

November 24, 2014

PRESENT: Philip Bean, Chairman
Mary-Louise Woolsey, Vice-Chairman
Rick Griffin, Selectman
Rusty Bridle, Selectman
Jim Waddell, Selectman
Frederick Welch, Town Manager
James Sullivan, Assistant Town Manager
Mark Gearreald, Town Attorney

SALUTE TO THE FLAG

I. Public Comment Period (4:21)

Vic DeMarco, 11 Milbern Avenue, spoke about previous comments made by Mr. Silberdick during the Public Comment Period in regards to the budget; concerned about some decisions made at the October Finance Committee meeting; hoping that the Board can reply when someone addresses something in Public Comment that is obviously not correct so the public doesn't believe incorrect information.

II. Community Calendar and Announcements (12:49)

Assistant Town Manager Sullivan stated: recognize Rusty for his actions in helping an individual that needed assistance and he jumped into action and began performing CPR.

Chairman Bean asked if anyone else had anything for Community Calendar.

Selectman Woolsey stated: very nice article in the Hampton Union Children Warmed by Firefighters Gift; shows Jason Newman and Brian Akerley helping the youngsters raising money for the little ones for warm coats.

Selectman Griffin stated: been an active week with the party for Jamie Sullivan; it was quite an event and everyone was impressed with how Maggie Hassan spoke at length with how lucky we are to have Jamie staying here in Hampton; it was a nice event.

Selectman Bridle stated: Christmas Parade is coming up December 6, 2014; Tree Lighting is on December 5, 2014 uptown at Marelli Square starting at 6:30pm.

Selectman Waddell stated: to reiterate it was a classy event; it was a lot of fun; a citizen brought up on Lafayette Road when people put their trash and recycling out they are not taking it in right away and some people, especially elderly, are having trouble getting up through the sidewalks; ask individuals and businesses to get those in after they are emptied.

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Chairman Bean stated: we have the reincarnation here of Mr. Welch this evening; welcome back sir Town Manager Welch stated: we are expecting some change of color on the ground in the next day or so; going along with the trash receptacles please move them so the plows don't.

III. New Business (16:58)

1. 2015 Draft Warrant Articles

Chairman Bean stated: this is an exciting night; this is executive leadership and investment in the town infrastructure and those things we are in dire need of addressing.

Chairman Bean stated: we're going to make a couple changes; going to bring up Library; we'll bring up Rec; go through some of the bigger numbers later; want to go through the Board as we usually do for people to give their perspective.

Selectman Woolsey stated: would rather just go article by article; just start after the zoning article. The Board agreed with that.

Chairman Bean stated: we tasked Finance to do some numbers; in 2010 there was \$773,000 and change in warrant articles that were voted in; in 2011 it was \$3.2 million; 2012 it was \$11.3 million; 2013 the total was \$705,000; 2014 it was \$1.6 million; in 2011 there were two bonds on a warrant article that included recycling equipment and for the Waste Water Treatment Plant; in 2012 two bonds on warrant include numbers for the Fire Stations and Church Street Pump Station; we have received the backup materials; when you total up the total package it's just under \$10 million; you can see where we've been; Selectmen have done their due diligence in assessing what the town needs; we all have our opinions on it; it's going to be trimmed back in my calculations; Mr. DeMarco had mentioned we have \$18 million in the piggy bank; we have additional funds in the undesignated fund balance; currently there is legislation that imposes a tax upon Hampton residents to use their own money out of that \$18 million dollars; to be sure we receive a stipend from the trust funds for \$650,000 each year however we have \$18 million sitting there; it is already Hampton tax payer money; it is an asset; if we were to have access to that \$18 million without that tax or interest rate that is charged, we could use our own money; transfer it from an asset into a bank account; Mr. DeMarco addressed the safety concerns with money in the stock market today whereas if you transferred that money into some of our infrastructure needs it would certainly be an asset that could not be taken away or subject to risk; Mr. Gearreald is going to discuss that warrant article first.

Attorney Gearreald stated: the Real Estate Trust Fund was created pursuant to some session laws adopted over the years beginning in 1975 and then amended in 1983 and then again in 2003 by our state legislature; the means by which we can utilize these funds is governed by that session law; have the \$18 million worth of funds and based on the current version of that session law can be borrowed and must be paid back; the rate of interest that we would pay on those would be the prevailing bank rate charged to municipalities determined by the Trustees of the Trust Fund; presenting a warrant article asking the voters to be in favor of asking the legislature to amend the session laws; instead of saying we pay interest to ourselves that we borrow these funds without interest; in order to actually exercise that authority once the legislature gives it to us we would have to go to the townspeople on any given project just as

we do on any bonding article; if we make this without interest it gives us the flexibility to borrow from ourselves.

Selectman Woolsey stated: am concerned that we aren't focusing as much as we should on revenue; don't consider this revenue; it is a source that is already existing; wondering about a possibility of a cap? Attorney Gearreald stated: left intact that all loans shall not exceed over 75%.

Selectman Griffin asked: what would be the difference if it were done the way it is done today versus the way the state wants it done with the limited interest rate versus with no interest rate? Attorney Gearreald answered: this would give us a straight comparison to make anytime the voters wanted to authorize the use of these funds where we compare the interest we don't pay to the income we lose by using these funds instead of just taking income from it and putting it into the general fund which is the way it is now.

Selectman Griffin asked: the way it is now we borrow the money or it goes out to a bond; the way the state is doing it where they are asking for a certain amount of interest; is there a savings from the way of doing that versus going to bonding? Attorney Gearreald answered: yes; when a bonding article is put before the voters on a given project the voters could authorize the Selectmen to borrow either from the trust fund or the bank so you could see which is more advantageous given whatever the rates are at the time; we would not be paying any interest whereas bank rates are whatever it is at any given time.

Selectman Griffin asked: the way we would always do it is through a bond; have we every borrowed from the trust fund at all? Attorney Gearreald answered no.

Selectman Griffin stated: there is an advantage to doing just that; there is a further and greater advantage without having any interest. Attorney Gearreald stated: correct.

Selectman Bridle stated: only worry would be using all of it; so long as there is a cap; if it's going to save us money and make it easier in the long run, think it could be a good deal.

