

Minutes of 2003 Annual Meeting

MARCH 11, 2003

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Selectman	William R. Hight, Jr.	844 votes
Trustee of Trust Funds	Robert E. Paddock	1116 votes
Park Commissioner	Todd R. McKee	1154 votes
Library Trustees(3)	Patricia H. Eastman	1052 votes
	Ellen Manley	950 votes
	David F. McLure	1028 votes

EXTENSION OF RESIDENTIAL-1 ZONE ALONG FARR HILL ROAD

Article 2 Are you in favor of the adoption of the zoning amendment to the existing town zoning ordinance as proposed by the Planning Board?

The amendment extends the Residential-1 zone to properties on the west side of Farr Hill Road, behind the existing Commercial zone along West-Main Street.

RECOMMENDED BY THE PLANNING BOARD

ARTICLE 2 WAS DEFEATED

524 YES

790 NO

TOWN BUILDING/OPERA HOUSE RENOVATION BOND AND TEMPORARY FACILITIES RELOCATION

Article 3 To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$2,500,000 (Two Million Five Hundred Thousand Dollars), for the purpose of renovating and restoring the Littleton Town Building/Opera House, said amount to be raised through a bond or other borrowing in compliance with the provisions of the Municipal Finance Act (RSA 33), and to further authorize the Selectmen to issue and negotiate such notes and/or bonds and to determine the rate of interest thereon and to take such other action as may be necessary to effect the issuance, negotiation, sale and delivery of such notes and/or bonds as shall be in the best interest of the town, and to further raise and appropriate up to \$2,500 (Two Thousand Five Hundred Dollars) for administrative and legal costs associated with such borrowing. (60% majority vote required)

RECOMMENDED BY THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN

ARTICLE 3 WAS DEFEATED 395 YES 931 NO

TOWN BUDGET

Article 4 Shall the Town raise and appropriate as an operating budget, not including appropriations by special warrant articles and other appropriations voted separately, the amounts set forth on the budget posted with the warrant or as amended by vote of the first session, for the purpose set forth therein, totaling \$5,299,230 (Five Million Two Hundred Ninety Nine Thousand Two Hundred Thirty Dollars). Should this article be defeated, the operating budget shall be \$5,335,420 (Five Million Three Hundred Thirty Five Thousand Four Hundred Twenty Dollars) which is the same as last year, with certain adjustments required by previous action of the Town or by law or the governing body may hold one special meeting, in accordance with RSA 40:13,X and XVI, to take up the issue of a revised operating budget only.

RECOMMENDED BY THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN

ARTICLE 4 PASSED 1065 YES 250 NO

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SEA OF NH CHAPTER #57 UNION CONTRACT

Article 5 To see if the town will vote to approve the cost items included in an amendment to the collective bargaining agreement reached between the Selectmen and State Employees Association of NH Chapter #57 (representing Police employees which calls for increases in total salaries in the 2003 fiscal year in the amount of \$27,746 (Twenty Seven Thousand Seven Hundred Forty Six Dollars). This appropriation includes all cost items related to wages, benefits and taxes.

RECOMMENDED BY THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN

ARTICLE 5 PASSED 839 YES 465 NO

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES DIRECTOR

Article 6 To see if the town will raise and appropriate the sum of \$23,477 (Twenty Three Thousand Four Hundred Seventy Seven Dollars), of which \$16,333 (Sixteen Thousand Three Hundred Thirty Three Dollars) represents the cost of wages and \$7,144 (Seven Thousand One Hundred Forty Four Dollars) represents the cost of benefits and taxes for the purpose of hiring a Community Activities Director beginning after June 1, 2003. And further to direct the Board of Selectmen to establish an Advisory Committee with representation from Parks and Recreation, the Littleton Area Senior Center, Littleton High School, Daisy Bronson Middle School, Lakeway Elementary School, Littleton Youth Soccer, Cal Ripken Baseball and the Community Accessibility Advisory Board. This Advisory Committee will report quarterly to the Board of Selectmen and present a report on progress to the 2004 Town Meeting.

