budgets. I'm not sure if we need to have another meeting subsequent to your deliberations tonight. We have already finished everything we are doing.

C. Soucie: We need to add Council's recommendations to the operating budget. The Budget Committee voted last Thursday to change the operating budget, and now we need the tally. In the past we have not had Council's recommended tally on the operating budget. Per DRA and the town attorney, if we are going to put recommendations they have to have both Town Council and Budget Committee recommendations on each of the money articles.

J. Sullivan: So when we went through the budgets before and approved the bottom line we missed a step?

C. Soucie: Not really because the number that is on the operating budget came from the Budget Committee and it was finalized last Thursday. This is first opportunity you have had to vote on what is going to be on the warrant regarding the operating budget.

M. Miville: The Budget Committee voted to put back in the \$18,686 that Council previously removed from the Sewer insurance line.

J. Sullivan: The number is different than what we recommended, so we are obligated to have a new vote with a tally?

C. Soucie: That is correct.

N. Comai: If the number has changed, then do we have to approve that number first before we recommend the budget and then it has to go back to the Budget Committee to approve or not?

M. Miville: Budget Committee was well in advance of the school and the Town Council work.

C. Soucie: No deliberation is needed. The number is what the Budget Committee proposed and what is going on the ballot. Council only needs to vote to recommend or not.

N. Comai: It's Council's budget, and it went to the Budget Committee for review. They decided to put \$18,000 back in and it is no longer the same number so it needs to come back to us to vote on, right?

C. Soucie: You are just recommending.

J. Sullivan: The number on the ballot is the Budget Committee number. If there is a change, we are still required per DRA to make a recommendation on the Budget Committee number appearing on the ballot.

M. Miville: The Finance Director says you do not have another opportunity to review it again.

N. Comai: We have done the correct steps then.

J. Sullivan: Now we go to the first session and there is an amendment from the floor to increase or decrease again then at that point both the Budget Committee and the Council would be obligated to make another recommendation on that number.

R. Duhaime: I thought he was going to sell us on why the change to add that amount back in the budget.

J. Sullivan: If you have that question when we get to that point in the agenda, we can ask if Council would allow comments from the audience.

### **NOMINATIONS AND APPOINTMENTS**

None

### **SCHEDULED APPOINTMENTS**

J. Sullivan: Even though the Sewer Commission is not here tonight, I would like to read a letter we received from them. *(Read letter into record.)*

***D. Winterton motioned to accept the Sewer Commission letter and place on file. Seconded by T. Lizotte.***

***Vote unanimously in favor.***

D. Winterton: May I give a Budget Committee report under the Subcommittee Reports? I think that's the appropriate place to do it.

N. Comai: That would be after the vote though.

J. Sullivan: Old Business is next which includes the budget, and the agenda item was prompted by a vote from the Budget Committee. If we want the Budget Committee Chair to participate in this discussion, we need a motion to allow someone from the public to participate.

***D. Winterton motioned to invite the Budget Committee Chair to participate in the discussion. Seconded by S. Orr.***

***Vote unanimously in favor.***

### **OLD BUSINESS**

- a. 14-101 Budgets (operating and default) & Warrants – vote on operating budget, sign default budget and sign various warrants

D. Winterton: Can I speak to my motion? I feel it is my responsibility as Town Council rep to the Budget Committee to give a report to you, not the Budget Committee Chairman.

J. Sullivan: Please proceed.

D. Winterton: Town Council voted to remove \$18,000+ from the Sewer Commission salary/insurance line. There was some discussion as to whether or not we had the authority to do that. The Budget Committee originally agreed. At the final discussion last Thursday, there was a motion made to put \$18,686 back in, and it passed. One of my concerns is I would like to get the town attorney to give us a thorough, definite answer if Town Council has any control over the Sewer budget or if the Budget Committee has any control over the Sewer budget and if the Sewer Commission employees are employees of the Sewer Commission or employees of the town. In reference to the letter that was just placed on file, if they are employees of the town and if this occupation is so hazardous, should the town even offer them insurance? If that statement is true, they are affecting the rates of every other employee in this town. I'd ask the acting Town Administrator to get legal advice on these questions. We all do a lot of volunteering in this town. I sat through two 45-minute presentations on the Sewer Commission, and honestly, I have better things to do than listen to things I have no control over. The transparency doesn't matter.

T. Lizotte: I think we should hold off until Dr. Shankle gets back; I don't think it's that pressing.

***D. Winterton motioned to direct the Town Administrator (on a non-emergency basis) to answer the questions above. Seconded by T. Lizotte.***

R. Duhaime: Compensation is variable, but we pay the bill on health insurance. It isn't their negotiation. Health insurance is negotiated by us and what the town pays isn't up to them, so I believe we do have a right to raise or lower and decide what we are going to do with their health insurance. If they want to compensate them elsewhere, that is strictly up to them.

N. Comai: I agree the approach may not have been kosher, but I do believe that those employees are a high risk and they are in the town pool. If they are not paying for their portion and the Commission wants to kick in that \$18,000 to pay it for them, how it gets to the bottom line I don't really care. If they are in our

pool, it still affects our pool and we need to keep addressing it with the Commission. We are not asking them to change anything they are doing other than be fair amongst all town employees.

T. Lizotte: Since budgets are set and are on the warrant, there are a few things we could bring up. One of them is that a few years back with the sewer disks, the town was liable for the outcome of that. We need to talk about general liability. On the insurance side, I'd think some type of catastrophic package above the normal coverage could be offered that would take effect if there was an incident. If you throw it on their budget, it still hurts the taxpayers that are on the sewer system. Just something to think about going forward to find a happy medium.

D. Winterton: There is debate whether they are town employees. Sewer Commission claims they are Sewer Commission employees and I would just like a legal clarification on that. In terms of supplemental coverage, I think those are OSHA kinds of things. Once we know whose employees they are, we can go forward. Under the operation as it is today, we can't tell them what to charge or what contributions people have to make because they run autonomously. The only thing they can do is raise rates if they want to charge for insurance contributions. Most of my district is not on sewer although we are on the hook if it goes really bad.

S. Orr: I think we are having a conversation we can't have right now. It's a legal matter – you can't be a town employee about some things and not others. I don't think anybody here has the legal background to make that determination. This is a great conversation after we find out what the legal ramifications are. Once we know then we can determine whether or not they are town employees and then decisions can be made.

J. Sullivan: Somewhere in the Charter's history, reference to the Sewer Commission was removed. The review of the Sewer Commission will need to fall under the Municipal Budget Act. How that involves Council is the point we need clarification on. They mention in the letter that in the past 7 years they have been left out of the budget review. In the last 4 years since I have been here, we have invited them to come in and present their budget.

M. Miville: If I can clarify, I wouldn't say they were left off the Budget calendar. LeeAnn Moynihan posts it and the Budget Committee approves it. At that time the Sewer Commission is left off because it is regarded as municipal and is considered part of the municipal review. Typically the Superintendent of the Sewer Commission requests that he present at the same time as the water precincts. We have been doing that every year. We aren't leaving them out, we separate them from the municipal part.

