

Moderator Pro Tempore James Scrivens called the Annual Town Meeting to order at 7:00AM on March 13, 2018 and declared the polls would remain open until 7:00PM. The election of Town Officers and one warrant article require polling hour balloting.

Moderator Pro Tempore Scrivens announced a delay of action on Articles 3 through 15 until Saturday, March 24, 2018 due to the weather conditions. Once the Town Officers were elected and the results of the one warrant article to be voted on with a yes or no official ballot vote were read, the Town Meeting would resume at the Boscawen Elementary School.

Ballot Clerks:

Lois Hartford

Sarah Gerlack

Penny Sarcione

Polls closed at 7:00PM. Moderator Pro Tempore Scrivens explained the Town Meeting would commence on Saturday, March 24, 2018 at 10:30AM at Boscawen Elementary School.

Moderator Charles Niebling opened the meeting at 10:31am on March 24, 2018. He recognized and thanked Town Officials for ensuring safe and accessible voting conditions during the inclement weather conditions on Tuesday, March 13. The meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance led by Fire Chief, Ray Fisher. Moderator Niebling recognized all those in attendance who have served in the armed forces. Moderator Niebling then asked Board of Selectmen Chair, Mark E. Varney to introduce those seated at the head table as well as the Supervisors of the Checklist. Moderator Niebling reviewed the rules of order for the meeting process and ballot votes. All comments shall be directed to the Moderator with the speaker using one of the microphones provided for the meeting and stating their name. He also explained the rules for applying RSA 40:10, which restricts reconsideration of an article once voted upon during the meeting deliberations. Lawrence Gregoire moved to accept the rules of the meeting as read. Selectman Roger W. Sanborn seconded. Motion approved.

Article I – To choose all necessary Town Officers for the year ensuing. The votes were counted with a total of 209 ballots and the results are as follows:

<b>Office</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Vote</b>
Cemetery Trustee – 3 years	Patrick Baker	11
Library Trustee – 3 years	Lawreen “Lawre” Murphy	178
Library Trustee – 3 years	Judith Abbe	26
Selectperson – 3 years	Edward Cherian	179
Moderator – 2 years	Charles R. Niebling	187
Town Clerk – 3 years	Cheryl Mitchell	164
Treasurer – 1 year	Paula “Dill” Scrivens	176
Trustee of the Trust Funds	Michelle Brochu	8

Sherlene Fisher moved to re-elect the incumbent for Official Weighers: Bruce Davis, Mark N. Harbour, and Ray Fisher. Mark E. Varney seconded. Motion was approved.

Mark E. Varney moved to re-elect the incumbent for Surveyors of Wood and Lumber: William Bailey, Jr., Frederick J. Egounis, and Michael Fisher. Roger W. Sanborn seconded. Motion approved.

Paul Matthews moved to re-elect the incumbent Fence Viewers: Ray Fisher and Douglas R. Supry. Moderator Niebling noted that the third incumbent Fence Viewer was no longer a resident, therefore he would take nominations. Thomas Gilmore nominated himself. Roger W. Sanborn seconded. Motion was approved.

Article II – Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 1 as proposed by the Planning Board to add the Village District Zoning Ordinance to our Zoning Ordinance? Moderator Charles Niebling read the results of the vote: YES – 93 NO – 57

Article III – To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$3,682,140 which represents the operating budget? Said sum does not include special or individual articles addressed separately (Majority vote required).

Pauline Dawson wanted the residents to know that this amount no longer includes \$5,000.00 that had been given to the Old Home Day Committee annually for Fireworks. Thomas Gilmore motioned to adopt Article III as written; Susan Searah seconded. There being no further discussion, Article IV was adopted.

Article IV – To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$185,000 to be contributed to the Town Capital Reserve Funds, previously established, as follows:

a) Fire Truck	\$60,000
b) Fire Department Safety Equipment	\$13,000
c) Highway Heavy Equipment	\$45,000
d) Public Works Building	\$20,000
e) Police Vehicle	\$32,000
f) Town Wide Safety Equipment	\$10,000
g) 1913 Library Renovations	\$ 5,000

(Majority vote required)

Bill Heinz asked for 2017 balances for each line item. Mark E. Varney read the balance lines for each line from the 2017 Town Report for clarification. Rhoda Hardy motioned to adopt Article IV as written; Lawrence Gregoire seconded. There being no further discussion, Article IV was adopted

Article V – To see if the Town will vote to establish a contingency fund for the current year for unanticipated expenses that may arise and further to raise and appropriate \$33,000 to put in the fund? This sum to come from the Unassigned Fund Balance and no amount to be raised from taxation. Any appropriation left in the fund at the end of the year will lapse to the General Fund. (Majority vote required).

Martha Vendt motioned to adopt Article IV as written; Susan Searah seconded. There being no discussion, Article IV was adopted

Article VI – To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Sixty Thousand dollars (**\$60,000**) for the purpose of developing an Asset Management Program for the Town's wastewater and stormwater collection systems, that will qualify the Town for federal and state funds, such sum to be raised by the issuance of serial bonds and notes not to exceed \$60,000 under and in compliance with the provisions of the Municipal Finance Act (RSA 33, as amended) and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to issue and negotiate such bonds or notes to determine the rate of interest thereon, and to take such actions as may be necessary to effect the issuance, negotiation, sale and delivery of such bonds or notes as shall be in the best interest of the Town of Boscawen, additionally to authorize the Board of Selectmen to apply for and accept grants or other funds that may reduce the amount to be repaid through principal forgiveness by \$60,000 and participate in the State Revolving Fund (SRF) RSA 486.14 established for this purpose, and to allow the Board of Selectmen to expend such monies as become available from the federal and state governments and pass any necessary vote relating thereto. (Two-thirds ballot vote is required for passage).

