

Note: Draft minutes are subject to corrections, additions and deletions.

October 17, 2016

PRESENT: Rusty Bridle, Chairman
Jim Waddell, Vice-Chairman
Phil Bean, Selectman
Rick Griffin, Selectman
Regina Barnes, Selectman
Frederick Welch, Town Manager
Mark Gearreald, Town Attorney

SALUTE TO THE FLAG

I. Public Hearing RSA 31:95-b,III(a)

To apply for, accept, and expend unanticipated monies in amounts of \$10,000 or more under the following programs: US Dept. of Commerce (DOC); Economic Development Administration (EDA); Public Works and Economic Development Act of 1965.

Town Manager Welch: the funds were available to the Town; they were used previously for the extension of a sewer main for Smuttynose Brewery, we were able to apply at any time, but need permission from the Board.

Selectman Waddell: we have no responsibility on this, our meeting/matching.

Town Manager Welch: some are matched, some are not, but they would have to come back to the Board for that.

Selectman Waddell MOTIONED to authorize the pursuance of such grants SECONDED by Selectman Barnes.

VOTE: 5-0-0

II. Public Hearing RSA 674:40-a (6:43)

To accept Hilliard Drive as a Class V Highway in the Town of Hampton

Town Manager Welch: Hilliard Drive has completed all the requirements; this road is ready to be accepted under statute

Selectman Waddell MOTIONED to ACCEPT the Hilliard Drive as a Class V Highway SECONDED by Selectman Barnes.

VOTE: 5-0-0

III. Public Comment 2016 Hazard Mitigation Plan (7:45)

1. Approval and Acceptance

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Chairman Bridle: this is our third time we have brought this up, as per regulations and by statute.

Selectman Barnes MOTIONED to APPROVE and ACCEPT the 2016 Hazard Mitigation Plan as presented SECONDED by Selectman Waddell.

VOTE: 5-0-0

IV. Public Comment Period (8:25)

Lizzie Bartolini: long time Hampton resident; members of the Friends of the Hampton Rail Trail group; invite to a presentation to discuss the Trails and Economic Development of the NH Seacoast Greenway on Saturday, October 22, 2017, 9AM-12PM at Seabrook Public Library

Seth Russo: we are helping to advocate; state owns about five miles, another 12 or so that the state is in negotiation to acquire; Portsmouth, Seabrook, Hampton Falls, most of the Towns have gotten on Board and are behind the idea of joining the East Coast Greenway that goes off-road from Key West to Calais, ME. We are concentrating on our 17-mile segment here in NH, but the whole thing is about 31% complete; as you know that railroad goes right through downtown Hampton and would be great for our retail establishment. The residents of Hampton are behind this idea; we are hoping once it is acquired we are ready to go; anything you can do to help us.

Selectman Griffin: I am in favor of it.

Chairman Bridle: I am very much in favor of it; you might want to talk to the group Experience Hampton. Seth: yes, we have talked with them

Norman Silberdick: representing Rational Taxpayers of Hampton; want you to make the budget available to the public.

V. Announcements and Community Calendar (13:35)

Selectman Barnes: remind everyone we are still in an extreme drought.

Selectman Griffin: thank you to the fire department, for the good job they did at the Casino.

Chairman Bridle: the fire department did an excellent job at their open house; notice from the clock committee and they still have an order form at the Parks & Recreation Department office if you would like to have a memorial brick engraved, open until Monday. Our condolences to Patrolman Robert Sparks Family, he lost his niece.

VI. Consent Agenda (16:00)

1. Warranty Deed: Hilliard Drive
2. Parade and Public Gathering Licenses
 - a. American Legion Post 35 Veterans Day Parade 11/11/2016
 - b. Christmas Parade 12/03/2016
3. Street Closure Permits
 - a. Christmas Parade 12/03/2016
 - b. 1 Meadow Pond Road Healy Wedding 09/16/2017
4. One Day Entertainment License

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a. 1 Meadow Pond Road Healy Wedding 09/16/2017

Selectman Waddell MOTIONED to MOVE the Consent Agenda SECONDED by Selectman Griffin.