J. Sullivan: If we have no authority to make cuts, why are we doing this?

*T. Lizotte called the question.*

J. Sullivan: Can Ms. Fitzpatrick make a comment?

T. Lizotte: That's fine.

D. Fitzpatrick: Once we have contacted the attorney, our Administrative Code may need to be updated because it currently states that Sewer is a department of the town.

J. Sullivan: So it is removed from the Charter but is covered under the Administrative Code which is referenced in the Charter. We certainly need clarification on that. Perhaps we have them look at the library too since that is a similar situation. Would you concur, Christine?

C. Soucie: I would. Library and Sewer have diff RSA's that manage them and they are very similar to each other.

***Vote unanimously in favor of calling the question.  
Vote unanimously in favor of the motion.***

J. Sullivan: Now we are going to the operating budget; we need to make a new recommendation on the new number from the Budget Committee.

***N. Comai motion to recommend the operating budget of \$16,833,908.00. Seconded by T. Lizotte.***

**Roll Call**

R. Duhaime – Yes  
S. Orr – Yes  
J. Levesque – Yes  
A. Jennings – Yes  
N. Comai – Yes  
D. Winterton – Yes  
T. Lizotte – Yes  
J. Sullivan – Yes

***Vote 8-0 in favor.***

C. Soucie: The draft warrant has been reviewed by both the town attorney and DRA. There are a couple of items to review. In Article 3, it was suggested by both the attorney and the DRA that we add a note to the end of that. This note ties Article 15 to Article 3. Article 15 was the firefighter article that had 0 impact because if it passes, we would hire a new employee and reduce the overtime line. There is similar language in Article 15 saying that Article 3 would be reduced by that amount, and they wanted both articles to tie together. The next change is under non-union raises in Article 8. During the review at the public hearing, library personnel requested I bring this back to you. In the past, this warrant article said non-union full time and part time personnel; it didn't specifically say "Town and Library personnel" as it does today. They are looking for you to possibly remove that wording "and Library." Several years ago the question of does it include the library kept coming up so I put a template together and included this wording in that template. Since then we have stopped putting non-union raises into warrants and started putting them in the operating budget, so we haven't seen this warrant article in several years.

J. Sullivan: Do we need to re-vote on this to include the note under Article 3?

C. Soucie: I don't think so.

J. Sullivan: Since we are voting to remove that wording under Article 8 I think we should have a separate vote to include that wording under Article 3 just to be consistent.

C. Soucie: You could do one vote to approve the warrant as is with these two changes or one change.

T. Lizotte: DRA recommended these changes?

C. Soucie: DRA recommended the first change regarding adding the note to Article 3. The Library requested the second change to remove the words "and Library" from Article 8.

N. Comai: Article 8 states \$88,423 and includes full time, part time and Town & Library personnel. Is the Library part of the \$88,423 as well as the \$49,744 in Article 16?

C. Soucie: Yes. The \$88,423 is non-union raises; every year we include the library as well as the town and the non-union police employees. The Sewer Commission is not included because they are not raised through tax dollars, they are raised through user fees.

N. Comai: Do you have the number of employees included in the \$88,423?

C. Soucie: The \$88,423 is raises for 47 full time and 19 part time non-union employees. It does not include the Police Chief or Town Administrator.

***S. Orr motioned to add the wording to Article 3 as recommended by DRA. Seconded by T. Lizotte.***

A. Jennings: I see where Article 3 refers to Article 15, but I don't see where Article 15 refers to Article 3.

C. Soucie: It was written differently in Article 15. Both the DRA and the attorney said it's the same thing whether it's a note or not. The problem with Article 3 is that it's statutory and Charter language that you can't really change that is why it's a note at the end versus the other one.

D. Winterton: I'm confused. If we add another firefighter and it costs us \$71,000, and we move \$72,000 out of overtime and into full time how does it create a savings in daily operating costs? It sounds like a wash.

T. Lizotte: I think we had this debate when he was here. The concern I had was the money didn't get removed; it was part of the budget and in theory the \$72,000 at the end of the budget would still be there in the fund balance. Tax payers would still pay for another employee. I like this wording; it is a net effect of nothing. I didn't want to see a situation where we had \$140,000 sitting there and all of a sudden an emergency came up and some funds were taken out of that line and transferred somewhere else.

D. Winterton: Why would Article 15 read as a savings in daily operating costs?

T. Lizotte: Because it is a reduction in the budget that is being approved.

D. Winterton: It's the same amount moving.

S. Orr: We already voted on this; we are just trying to decide if we are changing the wording or not. With all due respect to Councilor Winterton, I think we are wasting our time re-explaining it. I'd suggest talking to Chief and he can explain it to you. We need to stay on track here.

T. Lizotte: I think an explanation is worthwhile if the Chair will let me. When a tax payer is voting for this budget (Article 3), it's for the fully loaded amount including the \$72,000. When they vote on Article 15, they are adding another \$72,000 but this is saying that you are voting on Article 3 but be aware that if Article 15 passes, this budget will be reduced by \$72,000.

J. Sullivan: I concur with Ms. Orr. We are voting on who is moving the articles so whoever is going to make the motion on Articles 3 & 15 we need to make sure we get the answers down as to how and why so we don't cause any confusion at the public hearing.

***Vote unanimously in favor.***

***S. Orr motioned to remove "Library personnel" from Article 8. Seconded by T. Lizotte.***

S. Orr: We have had this discussion before; library staff is town staff. If we are going to add Library, then we need to say Finance, Administration, etc. Either we say town employees or we say every single department in the town. It's calling out one department unequally with every other department in the town. We had a lengthy discussion and it was decided that they are town employees.

T. Lizotte: Because the library is governed by a Board of Trustees responsible for adding in costs in regards to personnel, I think it makes it a little different. We went through this debate when we talked about compensation. They are putting forward their warrant and the operating budget is where they put in the raises. I am a little unclear on that so I think it should stay that way. It doesn't differentiate, it clarifies.

R. Duhaime: I think it should be separated; we can maybe show what percent of this \$88,000 is going to the library. The rest is agreed on as staff raises at X% negotiated on by Council. Council has not negotiated on the library raises and the voter doesn't know that. It's being put in one lump sum with what the town has negotiated and what the library has negotiated.

***S. Orr re-worded the motion to have all the departments listed individually as well as all the specific raises associated with each department listed separately as well.***

***T. Lizotte removed his second.***

***Seconded by N. Comai.***

N. Comai: Article 8 is the first time I have seen Library separated out. When we voted on this, what was the wording?

C. Soucie: As it appears.

N. Comai: When we voted to recommend this, the words full time and part time town and library personnel were written there. Susan, you are now saying you either want that taken out or you want them all listed?

S. Orr: Correct; during prior discussions, we determined Library staff was town staff and it came up when discussing insurance and coverage. It was decided Library personnel were town employees. To me, calling them out as one department getting increases, we have to be very specific and call out every department getting increases and separate them out.

J. Sullivan: Of those 47 full time and 19 part time non-union, you want to list the departments they are in? Is that your intention?

S. Orr: I want to say town employees, but if we are going to call out one department, we need to call out all the departments.

N. Comai: Why are we attacking this one line item, and not allowing for any of the other verbiage to change. This was the vote with these words. Why are we changing this one and we weren't allowing other Councilors to change words others that we voted on?

