

Town of Boscawen
 Advisory Budget Committee Public Hearing
 Boscawen Municipal Complex
 February 2, 2023 after 6:00pm

Present: Ed Cherian, Chair, Dale Randall, Gary Tillman, Rhoda Hardy, Peg Daneau, Lorrie Carey, Matthew Burdick, Paul Dickey, Katie Phelps, Kevin Wyman, Dean Hollins, Gary Moore, Nicole Hoyt, Kellee Jo Easler, Sarah Gerlack, Tim Kenney, Jason Killary, Kate Merrill, Bonny John, Kearsten O’Brien, and Shawn Brechtel.

Ed Cherian, Chair started the meeting at 6:18 pm.
 Roll Call completed by Finance Director Kate Merrill.

Mr. Tillman motioned to approve the 02.10.22 draft minutes as presented. Seconded by Peg Daneau. All in favor. None opposed.

Mr. Tillman motioned to approve the 01.19.23 draft minutes as amended. Seconded by Peg Daneau. All in favor. None opposed.

Chair Cherian explained how the meeting would be conducted and asked Select Board Chair Carey to give a recap from last week’s meeting of the proposed budget. Select Board Chair Carey stated that because they signed up with an aggregator they will be saving roughly about \$17,000 in energy costs. Also the 5% increase to the contribution to health insurance from employees will save the Town about \$ 25,000.

Acct #/Name	2023 Budget	Notable Changes for 2023 6% Cost of Living Adjustment
4130 Executive	\$209,822 – Increase of 10% or \$19,690.00	6% COLA Adjustments for all staff. Step increase for Town Administrator. Code Enforcement Officer salary increased 10% or \$500 due to 2022 actuals and projected need. Asst to the Administrator position decreased from 25% to 5% resulting in an \$8,666 decrease. Reduced Contracted Services & Agreements \$500. Computer Licenses, Software & Hardware has a proposed \$10,300 increase due to upgrading all computers to Microsoft 365 subscriptions. This also includes 11 Adobe Pro subscriptions. IT Labor increase of \$7,000 due to upgrades to software on all computers. Equipment Non-Computer increased to replace 2 Town Clerk printers in 2023. Office supplies increasing due to inflation.
4140 Town Clerk/Elections	\$104,376.00- Decrease of 2% or \$2,201.00	Decrease of 27% in overtime based on expected need. Moderator and Supervisors line decreased

		44% based on number of elections. TC Printing and Town Reports reduced 41% based on quote. Vital Records and Town Historian reduced.
4150 Financial Administration	\$104,604.00- Increase of 11% or \$10,675.00	Assistant line was added back in for a full year's salary. Position was not budgeted for total year as position was open for the beginning of the year. Meetings and Travel increased to allow for both staff members within the department to participate in trainings and events. Office supplies for department were broken out of Executive budget and put within the department. Increase in Miscellaneous expenses to account for employee & volunteer events.
4151 Tax Collector	\$82,884.00- Increase of 7% or \$5,652.00	Equipment and Software was decreased 9% based on current costs. Lien Expenses was reduced 31% based on 2022 actuals. Meetings and Travel was adjusted to ensure all employees in the department attend trainings.
4152 Assessing	\$95,450.00- Increase of 24% or \$18,208.00	Staffing Merit & labor distribution changes, moved mapping into Kiosk.
4153 Legal Expenses	\$52,000.00- Increase of 16% or \$7,000.00	Town Counsel increased by \$5,000 based upon 2022 actuals. There is a new expense line for legal book purchases/updates.
4155 Personnel Administration	\$1,106,757.00- Increase of 21% or \$188,635.00	6 % COLA and salary adjustments increased taxes, retirement, vacation buyouts and insurance budget lines. 11.7% increase in health insurance rates, employee contribution doubled. Plan changes and addition of employees also played a role in health insurance increase. New line in 2023 for employee dental insurance.
4191 Planning & Community Development	\$141,647.00- Increase of 4% or 5,367.00	Staffing Merit & labor distribution changes, 1 year holiday for Imtek due to 3-year contract, encumbered funds for 4191555 & Grant with InvestNH, normally \$7,500-10,000 for ZO & Planning.
4193 Agricultural Commission	\$1,700.00- No Change	No Change
4194 Town Buildings	\$224,557.00- Increase of 11% or \$21,630.00	The increase in the 2023 Facilities budget is due exclusively to a 77% increase in electricity delivery and 3.2% increase in natural gas. The department was able to offset some of this cost by reducing costs in wages, tax deeded properties and contracts and service agreements. As a note of interest, the 3 unused, unoccupied buildings, 1913 Library, Torrent Bldg. and Town Hall have a total 2023 maintenance budget of \$13,900. In addition, the 1913 Library