VOTE: 5-0-0

VII. Approval of Minutes (16:32)

1. September 26, 2016

Selectman Barnes MOTIONED to APPROVE the September 26, 2016 minutes as presented SECONDED by Selectman Waddell.

VOTE: 5-0-0

2. October 03, 2016

Selectman Barnes MOTIONED to APPROVE the October 03, 2016 minutes as presented SECONDED by Selectman Waddell.

VOTE: 5-0-0

VIII. Appointments (17:03)

1. Dyana Martin, Director Parks and Recreation

a. Quarterly Report

Ms. Martin: the parks all the regular maintenance, picking up trash, helping with warrant article, flag football season; USS Hampton crew has been helping replace Kids Kingdom pieces. There are still five concerts left for parking lot revenue; have made \$557,801, a little behind last year. Recreation programs the softball leagues are done; K-2 sports program; senior citizen club called Active Seniors Social Club; theatre camp; family pumpkin carving night; watching Halloween movie and making luminaries; trick or treating is October 31, 2016 5-8PM; trips coming up; high school traveling basketball; gearing up for holiday activities; new programs.

Selectman Barnes: good report; plenty of activities.

Selectman Waddell: good report; where is the roller rink. Ms. Martin: Hardardt's Way.

Selectman Bean: great report.

Selectman Griffin: thank you for all you do.

Chairman Bridle: are they going to do the Apple-fest this year? Ms. Martin: no.

2. Norm Silberdick, Trustee of the Trust Funds (24:30)

a. Trustees Quarterly Report

Mr. Silberdick: For the quarter, the real estate fund had an investment gain of \$459,000 and paid the Town \$170,000 in dividends and interest, for the year generated \$2.2 million gain and \$678,000 distribution of income to the Town. We have had a really good quarter; the smaller funds also had gains, they have more conservative portfolios, but each one also made money. We were conducting through sub-committee interviews and vetting of potential investment advisors following the advice and counsel we have received from you in the past. The sub-

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committee reached out to seven investment advisors and out of that group, two wanted to take it to the next step to propose. We met with each of the respective candidates, they all had good presentations and all highly qualified; will have a meeting next Tuesday and have a chance to review all the materials and reflect on the presentations, draw a conclusion, then we will seek another appointment with the Selectmen and let you know what we have decided to do.

Selectman Bean: thank you for your continued excellence.

Selectman Griffin: looks like things are going well.

Selectman Barnes: the gains look great

Selectman Waddell: I was at your meeting for the presentation and I was impressed with what was going on and how you have managed the fund; thank you very much.

Chairman Bridle: thank you for the work you do, we appreciate all you are doing.

IX. Budget Reviews (29:28)

1. Fire Department, Chief Ayotte and Deputy Kennedy

Chief Ayotte: this budget 4.37% increase; results of some of our requests and contractual obligations; administration level are within contractual obligations; gasoline increase; \$7,500 request for new equipment for a new copier.

Selectman Waddell: Under tuition reimbursement, there was \$3,000 requested. Chief Ayotte: this line item was placed in last year to help us meet the Town regulation for tuition reimbursement; we had a candidate last year that went to two classes, then was reimbursed; several others have requested to use the line item.

Chief Ayotte: several changes in line items for overtime, overtime call back, sick leave and vacation coverage, these line items were adjusted as a better means of record keeping. The 2015 actual was \$325,000 and last year was similar due to injuries; we are taking measures to eliminate the injuries; \$174,000 for overtime wages; OT wages for call back \$15,000; sick leave and vacation coverage \$221,000 already spent, but 5 year average is \$190,000. Protective clothing +3.28%; diesel fuel increased; new equipment; replacement equipment.

Selectman Barnes: new equipment \$22,950 and replacement equipment \$23,490, but do not see items that add up to those amounts/reduction. Chief Ayotte: the total \$48,950; \$41,000 for hydraulic rescue tools and then around \$7,190 for ice rescue sled, which totals \$48,000.

Selectman Barnes: now with the reduction what is going to be sacrificed? Chief Ayotte: that is going to be a decision we will make if this budget is approved.

Selectman Waddell: how many bodies of water do we have that freeze over? Chief Ayotte: five that we are concerned about.

Selectman Waddell: there has never been a whole bunch of rescues. Chief Ayotte: no, there has been a need; the canine in the water was very deep and could have been a child that day.

