

Town of Bradford
State of New Hampshire

Town Warrant of Town Meeting March 12th, 2019

The Polls will open at 8:00 am, and not close earlier than 7:00 pm, on March 12th, 2019.

To the inhabitants of the Town of Bradford in the County of Merrimack in the said State qualified to vote in town affairs:

You are hereby notified to meet at the Bradford Area Community Center on East Main Street in said Bradford, N.H. on Tuesday the twelfth day of March next, at eight o'clock in the morning to act on the following articles:

Article One: To choose all necessary town officials for the ensuing year.

Total Votes Cast: 295 (13 of which were absentee)

Budget Committee for 3 years (vote for 2)

Laurie Colburn	245	Elected
Justin Dohrn	213	Elected

Budget Committee for 1 year (vote for 1)

Cheryl A Croto	161	Elected
Brandon Joslyn	76	

Cemetery Commission for 3 years (vote for 1)

Katrina Taylor	6	Elected
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Cemetery Commission for 2 years (vote for 1)

Marlene Freyler	229	Elected
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Planning Board for 3 years (vote for 2)

Laurie Colburn	178	Elected
Carol Troy	190	Elected
Marlene Freyler	124	

Planning Board for 2 years (vote for 1)

Thomas A. Dunne Jr.	172	Elected
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Scholarship Committee for 3 years (vote for 1)

Kathleen Bigford	261	Elected
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Selectman for 3 years (vote for 1)

Jason D. Allen	255	Elected
Chase Hume Kenyon	33	

Trustee of the Brown Memorial Library for 3 years (vote for 2)

Laurie Farrell	247	Elected
Devin Pendleton	232	Elected

Trustee of the Brown Memorial Library for 2 years (vote for 1)

Seth Benowitz	262	Elected
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Trustee of the Trust Funds for 3 years (vote for 1)

Harold Wright	255	Elected
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Trustee of the Trust Funds for 1 year (vote for 1)

Kathleen Bigford	2
Sonny Harris	2
Tandy Hartford	2
Bliss Dayton	2

Zoning Board for 3 years (vote for 2)

Brooks McCandlish	260	Elected
Ken Parys	41	Elected

Kearsarge Regional School District (Bradford Results Only)

Official Ballot-Kearsarge Annual School District Election March 12, 2019

For School Moderator: Brackett Scheffy 262 Elected

Question 1: To see if the School District will vote to raise and appropriate the **Municipal Budget Committee's recommended amount of \$43,278,985** for the support of schools, for the payment of salaries for the school district officials and agents, and for the payment for the statutory obligations of the District. The **School Board** recommends **\$43,278,985**. This warrant article asks the voters to raise and appropriate for support of schools, the salaries of School District Officials and Agents, and for the statutory obligations of the District, and to authorize the application against said appropriations of such sums as are estimated to be received from the State sources, together with the income, the School Board to certify to the Selectman of each of the Towns of Bradford, New London, Newbury, Springfield, Sutton, Warner and Wilmot, the amount to be raised by taxation by said towns.

(School Board Recommends 7-0) (MBC Recommends 8-0)

A. \$43,278,985 for the proposed Operating Budget recommended by the School Board

B. \$43,278,985 for the proposed Operating Budget recommended by the Municipal Budget Committee

A: 180

B: 78

Question 2: To see if the School District will vote to approve the cost item included in the Collective Bargaining Agreement reached between the Kearsarge Regional School Board and the Kearsarge Regional Educators Association which calls for the following increases in salaries and benefits:

Year	Estimated Increase
2019-20	\$423,178
2020-21	\$412,254
2021-22	\$393,850

And further to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$423,178** for the 2019-2020 fiscal year, such sum representing the additional costs attributed to the increase in salaries and benefits required by the new agreement over those that would be paid at current staffing levels.

(School Board Recommends 7-0) (MBC Recommends 8-0)

YES: 194

NO: 90

Question 3: To see if the School District will vote to raise and appropriate up to **\$15,000** to be placed in the Special Education Expendable Trust, established in 2008 within the provisions of RSA 198:20-c for the purpose of emergency funding of the Special Education costs incurred by the District, with such amount to be funded **from unassigned fund balances (surplus funds) remaining** on hand as of June 30, 2019.