RECOMMENDED BY THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN

ARTICLE 6 WAS DEFEATED 645 YES 664 NO

TOWN BUILDING/OPERA HOUSE VFW COMMEMORATIVE PLAQUE

Article 7 To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$500 (Five Hundred Dollars) for the purpose of placing a commemorative plaque recognizing the Veterans Memorial Bridge.

RECOMMENDED BY THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN

ARTICLE 7 PASSED 1050 YES 250 NO

BRIDGE REPAIR FUND

Article 8 To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$2,500 (Two Thousand Five Hundred Dollars) for the purpose of bridge cleaning and emergency bridge repairs. It is intended to present a warrant article in 2004 to place any funds raised by this article and not used for this purpose into the Capital Reserve Fund previously established for Bridge Repair.

RECOMMENDED BY THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN

ARTICLE 8 PASSED 1014 YES 281 NO

PURCHASE OF REPLACEMENT TRUCK FOR THE HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

Article 9 To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen to enter into a five year lease/purchase agreement for the purpose of leasing a 2003 one and one half ton truck as a replacement for the 1998 one

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ton truck in service in the Littleton Highway Department so that the total acquisition cost is \$48,000 (Forty Eight Thousand Dollars) and to authorize the Selectmen to trade in the replaced vehicle for a value of \$4,800 (Four Thousand Eight Hundred Dollars) and to apply such proceeds toward the lease payment and setup costs and further to raise and appropriate the sum of \$9,120 (Nine Thousand One Hundred Twenty Dollars), this amount being the balance of the first year lease payment and setup costs.

RECOMMENDED BY THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN

ARTICLE 9 PASSED 805 YES 495 NO

PURCHASE OF SEWER JET FOR THE HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

Article 10 To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen to enter into a five year lease/purchase agreement for the purpose of leasing a replacement for the 1983 sewer jet in service in the Littleton Highway Department so that the net acquisition cost is \$40,000 (Forty Thousand Dollars) and further to raise and appropriate the sum of \$7,600 (Seven Thousand Six Hundred Dollars), this amount being the first year lease payment.

RECOMMENDED BY THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN

ARTICLE 10 PASSED 860 YES 430 NO

RECONSTRUCTING/RE-PAVING AND UPGRADING VARIOUS TOWN ROADS

Article 11 To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$299,942 (Two Hundred Ninety Nine Thousand Nine Hundred Forty Two Dollars) for the purpose of upgrading and improving various Town Roads and to use the sum of \$56,676 (Fifty Six Thousand Six Hundred Seventy Six Dollars) from the unexpended fund balance as of December 31, 2002, so that the amount to be raised by taxes will be \$243,266 (Two Hundred Forty Three Thousand Two Hundred Sixty Six Dollars). The roads to be upgraded and improved are:

- Bronson Street – overlay – estimated cost \$19,859 (Nineteen Thousand Eight Hundred Fifty Nine Dollars)
- Brickyard Road – add gravel & shape – estimated cost \$13,100 (Thirteen Thousand One Hundred Dollars)
- Orchard Hill Road – overlay – estimated cost \$14,341 (Fourteen Thousand Three Hundred Forty One Dollars)
- Owen Drive – overlay – estimated cost \$8,721 (Eight Thousand Seven Hundred Twenty One Dollars)
- Pine Hill Road – reconstruct – estimated cost \$15,321 (Fifteen Thousand Three Hundred Twenty One Dollars)
- Railroad Street – shim and pave – estimated cost \$60,192 (Sixty Thousand One Hundred Ninety Two Dollars)
- Remick Street – shim and overlay – estimated cost \$8,436 (Eight Thousand Four Hundred Thirty Six Dollars)
- Slate Ledge Road – cold plane and overlay – estimated cost \$101,018 (One Hundred One Thousand Eighteen Dollars)
- Summer Street – shim and overlay – estimated cost \$4,089 (Four Thousand Eighty Nine Dollars)
- Summit Avenue – shim and overlay – estimated cost \$10,862 (Ten Thousand Eight Hundred Sixty Two Dollars)
- Washington Street – shim and overlay – estimated cost \$35,292 (Thirty Five Thousand Two