Selectman Waddell: when you talked about replacing an engine, if one engine were to go down. Chief Ayotte: we could be on the rocks.

Selectman Waddell: on the overtime wages, you figured the average. Ms. Pulliam: yes, we looked at it over a period of time and those numbers reflect the averages.

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Chief Ayotte: I bumped Fire Prevention line up for supplies and expenses, as last year we saw 450 children for fire prevention week, this year we will see 600 children and we also had Sacred Heart involved and home school classroom. Under the training line, the fire department training and recruitment has been reduced; open water training total cost \$19,500.

Selectman Waddell: In 2015, the actual was \$11,096. Chief Ayotte: we encumbered funds to do some training for the live fire training we were at \$17,000.

Selectman Waddell: the budget was \$32,000 and you have spent \$12,000 at this point. Chief Ayotte: there are several outstanding courses; we will see more in the fall.

Selectman Waddell: how often do you do Marine Rescues? Chief Ayotte: the boat was deployed 26 times; in a 22-month period, we saw 18 open water rescues.

Chairman Bridle: you are right the live fire training is important and so is the boat training. Chief Ayotte: the new hires need learn to be firefighters first, after that, they will go to water rescue training.

Chairman Bridle: communications. Chief Ayotte: the line item has gone up; radio maintenance upgraded; line moved from yearly maintenance to rentals and leases \$6,528.

Ms. Pulliam: move the line down, but will not change moneywise. Chief Ayotte: fire department overtime wages under repair services; we have been hiring firefighters to assist in transferring trucks as they go for their preventative maintenance; Marine I needs repair/maintenance; boat does not have a pump. Our electric and heating fuel is in line; reduced pier maintenance; paint shed and replace bumpers.

Selectman Waddell: the final is \$3,547,426, which is a 4% increase; expensive proposition but we are getting our monies worth; getting exceptional service; be nice of the state kicked in more for the room and meals; you put a good budget together.

Selectman Bean: you are under \$400 per hour around the clock; a real value; a challenge to keep people healthy; great job; very nice leadership; thank you.

Selectman Griffin: your report is very impressive, thank you.

Chairman Bridle: thank you for all you do.

Ms. Pulliam: I sent you out a memo to see if you would be willing to approve and vote on some of the budgets.

Chairman Bridle: we want to get this to the budget committee as soon as we can, but want to make sure we finish our task; I think we should go through some of this now.

Ms. Pulliam: Selectmen Budget \$16,300 if you want to vote or change.

Selectman Bean MOTIONED to APPROVE the Selectmen Budget of \$16,300 SECONDED by Selectman Griffin.

VOTE: 5-0-0

Ms. Pulliam: Town Manager section I skipped over; Budget Committee do not submit, but discusses then so I put in \$3,150

Selectman Barnes MOTIONED to APPROVE the Budget Committee Budget of \$3,150 SECONDED by Selectman Waddell.

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VOTE: 5-0-0

Ms. Pulliam: Trustees of the Trust Fund Budget \$1,000.

Selectman Waddell MOTIONED to APPROVE the Trustees of the Trust Fund Budget of \$1,000 SECONDED by Selectman Barnes.

VOTE: 5-0-0

Ms. Pulliam: Town Clerk Budget \$237,934.

Selectman Bean MOTIONED to APPROVE the Town Clerk Budget of \$237,934 SECONDED by Selectman Griffin.

VOTE: 5-0-0

Ms. Pulliam: asking the Finance Department to be put on hold. Assessing had put increases in their budget and were removed by administration with understanding it was up to the Board; they were: 5% increase for Town Assessor; 10% increase Assessor Assistant; 10% increase for part time Assessing Clerk; we included in merit line a 6% increase for full time Assessor Assistant.

Selectman Waddell: the Assessing went through revaluation and he saved us a lot of money; used to be 3 person full time, now 2 person full time; increase in value of Town going up, so dealing with larger workload; the full time employee should be brought up to where she should be; the Assessor's salary be brought up also. One person not there and increased work load; part time can go on merit

Selectman Bean: I endorse what Jim says 100%, I am not prepared to discuss this tonight.

Chairman Bridle: we can hold off on this one, with more discussion.