S. Orr: The way it is worded now is not accurate.

N. Comai: It is accurate, we voted on it that way.

A. Jennings: Last year when we were talking about the Affordable Care Act, we learned the library has a separate EIN. I believe they need to be separated to make sure they do get their raises, otherwise we have a legal issue where they might not get their raises because they are a separate EIN.

R. Duhaime: If everyone is getting the same percentage raise, let's lump it all together. But they are not the same.

C. Soucie: \$88,423 is calculated using 3% for all employees including town and library.

J. Sullivan: I'd agree that if different departments were getting different percentages, that would be necessary. Since all employees are getting 3% I think leaving it this way would be good. I wouldn't want to add all the departments.

R. Duhaime: The \$88,423 in Article 8 - is that raise after Article 16 is passed?

C. Soucie: It wasn't calculated after Article 16. There are only funds available for a 3% raise on their current salaries. If Article 16 passes, the funding will not change.

### **Roll Call**

N. Comai – No

A. Jennings – No

S. Orr – Yes

R. Duhaime – No

T. Lizotte – No

J. Levesque – No

D. Winterton – No

J. Sullivan – No

**Motion fails 7-1.**

**S. Orr motioned to reword Article 8 to state "Town personnel" and remove "Library." Seconded by R. Duhaime.**

D. Winterton: I agree with Councilor Comai. If we are going to change one, I would like to change others so I will not support the motion.

J. Sullivan: The only reason I would consider this is because it was a request from Administration.

N. Comai: I am and have always been a supporter of the library and I understand Mrs. Orr's thought in not calling out the library separately, but in this particular forum and everything going on with the pay scales I think it's prudent to keep it in there because a voter needs to see both articles (8 and 16) as is and have transparency. By taking it out, it doesn't show what it is. It's not calling anybody out, it's just factual and I'm adamant about consistency so I am not going to support this.

J. Sullivan: Do we want to allow the Budget Committee Chair to speak? In order for someone to participate from the audience I need to get approval from the Council.

*Consensus not to allow audience participation.*

T. Lizotte: Not only did we vote on it but the Budget Committee voted on it with those words.

J. Sullivan: Since Council did not allow audience participation, Christine can you clarify?

C. Soucie: The Budget Committee voted on the words in Article 8 as it is now, including Town and Library.

*D. Winterton called the question.*

#### **Roll Call**

A. Jennings – No  
J. Levesque – No  
R. Duhaime - No  
S. Orr – Yes  
D. Winterton – No  
T. Lizotte – No  
N. Comai – No  
J. Sullivan – Yes

***Motion fails 6-2.***

C. Soucie: Before we get to the default, once you go into non-public I will make these changes and the Chair and Secretary will sign the warrant. I don't know if there needs to be a motion for that?

***J. Sullivan motioned that Council authorizes the Chair and Secretary to sign the warrant. Seconded by D. Winterton. Vote unanimously in favor.***

C. Soucie: We have already looked at the default and the total is \$16,779,749.00. We talked about the changes and you voted for the default. We are looking for a motion to sign the default.

***T. Lizotte motioned to sign the fiscal year 2015-2016 default budget for \$16,779,749.00. Seconded by A. Jennings. Vote unanimously in favor.***

J. Sullivan: You should have a draft of the Voter's Guide that I put together, which can be edited. I based it off of last year's with a change in meeting dates.

C. Soucie: I see the default number needs to be changed to \$16,779,749.00.

J. Sullivan: The third paragraph is the same. I included the decreases and the increases, and I broke down various aspects on the drivers. The second page is similar to last years; I highlighted warrant articles of note. The last 2 are verbatim.

***J. Sullivan motioned to allow the Chair sign the Voter's Guide on behalf of Council. Seconded by N. Comai. Vote unanimously in favor.***

J. Sullivan: We need to assign people to speak on these warrant articles.



**Article 3 – D. Winterton motion; D. Ross second.**  
**Article 4 – R. Duhaime motion; T. Lizotte second.**  
**Article 5 – N. Comai motion; J. Sullivan second.**  
**Article 6 – J. Levesque motion; S. Orr second.**  
**Article 7 – T. Lizotte motion; A. Jennings second.**  
**Article 8 – J. Sullivan motion; R. Duhaime second.**  
**Article 9 – T. Lizotte motion; D. Winterton second.**  
**Article 10 – S. Orr motion; N. Comai second.**  
**Article 11 – D. Winterton motion; T. Lizotte second.**  
**Article 12 – N. Comai motion; D. Winterton second.**  
**Article 13 – D. Ross motion; T. Lizotte second.**  
**Article 14 – A. Jennings motion; R. Duhaime second.**  
**Article 15 – A. Jennings motion; J. Sullivan second.**

J. Sullivan: Last year there was some explanation provided that covered every aspect, and that was very helpful so hopefully we can have that again.

b. 15-008 Health Insurance Review Committee 2015 Update

D. Fitzpatrick: We have been working on this while the Town Administrator is away so when he gets back we can get this going. We are looking to start in April 2015. I have all of our claims experience information to be reviewed. HealthTrust would like to come in as our current carrier and explain our claims experience. From there, I have reached out to several different carriers and they have submitted data to us. They know we have formed this committee and know we are looking at different carriers, and plan designs. We are also looking into consultants. I have reached out to retirees; we have 30 retirees on our insurance and they do contribute to our claims experience, so they should be part of this. All of this will filter through you to make that determination and we are looking to wrap this up by August. One of the determination factors for August was the Collective Bargaining Agreement. We wanted them to participate on this committee, and they wanted to as part of the commitment to their second year term should the voters pass the Collective Bargaining Agreement. The second year term is contingent on the outcome of this committee. We know who will be on the committee as far as the Town Administrator and myself, and I am soliciting other members by tomorrow. We are getting a lot of interest from employees, and we need to decide who we want to have on there. Maybe one rep from the first floor of Town Hall and one from the second.

J. Sullivan: Should we have a member of Council on the committee?

D. Winterton: I raised that with Dr. Shankle and he didn't want any Council members on this committee but I did volunteer.

J. Sullivan: Why don't we pick someone and then we can discuss with Dr. Shankle.

T. Lizotte: I think this should be driven by the employees. You have the Town Administrator and HR person involved. I think they need to be driving it and bring a solution to us.

S. Orr: I agree with Todd. This should be the employee's decision. If they want a Councilor to come in and consult that is fine. It is not our insurance plan and we are not on it.

J. Sullivan: Will Council have any authority approving the agreement?

D. Fitzpatrick: Yes, you are the ultimate approving authority.

J. Sullivan: Dr. Shankle will hear what we've talked about and we will get his opinion. If he agrees, Mr. Winterton has volunteered to be our representative.

**NEW BUSINESS**

a. 15-013 Street Name Approval

**T. Lizotte motioned to approve Falcon Lane as the proposed street name for Merrimack Reserve (Edgewater Dr. Development). Seconded by R. Duhaime.**  
**Vote unanimously in favor.**

b. 15-014 Quarterly Financial Report

C. Soucie: This is the 12/31 quarterly report. Total operating budget is 48% spent; this is a little less than the 2 prior years. The budget of \$14,895,126 is higher than the prior year's budget. In the current budget, we had a 17% increase in health insurance premiums and an increase in property liability and worker's comp. We added \$100,000 for the town engineer position, along with the second year of the fire union and DPW union raises which are also in there. Revenue is 55% collected which is a little less than prior years. That also reflects \$100,000 for the town engineer; it has gone uncollected because the position is unfilled. The next is department budgets. Family Services budget is 40% spent as of 12/31. As of today, it is 20% below their target budget now and is doing very well. Finance and Fire-Rescue as of 12/1 were slightly higher than they should be. As of the end of February, they have corrected themselves. The Fire Department has a twice yearly large payout according to the contracts, and Finance pays the annual audit at the beginning of the year so that is what is driving that up.

