

TOWN OF TAMWORTH
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
84 MAIN STREET
TAMWORTH, NH 03886
TELEPHONE: (603) 323-7525 FAX: (603) 323-2349
WWW.TAMWORTHNH.ORG

Selectmen's Meeting 5:00 pm
Public Hearing 6:00pm
Town Office

Thursday, February 9, 2017

MINUTES

Present: Selectmen Hidden and Gray, Bruno Siniscalchi, Finance officer Kathy Estabrook, Town Administrator Darlene McWhirter, Sergeant Cooper, TC/TX Trammell, David Little, Anne Chant, Daymond Steer, Chris Clyne, Sharon Nothnagle, Allie Thompson, Sheryl Power, John Wheeler, William Farnum, Mary Cronin, Peg & Dan Poirier, Richard Colcord, Jim Bowles, Ron Remick and the videographer.

I. CALL TO ORDER: Selectman Hidden called the meeting to order at 5:04pm.

II. DEPARTMENTS & COMMITTEES:

- Police Department
Sergeant Cooper presented the Police Department statistics for January 2017.
- Town Clerk/Tax Collector
Town Clerk/Tax Collector Trammell reported that her office will be closed February 17th and 21st while NH DMV is upgrading the software.
Attorney Sager was to complete paperwork for Ms. Trammell concerning interpleaders, which still have not been completed. She asked the board to allow her to begin using the town's new counsel to get this task finished. The board agreed this task has taken oo long and would like to see it completed.
- Administration
 - A Public Hearing is scheduled for February 23rd @ 6:00pm at the Town Office per RSA 41:8-c. "Are you in favor of increasing the Board of Selectmen to 5 members?"
 - A meeting is scheduled with Rmon Network for Wednesday, Feb 22 @ 10am to discuss the summary report as provided and a vision for future computer needs.
 - After reviewing contract language from Primex for small projects, a determination will be made on a case by case basis regarding insurance limits for vendors.
 - A response from DrummondWoodsum will be sent to Mrs. Littlefield regarding her right to know request.
 - Matt Serge from DrummondWoodsum will attend this year's Town meeting.
 - Regional Neighbor communities meeting in Moultonborough is scheduled for February 21st @ 6:30.
 - BMSI has upgraded the Cash Receipts module and has included an invoicing component. The town will begin using this module and replacing the one we purchased this summer.
 - The auditor will be onsite for the audit February 16, 20 and March 2.

III. SIGNATURE FILE:

- Motion made by Selectman Hidden to approve and sign the Selectmen's Minutes for January 26, 2017. Motion seconded by Selectman Gray and passed unanimously.

- Motion made by Selectman Hidden to approve and sign the Selectmen's Non Public Minutes of January 26, 2017. Motion seconded by Selectman Gray and passed unanimously.
- Selectman Hidden made a motion to approve and sign the accounts payable manifest and check register dated February 9, 2017 in the amount of \$239,682.82 for 2017 expenses. Motion was seconded by Selectman Gray and passed unanimously.
- Selectman Hidden made a motion to approve and sign the accounts payable manifest and check register dated February 3, 2017 in the amount of \$9,944.28 for 2016 expenses. Motion was seconded by Selectman Gray and passed unanimously.
- Motion made by Selectman Hidden to approve and sign the payroll manifest of February 9, 2017 in the amount of \$18,488.48 with authorization for a transfer in the amount of \$10,143.38 for direct deposit (included in this amount) and an additional transfer for the Federal Tax Deposit of \$5,725.052, \$140.75 for processing fees and \$9,138.74 vendor payments (not included in the above amount). Motion was seconded by Selectman Gray and passed unanimously.
- Motion made by Selectmen Hidden to approve and sign the payroll manifest of February 3, 2017 in the amount of \$6,917.22 and an additional transfer of \$3,487.10 for the Federal Tax Deposit. Motion was seconded by Selectman Gray and passed unanimously.
- The Board approved and signed the following items:
 - Timber Tax Levy – 401-024
 - Appointments to Conservation Commission
 - Ned Beecher, Commission member
 - Rich Gerard, Commission member
 - John Watkins, Commission member
 - Charles Townsend, Alternate Commission member
 - Lucy Getchall, Alternate Commission member

IV. SELECTMEN'S UPDATE:

- Selectman Gray reported work was completed on the tractor at the Transfer Station.

