

Town of Alstead
First Session Minutes
February 1, 2020

Moderator Susan Norlander called the meeting to order at 10:00 AM
The Moderator discussed the procedures and the rules of conduct. The Moderator also introduced all of the officials that were present and announced the date and time of the town election.

Article 01: Election of Officers

To choose all necessary Town Officers for the ensuing year.

Article 02 Operating Budget

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 \$1,634,203. Should this article be defeated, the default budget shall be \$1,597,719, which is the same as last year, with certain adjustments required by previous action of the Town of Alstead 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 article is recommended by the Select Board (3-0).

Motion: Alan Dustin

Second: MaryAnn Wolf

No Discussion.

The Moderator requested that the Town Clerk place the Article on the Warrant Ballot as written.

Article 03 Paving

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$207,000 for the purpose of reclaiming and paving the existing tar on Pine Cliff Road. The sum of \$103,500 to come from unassigned fund balance, the additional \$103,500 to be raised by taxation. This article is recommended by the Select Board (2-1). (Majority Vote Require

Motion: Alan Dustin

Second: Rock Wilson

Lengthy Discussion:

MaryAnn Wolf: Against the article

Prescott Trafton: Promoted the article

After further discussion there was a Motion to Move: Rock Wilson

Second: Jodi Kercewich

The Moderator requested that the Town Clerk place the Article on the Warrant Ballot as written.

Article 04 Add to Fire Department Capital Reserve Fund

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$40,000 to be added to the Fire Department Capital Reserve Fund previously established in 1992. The sum of \$40,000 to be raised from taxation. This article is recommended by the Select Board (3-0). (Majority Vote Required)

Motion: Alan Dustin

Second: Rock Wilson

Short Discussion:

Richard Nalevanko: What is the fund balance?

Bruce Bellows: \$117,000

Richard Nalevanko: What do we have built into plan for fire trucks? Are we on task?

Glenn Elsesser: \$300,000 after 30 yr. cycle, but unsure of replacement costs

Richard Nalevanko: Are we on task?

Glenn Elsesser: Yes

The Moderator requested that the Town Clerk place the Article on the Warrant Ballot as written.

Article 05 Add to Highway Capital Reserve Fund

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$65,000 to be added to the Highway Capital Reserve Fund previously established in 1988. The sum of \$65,000 to be raised by taxation. This article is recommended by the Select Board (3-0). (Majority Vote Required)

Motion: Alan Dustin

Second: MaryAnn Wolf

Short Discussion:

Glenn Elsesser: Motion to amend to increase the sum to \$75,000.

Second: Joel McCarty

Vote held: 1 opposed, everyone else approved

Richard Nalevanko expressed gratitude to Glenn Elsesser for CIP and helping to dispose of old equipment

The Moderator requested that the Town Clerk place the Article on the Warrant Ballot as amended.

Article 06 Add to Bridge Capital Reserve Fund

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$35,000 to be added to the Bridge Capital Reserve Fund previously established in 2012, with said funds to come from unassigned fund balance. No amount to be raised by taxation. This article is recommended by the Select Board (3-0). (Majority Vote Required)

Motion: Alan Dustin

Second: Joseph McCarty

Short Discussion:

Joseph Levesque: Fund balance?

Bruce Bellows: \$227,000

Richard Nalevanko: Is state aid available? What are priorities at state level?

Prescott Trafton: State to restructure aid. High priority bridges will get fixed. Small towns won't receive as much funding as in the past.

Bruce Bellows: If no aid, can we fix/replace bridges for less?

Prescott Trafton: No

The Moderator requested that the Town Clerk place the Article on the Warrant Ballot as written.

Article 07 Add to Transfer Station Capital Reserve Fund

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$5,000 to be added to the Transfer Station Capital Reserve Fund previously established in 2015. The sum of \$5,000 to be raised by taxation. This article is recommended by the Select Board (3-0). (Majority Vote Required)

Motion: Alan Dustin

Second: MaryAnn Wolf

Short Discussion:

Carolyn Lock: Will the funds go to plastic recycling?

Jodi Kercewich: No. It will go into the Capital Reserve Fund to be used for on-site equipment. Working on plan to get plastics back. There will be a meeting in the near future.

The Moderator requested that the Town Clerk place the Article on the Warrant Ballot as written.

Article 08 Add to Shedd-Porter Library Capital Reserve Fund

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$5,000 to be added to the Shedd-Porter Memorial Library Capital Reserve Fund previously established in 2010. The sum of \$5,000 to be raised by taxation. This article is recommended by the Select Board (3-0). (Majority vote required)

Motion: Alan Dustin

Second: Rock Wilson

Short Discussion:

Matthew Saxton: Thanked the town for improvements and community support in regards to repairs and maintenance. Remaining repairs to be done in the next 2-3 years

The Moderator requested that the Town Clerk place the Article on the Warrant Ballot as written.