		had repair work done last year for an additional \$9,000, and the Torrent Bldg. had a new roof at a cost of \$32,000.
4195 Cemeteries	\$3,000.00- No Change	No Change
4196 Property Liability Insurance	\$50,706.00- Increase of 30% or \$11,685.00	9% overall increase from 2022. Shows as a 30% increase due to a decrease in our payment holiday amount to offset 2023.
4199 Other General Government	\$7,500.00 Increase- New budget item	Contingency will remain the same at \$33,000. New expense line per the CIP for a Commercial St Historical exhibit which will be add \$7,500 to the budget for 2023 and 2024.
4210 Police Department	\$781,172.00- Increase of \$16% or \$107,360.00	The Police Department added a new position in 2022 which was funded by ARPA money. The 2023 budget reflects a whole year's salary for this new position. Computer expenses increased due to the annual costs associated with body cameras and in-car technology.
4215 Ambulance	\$250,192.00- Increase of 8% or \$18,532.00	This reflects an 8% overall increase from last year. This increase is due to market adjustments to our pay scales and the Federal COLA of 8.7%.
4220 Fire Department	\$212,432.00- Increase of 1% or \$3,015.00	11% decrease to hose appliance maintenance as ARPA money was used to purchase equipment. 24% decrease to turnout gear as there is less to replace in 2023. Utilities are increased based on a 77% estimated increase for Unitil distribution. 100% increase in EMS expenses as \$500 was left off last year's budget by mistake. Money moved around in budget lines where needed that show increases and decreases.
4240 Life Safety Officer	\$3,100- Decrease of 14% or \$500.00	Decreased based on need
4290 Emergency Management	\$10,949.00- Decrease of 30% or \$4,625.00	Meetings and Travel line increased to budget for a recording secretary for meetings. Telephone budget line was removed. Emergency Operations Plan and Hazard Mitigation update paid for by grant funding.
4312 Highways & Streets	\$598,652.00- Decrease of .1% or \$702.00	Longevity increases, cola and step increases. Decrease in road resurfacing and offsetting the decrease with the one-time extra payout of the highway block grant funds from the State of NH
4316 Street Lighting	\$72,480.00- Increase of 77% or \$18,480.00	Increase in electric rate of 77%
4319 Other Highways & Streets	\$5,800.00- No change	No Change