V. OLD BUSINESS:

- Irene's Way – no change
- Sandwich Perambulation – no change
- Tamworth Road – no change

VI. ADJOURNMENT SELECTMEN'S MEETING: At 5:36pm, Selectmen Hidden made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Selectman Gray and passed unanimously.

VII. PUBLIC HEARING: Selectman Hidden opened the public hearing at 6:00pm. He explained the three hand outs and continued the budget discussion through each line. Selectman Hidden will read each article after the public hearing when the Boards votes. Mr. Farnum stated is concern with the \$800,000 increase in the budget and he would like to see some lines eliminated.

TAMWORTH 2017 TOWN WARRANT

The State of New Hampshire

To the inhabitants of the Town of Tamworth, County of Carroll in said State qualified to vote in Town Affairs:

You are hereby notified to meet for the First Session of the Annual Town Meeting at the Tamworth Town House, 27 Cleveland Hill Road, in said Town of Tamworth on **Tuesday, the 14th of March, 2017**, to choose town officers and to vote on other matters required to be on the official ballot. Polls to be open for voting on **ARTICLE**

#01 and **ARTICLE #02** at eight o'clock in the forenoon and to close not earlier than seven o'clock in the evening. You are hereby notified to meet for the Second Session of the Annual Town Meeting at the Kenneth A. Brett School, 881 Tamworth Road, in said Town of Tamworth on **Wednesday, the 15th of March, 2017**, at seven o'clock in the evening for the transaction of all other Town business as specified in the remaining articles of this warrant.

ARTICLE #01 To elect all necessary **Town Officers**, which appear on the official Town ballot for the ensuing year.

ARTICLE #02 To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$83,662** for **salary and benefits** for the current year for the position of **Town Clerk/Tax Collector**. **NOTE:** The amount requested under this article shall be used for an annual salary of \$54,000 to include 15 paid days off, FICA and Medicare in the amount of \$4,131, a health and dental insurance premium (93% of the premium for the Town's health insurance plan currently with an 80/20% split for a two person policy and 100% of the employee dental insurance) of \$19,456 and contributions to the NH State Retirement System at the effective contribution rate (remaining at 11.17% thru June 30th and 11.38% July thru Dec 2017) of \$6,075. (These funds shall only be disbursed as long as the eligibility requirements are met in accordance with the NH Retirement System). Also, if a midterm appointment of a new Town Clerk/Tax Collector should be made a salary and benefit package will be determined by the Board of Selectmen at the time of the appointment. (Majority Vote Required)

The Board of Selectmen **recommends** this article. (Vote 2-0)

ARTICLE #03 To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$1,035,116** for **General Government Operations:** (Majority Vote Required)

Board of Selectmen	\$ 13,489
Town Administration	\$180,923
Town Clerk/Tax Collector	\$ 41,593
Election & Registration	\$ 4,407
Treasurer's Expense	\$ 9,076
Data Processing	\$ 32,700
Revaluation of Property	\$ 13,424
Legal Expenses	\$ 30,000
Personnel Administration	\$ 4,700
Planning	\$ 9,135
Zoning	\$ 1,982
Office Building	\$ 32,000
Town House	\$ 12,551
Cemeteries	\$ 34,549
Property Liability Insurance	\$ 31,000
Advertising & Regional Assoc.	\$ 9,267
Emergency Repair Response	\$150,000
Hazardous Mitigation Grant	\$ 8,000
<u>CDFA – Tamworth Village Assn</u>	<u>\$350,000</u>

Total Grants & Emergency Response	\$508,000	
Debt Service Principal & Interest		\$ 66,320

After some discussion the board reduced the TA salary – PT line by \$3,000 and eliminated the TA Professional Services line. A reduction was made in the Office Building office furniture and grounds maintenance lines. There was some discussion regarding overseeing activities at the Town House. The Board of Selectmen decreased the total General Government Operations from \$1,035,116 to \$1,030,866.