(School Board Recommends 7-0) (MBC Recommends 8-0)

YES: 211

NO: 77

Question 4: To see if the School District will vote to raise and appropriate up to **\$50,000** to be placed in the Special Buildings Maintenance Expendable Trust Fund for the purpose of repair, unanticipated utility costs, and maintaining the school buildings and equipment, with such amount to be funded **from unassigned fund balance (surplus funds) remaining** on hand as of June 30, 2019.

(School Board Recommends 7-0) (MBC Recommends 8-0)

YES: 210

NO: 77

Election officials present at the March 12, 2019 Town Election:

Moderator: Brackett Scheffy
Town Clerk: Melissa Cloutier

Assistant Moderator: Fred Hubley
Deputy Town Clerk: Michael Kelly

Supervisors of the Checklist: Judy Marshall, Jaqueline Pehrson and Sandy Paul
Selectman: Jim Bibbo, John Pfeifle and Michael James

Ballot Clerks: Bob Toppi, Mary Derry, Diane Whalley, Denise Renk, Tom Marshall, Steve Pierce, Tandy Hartford and Rebecca Herman

Counters: Bob Toppi, Steve Pierce, Michael Kelly, Tom Marshall, Tandy Hartford and Eileen Kelly

The count ended at 8:30pm and the results were announced.

Article Two: To adjourn the meeting until Wednesday, March 13th, 2019 at 7:00 pm at the Kearsarge Regional Elementary School on the Old Warner Road in Bradford. Raising the money and remaining articles in the Warrant will be taken up at the adjourned meeting.

The meeting reconvened on March 13, 2019 at the Kearsarge Regional Elementary School on Old Warner Road.

Brackett Scheffy, Moderator, opened the meeting at 7:00pm with the Pledge of Allegiance led by Bob Selig. The Moderator thanked the Election officials for their work running the Elections. Elections results were read and the Moderator explained that there was a four (4) way tie for the Trustee of the Trust Funds for a one (1) year term. He stated that we will follow procedure for breaking the tie. The Moderator explained Robert's Rules of Order and that the meeting will be run following them.

Article Three: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Two Million Thirty Thousand Eighteen Dollars (\$2,030,018.00) for general municipal operations. This article does not include amounts appropriated by other warrant articles. (Majority vote required.) Selectmen recommend \$2,045,393.00. Budget Committee recommends \$2,030,018.00.

	<u>Selectmen</u>	<u>Budget Committee</u>
1. Executive	181,000.00	177,125.00 <i>Passed</i>
John Pfeifle, Selectman, made a motion to amend the Executive line to read \$181,000.00. Motion was seconded. Following discussion, the Moderator called for a voice vote. Voice vote was too close to call; and the moderator called for a hand count. Amendment Failed		
2. Elections & Vital Statistics	4,000.00	4,000.00 <i>Passed</i>
3. Financial Administration	103,000.00	103,000.00 <i>Amended</i>
Melissa Cloutier, Town Clerk/Tax Collector, explained that there were individual lines in her budget that increased this year and were beyond her control (such as audit fees). She made a motion to amend the Financial Administration line to \$105,000.00. Motion was seconded. Moderator called for a voice vote. Voice vote to amend line item #3 to \$105,000.00 passed. Line item #3 was amended to read \$105,000.00 Voice vote called and the Amended Amount Passed		
4. Revaluations	29,600.00	29,600.00 <i>Passed</i>
5. Legal	39,000.00	39,000.00 <i>Passed</i>
6. Employee Benefits	1.00	1.00 <i>Passed</i>
7. Planning & Zoning	10,000.00	10,000.00 <i>Passed</i>
8. General Gov	70,000.00	70,000.00 <i>Amended</i>
❖ John Pfeifle, Selectman, explained the \$3000.00 increase from last year is to cover computer related expenses to make the Town's computer systems more secure and protected.		
❖ Sue McKevitt made a motion to increase line #8 by \$60,000.00 to \$130,000.00 to be used for Town Hall improvements.		
❖ Motion was seconded.		

