

TOWN OF MOULTONBOROUGH

TOWN MEETING MINUTES

MAY 9<sup>TH</sup>, 2023 – June 1<sup>ST</sup>, 2023

The meeting was called to order by Moderator Paul Punturieri in the Moultonborough Academy Gymnasium on Tuesday, May 9<sup>th</sup> at 7 am and he began by announcing that the absentee ballots would be processed at 9 am. The Moderator then led the Pledge of Allegiance and opened the polls for voting. The polls closed at 7 pm and the meeting was recessed until Thursday, May 11<sup>th</sup> at 6 pm. Ballot voting results are as follows:

Votes Cast – 1,374

TWO (2) SELECTMENT FOR THREE (3) YEARS

Mark Borrin	576
Abigail Horne	163
Charles M. McGee	583
George Mottram	49
Kevin Quinlan	643
Jonathan W. Tolman	601

ONE (1) TOWN CLERK FOR THREE (3) YEARS

Julia Marchand	1,180
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ONE (1) TAX COLLECTOR FOR THREE (3) YEARS

Ashley E. Pouliot	1,163
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ONE (1) SUPERVISOR OF THE CHECKLIST FOR ONE (1) YEAR

Nancy McCue	1,128
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ONE (1) TRUSTEE OF THE TRUST FUNDS FOR THREE (3) YEARS

Richard E. Merkle	1,064
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TWO (2) LIBRARY TRUSTEES FOR THREE (3) YEARS

Jack Weekes	1,001
John F. Buckley	982

TWO (2) PLANNING BOARD MEMBERS FOR THREE (3) YEARS

Peter Claypoole	470
Travis Colby	433
George Mottram	351
Scott Bartlett	767

TWO (2) ZONING BOARD MEMBERS FOR THREE (3) YEARS

Anni Jakobsen	640
George Mottram	397
Robert H. Stephens	608
Nicholas Demeo	403

**Thursday, May 11<sup>th</sup>, 2023**

The town gathered to reconvene the meeting at 6 pm in the Moultonborough Academy Auditorium. Moderator Paul Punturieri addressed the group at 6:24 pm to inform voters that the Fire Chief and Police Chief have stated that the room could not accommodate the number of people who had arrived at that point so the meeting would need to be rescheduled. He stated that the new date and location will be posted and can't be any sooner than two weeks from tomorrow. The Moderator stated that there were cars blocking Route 25 lined up to Sheridan Road and people lined up to the Central School waiting to get into the meeting while the room was already at capacity.

**Thursday, June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023**

Moderator Paul Punturieri called the meeting to order at 6 pm in the Moultonborough Academy Auditorium and began by leading the Pledge of Allegiance. Those seated on stage were Town Clerk Julia Marchand; Town Attorney Matt Serge; Town Administrator Charlie Smith; Select Board Members Jean Beadle, Vice Chair Shari Colby, Chair Kevin Quinlan, Karel Crawford, and Jim Gray. There was additional seating in the cafeteria, gymnasium, and music room of the Academy to accommodate for the

unprecedented voter turnout. All locations were connected via ZOOM video conferencing to allow individuals in all rooms to see, hear, and speak to the rest of the group.

The Moderator recognized Fire Chief Bengtson who thanked the large group for their order getting into their seats. The Chief asked everyone to remain seated in the event of a fire alarm. He stated that he has staff throughout the building which is fully equipped with a sprinkler system. Should an event occur, he stated that an evacuation plan would be put into place strategically.

The Moderator then reviewed the rules and procedures for the meeting which included reminders for voters to bring their voter card with them to the ballot box during a secret ballot vote and to use only the correctly numbered Yes or No ballot for a secret ballot vote. He noted that articles 2 and 3 would be voted upon by secret ballot per law and that the polls would be open for 60 minutes for each of those two articles respectively. Voters were asked not to move between rooms to ensure an accurate count for each article.

#### **ARTICLE 2 – By Petition: The HUB**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Fifteen Million Nine Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$15,900,000) (gross budget) for the design, permitting, construction, and equipping of a new community center known as “The HUB” (the “Project”); to authorize \$15,900,000 of such sum to be raised through the issuance of bonds or notes in accordance with the Municipal Finance Act (RSA Ch. 33); to authorize the Board of Selectmen to issue and negotiate such bonds or notes and to determine the date, maturities, interest rate, and other details of such bonds or notes; and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to apply for and accept any federal, state, or private funds that may become available in respect to the Project to reduce the amount that must be bonded or to pay debt service on such bonds or notes; and further to raise and appropriate a sum of Three Hundred Ninety Seven Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$397,500) for the debt service payment required in the upcoming fiscal year. 3/5 ballot vote required.

**(Not Recommended by Selectmen – 3 Yes – 2 No)**

**(Recommended by Advisory Budget Committee - 3 Yes – 2 No)**

The article was read by the Moderator then moved by Mark Borrin and seconded by Kim Johnson. Mr. Borrin spoke in favor of the article and made a presentation which reviewed the background of the project and how the group came to their current plan. The presentation included a layout plan and cost estimates. Discussion ensued. Fred Van Magness asked if the article should have specified the location of the proposed HUB. Attorney Serge stated that the article is appropriate as written.

