

New Boston Deliberative Session

February 4, 2015

Moderator Lee Nyquist called the meeting to order at 7:05pm in the Tom Mansfield Gymnasium, to take up the work of the 2015 New Boston Budget and Warrant.

Moderator Nyquist informed the voters that they have the power to determine the language that will be on the official ballot through the process of amendments. He indicated that he would accept amendments to any article as long as they are germane and made sense to the article being discussed. Amendments must be in writing.

Moderator Nyquist introduced Reverend Woodland of the New Boston Community Church to deliver the invocation. Moderator Lee Nyquist also recognized the following people: Town Moderator, Peter Flynn, Selectmen, Rodney Towne, Christine Quirk and Dwight Lovejoy, Deputy Town Clerk, Kimberly Colbert and the other department heads who were present.

Moderator Nyquist introduced Selectman Lovejoy who then presented Selectman Towne a plaque and thanked him for his six years of dedicated service to the town.

Moderator Nyquist recognized the town bookkeeper, Karen Craven, who has retired after twenty nine years of service to the Town of New Boston. Also recognized was the loss of David Nixon and Polly Brindle.

Moderator Nyquist informed the voters he would apply Robert's Rules of Order. Any person who wishes to speak must wait to be recognized by the moderator. They must identify themselves with a name and address. No one may interrupt. A motion can be made and seconded; discussion will follow on the motion. If anyone wishes to vote by secret ballot they must have the signature of five (5) voters. If there is a secret ballot the meeting will be suspended until the voters have voted on the article.

Any voter may call to restrict reconsideration of any article at any time. If someone wishes to move to an article that is out of numerical order he/she may do so with a motion, a second and a vote. All articles must go on the ballot. The format is determined by this meeting. Moderator Nyquist also informed us that this was his twenty third time doing this.

Moderator Nyquist indicated that Selectman Rodney Towne would give the explanation of Article 16 then we would take up the work of Articles #15 through #31. Articles #2-#14 are Planning and Zoning articles and are not presented at this meeting.

Article 15. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **two hundred thousand dollars (\$200,000)** for the purchase of land Map 8, Lot 110-2 (approx. 3.25 acres); furthermore to authorize the issuance of not more than **two hundred thousand (\$200,000)** in bonds or notes in accordance with the provisions of the Municipal Finance Act RSA Chapter 33; and to authorize the

Selectmen to issue and negotiate such bonds or notes and determine the rate of interest thereon; furthermore to raise and appropriate an additional sum of **five thousand dollars (\$5,000.00)** for legal and administrative fees incurred. (**3/5th majority vote required for passage.**) (Selectmen and Finance Committee recommend 6 -1 abstained)

Rodney Towne moved to accept the article as read and Dwight Lovejoy seconded the motion.

Discussion: Moderator Nyquist recognized Clifford Plourde, Fire Warden , Joe English Road, who offered an amendment to Article 15. Mr. Plourde deferred explanation to Fire Chief, Dan MacDonald, Tucker Mill Road. Mr. MacDonald explained that there is an approximate 1.5 million dollar unreserved fund balance held by the town. 1.45 million plus one hundred thousand from this year. We need \$350,000 to complete Old Coach Road, also needed is \$200,000 for a pending lawsuit from Fairpoint. If we use \$200,000 for the land purchase, that would still leave an unreserved fund balance of \$800,000, which is the amount the state requires us to keep. Brandy Mitroff, Thornton Road, asked what do the Selectman think? The selectmen were unaware until this point. Keith Ammon, 174 Byam Road, asked for an explanation of the price tag of land verses the appraisal? This purchase price was arrived at by the appraisal and the value of the location.

Amendment of Article #15

To see if the town will vote and raise the appropriate the sum of two hundred and five thousand dollars (\$205,000) for the purchase of land Map 8, Lot 110-2 (approx. 3.25 acres). The sum of two hundred and five thousand dollars to come from Unreserved Fund Balance with no amount to be raised from taxation.

Moderator Nyquist asked if there was any other discussion. Seeing none he called for a vote. The ayes have it and the amended Article 15 will appear on the ballot.

Glen Dickey, 54 McCurdy Road moved to restrict further reconsideration, Bill Gould 35 Town Farm Road seconded the motion. Moderator Nyquist called for a vote and the ayes have it

Article 16. To see if the Town will vote to 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 **four million, six hundred nine thousand, six hundred sixty (\$4,609,660)** Should this article be defeated, the default budget shall be **four million, five hundred twenty nine thousand, seven hundred seventy four (\$4,529,774)** which is the same as last year, with certain adjustments required by previous action of the Town of New Boston 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. This operating budget article doesn't contain appropriations contained in any other articles. (Majority Vote Required) (Selectmen and Finance Committee Recommend 6 -1 abstained)

Rodney Towne moved to accept the article and Christine Quirk seconded it.