Ms. Pulliam: Tax Collector Budget \$103,997; with 3% salary increase.

Selectman Bean MOTIONED to APPROVE the Tax Collector's Budget of \$103,997 SECONDED by Selectman Waddell.

VOTE: 5-0-0

Ms. Pulliam: MIS Budget \$210,779, which is a 2.36% increase; 2% attributed to non-union pay increases.

Selectman Barnes MOTIONED to APPROVE the MIS Budget of \$210,779 SECONDED by Selectman Waddell.

VOTE: 5-0-0

Ms. Pulliam: Legal Budget \$176,182; 1.33% overall increase.

Selectman Bean MOTIONED to APPROVE the Legal Budget of \$176,182 SECONDED by Selectman Waddell.

VOTE: 5-0-0

Ms. Pulliam: Planning Board Budget \$150,169; 3% wages increases.

Selectman Waddell MOTIONED to APPROVE the Planning Board Budget of \$150,169 SECONDED by Selectman Barnes.

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VOTE: 5-0-0

Ms. Pulliam: Zoning Budget \$5,810; 9.42% increase due to their portion for a new copier.

Selectman Waddell MOTIONED to APPROVE the Zoning Budget of \$5,810 SECONDED by Selectman Barnes.

VOTE: 5-0-0

Ms. Pulliam: General Government Buildings Budget \$98,882; .21% increase.

Selectman Barnes MOTIONED to APPROVE the General Government Buildings Budget of \$98,882 SECONDED by Selectman Bean.

VOTE: 5-0-0

Ms. Pulliam: Cemetery Budget \$124,143; 1.37% increase.

Selectman Waddell MOTIONED to APPROVE the Cemetery Budget of \$124,143 SECONDED by Selectman Bean.

VOTE: 5-0-0

Ms. Pulliam: Parking Administration Budget \$82,326; Admin Budget \$83,726; 10.82% increase

Selectman Barnes MOTIONED to APPROVE the Parking Administration Budget of \$83,726 SECONDED by Selectman Waddell.

VOTE: 5-0-0

Ms. Pulliam: Buildings & Code Budget \$221,248; 1.94% increase

Selectman Waddell MOTIONED to APPROVE the Buildings & Code Budget of \$221,248 SECONDED by Selectman Bean.

VOTE: 5-0-0

Ms. Pulliam: Other Safety Services; Hydrants Budget \$484,196 -2.04%

Selectman Waddell MOTIONED to APPROVE the Hydrants Budget of \$484,196 SECONDED by Selectman Bean.

VOTE: 5-0-0

Ms. Pulliam: two other line items: Street Lights still getting pricing; Life Guards, the Board will decide if you want to put forward into budget; will save these for another night.

Ms. Pulliam: Mosquito Control Budget \$103,250

Selectman Griffin MOTIONED to APPROVE the Mosquito Control Budget of \$103,250 SECONDED by Selectman Waddell.

VOTE: 5-0-0

Ms. Pulliam: Welfare Budget \$61,705; 20.95% increase

Selectman Griffin MOTIONED to APPROVE the Welfare Budget of \$61,705 SECONDED by Selectman Waddell.

VOTE: 5-0-0

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Ms. Pulliam: Recreation & Parks; she has put in for increases for the two part time parks maintenance guys, but Administration has removed them, so you may need to discuss.

Town Manager Welch: she also has a warrant article for that.

Chairman Bridle: we will bring that up next time.

Ms. Pulliam: Library Budget \$856,191; .01% increase.

Selectman Barnes MOTIONED to APPROVE the Library Budget of \$856,191 SECONDED by Selectman Bean.

VOTE: 5-0-0

Ms. Pulliam: Patriotic Purposes \$2,350 was \$1,800

Chairman Bridle MOTIONED to increase Patriotic Purposes to \$2,350 SECONDED by Selectman Waddell.

VOTE: 5-0-0

Ms. Pulliam: Town Beautification \$500

Selectman Waddell MOTIONED to APPROVE the Town Beautification Budget of \$500 SECONDED by Selectman Barnes.

VOTE: 5-0-0

Ms. Pulliam: Conservation Budget \$35,525; 2% increase

Selectman Waddell MOTIONED to APPROVE the Conservation Budget of \$35,525 SECONDED by Selectman Bean.