After some discussion, Anthony Hopping made a motion to call the question. This was seconded by Josh Bartlett and was voted in the affirmative by a show of voter cards that exceeded 2/3 of the voters. The Moderator allowed those already waiting in line at that time to speak prior to the vote. After the remaining comments, the Moderator re-stated the rules for voting by secret ballot. He specified that only secret ballots marked Yes – 1 or No – 1 would be counted for the vote on Article 2.

The polls opened for voting on Article 2 at 6:47 pm. The Moderator stated that polls would close for voting on Article 2 at 7:47 pm unless there were people still checking in at that point. When most of the voters present had cast their ballots, discussion moved on to Article 3 and the polls remained open for new voters checking in.

Article 2 was defeated by a secret ballot vote.

YES – 444      NO – 546

### **ARTICLE 3 – By Petition: Adopt SB2**

Shall we adopt the provisions of RSA 40:13 (known as SB2) to allow official ballot voting on all issues before the Town of Moultonborough, NH of Carroll County, on the second Tuesday of May?

**(Not Recommended by Selectmen – 5 Yes – 0 No)**

**(Not Recommended by Advisory Budget Committee - 5 Yes – 0 No)**

Article 3 was read by the Moderator then moved by Jacqueline Bartlett and seconded by Josh Bartlett. The Moderator noted that this article requires a 3/5 majority vote to pass. Joe Cormier made a presentation in favor of the Official Ballot Referendum (known as Senate Bill 2). He covered a brief history of SB2 and stated that it has come before the Town of Moultonborough many times previously but was always voted on by ballot and this will be the first time it is voted on at Town Meeting. He highlighted some of the differences between SB2 and Traditional Town Meetings.

Josh Bartlett spoke in favor of the article then made a motion to call the question. His motion was seconded by Brent Whiting. The Moderator said that if the motion passes, he will still allow those already waiting at microphones to speak before taking the vote. The motion to call the question on Article 3 was voted in the affirmative by a show of voter cards. The voters already waiting to speak had the opportunity to do so, then the Moderator thanked the town departments, the school district, and the many volunteers for their hard work preparing for the rescheduled Town Meeting.

The Moderator stated that the only ballots that would be counted for Article 3 would be Yes – 2 or No – 2. The polls opened for one hour at 7:37 pm and the Moderator announced that they would close at 8:37 pm. After most of the voters present had cast their ballots, discussion moved on.

Article 3 was defeated by secret ballot vote.

YES – 426      NO - 464

At this time, the Moderator invited Select Board Chair Kevin Quinlan to speak. Mr. Quinlan recognized Select Board Member Jim Gray for his 9 years of service on the Select Board. Mr. Gray was presented with a gift from the town in appreciation of his three terms on the Board.

Mr. Quinlan thanked Moderator Punturieri for his hard work organizing the rescheduled Town Meeting then discussion moved on to Article 4.

### **ARTICLE 4 – By Petition Six (6) Full-Time Fire Fighters – EMS**

To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Eight Hundred Twenty Five Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$825,500) from taxation for the purpose of directing the Selectmen to hire, train, properly equip and maintain six (6) Full-Time Fire Fighters-EMS providers to add to the two (2) current Full-Time Fire Fighters-EMS providers and further to provide two Fire Fighters to be on duty twenty-four (24) hours a day seven (7) days a week 365 days a year. This article further directs the Board of

Selectmen to advise the Fire Chief to appropriately make all operational decisions needed to accomplish coverage 24 hours a day seven days a week no later than January 1, 2024.

**(Not Recommended by Selectmen – 3 Yes – 2 No)**

**(Not Recommended by Advisory Budget Committee - 4 Yes – 1 No)**

Article 4 was read by the Moderator then moved by Jon Tolman and seconded by Richard Brown. Jon Tolman spoke in favor of the article citing the recent increase in service calls which coincides with a nationwide decline in the number of on-call firefighters. He then noted that the Board agreed to, and included in their proposed budget, the addition of three full-time firefighter-EMS providers. With that in mind, Jon Tolman moved to amend Article 4 as follows:

*To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **Three Hundred Ninety One Thousand Dollars (\$391,000)** from taxation for the purpose of directing the Selectmen to hire, train, properly equip and maintain **three (3)** Full-Time Fire Fighter-EMS providers to add to the two (2) current Full-Time Fire Fighter-EMS providers and in addition to the proposed **three (3) additional Full-Time Fire Fighter—EMS providers included in the proposed Town Budget (Article 5)** and further to provide two Fire Fighters to be on duty twenty-four (24) hours a day seven (7) days a week 365 days a year. This article further directs the Board of Selectmen to advise the Fire Chief to appropriately make all of the operational decisions needed to accomplish coverage twenty-four (24) hours a day seven (7) days a week no later than January 1, 2024.*

The amendment was seconded by Richard Brown then voted in the affirmative by a show of voter cards.

Seeing no discussion on the amended article, the Moderator called the question.

Article 4, as amended, was voted in the affirmative by a show of voter cards.

The Moderator then stated that DRA (the Department of Revenue Administration) had recommended the town move Article 30 forward in the warrant since it refers to the use of public money for private use. The Moderator asked if there were any objections to moving Article 30 ahead of Article 5. Seeing no objections, he asked for a show of voter cards in favor of moving Article 30 ahead of Article 5. This was voted in the affirmative by a show of voter cards.

