

2017 TOWN MEETING MINUTES

2017 TOWN MEETING  
MINUTES  
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 14<sup>th</sup> 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 15<sup>th</sup> 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.

The moderator opened the meeting at 7:05pm. The moderator introduced Morgan Dubuque to lead us with the pledge of allegiance. The Town Meeting Singers sang the Tamworth Anthem. The moderator gave a Thank you to Richard Roberts and the Highway Department who helped to keep us moving on Election Day. The moderator asked those to stand that were involved or participated in the Tamworth 250<sup>th</sup> celebration throughout the year as he read his list of activities that one would have participated in (which he was sure involved everyone in the room). He asked the official members of the 250<sup>th</sup> Celebration Committee to stand to be recognized. The moderator in recognition of John

Roberts, who was not present, thanked John for his 27 years as a Selectman (since 1987) and his countless hours of service. He asked the community when you bump into John to thank him. George Cleveland led us in the invocation. Chris Canfield, moderator explained how George Cleveland when swearing him in as moderator suggested to Chris to find people in the crowd to calm and ground him. Don McGarity, Tom Vachon, as well as Bob Floyd were named as such people. A moment of silence followed to pay tribute to those men. The moderator then certified the election by reading the results of the school and town elections.

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

<u>Office</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Term</u>	<u>Votes</u>
Selectmen	Michael J Malenfant	3 years	56
	Daniel Poirier		397
Road Agent	Richard R Roberts	3 years	428

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Treasurer	Priscilla Remick	1 year	406
Planning Board Members	Patricia W. Farley	3 years	335
	Andy Fisher		141
	Ed Phelps		54
Trustee of the Trust Funds	John B Wheeler	3 years	62
Cemetery Trustee	John B Wheeler	3 years	400
Library Trustees	Anne Chant	3 years	391
	Evan Henderson		346
Fireward Tamworth	Harry E. Remick	3 years	416
Total Ballots Cast			485

**ARTICLE #02** (By Petition) We the undersigned voters 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?"**

**Majority Vote**

**Yes 261 No 165**

The moderator introduced the head table. He explained the rules and regulations before getting started. Articles read, moved/seconded, discussion, voice vote after discussion, if voice vote not conclusive a raise of hands with signed ballot cards will be counted by eye and if too close to call will be physically counted. If article request is for a Secret Ballot, from five registered voters who are present, the secret ballot will be conducted instead of a voice vote and the signers are not guaranteed to anonymity. Moderator asked for those who wish to speak to go to the microphone. If a person plans on addressing varying articles, and/or plan to speak often, please sit by the microphone. Please introduce yourself before speaking and please speak through the moderator. If you are not a registered voter please let the moderator know before speaking. The moderator instructed those present to go to the Town Warrant on page 33 in the annual report. The moderator read Article #03.

**ARTICLE #03** 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

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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 30<sup>th</sup> 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)

Moved/Seconded

Discussion

Mike Malenfant thanked Kim for keeping the polls open and running by the law, and thanked the Town employees and volunteers for their work on Election Day. Mike asked Kim if she had received a raise last year. She had not received a raise last year and Mike commented on her asking for almost a \$4500 raise this year. Kim spoke of it being \$4200. Mike asked the selectmen if any Town employee had received a raise last year. Steve Gray spoke that there was a pay grade promotion which came with not a substantial increase for an employee last year. Mike's point was that if Kim didn't get a raise last year and no one else got a raise last year he wouldn't go for it. Kim spoke and addressed being an elected official and having a separate warrant article and that the appointed employees and any elected official falling under the direction of the Board of Selectmen, go through the selectmen for increases of COLA or pay increases. Kim explained how she presented a number of points to the Selectmen for her increase, one being the Select board's decision in December 2015 to not count as earnable hours toward her NH Retirement System any personal, sick, vacation, and holiday time for her as an elected official. Kim spoke of her total working hours to be 1960 hours last year. She asked that in the future if 15 paid days off could be considered as counted earnable hours. Kim explained that she was fortunate to be able to show the additional revenue brought in through her office that covers what she is asking for from the Town Clerk Fee increase in July 2015 that the State legislation passed which raised that fee from \$1 to \$2 and that there are 4500 MV registrations processed annually. She went on to explain that her office balances \$8 million a year in revenue, and reiterated the Municipal Agent Fee of \$10,000 collected annually from processing the State portion of the motor vehicle registrations as being an optional program and that it is cost effective. Mike said that that is what he wanted explained so that the \$4500 raise is fully explained because no one really understands the scope of her position in what she does.

