

DUNBARTON TOWN MEETING – MARCH 8, 2016

7:56^{AM}: Moderator Fred Mullen read the warrant:

THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE TO THE INHABITANTS OF THE TOWN OF DUNBARTON IN THE COUNTY OF MERRIMACK IN SAID STATE, QUALIFIED TO VOTE IN TOWN AFFAIRS. THE POLLS WILL BE OPEN MARCH 8, 2016 FROM 8:00 AM TO 7:00 PM OR UNTIL SUCH HOUR AS THE MODERATOR SHALL DETERMINE.

7:58^{AM}: Moderator Fred Mullen read the notice of meeting: YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED TO MEET AT THE DUNBARTON COMMUNITY CENTER IN SAID DUNBARTON ON TUESDAY THE EIGHTH DAY OF MARCH NEXT AT EIGHT O'CLOCK IN THE FORENOON, AND CAST BALLOTS FROM THAT HOUR UNTIL AT LEAST SEVEN O'CLOCK IN THE EVENING OF SAID DAY FOR SUCH TOWN OFFICERS AND SCHOOL OFFICERS, AS THEY MAY BE LISTED ON THE BALLOTS, AS WELL AS WHETHER TO ADOPT THE PROVISIONS OF RSA 40:13 (KNOWN AS SB2) TO ALLOW OFFICIAL BALLOT VOTING ON ALL ISSUES BEFORE THE TOWN OF DUNBARTON, NH ON THE SECOND TUESDAY OF MARCH WHICH REQUIRES A 3/5-MAJORITY VOTE OF THOSE VOTING.

Selectman Brian Pike made the motion to waive further reading of the warrant. Second by Matthew Lavey. Motion passed. Two ballot boxes were opened for public viewing then sealed by the Moderator. Polls opened at 8:00^{AM}.

7:00^{PM}: The deliberative portion of Dunbarton's 251st annual Town meeting began.

The Moderator led the Pledge of Allegiance. Rules of order for the meeting were reviewed. He reminded registered voters to obtain voting cards from the Supervisors of the Checklist. He introduced Town Officials: Selectmen Brian Pike, Ted Vallieres, and Thomas Groleau; Town Clerk Linda Landry, Town Attorney Steven Whitley, Supervisors of the Checklist: Janet Casey, Peter Weeks and Mary Sue Bracy; Police Officers: Joe Milioto, Ralph McClellan, and Mike Gorman; Sgt. Chris Remillard; Fire Chief Jon Wiggin, Deputy Fire Chief Bud Marcou. He extended thanks to Dan and Gayle Troy for operating the sound system.

He noted that the Town Report was dedicated to all Town employees and volunteers who serve Town of Dunbarton. He pointed out that the School District dedicated its report to Jeff Trexler, (page 90 of the 2015 Town Report)

The Moderator began the reading of the warrant. Selectman Pike moved to waive further reading of the warrant; second by Selectman Groleau. Motion passed.

Selectman Pike was recognized. He told the assembly that this is the first time in 20 years that Fred's name was not on the ballot for the Office of Town Moderator. He also recognized Fred's wife, Lee, for her support. He presented Lee with a plant, and Fred with a gavel bearing the inscription: *Frederick J. Mullen, Outstanding Service, Town Moderator 1996-2016, Town of Dunbarton, NH.*

Dunbarton Town Moderator Fred Mullen received a standing ovation [and thunderous applause] from the assembly. He thanked everyone for their contributions to the Town and stated he's not disappearing and will be more than willing to help out next Moderator. He has one more year left in his term as school Moderator.

Article 1: To choose all necessary Town officers for the ensuing year. Moved and seconded to accept the Article as read by the Moderator. Motion passed.

The floor was opened for nominations for the position of Hog Reeve:

Addison Chase nominated Chuck and Annette Frost. Voters approved the nomination. Chuck was sworn into office by the Moderator. Annette was not present.