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Hundred Ninety Two Dollars)
Wilkins Farm Road – add gravel and shape – estimated cost \$8,711 (Eight Thousand Seven Hundred Eleven Dollars)

RECOMMENDED BY THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN

ARTICLE 11 PASSED 1039 YES 266 NO

TRANSFER STATION IMPROVEMENTS

Article 12 To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$23,400 (Twenty Three Thousand Four Hundred Dollars) for the purpose of improvements at the Transfer Station to include:
Purchase of four replacement storage trailers for the purpose of materials storage – estimated cost \$8,400 (Eight Thousand Four Hundred Dollars)
Addition to the glass and shingle bunker for a new sheetrock recycling program – estimated cost \$3,000 (Three Thousand Dollars)
Facility and/or equipment improvements for the purpose of a starting glass aggregation program – estimated cost \$12,000 (Twelve Thousand Dollars)
Said funds to come from the Transfer Station unexpended fund balance as of December 31, 2002. This will have no tax impact.

RECOMMENDED BY THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN

ARTICLE 12 PASSED 1011 YES 309 NO

POLICE DEPARTMENT AND HISTORICAL SOCIETY TEMPORARY MOVES

Article 13 To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$25,000 (Twenty Five Thousand Dollars) for the purpose of setup and moving of equipment, materials and records of the Police Department and Littleton Area Historical Society to temporary facilities until such time as a permanent facility plan is approved by Town Meeting. And further, to direct the Board of Selectmen to hold at least two public hearings to discuss the temporary location of the Police Department at such time as a plan is completed.

RECOMMENDED BY THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN

ARTICLE 13 WAS DEFEATED 410 YES 908 NO

ELDERLY TAX EXEMPTION

Article 14 Shall we modify the elderly exemption from the property tax in the Town of Littleton, such that the taxpayer must have a net income of not more than \$25,000, or, if married, a combined income of less than \$35,000 and own net assets not in excess of \$75,000, excluding the value of the person's residence. To qualify, the person must have been a New Hampshire resident for at least 5 years, own the real estate individually or jointly, or if the real estate is owned by such person's spouse, they must have been married for at least 5 years.

RECOMMENDED BY THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN

ARTICLE 14 PASSED 1075 YES 228 NO

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LEAVE TIME LIABILITY TRUST FUND

Article 15 To see if the Town will vote to create an expendable trust fund under the provisions of RSA 31:19-a to be known as the Leave Time Liability Accrual Trust Fund as recommended by the Town's auditor and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to serve as agents to expend from the funds, and further to raise and appropriate the sum of \$76,089.62 (Seventy Six Thousand Eighty Nine Dollars and Sixty Two Cents) for transfer into this fund, and further to authorize the funding of this appropriation by the transfer of this sum from the surplus unexpended fund balance as of December 31, 2001. This amount is being held in that unexpended fund balance under the accounting heading of Vacation Accrual Liability. This will have no tax impact.

RECOMMENDED BY THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN

ARTICLE 15 PASSED 801 YES 471 NO

ROAD DISCONTINUANCE

Article 16 To see if the Town will discontinue completely a section of road, formerly Old Beacon Street, running perpendicular to Highland Avenue between Tax Map 117 Lots 13 and 14. This section of road is not currently in use.

RECOMMENDED BY THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN

ARTICLE 16 PASSED 1102 YES 191 NO

LAND AND COMMUNITY HERITAGE INVESTMENT PROGRAM

Article 17 To see if the Town will vote to send the following resolution to the New Hampshire General Court: Resolved, in its first two years of operation, the Land and Community Heritage Investment Program (LCHIP) has helped communities throughout New Hampshire preserve their natural, cultural and historic resources and has provided funding for preservation of the Littleton Opera House and Town Building, therefore, the State of New Hampshire should maintain funding for LCHIP in its next biennial budget.

RECOMMENDED BY THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN

ARTICLE 17 PASSED 932 YES 356 NO

PETITIONED ARTICLES

Littleton Area Senior Center

Article 18 By Petition: To see if the Town of Littleton will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$23,900 (Twenty Three Thousand Nine Hundred Dollars) for support of home delivered meals, senior dining room services, transportation, outreach, care management and other services provided by the Littleton Area Senior Center during fiscal year 2003.