J. Sullivan: I see Public Works at 42%. Has that changed due to the snowfall?

C. Soucie: I will cover that in the following pages. Administration budget (which includes health insurance, property liability and worker's comp); fortunately the costs came in better than we anticipated. Property liability came in 18% over last year's budget. Same with worker's comp, it was only a 9% increase. The legal line, which is in Administration is doing well at 36% spent and normally is around 50%. Fire department is true and steady at 51%. They don't have a lot of operating costs. Police is at 43%; their savings coming in is due to vacant positions. Next is Public Works. Historically, in the fall, they put out paving bids. They do ½ in fall and ½ in spring. This year they decided not to put the bid out in the fall and wait to see how the winter would be, and put the bid out in spring to do all the paving then. That is one of the reasons why the department looks underspent. The overtime line and salt line are running about 70% spent considering winter maintenance which is seasonal-sensitive. There will be additional invoices coming in. The issue for them is vehicle maintenance (which is overspent at this point) and town building maintenance (also overspent), but they will find cost savings in employee turnovers. Public Works director anticipates the budget to go over by \$100,000. We also had the Lilac Bridge engineering contract for \$100,000. We may do a budget transfer from the savings in the insurance lines to cover that. Recycle & Transfer is looking good. Vehicle maintenance and hazardous waste lines are a little overspent (70% vs. 50%). It is anticipated that the tipping fee line will cover those 2 lines. As of 12/1 we spent \$190,000 on tipping fees, and this year we spent \$194,000 so we are on track; last year's actual spent was \$330,000 and this year's budget is \$390,000. There does appear there will be some savings to help with vehicle maintenance and hazardous waste. The most expensive time for tipping fees is in the spring and summer. Motor Vehicle revenue is 51% collected. At the end of 2013-2014 we collected \$3M in Motor Vehicles. By the time this year ends, we will be close to that same \$3M. We have \$2.75M budgeted and anticipate going over that. Interest and penalties is a timing one; the Tax Collector liens and deeds in spring. I anticipate we will meet the \$300,000 estimate. Building permit fees are at 41%, and I think we will fall short in this area.

N. Comai: May I suggest the Town Administrator put in one of his articles a reminder to come in for building permits?

C. Soucie: State revenues are a little higher this year. The Meals & Rooms tax and Highway Block Grants have increased starting in FY 2014-2015; I think we will see more Meals & Rooms next year. Ambulance service fund – this is our 3<sup>rd</sup> full calendar year. Calls for service have pretty much stayed the same. Total collected is pretty much the same as well. Percent collected has dropped from 82% to 74% to 68%. I have asked Chief Williams about that. We have a call into Comstar to see if there are things we can do to bring these numbers back up. The Chief has an appointment with Comstar to discuss this. There is roughly \$180,000 per year in expenses with \$318,000 cash on hand as of 12/31. There \$400,000 in uncollected bills which are at the collection agency.

T. Lizotte: Are all the calls for service to the fire department?

C. Soucie: 911 and the fire department.

T. Lizotte: So all those calls ended up in transport? All the non-transport calls administer care on site and then they leave?

C. Soucie: That is my understanding.

T. Lizotte: We might want them to clarify that – if the ambulance arrives and you get charged for it but don't get transported.

D. Winterton: It is my understanding they only bill if they transport, so half the calls are on the house.

T. Lizotte: One other answer we need is collections are going down but is there any incentive on their end in regards to how aggressively they go after the uncollected debt?

C. Soucie: They follow the town's collection policy and get paid for only what they collect. Currently it is 7%, but in the new contract, it is 5% of what they collect. (As of July 1, they dropped 2%.)

### **SUB-COMMITTEE REPORTS**

J. Levesque: ZBA met last night; there was one agenda item which was a lot line adjustment to make one conforming lot and one non-conforming lot. Because the non-conforming lot was originally a lot of record, they allowed it.

D. Winterton: Budget Committee met last week and we have already discussed that. Planning Board met Monday and with great regret, Chairman David Rogers resigned. He is moving to Hillsborough. He has been a wonderful Chairman and he resigned with mixed emotions. That leaves Dick Marshall as Vice Chair to take over. We will move one of the alternates to a full time member and will be looking for an alternate. David has done a great job.

***D. Winterton motioned to accept letter of resignation from David Rogers with regret and appreciation for all the work he has done. Seconded by S. Orr. Vote unanimously in favor.***

J. Sullivan: Tomorrow is the meeting with the state regarding the Lilac Bridge, and the Heritage Commission chairperson will attend. We continue to work on final wording for Council approval on the historical marker for Lincoln Park. I believe it will be placed where the old South Hooksett Village Fire Department was. The other 2 markers are for the Hooksett airport (currently looking for location) and the other will be funded through Southern NH to represent the old Elm House and that area. The wording for that is still TBD. Heritage Day is coming up and we will be looking for input on that.

T. Lizotte: Hooksett had an airport?

J. Sullivan: Yes, in the Bayview Terrace and Meadowcrest Drive area. The Heritage Commission has a lot of information on it. We got 2 bids for the tin ceiling repair and it is currently under the required Council review and will be handled by the Town Administrator. Hopefully we will start in the spring. We plan some type of open house and presentation.

N. Comai: The Retention Committee met today. Todd Rainier has a good cross-section of people. Next step is to unroll to the department heads at their next meeting to implement the policy and start the process of becoming compliant with purging docs, etc. We are meeting again in 3 months, then 6 months.

S. Orr: All Hooksett Youth Achiever emails and applications have been sent to the people on the list that was compiled by Tiffany.

R. Duhaime: I did not make it to the Sewer meeting but will bring our comments to them at the next meeting.

A. Jennings: Nothing to report.

T. Lizotte: Conservation had a meeting mainly for housekeeping and going over plans in terms of presenting the Merrimack Riverfront and the bigger project they are planning with trails and adding bridges, etc.

### **PUBLIC INPUT**

Marc Miville, 42 Main St: At the public hearing regarding the Sewer Commission there was discussion about the hazardous nature of it. The point Budget Committee was concerned about was there was testimony by the Superintendent that he is old school and he and other employees have a habit of not changing clothes prior to going home and sit on the couch and have kids on their lap. It was my comment that perhaps they should review safety protocols. It was mentioned that we should be proactive to prevent any diseases requiring insurance claims. He agreed to do that and the Commissioner agreed to be part of health insurance committee. Regarding the sewer disks – I seem to remember a vote the Budget Committee made to approve a \$992,000 payment. They had to come to the Budget Committee for approval which indicates that they are subservient to the Budget Committee at least. The reason I was yelling “point of order” earlier is it’s one thing for Council to be deliberating tonight and recommending the amount the Budget Committee approved earlier (on the budget), but I don’t believe you should be reviewing the wording of the other articles since they were already approved by the Budget Committee as they were written. Library employees are governed by Trustees; other department employees report to the Town Administrator so that is the distinction there, along with the EIN. I also wanted to remind you that sign-ups are March 25-April 3 for town election candidacy.

