

Annual Town Meeting Princeton, Ma 01541 May 13, 2014

Warrant duly posted: May 2, 2014
Inhabitants notified by website posting: May 5, 2014
Advisory Board Hearing: May 5, 2014
Quorum needed: 81
Voters Present: 304
Moderator: Harry Pape
Checkers/Counters: Bill Lawton, Greg Miranda, Louis Trostel, Mary Trostel
Constable: Michele Powers
Meeting called to order: 7:33PM
Meeting dissolved: 10:07PM

The Moderator opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

A motion was made and seconded to dispense with the reading of the full warrant.

Unanimous

7:34PM

Moderator read the charge to the Constable, and the Return of the Warrant.

The Moderator asked that all non-voters identify themselves for the tellers.

The Constable for the meeting was identified by the Moderator as Michele Powers

Jane Weisman was presented the Annual Outstanding Citizen award for her many years of volunteer work as a member of the Princeton Library Board of Trustees.

All articles were approved by the Advisory Board unless noted.

ARTICLE 1. Voted to receive the reports of the Town Officers and any outstanding committees.

Unanimous

7:47PM

ARTICLE 2. Voted under the provisions of Section 108, Chapter 41, of the Massachusetts General Laws to fix the salaries of the following Town Officers for the ensuing year (FY15).

FY 15

Moderator \$ 25

Selectmen \$1,500

Assessors \$4,500

Unanimous

7:49PM

ARTICLE 3. Voted the FY 15 appropriation by department as set forth in Article 3 of the Warrant and further move to transfer the sum of \$25,870 from the free cash account #27-5-999-000 to offset the FY 15 tax rate.

Unanimous

7:53PM

DEPARTMENT	FY14 BUDGET VOTED	FY15 PROPOSED BUDGET	FY15 Sub-Total To Be Voted On	FY15 AB RECOMMENDS
GENERAL GOVERNMENT:				
Moderator				
Salary	25.00	25.00		
Expense	75.00	75.00		
Sub-Total	100.00		100.00	100.00
Board of Selectmen				
Salaries	1,500.00	1,500.00		
Expense	3,000.00	3,000.00		
Sub-Total	4,500.00		4,500.00	4,500.00

DEPARTMENT	FY14 BUDGET VOTED	FY15 PROPOSED BUDGET	FY15 Sub-Total To Be Voted On	FY15 AB RECOMMENDS
Annual Audit				
Expense	9,500.00	12,000.00	12,000.00	12,000.00
Town Administrator				
Salary	92,071.00	93,912.00		
Expense	2,500.00	2,500.00		
Sub-Total	94,571.00		96,412.00	96,412.00
Administrative Assistants				
Salaries	25,000.00	25,500.00		
Expense	1,500.00	1,500.00		
Sub-Total	26,500.00		27,000.00	27,000.00
Reserve Fund				
Expense	60,000.00	70,000.00	70,000.00	70,000.00
Town Accountant				
Salary	29,164.00	30,207.00		
Expense	3,730.00	3,881.00		
Sub-Total	32,894.00		34,088.00	34,088.00
Board of Assessors				
Assessors Salaries	4,500.00	4,500.00		
Assessor Clerk Salary	19,800.00	20,804.00		
Principal Assessor Salary	28,504.00	29,074.00		
Info. Tech. Mgr. Salary	13,303.00	13,569.00		
Revaluation Salary	6,494.00	6,624.00		
Expense	12,582.00	12,582.00		
Sub-Total	85,183.00		87,153.00	87,153.00
Treasurer/Tax Collector				
Salary	72,239.00	74,400.00		
Expense	16,170.00	16,170.00		
Sub-Total	88,409.00		90,570.00	90,570.00
Town Counsel				
Expense	20,000.00	20,000.00	20,000.00	20,000.00