- ❖ Sue McKevitt explained that last year the Town was told that every year there would be money allocated to help with the improvements for Town Hall and that did not happen this year.
- ❖ Michael James, Selectman, explained that the Selectmen did come up with a plan and a warrant article to allocate \$60,000.00 for Town Hall Renovation work however, DRA rejected it and there was not enough time to rewrite the warrant article and hold a public hearing.
- ❖ Sherry Hinkson had concerns about the Selectmen possibly spending this money on something other than the Town Hall.
- ❖ Chris Frey and Jim Pickman had concerns about the lack of a plan and wanted to know what the plan was for the money and how it would be used.
- ❖ Beth Downs said that there is a check ready, from money allocated last year, and waiting for the granite to be installed. It has not been done yet because the ground froze before it could be installed.
- ❖ There were multiple questions and comments about Article 19 asking why there was no money attached to it and whether or not it could be amended. Karen Hambleton, Town Administrator, stated that we cannot amend it because DRA would reject it. She also stated that you cannot raise money without a public hearing and the Trust Fund needed to be established first.
- ❖ Marcia Keller stated that putting the money into the general fund meant the money can be spent this year on the Town Hall.
- ❖ Brackett Scheffy, Moderator, called a voice vote to amend line item #8 to read \$130,000.00.
- ❖ Voice vote was too close and a hand count was called.
- ❖ Hand count was 60 Yes and 53 No **Line item #8 was amended to read \$130,000.00 Passed**

- ❖ Voice vote called on line item #8 for \$130,000.00. **Amended Amount Passed**

9. Cemetery	25,000.00	25,000.00 <i>Passed</i>
10. Insurances	70,000.00	70,000.00 <i>Passed</i>
11. Other General Gov	10,600.00	10,600.00 <i>Passed</i>
12. Police Department	479,000.00	479,000.00 <i>Passed</i>
13. Fire Department	57,000.00	57,000.00 <i>Passed</i>
14. Rescue Services - FAST	15,000.00	15,000.00 <i>Passed</i>
15. Rescue Services – Contract	65,000.00	65,000.00 <i>Passed</i>
16. Building Code Department	16,500.00	16,500.00 <i>Passed</i>
17. Civil Defense	1,000.00	1,000.00 <i>Passed</i>
18. Highway Department	520,000.00	507,000.00 <i>Amended</i>

John Pfeifle, Selectman, made a motion to amend line item #18 to \$520,000.00.

Motion seconded. Brackett Scheffy, Moderator, called a voice vote and it was too close to call, a hand count was done. The hand count was 178 Yes and 32 No, hand count passed to amend line item #18 to \$520,000.00. **Line item # 18 amended to read \$520,000.00 Voice vote called Amended Amount Passed**

19. Bridges	1.00	1.00 <i>Passed</i>
20. Street Lighting	2,650.00	2,650.00 <i>Passed</i>
21. Solid Waste Collection	82,000.00	82,000.00 <i>Passed</i>
22. Solid Waste Disposal	21,000.00	22,500.00 <i>Passed</i>

23. Inoculations	1.00	1.00 <i>Passed</i>
24. Welfare Administration	7,000.00	7,000.00 <i>Passed</i>
25. Welfare Payments	34,000.00	34,000.00 <i>Passed</i>
26. Parks and Recreation	2,000.00	2,000.00 <i>Passed</i>
27. Library	73,300.00	73,300.00 <i>Passed</i>
28. Patriotic Purposes	18,000.00	18,000.00 <i>Passed</i>
29. Community Center	22,000.00	22,000.00 <i>Passed</i>
30. Other Conservation	900.00	900.00 <i>Passed</i>
31. Long Term Notes	81,840.00	81,840.00 <i>Passed</i>
32. <u>Interest on TAN notes</u>	<u>5,000.00</u>	<u>5,000.00 <i>Passed</i></u>
Total	\$ 2,045,393.00	\$ 2,030,018.00
		\$ 2,105,018.00 PASSED

The Town voted on the Operating Budget one line at a time. Line 3, 8 and 18 were amended, all other lines passed as presented. The total of the Operating Budget voted by the Town was \$2,105,018.00.