Selectman Waddell stated: it sounds complicated; there must be some IRS rules on the interest; would like more information on it; want to know what the consequences would be; would like to hear from the Trustees of the Trust Fund and their feelings on this.

Chairman Bean stated: think this is a liberalization for taxpayers and citizens to use their own money without cost; see tonight that there are \$10 million dollars of needs of varying degree; see a demand and a focus attention to keep our tax rate flat; see Exeter Road crumbling; we've got two new fire stations; we've got two collective bargaining agreements; with our undesignated fund balance and our \$18 million we have some capital in the bank that we can use and pay back to ourselves; like to schedule this for next meeting; can get with Finance to address questions; can have Mr. Silberdick on board.

Selectman Woolsey asked: would not like to see this used for anything other than bonded indebtedness; use it strictly for what we would normally bond out for twenty years; that means we would save five years worth of interest on a bond; compacting our payback time; need to be careful with stipulating the limited area of borrowing.

Attorney Gearreald stated: that is retained; the language that the principle of the trust fund to finance capital improvements; Trustees of the Trust Funds have long been authorized to charge expenses for professional banking or brokerage assistance against the funds they are

administering; an exception to that is when it came to capital reserve funds; new legislation that went into effect July 26, 2014 essentially fills the hole to enable those funds to be assessed the same type of brokerage fee that is charged to all other types of funds that the Trustees administer.

Selectman Griffin asked: what do you comment about what Mr. Silberdick said about doubling the pay to that Mr. DeMarco commented on? Attorney Gearreald answered: the Board some time ago has charged me to evaluate the practice of the Trustees; that's still an ongoing project; Mr. Silberdick will report on that in the future; it's a work in progress.

Selectman Griffin asked: so it's something you will keep us informed about? Attorney Gearreald answered: absolutely.

Article 19 Improvements to Lane Memorial Library (32:17)

Ms. Reynolds Cooper stated: gave you background on two improvements we're trying to achieve next year; some is continuation to bring the HVAC equipment up to date; it's sorely needed but it's an aesthetic change to the carpet upstairs.

Selectman Woolsey stated: have no problem with the article. Selectman Griffin stated: I agree.

Selectman Woolsey MOVED to add Article 19, Improvements to Lane Memorial Library, as written on the 2015 warrant for vote SECONDED by Selectman Bridle.

VOTE: 5-0-0

Article 18 Recreation Fund (33:18)

Ms. Martin stated: asking for \$148,326; reconstructing the Tuck Field access road at \$23,036; purchase scarifier for \$14,225; purchase a new bus; reroof the Tuck Building and replace the siding; replace the garage doors at the Tuck Building at approximately \$4,000; replace failing pieces of equipment at Kids Kingdom; comes out of the Recreation Fund so there is no tax impact.

Selectman Woolsey stated: this has no tax rate impact because this is the authorization to withdraw from existing funds that are already in control of the Recreation Department.

Selectman Bridle asked: could you explain what the bus is used for; important for people to understand how much it is used for. Ms. Martin answered: major thing we use it for is senior citizen trips; Tour of Lights at Christmas; for summer camps transporting kids; other departments have used it for events they have.

Selectman Bridle stated: that goes out a couple times a week. Ms. Martin stated at least once; some weeks every day.

Selectman Waddell asked: being ten years old does it have any safety problems? Ms. Martin answered: right now it doesn't because it was just in the shop; right now it is in working condition but it desperately needs to be replaced.

Selectman Waddell asked: in the future do you see any other big costs coming up? Ms. Martin answered: other pieces of equipment needs to be replaced at Kids Kingdom; it is twenty years old now and very well used.

Selectman Woolsey MOVED to add Article 18, Recreation Fund, on the 2015 warrant for vote SECONDED by Selectman Griffin.

VOTE: 5-0-0

Article 23 Police Forfeiture Fund (38:33)

Chief Sawyer stated: through our investigations from time to time we were able to seize property in funds from people who were involved in activities such as drug dealing; a lot of times assets are seized and through court proceedings are divvied up amongst agencies; seeking to give permission so when there are those funds to expend them during the course of our investigations; it's a year to year warrant article that needs to be voted.

Selectman Woolsey MOVED to add Article 23, Police Forfeiture Fund, on the 2015 warrant for vote SECONDED by Selectman Bridle.

VOTE: 5-0-0

Article 22 Part-time Special Police Officer Training (39:49)

Chief Sawyer stated: seeking to fund our summertime special officers academy; recruitment is very difficult; the academy is very difficult; finding numbers are difficult to maintain; ran a special academy in the summer of 2013; hit a demographic we weren't hitting; went after college students and teachers; had success with that; weren't able to do it last year due to the default budget; seek to put it outside of the budget and on a warrant article; definitely in need of the officers; currently thirty-one officers on part-time roster; ten in process; of the thirty-one on the roster, six with over thirty years of experience, four with twenty years of experience; every year people leave; since 2010 hired forty-six special officers; only retained ten of them in part-time positions; we were fortunate to get eight of them into our fulltime ranks; expect to have low numbers again; last summer worked with 105 shifts; back in 2009 we were working with 124 shifts; a juggling act trying to manage the needs of the department; ask for Selectmen's endorsement on the article.

Selectman Woolsey stated: support what you are doing; sorry to hear it's always such a hard process to get the officers and then they leave; should be in the budget; be prepared to put it in the budget during the deliberative session; annoys me to see special money articles for something as important as training.

Selectman Griffin stated: very supportive of your article here.

Selectman Bridle asked: think however, we fund it, it needs to be done; is this exclusively for part-time Hampton people or other departments that could possibly come into this? Chief Sawyer answered: the money we are seeking only funds the Hampton officers; we are a remote site for the New Hampshire Police Standards and Training Counsel; open to other seacoast towns for seats in the room; most we see is from the Marine Patrol; usually fill the room.

Selectman Waddell asked: going to be run in Hampton? Chief Sawyer answered: most of it; go to Concord for the driving part of it.

Assistant Town Manager Sullivan stated: these numbers include two separate parts; the 200 hours of the State Academy and 100 in-house hours; the state runs it in our facility; the second part is totally run in-house.