#### **Article 30 – By Petition: Krainewood Dr. Culvert Replacement**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Ninety Thousand Dollars (\$90,000) to help fund the replacement of a collapsing culvert on Krainewood Drive which connects Salmon Meadow Cove and Ash Cove, as installed at the time of the original land development nearly 65 years ago. Replacement of this culvert is now imperative as this free flow of water between Salmon Meadow Cove and Ash Cove is becoming increasingly restricted and may, in the very near term, be blocked entirely. The health and safety concerns of stagnant water are very real and minimizing algae growth, bacteria, and harmful pollutants by reestablishing the original flow system via this culvert will help protect and enhance the water quality of Salmon Meadow Cove and Lake Winnipesaukee as a whole. The estimated cost of the culvert project one hundred and eighty-nine thousand dollars (\$189,000). (By Petition).

**(Not Recommended by Selectmen – 5 Yes – 0 No)**

**(Not Recommended by Advisory Budget Committee - 5 Yes – 0 No)**

Article 30 was read by the Moderator then moved by Sandra Kelly and seconded by Mark Brash. Anni Jakobsen spoke in favor of the article citing cyanobacteria contamination and other concerns that would improve with the increased water flow expected from the replacement of this culvert. There was discussion from a number of residents about whether this is private or public property and how best to move forward. After discussion, the Moderator called the question.

Article 30 was defeated by a show of voter cards.

**ARTICLE 5 – Town Operating Budget**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, subject to all changes made at this meeting, the sum of Ten Million Sixty-Seven Thousand Six Hundred Fifty-Eight Dollars (\$10,067,658) to pay the expenses of General Government, Public Safety, Public Works (including Highways, Cemeteries, Buildings and Grounds, and Transfer Station), Human Services, Culture and Recreation, and Land Use Services.

**(Recommended by Selectmen – 5 Yes – 0 No)**

**(Recommended by Advisory Budget Committee – 5 Yes – 0 No)**

Article 5 was read by the Moderator then moved by Chair Quinlan and seconded by Vice Chair Colby. Fred Van Magness moved to amend the article as follows:

*To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate, subject to all changes made at this meeting, the sum of nine million nine hundred forty-two thousand one-hundred fifty-eight dollars to pay the expenses of General Government, Public Safety, Public Works (including Highways, Cemeteries, Buildings and Grounds, and Transfer Station) Human Services, Culture and Recreation, and Land Use Services.*

Mr. Van Magness stated that this reduction in the amount of \$125,500 is intended to eliminate the addition of a Human Resource position. The Moderator stated that even if the amendment passes, the Select Board would still have the authority to expend the remaining budget funds for the purposes they deem necessary. The amendment was seconded by Nancy Wright. Select Board Member Beadle noted that the Human Resource position is not a new position, it is just one that has been vacant for the last two years. Jon Tolman spoke in favor of filling the Human Resource position. The Moderator called the question. The amendment was defeated by a show of voter cards.

Article 5 was voted in the affirmative by a show of voter cards.

**ARTICLE 6 – Town Library Operating Budget**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Six Hundred Forty-Six Thousand Three Hundred Sixty Dollars (\$646,360) to pay the expense of operating the Public Library.

**(Recommended by Selectmen – 5 Yes – 0 No)**

**(Recommended by Advisory Budget Committee - 4 Yes – 1 No)**

Article 6 was read by the Moderator then moved by John Buckley and seconded by Scott Bartlett. Seeing no discussion, the Moderator called the question.

Article 6 was voted in the affirmative by a show of voter cards.

### **ARTICLE 7 – Road Improvements**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of One Million Two Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$1,250,000) for road improvements as part of the towns program of Road Improvements.

REHABILITATE/RECONSTRUCT \$500,000  
PAVEMENT PRESERVATION \$750,000  
TOTAL \$1,250,000

**(Recommended by Selectmen – 5 Yes – 0 No)**

**(Recommended by Advisory Budget Committee - 5 Yes – 0 No)**

Article 7 was read by the Moderator then moved by Jerry Hopkins and seconded by Joe Adams. Seeing no discussion, the Moderator called the question.

Article 7 was voted in the affirmative by a show of voter cards.

### **ARTICLE 8 – States Landing Capital Reserve Fund**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of One Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$100,000) to be added to the States Landing Improvements Capital Reserve Fund previously established in 2016.

**(Recommended by Selectmen – 5 Yes – 0 No)**

**(Recommended by Advisory Budget Committee - 5 Yes – 0 No)**

Article 8 was read by the Moderator then moved by Jim Hill and seconded by Vice Chair Colby. Seeing no discussion, the Moderator called the question.

Article 8 was voted in the affirmative by a show of voter cards.

### **ARTICLE 9 – Lees Mill Landing Dock Replacement**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Two Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$200,000) for the purpose of replacing the town and fireboat docks at Lee's Mill Landing.

**(Recommended by Selectmen – 5 Yes – 0 No)**

**(Recommended by Advisory Budget Committee - 5 Yes – 0 No)**

Article 9 was read by the Moderator then moved by Chair Quinlan and seconded by Vice Chair Colby. Seeing no discussion, the Moderator called the question.

Article 9 was voted in the affirmative by a show of voter cards.