- ❖ Marcia Keller made a motion to move to Article Twenty, Twenty-Two and Twenty-Three
- ❖ Motion was seconded
- ❖ Brackett Scheffy, Moderator, called a voice vote to move to Article Twenty, Twenty-Two and Twenty-Three in that order
- ❖ Motion carried
- ❖ Discussion moved to Article Twenty

Article Four: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000.00) to fund work for the 2020 Statistical Revaluation. This will be a non-lapsing appropriation per RSA 32:7, VI and will continue until the money is spent or December 31, 2024. (Majority vote required.) Selectmen recommend. Budget Committee recommends.

- ❖ Sherry Hinkson asked how this Article is different from line item #4 in the Operating Budget.
- ❖ Karen Hambleton, Town Administrator, detailed that this is to be used for the Town wide reevaluation which is to be done in 2020 and the line in the Operating Budget is for the assessor's regular annual work.
- ❖ Brackett Scheffy, Moderator, called a voice vote

Article Passed

Article Five: To see if the Town will vote to change the purpose of the existing Revaluation Reserve Trust Fund established in 2008, "*for the 2010 state determined review,*" to "*for the purpose of meeting our constitutional and statutory requirement that assessments are at full and true value at least as often as every fifth year.*" Further to name the Selectmen as agents to expend. The next revaluation is planned to take place in 2020. (Two-thirds vote required). Selectmen recommend. Budget Committee recommends.

- ❖ Brackett Scheffy, Moderator, called for a hand count because Article Five requires a two-thirds vote

Article Passed

Yes 84

No 0

Article Six: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Thirty-Nine Thousand Six Hundred Dollars (\$39,600.00) with the following sums to fund lease/purchase payments:

Highway Dump Truck	approved at 2015 meeting (pmt #5 of 5)	\$30,400.00
Police Sports Utility Vehicle	approved at 2016 meeting (pmt #4 of 5)	\$9,200.00

(Majority vote required.) Selectmen recommend. Budget Committee recommends.

Article Passed

Article Seven: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Twenty-Four Thousand Dollars (\$24,000.00) to fund the Highway Department Expendable Trust Fund. (Majority vote required.) Selectmen recommend. Budget Committee recommends.

Article Passed

Article Eight: To see if the Town will vote to establish a Road and Bridge Expendable Trust Fund under the provisions of RSA 31:19-a, for the purpose of repairing and reconstructing roads and bridges. Further to raise and appropriate the sum of Ninety Thousand Dollars (\$90,000.00) to be placed in this fund and to name the Selectmen as agents to expend from this fund. (Majority vote required.) Selectmen recommend. Budget Committee recommends.

❖ Chris Frey made a motion to Article Eight to read:

“To see if the Town will vote to establish a Road and Bridge Expendable Trust Fund under the provisions of RSA 31:19-a, for the purpose of repairing and reconstructing roads and bridges. Further to raise and appropriate the sum of Ninety Thousand Dollars (\$90,000.00) to be placed in this fund.”

- ❖ Motion was seconded
- ❖ Chris Frey stated the Town as a whole should be the ones who designate which roads the money should go toward and that there should be a plan laid out for the Town.
- ❖ John Pfeifle, Selectman, commented that this money would be given to the Road Agent to use on the roads needing it most. He also stated that passing the amendment Chris Frey proposes means that the money will not be available to be used this year because it would need a vote of the Town to expend it.
- ❖ Jim Pickman said there should be a presentation to the Town of which roads need to be done and the Town should then get to vote on which ones to do.
- ❖ Andrew Pinard stated that he is the only house on Church St and he most likely wouldn't get votes to have that road redone but that the Selectmen are empowered to make sure we take care of all of our roads.
- ❖ John Pfeifle, Selectman, voiced his concern that the roads are already deteriorating and will continue to do so unless we spend some money this year to work on fixing them.
- ❖ Dave Nunnally questioned who would be able to authorize the use of the money this year and if we did not use it would it be there next year.
- ❖ Chris Frey stated that the Town would vote next year on how to use the money and that because it would be going into a trust fund it would still be there.