ARTICLE #04

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$695,395** for **Public Safety**: (Majority Vote Required)

Police Department		\$245,465
Ambulance Contracted Services		\$138,715
Fire Department	\$207,066	
Watercraft	\$ 20,000	\$227,066
Rescue Squad		\$ 66,581
Forest Fires		\$ 6,953
Emergency Management		\$ 4,933
Animal Control		\$ 5,666

The Board of Selectmen **recommends** this article. (Vote 2-0)

Sergeant Cooper was available to discussion the Police Department budget, particularly the Overtime/PT salary, PD Equipment Rep & Maint and PD equipment lines. Fire Chief Colcord stated that There was a discussion to make the Watercraft an individual warrant article under Emergency Management, which will be added to the town warrant. The Board reduced the PD budget by \$13,323 to \$232,142. The total Public Safety budget has changed to \$662,056. There was a brief discussion regarding combining the Fire Dept and Rescue Squad and what kinds of savings would that mean for the taxpayer.

ARTICLE #05

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$1,331,729** for **Public Works**: (Majority Vote Required)

Highway Department	\$587,588	
Bridge Repair/Replace	\$225,000	
Road Reconstruction	\$280,000	
Total Highway		\$1,092,588
Street Lights		\$ 16,000
Well Monitoring & Testing		\$ 4,000
Transfer Station Operations	\$194,866	
Transfer Station Containers	\$ 24,275	
Total Transfer Station		\$ 219,141

The Board of Selectmen **recommends** this article. (Vote 2-0)

Members of the public suggested cutting \$8,000 from Bridge Insp/repair/drainage. Because much work was done last year repairing roads and the cost of material is low a suggestion was made to cut \$30,000 from Road Construction. No changes were made.

ARTICLE #06

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$24,408** for **Health and Welfare:** (Majority Vote Required)

Health Officer	\$ 639
General Assistance	\$ 23,769

ARTICLE #07

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$288,430** for **Culture & Recreation:** (Majority vote required)

Parks & Recreation	\$98,427	
<u>Playground Equipment</u>	<u>\$7,500</u>	
Total Recreation		\$105,927
Swim Program		\$ 6,780
Library		\$167,723
Patriotic Purposes/Family Day		\$ 8,000

The Library Trustees requested that the Library budget be placed on the warrant as an individual article stating that the Trustees must raise and appropriate the total dollars needed. The funds requested for playground equipment will be for an expansion at the existing playground. The Board of Selectmen agreed to an individual warrant article for the library to raise and appropriate \$170,668 with 149,175 coming from taxation. The total Culture and Recreation budget was reduced to \$120,707 from \$288,430.

ARTICLE #08

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$7,457** for **Tamworth Conservation Commission** expenses. (Majority Vote Required)

ARTICLE #09

To see if the town will vote to approve the **purchase of a new Fire Vehicle** at a cost not to exceed \$384,000 payable over a term of 2 years with an appropriation of \$196,000 in 2017 and \$188,000 in 2018, and further to raise and appropriate \$196,000 for the first year's payment. In the following year the appropriation of \$188,000 will be contained in the operating budget. (2/3 Vote Required)

ARTICLE #10

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$72,000** for the **Cook Memorial Library roof replacement.** (Majority Vote Required)

ARTICLE #11

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$30,000** to **perform a needs assessment and planning for a future Public Safety Building.** (Majority Vote Required)

After some discussion the board decreased the warrant article from \$30,000 to a \$10,000 5 year non-lapsing article for a needs assessment for a new public safety building.

ARTICLE #13

(By Petition) Whereas the 250th Celebration Committee generated net proceeds of \$21,757.83 from sales of memorabilia, and the monies were deposited with the town and now resides in the general fund, and

Whereas the Board of Selectmen are responsible for the expenses of preserving town records, under New Hampshire state law RSA 41:59, and

Whereas there are records that if not preserved could be lost, and

Whereas the public may wish to research those records, and

Whereas the Tamworth Foundation has offered to double any money raised and given to Tamworth Foundation for the purpose of the preservation of town records during their current fiscal year, now therefore

To see if the voters of the Town of Tamworth will vote to appropriate the sum of \$21,757.83, said monies to come from the general fund not from taxes raised, and to remit to the Tamworth Foundation not later than March 31, 2017 the total sum of \$21,757.83, for the purpose of preservation of The Town of Tamworth's historical records. (Majority vote required)

ARTICLE #14

(By Petition) To see if the Town will vote to deposit 100% of the revenues collected for the land use change tax pursuant to RSA 79-A, up to \$7,500 in any given calendar year, in the conservation fund, in accordance with RSA 36-A:5, III, as authorized by RSA 79-A:25 IV. This article shall take effect on April 1, 2017. (Majority vote required)

ARTICLE #15

(By Petition) To see if the Town will vote to establish a **cemetery expendable maintenance trust fund** pursuant to RSA 31:19-a and to appoint the Cemetery Trustees agents to expend funds in said fund for improvements, expansion and general maintenance of cemeteries in Tamworth: and further;

To see if the Town will vote to authorize funds received from the sale of cemetery lots to be deposited into the above cemetery expendable maintenance trust fund. (Majority Vote Required)

The Board recessed the public hearing from 8:50pm to 9:10pm.