No Further Discussion

Voice Vote Taken

Article Passed

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### ARTICLE #04

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$1,030,866 for General Government Operations:**  
(Majority Vote Required)

Board of Selectmen	\$13,489
Town Administration	\$177,423
<u>Town Clerk/Tax Collector</u>	<u>\$41,593</u>
<u>Election &amp; Registration</u>	<u>\$4,407</u>
<u>Treasurer's Expense</u>	<u>\$9,076</u>
<u>Data Processing</u>	<u>\$32,700</u>
<u>Revaluation of Property</u>	<u>\$13,424</u>
<u>Legal Expenses</u>	<u>\$30,000</u>
<u>Personnel Administration</u>	<u>\$4,700</u>
<u>Planning</u>	<u>\$9,135</u>
<u>Zoning</u>	<u>\$1,982</u>
<u>Office Building</u>	<u>\$31,250</u>
<u>Town House</u>	<u>\$12,551</u>
<u>Cemeteries</u>	<u>\$34,549</u>
<u>Property Liability Insurance</u>	<u>\$31,000</u>
<u>Advertising &amp; Regional Assoc.</u>	<u>\$9,267</u>
Emergency Repair Response	<u>\$150,000</u>
Hazardous Mitigation Grant	<u>\$8,000</u>
<u>CDFA – Tamworth Village Assn</u>	<u>\$350,000</u>
<u>Total Grants</u>	<u>\$508,000</u>
<u>Debt Service Principal &amp; Interest</u>	<u>\$66,320</u>

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

Moved/Seconded

Discussion

Becky Mason asked to make an amendment to the article to reduce the Warrant Article by \$8,926 to read \$1,021,940. The moderator asked if there were specific lines to change. Becky replied to the lines involved. Town Administration line to remove \$3,000 for PT position for filing involved, second line Personnel Administration of \$2,000 for stipends because the employees are already getting raises this year, and the third line would be to the Town House for \$3,926 for the Salary and Federal Tax lines because the Town House in the past was part of the Park & Rec. Dept pay and is not now. Brian Cutter asked Parker what would this do to the Town House by reducing the budget, and was concerned about the Contra Dances during the summer. Parker addressed that in the past someone who worked for the Remick Museum used to schedule all activities at the Town House. Selectmen asked Parker as Recreation Director some years ago if he would take over the recreational activities, and later was asked to take over all the activities and would be paid additional monies for this. Brian Cutter asked Parker if he would still be opening and closing if

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the \$3,000+ was cut from the budget. Parker responded that he guess he would be expected to do this for free unless it fell under the responsibility of the Rec. Dept. Jim Hidden spoke of it always being a separate situation and going back close to 20 yrs with the Remick Foundation opening and closing and in charge of the activities prior to Parker being asked to take over. Jim realizes some lines may be blurred because we see Parker doing activities for the Rec. dept and duties at the Town House. Parker clarified that Aerobics, Yoga, Tychi that don't fall under the Recreation Dept he is not being paid his normal salary for those. Moderator asked if any further discussion. Hearing none for the Amendment a Voice Vote was taken. Point of Order was asked. Willie asked if the Selectmen could move money within the article if amendments are made to the top line of \$1 million plus. The moderator addressed that as true and that it may be brought up time and time again throughout the meeting as amendments are made. The voice vote taken to amend the Article was voted on and the Amendment was not passed.

Back to original article Amount of \$1,030,866 for Discussion.

Moved/Seconded

Steve Gray asked to amend article to \$1,036,884 increasing it by \$6,018 coming from the undesignated fund balance for general government operations addressing items brought to the attention of the board after an IT inspection was done and after the budget process was completed.

