

**Town of Alexandria
New Hampshire
First Deliberative Session Minutes
February 3, 2015**

To the inhabitants of the town of Alexandria in the County of Grafton in the state of New Hampshire qualified to vote in town affairs are hereby notified and warned that the two phases of the Annual Town Meeting will be held as follows:

First Session of Annual Meeting (Deliberative Session):

Date: Tuesday, February 3, 2015

Time: 6:30 p.m.

Location: Alexandria Town Hall, 45 Washburn Road, Alexandria, NH

Details: This session shall consist of explanation, discussion and deliberation of the warrant articles numbered 1 through 17. The warrant articles may be amended subject to the following limitations: (a) warrant articles whose wording is prescribed by law shall not be amended; (b) warrant articles that are amended shall be placed on official ballot for a final vote on the main motion, as amended; and (c) no warrant article shall be amended to eliminate the subject matter of the article; but an amendment that changes the dollar amount of an appropriation in a warrant article shall not be deemed to violate this subparagraph.

Deliberative session opened at 6:30pm by Moderator Dennis Ford. The Pledge of Allegiance was stated and the Selectboard, Admin. Assistant and Clerk were introduced. The rules of the meeting were given and orange voting cards handed to registered voters in attendance.

Second Session of Annual Meeting (Official Ballot Voting)

Date: Tuesday, March 10, 2015

Time: 11:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Location: Alexandria Town Hall, 45 Washburn Road, Alexandria, NH

Details: Voting Session to act on all Warrant Articles as amended, including the proposed budget, as a result of the action of the "FIRST SESSION".

Article 01: *read as follows*

Election of Public Officials

Election of Public Officials, Newfound Area School District Items and other Articles appearing on the warrant as may be required by state law.

Article 02: *read as follows:*

Budget of the Town

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 purposes set forth therein, totaling \$1,421,285 (as recommended by the Selectmen)? Should this article be defeated, the default budget shall be \$1,382,148, 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. Note: This operating budget warrant article does not include appropriations contained in ANY other warrant articles. Estimated tax impact \$7.012 per thousand based on the Selectmen's recommended budget before revenues.

Motion made and seconded to open Article for discussion.

No discussion followed. Vote taken to move Article 2 to the ballot, SO VOTED

Article 03: *Read as follows:*

Alexandria Volunteer Fire Department

Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$20,900 for the Alexandria Volunteer Fire Department for the provision of fire fighting and prevention services and to continue the lease of the 1999 International Tanker and the 2012 Ford F550 to the AVFD, all pursuant to an agreement between the Town and AVFD? (Recommended by Selectmen) (Estimated tax impact \$0.103)

Voice vote taken to Open Article 3 for discussion. .So voted

No Discussion followed.

Vote taken to move Article 3 to ballot, SO VOTED

Article 04: Read as follows:

Highway Department Capital Reserve

Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$30,000 to be put into the Highway Department Capital Reserve Fund? (Recommended by Selectmen) Estimated tax impact \$0.148.

Voice vote taken to open Article 4 for discussion. So voted

Some discussion followed. Trustee of Trust Funds stated that there is a balance of \$62,229. as of now in the Reserve fund.

Vote taken to move Article 4 to ballot. SO VOTED

Article 5: Read as follows

Fire Equipment Capital Reserve Fund

Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$10,000 to be put into the Fire Equipment Capital Reserve Fund? (Recommended by Selectmen) Estimated tax impact \$0.049.

Voice vote taken to open Article 5 for discussion.. So voted

Some discussion follows.

Vote taken to move Article 5 to the ballot...SO VOTED

Article 06: Read as follows:

Change Elected Road Agent to Appointed Road Agent.

Shall the Town vote to change the position of Road Agent from an elected office to a position appointed by the Selectboard with a contract of not more than three (3) years? If approved, this change would not go into effect for at least one year from the date of the vote. (Recommended by Selectmen)

Voice vote taken to open Article 6 for discussion, So voted

Some discussion follows.

Vote to move Article 6 to ballot, SO VOTED

Article 07: Read as follows:

Change elected Road Agent term to end one year from date of vote.

In the event that Warrant Article #6 is approved, shall the Town vote to end the term of the elected Road Agent after one year from the date of this vote? (Recommended by Selectmen)

Voice vote taken to open Article 7 for discussion, So voted.

No discussion follows.

Vote taken to move Article 7 to ballot, SO VOTED

Article 08: Read as follows:

New Police Department Vehicle

Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$34,600 for a new vehicle for the Police Department with \$24,600 raised by taxation and \$10,000 withdrawn from the Police Special Detail account? (Recommended by Selectmen) Estimated tax impact \$0.121 per thousand.

Voice vote taken to open Article 8 for discussion.

Voice vote taken to allow Non-resident Chief Donald Sullivan to speak. SO Voted.

The Chief spoke briefly about the condition of vehicle and needs of the Department, Some discussion followed.