- ❖ Steve Hall, Road Agent, explained that his hands are tied on fixing the roads if he doesn't have money to work with. Patching the roads is just a short-term fix.
- ❖ Marlene Freyler pointed out that this would not only be for roads but also for bridges. She stated that the Town needed to have some money to be able to spend if we need to fix one of the bridges like we have in the past.
- ❖ Brackett Scheffy, Moderator, called a voice vote to amend Article Eight.
- ❖ Amendment Failed
- ❖ Brackett Scheffy, Moderator, called a voice vote on Article Eight as originally written

Article Passed

Article Nine: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Eleven Thousand Dollars (\$11,000.00) to replace the plow on the 2002 International Dump Truck. This will be a non-lapsing appropriation per RSA 32:7, VI and will continue until the money is spent or December 31, 2024. (Majority vote required.) Selectmen recommend. Budget Committee does not recommend.

- ❖ John Pfeifle, Selectman, informed the Town that the plow was purchased in the early 90's and that it is time that it is retired and a new one purchased.
- ❖ Jason Allen asked for clarification from the Road Agent as to the condition of the plow and why can we not just weld it and fix it.
- ❖ Steve Hall, Road Agent, stated that this plow has been on three trucks. It has been welded many times already, it is worn and weathered. Some of the springs are going. It has had parts replaced and fixed multiple times over the years. There are only so many repairs that can be made to a piece of equipment before it is time to just replace it.
- ❖ Brackett Scheffy, Moderator, called for a voice vote

Article Passed

Article Ten: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Three Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$3,500.00) to remove mold from the old Highway Garage. This will be a non-lapsing appropriation per RSA 32:7, VI and will continue until the money is spent or December 31, 2024. (Majority vote required.) Selectmen recommend. Budget Committee recommends.

Article Passed

Article Eleven: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Thirty-Eight Thousand Dollars (\$38,000.00) for culvert and catch basin replacement. This will be a non-lapsing appropriation per RSA 32:7, VI and will continue until the money is spent or December 31, 2024. (Majority vote required.) Selectmen recommend. Budget Committee recommends.

Article Passed

Article Twelve: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Forty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$45,000.00) to purchase and outfit with equipment a new Police Sports Utility Vehicle (SUV). This will be a non-lapsing appropriation per RSA 32:7, VI and will continue until the money is spent or December 31, 2024. (Majority vote required.) Selectmen recommend. Budget Committee recommends.

Article Passed

Article Thirteen: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Two Thousand Seven Hundred and Fifty Dollars (\$2,750.00) to support Bradford, Newbury, Sutton Youth Sports. (Majority vote required.) Selectmen recommend. Budget Committee recommends. **Article Passed**

Article Fourteen: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Six Thousand Dollars (\$6,000.00) to fund the inspection of watercraft and the educational operations of the Boat Launch on Lake Massasecum. (Majority vote required.) Selectmen recommend. Budget Committee recommends. **Article Passed**

Article Fifteen: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000.00) for Gravestone Repair. This will be a non-lapsing appropriation per RSA 32:7, VI and will continue until the money is spent or December 31, 2024. (Majority vote required.) Selectmen recommend. Budget Committee recommends. **Article Passed**

Article Sixteen: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Two Thousand Seven Hundred Dollars (\$2,700.00) to install a new monitoring well on the Naughton Property (Map 17 Lot 12) as required by the Department of Environmental Services. This will be a non-lapsing appropriation per RSA 32:7, VI and will continue until the money is spent or December 31, 2024. (Majority vote required.) Selectmen recommend. Budget Committee recommends.

