

TOWN OF MOULTONBOROUGH 2018 TOWN MEETING VOTER INFORMATION NEWSLETTER

**TOWN ELECTIONS
TUESDAY
MARCH 13TH
7 AM TO 7 PM
AT
PUBLIC SAFETY
BUILDING.
ANNUAL TOWN AND
SCHOOL MEETINGS
MARCH 17, 2017**

On Saturday March 17th, the annual School Meeting will begin at 9 A.M. followed immediately by the annual Town Meeting. Both meetings will be held at the Moultonborough Academy. All registered voters are urged to attend!

22 WARRANT ARTICLES - PLEASE COME AND VOTE!

The following is a brief summary of the warrant articles that will be discussed at the annual meeting:

Article 1: This article is the election of Town officers to be voted on at the polls on March 13th at the Public Safety Building from 7:00am to 7:00pm.

Article 2: Shall we allow the operation of keno games within the Town of Moultonborough? The Select Board voted unanimously to place the question on the Warrant for the voters to decide if the Keno game should be allowed at pouring establishments in the Town and will be voted on at the polls.

Article 3: To raise \$268,597 for a number of capital projects including: Bringing functioning ecofriendly bathrooms vs Porta toilets and an expanded pavilion to Kraine Meadow Park (\$125,070); A DPW backup generator to provide full facility operations power vs the partial facility power now (\$42,000); A GPS Rover kit which will allow the DPW staff to handle most survey and layout work "in house" vs contracting to others (\$26,527); Flooring and painting in all municipal buildings as needed, this is a biennial maintenance program (\$30,000); Energy Improvements which includes continuing the replacement of lighting and heating systems to more efficient systems (\$20,000); IT hardware and software which will continue our annual upgrade and replacement plan in all Town departments, (\$25,000).

Article 4: To raise \$1,810,000 for a program of Capital Improvements and equipment including: Replacement of a DPW pickup for facilities and cemeteries maintenance department (\$40,000), replacement of one 6 wheel dump truck which is a 2000 GMC, purchase includes plow, wing and sander (\$180,000), 2018 Road Reconstruction program with plans for several roads to receive various treatments (\$900,000); a replacement our 24 year old fire engine #3 (\$495,000), and funds to continue the ongoing effort to manage milfoil in our lakes (\$195,000).

Article 5: In preparation to meet future capital expenditures, the Select Board and ABC unanimously recommend adding to the following Capital Reserve Funds: Town reappraisal (\$24,000), firefighting equipment (\$110,000), DPW equipment (\$220,000), municipal buildings (\$299,000), IT hardware and software (\$25,000), States Landing Beach and park improvements (\$175,000), Road Improvements (\$900,000), and substance misuse (\$6,000). Capital Reserve Funds assist the Select Board with managing spikes in the tax rate as capital projects and equipment purchases come about.



Article 6: Like the funding recommended in Article 5, contributing to our municipal trusts is also important to managing the tax rate from year to year. Milfoil (\$195,000) and dry hydrants (\$25,000).

Article 7: The Select Board seeks to raise \$670,000 for the construction of the first official sidewalk network in the village center section of Moultonborough. Potentially the new sidewalks will stimulate both economic and residential activity in the newly formed Village Center Overlay District (VOCD) approved by voters in 2017, the proposed sidewalk will be located on the north side of Route 25 from Holland Street to just east of the Bank of NH then crossing to the south side and continuing to Blake Road. The project reflects the design that was approved at the 2015 Town Meeting. Detailed plans and information about the history of the project dating back to 2013 are located on the Town’s website. If approved, the project could possibly be constructed in late 2018.

Article 8: With a positive vote on Article 7 to construct new sidewalks, Article 8 is to appropriate funding (\$85,000) for a new multi-purpose tractor to clear and maintain the sidewalks and other municipal facilities. This tractor would also be used to sweep the Pathway on the Neck Road and other municipal facilities.

Article 9: To raise \$7,739,184 for the operating budget for all departments approximately 2.2% above the FY17 proposed budget. Increases in materials in the Highway budget, contract services for emergency lane maintenance and additional elections in 2018 all contributed to this year’s increase.



Article 10: To raise \$559,947 for the operating budget of the Town Library. This article supports the wonderful library we are very fortunate to have.