ARTICLE #16

(By Petition) We the undersigned votes of the Town of Tamworth, NH under RSA 41:8-b submit this petition to the Tamworth Board of Selectmen to be placed on the warrant for town meeting in 2017. The question "**Are you in favor of increasing the Board of Selectmen to 5 members?**"

This article was moved the Article #2 to be voted on the ballot.

ARTICLE #17

(By Petition) To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$2,000** to the **Tamworth Outing Club** for the support of the Cal Ripken and Babe Ruth baseball programs. (Majority Vote Required)

ARTICLE #19

(By Petition) We the undersigned registered voters of the Town of Tamworth do hereby petition the 2017 Annual Town Meeting to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$6,000** for **Tri-County Community Action** for the purpose of continuing services of the Fuel Assistance Program for the residents of Tamworth. (Majority Vote Required)

ARTICLE #20

(By Petition) To see if the Town of Tamworth will raise and appropriate the sum of **\$97** or transfer same from available funds, for support of the **Medication Bridge Assistance Program**. (Majority Vote Required)

- ARTICLE #21 (By Petition) To respectfully request that the town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$1,744** in support of **Starting Point** providing advocacy and support to victims of domestic and sexual violence and their children. (Majority Vote Required)
- ARTICLE #22 (By Petition) To see if the Town of Tamworth will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$5,000** for the **Tamworth Scholarship Committee, Inc.** (Majority Vote Required)
- ARTICLE #23 (By Petition) Warrant Article for the Town of Tamworth to raise and appropriate the same sum as last year of **\$5,000** to assist the **Community Food Center** the food pantry serving Tamworth people. (Majority Vote Required)
- ARTICLE #24 (By Petition) We the undersigned, being registered voters in the Town of Tamworth request that the following item be included in your 2017 town warrant: To see if the Town of Tamworth will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$3,400** for the Family Resource Center at **Children Unlimited, Inc.** (Majority Vote Required)
- ARTICLE #25 (By Petition) To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$80,000** to support the **Tamworth Community Nurse Association.** (Majority Vote Required)
- ARTICLE #26 (By Petition) To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$24,000** to provide meals for Tamworth **Meals on Wheels** recipients. (Majority Vote Required)
- ARTICLE #27 (By Petition) To see if the Town of Tamworth will raise and appropriate the sum of **\$2,500** for the annual support of services provided to the citizens of this community by the **Central New Hampshire VNA & Hospice.** The VNA-Hospice Agency has been serving the Town residents for many years, and the Town has consistently supported the VNA & Hospice. (Majority Vote Required)
- ARTICLE #28 (By Petition) To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$17,000** for support of the Tamworth children, ages 5 – 12, using the Out-of-School hours, School-Aged childcare services at **Bearcamp Valley School and Children's Center** (Tamworth Preschool Inc.), a non-profit organization. These services include before and after school, vacation weeks and summer programs for Tamworth Children ages 5-12. This request does not include any preschool programming. (Majority Vote Required)
- ARTICLE #29 (By Petition) To see if the Town will raise and appropriate the sum of **\$3,750** to assist the **Mental Health Center.** (Majority Vote Required)
- ARTICLE #30 (By Petition) We the undersigned voter of the Town of Tamworth do hereby request the Selectmen to place this petition warrant article on the 2017 Warrant for Town meeting. To see if the Town of Tamworth will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$3,500** in support of **Blue Loon Bus Service.** (Majority Vote Required)
- ARTICLE #31 (By Petition) To see if the Town of Tamworth will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$5,216** for the support of **White Mountain Community Health Center** to help meet the healthcare needs of the uninsured and underinsured residents of the Town of Tamworth. (Majority Vote Required)