DEPARTMENT	FY14 BUDGET VOTED	FY15 PROPOSED BUDGET	FY15 Sub-Total To Be Voted On	FY15 AB RECOMMENDS
Town Clerk				
Salary	33,692.00	34,575.00		
Certification	1,000.00	1,000.00		
Expenses	5,000.00	5,000.00		
Sub-Total	39,692.00		40,575.00	40,575.00
Elections & Registration				
Salaries	1,400.00	3,700.00		
Expense	2,850.00	5,700.00		
Sub-Total	4,250.00		9,400.00	9,400.00
Conservation Commission				
Salaries				
Expense	1,000.00	1,000.00		
Sub-Total	1,000.00		1,000.00	1,000.00
Planning Board				
Administrative Asst. Salary	18,043.00	18,250.00		
Expense	2,636.00	2,636.00		
Sub-Total	20,679.00		20,886.00	20,886.00
Board of Appeals				
Expense	1,500.00	1,500.00	1,500.00	1,500.00
Open Space Committee				
Expense	500.00	500.00	500.00	500.00
Agricultural Commission				
Expense	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00
Town Building Operations				
Salaries	27,200.00	28,100.00		
Expense	53,095.00	53,095.00		
Sub-Total	80,295.00		81,195.00	81,195.00
TOTAL GENERAL GOVERNMENT	570,573.00		597,879.00	597,879.00

DEPARTMENT	FY14 BUDGET VOTED	FY15 PROPOSED BUDGET	FY15 Sub-Total To Be Voted On	FY15 AB RECOMMENDS
PUBLIC SAFETY:				
Police/Dispatch				
Police non-union Salaries	121,855.00	150,529.00		
Police Union Salaries	383,148.00	406,900.00		
Dispatch Union Salaries	205,589.00	206,688.00		
Expense	96,900.00	98,100.00		
Sub-Total	807,492.00		862,217.00	862,217.00
Fire Department				
Salaries	167,235.00	120,000.00		
Ambulance Readiness	64,000.00	79,000.00		
Expense	92,489.00	124,974.00		
Emergency Management Exp.	2,340.00	2,340.00		
Sub-Total	326,064.00		326,314.00	326,314.00
Animal Control				
Animal Inspector Salary	500.00	500.00		
Animal Control Salary	9,167.00	0.00		
Expense	1,900.00	6,953.00		
Sub-Total	11,567.00		7,453.00	7,453.00
Emergency Notification System	0.00	2,466.00	2,466.00	2,466.00
TOTAL PUBLIC SAFETY:	1,145,123.00		1,198,450.00	1,198,450.00
SCHOOLS				
Wachusett Regional School				
Wachusett Min. Contribution	4,046,051.00	3,650,842.00		
Operations Assessment	367,565.00	431,892.00		
Transportation	140,476.00	185,471.00		
Long Term Debt	198,706.00	183,694.00		
Capital Program Assessment	-			
Environmental Clean-up	6,225.00	6,062.00		
Sub-total	4,759,024.00		4,457,961.00	4,457,961.00
Montachusett Reg. Vocational	181,770.00	289,698.00	289,698.00	289,698.00
TOTAL SCHOOLS	4,940,794.00		4,747,659.00	4,747,659.00

DEPARTMENT	FY14 BUDGET VOTED	FY15 PROPOSED BUDGET	FY15 Sub-Total To Be Voted On	FY15 AB RECOMMENDS
PUBLIC WORKS				
Highway				
Salaries	350,085.00	361,100.00		
Expense	267,058.00	267,058.00		
Sub-Total	617,143.00		628,158.00	628,158.00
Snow/Ice Removal				
Expense	180,000.00	190,000.00	190,000.00	190,000.00
Road Reconstruction	225,000.00	275,000.00	275,000.00	275,000.00
Street Lights				
Expense	9,614.00	9,614.00	9,614.00	9,614.00
Tree Warden				
Salary	1,444.00	1,473.00		
Expense	12,000.00	12,000.00		
Sub-Total	13,444.00		13,473.00	13,473.00
Cemeteries				
Salaries	26,406.00	28,670.00		
Expense	4,372.00	4,372.00		
Sub-Total	22,696.00		33,042.00	33,042.00
Broadband Committee				
Expense		1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00
TOTAL PUBLIC WORKS	1,075,979.00		1,150,287.00	1,150,287.00
HUMAN SERVICES				
Council on Aging				
Salary	14,862.00	15,159.00		
Expense	1,700.00	1,700.00		
Sub-Total	16,562.00		16,859.00	16,859.00
Veterans Services				
Salary	1,500.00	1,500.00		
Expense	6,825.00	18,800.00		
Sub-Total	8,325.00		20,300.00	20,300.00
TOTAL HUMAN SERVICES	24,887.00		37,159.00	37,159.00