Selectman Waddell asked: without this, what happens? Chief Sawyer answered: we'll move forward with the ten; suspect by the time we get to Fourth of July we'll be down to seven; could possibly be under thirty part-time working officers if the trends we've seen over the years continues; we offer great training.

Selectman Woolsey asked: are the special officers being paid to attend? Chief Sawyer answered: instead of being paid on a weekly basis, once they reached a level of training there is a stipend paid.

Selectman Woolsey stated: not fair to expect someone to go through that and not be compensated.

Selectman Bridle MOVED to add Article 22, Part-time Special Police Officer Training, on the 2015 warrant for vote SECONDED by Selectman Waddell.

VOTE: 5-0-0

Article 27 Animal Control Vehicle (48:46)

Chief Sawyer stated: Assistant Town Manager is going to help on that one; he put it together before he left.

Assistant Town Manager Sullivan stated: the animal control vehicle is beat and needs replacement; it's a pickup truck that is used for multiple duties; not only for animal control work but plowing as well; the total is \$37,000.

Selectman Woolsey MOVED to add Article 27, Animal Control Vehicle, on the 2015 warrant for vote SECONDED by Selectman Bridle.

VOTE: 5-0-0

Article 12 Purchase Fire Engine (49:37)

Acting Chief Ayotte stated: seeking \$615,000 for a new fire engine pumper; will meet all safety guidelines; designed to maintain the readiness for years to come; it will replace a 1988 Emergency One Pumper; it will be placed frontline; Engine Two will be placed on reserve; Engine Two is twelve years old; two years beyond the length of service on a frontline piece; spent \$67,824.92 over the last eight years on maintenance and repairs on the vehicle; maintaining the pumps rate of capacity has cost over \$11,000 since 2012; put on notice that mechanically the power plant needs to be rebuilt or replaced; estimated cost ranges from \$15,000-\$30,000; replacement has been on the capital improvement plan as far back as 2005; estimated replacement cost then ranged between \$486,000-\$500,000; in 2011 the estimated cost jumped to \$575,000; requested warrant article figure is a result of a projected design manufacturer and delivery priced out last year plus a 3% increase that has occurred over the last twelve months; vehicle design will emphasize safety.

Selectman Woolsey asked: what make is the 1988 pumper? Acting Chief Ayotte answered: Emergency One.

Selectman Woolsey stated: want it to say Fire Engine/Pumper at the top; want it to jump out at the public; do you have an idea of the new brand you are looking for? Acting Chief Ayotte answered: based on the price and what we are looking at, we'll have to do an RFP; we do have a design in mind.

Selectman Woolsey stated: long overdue; we have got to get the pumper.

Selectman Bridle stated: couldn't agree with Mary-Louise more.

Selectman Waddell asked: how many departments have an antique they are running on a day-to-day basis? Acting Chief Ayotte answered: that's a good question; there are probably still some out there but not running at the volume we're running at; we're seeing close to four thousand calls a year; that truck is doing first line duty very often.

Assistant Town Manager Sullivan stated: most recent draft incorporates your pumper issue; it's there now.

Selectman Woolsey MOVED to add Article 12, Purchase Fire Engine, on the 2015 warrant for vote SECONDED by Selectman Griffin.

VOTE: 5-0-0

Article 28 Traffic Control for Beach Fire Station (55:37)

Acting Chief Ayotte stated: requesting \$25,000 for purchase and installation of traffic control devices on Ashworth Ave and Brown Ave; used to stop traffic at strategic points for emergency vehicles to enter the roadway and respond to emergencies; purchase is based off cost and installation of new equipment; the original lights that were there were taken down during construction and never replaced.

Selectman Woolsey asked: do we have any money at the end of the year to do this; we have got to do this; is there a possibility to fund this at the end of the year? Assistant Town Manager Sullivan stated: we could put it on the priority list but we are running pretty tight; there are some other needs that need to be addressed; suggest we leave it here and if we can do it then we pull it.

Selectman Griffin stated: I agree.

Selectman Bridle stated: it's needed; in the fire department every second counts; having this light could allow them to go up D Street and saving them minutes.

Selectman Waddell asked: agree 100%; it's not a law you have to have one? Acting Chief Ayotte answered: nope; we are replacing something that we had for years; finding that during summer traffic it is clearly indicated.

Assistant Town Manager Sullivan stated: the position of this is so they can go against traffic; law doesn't require it but they would need the light there to stop traffic; otherwise they have to go with traffic.

Selectman Bridle MOVED to add Article 28, Traffic Control for Beach Fire Station, on the 2015 warrant for vote with the stipulation if there is money at the end of the year to fund it then pull the article SECONDED by Selectman Woolsey.

VOTE: 5-0-0

Article 40 Mill Pond Dam – Petitioned (58:58)

Mr. Hurley stated: requesting the Mill Pond be repaired instead of decommissioned; voting no leaves it as last vote and voting yes is to repair; there are a number of issues as to why it should be repaired; if repaired it will substantially improve the flood control that you will have absolutely none of if it's removed; reduce the cost to replace the culverts; cost for the

warrant article is \$250,000 plus including the money of last year's decommissioning for a total of \$650,000; it is a big part of the aquifer; it's a major drainage area; it's a cost the town would do far better served by repairing than removing; asking to consider article as presented.

Selectman Woolsey asked: this is a private petition article so we aren't going to vote; the public voted in 2014 the funding to decommission the dam; why has that not been done; are we in the habit of sitting here and asking the public to vote on articles and then ignoring them? Chairman Bean answered: you've been a Selectman for both those years; can you answer your own question.

Selectman Woolsey stated: I voted to get that on the warrant; it was on the warrant and passed on the warrant; want to know why the action that the voters directed us to do has not taken place.

Chairman Bean stated: these folks have done magnificent work and research on a vital asset to the community both economically and ecologically; they were promised a public hearing; they never received that hearing; there is quite a tax base down there; it's ecologically important; it's important to our Public Works program; it's an important test with the State of New Hampshire that they dictate to us; we provided an opportunity for these fine citizens to come in here; this is plan b; been very satisfied with their performance.