ARTICLE #32

(By Petition) To see if the Town of Tamworth will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$1,000** for **MWV Supports Recovery Coalition Recovery Support Programs** (family and peer support programs for substance use disorders). (Majority Vote Required)

ARTICLE #33

(By Petition) Shall the town adopt the “all veterans’ property tax credit” under RSA 72:28-b? If adopted, the credit will be available to any resident, or the spouse or surviving spouse of any resident, who (1) served not less than 90 days on active service in the armed forces of the United States and was honorably discharged or was an officer honorably separated from service, and (2) is not eligible for and not receiving the credit for veterans who served in a qualifying war or armed conflict or for veterans with a service-connected disability. If adopted, the credit will be in the amount of \$500.00, which is the same amount as the credit for a veteran who served in a qualifying war or armed conflict. If the credit is adopted, any person desiring to claim the credit will be required to file an application with the Selectmen or the Assessor by April 15 of the tax year. (Majority vote required)

A rough estimate concerning additional credits was calculated at follows. Using information from Veterans Data Central, there are about 109,398 veterans in NH. In Carroll County it is estimated at 12.1 to 14.5 of the adult population are veterans. There are 2,122 registered voters in Tamworth. With this information there are potentially 278 to 308 veterans in Tamworth. If this article passes we could see an increase of approximately 171 additional veterans receiving the credit at \$500 each or \$85,500.

ARTICLE #34

To transact any other business that may legally come before the meeting.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT PUBLIC HEARING: At 9:45pm, Selectman Hidden made a motion to close the Public Hearing and return the regular meeting. The motion was seconded by Selectman Gray and passed unanimously.

The Board took the following action the warrant articles:

Article #3:	The Board of Selectmen recommends this article by a vote of 2-0.
Article #4:	The Board of Selectmen recommends this article by a vote of 2-0.
Article #5:	The Board of Selectmen recommends this article by a vote of 2-0.
Article #6:	The Board of Selectmen recommends this article by a vote of 2-0.
Article #7:	The Board of Selectmen recommends this article by a vote of 2-0.
Article #8:	The Board of Selectmen recommends this article by a vote of 2-0.
Article #9:	The Board of Selectmen recommends this article by a vote of 2-0.
Article #10:	The Board of Selectmen recommends this article by a vote of 2-0.
Article #11:	The Board of Selectmen recommends this article by a vote of 2-0.
Article #12:	The Board of Selectmen recommends this article by a vote of 2-0.
Article #13:	The Board of Selectmen recommends this article by a vote of 2-0.
Article #14:	The Board of Selectmen recommends this article by a vote of 2-0.
Article #15:	The Board of Selectmen recommends this article by a vote of 2-0.
Article #16:	The Board of Selectmen recommends this article by a vote of 1-1.
Article #18:	The Board of Selectmen recommends this article by a vote of 2-0.
Article #19:	The Board of Selectmen recommends this article by a vote of 2-0.
Article #20:	The Board of Selectmen recommends this article by a vote of 2-0.

Article #21:	The Board of Selectmen recommends this article by a vote of 2-0.
Article #22:	The Board of Selectmen recommends this article by a vote of 2-0.
Article #23:	The Board of Selectmen recommends this article by a vote of 2-0.
Article #24:	The Board of Selectmen recommends this article by a vote of 2-0.
Article #25:	The Board of Selectmen recommends this article by a vote of 2-0.
Article #26:	The Board of Selectmen recommends this article by a vote of 2-0.
Article #27:	The Board of Selectmen recommends this article by a vote of 2-0.
Article #28:	The Board of Selectmen recommends this article by a vote of 2-0.
Article #29:	The Board of Selectmen recommends this article by a vote of 2-0.
Article #30:	The Board of Selectmen does not recommend this article by a vote of 2-0.
Article #31:	The Board of Selectmen recommends this article by a vote of 2-0.
Article #32:	The Board of Selectmen recommends this article by a vote of 2-0.
Article #33:	The Board of Selectmen recommends this article by a vote of 2-0.

IX. ADJOURNMENT SELECTMEN'S MEETING: At 10:22pm, Selectman Hidden made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Selectman Gray and passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Darlene McWhirter
Town Administrator

Approved by the Board of Selectmen

John E. Roberts

James S. Hidden

Steven G. Gray