Article 11: Planning for the future to complete the final connection between phase I and phase II of the Pathway, this new Capital Reserve Fund will allow for savings over time so that, along with private donation and possible grants, we can meet our goal within 4-5 years.

“Always vote on principle, though you may vote alone, and you may cherish the sweetest reflection that your vote is never lost.” – **John Quincy Adams** (6th U.S. President)

Article 12: This article will provide much needed funding to move forward with the development of the former Taylor property on Whittier Highway (\$250,000). This funding amount will allow the Select Board to guide the process to determine an end use for the property as well as design and possibly implement the agreed determined use. The first step in the process is to determine the use from input from all community members wishing to contribute and this process is best accomplished by hiring an outside facilitator, which could run between \$4,000 and \$8,000. Once this consensus building process determines the use the next step will be the planning, designing, engineering and permitting process which could run between \$20,000 - \$60,000 depending on the agreed use. Finally, the construction phase that could be covered by the remaining funds, could be less than the remaining funds or could require additional funding at a future Town Meeting. A portion of this funding could also be available to stabilize and secure the former French-Taylor home if the decided use includes using the existing structure.



Article 13: This article is about protecting our precious natural resources. The Conservation Commission is recommending purchasing a piece of property totaling 37 acres along the Red Hill River and Lees Pond and requesting \$100,000 in taxpayer's support that will come from the unassigned fund balance. The purchase is a two-phase process, the total purchase price is \$287,000. In phase I with private donations and money from the Conservation Fund, the Commission purchased a conservation easement on a 100' strip of land along the water frontage for \$50,000 in 2016. In phase II, the remaining \$237,000 is being funded with private donations, \$64,000 in grants and this \$100,000 appropriation from the Town. The Commission continues to accept donations to cover approximately \$60,000 in associated legal, survey, stewardship easement expenses and future site improvements like hiking trails and parking area.

Article 14: In order to continue to retain and attract quality police officers for our Police Department, the Select Board recently negotiated an amendment to the existing police union Collective Bargaining Agreement. This article, if approved, ratifies the amendment and appropriates the amount for 2018.

Article 15: This article will authorize the Select Board to enter into a 5 year lease agreement for a 24 passenger coach bus for the Recreation Department to be used for a number of community activities. Most of the activities are senior trips as there are fewer people signing up which drives the cost of the trips higher. This smaller bus versus a full size one will help keep the cost down and will hopefully allow more folks to take part in the trips. Other potential uses for the vehicle includes some Recreation field trips, some school trips and perhaps some service trips for shopping and the like. The lease will have an escape clause for the future in the event the vehicle is not meeting our expectations. The total purchase price for the vehicle is \$60,500. The lease payments will come from the Recreation Revolving Fund trip fees.



Article 16: This article will allow the Town Assessor to add the value of solar equipment to a property's assessment and then the Select Board may exempt an equal value for a net effect of zero. This process will allow the assessment to accurately reflect the improvement to the property, but not penalize the property owner with additional higher taxes and therefore encourage more green energy systems.

Article 17: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate a sum of Thirty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$35,000), or such amount sufficient to pave that portion of Black's Landing Road, as described, a gravel town road that runs from NH Route 109 to just East of the entrance to Ambrose Cove Marina, slightly less than one quarter of a mile (0.25 mile), from the uphill grade from Berndorf Road to NH Route 109. This article is by citizens petition.

Article 18: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate a sum of Three Thousand Dollars (\$3,000) in support of West Wynde Senior Housing and for the purposes of defraying the cost of upgrading the current auxiliary power generator which was damaged during winter storm Stella.

Article 19: 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.

Article 20: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Two Thousand Two Hundred Seventy Dollars (\$2,270) in support of Starting Point providing advocacy and support to victims of domestic and sexual violence and their children. This article by citizens petition.

Article 21: To see if the Town will vote to require that any and all decisions (final use, demolition, or sale) regarding Town owned property (including the former Taylor House buildings and property at 970 Whittier Highway) be brought before the legislative body at Town Meeting. This article by citizens petition.

Article 22: To consider all other business that may legally come before the meeting.



FINISHED! See you next year!



We encourage all voters to be sure they are registered to vote prior to Town Meeting as you will not be allowed to register the day of town meeting. This is about your community's future and your hard earned property tax dollars. Please come and vote!