Selectman Woolsey asked: to remove the \$400,000 voted in 2014 and place in the general fund, so we're automatically going to do that if this passes? Town Manager Welch answered: once you repeal a warrant article that has been approved by town meeting with an appropriation the money has to go back to the general fund.

Selectman Woolsey asked: this would in effect repeal that; it would be nothing we would do? Town Manager Welch answered: that's correct; by virtue of the vote it would cancel that appropriation.

Selectman Woolsey stated: they are funding for the article would be \$400,000 assuming it would be intact and sufficient of a fund balance; one would have to assume that the \$400,000 come March having been surrendered because of a superimposed warrant article that would be intact in our finance stream; the gist of this article is to raise \$250,000 from new taxation; has this site been declared a national historic site yet? Mr. Hurley answered: the last I heard was the town needed the Town Manager needed to sign an application request; the last I heard it still needed to be signed to be considered; it has to go through consideration to get to the next step.

Selectman Woolsey stated: there was discussion about federal constraints regarding this area. Mr. Hurley stated: don't know the full answer; it needs to be applied for to be on the list; been trying to get a straight answer.

Selectman Woolsey stated: we have a directive that we have been ordered by the State of New Hampshire to either rebuild the dam or decommission it; the warrant article that was passed this year at the March town meeting gave the authority to the town to decommission it; does the state order still stand? Town Manager Welch answered: the state order still stands; my understanding is the state is on hold until the town votes on the petition; the order is there but because the petition has been presented the state has basically said we will wait

for the town to vote to see whether they have changed their mind in which case we will go back and revisit.

Selectman Woolsey asked: in this particular instance there is no overwriting interest as far as National Historic Registry is concerned; we're just dealing now with the Town of Hampton and the State of New Hampshire? Town Manager Welch answered: it is not registered as a national site; no one has presented a petition to the town to register it.

Selectman Griffin stated: the State is not in any hurry to either force us to either dismantle or rebuild; admire you persistence.

Selectman Bridle stated: neighbors asked for a hearing; they did not get that.

Selectman Waddell stated: agree with Rusty; needs to be clarified that there was a warrant article voted on but the public meeting never took place; that's why the Selectmen chose to open it up to you guys; think it's important to get out there; got to do a lot of education.

Chairman Bean stated: the conduct of your group and the research and the time and the effort that you put into this; your polite insistence to have the public hearing that you were promised is noteworthy; I enthusiastically support article 40.

Article 13 DPW Equipment Purchases (1:11:14)

Mr. Jacobs stated: raise and appropriate the sum of \$382,000 for the purchase and replacement of a 2000 ton utility truck/body with a snow plow attached; to replace 2001 one ton dump truck and snow plow, replace two of our six wheel dump trucks with plow and wings; reason to replace equipment is $\frac{3}{4}$ ton utility is used on a daily basis by the sewer and drain division; it's equipped to handle all the emergency calls; biggest issues are rust and had to replace the transmission this summer as it's the lead in that fleet; it's at the point where maintenance costs are going to start to increase; the one ton dump truck is fifteen years old; it's on the side where the cost to maintain the vehicles is going up significantly; estimated replacement cost for that vehicle is \$49,000; the other two vehicles we're looking to replace are the 1988 six wheel dump truck; estimated cost to replace \$146,000; purchased the truck for \$78,000 and spent over \$15,000 to keep it operating; scraped and painted the whole box and outside body; it's twenty-seven years old; it only cost the town \$3,462 a year; it's \$1.38 a mile; 1990 six wheel dump truck original price was \$81,733; including the maintenance it's just about \$1.00 a mile; still be around \$3,000 a year; we use them, take care of them and they are coming to an end of their useful life; would be trading in these four vehicles for those vehicles.

Selectman Woolsey asked: is the number for mac as well? Mr. Jacobs answered: it is a mac yes.

Selectman Woolsey asked: do you think number 24 and number 36 would be replaced with Chevys or are you open on that? Mr. Jacobs answered: we are open on that; part of the purpose of doing this is to track the difference between the GMCs and the Chevys; we'll let the bid process fallout and tell us.

Selectman Woolsey asked: the mileage you have listed on here is odometer miles not engine miles? Mr. Jacobs answered: that's correct.

Selectman Woolsey stated: appreciate the fact you need these; would like an updated rolling stock list; want to see us consolidating. Mr. Jacobs stated: have one sitting in the backyard

that will be traded in; we considered putting a Chevy in the auction; some of our equipment went for as low as \$1,000; there are three of them that are going to be traded in; agree with you in principle about not having as many pickups; would rather cycle them out to get the most return value on them.

Selectman Bridle asked: ever thought about putting a wing and a plow and a sander on a Peterbilt? Mr. Noyes answered: it's pretty hard on a truck.

Selectman Bridle stated: was thinking if there was a big storm you could call it into play if you needed it; know you need equipment.

Selectman Waddell asked: it's a lot of money but the trucks are used all the time; the sea is hard on them; the salt is hard on them; it's not an easy environment on them; I'm sure your maintenance is good.

Chairman Bean stated: you've got \$11,000 in repairs for these vehicles; guess the logic is that the \$11,000 in repairs generates a \$400,000 purchase order; not getting that logic so I'm not supporting this; it would take forty years at this maintenance schedule to overcome the purchase price; having worked at a nuclear plant, an engineer battalion and been part of that Seabrook project over there for four years; construction vehicles are going to have erosion; our Public Works vehicles are not the dog and pony; they are work horses; that's always been my experience with both the military and heavy, heavy construction; after having reviewed your synopsis of maintenance and last year was \$11,000 in maintenance and we're talking replacing that, that necessitates a \$400,000 tax expenditure; there were close to \$10,000,000 in requests; I'm not supporting this.

Selectman Woolsey stated: it's not until the past two or three years that the vehicles in the Public Works Department have been maintained; we have no adequate facilities to wash the vehicles down or store them from the elements. Mr. Jacobs stated: the idea of this \$385,000 was last year's appropriation and the \$382,000 is this year's; we were tasked before to come up with a CIP plan that looked at taking out the highs and lows and coming up with better planning; these four trucks addressed that; if these trucks aren't replaced this year they will be replaced in future years; we'd be facing too many things in the same year; people would come back to us that we should have planned it better;

Selectman Woolsey MOVED to add Article 13, DPW Equipment Purchases, on the 2015 warrant for vote SECONDED by Selectman Bridle.