J. Sullivan: We have 3 positions open: (1) 3-year term for At-Large; (1) 3-year term for District 4; (1) 3-year term for District 1.

### **NON-PUBLIC SESSION**

- **NH RSA 91-A:3 II (a)** The dismissal, promotion, or compensation of any public employee or the disciplining of such employee, or the investigation of any charges against him or her,
- **NH RSA 91-A:3 II (c)** Matters which, if discussed in public, would likely affect adversely the reputation of any person, other than a member of the public body itself.

***J. Sullivan motioned to enter non-public session at 8:40pm. Seconded by T. Lizotte.***

### **Roll Call**

T. Lizotte – Yes  
R. Duhaime – Yes  
A. Jennings – Yes  
J. Levesque – Yes  
D. Winterton – Yes  
S. Orr – Yes  
N. Comai – Yes  
J. Sullivan - Yes

***Vote unanimously in favor.***

***J. Sullivan motioned to exit non-public at 9:05pm. Seconded by D. Winterton.***

***Vote unanimously in favor.***

***A. Jennings motioned to seal the non-public minutes of 3/11/15. Seconded by J. Levesque.***

***Vote unanimously in favor.***

***D. Winterton motioned to adjourn at 9:05pm. Seconded by T. Lizotte.***

***Vote unanimously in favor.***

**NOTE:** The Town website [www.hooksett.org](http://www.hooksett.org) may have attachments to these Town Council minutes for documents referred to in the minutes, reading file material, and/or ancillary documents that the Town Council Chair has signed as agent to expend as a result of the Council's prior approval of the documents.

Respectfully Submitted,

Tiffany Verney  
Recording Clerk



## Default Budget: Hooksett

RSA 40:13, IX (b) "Default budget" as used in this subdivision means the amount of the same appropriations as contained in the operating budget authorized for the previous year, reduced and increased, as the case may be, by debt service, contracts, and other obligations previously incurred or mandated by law, and reduced by one-time expenditures contained in the operating budget. For the purposes of this paragraph, one-time expenditures shall be appropriations not likely to recur in the succeeding budget, as determined by the governing body, unless the provisions of RSA 40:14-b are adopted, of the local political subdivision.

This form was posted with the warrant on: \_\_\_\_\_

**For Assistance Please Contact:**  
**NH DRA Municipal and Property Division**  
 Phone: (603) 230-5090  
 Fax: (603) 230-5947  
<http://www.revenue.nh.gov/mun-prop/>

**GOVERNING BODY CERTIFICATION**

Under penalties of perjury, I declare that I have examined the information contained in this form and to the best of my belief it is true, correct and complete.

Governing Body Certifications		
Printed Name	Position	Signature
James Sullivan	Council Chair	
Nancy Comai	Council Vice Chair	
Todd Lizotte	Council Secretary	
Robert Duhaime	Councilor	
James Levesque	Councilor	
Susan Lovas Orr	Councilor	
Donald Winterton	Councilor	
David Ross	Councilor	
Adam Jennings	Councilor	

A hard-copy of this signature page must be signed and submitted to the NHDRA at the following address:

**NH DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE ADMINISTRATION  
 MUNICIPAL AND PROPERTY DIVISION  
 P.O. BOX 487, CONCORD, NH 03302-0487**

Account Code	Purpose of Appropriation	Prior Year Adopted Budget	Reductions or Increases	One-Time Appropriations	DEFAULT BUDGET
<b>General Government</b>					
0000-0000	Collective Bargaining	\$0			\$0
4130-4139	Executive	338,017	1,987		\$340,004
4140-4149	Election, Registration, and Vital Statistics	34,273	(2,550)		\$31,723
4150-4151	Financial Administration	612,702	24,841		\$637,543
4152	Revaluation of Property	181,497	722		\$182,219
4153	Legal Expense	92,000			\$92,000
4155-4159	Personnel Administration	204,776	(28,776)		\$176,000
4191-4193	Planning and Zoning	365,938	1,832		\$367,770
4194	General Government Buildings	433,525	295		\$433,820
4195	Cemeteries	850			\$850
4196	Insurance	330,160	(75,160)		\$255,000
4197	Advertising and Regional Association	11,800			\$11,800
4199	Other General Government	5,000			\$5,000
<b>Public Safety</b>					
4210-4214	Police	3,817,170	16,620		\$3,833,790
4215-4219	Ambulance	1			\$1
4220-4229	Fire	3,995,967	(29,852)		\$3,966,115
4240-4249	Building Inspection	100,962	518		\$101,480
4290-4298	Emergency Management	5,500			\$5,500
4299	Other (Including Communications)	\$0			\$0
<b>Airport/Aviation Center</b>					
4301-4309	Airport Operations	\$0			\$0
<b>Highways and Streets</b>					
4311	Administration	210,832	714		\$211,546
4312	Highways and Streets	1,411,111	(1,026)	(34,000)	\$1,376,083
4313	Bridges	0	1		\$1
4316	Street Lighting	62,000			\$62,000
4319	Other	163,847	722		\$164,569
<b>Sanitation</b>					
4321	Administration	187,037	846		\$187,883
4323	Solid Waste Collection	253,656	1,126		\$254,782
4324	Solid Waste Disposal	641,383	17,138		\$658,521
4325	Solid Waste Cleanup	\$0			\$0
4326-4329	Sewage Collection, Disposal and Other	\$0			\$0
<b>Water Distribution and Treatment</b>					
4331	Administration	\$0			\$0
4332	Water Services	\$0			\$0
4335-4339	Water Treatment, Conservation and Other	\$0			\$0
<b>Electric</b>					
4351-4352	Administration and Generation	\$0			\$0
4353	Purchase Costs	\$0			\$0
4354	Electric Equipment Maintenance	\$0			\$0
4359	Other Electric Costs	\$0			\$0