- ❖ George Cilley expressed concerns about putting in another well and concerns about how the State is handling the processes.
- ❖ John Pfeifle, Selectman, agreed with what George Cilley said about how the State is going about things. However, the State still has some concerns and the reading increased at one well. The State is telling us that we must do it.
- ❖ Bracket Scheffy, Moderator, called a voice vote

Article Passed

Article Seventeen: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.00) to fund the Communication Equipment Capital Reserve Fund (emergency services). (Majority vote required.) Selectmen recommend. Budget Committee recommends.

- ❖ Sherry Hinkson asked for an explanation of what this article is about.
- ❖ Claire James explained that Police Chief has stated that we will be required to upgrade radio equipment which has an estimated cost of \$30,000.00. This is a fund to start to save for that expense as opposed to getting billed for the whole thing all at once.

Article Passed

Article Eighteen: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000.00) (gross budget) to repair and prevent further water damage to the exterior of the Bradford Area Community Center. Further to install LED lighting in the Bradford Area Community Center. This will be a non-lapsing appropriation per RSA 32:7, VI and will continue until the money is spent or December 31, 2024. (Majority vote required.) Selectmen recommend. Budget Committee recommends.

- ❖ Andrew Pinard questioned if we will be getting any money from the utilities to help pay for the lighting. The school just replaced some of their lighting and the utilities helped fund it.
- ❖ Karen Hambleton, Town Administrator, stated that there are options available and they are working on reducing the amount.
- ❖ George Cilley asked for information on what the money would be going towards fixing.
- ❖ Karen Hambleton, Town Administrator, explained the breakdown of the cost of the lighting and that the rest would be to address the damage on the backside of the building from water dripping off the roof and splashing up from the deck.
- ❖ Brackett Scheffy, Moderator, called for a voice vote

Article Passed

Article Nineteen: To see if the Town will vote to establish a 2019 Town Hall Repair and Renovation Expendable Trust Fund under the provisions of RSA 31:19-a, for the purpose of continuing the restoration work on Town Hall and further to name the Selectmen as agents to expend from this fund. (Majority vote required). Selectmen recommend. **Article Passed**

Article Twenty: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen to purchase the property at 89 West Main Street (Map 16 Lot 87) (St. Peter's Lodge) on such terms and conditions as the Board of Selectmen determines are in the best interests of the Town. Further to raise and appropriate the sum of Twenty Thousand Dollars (\$20,000.00) for this purchase. This will be a non-lapsing appropriation per RSA 32:7, VI and will continue until the money is spent or December 31, 2024. (Majority vote required.) Selectmen recommend. Budget Committee recommends.

- ❖ John Pfeifle, Selectman, stated that the Masonic Lodge approached the Selectmen about the Town purchase the property. The Selectmen want to move to buy the property before someone else does because of access rights to the Fire Department. There are no direct plans for the building at this time.
- ❖ Jim Raymond made a motion to amend the amount to \$50,000.00 and to use the additional \$30,000.00 to tear down the building.
- ❖ Chase Kenyon suggested the building could be used for the Police Department.
- ❖ Mark Goldberg, Fire Chief, agreed that the Town should buy the land because there is no clear deed regarding the Fire Department and 10' of the Fire House which sits on that land. Mark stated that there is no septic for the Masonic Lodge and no land to put one in.
- ❖ Audrey Sylvester shared her concerns about tearing down the building and felt that we should look into historical preservation or other options first.
- ❖ Brackett Scheffy, Moderator, called a voice vote to amend Article Twenty
- ❖ Voice vote to amend Article Twenty failed
- ❖ Brackett Scheffy, Moderator, called a voice vote on Article Twenty as written

Article Passed

- ❖ Brooks McCandlish made a motion to move to Article Twenty-Three then Article Twenty-Two
- ❖ Moderator called for a voice vote to move to Article Twenty-Three
- ❖ Voice Vote Passed
- ❖ Moved to Article Twenty-Three

Article Twenty-One: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Thirty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$35,000.00) to fund the Fire Department Heavy Equipment Capital Reserve Fund. (Majority vote required.) Selectmen recommend. Budget Committee does not recommend.