The moderator read the amendment as proposed by Steve Gray.

Moved/Seconded

Discussion on \$1,036,884

Mike Malenfant asked where in the annual report the increase of \$6,018 is to be found. Steve Gray explained that the increase will come from the undesignated fund balance and that the increase would be used for both hardware and software. Willie Farnum understands that there are some issue with the server in the office and he also noticed that our data processing budget has already increased tremendously this year, and now we want to add another \$6,000+ to make a total of \$38,000 for the data processing budget. I know that we have questions later on to the increases for the Treasurer, Rec. Dept, Transfer Station budgets of \$1,000 for new computers this year. Willie would like to know exactly what this \$6,018 increase is for. Steve Gray responded that the Computer included in this amount is in the Town Clerk/Tax Collector's office but was not the whole \$6,000. Other

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costs address issues pertaining to Homeland Security and having the software protection needed to address security problems. David Little asked if this is for consultation for security services or for a piece of hardware or a piece of software or what items. Steve Gray spoke about varying items and David Little stated that the \$6,000 can't be solely for firewalls, and was still questioning what we were purchasing for \$6,018? Steve Gray spoke about a nine page report from the IT Company that listed what was thought to be needed and that the majority was related to the security systems.

No Further Discussion  
Passed

Voice Vote

Amendment

Article as Amended open for discussion

Willie Farnum asked to have this article amended by reducing this sum by \$1,482 from the ZBA budget to \$1,035,402. Willie Farnum pointed out that we have one ordinance in town that they might have to have a hearing on and last year they spent \$250. This amendment reduction would leave \$500 for this ensuing year. This amendment involves the Zoning line.

Moved/Seconded

Discussion

No further Discussion

The Moderator clarified

The amendment to now be voted on includes the undesignated funds of \$6,018 previously voted on, and to bring the new total to \$1,035,402 of which will include this amended reduction of \$1,482.

Voice Vote

Amended Amendment Passed

Further Discussion on the Article as Amended

David Little asked a question concerning a statement made in an Article in the paper that "If all three selectmen agreed to reduce the legal expense line by 25%?" Steve Gray answered that only two selectmen were present at the meeting when that vote was taken.

Barbara Bloomberg questioned the \$41,593 under the Town Clerk/Tax Collectors line and the previous article addressing the Town Clerk/Tax Collector's Salary and Benefits in the amount of \$83,662. She asked if this was duplication. Kim explained that as an elected official her salary and benefits are in a separate warrant article

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and the \$41,593 total is for her Deputy part time line and all the supplies, election materials, and everything else necessary to operate the office for the year. The total of those two amounts is what it costs to operate the Town Clerk/Tax Collectors Office would be roughly \$124,000 or whatever the two add up to. In the other departments it is shown as one total line for the operation of their department including the salaries of each department's employees. Barbara asked if I would still be paid if the Warrant Article for the Town Clerk/Tax Collector's Salary and Benefits would be voted down. Kim explained that it would, within a three year term, default to the previous year's amount.

Melanie Streeter asked to make a motion to reduce the Town Administration budget by \$3,000. The moderator clarified that she is asking to amend the amendment by \$3,000 to bring us to \$1,032,402.

Moved/Seconded

Discussion

Joanne Rainville asked Melanie to explain why she would like to reduce that budget. Melanie said it was always covered by a volunteer and she felt that it could continue to be covered that way. It was asked what position? The response was that it was the part time position for filing in the Selectmen/Assessing Office. Mike Malenfant had never seen a volunteer position in the budget? Jim Hidden spoke that for years it was covered by a very nice gentleman and at the time of budgeting there was not a volunteer.

No further Discussion

The moderator initiated a Voice Vote to amend the amended article to total \$1,032,402. Voice vote taken no conclusion. Further Discussion pursued as Peg Poirier stood to offer to be a volunteer. Joanne Rainville felt that we should keep the \$3,000 in the budget in case a volunteer moves to Florida to relocate! The moderator was asked to move the question. The Moderator took a voice vote for \$1,032,402 and was too close to call. Vote went to using cards. Ballot Cards were counted by show of hands.

