

# Alexandria Selectmen's Meeting Minutes

## January 21, 2025

- ❖ **Members Present:** George Tuthill, Chet Caron, and Robert Piehler
- ❖ The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
- ❖ The minutes from January 14, 2025 were approved.
- ❖ **Items Reviewed and Signed**
  - Notice of Intent to Cut: Map 418 Lot 151 Williams on Pattee Hill Road
  - Notice of Intent to Cut: Map 418 Lot 140 Williams on Pattee Hill Road
  - Letter: Reminder that transfer station sticker is required
  - Registration of Aboveground Storage Tank (Diesel at highway department)
  - Tax Map Maintenance Contract 4/1/25 to 3/31/2026
  - Purchase Order: CAI Technologies (Tax Map Maintenance)
  - Septic System application for new Transfer Station site
- ❖ **Business**
  - 2025 Town Warrant
    - The Selectmen reviewed the 2025 warrant articles. See attached articles and notes.
  - Transfer Station Tire disposal fees
    - There was discussion on the need to increase the price for tire disposal at the transfer station due to an increase cost to the town. The Selectmen approved the following price chart for tire disposal.
      - Bicycle/Motorcycle/Lawnmower..... \$5.00
      - Passenger/Light Truck..... \$5.00
      - Bobcat/Skid Steer..... \$11.00
      - Truck Tires (Light Commercial) ..... \$8.00
      - Truck/Tactor Trailer (Over 19") ..... \$21.00
      - Snowmobile Treads (no steel) ..... \$21.00
      - Super Single (double wide/race)..... \$35.00
      - Tractor (farm-front-est 50lb)..... \$35.00
      - Tractor (farm-rear-est 75lb) ..... \$80.00
      - Backhoe (est. 60lb)..... \$55.00
      - Excavator tracks (est 150 lb) ..... \$210.00
      - Loader (est 150 lb) ..... \$310.00
  - The Selectmen expressed the need for people to volunteer to run for the town's budget committee and the commitment required for being on the committee.

Meeting adjourned 6:50 pm

Respectfully submitted, Jennifer Dostie, Administrative Assistant

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### 2025 warrant articles:

*The first two articles cover the election of officials and the operating budget as proposed by the budget committee. Discussion focused on articles three through fourteen.*

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#### **Article 1: Election of Public Officials**

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

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#### **Article 2: Budget of the Town**

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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 \$2,488,229 (as recommended by the Budget Committee)? Should this article be defeated, the default budget shall be \$2,329,306, 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 \$5.85 per thousand based on the Budget Committee's recommended budget.

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#### **Article 4: Fire Equipment Expendable Trust Fund**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$10,000 to be put into the Fire Department Maintenance Expendable Trust Fund. Estimated tax impact \$0.03 per thousand)  
*The Selectmen confirmed that this is the same amount that was raised in 2024.*

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#### **Article 7: Emergency Management Expendable Trust Fund**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$10,000 to be put into the Emergency Management Expendable Trust Fund.(Estimated tax impact \$0.03 per thousand)  
*There were no questions or comments on this article.*

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#### **Article 6: Town Hall Expendable Trust Fund**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$10,000 to be put into the Town Hall Expendable Trust Fund.(Estimated tax impact \$0.03 per thousand)  
*Nancy Whitman mentioned the difficulty she has experienced in obtaining contractors to do some of the work at the town hall, including door repairs and repair to the tin walls and ceiling.*

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#### **Article 3: Highway Department Truck Lease 2020**

To see if the Town will raise and appropriate the sum of \$21,462 for the last of six yearly payments for the lease of the 2020 Truck for the Highway Department. This lease agreement was approved at the 2020 Town Meeting and contains an escape clause. (Estimated tax impact \$0.07 per thousand)  
*There was discussion on whether the budget committee has considered including lease payments in the operating budget instead of separate warrant articles.*

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#### **Article 8: Highway Department Grader Lease 2022**

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To see if the Town will raise and appropriate the sum of \$31,628 for the fourth of ten yearly payments for the lease of the 2022 Grader for the Highway Department. This lease agreement was approved at the 2022 Town Meeting and contains an escape clause.(Estimated tax impact \$0.11 per thousand)

*There were no questions or comments on this article.*

### **Article 9: Transfer Station Backhoe Lease 2023**

To see if the Town will raise and appropriate the sum of \$27,456 for the third of five yearly payments for the lease of the 2023 Backhoe for the Transfer Station. This lease agreement was approved at the 2023 Town Meeting and contains an escape clause. (Estimated tax impact \$0.14 per thousand)

*There was discussion on the need to adjust the estimated tax impact.*

### **Article 10: Highway Department Truck Lease 2024**

To see if the Town will raise and appropriate the sum of \$41,764 for the second of seven yearly payments for the lease of the 2024 Truck for the Highway Department. This lease agreement was approved at the 2024 Town Meeting and contains an escape clause.(Estimated tax impact \$0.07 per thousand)

*There was discussion on the need to adjust the estimated tax impact.*

### **Article 5: Paving**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$220,000 for the repaving of paved roads?(Estimated tax impact \$0.73 per thousand)

*There was discussion on the timeliness of having the paving completed.*

### **Article 11: Mount Cardigan Road Bridge Repair**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$185,000 for the repair of a bridge on Mount Cardigan Road?

(Estimated tax impact \$0.62 per thousand)

*The bridge is on the state's red listed bridge list.*

### **Article 12: New Backhoe for the Highway Department**

To see if the town will vote to authorize the selectmen to enter into a seven-year lease agreement in the amount of \$148,470 for the purpose of leasing a new backhoe for the highway department, and to raise and appropriate the sum of \$27,000 for the first year's payment for that purpose. This lease agreement contains an escape clause. Total cost of backhoe is \$176,970 with a trade-in of the old backhoe of \$28,500. (Estimated tax impact \$0.10 per thousand)

*There was confirmation that the old backhoe is being traded in and is fully owned by the Town. The Selectmen explained that the Town switched to leasing equipment around ten years ago in order to keep smaller even payments and allowing the town to have equipment that would be newer and require less repairs and down time on old equipment. There was discussion on whether the town needed more than one backhoe; it was suggested that Paul Sirard, Road Agent, would be better able to explain the need for one at the transfer station and one at the highway department. The article was not recommended by the budget committee.*

### **Article 13: Lakeview Heights**

To see if the Town shall vote to accept Lakeview Heights as a Class V road and to accept maintenance thereof? This article presented by petition.

*The board does not take a position on petitioned warrant articles. There was a question on what the cost of maintenance would be to the town; the cost was not determined. There was discussion on the need to have the road be brought up to the town's Class V Road standards and whether other town roads meet those specifications.*

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### Article 14: Jacks Drive

To see if the Town shall vote to accept Jacks Drive as a Class V road and to accept maintenance thereof? This article presented by petition.

*There was a discussion on the location of Jacks Drive off Route 104 and that the road is steep and fairly short.*