- ❖ Claire James made a motion to amend Article Twenty-One to \$70,000.00. She stated that the CIP originally wanted to put in \$110, 000.00 this year and then \$120,000.00 next year and pay for the equipment outright instead of having to secure a loan.
- ❖ Motion was seconded
- ❖ John Pfeifle, Selectman, explained that the Selectmen are in favor of getting the truck. The reason that the number is lower is to keep the tax rate down.
- ❖ Claire James stated that the bill will come at some point and we have two options, keep the tax rate lower this year and it spikes another year or pay a little more this year.
- ❖ Brackett Scheffy, Moderator, called for a voice vote to amend Article Twenty-One to \$70,000.00
- ❖ Brackett Scheffy, Moderator, called for a hand count as the voice vote was too close to call.
- ❖ Amendment to Article Twenty-One Passed
- ❖ Brackett Scheffy, Moderator, called a voice vote on Amended Article Twenty-One

Amended Article Passed

Article Twenty-Two: To see if the Town will vote to change the organization of the Fire Department, pursuant to RSA 154:1, I(a), such that henceforth the Fire Chief shall be appointed by the Select Board with the fire fighters appointed by the Fire Chief. (Majority vote required.)

- ❖ Brooks McCandlish made a motion to amend Article Twenty-Two to read:

“To see if the Town will vote to change the organization of the Fire Department, pursuant to RSA 154:1, I(a), such that henceforth the Fire Chief shall be appointed by the Select Board, in consultation with the Fire Department Membership, with the fire fighters appointed by the Fire Chief.”

- ❖ Motion seconded
- ❖ Andrew Pinard stated that if the Fire Chief is appointed by the Selectmen, he then becomes an employee of the Town and that unfortunately consultation means nothing. He added that a good Select Board will care about the feedback and involvement of the Fire Department.
- ❖ Mark Goldberg, Fire Chief, and Brooks McCandlish commented that they are in support of the Selectmen being the ones to appoint the Fire Chief since he will be a Town employee but would appreciate the Fire Department views being considered in the spirit of working together.
- ❖ Michael James, Selectman, commented that he hopes that in the coming years the Select Board can develop a better relationship with the Fire Department.
- ❖ Brackett Scheffy, Moderator, called for a voice vote to amend Article Twenty-Two
- ❖ Voice Vote to amend Article Twenty-Two Passed
- ❖ Brackett Scheffy, Moderator, called for a voice vote on amended Article Twenty-Two

Amended Article Passed

Article Twenty-Three: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Thirty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$35,000.00) to hire a part-time Chief for the Fire Department and to provide pay for firefighters on a per call basis. **By Petition.** (Majority vote required.) Selectmen recommend. Budget Committee recommends.

- ❖ Dave Nunnally clarified that this is for the second six months of this year.
- ❖ Sue McKevitt questioned whether or not there has been discussion on joining another Town for the Fire Chief position.
- ❖ Michael James, Selectman, responded saying at this time the Town will not be looking into joining with another Town. They would like to make sure the current volunteers are comfortable with the transition and would like to hire a part time person for now. He explained the money being raised would be used to cover the second half of the year for a part time Fire Chief and pay MRI, a consulting company, to assist the Town in hiring a Fire Chief and to help understand the needs of the Fire Department.
- ❖ Mark Goldberg, Fire Chief, explained that there are not as many people willing to step up to be a Fire Chief as there use to be. Mark also explained that finding someone who will come on as Chief even part time as a volunteer will be extremely difficult. Sutton is one of the few towns left with a volunteer Fire Chief; most remaining towns have salaried Chiefs. He stated that MRI would be helpful in transitioning the Town into his retirement and helpful in finding someone qualified. MRI could also help write a contract for the new Fire Chief.
- ❖ Brackett Scheffy, Moderator, Called a voice vote
- ❖ Voice vote passed

Article Passed

Article Twenty-Four: To see if the Town will vote to reclassify Chestnut Hollow Road as a public road. **By Petition.** (Majority vote required.)