<b>Health</b>					
4411	Administration	2,000			\$2,000
4414	Pest Control	\$0			\$0
4415-4419	Health Agencies, Hospitals, and Other	\$0			\$0
<b>Welfare</b>					
4441-4442	Administration and Direct Assistance	215,761			\$215,761
4444	Intergovernmental Welfare Payments	19,620			\$19,620
4445-4449	Vendor Payments and Other	\$0			\$0
<b>Culture and Recreation</b>					
4520-4529	Parks and Recreation	552,106	8,009		\$560,115
4550-4559	Library	600,682	4,717		\$605,399
4583	Patriotic Purposes	2,945			\$2,945
4589	Other Culture and Recreation	10,750			\$10,750
<b>Conservation and Development</b>					
4611-4612	Administration and Purchasing of Natural Resources	7,801			\$7,801
4619	Other Conservation	\$0			\$0
4631-4632	Redevelopment and Housing	\$0			\$0
4651-4659	Economic Development	500			\$500
<b>Debt Service</b>					
4711	Long Term Bonds and Notes - Principal	\$0			\$0
4721	Long Term Bonds and Notes - Interest	\$0			\$0
4723	Tax Anticipation Notes - Interest	1			\$1
4790-4799	Other Debt Service	\$0			\$0
<b>Capital Outlay</b>					
4901	Land	1			\$1
4902	Machinery, Vehicles, and Equipment	\$0			\$0
4903	Buildings	\$0			\$0
4909	Improvements Other than Buildings	\$0			\$0
<b>Operating Transfers Out</b>					
4912	To Special Revenue Fund	\$0			\$0
4913	To Capital Projects Fund	\$0			\$0
4914A	To Proprietary Fund - Airport	\$0			\$0
4914E	To Proprietary Fund - Electric	\$0			\$0
4914S	To Proprietary Fund - Sewer	1,994,923	3,933		\$1,998,856
4914W	To Proprietary Fund - Water	\$0			\$0
4915	To Capital Reserve Fund	\$0			\$0
4916	To Expendable Trusts/Fiduciary Funds	\$0			\$0
4917	To Health Maintenance Trust Funds	\$0			\$0
4918	To Non-Expendable Trust Funds	\$0			\$0
4919	To Agency Funds	\$0			\$0
<b>Total Appropriations</b>		<b>16,867,094</b>	<b>(53,345)</b>	<b>(34,000)</b>	<b>\$16,779,749</b>

<b>Explanation for Increases and Decreases</b>	
<b>Account</b>	<b>Explanation</b>
Varies	Increased \$39,135 for Employer share of NH Retirement

Varies	Increased \$23,578 for employer share of Health Insurance
4150-4151	Increased \$22,661 for maintenance fee on software
4324	Increased \$16,215 for trash removal contract
4550-4559	Increased \$3,804 for GMILCS contact and equipment maintenance contract
4520-4529	Increased \$4,999 for Amoskeag Rowing contract
4914S	Increased \$3,933 for NPDES permit obligation and employer share of NH Retirement
4196	Decreased \$75,160 for property liability contract
4220-4229	Decreased \$56,020 for dispatch contract
4312	Decreased \$34,000 for Pickup
4155-4159	Decreased \$28,776 for worker's compensation and unemployment contacts
4312	Decreased \$3,932for excavator lease contract
4140-4149	Decreased \$2,570 for one less election needed this year
4150-4151	Decreased \$1,212 for deeding contract



David J. Rogers  
15 Mount St. Mary's Way, Unit 203  
Hooksett, NH 03106  
(603) 340-0028  
e-mail: [nhho1701@outlook.com](mailto:nhho1701@outlook.com)

Dr. Dean Shankle, Town Administrator  
Town of Hooksett  
35 Main Street  
Hooksett, NH 03106

March 9, 2015

Re: Resignation from Hooksett Planning Board and Economic Development Committee

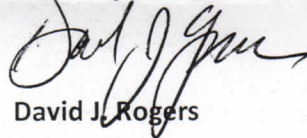
Dear Dr. Shankle:

It is with a sense of sadness that I write to you to submit my resignation, effective April 1, 2015, from both the Hooksett Planning Board and the Economic Development Committee. I am resigning because I am relocating my residence to Hillsborough, NH in the near future and, as such, I will no longer be eligible to continuing serving in the above capacities.

I have truly enjoyed my tenure on the Planning Board and I thank you, the Town Council, Jo Ann Duffy, and Carolyn Cronin for helping me serve the citizens of Hooksett as a member of the Board. I especially appreciate my fellow Board members, both past and present, and their dedicated commitment to the town. I will miss the camaraderie and interaction that we have developed over the time that I have been a Board member and I thank them for their patience with me as their chair.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,



David J. Rogers

Cc: Jo Ann Duffy  
Carolyn Cronin  
James Sullivan  
Dick Marshall



Hooksett Sewer Commission  
1 Egawes Drive  
Hooksett, NH 03106

March 2, 2015

Hooksett Town Council  
35 Main Street  
Hooksett, NH 03106

We are here to object to and discuss the recent action of the Hooksett Town Council, on 1/28/15, whereby \$18,686 was symbolically cut from the Sewer Commission budget. It is our understanding that Council elected to make this cut because employees of the Treatment plant are not required to contribute 10% of the cost of healthcare as are other current municipal employees.

As you all should be aware, the Hooksett Sewer Commission is responsible for conducting all aspects of managing and operating the Sewage Treatment Plant. The Superintendent has always appeared before both the Budget Committee and the Town Council whenever budgets are reviewed. We would like to remind the Town Council and Budget Committee that over the past seven years, the Sewer Commission has been left off the list to present its budget. But because the Superintendent has always believed in full transparency of the Commission's budget, he has made sure to be included. We would also like to remind the budget committee that Supt. Kudrick's budgets have always been complimented as thorough and complete, with no large monies unaccounted for. In fact, many committee members have commented that ALL departments should be submitting their budgets this way.


We believe that our employees work in unique and dangerous situations, with risks not faced in other lines of occupation. Eight hours a day, seven days a week our employees are susceptible to contracting numerous diseases that include: HIV, Hepatitis, Salmonella, E-Coli A Bacillus, Campylo Bacteria, Typhoid, Cholera, Dysentery and types of parasites too numerous to list. They encounter many hazards and can potentially sustain injuries every day as they go about their duties at the Treatment Plant, pump stations, and sewer lines throughout the town. They are exposed to hydrogen sulfide gas every day, and it is monitored in the plant itself to insure the

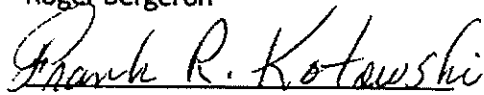
evacuation of employees if it reaches an unacceptable level. Employees have to perform work in confined spaces in conditions that include effluent overflows and highly unpleasant odors. In these small spaces is the danger of low oxygen levels, methane gases, and other dangerous and/or explosive solvents. Other chemicals that employees have had to work with are chlorine gas (now replaced with sodium hypochlorite) pulverized lime, sodium hydroxide and acids such as hydrochloric, nitric and sulpheric. Employees must also obtain certain licenses required under State and Federal laws and must have yearly training to maintain these licenses in order to continue to be employed at the plant. Because of these inherent traits to these positions, it is our belief that fully paid medical insurance is fair compensation for this work.

Our employees are not under any bargaining contract. They have not felt the need to do so because they are treated with respect and paid a living wage. The Sewer Commission has only hired one new employee in the past ten years, and the next "newest" employee has been there eleven (11). This shows that our philosophy of paying living wages and paying full benefits is key in retaining a competent and loyal workforce.

Respectfully Submitted,

  
Sid Baines, Chairman

  
Roger Bergeron

  
Frank Kotowski

Dear Citizens and voters of Hooksett

On Saturday April 4th, the voters of Hooksett under the provision of SB 2 will meet at the first session to discuss and amend 13 articles that will appear on the ballot on Tuesday, May 12, 2015. This report featured in the 2015-2016 voters' guide will provide information on the proposed budget and necessary warrant articles. The guide will also include revenue and other pertinent information. The official ballot will include the election of town officers and will also have zoning amendments for your consideration. Those items are not required to be discussed at this session.

Each warrant article will include the estimated tax impact and the vote count of the Town Council who with assistance from the town administration has the duty to prepare the items for your consideration.