Ballot Card Vote

78 Yes 49 No

David Little asked to amend the Amended Article to \$1,033,402 by adding \$1,000.

Moved/Seconded

Discussion

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David Little explained that it is for the Supervisor of the Checklist's computer as her current laptop is over 13 yrs old and not up to date and is slow. Willie Farnum agreed with David Little but is voting No on this as he feels there is plenty of money in the million dollars to purchase this laptop.

No Further Discussion    Voice Vote taken    Amendment Not Passed

Hearing No Further Discussion

The moderator announced that we were back to \$1,032,402. The moderator was asked for a point of order.

David Little asked to offer an amendment which does not change the total appropriations at all, but it does change where the funds come from:

To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,032,402 of which \$515,409 is raised through taxation, \$360,975 is to come from anticipated revenue, and \$150,000 to come from the general fund, and \$6,018 to come from the undesignated fund.

Moved/Seconded

Discussion

David Little was asked where the \$150,000 was from? The \$150,000 is from the general fund. This represents the Emergency Repair Response line first created in 2011 when we discontinued a number of capital reserves, and in 2013 the state made it a contingency fund, but that we have been taxed on that amount every year for the last six years and he would like to stop re-taxing ourselves on that, as the money has been in the general fund since last year and he would like to not be taxed on that through taxation. David Little explained that the \$360,975 in the budget involves gross appropriations to be made for the anticipated revenue for the village association project and does not want the taxpayers to be taxed on that. David went on to explain how we are taxed on the appropriations made and passed.

John Wheeler thought the issue to be moot because the raised money that a surplus (unappropriated revenue that the selectmen look at when they come to set the tax rate), when you appropriate \$150,000 and it ends up as surplus because you didn't spend it, and yes, although that is considered in the amount you have to raise by taxation, when you actually set the tax rate where the money actually



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comes from whether it is the unappropriated surplus or taxes, you combine those to set the tax rate so I think it makes no difference in the bottom line.

The moderator hearing no further discussion read the amendment:

To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,032,402 for general government operations of which \$515,409 is to be raised through taxation, \$360,975 is to come from anticipated revenue, and \$156,018 is to come from the undesignated fund balance.

Voice Vote taken

Amendment Passed

Discussion of Article as Amended

No Further Discussion

Voice Vote taken

Amended Article Passed

### ARTICLE #05

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$662,056 for Public Safety: (Majority Vote Required)**

Police Department	\$232,142
Ambulance Contracted Services	\$138,715
Fire Department	\$207,066
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)

Moved/Seconded

Discussion

Willie Farnum asked to amend this article to \$660,056.

Moved/Seconded

Discussion

Willie Farnum asked to reduce the police dept fuel line by \$2,000. Willie went on to explain the actual money spent over the last couple of years being less than budgeted and that he objects strongly to the police cruiser going to Wolfeboro. Mike Malenfant spoke about selectmen discussion and at the town meeting squawking of vests last year, and now fuel this year.

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Voting on Amendment                      Voice vote                      Passed

Further discussion on Article as Amended

David Little asked to amend \$660,056 of which \$658,556 to be raised through taxation and \$1,500 thru anticipated revenue.

Moved/Seconded    No Discussion                      Voice Vote                      Amendment  
Passed

The Moderator read the article as amended to be \$660,056 for Public Safety of which \$658,556 to be raised through taxation and \$1,500 thru anticipated revenue.

Voice Vote taken                                      Amended Article Passed

ARTICLE #06

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	\$194,866	
<u>Transfer Station</u>	<u>\$24,275</u>	
Total Transfer Station		\$219,141

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

Richard Roberts, Road Agent, asked to amend this article down by \$40,000 to be taken from the Road Reconstruction line to bring the total line down to \$1,291,729.

Moved/Seconded                                      Discussion

Richard explained that he feels the Town has been very supportive over the last 6 years and feels he can operate with this reduction. Willie Farnum thanked Richard for coming forward with this as he too is a property taxpayer and this will help us all a little bit.