DEPARTMENT	FY14 BUDGET VOTED	FY15 PROPOSED BUDGET	FY15 Sub-Total To Be Voted On	FY15 AB RECOMMENDS
CULTURE & RECREATION:				
Library				
Salaries	100,282.00	105,610.00		
Expense	58,860.00	61,710.00		
Sub-Total	159,142.00		167,320.00	167,320.00
Parks & Recreation				
Salaries	4,269.00	4,526.00		
Expense	4,100.00	4,100.00		
Sub-Total	8,369.00		8,626.00	8,626.00
Historical Commission				
Expense	1,500.00	1,500.00	1,500.00	1,500.00
Memorial Day				
Expense	1,500.00	1,500.00	1,500.00	1,500.00
TOTAL CULTURE & RECREATION	170,511.00		178,946.00	178,946.00
Debt & Interest				
Police Cruisers (3)	25,185.00	43,000.00	43,000.00	43,000.00
Fire Vehicle	14,512.00	13,000.00	13,000.00	13,000.00
Bentley Purchase	42,350.00	40,880.00	40,880.00	40,880.00
General Interest/Borrowing Fees	15,000.00	15,000.00	15,000.00	15,000.00
Thomas Prince/Green Repair	28,476.00	39,700.00	39,700.00	39,700.00
Thomas Prince/PCBs	40,625.00	39,750.00	39,750.00	39,750.00
TOTAL DEBT	166,148.00		191,330.00	191,330.00

DEPARTMENT	FY14 BUDGET VOTED	FY15 PROPOSED BUDGET	FY15 Sub-Total To Be Voted On	FY15 AB RECOMMENDS
MISCELLANEOUS:				
Retirement	222,414.00	250,077.00	250,077.00	250,077.00
Life & Fringe	12,000.00	12,000.00	12,000.00	12,000.00
FICA/Medicare	36,995.00	36,995.00	36,995.00	36,995.00
Health Insurance	345,800.00	320,000.00	320,000.00	320,000.00
Town Insurance	185,000.00	190,000.00	190,000.00	190,000.00
Wachusett Earthday	1,393.00	1,393.00	1,393.00	1,393.00
TOTAL MISCELLANEOUS	803,602.00		810,465.00	810,465.00
GRAND TOTAL:	8,897,617.00*	8,912,175.00	8,912,175.00	8,912,175.00

*Reflects Reconfigured WRSD Budget of 8/10/2013

ARTICLE 4. Voted to authorize the Board of Selectmen to take all necessary and appropriate action to establish and to maintain, in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 164, §47E of the General Laws and in accordance with the rules, regulations and orders of the Department of Public Utilities and the Department of Telecommunications and Cable, a municipal lighting plant for the purpose of operating a telecommunications system and any related services.

2/3 vote by ballot required

Ballot Vote:

Yes: 278

No 26

Moderator declared that the motion carried on 2/3 vote 8:10PM

ARTICLE 5. Voted to transfer from the undesignated fund balance (free cash) account # 27-5-999-000 the sum of \$17,000 to broadband network readiness, including, but not limited to, network consulting, legal and membership fees.

Moderator declared the motion Carries 8:25PM

ARTICLE 6. Voted to establish the FY15 ambulance operating budget of \$96,231.00.00. I further move to appropriate \$51,958.00 for salary and \$44,273.00 for expenses from the Ambulance Receipts Reserved for Appropriation account #15-5-231-000. Receipts for ambulance services received in FY15 and all subsequent fiscal years to be deposited into said account. Any balance in said account to be carried forward to subsequent years.