Moderator Nyquist asked if there was further discussion. There being none he called for a vote. The ayes have it and Article 16 as written will appear on the ballot.

Glen Dickey , motioned to restrict further reconsideration and Gerry Cornett of 8a Depot Street seconded the motion. Moderator Nyquist called for a vote and the Ayes have it.

Article 17. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **three hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$350,000.00)** for the purpose of completing the road improvements on Old Coach Road to include reconstruction of surface, drainage repairs, engineering and other necessary construction related to this project, the sum of **three hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$350,000.00)** to come from fund balance with no amount to be raised from taxation. This is a non-lapsing appropriation and will not lapse until the project is complete or until December 31, 2020. (Majority Vote Required) (Selectmen and Finance Committee Recommend 7-0)

Dwight Lovejoy moved to accept the article and Christine Quirk seconded the motion.

Moderator Nyquist asked if there was further discussion, seeing none he called for a vote. The Ayes have it and Article 17 will appear on the ballot as written.

Article 18. To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **forty thousand dollars (\$40,000.00)** to be placed in the Town Hall Renovation Capital Reserve Fund already established. (Majority Vote Required) (Selectmen and Finance Committee Recommend 7-0)

Dwight Lovejoy moved to accept Article 18 as read and Christine Quirk seconded the motion.

Moderator Nyquist asked if there was any further discussion, seeing none he called for a vote. The Ayes have it. Article 18 will appear on the ballot as written.

Glen Dickey moved to restrict reconsideration on Article 18; Joe Constance 300 Bedford Road seconded the motion.

Moderator Nyquist called for a vote. The Ayes have it.

Article 19. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **ninety one thousand two hundred and sixteen dollars (\$91,216)** for the purpose of completing the town hall renovation (primarily for the completion of the cellar insulation, flooring and other proposed energy saving repairs) and furthermore, to authorize the withdrawal of **ninety one thousand two hundred sixteen dollars (\$91,216)** from the Capital Reserve Fund for this purpose. This article is contingent on the passage of Article 18. (Majority Vote Required) (Selectmen and Finance Committee Recommend 7-0)

Christine Quirk moved to accept Article 19 as read, Rodney Towne seconded the motion.

Moderator Nyquist asked if there was further discussion, seeing none he called for a vote. The Ayes have it. Article 19 will appear on the ballot as written.

Article 20. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate **one hundred ten thousand dollars (\$110,000)**, to be placed in the existing **Fire Department Vehicle Capital Reserve Fund**. (Majority Vote Required) (Selectmen and Finance Committee Recommend 7-0)

Christine Quirk moved to accept Article 20 as read, Rodney Towne seconded the motion.

Moderator Nyquist asked if there was further discussion. Seeing none, he called for a vote. The Ayes have it. Article 20 will appear on the ballot as written.

Article 21. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate **seventy thousand dollars (\$70,000)** to be placed in the existing **Highway Truck Capital Reserve Fund**. (Majority Vote Required) (Selectmen and Finance Committee Recommend 7-0)

Dwight Lovejoy moved to accept Article 21 as written, Christine Quirk seconded the motion.

Moderator Nyquist asked for further discussion. There being none, he asked for a vote. The Ayes have it. Article 21 will appear on the ballot as written.

Article 22. To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000)** for the purchase of one pre-owned six wheel dump truck for the New Boston Highway Department, and furthermore to authorize the withdrawal of **fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000)** from the Highway Truck Capital Reserve Fund. (Majority Vote Required) (Selectmen and Finance Committee Recommend 7-0)

Christine Quirk moved to accept Article 22 as written, Dwight Lovejoy seconded the motion.

Moderator Nyquist asked if there was further discussion. There being none, he called for a vote. The Ayes have it. Article 22 will appear on the ballot as written.

Article 23. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate **fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000)** to be placed in the existing **Highway Heavy Equipment Capital Reserve Fund**. (Majority Vote Required) (Selectmen and Finance Committee Recommend 7-0)

Rodney Towne moved to accept Article 23 as written, Christine Quirk seconded the motion.

Moderator Nyquist asked for further discussion. There being none he called for a vote. The Ayes have it. Article 23 will appear on the ballot as written.