RESULTS OF OFFICIAL BALLOT VOTING (ARTICLE 1)

2146 Voters on Checklist

764 Ballots Cast

36% Voter Turnout

For Selectman for three years		For Trustee of the Trust Funds	
Vote for ONE		for three years	
Ted Vallieres	227	Vote for ONE	
Robert Martel	509	Catherine Robbins (write-in)	9
For Town Moderator for two years		For Supervisor of the Checklist	
Vote for ONE		for six years	
JR Hoell	310	Vote for ONE	
Rene Ouellet (write-in)	344	Janet Casey	623
For Board of Assessors for three years		For Library Trustee for three years	
Vote for ONE		Vote for ONE	
Bryan H. Clark	606	Martha Wilson	615
For Tax Collector for three years		For Cemetery Trustee for three years	
Vote for ONE		Vote for ONE	
Judy VanKalken	643	Tom Groleau	550
For Ethics Committee for two years		For Ethics Committee for three years	
Vote for ONE		Vote for ONE	
Marcy Richmond	574	David Allen	594

Article 2: To see if the Town will vote to adopt the provisions of RSA 40:13 (known as SB2) to allow official ballot voting on all issues before the Town of Dunbarton, NH on the second Tuesday of March. Passage requires a 3/5-majority vote of those voting. (By Petition) (3/5 Majority Vote Required) (By Official Ballot) Estimated 2016 tax rate impact: \$.00 Not Recommended by the Board of Selectmen (Vote 0-3)

OFFICIAL BALLOT VOTE RESULTS: 764 ballots cast: YES: 197 / NO: 559 Article DEFEATED

Article 3: To raise such sums of money as may be necessary to defray Town charges for the ensuing year and make appropriations of the same in the amount as follows but excluding all appropriations contained in special or individual Articles addressed separately:

Executive	\$ 106,083
Selectmen (Elected Official salary)	6,275
Elections, Registrations & Vital Stats	13,259
Town Clerk (Elected Official salary & benefits)	75,332
Financial Administration	70,791
Tax Collector (Elected Official salary)	16,806
Treasurer (Elected Official salary)	6,602
Board of Assessors (Elected Official salary)	1,681
Assessing Department	26,294
Legal Expenses	25,100
Personnel Administration	242,613
Planning & Zoning	20,125
General Government Buildings	94,793
Cemeteries	15,700
Insurance	14,560
Police	383,846
Fire	85,022
Building Department	61,908

Emergency Management	1,000
Highway Department	570,000
Solid Waste Expenses & Disposal	210,938
Welfare	14,705
Parks & Recreation	1,700
Old Home Day/Memorial Day	3,800
Library	93,610
Total	<u>2,162,543</u>
* Less estimated revenues:	(\$997,427)
* This appropriation to be offset with from unassigned fund balance	(\$68,116)
Net to be raised from taxes:	<u>\$ 1,097,000</u>

Estimated 2016 tax rate: \$3.64 for operating budget only. Recommended by the Board of Selectmen (Vote 3-0)

Selectman Brian Pike moved to accept the Article as read by the Moderator. Second by Selectman Groleau. Brian Pike spoke to the Article. The Moderator opened the floor for discussion. Shelley Westenberg, Jeff Trexler, Mert Mann, and Heidi Wright participated.

Shelley Westenberg proposed the following amendment: To add \$2,000 to the Parks and Recreation line item 4520-4529 for a total budget of \$7,500 for Parks and Recreation [includes Old Home Day/Memorial Day].

[7:45^{PM}] Amendment PASSED. Main motion PASSED AS AMENDED. New bottom line to be raised from taxes is: \$ 1,099,000.