Unanimous 8:27PM

ARTICLE 7. Voted to establish the FY15 trash operating budget and appropriate \$50,000.00 from the Solid Waste Enterprise Receipts Reserved for Appropriation Account #65-5-460-000 for that purpose. I further move to transfer \$10,000 from Solid Waste Enterprise-Available Retained Earnings. Receipts for trash disposal services received in FY15 and all subsequent fiscal years to be deposited into the Solid Waste Enterprise Receipts Reserved for Appropriation Account #65-5-460-000 established in FY08. Any balance in said account to be carried forward to subsequent years.

Unanimous

8:29PM

ARTICLE 8. Voted to authorize FY15 revolving funds for certain Town departments as written under Article 8 in the town warrant.

Revolving Fund	Authorized to Spend Fund	Revenue Source	Use of Fund	FY2014 Spending Limit	FY2015 Spending Limit
Building Department	Bldg. Inspector Town Admin.	Fees from Bldg. Wiring, and Plumbing Permits	To Pay Administrative & Inspector Salary & Expenses	\$76,017	\$78,253
Library	Library Director Town Admin.	Copy Machine, FAX, Fines and Fees	Defray Operational Expenses	\$ 4,000	\$ 5,000
Parks and Recreation (P&R)	P&R Commission Chairman, P&R Director and Town Admin.	Fees Collected from Recreational Programs	Provide Recreational Programs & Pay Salaries	\$38,0008	\$39,126
Parks and Recreation (P&R)	P&R Commission Chairman, P&R Director and Town Admin.	Fees Collected from Recreational Programs	Maintenance of Parks	\$38,008	\$39,126
Princeton Center	Princeton Center Director, Town Admin.	Rental Fees	Defray Operational & Maintenance Exp.	\$76,017	\$78,253
Board of Health	Board of Health Town Admin.	Permits & Inspections	Salary & Expense	\$35,000	\$35,000
Cemetery	Cemetery Comm. Chairman, Town Admin.	Burial Fees	Salary & Expense	\$ 5,000	\$ 7,500
Fire Department	Fire Chief, Deputy Chiefs, Town Admin.	Fees from Fire Permits	To Pay Administrative & Inspector Salary & Expenses	\$0	\$ 7,500
Total Spending				\$272,050	\$289,758

Unanimous

8:31PM

ARTICLE 9. Voted to add to the Town of Princeton, Massachusetts, Zoning Bylaws, Section XIX “Village Overlay District” from the northerly edge of Stagecoach Road as far north as the Business District on the westerly side of Worcester Road exists or may be extended, to the back of all lots existing at the time of enactment of this Section XIX that have frontage on Worcester Road, and to amend the Zoning Map.

2/3 Vote Required

Moderator declared motion carries on 2/3 card vote

8:43PM

ARTICLE 10. Motion made and seconded to amend the Section II, 2, (B), (c), of the Zoning Bylaws to read, “On the west side of Highway 31 and beginning at the northern boundary of Parcel 33-5 on Map 15 of the Assessors Maps, extending to the southern boundary of Parcel 33-10 on Map 15 of the Assessors Maps a strip of land 700 feet in depth, thence southerly to the southern boundary of Parcel 33-2 on Map 15 of the Assessors Maps a strip of land 410 feet in depth, and thence southerly to the southern boundary of Parcel 32-2 on Map 15 of the Assessors Maps a strip of land 330 feet in depth. On the east side of Highway 31 and beginning at the northern boundary of Parcel 43-1 on Map 15C of the Assessors Maps, extending southerly to the southern

boundary of Parcel 47-8 on Map 15 of the Assessors Maps, a strip 300 feet in depth,” and to amend the Zoning Map.