No further Discussion                      Voice Vote taken                      Amendment Passed

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### Discussion on the Article as Amended

David Little asked to amend the amendment to read \$1,291,729 for Public Works of which \$938,729 raised through taxes \$128,000 from anticipated revenue, and \$225,000 from the bridge capital reserve.

Moved/seconded

The moderator explained that Mr. Little is proposing that the \$225,000 come from the Bridge capital reserve fund. David Little said in 2014 we raised and appropriated \$235,000 to replace the Whittier Rd Stoney Brook Bridge and that was appropriated and expensed that year. The work was not done until 2016. The CIP Program intended for that money to come out of the capital reserve for that bridge and it did not, and for some error it didn't get approved in the warrant for that year so no money was ever taken out of the bridge capital reserve. David would like to correct that mistake now by taking that money out now for the Bunker Hill Bridge from the capital reserve fund. Richard Roberts, Road Agent, felt comfortable with that. John Wheeler stated that the original article in 2014 did not say that the money for the Stoney Brook Bridge would be taken from the capital reserve fund but that the selectmen voted to carry over that money each year until it was used last year when the work was done. Nathaniel Winship of Whittier Road felt the work done was a fine job and that the infrastructure is important and hopes that we can proceed with support of the budget as proposed. Steve Gray, as a point of information, thanked David Little, John Wheeler, Bob Seston, the Town Administrator and the Finance Director for their research on this, maybe having been missed in a previous audit, and has narrowly avoided us raising \$225,000 twice.

No Further Discussion on the amendment.

The moderator read the amendment to be voted on as to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,291,729 for Public Works of which \$938,729 raised through taxes \$128,000 for anticipated revenue, and \$225,000 from the bridge capital reserve.

Voice Vote taken

Amendment Passed

No Further Discussion on article as amended.

Voice Vote taken

Amended Article Passed

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ARTICLE #07

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

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

Moved/Seconded                      No Discussion                      Article Passed

ARTICLE #08

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$120,707** 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
Patriotic Purposes/Family Day		\$ 8,000

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

Moved/Seconded                      Discussion

David Little asked to amend the article not changing the amount but the appropriations to read:

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$120,707 for Culture & Recreation of which \$107,207 is to be raised through taxation and \$13,500 is to come from anticipated revenue.

Moved/Seconded                      Discussion

Selectmen Jim Hidden asked David Little where his numbers for                      the anticipated revenues were coming from. David took the sheet that was passed out for anticipated revenues at the budget public hearing and added those numbers together pertaining to this warrant article.

Voice Vote taken                      Amendment Passed

Further Discussion

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Louis Taylor asked for someone to explain the \$8,000 for patriotic purposes for family Day. She felt that family day should be for volunteering that people could do and donate their funds for this \$8,000 and have some fun as it is a tremendous amount of money. Parker Roberts, Rec Director, spoke that the \$8,000 covers the bands, fireworks, any entertainment hired, trophy's, ribbons, etc. for the parade contestants. A \$5,000 donation to offset the cost of the fireworks is donated every year from the fireworks store owner Chris Vernon on Rte 16. The rest covers the games and the tent. Ned Beecher asked if this should be part of the anticipated funding. It was answered that it was.

No Further discussion

Voice Vote taken

Amended Article Passed

### ARTICLE #09

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

(Majority Vote Required)

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

Moved/Seconded

No Discussion

Article Passed

### ARTICLE #10

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)

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

Moved/Seconded

Discussion

Jim Bowles explained that this is actually a year behind and the amount has stayed the same. It was included in a much broader article last year that was voted down but not because of the truck. This is the new way of doing this versus the old way of a capital reserve and money being put away over the course of 6 years. This has been in the CIP Plan. The Truck is a 1990 Fire Truck to be replaced. It was asked how many more years could we get out of the truck. Jim commented it would depend on how much more money the town was to put into it