Vote taken to move Article 8 to ballot, SO VOTED.

Article 09: Read as follows:

Building Permit Language Change

Shall the Town vote to change the wording of Section 2a of the Building Permit Ordinance to read as follows, with proposed deletions shown as cross out and the additions shown in italics? "Commercial buildings *and/or commercial structures* intended or designed to be used for *any* industrial, commercial or other use shall be no more than ~~three stories~~ fifty (50) feet high and shall provide noncombustible walls and partitions between ~~its~~ *their* component parts *as necessary.*" (Recommended by Selectmen)

Voice vote taken to open Article 9 for discussion, So voted.

*Some discussion follows. It was noted the some grammatical issues needed to be corrected. So noted.
Vote taken to move Article 9 to ballot, SO VOTED.*

Article 10: *Read as follows:*

Establish Town Forest

Shall the town vote to establish the Chapman Lot (Map 407 Lot 11) as Town Forest pursuant to RSA 31:110, under the management of the Conservation Commission? (Recommended by Selectmen)

Voice vote taken to open Article 10 for discussion.

Some discussion follows. It was stated that this property was voted in the 1980's to become a town forest but documentation cannot be found, so this is really a "housekeeping" article. It was mentioned that any monies made by timber cutting would be deposited to the General Fund, for Town use.

Vote taken to move Article 10 to ballot, SO VOTED.

Article 11: *Read as follows:*

Reclaim & Pave Thissell Road

Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$53,000 to reclaim and pave Thissell Road? (Recommended by Selectmen) Estimated tax impact \$0.261 per thousand.

Voice vote taken to open Article 11 for discussion, So voted.

Some discussion followed.

Vote to move Article 11 to the ballot, SO VOTED.

Article 12: *Read as follows:*

New Highway Department Truck

Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$144,000 for a new 35,000 GVW truck with plow and sander with \$84,000 raised by taxation and \$60,000 from the Highway Equipment Capital Reserve fund? (Recommended by Selectmen) Estimated tax impact \$0.414 per thousand.

Voice vote taken to open Article 12 for discussion, So voted.

Short discussion followed. This truck will probably replace the #3 truck or older 10 wheel truck.

Vote taken to move article 12 to ballot, SO VOTED

Article 13: *Read as follows:*

Change Town Treasurer term to three years

Are you in favor of changing the term of the elected town treasurer from one year to three years, beginning with the term of the town treasurer to be elected at next year's regular town meeting? (Recommended by Selectmen)

Voice vote taken to open Article 13 for discussion. So voted.

Short discussion followed.

Vote taken to move Article 13 to ballot, SO VOTED.

Article 14: *Read as follows:*

Reinstate the Annual Inventory Form PA28

Shall the Town vote to reinstate the use of the Annual Inventory Form PA28 that was eliminated pursuant to RSA 74:4-a on March 11, 2010 by vote of the Town? (Recommended by Selectmen)

Voice vote taken to open Article 14 for discussion, So voted.

Some discussion followed. The inventory forms were voted out of use in 2010, to save money, but

Vote taken to move Article 14 to the ballot. Vote too close to call, hand count used. 18 Yes/14 No. SO VOTED

Article 15: *Read as follows:*

Rescind the provisions of RSA 40:13 (known as SB2)

Shall we rescind the provisions of RSA 40:13 (known as SB2), as adopted by the Town of Alexandria on March 9, 2010 so that the official ballot will no longer be used for voting on all questions, but only for the election of officers and certain other questions for which the official ballot is required by law? This article presented by petition. A 3/5-majority vote required.

Voice vote taken to open Article 15 for discussion, So voted.

Short discussion followed.

Vote taken to move Article 15 to ballot. SO VOTED.

Article 16: *Read as follows:*

Adopt Community Bill of Rights

Shall the Town of Alexandria adopt the Community Bill of Rights for the People of Alexandria which Prohibits Corporations and Governments from Engaging in Unsustainable Wind Resource Extraction? This article presented by petition.

Voice vote taken to open Article 16 for discussion, So voted.

A proponent f the Article read a lengthy comment which lead to a lengthy dialog amongst attendees.

Voice vote taken to allow non-resident Town Attorney Chris Boldt to address the issue. IN his legal opinion, this is not in the best interest of the Town to address Wind Resource Extraction in this manner. With no State of NH laws addressing this issue this article is not enforceable by the Town. More discussion follows.

Vote taken to move Article 17 to ballot, SO VOTED.

Article 17: *Read as follows:*

Transact any other business

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

Voice vote taken to open Article 17 for discussion.

None followed.

Motion made and seconded to restrict revisiting Article 16, SO VOTED

Motion made and seconded to restrict revisiting Article 1- 17, SO VOTED.

Motion made and seconded to adjourn meeting. SO VOTED.

Meeting adjourned and 7:45pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Emery,
Town Clerk, Alexandria