**Advisory Board does not approve
2/3 Vote Required**

Moderator declared that motion failed

9:09PM

ARTICLE 11. Citizens’ Petition

The following language was in the warrant:

To see if the Town will vote to amend Section II, 2, (B), (c), of the Zoning Bylaws to read, “On the west side of said Highway 31 and beginning at the northerly end of Parcel 33-5 on Map 15 of the Assessors Maps and continuing southerly a distance of 1,014 feet, a strip of land 700 feet in depth, thence southerly approximately 459 feet to Jillian Drive a strip of land 410 feet in depth, and thence continuing southerly a distance of 310 feet, a strip of land 330 feet in depth to the southern boundary of Parcel 33-1; and on the east side of Highway 31 and beginning at the northern boundary of Parcel 43-1 on Map 15, extending southerly to the southern boundary of Parcel 44-1R on Map 15, a strip 300 feet in depth”

- The Moderator, proposed a friendly amendment to drop the language “or take any other action relative thereto”. Amendment was accepted.

Motion presented by petitioner differed from the Article presented in the warrant. Moderator allowed the change as it was within the parameters of the original Article.

The following was the revised motion presented by Denise White:

Moved and seconded to amend Section II, 2, (B), (c), of the Zoning Bylaws to read, “On the west side of said Highway 31 and beginning at the northern boundary of Parcel 33-5 on Map 15 of the Assessors Maps and continuing southerly to the southern boundary of Parcel 33-10 on Map 15 of the Assessors Maps, a strip of land 700 feet in depth, thence southerly to the southern boundary of Parcel 33-2 on Map 15 of the Assessors Maps a strip of land 410 feet in depth, and thence continuing southerly to the southern boundary of Parcel 33-1 on Map 15 of the Assessors Maps, a strip of land 330 feet in depth.; and on the east side of Highway 31 and beginning at the northern boundary of Parcel 43-1 on Map 15C, extending southerly to the southern boundary of Parcel 44-1R on Map 15C, a strip 300 feet in depth,” and to amend the Zoning Map.

**Advisory Board does not approve
2/3 Vote required**

After some discussion of the article a vote to move the question was made and seconded.

Unanimous

The Motion was put to the vote by the Moderator.

Moderator declared that the motion failed.

9:17PM

ARTICLE 12. Voted to amend the Section II, 2 (B), (c) of the Zoning Bylaws to read “On the west side of Highway 31 and beginning at the northern boundary of Parcel 33-5 on Map 15 of the Assessors Maps, extending to the southern boundary of Parcel 33-10 on Map 15 of the Assessors Maps a strip of land 700 feet in depth, thence southerly to the southern boundary of Parcel 33-2 on Map 15 of the Assessors Maps a strip of land 410 feet in depth, thence southerly to the southern boundary of Parcel 32-2 on Map 15 of the Assessors Maps a strip of land 330 feet in depth, and thence southerly to the southern boundary of Parcel 55 on Map 15 of the Assessors Maps a strip of land 300 feet in depth. On the east side of Highway 31 and beginning at the northern boundary of Parcel 43-1 on Map 15C of the Assessors Maps, extending southerly to the southern boundary of Parcel 53 on Map 15 of the Assessors Maps, a strip 300 feet in depth and to amend the zoning map.

Unanimous

9:21PM

ARTICLE 13. Voted to amend Section II, 2, (B), (c), of the Zoning Bylaws to add Parcels 33-4 and 33-7, a strip of land 700 feet in depth on Map 15 of the Assessors Maps, to the Business District and to amend the Zoning Map,

Moderator called 2/3 in favor on a voice vote

9:31PM

ARTICLE 14. To see if the Town will vote to amend the Zoning Bylaws to make the following corrections and clarifications:

III.1 (G) (a), (b) Correct references to other sections of the Zoning Bylaws by changing references to XVII to XVIII

III.1 (J) Remove duplicative provision by deleting the reference to sand and gravel pit

VI.1 (E) Correct typo by inserting “lot” so that last phrase shall read “. . . side or rear lot line of any new lot recorded or registered. . .”

VII.7 Clarify earth removal procedures by amending VII.7 to read “No more than twenty-five (25) cubic yards of earth materials shall be removed from any parcel of land within the Town without first obtaining permission from the Board of Appeals

VIII.3(C) Clarify Planning Board role for special permits by amending the first sentence of

VIII.3(C) to read: The Planning Board shall act as the special permit granting authority for such developments and uses as may be assigned to the Planning Board under this Bylaw.”