The operating budget for 2015-2016 is \$16,833,908.00. Should this article be defeated, the operating budget shall be \$16,779,749.00 (Default), which is the same as last year, with certain adjustments required by previous action of the Town meeting. This is a decrease of \$54,003 or 0.32% from the current year budget. The recommend operating budget is \$54,159 or 0.32% higher than the default.

In the Council's review of the proposed budget, we were able to discuss and address some of the budget drivers in order to provide continued expected town services to the citizens. These included the benefits for the town employee, which resulted in savings in workers compensation and increases in the employer share of retirement in health insurance.

Within the various town departments, the Administration budget decreased \$84,476, and the Fire- Rescue budget decreased \$226,996 due mostly to our moving wages and benefits of two firefighters to the Ambulance Service fund and merging of the forest division into the fire division. We were also able to decrease the Family Services budget due to improved economic conditions.

With our attempt to find prudent decreases in the budget, we found the need to increase various budgets within the town. For example, the Police budget includes an increase in wages and benefits for one patrol officer in the amount of \$97,147. Other cost increases are in communications maintenance, rentals and leases, training and vehicles purchases lines. The Public Works budget increased by approximately \$95,000 in total. Many lines within the budget are historically overspent, such as vehicle & building maintenance, construction materials, and plow edges & chains. These lines all include an increase from last year. New equipment and other operational supplies have been kept to a minimum, reducing when possible. Council also increased the town building maintenance line by \$10,000 for the renovations to the Old Town Hall.

The Town council continued its approach to reviewing the budget with the same openness and thoughtful decision making it has taken in the past. We have approved articles that reflect fiscal responsibility and needs of the towns, which promotes savings in how we deliver services. As a result of our efforts, we believe it is a prudent budget that was as always professionally presented and reviewed by all, from town administration and departments, Council and finally by the Budget Committee.

Two articles of note are the collective bargaining agreements reached between the Hooksett Town Council and the Hooksett Police Union Local 46, NEPBA and with the Public Works/Recycling Union local 1580 AFSCME Council 93. These are two year contracts which provide a 3% increase in salary and requires the union employees to contribute an additional 2% and 3% to the insurance premiums.

There are three warrant articles that reflect increases in much needed personal and will result in the reduction of overtime costs. These are request for 2 full time police patrol officers, 1 full time fire fighter and a part time clerk/receptionist for the police department.

One article is to fund a portion the Merrimack River Trail System for conservation.

Other money articles which save for future expenses includes public works vehicles, town facilities and equipment, fire department apparatus and air packs, revaluation and the master plan

A petition article for the Library employees will also appear on the ballot.

The Council and administrator are available for questions regarding the various aspects of the warrant and ballot issues. To obtain complete costs on the warrant and operating budget you can visit the Town of Hooksett's website. Budget deliberations can be viewed by visiting the main page of [Hooksett.org](http://Hooksett.org).

In closing the Council has strived to present a clear and accurate accounting of the needs and requirements of the 2015-2016 budget and is presented to you, the citizens and taxpayers, to address our vibrant and growing community with the utmost consideration of its tax impact.

Respectfully submitted,

James A Sullivan

Town Council Chairman

---

# Town Warrant

---

To the inhabitants of the Town of Hooksett, New Hampshire, in the county of Merrimack in said state, qualified to vote in Town affairs.

You are hereby notified to meet at **David R. Cawley Middle School on Saturday, April 4, 2015 at 9:00 am** for the first session of the Town Meeting to discuss and amend, as required, warrant articles 3 through 16.

The final ballot vote for warrant articles will take place at **David R. Cawley Middle School on Tuesday, May 12, 2015**. The polls will be open from 6 am until 7 pm.

## **Article 1**

To choose all necessary Town officers for the year ensuing.

## **Article 2**

### **Zoning Amendments**

#### **Amendment No. 1**

Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 1, as proposed by the Hooksett Planning Board, for the Hooksett Zoning Ordinance to remove Article 32, Development Phasing per its expiration on January 1, 2013?

*The purpose of Amendment No. 1 is to remove Article 32, Development Phasing.*

#### **Amendment No. 2**

Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 2, as proposed by the Hooksett Planning Board, for the Hooksett Zoning Ordinance to remove Article 20, Signs, Section E.VI., Political Signs and replace it with the following: "All political advertising signs shall, at all times, be in complete compliance with applicable State and Federal laws regulating the same. Please refer to RSA 664:17."

*The purpose of Amendment No. 2 is to replace existing political sign regulations with state statutes.*

#### **Amendment No. 3**

Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 3, as proposed by the Hooksett Planning Board, for the Hooksett Zoning Ordinance to amend Article 22, Definitions, to include "Alternative Treatment Center (ATC)" as "A not-for-profit entity registered under RSA 126-X:7 that acquires, possesses, cultivates, manufactures, delivers, transfers, transports, sells, supplies or dispenses cannabis, and related supplies and educational materials, to qualifying patients, designated caregivers and ATCs. For the purpose of this definition, 'not-for-profit' means a corporation that is registered with the NH secretary of state under RSA 292 and is a charitable trust pursuant to RSA 7:19 et seq. for the benefit of qualifying patients."

*The purpose of Amendment No. 5 is to add the definition of "Alternative Treatment Center (ATC)."*

**Amendment No. 4**

Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 4, as proposed by the Hooksett Planning Board, for the Hooksett Zoning Ordinance to amend Article 11, Industrial Districts - IND, Section B.2., Special Exceptions, to include "Alternative Treatment Center (ATC)."

*The purpose of Amendment No. 4 is to limit Alternative Treatment Centers to the Industrial District by Special Exception.*

**Amendment No. 5**

Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 5, as proposed by the Hooksett Planning Board, for the Hooksett Zoning Ordinance to amend Article 5, Medium Density Residential District - MDR, Section D.2., which currently reads "Building height shall not exceed thirty-five (35) feet in height" and include "with the exception of multi-family dwellings, which shall not exceed fifty (50) feet in height."

*The purpose of Amendment No. 5 is to increase the height of multi-family buildings in the Medium Density Residential District.*

**Amendment No. 6**

Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 6, as proposed by the Hooksett Planning Board, for the Hooksett Zoning Ordinance to rezone Map 13, Lots 52 & 56 and portions of Map 17, Lots 5 & 7-1 from Low Density Residential (LDR) to Commercial (COM).

*The purpose of Amendment No. 6 is to rezone Map 13, Lots 52 & 56 and portions of Map 17, Lots 5 & 7-1 from Low Density Residential to Commercial.*

**Article 3**

Shall the town raise and appropriate as an operating budget, not including appropriations by special warrant articles, the amounts set forth on the budget posted with the warrant, for the purposes set forth therein, and other appropriations voted separately totaling **\$16,833,908.00**. Should this article be defeated, the operating budget shall be \$16,779,749.00, which is the same as last year, with certain adjustments required by previous action of the Town meeting, or by law or the Town Council may hold one special meeting, to take up the issue of a revised operating budget only. Estimated tax rate impact \$6.43. Recommended by Town Council (8-0), Recommended by Budget Committee (5-3).

Note: If article 15 passes, the operating budget will be reduced by \$72,454.00 in the Fire-Rescues overtime line.