VOTE: 3-2(Bean, Griffin)-0

Article 7 Bond Issue Exeter Road (1:26:08)

Mr. Noyes stated: as you know Exeter Road is our top priority; put together a warrant article for \$5.8 million dollars; given you a number of alternatives to look at; first alternative is to do a shim and overlay; would be from the overpass to the railroad bridge; that would be at a cost of \$320,000; that would just create a smooth driving service for the shortterm; second option would be to replace the sewer system and do a shim and overlay; positive of that is if we phase the project over a few years it would get the sewer work done and give a couple years for the road to compact; would do the storm drain system when the whole reconstruction would be done; would be at a cost of \$1,584,000; third option is to replace the sewer system, do the shim and overlay but also add the downtown drainage project; added the downtown drainage project because we would be losing on \$150,000 federal money if we

don't fund the project and it wouldn't get done; that would be a cost of \$1,800,000; another option would be to put the project on hold; continue to do patchwork; have seventy-seven miles of roads that we are way behind on maintaining; gone out and evaluated all the roads; looked at the condition of the road and use of the road and prioritized; this stretch of Exeter Road is top priority.

Chairman Bean stated: gone from a high of \$5.8 million down to \$300,00 and change.

Town Manager Welch stated: think we need to do better than approximately \$320,000; need to go out to the three or four major companies that would be doing this work and get a real hard and fast estimate; concerned that the \$320,000 for the overlay doesn't address the final engineering cost to do the engineering plans; can't see appropriating \$5,000,000 and having the bond issue sit there with the money sitting there to do the work and we don't have the engineering plans done; we have the preliminary done but not the final; don't have state approval; don't have permits from the state; need all of that before we can do any of the sewer work; if you are contemplating doing the sewer work, you'd the \$320,000 for the overlay and do the engineering work for the sewer plan and drainage plan now; that will not be outdated; the state's approval will not go away; doesn't make sense to do a piece at a time; talking about a project that is done four or five years down the road; one that is done and done right; this is premature; need to think about two things; one is the overlay of the road and seal it; agree that this is a temporary patch; in four or five years have to spend \$300,000 plus dollars to do it again; if we are going to do the sewer we need to plan that now; we don't have that figure; we don't have the plans; think we are jumping ahead here; need to make decision based on what we want to do in the long run and how many years do you want this to go down the road; there is a need to replace the main; the question is how great is that need; what portions of the main are no longer suitable for use and must be replaced immediately and what portions are not; don't have that information; don't have the plans; don't know how you can replace that sewer without that information; think you have two decisions to make; either shim and overlay and prepare the plans or just shim and overlay.

Chairman Bean stated: the shim and overlay would be option or payment number two at \$320,000; is that correct? Town Manager Welch stated: approximately yes.

Chairman Bean stated: it does say a total; so \$320,000 for the shim and overlay.

Mr. Noyes stated: if we're just looking at going down a road that's in fairly good condition and putting an inch and a half overlay on the road, could have a number that wouldn't be so much of an approximation; when you add in the shim, you don't know that until the pavers get out into the field; it's artistic work to eye that and see where the shim is needed; that's where the variable is; that's why we call it an approximate cost.

Selectman Woolsey stated: patching the road in November is no help; if any of this stuff is going to get done it would need to be decent weather; don't have the manpower to do it; have no faith in the engineering work that has been done; would like to see an RFQ out before anything else; don't want to pay for shimming or any other stuff; need sewer, drainage, and a good road surface; go back and focus on engineering; not going to pay anymore money on this until we have a plan and we can do it all at once.

Selectman Griffin asked: Mr. Welch which one of these three did you lead us to? Town Manager Welch answered: think at the moment the shim and overlay is the about the only

think you can do; there are some additional options such as putting a geotextile after the shim is down help lengthen the period of time; not going to do more than five or six years; the sewer needs to be replaced; the question is where are the plans.

Selectman Griffin asked: so do you recommend one? Town Manager Welch answered: recommend doing the shim and overlay.

Chairman Bean stated: and that price is \$320,000 approximately? Town Manager Welch stated: approximately; understand the Directors statement; you don't know what the shim is going to be until you get out there; if that shim is underestimated then you won't be able to overlay the entire road.

Selectman Bridle asked: I agree with you; at least need to do something; know it's a temporary patch; the road needs to smooth; it's the gateway to our community; can't see spending the \$5.8 million without knowing what we are spending it on; if the \$320,000 puts us out a few years so we can get that work, I'd be all for it; should we also have an article now for the funding of some of the engineering work? Town Manager Welch answered: you have a choice; can do two articles; one for shim and overlaying and one for engineering or you can combine the two into one; if you're going to seriously replace the sewer then you need to pony up the money for engineering as soon as possible; don't have a figure what the engineering work is going to be.

Selectman Bridle asked: can we do that before? Town Manager Welch answered: think the Director can do that; the engineers are going to have to come back at a not to exceed price; before you go to deliberative session; you have to know what you are going to do at the deliberative session otherwise people will never have an idea of what you are talking about.

Selectman Bridle stated: can support the \$320,000 for the overlay but would like to see us come up with a figure for engineering.

Selectman Waddell asked: obviously it's a huge problem; it's a safety issue; need to put an article together that is comprehensive and deals with what we need to deal with; we've got to give the DPW the ability to do the job that have got to do; need to get out there with a good plan that is comprehensive; need to work cooperatively here.

Chairman Bean stated: we have a \$5.8 million dollar request; that's what the Selectmen have been provided with; out of that \$5.8 million Selectman Woolsey has expressed some degree of doubt about the current engineering platform; out of that the construction subtotal is \$3.7 million; there is \$2,000,000 in there; think that is excessive; don't think that's a standard we can tolerate; come to this evening where we have three or four other issues; think it's prudent to follow the advice of the Public Works Directors and Mr. Welch and take in the safety considerations of that road; pave and shim; come up with a hard figure; get rid of this nonsense; shelve it; come back next week with something that is much more tightened up; this is sloppy.