XVII.1(B)(1) Clarify plot plan requirements for accessory apartments by amending

XVII.1(b)(1) to read: “A plot plan and scaled architectural drawings of the existing dwelling unit and proposed addition (if any) shall be submitted, showing the location of all buildings, septic systems, wells, and parking.”

XVII.1(B)(2) Clarify accessory apartment conditions by amending XVII.1(B)(2) to read: “The accessory apartment shall be located within a single-family dwelling or in an accessory structure on the same lot, such as an attached garage or a detached garage or barn, and shall clearly be subordinate to the single family dwelling.”

XVII.1(B)(3) Clarify the size calculations for an accessory apartment by amending

XVII.1(B)(3) to read: The accessory apartment shall not exceed 900 square feet or one-third of the resulting gross living area of the structures and shall not contain more than two bedrooms.”

XVII.1(B)(7) Remove same driveway condition for an accessory apartment by amending

XVII.1(B)(7) to read: There shall be at least one additional off street parking space to serve the accessory apartment.”

XVII.1(B)(10) Clarify the use of an accessory apartment by a subsequent landowner by amending XVII.1(B)(10) to delete the term “rent” and substitute the term “make use of”

XVIII.3(A)(1-3) Clarify that special permit is intended to allow uses rather than waiving requirements by amending XVIII.3(A)(1-3) to read

(A) In its discretion, in a special permit proceeding, the Planning Board may

(1) Allow a home occupation employing not more than three (3) persons on site who are not residing on the premises.

(2) Allow a home occupation located in a detached accessory building, such as a barn or detached garage.

(3) Allow a home occupation exceeding twenty-five percent (25%) of the gross floor area of the dwelling where the home occupation is conducted in an attached or detached accessory building.

Unanimous

9:35PM

ARTICLE 15. Voted to transfer from the undesignated fund balance (free cash) account # 27-5-999-000 the sum of \$200 to pay departmental bills from previous years.

Unanimous

9:36PM

ARTICLE 16. Voted to pass over this article.

Unanimous

9:37PM

ARTICLE 17. Voted to transfer from the undesignated fund balance (free cash) account # 27-5-999-000 the sum of \$25,000 to the General Stabilization Account #83-5-041-000.

Unanimous

9:38PM

ARTICLE 18. Voted to transfer from the undesignated fund balance (free cash) account # 27-5-999-000 the sum of \$101,252 to the Other Post Employment Benefits Liability Trust Fund.

Unanimous

9:40PM

ARTICLE 19. Voted to transfer the sum of \$35,000 from the undesignated fund balance (free cash) account # 27-5-999-000 to the Town Building Maintenance Program account #03-5-192-204 to continue to defray the costs for materials and repairs to town buildings.

Unanimous

9:41PM

ARTICLE 20. Voted to authorize the Selectmen to contract with and accept any grants from the Mass. Department of Transportation-Highway Division for the construction of any road or related work that may be allotted to the Town for the ensuing year.

Unanimous

9:42PM

ARTICLE 21. Voted to transfer from the undesignated fund balance (free cash) account # 27-5-999-000 the sum of \$60,000 to fund a portion of the third phase of engineering and design services related to the East Princeton/Rt. 140 Reconstruction.

Unanimous

9:43PM

ARTICLE 22. Voted to transfer the sum of \$35,000 from the undesignated fund balance (free cash) account #27-5-999-000 to the Town Environmental Clean-up Account #03-5-420-201 to fund expenses associated with environmental issues with town-owned property.

Unanimous

9:44PM

ARTICLE 23. Voted to transfer the sum of \$10,000 from the undesignated fund balance (free cash) account #27-5-999-000 for fire pond upgrades and construction of new fire ponds by the Fire Department.

Unanimous

9:44 1/2PM

ARTICLE 24. Voted to transfer the sum of \$252,000 from the undesignated fund balance (free cash) account #27-5-999-000 to purchase a Class I ambulance and to convert the current ambulance chassis into a utility truck with plow.