RECOMMENDED BY THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN

ARTICLE 18 PASSED 1130 YES 128 NO

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NORTH COUNTRY YMCA

Article 19 *By Petition:* To see if the Town of Littleton will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$500 (Five Hundred Dollars) for the purpose of the North Country YMCA's multitude of intergenerational programs offered throughout the year to families and citizens of the Town of Littleton.

RECOMMENDED BY THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN

ARTICLE 19 PASSED 894 YES 354 NO

LITTLETON REGIONAL HOSPITAL

Article 20 *By Petition:* To see if the Town of Littleton will raise and appropriate the sum of \$15,500 (Fifteen Thousand Five Hundred Dollars) for Littleton Regional Hospital for the purpose of helping defray the costs associated with providing free medical services to the citizens of the Town of Littleton.

RECOMMENDED BY THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN

ARTICLE 20 PASSED 741 YES 531 NO

CALEB INTERFAITH GROUP

Article 21 *By Petition:* To see if the Town of Littleton will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,500 (One Thousand Five Hundred Dollars) to help support the Caleb Group Interfaith Volunteer Caregiver Program that serves the needs of elderly and disabled people in the community

RECOMMENDED BY THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN

ARTICLE 21 PASSED 873 YES 371 NO

HOSPICE OF THE LITTLETON AREA

Article 22 *By Petition:* To see if the Town of Littleton will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$3,697 (Three Thousand Six Hundred Ninety Seven Dollars) (based on 61 cents per capita) to support the social and volunteer services of Hospice of the Littleton Area, a non-profit organization which offers supportive care and bereavement services to terminally ill patients and their families in the Town of Littleton.

RECOMMENDED BY THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN

ARTICLE 22 PASSED 1079 YES 180 NO

TRI-COUNTY C.A.P.

Article 23 *By Petition:* To see if the Town of Littleton will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$8,000 (Eight Thousand Dollars) for Tri-County Community Action Program, Littleton to offer energy, rental, housing and food or other emergency assistance to the low-income, elderly and handicapped residents of Littleton.

RECOMMENDED BY THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN

ARTICLE 23 PASSED 955 YES 298 NO

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NORTH COUNTRY HOME HEALTH AND HOSPICE

Article 24 *By Petition:* To see if the Town of Littleton will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$15,966.50 (Fifteen Thousand Nine Hundred Sixty-Six Dollars and Fifty Cents) for the support of the home health care, supportive care, medical hospice and community health programs and services of the North Country Home Health and Hospice Agency, Inc. in the fiscal year 2003 for the residents of Littleton, NH.

RECOMMENDED BY THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN

ARTICLE 24 PASSED 973 YES 278 NO

WHITE MOUNTAIN MENTAL HEALTH AND DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES

Article 25 *By Petition:* To see if the Town of Littleton will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$9,506 (Nine Thousand Five Hundred Six Dollars) as the Town's contribution to White Mountain Mental Health Development Services, a non-profit mental health and developmental service center.

RECOMMENDED BY THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN

ARTICLE 25 PASSED 810 YES 439 NO

AMERICAN RED CROSS

Article 26 *By Petition:* To see if the Town of Littleton will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$2,420.80 (Two Thousand Four Hundred Twenty Dollars and Eighty Cents) (based on .40 cents per resident) for disaster relief, community health and safety services, and military communication and disaster preparedness programs provided by the American Red Cross, Greater White Mountain Chapter.

ARTICLE 26 PASSED 865 YES 390 NO

RECOMMENDED BY THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN

1931 FIRE TRUCK

Article 27 *By Petition:* To see if the Town of Littleton will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$5,938 (Five Thousand Nine Hundred Thirty Eight Dollars) for the purpose of repairing the engine in the 1931 Fire Truck owned by the Town of Littleton Fire Department.

NOT RECOMMENDED BY THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN

ARTICLE 27 WAS DEFEATED 451 YES 791 NO

A TRUE COPY, ATTEST:

**JUDITH F. WHITE
LITTLETON TOWN CLERK**