## **ARTICLE 10 – Cemetery Columbarium and Cremation Garden**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Two Hundred Thirty Thousand Dollars (\$230,000) for the purpose of building a cemetery columbarium and cremation garden at Shannon Cemetery.

**(Recommended by Selectmen – 4 Yes – 1 No)**

**(Recommended by Advisory Budget Committee - 4 Yes – 1 No)**

Article 10 was read by the Moderator then moved by Chair Quinlan and seconded by Vice Chair Colby. Fred Van Magness moved to amend the dollar amount of the article to \$0 to read as follows:

*To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **Zero Dollars (\$0)** for the purpose of building a cemetery columbarium and cremation garden at Shannon Cemetery.*

Mr. Van Magness stated that since there are fewer cremations than burials, he feels the town should be looking to purchase land for a new cemetery rather than making accommodations for cremations. He stated that he is on the Capital Improvements Committee and there is enough money in the Capital Reserve Accounts to pay for land.

At this point, the Moderator declared the polls closed for Article 3. He then declared the results for Article 2, which was defeated by a count of secret ballots 444 – YES to 546 – NO.

Mr. Van Magness's proposed amendment was seconded by Mark Reschke. At this time, Hollis Austin made a motion to restrict reconsideration of Article 2. Mark Brash seconded Mr. Austin's motion. This motion was voted in the affirmative by a show of voter cards. Bernie Monbouquette asked if there is a statutory requirement that the town provide burial space. Chair Quinlan stated that the town is required to provide burial space in the ground, but not specifically a columbarium.

Cristina Ashjian, the Chair of the Heritage Commission, stated that while the columbarium plan is well done, she feels that it is not appropriate in the historic Shannon Cemetery, but could be put in another location in the future.

Jim Hill asked if the Moderator would accept a motion to pass over or table this article. The Moderator stated that he would not. Kimberlee Feist asked that the Select Board consider finding a new piece of land for cemetery space and the proposed columbarium.

The Moderator called the question on the amendment to reduce the dollar amount in Article 10 to \$0. The amendment was voted in the affirmative by a show of voter cards.

Article 10, as amended, was voted in the affirmative by a show of voter cards.

## **ARTICLE 11 – Fire Department Portable Radios**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of One Hundred Seventy-Nine Thousand Four Hundred Two Dollars (\$179,402) for the purchase of Fire Department Equipment, portable radios for Moultonborough firefighters.

**(Recommended by Selectmen – 5 Yes – 0 No)**

**(Recommended by Advisory Budget Committee - 5 Yes – 0 No)**

Article 11 was read by the Moderator then moved by Chair Quinlan and seconded by Vice Chair Colby. Tom Kubik stated that Article 12 of the 2022 Warrant included funds for 35 radios for the Fire Department. He asked what happened to those radios and why the town now needs more. Chair Quinlan stated that they were not purchased last year; the funds were not expended because a grant was not received so they are being budgeted for with 100% taxpayer money in this year's warrant.

Article 11 was voted in the affirmative by a show of voter cards.

## **ARTICLE 12 – Public Works Equipment**

To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of One Hundred Sixty Thousand Dollars (\$160,000) for the purchase of a new dump truck with plow, wing, and sander.

Department/Project

19.5K GVW Dump Truck w/ Plow, Wing & Sander \$160,000

Total \$160,000

**(Recommended by Selectmen – 5 Yes – 0 No)**

**(Recommended by Advisory Budget Committee - 5 Yes – 0 No)**

Article 12 was read by the Moderator then moved by Chair Quinlan and seconded by Vice Chair Colby.

Article 12 was voted in the affirmative by a show of voter cards.

## **ARTICLE 13 – Fire Fighting Equipment Capital Reserve Fund**

To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of One Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$150,000) to be placed into the Fire Fighting Equipment Capital Reserve Fund previously established.

**(Recommended by Selectmen – 5 Yes – 0 No)**

**(Recommended by Advisory Budget Committee - 5 Yes – 0 No)**

Article 13 was read by the Moderator then moved by Chair Quinlan and seconded by Vice Chair Colby. Seeing no discussion, the Moderator called the question.

Article 13 was voted in the affirmative by a show of voter cards.

## **ARTICLE 14 – Public Safety Building**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of One Hundred Forty-Six Thousand Dollars (\$146,000) for a program of capital improvements and expenditures and equipment as generally illustrated below and to meet said appropriation by a withdrawal of One Hundred Forty-Six Thousand Dollars (\$146,000) from the Municipal Building Fund for roof repairs at the Public Safety Building.

Department/Project  
Public Safety Building Roof \$146,000  
Total \$146,000

**(Recommended by Selectmen – 5 Yes – 0 No)**  
**(Recommended by Advisory Budget Committee - 5 Yes – 0 No)**

Article 14 was read by the Moderator then moved by Chair Quinlan and seconded by Vice Chair Colby. Seeing no discussion, the Moderator called the question.

Article 14 was voted in the affirmative by a show of voter cards.

#### **ARTICLE 15 – Recreation Department Vehicle Replacement**

To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Forty-One Thousand Dollars (\$41,000) for the purpose of purchasing a new recreation department vehicle.

Department/Project  
New Recreation Vehicle – Replacing 7 passenger fleet van \$41,000  
Total \$41,000

Article 15 was read by the Moderator and moved by Chair Quinlan then seconded by Vice Chair Colby.