Selectman Woolsey stated: will vote for a figure; it better be a good figure by qualified engineers to do the study; like to see that separately.

Selectman Griffin asked: has Tech been part of any discussions you've had? Mr. Noyes answered: I've never heard of them; no.

Selectman Griffin stated: they rent down by the casino; see to be experienced; do a lot of work in Lawrence and other areas; seem very active to want to do business in this community; hope they would be one of the groups to make an RFQ.

Mr. Noyes stated: with all due respect to the Chairman and to your opinion of the engineers, Chris Jacobs and I have thoroughly reviewed that report; we're both engineers; I have thirty years of engineering experience; he has around twenty years; the problem isn't with the engineers; they did what we asked them to do with the price they bid on; the engineers did a fine job; the \$5.8 million at this stage in the game is prudent; we are only at a preliminary design.

Chairman Bean stated: the \$5.8 million by the elected board here is not going to happen; think we had a consensus to come back with a pave and shim; drill down some numbers; let's not talk about something that no one is going to vote for. Mr. Noyes stated: just wanted to qualify that the engineers is getting somewhat of a bad rap; think they have done a good job.

Chairman Bean asked: do we have a consensus on that; we're going to bring this back next week.

Assistant Town Manager Sullivan stated: with shim and overlay and a new price.

Selectman Woolsey stated: looking for sewer, drainage, and road; don't care about little flashy lights and crosswalks.

Selectman Waddell stated: if we've got people in a position and they've got experience and we go out and hire a firm, we need to pay attention to what they're doing.

Town Manager Welch stated: they did what we contracted them to do with the amount of money we had appropriated for them to do it; that money has been spent and the preliminary plans have been designed; the final plans need to be designed and come forward for approval.

Selectman Waddell stated: let's do it correctly.

Assistant Town Manager Sullivan asked: what you want next week is the wording for shim and overlay and the potential for engineering to do the sewer and drain as well; two separate wording articles? Chairman Bean answered: yes; does that work for you Director? Mr. Noyes answered: sure.

Article 11 West Side Sewer Replacements (1:47:46)

Mr. Noyes stated: to look at completing the west side sewers of Ashworth Ave; specifically on Hobson Ave, Johnson Ave, Riverwood Terrace, Fellows Avenue, and Harris Avenue; this work has already been engineered and designed; part of the design work done with the beach improvement project; did ask the company that did that design to use the numbers they obtained from the work we just did down there to come up with this estimate.

Chairman Bean asked: it's \$1.1 million dollars; have no engineering plans; got four pages here; it's hard to come up with a decision.

Selectman Woolsey stated: when was Aquarion notified of this project; Aquarion partnered with us to do Perkins and Auburn, etc.; they do their budgets ahead of time; it seems prudent to marry up the water line replacement with our sewer replacement; would like to see that continued; his report had no indication of potential construction in these streets; don't want to see sewer replacement work done on those streets unless it is paired with water replacement.

Selectman Bridle stated: it needs to be done; we need a little bit better planning with our utilities.

Selectman Waddell stated: agree with what Rusty just said.

Chairman Bean stated: there is no motion on this; we'll move on.

Article 14 Road Improvement Capital Reserve Fund (1:51:02)

Selectman Woolsey stated: will move that especially since it asks the public to raise and appropriate the sum of \$300,000; think that will put us around \$900,000 for the road improvement fund with no authority to withdraw.

Chairman Bean stated: we talked about the \$18,000,000 and no need to tax our citizens anymore; this is the perfect example where we already have the money; we're going to have a discussion on this next week; we have \$18,000,000 if the Board approves and the people approve; then we don't have to tax them an additional \$300,000; not prepared until we have the discussion on the \$18,000,000 to go ahead with this.

Selectman Woolsey stated: if former Boards of Selectmen hadn't stripped that fund we would have had enough in there to do some major projects; it's prudent to try and get that fund in place.

Chairman Bean asked: do you want to discuss this next week? Selectman Woolsey stated: no; I'm happy to move to add the \$300,000 to the existing roads fund.

Selectman Woolsey MOVED to add Article 14, Road Improvement Capital Reserve Fund, on the 2015 warrant for vote t SECONDED by Selectman Waddell.

VOTE: 3-2(Griffin, Bean)-0

Article 15 Highway Block Grant (1:53:17)

Mr. Noyes stated: looking to appropriate the sum of \$267,649 for improvements to the streets and sidewalks including Belmont Circle, Fairfield Drive, and Ruth Lane; basically using a portion of the funding from the State Highway Block Grant which is estimated to be that same amount.

Selectman Woolsey asked: why are we voting to raise and appropriate \$267,649 if we are getting the Block Grant; that is just going to give us the authority to expend what we are getting in; this isn't going to impact the tax rate; if this is a Block Grant why are we raising and appropriating and showing a tax impact? Town Manager Welch answered: because it does have a tax impact; these are funds that are derived from the State of New Hampshire; every time they set the tax rate, they plug these dollars into the tax rate calculation as a revenue only.

Selectman Woolsey asked: so we are spending money that would otherwise be surrendered to revenue. Town Manager Welch stated: we wouldn't be surrendering it to the roads; you need this warrant article.

Selectman Woolsey asked: so we're segregating the Highway Block Grant strictly for these roads? Town Manager Welch answered: it basically gives Public Works the ability to spend two hundred and some odd thousand dollars in additional money to start improving the roads in town that we aren't doing anything on.

Selectman Woolsey stated: I like that; will move to add that.

Selectman Bridle asked: why are we given the Block Grant? Town Manager Welch answered: given specifically for class five highways or class four highways to maintain for the town; the way the constitution has this structured is that the State is required to give us a portion of the monies raised from fuels; that money is to go to cities and towns roads that are class five or better that the town is required to maintain; we've been putting it as a general revenue to buy pens, pencils, and paper and not giving Public Works any of these funds to actually to work on the roadways.

Selectman Bridle stated: if the State gives us the money to do that work with then we should do it.

Selectman Waddell stated: I support that also; if it's money given to us then it should go to the roads. Town Manager Welch stated: that money will continue to increase because the increase in the gasoline sales tax.