Article 4: To see if the Town will vote to discontinue as a public highway the following described portion of a certain gravel drive which is an extension of Kelsea Road and has been previously maintained by the Town: beginning at the westerly boundary of the Class V Kelsea Road right of way, running for distance of approximately 127 feet westerly along said gravel drive, terminating at a point along the gravel drive even with a Rebar Found near the southeastern corner of the barn on Tax Map B6, Lot 01-05 North presently owned by Michael Guiney, having an approximate total width of 3 rods from the centerline of the Cart Road Easement, as depicted and more particularly described as the "Cart Road" on the Cart Road Easement Detail on a "Boundary Plat, Land of Michael Guiney, Tax Map B6-01-05, Kelsea Road," dated September 16, 2015, and recorded at the Merrimack County Registry of Deeds as Plan #201500016476. (By majority vote per Town attorney) Estimated 2016 tax rate impact: \$.00. Recommended by the Board of Selectmen (Vote 2-A)

Selectman Pike moved to accept the Article as read by the Moderator. Second by Selectman Groleau. Brian Pike spoke to the Article. He invited the non-resident Town Attorney to speak with the voter's approval. Vote was in the affirmative. The Moderator opened the floor for discussion. David Nault, John Trottier [ZBA Chair], Gary Chicoine, Jeff Trexler, Joshua Nault, Nathan Narus, Keith Jordan, William Zeller, and Les Hammond participated. [8:35^{PM}] The Article was DEFEATED.

Article 5: To see if the Town will vote to adopt RSA 41:14-a, to allow the Selectmen to acquire or sell land, buildings or both; provided, however, they shall first submit any such proposed acquisition or sale to the planning board and to the conservation commission for review and recommendation by those bodies. This Article will remain in effect until rescinded. (Majority vote required.) Estimated 2016 tax rate impact: \$.00. Recommended by the Board of Selectmen (Vote 2-1)

Selectman Pike moved to accept the Article as read by the Moderator. Second by Selectman Groleau. Selectman Pike spoke to the Article. The Moderator opened the floor for discussion. David Nault, Ron Slocum, Nathan Narus, and J.R. Hoell participated. [8:45^{PM}] The Article was DEFEATED

Article 6: To see if the Town will vote to adopt the provisions of RSA 32:5-b, and implement a tax cap whereby the governing body (or budget committee) shall not submit a recommended budget that increases the amount to be raised by local taxes, based on the prior fiscal year's actual amount of local taxes raised, by more than 2.5 percent. (By Petition) (3/5 Ballot Vote Town Meeting) Estimated 2016 tax rate impact: \$.00. Not Recommended by the Board of Selectmen (Vote 0-3)

Ralph Fellbaum [Petitioner] made the motion to accept the Article as read by the Moderator. Second by John Herlihy. Mr. Fellbaum spoke to the Article. The Moderator opened the floor for discussion. There was no discussion.

[Note: Per RSA 32:5-c, V the Article must be voted on by secret ballot and polls must be open for one hour for that purpose. During the hour of polling, discussion moved to Article 7. Results were announced at 8:59PM] Ballot results: YES 62 NO 141 The Article was DEFEATED.

Article 7: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of (\$25,000) to be added to the Highway Vehicle Capital Reserve Fund previously established for this purpose as summarized in the Capital Improvement Plan. Estimated 2016 tax rate impact: \$.08. Recommended by the Board of Selectmen (Vote 3-0)

Road Agent Jeff Crosby made the motion to accept the article as read. Second by Les Hammond. Mr. Crosby spoke to the Article. The floor was opened for discussion. There was none. The Article PASSED.

Article 8: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of (\$14,000) to be added to the Revaluation Capital Reserve Fund previously established for this purpose as summarized in the Capital Improvement Plan. Estimated 2016 tax rate impact: \$.05. Recommended by the Board of Selectmen (Vote 3-0).

Assessor Mary Lavalley moved to accept the Article as read. Second by Brian Pike. The floor was opened for discussion. There was none. The Article PASSED.

Article 9: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of (\$60,000) to be added to the Fire Department Emergency Vehicle Capital Reserve Fund, previously established for this purpose as summarized in the Capital Improvement Plan. Estimated 2016 tax rate impact: \$.20. Recommended by the Board of Selectmen (Vote 2-1).

Fire Chief Jon Wiggin moved to accept the Article as read. Second by Selectman Groleau. Chief Wiggin spoke to the Article. The floor was opened for discussion. Ralph Fellbaum participated. [9:05PM] The Article PASSED.

Article 10: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of (\$20,000) for the purchase of a forestry truck as summarized in the Capital Improvement Plan. Estimated 2016 tax rate impact: \$.07. Recommended by the Board of Selectmen (Vote 3-0).