Article 15 was voted in the affirmative by a show of voter cards.

#### **ARTICLE 16 – Feasibility Study at Transfer Station**

To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Thirty Thousand Dollars (\$30,000) for the purpose of conducting a feasibility study to assess the layout, efficiency, and safety at the Transfer Station.

**(Recommended by Selectmen – 5 Yes – 0 No)**  
**(Recommended by Advisory Budget Committee - 5 Yes – 0 No)**

Article 16 was read by the Moderator then moved by Chair Quinlan and seconded by Vice Chair Colby. Seeing no discussion, the Moderator called the question.

Article 16 was voted in the affirmative by a show of voter cards.

The Moderator noted that at this point there were not many voters left in the alternate rooms so a majority vote in the auditorium would not be changed by a different vote in the other rooms.

#### **ARTICLE 17 – Milfoil Control Expendable Trust Fund**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Seventy-Five Thousand Dollars (\$75,000) to be added to the Milfoil Control Expendable Trust Fund previously established.

**(Recommended by Selectmen – 5 Yes – 0 No)**

**(Recommended by Advisory Budget Committee - 5 Yes – 0 No)**

Article 17 was read by the Moderator then moved by Chair Quinlan and seconded by Vice Chair Colby. There was some discussion about the target sum for the fund and how grants and budgetary commitments play into this amount. Karin Nelson, Chair of the Milfoil Committee, provided some background information.

Article 17 was voted in the affirmative by a show of voter cards.

#### **ARTICLE 18 – Library Capital Reserve**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Thirty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$35,000) to be placed in the Library Building Repairs and Maintenance Capital Reserve Fund.

**(Recommended by Selectmen – 5 Yes – 0 No)**

**(Recommended by Advisory Budget Committee - 5 Yes – 0 No)**

Article 18 was read by the Moderator then moved by Chair Quinlan and seconded by John Buckley. Seeing no discussion, the Moderator called the question.

Article 18 was voted in the affirmative by a show of voter cards.

#### **ARTICLE 19 – Appraisal Capital Reserve Fund**

To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Thirty-Three Thousand Seven Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$33,750) for town reappraisal and tax assessment purposes, and to authorize the withdrawal of Thirty-Three Thousand Seven Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$33,750) from the Appraisal Capital Reserve Fund created for that purpose.

**(Recommended by Selectmen – 5 Yes – 0 No)**

**(Recommended by Advisory Budget Committee - 5 Yes – 0 No)**

Article 19 was read by the Moderator then moved by Chair Quinlan and seconded by Vice Chair Colby. Seeing no discussion, the Moderator called the question.

Article 19 was voted in the affirmative by a show of voter cards.

At this time, the results of Article 3 were announced. The Moderator declared that the Town of Moultonborough would hold a 247<sup>th</sup> Annual Town Meeting in 2024. Article 3 was defeated by a count of secret ballots: 426 – YES and 464 – NO.

The Moderator asked if there is a motion to restrict reconsideration of Article 3. Greg Samaha made the motion which was seconded by Peter Whelley. The motion was voted in the affirmative by a show of voter cards.

## **ARTICLE 20 – DPW/Transfer Station Union**

To see if the Town will vote to approve the cost items included in the collective bargaining agreement (CBA) reached between the Town and the Local 534, American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees (AFLCIO) which calls for the following increases in salaries and benefits at the current staffing level:

Fiscal Year Estimated Increase

FY 2023-2024 \$36,439

FY 2024-2025 \$31,473

And further to raise and appropriate the sum of Thirty-Six Thousand Four Hundred Thirty-Nine Dollars (\$36,439) for the current fiscal year, such sum representing the additional costs attributable to the increase in salaries and benefits required by the new agreement over those that would be paid at current staffing levels.

**(Recommended by Selectmen – 5 Yes – 0 No)**

**(Recommended by Advisory Budget Committee - 5 Yes – 0 No)**

Article 20 was read by the Moderator then moved by Chair Quinlan and seconded by Vice Chair Colby. Seeing no discussion, the Moderator called the question.

Article 20 was voted in the affirmative by a show of voter cards.

## **ARTICLE 21 – Special meeting for defeated/amended CBA**

Shall the Town of Moultonborough, if Article 20 is defeated, authorize the governing body to call a special meeting, at its option, to address Article 20 cost items only?

**(Recommended by Selectmen – 5 Yes – 0 No)**

**(Recommended by Advisory Budget Committee - 5 Yes – 0 No)**

Article 21 was passed over since it was only applicable if Article 20 had been defeated.

## **ARTICLE 22 – IT Capital Outlay**

To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Twenty-Two Thousand (\$22,000) for the purpose of purchasing Townwide Information Technology equipment.

**(Recommended by Selectmen – 5 Yes – 0 No)**

**(Recommended by Advisory Budget Committee - 5 Yes – 0 No)**

Article 22 was read by the Moderator then moved by Chair Quinlan and seconded by Vice Chair Colby. There was some discussion then the Moderator called the question.

Article 22 was voted in the affirmative by a show of voter cards.