A ballot vote was required. 68 ballots were cast. Results were: YES – 55 NO – 13. Rhoda Hardy motioned to adopt Article VI as written; Roger W. Sanborn seconded. There being no discussion, Article IV was adopted.

Article VII – To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,786 to contribute to the operating costs of the American Red Cross? (Majority vote required).

Thomas Gilmore motioned to adopt Article VII as written; Susan Searah seconded. There being no discussion, Article VII was adopted.

Article VIII – To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$6,000 to contribute to the operating costs of the Boscawen Historical Society? (Majority vote required).

Joshua Crawford inquired what the money was used for and if the Historical Society would be open more often. Bruce Crawford explained the Historical Society is run by volunteers and there is operating expenses along with digitalizing records/photos. Roger W. Sanborn motioned to adopt Article VIII as written; Lawrence Gregoire seconded. There being no further discussion, Article VIII was adopted.

Article IX - To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$7,600 for the continuation of services to the low income residents of Boscawen through the Concord Area Center of the Community Action Program Belknap-Merrimack Counties, Inc.? (Majority vote required).

Rhoda Hardy motioned to adopt Article IX as written; Lawrence Gregoire seconded. There being no discussion, Article IX was adopted.

Article X – To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$5,700 toward the operating expenses of the Penacook Community Center? (Majority vote required).

Edward Cherian motioned to adopt Article X as written; Susan Searah seconded. There being no discussion, Article X was adopted.

Article XI – To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$500 toward the operating expenses of CASA, (Court Appointed Special Advocates)? (Majority vote required).

Scott Maltzie motioned to adopt Article XI as written; Lawrence Gregoire seconded. There being no discussion, Article XI was adopted.

Article XII – To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$90,450 to aid the Penacook Rescue Squad for its emergency medical services and rescue operations provided to the Town? (Majority vote required).

Michael Fisher suggested the Board of Selectmen require more transparency from Penacook Rescue regarding their financials. Mark E. Varney noted the Town residents had voted previously that Penacook Rescue would no longer need to provide the Town with an audit; however, Penacook Rescue chose to continue to obtain an audit annually and continues to provide it to the Town. Penacook Rescue representative, Shawn Brechtel confirmed they are no longer required to give an audit to the Town, however, they still do. Timothy Vendt wanted clarification as to whether the Merrimack County Nursing Home and Jail are up-to-date on their payment for calls. Shawn Brechtel confirmed that the calls made to those establishments are almost at 100% paid. Sally Fisher suggested that the Town of Boscawen look for a way to “adopt” Penacook Rescue into our Town Budget. Mark E. Varney offered that the Board of Selectmen have already discussed, and will be setting up, a meeting with the necessary players: Boscawen Fire Department, Board of Selectmen from Boscawen, Salisbury, and Canterbury, and Penacook Rescue. Mark E. Varney motioned to adopt Article XII as written; Roger W. Sanborn seconded. There being no further discussion, Article XII was adopted.

Article XIII – To see if the Town, “Shall allow the operation of Keno games within the Town of Boscawen? (Majority vote required).

Lawrence Gregoire asked for clarification on where the profits go. Do the profits generated in Boscawen stay in Boscawen? Edward Cherian explained that the proceeds from Keno will be spread out throughout the State to all communities with Kindergarten who vote to have Keno. Janice Steenbeke motioned to adopt Article XIII as written; Joshua Crawford seconded. There being no further discussion, Article XIII was adopted.

Article XIV – To see if the Town will vote to amend the exemptions adopted pursuant to RSA 72:61 through RSA 72:72 via Article 11 at the March 2011 Town Meeting to now read: “The Town votes to adopt the provisions of NH RSA 72:61 through RSA 72:72 inclusively, which provide for an optional tax exemption from the assessed value, for property tax purposes, for persons owning real property, which is equipped with solar energy systems, wind powered energy system or wood heating energy systems intended for use at the immediate site. Such property exemption shall be in the amount equal to 100% of the assessed value of qualifying equipment under the statutes.” (Majority vote required).

A vote by hand was required. Results were: YES – 20 NO – 31.

Paul Matthews asked for clarification on the intent of this proposed article. Edward Cherian explained the State passed a law to allow municipalities to exempt properties with solar energy. Nancy McCall asked how the State would be looking at past conversions of solar heating and cooling. Edward Cherian, Nicole Hoyt, and Charles Niebling concurred that a homeowner does not apply for an exemption, it will be listed on their property card. Thomas Gilmore motioned to adopt Article XIV as written; James Scrivens seconded. There being no further discussion, Article XIV was defeated.

Article XV – To transact any other business which may legally come before this meeting.

Charles Niebling asked if holding Town Meeting on a Saturday worked better than a weekday. Rhoda Hardy suggested we keep it on a workday because there are more of them to choose from. Ray Fisher moved to restrict reconsideration on any prior votes; Martha Vendt seconded. Charles Niebling explained what this meant. (Explained at the beginning of the meeting) Vote was taken and motion was adopted. Kimberly Kenney asked if the Board of Selectmen would talk to the State about the ability to change the Election date due to weather conditions. Charles Niebling explained that since SB 343 was defeated, authority to change Election date has been given to ONLY the Secretary of State's Office.

There being no further business, Moderator Niebling asked for a motion to adjourn. Bill Heinz motioned to adjourn the meeting; Susan Searah seconded. Meeting adjourned at 11:50AM. Moderator Niebling thanked all who were involved in the Town Meeting and Election Day.

Respectfully submitted by  
Michelle Brochu

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michelle Brochu", written in a cursive style.