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for repairs. A few years ago there was \$6000 for rust work, which is showing through again, and last year also wheel rims rusted and a few rings were replaced. Richard Colcord asked opinion of Town Council as to the new two year ruling and that it can't be adjusted with the new RSA, unlike with the Capital Reserves that we could put money away each year. Atty Matthew Serge spoke that it couldn't be changed under this article. Ned Beecher asked to have CIP member speak. Jack Waldron spoke about the truck being pushed out from last year, and the CIP planning involved with all department's capital expenditures and the scheduling of those purchases. It can get tricky when things are pushed out or changed. Atty Matthew Serge spoke to a two year commitment for the truck and appropriating the money for each year involved. Willie Farnum asked about the money being appropriated as a two year project that the truck could be ordered now so that it may be ready and purchased by the second year? Jim Hidden commented that we could always go back to the Capital Reserves, that that had worked for a long time, but a few years ago the town was told it was a better cheaper way to balance expenses and his personal preference is for Capital Reserves. Juno Lamb thought there was clarity given on saving money for something but not enough clarity on the Capital Reserve Plan. She commented that it is her understanding that we look across the whole town at all of the large expenses and stagger them so we are not buying a truck and this and this all in the same year with the same intent of only raising a portion of the taxes every year. Steve Gray commented on Jack Waldron's comment that you're raising the money as close to the purchase as you can so you're not losing money to inflation. David Little commented to why we went to Capital Reserve Plan and spoke of the flexibility with CIP program. If you are raising money each year and putting that money into different reserves then it would not be possible to fund a large capital project. Although it can involve the same amount of money as when you use capital reserves, the thought was that the money would be there for that year for a purchase as opposed to raising it each year and having to wait until total funds are raised for a particular project.

Voice Vote taken

No one opposed

It was asked to take vote by cards where a 2/3<sup>rd</sup> vote was required. Moderator asked for cards to be raised for confirmation of 2/3<sup>rd</sup>'s vote. Cards counted for Yes and No votes. Yes vote unanimous.

Article Passed

### ARTICLE #11

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)

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

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Moved/seconded

No discussion

Article passed

ARTICLE #12

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$10,000** to **perform a needs assessment and planning for a future Public Safety Building**. This article to be non-lapsing for 5 years.

(Majority Vote Required)

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

Moved/Seconded

Discussion

Willie Farnum thanked selectmen for reducing this article from \$30,000 as initially requested and addressing the request to reduce it at the budget hearing. It does save us a little money at this time.

Jim Bowles wanted to state, although he is for this article, as he has attended a couple of the meetings for this building it keeps coming up that we will have to have a bond for a building. He believes back in 2002 the Town had money set aside for this building, and the notion that we are saving money as we are not doing capital reserves because we are not losing money to inflation, may be offset when we have a large purchase that now we are talking about bonding money for, because he knows he pays a lot more in interest when borrowing money then we get when saving money. He would like to see some form of accounting from the CIP committee to show we are saving money by doing the Capital Improvement Program as opposed to starting to put some money aside, as we have to recognize the building is going to have to be built which we recognized in 2002. Jim Bowles commented that we are still paying on the bonds for both the landfill closure and the school addition because we didn't plan for it, and when we bond for it, you're going to lose anything you ever gained by not putting money aside for the project and losing it to inflation. Inflation is nothing in comparison to what we have to pay in bonds.

Mike Malenfant asked about the sign at the end of Depot Rd in 2002 that said "Future Home of Fire and Police Department"? And asked if we had the money set aside for that then? Dan Poirier commented that the sign at that location was a joke.

No Further Discussion

Voice Vote taken

Article Passed

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ARTICLE #13

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$20,000** for a watercraft to be used by Emergency Management.

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

Moved/Seconded

Discussion

Willie Farnum spoke being not in favor of this article after discussing the previous article about planning for a building to store all our stuff in. He spoke of a new boat versus a used boat and questioned the training costs, storage, and maintenance costs for a used boat. He felt there was a lot of questions and that the \$20,000 would add up to more costs. Richard Colcord spoke of \$16,000 in CIP plan for past 4 years by former Emergency Management Director for a water rescue type boat. We have 3 bodies of water here in town and average 3-4 water rescue's a year. We did require West Ossipee airboat to use in a rescue last year but took a little longer to get the boat there. Richard was able to be certified in an airboat operator's class, and Moultonborough was looking to get an airboat this year. Mary Breasted Smyth opposed building any boat houses on the lake. Initially a smaller "V" hull with short shaft was being looked at to purchase but air boat would be more versatile and practical for the area. The airboat on a trailer and onto water is not an issue, neither is using West Ossipee boat. The issue is that the airboat is at Jewel Hill and it takes time to get it.