## **ARTICLE 23 – Communications District**

Shall the Town of Moultonborough accept the provisions of RSA 53-G:1-RSA 53-G:11 providing for the establishment of a communications district, together with the municipalities of Albany, Bartlett, Brookfield, Chatham, Conway, Eaton, Effingham, Freedom, Hale's Location, Hart's Location, Jackson, Madison, Ossipee, Tamworth and Tuftonboro in accordance with the provisions of the proposed agreement filed with the Board of Selectmen.

**(Recommended by Selectmen – 5 Yes – 0 No)**

**(Recommended by Advisory Budget Committee - 5 Yes – 0 No)**

Article 23 was read by the Moderator then moved by Chair Quinlan and seconded by Vice Chair Colby. Seeing no discussion, the Moderator called the question.

Article 23 was voted in the affirmative by a show of voter cards.

## **ARTICLE 24 – Adopt NH RSA 41:9-a**

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to establish or amend fees pursuant to RSA 41:9-a. This authority shall continue in effect until rescinded. If adopted, the Board of Selectmen, following a public hearing, may establish or amend fees or charges for the issuance of any license or permit which is part of a regulatory program, and/or for the use or occupancy of any public revenue producing facility.

**(Recommended by Selectmen – 5 Yes – 0 No)**

**(Recommended by Advisory Budget Committee - 5 Yes – 0 No)**

Article 24 was read by the Moderator then moved by Chair Quinlan and seconded by Vice Chair Colby. Bernie Monbouquette asked what the present system is for establishing fees. Chair Quinlan stated that, currently, changes must come before Town Meeting. If Article 24 passes, the Select Board would be able to adjust fees after holding a public hearing with discussion.

Article 24 was voted in the affirmative by a show of voter cards.

## **ARTICLE 25 – Veterans Tax Credit (Optional)**

Shall the Town modify the previously adopted RSA 72:28, II - Optional Veterans' Tax Credit, by readopting the \$500 credit to include eligible active-duty veterans, as specified in the state legislature's 2022 amendment to RSA 72:28? If readopted and approved, this article shall take effect April 1, 2023.  
(Majority vote required)

**(Recommended by Selectmen – 3 Yes – 0 No – 2 Abstain)**

**(Recommended by Advisory Budget Committee - 5 Yes – 0 No)**

Article 25 was read by the Moderator then moved by Chair Quinlan and seconded by Vice Chair Colby. Tom Kubik asked for clarification on the difference between Articles 25 and 26. Town Attorney Serge stated that DRA required the articles to be worded this way. These two articles each relate to different

veteran groups set in the statutes, each allocating a separate amount. He stated that towns are being asked to readopt the statutes to include the amendments that are now there. The two articles are basically the same thing, but apply to different categories, and readopting both would keep things the way they currently are.

Article 25 was voted in the affirmative by a show of voter cards.

#### **ARTICLE 26 – Veterans Tax Credit (All)**

Shall the Town modify the previously adopted RSA 72:28-b - All Veterans' Tax Credit, by readopting the \$500 credit to include eligible active-duty veterans, as specified in the state legislature's 2022 amendment to RSA 72:28-b? If readopted and approved, this article shall take effect April 1, 2023. (Majority vote required)

**(Recommended by Selectmen – 5 Yes – 0 No)**

**(Recommended by Advisory Budget Committee - 5 Yes – 0 No)**

Article 26 was read by the Moderator then moved by Chair Quinlan and seconded by Vice Chair Colby. Seeing no discussion, the Moderator called the question.

Article 26 was voted in the affirmative by a show of voter cards.

#### **ARTICLE 27 – Adopt NH RSA 35:9-a-II**

To see if the town will vote, pursuant to NH RSA 35:9-a-II, to authorize the Trustees of Trust Funds to pay for Capital Reserve Fund investment management services, and any other expenses incurred from capital reserve funds income. No vote by the town to rescind such authority shall occur within five years of the original adoption of this article.

**(Recommended by Selectmen – 5 Yes – 0 No)**

**(Recommended by Advisory Budget Committee - 5 Yes – 0 No)**

Article 27 was read by the Moderator then moved by Chair Quinlan and seconded by Vice Chair Colby. Seeing no discussion, the Moderator called the question.

Article 27 was voted in the affirmative by a show of voter cards.

#### **ARTICLE 28 – Discontinue CRF/ETFs**

To see if the town will vote to discontinue the following Capital Reserve and/or Expendable Trust. Said funds and accumulated interest to date of withdrawal are to be transferred to the municipality's general fund. (Majority vote required). List of CRF's and/or ETF's to be discontinued. Approximate balance as of 3/31/23 is \$167,740.

1. Visiting Nurse Services (CR100: \$46,005)
2. Rangeway ETF (CR108: \$43,708)

3. Playground ETF (CR114: \$190)
4. Recreation (CR122: \$27,610)
5. Lee's Mill ETF (CR126: \$1,210)
6. Christmas Maintenance (CR 128: \$2,903)
7. Community Substance Abuse (CR136: \$21,854)
8. Community Senior Center (CR148: \$18,328)
9. Sidewalk, Crosswalk & RFD Maintenance Fund (CR154: \$5,932)

**(Recommended by Selectmen – 5 Yes – 0 No)**

**(Recommended by Advisory Budget Committee - 5 Yes – 0 No)**

Article 28 was read by the Moderator then moved by Chair Quinlan and seconded by Vice Chair Colby. Joyce Larson asked if there are currently committees, organizations, or individuals responsible for stewarding and expending these funds. Select Board Member Beadle stated that these funds have been dormant for some time. Ms. Larson asked if any responsible entities were consulted on whether these funds should be handed back to the town or if they potentially have a future plan for use. Chair Quinlan stated that he does plan to amend one of these items, but he isn't sure of the extent that any other entities were contacted. He stated that the Select Board did hold public hearings.