Fire Chief Jon Wiggin moved to accept the Article as read. Second by Tom Groleau. Chief Wiggin spoke to the Article. The floor was opened for discussion. Stevyn Dodd participated. The Article PASSED.

Article 11: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of (\$44,000) to purchase a new police cruiser with equipment and installation of equipment as summarized in the Capital Improvements Plan. A portion of these funds to come from the Police Special Detail Revolving Fund in the amount of (\$18,000). The balance of (\$26,000) to come from taxes. Estimated 2016 tax rate impact: \$.09. Recommended by the Board of Selectmen (Vote 2-1)

Police Chief Dan Sklut moved to accept the Article as read by the Moderator. Second by Brian Pike. Chief Sklut spoke to the Article. Ron Slocum participated. The Article PASSED.

Article 12: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of (\$100,000) to reconstruct a section of Grapevine Road (phase II) approximately 7,500 feet. This will be a non-lapsing appropriation per

RSA 32:7, VI and will not lapse until the construction is completed or by December 31, 2021, whichever comes first. Estimated 2016 tax rate impact: \$.33. Recommended by the Board of Selectmen (Vote 3-0)

Road Agent Jeff Crosby moved to accept the Article as read. Second by David Nault. The floor was opened for discussion. Lois Richards, Keith Jordan, Peter Magoun and David Schroeder participated.

[9:21^{PM}] The Article PASSED.

Article 13: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of (\$10,068) for the milfoil control at Gorham Pond and to authorize the selectmen to accept a grant from the State of New Hampshire DES in the amount of (\$4,027), known as the Variable Milfoil Control Grant. The balance of (\$6,041) to come from taxes. Estimated 2016 tax rate impact: \$.02. Not Recommended by the Board of Selectmen (Vote 0-3)

Bob Leonard moved to accept the Article as read by the Moderator. Second by Bob Ray.

The Moderator stated that in past Town Meetings, voters have allowed non-resident Lou Deberio, President of the Gorham Pond Association to speak regarding the milfoil control. He asked if voters would approve of him speaking to the subject at this meeting. Vote was in the affirmative. Mr. Deberio spoke to the Article via a prepared statement.

The floor was opened for discussion. Fran Hill, Bob Leonard, David Schroeder, Ron Slocum, William Zeller, Lois Richards, Bob Ray, and Jason Lalla participated.

[9:47^{PM}] The Article PASSED.

Article 14: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of (\$9,860) to fund the position of Deputy Town Clerk. (By Petition) (Majority Vote Required) Estimated 2016 tax rate impact: \$.03. Not Recommended by the Board of Selectmen (Vote 0-3).

Mert Mann [Petitioner] moved to accept the Article as read. Second by Les Hammond. Mr. Mann proposed the following amendment: To raise and appropriate the sum of \$7,860 to fund the position of Deputy Town Clerk.

Amount was amended because the Board of Selectmen have funded that line item in the amount of \$2,000 for 2016. This will bring the total Deputy line to \$9,860. Mr. Mann spoke to the Article. The floor was opened for discussion. Fran Hill, Ralph Fellbaum, Joyce Hammond, Debra Foster, Judy VanKalken, Mark Landry, Randy Bauer, and Bob Leonard participated. The *AMENDMENT PASSED*.

Before a vote on the main motion as amended was taken, a secret ballot was requested by Selectman Tom Groleau. The request bore the signatures of: Tom Groleau, Ted Vallieres, Brian Pike, Linda Groleau, Alison Vallieres. Ballot results: YES 135 / NO 33 The Article PASSED as amended; new amount to be \$7,860.

Article 15: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of (\$101,894) to purchase breathing apparatus for the volunteer fire department. Furthermore, to withdraw (\$4,852) from the Fire Department Special Revenue Fund established for this purpose and to authorize the board of selectmen to accept a Federal grant of (\$97,042) for this purpose. This Article is contingent on the receipt of the grant. No amount to be raised from taxation. This Article is non-lapsing and will not lapse until the equipment is purchased or December 31, 2021 whichever comes first. Estimated 2016 tax rate impact: \$.00. Recommended by the Board of Selectmen (Vote 3-0).

