

**TOWN OF ALSTEAD, NEW HAMPSHIRE**  
**MANDATORY PUBLIC HEARING RE: TAX CAP WARRANT ARTICLES**  
**Approved Minutes for Meeting of February 14, 2023 at 5:00 p.m.**  
**Town Hall, 9 Main Street, Alstead, NH 03602**

**SELECT BOARD PRESENT:** Joel McCarty, Matthew Saxton. Chairman Joe Levesque was absent due to conflicting meetings.

**STAFF PRESENT:** **In person** – Ben Hoy, Transfer Station Consultant; Jesse Moore, Ambulance Chief; Mary Schoppmeyer, Office Admin; Prescott Trafton, Road Agent. **Google Meet** – Technical difficulties – no conference call available this date.

**COMMUNITY MEMBERS:** **In person** – Gordon Kemp, Barbara Viegner, Robert Quaglin, Jordan Cannon, Rich Nalevanko. **Google Meet** – none.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIENCE and CALL TO ORDER:** Mr. McCarty called the public hearing to order at 5:00 p.m. and reminded those in attendance that the hearing is informational only to explain the tax cap warrant articles as is statutorily mandated.

Mr. McCarty briefly explained the purpose of both articles, remarked that both the Department of Revenue Administration and the town counsel both agreed that the addition of contingency language to the rescission article would have been appropriate, but unfortunately it is too late to add that language to the ballot. He then opened the floor to questions.

Mr. Quaglin indicated that he had read the statutes and believes that the language in our articles is correct, but reiterated the potential for confusion given the statutory language.

The Board agreed with Mr. Quaglin that the language is confusing and Mr. Saxton indicated that explanatory information will be mailed to all households in town.

The Board confirmed that the desired outcome is to rescind the existing 3% cap that was approved in 2014, and to implement a 4% cap with no additional local modifications to the statute. If the vote is otherwise, the Board will consult with DRA and town legal counsel to determine how to proceed.

There was additional discussion about working with our legislative representative to try to get the statute changed.

Mr. Kemp reminded the group that rescinding the existing cap is doing more than just changing the cap percentage; it is removing the local modifications made to the statute language when the 3% cap was originally passed, in order to revert to the letter of the statute.

There being no further discussion, on a motion made by Mr. Saxton and seconded by Mr. McCarty, ***the acting Chair adjourned the public hearing at 5:19 PM.***

Respectfully submitted,



Mary Schoppmeyer, Office Administrator (incoming)