Mr. Quinlan moved to amend article 28 as follows (to remove #1 Visiting Nurse Services – CR100 \$46,005):

*To see if the Town will vote to discontinue the following Capital Reserve and/or Expendable Trust. Said funds and accumulated interest to date of withdrawal are to be transferred to the municipality's general fund. (Majority vote required). List of CRFs and/or ETFs to be discontinued. Approximate balance as of 3/31/2023 is \$121,735.*

2. Rangeway ETF (CR108: \$43,708)
3. Playground ETF (CR114: \$190)
4. Recreation (CR122: \$27,610)
5. Lee's Mill ETF (CR126: \$1,210)
6. Christmas Maintenance (CR 128: \$2,903)
7. Community Substance Abuse (CR136: \$21,854)
8. Community Senior Center (CR148: \$18,328)
9. Sidewalk, Crosswalk & RFD Maintenance Fund (CR154 \$5,932)

Mr. Quinlan's motion to amend the article was seconded by Joe Adams. Mr. Quinlan explained that the Lakes Region Visiting Nurses Association missed the petition deadline to ask the Town of Moultonborough for funds on this warrant, but by removing this Capital Reserve Fund from the list to be discontinued, the VNA would still be able to access and expend these funds for their 2023-2024 budget requirements by submitting an invoice to the Select Board after July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023.

The amendment was voted in the affirmative by a show of voter cards.

Dan Sturgeon moved to amend Article 28 as follows (to remove #4 Recreation CR122 - \$27,610):

*To see if the Town will vote to discontinue the following Capital Reserve and/or Expendable Trust. Said funds and accumulated interest to date of withdrawal are to be transferred to the municipality's general*

*fund. (Majority vote required). List of CRFs and/or ETFs to be discontinued. Approximate balance as of 3/31/2023 is \$94,125.*

2. *Rangeway ETF (CR108: \$43,708)*
3. *Playground ETF (CR114: \$190)*
5. *Lee's Mill ETF (CR126: \$1,210)*
6. *Christmas Maintenance (CR 128: \$2,903)*
7. *Community Substance Abuse (CR136: \$21,854)*
8. *Community Senior Center (CR148: \$18,328)*
9. *Sidewalk, Crosswalk & RFD Maintenance Fund (CR154 \$5,932)*

Mr. Sturgeon explained CR122 was created when the Friends of Moultonborough Recreation was dissolved in 2011 and these were the funds turned over by the group. These funds had been originally earmarked for three projects: the Long Island Beach raft (which has been completed), rink improvements, and lighting for the Kraine Meadow Park softball field. Mr. Sturgeon noted that rink improvements are already part of the CIP (Capital Improvements Projects) ask, but that this \$27,610 would help with the lighting project at the park.

Mr. Sturgeon's motion to amend Article 28 was seconded by Leslie Heaton.

This amendment was voted in the affirmative by a show of voter cards.

John Hinton asked for information about a Community Substance Abuse program and the funds referenced in #7. Select Board Member Beadle stated that, to her knowledge, there has not been an active program for several years and she is not aware of who may have led such a program. Chair Quinlan read the inception of the fund from Article 29 of the 2007 Town Warrant.

Norman Larson noted that we already have two amendments to this article to remove funds from the list to be discontinued. He encouraged voters to vote no on this article then asked the Select Board to come back next year with a place for this money to go where it would serve its original purpose rather than folding it back into the General Fund.

Jeri King asked for information on #2 (Rangeway ETF). Chair Quinlan read Article 46 from the 1994 Town Warrant then stated that at the 2005 Annual Town Meeting the town authorized the filing of certain court actions to change six Irrevocable Trust Funds to Revocable Trust Funds which was granted on October 30, 2012. He stated that the money hasn't been spent. After further discussion, the Moderator called the question.

Article 28, as twice amended, was defeated by a show of voter cards.

## **ARTICLE 29 – Discontinue Recreation Revolving Fund**

To see if the town will vote to discontinue the Recreation Revolving Fund. Said funds and accumulate interest as of June 30, 2024, are to be transferred to the municipality's general fund. (Majority vote required).

**(Recommended by Selectmen – 5 Yes – 0 No)**

**(Recommended by Advisory Budget Committee - 5 Yes – 0 No)**

Article 29 was read by the Moderator then moved by Chair Quinlan and seconded by Vice Chair Colby. Becky Bryant spoke against the article, citing RSA 35-b:2 and her experience with and knowledge of Recreation Revolving Funds. Mary Bengtson, Administrative Coordinator of the Recreation Department, spoke against the article stating that the Recreation Department is a “Pay-to-Play” department where the only people paying into programming are those participating. She stated that if the Recreation Revolving Fund is discontinued that programming would then be funded by taxation.

After further discussion, article 29 was defeated by a show of voter cards.