Selectman Waddell stated: that's one of the squawks that people said; paying that tax and it's not going to the roads. Town Manager Welch stated: that's what's been happening in town; it's not going to the roads; it's been going towards other things.

Selectman Woolsey asked: would we be setting a precedent this way so that every year we don't have to put a warrant article to authorize us to expend whatever the Highway Block Grant is; will this be ongoing? Town Manager Welch answered: it will be ongoing.

Selectman Woolsey MOVED to add Article 15, Highway Block Grant, on the 2015 warrant for vote SECONDED by Selectman Waddell.

VOTE: 5-0-0

Article 20 Update Master Drain Plan (1:57:07)

Mr. Noyes stated: looking for an appropriation of \$100,000 to update the 1986 master drainage study; originally put it as a request in the operating budget; this is the second attempt to fund that work; we've had considerable growth in the town; we've gone through the town and survey the drainage system; we have accurate maps that show the storm drain system; we're presently going around town taking elevations so we'll be able to put elevations on the pipes and structures; wanted something to use as a base material.

Town Manager Welch stated: tried doing this in 2007 or 2008; town was not in favor of it at the time; I'm still not in favor of it at this time; the town has evolved since then; the real issue here is if we're going to work on drainage the only way to effectively do that is to do projects; to engineer those projects as you go along; trying to throw together a major master drain plan as you go along; assuming there will never be a change to that in the future is just crazy; we don't control that; if you want to do the drain work that's fine; encourage that to be done; need to start at the outfall and work upstream; until you do that, the system doesn't work; keep adding things in without any idea of what impact this is for the town; rather spend that on drainage.

Selectman Woolsey stated: agree with you Fred; you're talking project to project; wonder if we could at least approach the subject with the Planning Board. Town Manager Welch stated: don't disagree;

Selectman Woolsey stated: we're just building, building, and building; what's here today is gone tomorrow. Town Manager Welch stated: reason we are in the predicament is the Planning Board continues to approve things that five people have filed and we continue to build; have these huge residential areas that have been built since the master drainage plan was put into effect; a lot of them have flooding problems; need to do better planning; need more consistent planning; need to relieve Public Works of the load in doing that.

Chairman Bean asked: is it safe to say there will be no motion on this?

Selectman Waddell asked: you say do project by project; but you need the big picture of what is happening; wouldn't the master plan be the big picture? Town Manager Welch answered: we have twenty-two drainage districts in town; would rather spend the money on the drainage; start at the outfall and just finish it; design the system to go upstream so we take care of our water problems and our drainage problems; to do a general overall review of the town and general synopsis of what needs to be done doesn't accomplish anything.

Chairman Bean stated: Public Works is not easy; it's our biggest department; lights are out in Hampton if you mess up in one day; you guys are on the spotlight; that is not going to be motioned.

Chairman Bean stated: Article 1, Election of Officers. Town Manager Welch stated: that's statutory.

Chairman Bean stated: Article 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 is zoning; Article 16.

Article 16 Human Service Agencies (2:04:50)

Selectman Woolsey MOVED to add Article 16, Human Service Agencies, on the 2015 warrant for vote SECONDED by Selectman Bridle.

VOTE: 5-0-0

Article 17 Town-Wide Revaluation (2:05:21)

Town Manager Welch stated: went out and received a contractual obligation from the current Assessing Department Vision Government Solutions for \$146,000 to update our existing system and bring values up to date in accordance with the constitutional requirement to assess the town every five years; one of the questions that came up was whether or not we had finished the measure and list for the town; better than 50% of the town has not been done; roughly 40% has; those 40% are paying on everything in their properties that need to be assessed; the other 50-60% are not; we have some properties in town that haven't been measure since the 1950s; the constitution requires us to assess everybody equally on an equity basis; important thing to do so that everybody is paying their fair share; by the time the reval is done, everybody will be current; it's a very generous contract item; if the town decides to vote this down, we are required by constitution to do this; our initiative goes to the Department of Revenue and they can hire an Assessing firm to come in and do an entire assessment of the town including the measure and list for every piece of property; probably looking at something upwards of \$1,000,000 that will simply be put on the tax rate as soon as it's assessed with a 25% penalty which goes to the State; whether you want to put the employee in here or not is up to you.

Selectman Woolsey stated: the updating on vision appraisal is another virtue; it's a wonderful tool.

Selectman Bridle asked: there are some that haven't been done since the 1950s; will this pickup those? Town Manager Welch answered: this will get them all done.

Selectman Woolsey MOVED to add Article 17, Town-Wide Revaluation, on the 2015 warrant for vote SECONDED by Selectman Griffin.

VOTE: 5-0-0

Article 21 Energy and Safety Improvements Town Offices (2:11:47)

Selectman Waddell asked: how much is this going to save us? Town Manager Welch answered: the payback was like fifteen years in the energy improvements; one thing that concerns us is that the building is completely encased in glass; it's not safe or effective; if we're not going to see the building in fifteen years, then we need to do it.

Chairman Bean asked: is there any supporting documentation with this; have an article and no data. Town Manager Welch answered: had asked the information that was in the long-range capital program be put forward.

Assistant Town Manager Sullivan stated: Do you want to table that and get more information to you.

Chairman Bean stated: not prepared to spend \$100,000 without the data. Assistant Town Manager Sullivan stated: will get you it for next meeting.

Selectman Woolsey MOVED to add article 21 to the 2015 warrant SECONDED by Selectman Griffin.

No Vote Taken – pushed to next meeting.

Article 25 Ice Pond Dam (2:13:24)

Selectman Woolsey stated: it is way past it's time; it's unnecessary.

Selectman Griffin asked: what do you have to say about this Fred? Town Manager Welch answered: it is one of the three controlling features that controls the drainage for this portion of the municipality; the outfall for this is a 60" culvert; during heavy rain and flooding it surcharges; there is no regulatory feature at this location at this time; it used to be flooded for ice; you can't be expected to put all the water from a large portion of the municipality through a very narrow corridor or discharge without some regulatory control; the idea of having a dam is to regulate water flow.

Chairman Bean stated: I have an email back and forth but not supporting documentation; I'm not prepared to make a decision on this tonight; don't have an engineering study. Town Manager Welch stated: there is an engineering study that has been done.