VOTE: 5-0-0

Ms. Pulliam: Municipal Debt Service Budget \$2,476,549; -17.35%

Selectman Griffin MOTIONED to APPROVE the Municipal Debt Service Budget of \$2,476,549 SECONDED by Selectman Barnes.

VOTE: 5-0-0

X. Town Manager's Report (1:22:35)

1. For those citizens who desire to submit amendments to the Zoning Ordinance. Those amendment petitions may be submitted as early as November 14, 2016 and the final submission date is December 14, 2016 by 5 PM. Petitions must be submitted to the Board of Selectmen.
2. For those citizens who desire to submit petition warrant article for any subject other than the Zoning Ordinance. Petitions can be submitted at any time but must be received not later than 5 PM on January 10, 2017 in the Selectmen's Office.
3. The re-dedication of the Town Clock will take place at the New Clock Town in front of the Centre School on Winnacunnet Road on October 23, 2016.
4. Please continue to be observant and report anyone depositing anything in a catch basin or storm drain, in particular dog wastes.
5. Public Works announced between October 31, 2016-November 4, 2016 will be collecting leaves.

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6. Solid Waste update for month of September 597.5 tons as opposed to last year of 624.3 tons; Recycling 251 tons vs. 265 last year; overall up 30 tons in overall refuse for this period from previous year.

Chairman Bridle: The clock will be rededicated sometime in November.

Town Manager Welch: the Board needs to establish the amount of money you wish to place against the tax rate from surplus.

Ms. Pulliam: the DRA has received all the information they need from the precinct, school district and Town; our estimated municipal tax rate is \$6.72. I have broken it down; \$500,000 from the unassigned balance it would drop it to \$6.57; \$1,000,000 would drop to \$6.42. The unassigned fund balance as of 12/31/15 is \$6,991,520; there was a warrant article #31 for \$5,000, which would bring down to \$6,986,520. Our current fund balance is at 11.5%, we are over the 10% but below the 17% balance; if you removed \$500,000, it brings the fund balance down to \$6,486,520 still above the 10%; remove \$1,000,000 brings you down to \$5,986,520 brings you just below the 10%, but well above 8%. This item does need to have action taken before the tax rate can be set; provided breakdown of average family home in 2015 was \$330,402, so the tax rate was \$7.91, so the tax bill average was \$2,613.48. The 2016 average revaluation for a home was \$377,800, tax rate of \$6.72, the bill would be \$2,538.82, so around an \$80 less difference.

Town Manager Welch: I would recommend that the Board consider placing \$1,000,000 from the fund balance to reduce the tax rate.

Selectman Bean: I would concur with Mr. Welch; extraordinary success in valuations here, people still are working hard, it is a working class community and they should be able to enjoy the fruits of their labor, it is their money; I endorse Mr. Welch's professional assertion.

Selectman Waddell: you get the figures of the Unassigned Fund Balance from whom. Ms. Pulliam: the Auditors.

Selectman Waddell: the Auditors know what they are talking about; and when you say 8%, 10% or 17%, those suggested percent's are from whom. Ms. Pulliam: yes, I believe they do, and from DRA.

Selectman Waddell: they suggest what minimum. Ms. Pulliam: 5%, which would be a fund balance of \$3,028,915, we would be almost double that.

Selectman Waddell: so even if we take the \$1,000,000, we are still in very good financial shape. Ms. Pulliam: yes.

Selectman Waddell: I support Mr. Bean's motion and second by Mr. Griffin.

Selectman Barnes: I also support the motion and would argue that auditor's do know what they are talking about.

Selectman Bean MOTIONED to APPROVE removing \$1,000,000 from the Unassigned Fund Balance SECONDED by Selectman Griffin.

VOTE: 5-0-0

Ms. Pulliam: hopefully, we will have a tax rate prior to the end of the week; the tax collector will have the tax bills out by November 1, 2016 and due by December 1, 2016.

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Chairman Bridle: we have had a certain few residents that have called and sent emails on that; also had a few residents that have called and one was mentioned tonight about the budget being on line. However, it is our working budget right now and until we approve that, it is still just a working document; we do not want to confuse people, as it happened last year. When we are done with it, we will get it to the Budget Committee, just as soon as we can so they can start working on it.