Fire Chief Jon Wiggin moved to accept the Article as read. Second by Mark Landry. Mr. Wiggin spoke to the Article. The floor was opened for discussion. There was none.

The Article PASSED.

Article 16: To see if the Town will vote to establish a Cemetery Expendable Trust Fund per RSA 31:19-a, for the maintenance and upkeep of Town cemeteries and to appoint Cemetery Trustees as agents to expend and further to authorize the transfer of cemetery lot funds received for the sale of said lots to be added to the fund per RSA 289:2-a. Said authority will remain until such time as it is rescinded. (Majority Vote Required) Estimated 2016 tax rate impact: \$.00. Recommended by the Board of Selectmen (Vote 3-0).

Cemetery Trustee Tom Groleau moved to accept the Article as read. Second by Cemetery Trustee Brian Pike. Tom Groleau spoke to the Article. The floor was opened for discussion. There was none.

The Article PASSED.

Article 17: To see if the Town of Dunbarton will vote, pursuant to RSA 35:9-a, II (which became effective July 26, 2014), to authorize the Trustees of the Trust Funds, without further action of the Town meeting, to charge any expenses incurred for professional banking or brokerage assistance for capital reserve funds in their custody as authorized in RSA Chapter 35, against the capital reserve funds involved, such authority to remain in effect until rescinded by a vote of the Town meeting, which said vote to rescind such authority shall not occur within 5 years of the adoption of this Article. (Majority vote required). Estimated 2016 tax rate impact: \$.00. Not Recommended by the Board of Selectmen (Vote 0-3)

Trustee of the Trust Funds, Jason Dubrow, moved to accept the Article as read. Second by J.R. Hoell. Mr. Dubrow spoke to the Article. The floor was opened for discussion. J.R. Hoell, Brian Pike, and Jeff Trexler participated. [10:49^{PM}] The Article was DEFEATED.

Article 18: To see if the Town will vote to exclude all funds from unassigned general fund balance (aka surplus) for the purpose of passage of all future warrant Articles. This policy to remain in effect until rescinded by the legislative body. (By Petition) (Majority Vote Required) Estimated 2016 tax rate impact: \$.00. Not Recommended by the Board of Selectmen (Vote 1-2)

Ralph Fellbaum [Petitioner] moved to accept the article as read. Second by Tom Groleau. The floor was opened for discussion. Jeff Trexler and Brian Pike participated. The Article PASSED.

Article 19: To see if the Town will vote to have the Selectmen provide, within 60 days, and easily located "link" on the Town website for quick access to videotaped Selectman's Meetings, with disclaimers as necessary. Videotaping is being done by volunteers and posted uncut on YouTube and Facebook. (By Petition) (Majority Vote Required) Estimated 2016 tax rate impact: \$.00. Not Recommended by the Board of Selectmen (Vote 0-3).

Donna Dunn moved to accept the article as read. Second by Mark Landry. Donna Dunn spoke to the article. The floor was opened for discussion. Nick Holmes, Tom Groleau, David Nault, Nate Narus, and Andy Dunn participated. [11:08^{PM}] The Article PASSED.

Article 20: To hear the reports of agents, auditors, committees and other officers heretofore chosen and pass any vote relating thereto.

Brian Pike moved to accept the article as read. Second by Tom Groleau. The floor was opened for discussion. There was none. The Article PASSED.


Article 21: To transact any other business that may legally come before this meeting. Moved and seconded to accept the Article as read. The floor was open for discussion.

Deb Foster extended her thanks to Moderator Fred Mullen for all he's done. [A round of applause followed.]

Moderator Fred Mullen made the motion to dissolve the meeting. Vote was in the affirmative. The meeting adjourned at 11:10^{PM}.

We certify that the preceding are the actions taken and the election results recorded at the annual meeting held in the Town of Dunbarton on March 8, 2016.


Linda L. Landry, Certified Town Clerk


Frederick J. Mullen, Moderator