Article 09 Fence for Pine Grove Cemetery

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$6,375 for the purpose of installing a new fence for Pine Grove Cemetery. The sum of \$6,375 to be raised by taxation. This article is recommended by the Select Board (3-0). (Majority Vote Required)

Motion: Alan Dustin

Second: MaryAnn Wolf

No Discussion

The Moderator requested that the Town Clerk place the Article on the Warrant Ballot as written.

Article 10 Town Hall Renovations

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$72,600 for the purpose of Town Hall renovations, with said funds to come from unassigned fund balance. No amount to be raised by taxation. This article passed in 2018 but the work was not done and is now planned for 2020. This article is recommended by the Select Board (3-0). (Majority Vote Required)

Motion: Alan Dustin

Second: Rock Wilson

Short Discussion:

John Mann: What are the renovation plans?

Alan Dustin & Barrett Bellows: Renovations to include ceiling, insulation, windows, lighting, paint, duct work, weather stripping

Juliana Stevens: Against renovating, in support of new town hall

Richard Nalevanko: Is money from 2 year plan sufficient?

Alan Dustin: Yes

The Moderator requested that the Town Clerk place the Article on the Warrant Ballot as written.

Article 11 OHRV Firefighting Rescue Vehicle Package

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board to enter into a 5-year lease with option to purchase not to exceed the amount of \$25,000 for the purpose of leasing and eventually purchasing an OHRV Firefighting Rescue Vehicle Package. This package includes a Polaris 900 side-by-side, firefighting/rescue skid unit and trailer, and to raise and appropriate an amount not to exceed \$5,000 for the first year's payment for that purpose and to authorize the withdrawal of \$5,000 to come from the Fire Department Capital Reserve Fund previously established in 1991. No amount to be raised by taxation. Please note, if the Town Meeting votes to approve this article and appropriation then, the Town shall be bound to the requirements of this lease for its entire 5-year term and, in particular, all

financial obligations of said lease. This article is not recommended by the Select Board (0-3). (2/3 ballot vote required)

Motion: Alan Dustin

Second: MaryAnn Wolf

Short Discussion:

Richard Beringer: Expressed importance of having the vehicle

Matthew Saxton: What does Select Board think?

Alan Dustin: The Select Board is not in favor of the article

Further comments were made

The Moderator requested that the Town Clerk place the Article on the Warrant Ballot as written.

Article 12 Establish a Capital Reserve Fund for Vilas Pool

To see if the Town will vote to establish a capital reserve fund under the provisions of RSA 35:1 which shall be known as the Vilas Pool Park Capital Reserve Fund for the purpose of conducting repairs and maintenance to the land associated with the park as well as to any improvements, equipment or structures located within. This article is recommended by the Select Board (3-0). (Majority vote required)

Motion: Alan Dustin

Second: Rock Wilson

No Discussion.

The Moderator requested that the Town Clerk place the Article on the Warrant Ballot as written.

Article 13 Purchase Defibrillator & Cardiac Monitor

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$40,000 for the purpose of purchasing a defibrillator and cardiac monitor and to authorize the withdrawal of \$40,000 from the Ambulance Department Capital Reserve fund previously established in 1992 for this purchase. No amount to be raised by taxation. This article is recommended by the Select Board (3-0). (Majority Vote Required)

Motion: Alan Dustin

Second: MaryAnn Wolf

Short Discussion:

Jesse Moore: Per FDA, current monitor only good until February 2021. Refurbished monitors no longer available

Further comments were made

The Moderator requested that the Town Clerk place the Article on the Warrant Ballot as written.

Article 14: NH Resolution to Take Action on the Climate Crisis (Petitioned Warrant Article)

We the town of Alstead hereby call upon our State and Federal elected representatives to enact carbon-pricing legislation to protect New Hampshire from the costs and environmental risks of continued climate inaction. To protect households, we support a Carbon Fee and Dividend approach that charges fossil fuel producers for their carbon pollution and rebates the money collected to all residents on an equal basis. Enacting a Carbon Cash-Back program decreases long-term fossil-fuel dependence, aids in the economic transition for energy consumers, and keeps local energy dollars in New Hampshire's economy. Carbon Cash-Back has been championed by US economists (Jan 17, 2019 WSJ) as the most effective and fair way to deliver rapid reductions in harmful carbon emissions at the scale required for our safety.

We expect our representatives to lead in this critical moment for the health and well-being of our citizens and for the protection of New Hampshire's natural resources upon which we all rely.

The record of the vote approving this article shall be transmitted by written notice to Alstead's State Legislators, to the Governor of New Hampshire, to New Hampshire's Congressional Delegation, and to the President of the United States, informing them of the instructions from their constituents, by Alstead's Select Board, within 30 days of the vote.

Motion: Chris Hansen

Second: James Gruber

Lengthy Discussion:

Chris Hansen & John Mann

Motion to Move: Rock Wilson

Second: Jodi Kercewich

The Moderator requested that the Town Clerk place the Article on the Warrant Ballot as written.

The meeting ended at 11:50

Respectfully submitted,



Julie A Bacon
Town Clerk/Tax Collector