No Further Discussion

Voice Vote

Article Not Passed

ARTICLE #14

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$170,668 for the Cook Memorial Library of which **\$149,175** to be raised through taxation and \$21,493.00 to come from library income from donations, grants, fees etc; such funds to be expended under the direction of the Board of Library Trustees. (Majority vote required)

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

Moved/Seconded

No Discussion

Voice Vote

Article Passed

ARTICLE #15

(By Petition) Whereas the 250<sup>th</sup> 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



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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)

The Board of Selectmen **recommends** this article. (Vote2-0)

Moved/Seconded

Discussion

David Little spoke of wearing two hats as being on the 250<sup>th</sup> Committee as well as the Tamworth Foundation. He referenced that on Page 104 of annual report it shows profits of \$21,757.83 from the 250<sup>th</sup> activities. David spoke that from the very beginning the 250<sup>th</sup> Committee spoke of leaving a legacy to the town, as was done in previous celebrations using the examples that the Arts Council had come out of the bicentennial, and the Tamworth Scholarship committee came out of states and country bicentennial. He spoke of having town records that go back to 1766 and that the Tamworth Foundation last year voted to match all donations made to them to go to the preservation of Tamworth's Historical Records so doubling what the town would receive. The Selectmen suggested that the committee come to the town with this warrant article to be voted on at the Town Meeting.

No discussion

Voice Vote

Article Passed

### ARTICLE #16

(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)

The Board of Selectmen **recommends** this article. (1-1)

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The moderator referenced the Selectmen's "tie" as a typo so that we cannot really say the board does recommend the article.

Moved/Seconded

No Discussion

Article Passed

### ARTICLE #17

(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)

Moved/Seconded

Discussion

John Wheeler as Cemetery Trustee and as Trustee of Trust Funds Trustee recommends this article in being able to take the sales from cemetery plots to no longer go into the general fund or perpetual care fund but as proposed with this passage will go into the Cemetery trustee expendable maintenance trust fund to help pay for purchasing of markers, fencing, and help in funding other projects.

No further Discussion

Article Passed

The moderator spoke of Articles #18 – 32 being by petition and totaling \$160,207. Traditionally we vote on these articles as a group. The moderator will pull any articles that someone asks to pull from the group. The moderator addressed that there was one Article #30 that the selectmen do not recommend.

Willie Farnum made a motion that we put under non-reconsideration all articles passed at this point in the town meeting.

Moved/seconded

Motion Passed

The Moderator began reading the articles individually from #18 – 32.

Article #19 was pulled. A new total of \$154,207 was given. Someone asked to pull Article #30 with a new number of \$150,707. It was asked to also pull Article #32. The new number is now \$149,707 for Article #'s 18,20,21,22,23,24,25,26,27,28,29, & 31.

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Moved/Seconded

Discussion

No Further Discussion on those articles that were not pulled.

Voice Vote taken

Articles Passed

**The moderator then moved on to Article #19.**

ARTICLE #18

(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)

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

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)

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

Moved/Seconded

Discussion

David Little spoke supporting this program but of the Tri County Cap not paying taxes to the Town of Tamworth, nor a PILOT (Payment in Lieu of Taxes), and for that to be taken into consideration as a \$60,000 contribution to Tri County Cap. Joanne Rainville asked if the people of Tamworth who desperately need fuel assistance would suffer from the loss of this money? Jim Hidden spoke that he was unsure but for the \$6,000 amount would not want to chance it. Jim acknowledged David Little's points being valid and as a select board member could try to meet with Tri County Cap again in the future. Mark Albee spoke of small amount of money and deferred taxes does not help them.