#### **ARTICLE 30 (voted upon prior to Article 5)**

At this time, Jim Hill made a motion to bundle articles 31-40. The Moderator stated that the total of articles 31-40 is \$124,596. This motion was seconded by Bob Stephens. After one inquiry from a voter, the Moderator called the question.

Articles 31-40 were voted in the affirmative by a show of voter cards.

#### **ARTICLE 31 – By Petition: Lake Winnipesaukee Association**

To see if the Town will vote to allocate Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000) to support the Lake Winnipesaukee Association (LWA) activities. LWA is a non-profit organization dedicated to protecting the water quality and natural resources of Lake Winnipesaukee and has taken the lead in this effort since 2010. LWA has and continues to provide direct support in obtaining grants for Town projects that improve the water quality of Lake Winnipesaukee and water bodies in Moultonborough. The LWA are an important liaison between NH DES and the Town for water quality monitoring and local communication of cyanobacteria alerts issued by NH DES. LWA also provides on site evaluation and recommendations as requested that lead to improved storm water management practices by town residents through the LakeSmart/Keep Winni Blue program. (By Petition).

**(Recommended by Selectmen – 5 Yes – 0 No)**

**(Recommended by Advisory Budget Committee - 5 Yes – 0 No)**

#### **ARTICLE 32 – By Petition: Tri-County Community Action Program**

To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Eleven Thousand Sixty-Six Dollars (\$11,066) for the operation of Tri-County Community Action Program, Inc, service programs in Moultonborough: Transportation, Energy Assistance, Weatherization, Guardianship, Head Start, Homeless Intervention and Prevention, Disaster Relief, Tamworth Dental Center. (By Petition)

**(Recommended by Selectmen – 5 Yes – 0 No)**

**(Recommended by Advisory Budget Committee - 5 Yes – 0 No)**

#### **ARTICLE 34 – By Petition: Winnipesaukee Wellness Center**

To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000) to support the Winnipesaukee Wellness Center, a community service program providing a supervised exercise program for clients. (By Petition)

**(Recommended by Selectmen – 5 Yes – 0 No)**

**(Recommended by Advisory Budget Committee - 5 Yes – 0 No)**

#### **ARTICLE 35 – By Petition: Granite VNA**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Eight Thousand Dollars (\$8,000) to support the operations of Granite VNA (Formerly Central New Hampshire VNA & Hospice), a local agency that provides Visiting Nurse Services, Hospice Care, and Pediatric Care to resident of the Town of Moultonborough, NH. This past year residents of Moultonborough received 1,561 home visits from Granite VNA. Town funds are used chiefly to support hospice care, pediatric care to children at medical or social risk, wellness clinics, bereavement support groups and immunization services. (By Petition)

**(Recommended by Selectmen – 5 Yes – 0 No)**

**(Recommended by Advisory Budget Committee - 5 Yes – 0 No)**

#### **ARTICLE 36 – By Petition: Starting Point**

To respectfully request that the town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Five Thousand Five Hundred Five Dollars (\$5,505) in support of Starting Point providing advocacy and support to victims of domestic and sexual violence and their children. (By Petition)

**(Recommended by Selectmen – 5 Yes – 0 No)**

**(Recommended by Advisory Budget Committee - 5 Yes – 0 No)**

#### **ARTICLE 37 – By Petition: Moultonborough Historical Society**

To see if the Town of Moultonborough will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Four Thousand Seven Hundred Dollars (\$4,700) to support the work of the Moultonborough Historical Society in the maintenance, upkeep, and preservation of the Moultonborough History Museum; the educational and cultural programs the Society offers; and in the stewardship of the Town owned “Middle Neck Schoolhouse” and “Old Moultonborough Townhouse.” (By Petition)

**(Recommended by Selectmen – 5 Yes – 0 No)**

**(Recommended by Advisory Budget Committee - 4 Yes – 0 No – 1 Abstain)**

#### **ARTICLE 38 – By Petition: Interlakes Community Caregivers, Inc**

To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Two Thousand Three Hundred Dollars (\$2,300) for Interlakes Community Caregivers, Inc., which provides support services to the residents of Moultonborough. (By Petition)

**(Recommended by Selectmen – 5 Yes – 0 No)**

**(Recommended by Advisory Budget Committee - 5 Yes – 0 No)**

**ARTICLE 39 – By Petition: Inter-Lakes Day Care Center, Inc.**

To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Two Thousand Twenty-Five Dollars (\$2,025) to maintain and continue the system services of the Inter-Lakes Day Care Center. (By Petition)

**(Recommended by Selectmen – 5 Yes – 0 No)**

**(Recommended by Advisory Budget Committee - 5 Yes – 0 No)**

**ARTICLE 40 – Meals on Wheels**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Forty-Six Thousand Dollars (\$46,000) to Ossipee Concerned Citizens for funding to help support the Meals on Wheels program for Moultonborough.

**(Recommended by Selectmen – 2 Yes – 1 No)**

**(Recommended by Advisory Budget Committee - 4 Yes – 1 No)**

**ARTICLE 41 – Transact any other business.**

To transact any other business that may legally come before said Meeting.

Article 41 was read by the Moderator. At this time, Jim Hill made a motion to adjourn. His motion was seconded by Sue Berry.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:49 pm.

A True Copy Attest:



Julia Marchand, Moultonborough Town Clerk