Glen Dickey moved to restrict further reconsideration on articles 19-23. Joe Constance seconded the motion.

Moderator Nyquist called for a vote. The Ayes have it.

Article 24. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **eighty five thousand dollars (\$85,000)** for the purpose of improvements **on Bedford Road**. This is a non-lapsing appropriation and will not lapse until the project is complete or until December 31, 2020, whichever comes first. (Majority Vote Required) (Selectmen and Finance Committee Recommend 7-0)

Christine Quirk moved to accept Article 24 as written, Dwight Lovejoy seconded the motion.

Moderator Nyquist asked if there was further discussion on this article. There being none, he called for a vote. The Ayes have it. Article 24 will appear on the ballot as written.

Article 25. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate **forty thousand dollars (\$40,000)** to be added to the existing **Town Bridge Repair/Replacement Capital Reserve Fund**. (Majority Vote Required) (Selectmen and Finance Committee Recommend 7-0)

Rodney Towne moved to accept the article as written, Christine Quirk seconded the motion.

Moderator Nyquist asked for further discussion on article. There being none, he called for a vote. The Ayes have it. Article 25 will appear on the ballot as written.

Article 26. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **twenty thousand dollars (\$20,000)** to be added to the **Revaluation Capital Reserve Fund** to be used for the 2016 town wide revaluation update. (Majority Vote Required) (Selectmen and Finance Committee Recommend 7-0).

Rodney Towne moved to accept article as written, Dwight Lovejoy seconded it.

Moderator Nyquist asked if there was further discussion on this article. There being none, he called for a vote. The Ayes have it. Article 26 will appear on the ballot as written.

Article 27. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **one thousand thirty seven dollars (\$1,037.00)** to be added to the expendable trust fund established in 2014 for the purpose of offsetting the cost of police 'detail' coverage incurred by New Boston non-profits when they sponsor public events in New Boston that require security (Majority Vote Required) (Selectmen and Finance Committee Recommend 7-0)

Christine Quirk moved to accept the article as written, Dwight Lovejoy seconded the motion.

Moderator Nyquist asked if there was further discussion on this article. There being none, he called for a vote. The Ayes have it. Article 27 will appear on the ballot as written.

Article 28. To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **twenty four thousand five hundred dollars (\$24,500.00)** for the purpose of purchasing and installing new wall mount heat pump air conditioning and heating units in the town hall offices. (Majority Vote Required) (Selectmen and Finance Committee Recommend 6-1)

Rodney Towne moved to accept the article as written and Dwight Lovejoy seconded the motion.

Moderator Nyquist asked for further discussion on article. There being none, he called for a vote. The Ayes have it. Article 28 will appear on the ballot as written.

Glen Dickey moved to restrict further reconsideration on articles 24-28, Elizabeth Whitman, Cochran Hill, seconded the motion.

Article 29. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **three hundred ninety thousand dollars (\$390,000)** to design and construct a footbridge over the Piscataquog River connecting Mill Pond Conservation area (owned by the Town of New Boston) with property owned by the Town of New Boston (Library), allowing public access to the businesses located in the post office section of town, of which **three hundred twelve thousand dollars (\$312,000)** is to be funded by the NH Department of Transportation (Transportation Alternatives Program) and **seventy eight thousand dollars (\$78,000)** to be fundraised by the New Boston Foot Traffic Safety Committee. This will not have any effect on the tax rate. (Majority Vote Required) (Selectmen and Finance Committee recommend 7-0).

Rodney Towne moved to accept the article as written, Christine Quirk seconded the motion.

Discussion

Moderator Nyquist recognize Gail Parker, Mill Street. The fundraising has gone on for ten years or more. We found we didn't own land on one end of the proposed footbridge. Four citizens purchased the property and donated it to the town. We feel it is important to link the central part of town to the south part of town. In the meantime the grant expired. Mrs. Parker offered an amendment to article 29.

Amendment to Article 29

To see if the town will vote and appropriate the sum of two hundred thirty thousand (**\$230,000**) to design and construct a footbridge over the Piscataquog River connecting Mill Pond Conservation area owned by the Town of New Boston with property owned by the Town of New Boston (Library), allowing public access to the businesses located in the post office section of town and furthermore, the entire amount of **two hundred thirty thousand (\$230,000)** is to be fundraised by the New Boston Foot Traffic Safety Committee. This will not have any effect on the tax rate. (Majority Vote Required) (Selectmen and Finance Committee recommend (7-0)

Moderator Nyquist asked if there was further discussion on this, being none he called for a vote. The Ayes have it. The amendment to Article 29 will appear on the ballot as written.