Voice Vote taken

Article Passed

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)

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

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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)

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

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)

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

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)

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

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)

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

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)

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

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)

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

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)

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

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)

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

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)

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

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)

The Board of Selectmen **do not recommend** this article. (Vote 2-0)

Jim Hidden has been opposed every year and does not feel the actual ridership matches up with the usage. Nancy Coville spoke of living in rural community area and very important and does its job. Steve Gray spoke of hearing of the end of federal money that has supported this program and the number of backup busses that were referenced last year. However, he would support Nancy Coville's comments in knowing more of the services and people affected by it. Paul Chant spoke about \$10.00 a day to support program with a real need, and as a sitting member on the Mount Washington Valley Economic Council there is a great concern on how people are getting around. He believes it doesn't make sense to take the money away. Joanne Rainville feels improvement with services over last two years and feels more of the people she sees are using it. The Blue Loon busses will take people to their Dentist and Dermatology appointments, Huggins Hospital, Memorial Hospital.

No Further Discussion

Voice Vote

Article Passed

**The moderator then moved on to Article #32.**

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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)

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

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)

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

Ned Beecher was curious to learn about this article as it was not on the warrant last year. Joanne Rainville from TCNA spoke of this article for a house in Conway, as a safe house, to help fight addiction. She felt they should have asked for more money to fight this war against addiction, and to help them become contributing members to society.

Beth McCarthy asked more about the program in regards to specifics? Joanne Rainville said she did not have a lot of details on this right now but is aware that Janice Spinney who is the head pharmacist at Osco has been chairing this fight on this war of addiction. Her involvement to fight drug addiction includes support of this house (which has been in the local paper) in Conway.

No Further Discussion                      Voice vote taken                      Article Passed

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)

Moved/Seconded

Discussion

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Willie Farnum explained his respect and honor for all those that have served but feels that this is a push down from the federal government and that we are giving now to the Veterans who do qualify under their conflict situations in their time of service currently amounting to \$70,000. He believes the federal government should be doing their job in taking care of the Veterans.

A Petition for a secret ballot vote was presented by William Farnum to the Moderator.

Mary Breasted Smyth asked to consider this locally. Juno Lamb spoke in favor of this credit because we are already offering this credit for individuals who have served during conflicts, and should support all those who have served. Jim Hidden is in favor for those who fought or didn't fight in combat to receive this credit because they don't know when they sign up whether they will see combat or not, and explained that the amount of money given is the same amount of credit for everyone. William Farnum spoke on the Town of Tamworth's increase to the Veterans Credit some years ago from \$100 to \$500. Willie felt maybe the RSA could be looked at again to make it more palatable for all.

No Further Discussion      Secret Ballot Vote      70 No 41 Yes

### ARTICLE #34

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

Helen Steele asked about the legislation passing in regards to using the terminology of Civil Rights Day instead of Martin Luther King Day. She asked that it be corrected in the annual report for next year in the Holiday closures list on page 5.

Willie Farnum asked the moderator the following:

I would like the moderator to appoint a study group to look at the Tamworth Police Dept and to go through a Citizen Query Questions to find out what the general populous of the citizens of Tamworth want to see in the Police Dept. My recommendation would be that a Selectmen does not serve on this board, they can communicate opinions but not serve on this board, and that the board report back to the selectmen by end of May giving a report as to what they feel the citizens want, whether they want a 3 member police force or 1 member 2 members, what type of services they want. I think this will be helpful to the community and I would like to see the moderator appoint such committee.

The moderator agreed to fulfill this request.

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The moderator asked the Selectmen if they cared to honor what the committee comes up with.

Jim Hidden spoke to honor the request as a Select board member in what the committee comes up with and hopefully there are some volunteers out there and that the Board of Selectmen would love to have that information and that it would be valuable information to move forward with the Police Department.

The moderator asked people to come see you if they are interested in participating in that study group.

Deb Maille commented since such a great job was done at the Tamworth 250<sup>th</sup> BBQ she asked if we could have recycling bins out for recycling at family day on 4<sup>th</sup> of July.

Juno Lamb asked if because it seems like people were in favor of the amendments in regards to how the different parts of the money is appropriated if that we could have that language in the articles next year.

Willie Farnum made a motion to adjourn the meeting.  
All in favor.

Meeting Adjourned 10:10 pm