**Article 4**

To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$200,000.00** to be added to the Public Works Vehicles Capital Reserve Fund previously established. Estimated tax rate impact \$0.13. Recommended by Town Council (6-0), Recommended by Budget Committee (8-0).

**Article 5**

To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$194,293.00** for the salaries, overtime, benefits, including uniforms and equipment to hire two (2) new full-time police officers.

<u>Fiscal Year</u>	<u>Salaries</u>	<u>Benefits</u>	<u>Estimated Increase</u>
2015- 2016	\$109,293.00	\$85,000.00	\$194,293.00

Estimated tax rate impact \$0.12. Recommended by Town Council (6-0), Recommended by Budget Committee (8-0).

**Article 6**

To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$160,000.00** to be added to previously established Capital Reserve Funds and to apportion the sum among several funds as listed below.

Automated Collection Equipment	\$ 20,000.00
Drainage Upgrades	50,000.00
Parks & Recreation Facilities Development	15,000.00
Town Building Maintenance	<u>75,000.00</u>
Total	\$ 160,000.00

Estimated tax rate impact \$0.10. Recommended by Town Council (6-0), Recommended by Budget Committee (8-0).

**Article 7**

To see if the town will raise and appropriate **\$100,000.00** to be placed in the Conservation Fund to assist in the development of a Merrimack Riverfront Trail System. Estimated tax rate impact is \$0.06. Recommended by Town Council (6-0), Recommended by Budget Committee (7-1).

**Article 8**

To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$88,423.00** for salaries and benefits for non-union full-time and part-time Town and Library personnel at the current staffing level.

<u>Fiscal Year</u>	<u>Salaries</u>	<u>Benefits</u>	<u>Estimated Increase</u>
2015-2016	\$86,418.00	\$2,005.00	\$88,423.00

Estimated tax rate impact \$0.05. Recommended by Town Council (5-1), Recommended by Budget Committee (8-0).

**Article 9**

To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$70,000.00** to be added to the previously established Capital Reserve Funds and to apportion the sum among several funds as listed below:

Air Packs & Bottles	\$ 20,000.00
Fire Apparatus	<u>50,000.00</u>
Total	\$ 70,000.00

Estimated tax rate impact \$0.04. Recommended by Town Council (6-0), Recommended by Budget Committee (8-0).

**Article 10**

To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$30,000.00** to be added to the Revaluation Capital Reserve Fund previously established. Estimated tax rate impact \$0.02. Recommended by Town Council (6-0), Recommended by Budget Committee (8-0).

**Article 11**

To see if the Town will vote to approve the cost items included in the collective bargaining agreement reached between the Hooksett Town Council and the Hooksett Police Union Local 46, NEPBA which calls for the following increase in salaries and benefits at the current staffing level:

<u>Fiscal Year</u>	<u>Estimated increase over prior year</u>		
	<u>Salaries</u>	<u>Benefits</u>	<u>Estimated Increase</u>
2015-2016	\$26,708.00	\$2,619.00	\$29,327.00



2016-2017                    \$28,871.00        (\$494.00)                    \$28,377.00  
 and further to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$29,327.00** for the current fiscal year, such sum represents the additional costs attributable to the increase in salaries and benefits required by the new agreement over those that would be paid at current staffing levels. Estimated tax rate impact \$0.02. Recommended by Town Council (6-0), Recommended by Budget Committee (8-0).

**Article 12**

To see if the town will vote to approve the cost items included in the collective bargaining agreement reached between the Hooksett Town Council and the Public Works\Recycling Union Local 1580, AFSCME Council 93 which calls for the following increase in salaries and benefits at the current staffing level:

	<u>Estimated increase over prior year</u>		
<u>Fiscal Year</u>	<u>Salaries</u>	<u>Benefits</u>	<u>Estimated Increase</u>
2015-2016	\$22,631.00	(\$2,601.00)	\$20,030.00
2016-2017	\$23,310.00	(\$6,345.00)	\$16,965.00

and further to raise and appropriate **\$20,030.00** for the current fiscal year, such sum representing the additional costs attributable to the increase in salaries and benefits required by the new agreement over those that would be paid at current staffing levels. Estimated tax rate impact \$0.01. Recommended by Town Council (6-0), Recommended by Budget Committee (8-0).

**Article 13**

To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$18,657.00** for the purpose of hiring a part time clerk/receptionist in the police department to work no more than twenty four (24) hours per week.

<u>Fiscal Year</u>	<u>Salaries</u>	<u>Benefits</u>	<u>Estimated Increase</u>
2015- 2016	\$18,657.00	\$0.00	\$18,657.00

Estimated tax rate impact \$0.01. Recommended by Town Council (6-0), Recommended by Budget Committee (8-0).

**Article 14**

To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$10,000.00** to be added to the Master Plan Capital Reserve Fund previously established. Estimated tax rate impact \$0.01. Recommended by Town Council (6-0), Recommended by Budget Committee (8-0).

**Article 15**

To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$71,997.00 For the salary, benefits, taxes and equipment for a full time Firefighter/EMT for the Fire-Rescue Department. If this article passes the operating budgets will be reduced by \$72,454.00 in overtime costs for the Fire Rescue Department. This will create a savings in our daily operating costs.

Salary	\$ 38,045.00
Benefits	30,952.00
Gear	<u>3,000.00</u>
Total costs	\$ 71,997.00

Estimated tax rate impact \$0.00. Recommended by Town Council (4-2), Recommended by Budget Committee (7-1).

**Article 16**

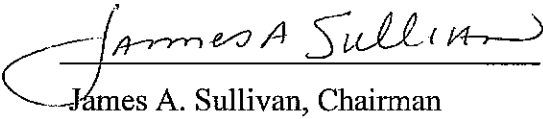
To see if the town will raise and appropriate the sum of \$49,744.00 this sum represents the additional costs over the current compensation rates attributable to an increase in salaries and benefits to address pay equity issues for library employees when compared with the salaries and benefits of other Hooksett municipal employees. The passage of this article will establish pay parity between Hooksett library employees and other Hooksett municipal employees.

<u>Fiscal Year</u>	<u>Estimated increase over prior year</u>			<u>Estimated Increase</u>
	<u>Salaries</u>	<u>Taxes</u>	<u>NH Retirement</u>	
2015- 2016	\$43,902.00	\$3,358.00	\$2,484.00	\$49,744.00

PETITION ARTICLE Estimated tax rate impact \$0.03. Recommended by Town Council (6-1), Recommended by Budget Committee (8-0).

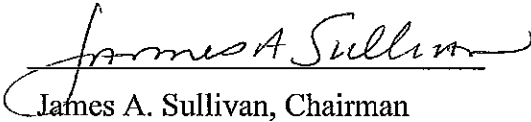
Given under our hands and seal, March 11, 2015.

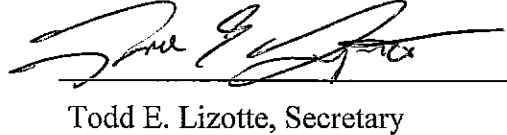
On behalf of the entire Hooksett Town Council:

  
James A. Sullivan, Chairman

  
Todd E. Lizotte, Secretary

A True Copy of the Warrant – Attest:

  
James A. Sullivan, Chairman

  
Todd E. Lizotte, Secretary