- ❖ Brett Cusick, one of the homeowners from Chestnut Hollow, came before the Town asking that Chestnut Hollow Road become a public road and be taken over by the Town. He explained that he pays taxes just like everyone else in town does and would like the same treatment for his road.
- ❖ Steve Hall, Road Agent, stated that he believes Henniker Crushed Stone built that road and it looks like it has a great base, however, there are some unknowns about the road, some drainage issues and some other things that would need to be addressed. He recommends that this be tabled until next year allowing time to research the road further and understand what it will take to take over and maintain. Steve said that he is willing to meet with the homeowners and any committee formed to work with them.
- ❖ Karen Hambleton, Town Administrator, referred to a section of “A Hard Road to Travel” and said she believed the proposal would have to be voted on by the Planning Board first before it can be presented to the Town.
- ❖ Pam Bruss, who is a member of the Planning Board, said that the Board will look into things and make sure they are following the process correctly.
- ❖ Brackett Scheffy, Moderator, stated he was unclear on the legal part of this Article and whether or not if it passes if it would actually hold up due to the questions on the correct process.
- ❖ Tammy Zielinski questioned why it was accepted as a Warrant Article and if it could be amended with it being contingent on the Planning Board’s approval.

- ❖ Karen Hambleton, Town Administrator, explained that they are required to put any Petition Article on the Warrant as submitted even if it cannot be passed.
- ❖ Kate Cusick wanted to know what they should do and if they go to the Planning Board if this will just happen again next year.
- ❖ Brackett Scheffy, Moderator, advised them they should seek legal counsel from someone who specializes in road law.
- ❖ John Pfeifle, Selectman, suggested that they meet with Steve Hall the Road Agent to discuss the road and meet with the Planning Board and then come back next year with all of it.
- ❖ Motion was made to table Article Twenty-Four
- ❖ Motion seconded
- ❖ Brackett Scheffy, Moderator, called for a voice vote to table Article Twenty-four
- ❖ Motion to table Failed
- ❖ Jason Allen commented that there is potential for an increased tax base if the other lots end up being built on.
- ❖ George Cilley and Andrew Pinard both expressed concern of what it would end up costing the Town to maintain the road if taken on.
- ❖ Brackett Scheffy, Moderator, called for a voice vote on Article Twenty-Four

Article Failed

Article Twenty-Five: To see if the Town will vote to change the purpose of the existing 2015 Highway Equipment Expendable Trust Fund, created at the Town Meeting in 2015, so that the fund which was originally established for the purpose of purchasing equipment, can also be used for the purpose of operation and maintenance of highway equipment. **By Petition.** (Two-thirds vote required).

- ❖ Jason Allen feels this would be beneficial allowing some money for emergencies to be able to fix equipment instead of just replacing it.
- ❖ Karen Hambleton, Town Administrator, stated that DRA contacted her regarding this Article. She was told that because there are no agents named it would limit access this fund to a Town vote at next year's Town Meeting. She added that she feels this Article needs refining because it is not clearly defined as to what "operation" means, does it mean gas?
- ❖ Jason Allen replied that he would have to agree to what Karen stated.
- ❖ Brackett Scheffy, Moderator, called for a hand count on Article Twenty-Five

Article Failed

Yes 0

No 58

Article Twenty-Six: To see if the Town will vote to accept the reports of the Town Offices. To transact any other business that may legally come before the meeting. **Article Passed**

Motion to adjourn

Seconded

Brackett Scheffy, Moderator, called a vote to close the meeting

Meeting adjourned at 11:44pm

Bradford Board of Selectmen,

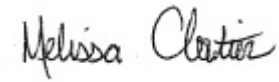
James V. Bibbo III, Chairman

John D. Pfeifle, Selectman

Michael C. James, Selectman

A true copy attest:

Official Town Warrant and Minutes for the Election of March 12th and Meeting March 13th.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Melissa Cloutier".

Melissa Cloutier

Town Clerk/Tax Collector