Unanimous

9:48PM

ARTICLE 25. Voted to transfer the sum of \$3,500 from the undesignated fund balance (free cash) account #27-5-999-000 to the Meetinghouse Cemetery Expense account #03-5-491-097 to continue the ongoing restoration of Meetinghouse Cemetery and its historic gravestones.

Unanimous

9:49PM

ARTICLE 26. Voted to transfer the sum of \$50 to the Goodnow Book Expense Account from the undesignated fund balance (free cash) account # 27-5-999-000 for the purchase of books for the Library, as required by the terms of the Goodnow Deed of Gift.

Unanimous

9:51PM

ARTICLE 27. Voted to transfer the sum of \$1,000 from the undesignated fund balance (free cash) account #27-5-999-000 to the Band Concert Expense account #03-5-692-781 for town concerts, the expenditure of such funds to be authorized by the Board of Selectmen.

Unanimous

9:52PM

ARTICLE 28. Voted to amend Chapter XII Dog Restraint and Regulations as follows:

Delete Section 1 (c) in its entirety and replace it with the following:

1(c) "Nuisance dog": a dog that:

1. By excessive barking or other disturbance, is a source of annoyance to a sick person residing in the vicinity; OR
2. By excessive barking, causing damage or other interference, a reasonable person would find such behavior disruption to one's quiet and peaceful enjoyment; OR
3. Has threatened or attacked livestock, a domestic animal, or a person, but such a threat or attack was not a grossly disproportionate reaction under all circumstances OR
4. Is elsewhere than on the premises of its keeper unless such dog (a) is then under control of a person competent to control and restrain such dog or (b) is not a threat to public safety, OR
5. Any unspayed female dog in season and not confined.

Delete Section 1 (d) in its entirety and replace it with the following:

(d) "Animal Control Officer (ACO): Shall mean a person appointed by the Board of Selectmen to enforce M.G.L. Chapter 140 sections 136A to 174E, inclusive and this bylaw.

Add the following language to Section 1:

(g) "Kennel" –a pack or collection of dogs on a single premise, including a commercial boarding or training kennel, Commercial breeder kennel, domestic charitable corporation, personal kennel, or veterinary kennel per M.G.L.Chapter 140, Section 136A.

Amend Section 2 by replacing the following sentence:

"No keeper of a dog shall permit such dog(s) to be a public nuisance in the Town of Princeton"

With the following:

"No keeper of a dog shall permit such dog(s) to be a nuisance dog in the Town of Princeton."

Amend Section 3 by deleting the words "Public Nuisance" and replacing it with "Nuisance Dog" so that the sentence reads as follows: "He shall also apprehend any dog found by him to be a nuisance dog and impound such dog in a suitable place or order the keeper thereof to restrain it."

Amend Section 4 Section (b) 1 by deleting the words "Board of Selectmen" and replacing it with Town of Rutland so that Section (b) 1 reads as follows:

"reimburse the Town for its expenses for initial handling of such dog plus an amount for each day of impoundment thereof according to fees set annually by the Town of Rutland."

Amend Section 5 by deleting the words "ten (10)" and replace it with "seven (7)" so that the sentence reads as follows: "

Any dog which has been impounded under the provision of this by-law and has not been redeemed by the owner within seven (7) days and/or the owner is unknown, the dog may be disposed of as provided by Section 151A, Chapter 140 of the General Laws as amended.

Amend Section 5 by deleting the following language:

"The Animal Control Officer may try to find a new home for any such impounded dog. He may waive impound fees to a new owner.

An adoption fee of \$50 will be assessed at the time of adoption. No dog or cat shall be released for adoption as a pet without the written agreement from the adopter guaranteeing that the animal will be neutered or spayed. Vaccination fees, licensing fees, and veterinary costs shall be charged if applicable, and are above and beyond the adoption fee."

Amend Section 8 by deleting the words "A fine shall be imposed on the owner of a dog who has not licensed

such dog" and replacing it with "Under the provisions of Massachusetts General Law Chapter 140, section 141 a fine of not less than \$50.00" so that the sentence reads as follows:

“Under the provisions of Massachusetts General Law Chapter 140, Section 141 a fine of not less than \$50.00 shall be imposed on the owner of a dog who has not licensed such dog on or before the close of the last business day in the month of April.”