Article 30. To propose to increase the Town Veteran Tax Credit by \$300. Credit to be applied to New Boston Veteran Home Owner's property tax as a tribute for their Sacrifice and Service for our country. (Submitted by Petition)

Brandon Merron, Dane Road moved to accept this article and Andy Carlson, Lull Road seconded the Article.

Discussion

Chapter 72, Section 72:28 Article 30 is illegal pursuant to RSA 72:27a- shall be an amount from \$51.00-\$500.00.

Selectman Towne explains that the Town of New Boston already allows the maximum Town Veteran Tax Credit of \$500.00 as allowed by law. Selectman Towne made a movement to amend Article 30 to read,

Article 30

To propose The Town of New Boston retain the maximum Town Veteran Tax Credit, that is already in place of \$500.00 as allowed by New Hampshire State Law.

Rodney Towne moved to accept the amendment, Reverend Woodland seconded the article.

Moderator Nyquist asked if there was any further discussion on this, being none he called for a vote. The Ayes have it. The amendment to Article 30 will appear on the ballot as written.

Article 31. To see if the Town will add a new section on the semi-annual tax bill to provide a convenient way for taxpayers to donate and additional dollar amount to be dedicated specifically to the New Boston Central School. The new section will allow taxpayers to allocate donations to one of the following areas:

- Technology upgrades
- Purchase of musical instruments or art supplies
- Playground facility upgrades
- Any of the above

Donations received will be held in separate accounts administered by the School Board. Any costs to track and distribute these funds will be deducted from the total and reimbursed back to the town

As a show of appreciation, the names of those who donated will be reported twice-yearly in an advertisement placed in the local newspaper. All names will be listed unless a donor indicates that they wish to remain anonymous. The newspaper advertisement will not show dollar amounts, but some names may be featured more prominently than others, depending on the amount given.

(Submitted by Petition)

Keith Ammon, Bedford Road moved to accept this article as written, Glenn Dickey, McCurdy Road seconded the article.

Discussion

Moderator Nyquist recognized Keith Ammon to speak to this article.

Keith Ammon , Byam Road submitted an amendment to remove the extra words.

Keith Ammon motioned to accept the amendment to Article 31 as written, Glenn Dickey seconded it.

Brandy Mitroff, Thornton Road asked, how can it can be done to fit on our tax bill?

William Schmitt , 243 Bedford Road, asks, is there any flexibility of the categories? I felt it may not be noticed on the tax bill. Would the school board decide where it goes? How much of this would go to administrative costs? Is it 5% or 50%?

William Schmitt proposed a new amendment to Article 31, which did not include listing names of donors in newspaper

Keith Ammon, Byam Road spoke on William Schmitts amendment stating that he felt the display of donors is important, because he felt it would be an incentive to match donations, it would encourage more donations, as donors would compete. Glenn Dickey, McCurdy Road spoke in favor of Keith Ammon's Amendment, stating that he felt competition works.

Moderator Nyquist called for a recess while Mr. Schmitt prepared his amendment. Upon resuming meeting, it is decide that William Schmitt would not make an amendment.

Donald Grosso, Joe English Road, asked if we could add another paper to tax bill envelope instead of adding to bill.

There was a motion made by Keith Ammon to move as read. Glenn Dickey seconded the motion.

Amendment to Article 31

To see if the town will add a new section on the semi-annual tax bill to provide a way for taxpayers to donate an additional dollar amount to be dedicated specifically to the New Boston Central School. The new section will allow taxpayers to allocate donations to one of the following areas:

- Technology upgrades
- Purchase of musical instruments or art supplies
- Playground facility upgrades
- Any of the above

Donations received will be held in separate accounts administered by the School Board. Any costs to track and distribute these funds will be deducted from the total and reimbursed back to the town.

As a show of appreciation, the names of those who donated **and wish to be known** will be reported at **least once per year** in an advertisement placed in the local newspaper **or other town wide publication**.

Explanation: The advertisement will not show dollar amounts, but some names may be featured more prominently than others, depending on the amount given.

Moderator Nyquist asked if there was further discussion. Seeing none, he called for a vote on the amendment. The Ayes and the amendment to Article 31 will appear on the ballot as written.

Rodney Towne moved to adjourn the meeting, Christine Quirk, seconded. Meeting adjourned at 9:28 pm.

Respectfully Submitted

Kimberly Colbert

Deputy Clerk