Selectman Waddell: just as long as Max knows that is estimated tax. Ms. Pulliam: yes, I tried to say estimated many times.

XI. Old Business (1:34:39)

Selectman Griffin: this weekend I went to the mountains/lake region, and was amazed how many building are derelict and have been just left to go; Hampton is paradise compared to it. It must be that the Town has gotten them back; is that what would happen Mr. Welch to derelict properties like that.

Town Manager Welch: usually Towns do not want them, as they would have to tear them down, which would increase taxes; they wait for somebody to step in and buy them to rebuild something.

Selectman Griffin: it is not just in one area; Laconia looks like a movie set for a Hitchcock movie; everything is for rent and for sale; it makes you happy that you live in southern NH.

Selectman Bean: Mr. Silberdick's performance and the contrast between the excellence for returns and last week we heard about another substantial increase for our NH Retirement system for our employees; the NH Retirement System announced that on the 14th they achieved a return of 1%; the investment committee took August off; seems they should meet more often. They could enjoy some of the fruits that Mr. Silberdick provides us for this Town; he is averaging almost 13%. I do not know who is running the ship up there, but only a 1% in record setting levels, somebody should be fired; some light needs to be shed on it; with the substantial increases we see; \$5,000,000 under-funded; perhaps have a dialogue with those people.

Chairman Bridle: next week we are busy, but the week following we could bring it back up and see if the Finance Director can get more information on it.

Selectman Bean: I will work with Finance and Mr. Welch

XII. New Business (1:40:45)

1. 30 Mile Speed Limit
 - a. Timber Swamp Road
 - b. Towle Farm Road

Town Manager Welch: it was brought to my attention that those roads do not have uniform speed limits; normally we would post for 30 MPH, since they are interconnected roads.

Chairman Bridle: I understand this was brought up with the meetings the Police Chief had, that Timber Swamp Road was at 35 MPH and Towle Farm was at 30 MPH.

Selectman Waddell MOTIONED to APPROVE the 30-Mile Speed Limit on both Timber Swamp Road and Towle Farm Road SECONDED by Selectman Griffin.

VOTE: 5-0-0

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1. ATM - Town Offices (1:41:58)

Town Manager Welch: there was a request from the Town Clerk's office to put in an ATM upstairs. She went out and picked up many items from different vendors and I would suggest we take the one that offers \$1.00 transaction to the Town, which was the highest we could find. All the wiring and email link is done, just need to plug in and connect; have the company to come in and install; it is Atlantic Capital Group.

Selectman Waddell: is that something that has to go out to bid. Town Manager Welch: no, it is really a financial matter; we did go to three separate vendors and picked the one that gave us the highest amount of money; it is more a convenience for our residents.

Chairman Bridle: this company takes on the liability and responsibility of maintaining and filling the machine. Town Manager Welch: we are trying to find a way to eliminate credit cards in other departments, as we are spending \$1,000 per month in fees for Recreation and the Transfer Station, which comes out of Town taxes to accept credit cards at those locations

Selectman Griffin MOTIONED to APPROVE the ATM - Town Offices SECONDED by Selectman Barnes.

VOTE: 5-0-0

2. Printing of Annual Report – Country Press (1:45:35)

- a. Waive from Purchasing Policy and Purchasing Procedures §718-4.B (3); §718-3.A (1); §718-4.A (1)-(4)

Town Manager Welch: we have printed this annual report now with Country Press for 8 years and we have gone out to bid, but no one even comes close to meeting their costs; they are the lowest bid and lowest cost we can find and would like to continue to use them.

Selectman Griffin MOTIONED to APPROVE Waivers from the Purchasing Policy and Purchasing Procedures §718-4.B (3); §718-3.A (1); §718-4.A (1)-(4) for the printing of the Annual Report and award it to Country Press SECONDED by Selectman Barnes.

VOTE: 5-0-0

XIII. Closing Comments (1:46:51)

XIV. Adjournment (1:46:56)

Selectman Bean MOTIONED to ADJOURN at 8:42PM SECONDED by Selectman Waddell.

VOTE: 5-0-0

Respectfully submitted,

Chairman