Amend Section 10, Dog Fees, 1. Annual License, to add the following language:

“Service Animal* - \$0

*As defined by the Americans with Disabilities Act or regulations promulgated thereunder.”

Amend Section 10, 3. Impound Fees by changing the Initial Handling fee from \$15.00 to \$25.00 and by changing Each day of confinement fee from \$10.00 (per day) to \$25.00 (per day)

Amend Section 11 by deleting the following language:

Definition: One (1) pack or a collection of dogs on a single premise, whether maintained as pets or for breeding, boarding, sale, training, hunting or other purposes and including any shop where dogs are on sale, and also including every pack or collection of more than three (3) dogs, three (3) months or older, owned or kept by a person(s) on a single premise irrespective of the purpose for which they are maintained.

Amend Section 11 by deleting the following language:

“In lieu of individual licenses, the owner(s) or keeper(s) of four (4) dogs or more is required to purchase a kennel license for the number of dogs kept on a single premise. Fees are as follows:”

Amend Section 11 to add the following language:

“Under the provisions of Massachusetts General Law Chapter 140, Section 137A no kennel license will be issued until the kennel has passed inspection by the Animal Control Officer.”

Amend Section 11 to add the following language:

“Kennel Types are defined by M.G.L Chapter 140, Section 136A

- Personal Kennel –a pack or collection of more than 4 dogs, 3 months old or older, owned or kept under single ownership, for private personal use.
- Commercial Boarding or Training Kennel
- Commercial Breeder Kennel
- Domestic Charitable Corporation Kennel
- Veterinary Kennel

To determine the amount of the license fee for a kennel, a dog under the age of 6 months shall not be counted in the number of dogs kept in a kennel.

Fees for all kennel types are as follows:”

Unanimous

9:56PM

ARTICLE 29. Voted to amend Chapter VI, (Legal Affairs) of the General Bylaws as follows:

Delete in its entirety:

“SECTION 2. The Selectmen may at their discretion compromise or settle any claim or suit to which the Town is a party, which does not require the payment by the Town of an amount in excess of five hundred dollars (\$500.00). No settlement of a claim or suit obligating the Town in an amount in excess of five hundred dollars (\$500.00) shall be made, except as authorized by law, without the consent of the Advisory Committee.”

And replace it with the following new language:

“SECTION 2. The Selectmen may at their discretion compromise or settle any claim or suit to which the Town is a party. The Selectmen shall consult with the Advisory Committee any settlement of \$25,000 or greater.

Unanimous

10:00PM

ARTICLE 30. Voted to amend Chapter II, (Town Meetings) of the General Bylaws as follows:

Amend the existing Section 11:

“SECTION 11. When a question is put, the sense of the meeting may be determined by a show of hands, and the Moderator shall declare the vote as it appears to him. If the decision of the chair is doubted, or a division of the house is called for, the Moderator shall request all persons in the house to be seated. The

question shall then be distinctly stated, and those voting in the affirmative and negative respectively shall rise and stand in their places until they are counted by the Moderator and tellers. Nothing in this section shall be construed to prevent the taking of a vote by ballot in the first instance if a motion to that effect shall be duly made and carried by a majority of the voters present and voting thereon. All votes on the appropriation of money in excess of one thousand dollars (\$1000.00) shall be taken in the first instance by ballot, as above provided, unless said appropriation shall be recommended or approved by the Advisory Committee. If a two-thirds vote of a town meeting is required by statute, the count need not be taken unless the vote declared by the Moderator is immediately questioned by one (1) or more voters.”

by deleting the following sentence:

“All votes on the appropriation of money in excess of one thousand dollars (\$1000.00) shall be taken in the first instance by ballot, as above provided, unless said appropriation shall be recommended or approved by the Advisory Committee.”,

Moderator declared the Motion Carries

10:06PM

Motion made and seconded to dissolve the meeting

Unanimous

10:07PM

Respectfully Submitted,

Lynne F. Grettum
Town Clerk