Chairman Bean stated: not disagree with Selectman Woolsey; would like the engineering data; if the Board doesn't disagree we'll push that back.

Article 26 Remove Pine Trees, Pine Grove Cemetery (2:17:52)

Town Manager Welch stated: asked this be included; the funds would be coming from the Cemetery Trust Fund; these trees are very, very large; they are one hundred feet or better; we're starting to lose those trees; they are located next to houses and one of the most ancient cemeteries in town; it's a \$50,000 expense; the stump removal can be done in-house; it's a safety issue.

Selectman Woolsey stated: concerned about the graves and the manner in which the cutting is done; everything is so closely packed in there. Town Manager Welch stated: it'd be done by crane.

Selectman Bridle stated: they do present a danger; we ought to remove them.

Selectman Bridle MOVED to add Article 26, Remove Pine Trees, Pine Grove Cemetery, on the 2015 warrant for vote SECONDED by Selectman Woolsey.

VOTE: 5-0-0

Article 30 Cemetery Burial Trust Fund (2:20:15)

Town Manager Welch stated: the Legislation passed this year to allow us to pass a warrant article to authorize this material to go automatically to the Trustees; legislation could not be retrospective by a provision of the constitution; we need to appropriate those to go.

Selectman Woolsey stated: will move; the money in the future will automatically go to the Trustees. Town Manager Welch stated: yes ma'am.

Selectman Woolsey MOVED to add Article 30, Cemetery Burial Trust Fund, on the 2015 warrant for vote SECONDED by Selectman Waddell.

VOTE: 5-0-0

Article 31 Conservation Land Acquisition Fund (2:21:03)

Selectman Woolsey MOVED to add article 31 to the 2015 warrant SECONDED by Selectman Bridle.

VOTE: 5-0-0

Article 32 Community Center Fund.

Town Manager Welch stated: that can go; that was to be taken off the warrant.

Selectman Bridle stated: we need to start thinking about doing something.

Article 33 Cemetery Lot Funds Directly to Town Trustees (2:21:56)

Selectman Woolsey MOVED to add Article 33, Cemetery Lot Funds Directly to Town Trustees, on the 2015 warrant for vote SECONDED by Selectman Waddell.

VOTE: 5-0-0

Article 34 Trustees of the Trust Fund Investments of Capital Reserve Funds (2:22:11)

Town Manager Welch stated: an article requested by the Trustees; legislation passed this year which allows them to bill the capital reserve funds for their investment costs; the town meeting needs to approve that.

Selectman Waddell MOVED to add Article 34, Trustees of the Trust Fund Investments of Capital Reserve Funds, on the 2015 warrant for vote SECONDED by Selectman Woolsey.

VOTE: 4-1(Bridle)-0

Article 35 Establish Town Forest (2:23:20)

Selectman Woolsey stated: moved to add it; we are building on every piece of land in this district; the aquifer protection is a joke; we need to preserve what is left of twelve shares; need to do better on signage; think this is a start; want to see this enhanced in the coming years; make a commitment to try and preserve this area.

Selectman Bridle stated: we should try to protect it.

Chairman Bean stated: take issue with forming a committee; like what our Conservation Commission does; we do have a tree warden; would make the motion to delete number two. Town Manager Welch stated: that's a statute; that's why we made it the Conservation Commission be the committee.

Chairman Bean asked: that has to be included; how is this town property; was it deeded; was it a gift? Town Manager Welch answered: some of it was a gift; some of it was deeded to the town; some of it was tax title land.

Chairman Bean asked: spoke about an article in the Rochester Times about their town forest; are we good on this legally? Town Manager Welch answered: we are good on this legally; it's town land; we have deeds to all of this property;

Selectman Woolsey MOVED to add Article 35, Establish Town Forest, on the 2015 warrant for vote SECONDED by Selectman Bridle.

VOTE: 5-0-0

Article 36 Withdrawal from the Solid Waste District (2:27:39)

Town Manager Welch stated: we had petitioned the solid waste district with a request to withdraw from the district; that was approved by vote of the district; the town had previously voted to withdraw; the statute requires the article be put in after the district committee votes; need to have another vote of the town in order to withdraw; we can participate in the bid contracts and have the same benefits without paying the district costs;

Selectman Woolsey MOVED to add Article 36, Withdrawal from the Solid Waste District, on the 2015 warrant for vote SECONDED by Selectman Waddell.

VOTE: 5-0-0

Article 37 Abolish the Heritage Commission (2:29:34)

Selectman Woolsey MOVED to add Article 37, Abolish the Heritage Commission, on the 2015 warrant for vote SECONDED by Selectman Bridle.

VOTE: 5-0-0

Article 38 Taxi Insurance (2:29:43)

Assistant Town Manager Sullivan stated: this is an adjustment from complaints before; it brings it down from \$1,000,000 to \$500,000.

Selectman Woolsey stated: liability coverage.

Selectman Griffin MOVED to add Article 38, Taxi Insurance, on the 2015 warrant for vote SECONDED by Selectman Waddell.

VOTE: 4-0-1(Woolsey)

Article 39 Amend Noise Ordinance (2:30:19)

Assistant Town Manager Sullivan stated: this is a different ordinance then we've dealt with in the past; entertainment ordinance deals with our establishments; this deals with starting your equipment and work prior to 7:00am; this was something noticed in some of the reviews; want to exclude us in case of an emergency.

Selectman Bridle MOVED to add Article 39, Amend Noise Ordinance, on the 2015 warrant for vote SECONDED by Selectman Waddell.

VOTE: 5-0-0

Article 41 Christmas Parade – Petitioned (2:31:12)

Town Manager Welch: We have not we received it yet.

Article 42 Town Clock – Petitioned (2:31:27)

Selectman Woolsey stated: it is another petitioned article so it will go on.

Chairman Bean stated: have some outstanding for next week.

IV. Old Business

V. Closing Comments (2:31:44)

Selectman Woolsey stated: really appreciate this session.

VI. Adjournment (2:31:59)

Selectman Griffin MOVED to ADJOURN the public meeting at 9:28PM SECONDED by Selectman Woolsey.

VOTE: 5-0-0

Chairman