4324 Solid Waste Disposal	\$262,423.00- Increase of 11% or \$26,570.00	Increase from \$74.70 to \$85.00 per ton for tipping fees
4325 Solid Waste Cleanup	\$17,000.00- Decrease of 26% or \$6,000.00	Decrease in Landfill Maintenance for the construction and demo landfill.
4329 Other Sanitation	\$90,420.00- Increase of 61% or \$34,420.00	Increased per Underwood Engineers sewer rate study and Select Board vote.
4410 Health Department	\$20,127.00- Increase of 124% or \$11,147.00	Staff Merit & labor distribution changes, health remediation added for corrective action by Board of Health for obligations to remedy public health issues
4441 Human Services Administration	\$74,824.00- Increase of 33% or \$18,448.00	The General Assistance line was increased in order to build back up the budget line that was decreased last year. The budget line was decreased in 2022 as it was funded by ARPA money. 2023 will reflect an increase to begin to bring the account back up to \$45,000 over the next two years.
4520 Parks & Recreation	\$34,581.00- Increase of 24% or \$6,581.00	COLA increases. KO removed stipend and added 10% of salary in the budget. 2023 Rates will remain \$150 per child and \$300 per family prior to May 15th annually. After May 15th Annually the rates will be \$ 200.00 per child and \$400.00 per family. There will be a \$ 5.00 T-Shirt Fee per camper.
4550 Public Library	\$107,856.00- Increase of 1% or \$1,253.00	Budget adjusted to show decrease in materials, dues, technology, and salaries. Increase due to estimated utility increase.
4583831 Old Home Day	\$7,000.00- Increase of 40% or \$2,000.00	Based on request made by the OHD committee.
4583803 Town Beautification	\$500.00- Decrease of 33% or \$250.00	Adjusted per Select Board vote.
4611 Conservation Commission	\$2,200.00- No Change	No Change
4651 Economic Development	\$2,250.00- No Change	No Change
4700 Debt Service	\$96,674.00- Decrease of 36% or \$96,674.00	Municipal Office Building bond expired in 2022. Budget line includes sewer bond that expires in 2031. Also includes a budget of \$2,000 for tax anticipation note interest as recommended by DRA, and an interest free loan for the insulation of the Municipal Office building for \$851.91 a month for 36 months.

Chair Cherian opened the Public Hearing at 6:38PM.

William Murphy of 131 King Street stated in looking at the budget is that the Town of Boscawen Government has disregarded any respect for the tax payers in preparing this budget. There is an excuse of inflation and the tax payers are feeling it too. Are the tax payers supposed to suck up the Town's inflation as well? There are some people who have to struggle and are at the tipping point

where they can't pay their taxes. Mr. Murphy suggested going back and taking out the calculators and getting the budget to a 4 to 5% increase, and then go back and look at all the warrant articles and get it down to \$200,000 to \$275,000.

Nathan Young of 2 Robin Street spoke against the proposed budget and agreed with Mr. Murphy and many people he spoke with. This last year was a hard year for everyone with oil going up, grocery, electric rates cost and more. Part of the reason he chose to live in Boscawen was because it had a good school system and was a place he could afford to live. He understands there are things that need to be done and he is not saying not to do them but to do them over a longer time period to be a more sustainable burden for the tax payers over the year. He agreed with Mr. Murphy that a 4 to 5% increase would be a more understandable increase. Double digits cannot happen and it is unsustainable.

Joyce Manning of 100 Elm Street Lot 37 spoke on behalf of the Woody Hollow Co-op. She stated the increase is astronomical. The US says the WTW increase should be around 4.6% increase, she said she is not pointing out any individuals because the workers do a fantastic job, but the numbers need to come down. Inflation has gone up 11% and making it hard for people to pay bills and choose to eat. The Town's sewer is going increase and the minimum is going to be at \$57.02. Please take into consideration the tax payers increases and what they can afford.

Ray Fisher of 200 Water Street spoke against the proposed budget. He stated we don't give out 6% raises, a 3% raise is pretty decent. We cannot afford a 6% increases for employees. We used to have a Town where you wore multiple hats. Why can't the Town go back to that? We have many new houses being built in Town and with that comes children and more money being contributed to the school district.

Bill Bevans of 416 High Street said that a quarter of a million dollars was encumbered. Did any money go back to the taxpayers? Select Board Chair Carey said she did not have the number at this moment but any money that is left over at the end of the year goes back to the taxpayers. Mr. Bevans said according to the Public Hearing notice to replace a septic system there was \$899,000 not encumbered. Town Administrator Phelps said that was the unassigned fund balance and that was as of fall 2022 during tax rate setting. Mr. Bevans asked Tax Collector Hoyt about the 4.6 million dollars in taxes and if it was true? Tax Collector Hoyt said if that is what is in the minutes from that meeting it would be correct. Mr. Bevans said to look at the budget it says you only raised 3.4 million. Chair Cherian said that is the actuals are for 2022 and 2023 is projected. Mr. Bevans wants to know the difference. Tax Collector Hoyt stated that the 4.6 million could be for all warrants such as timber, taxes, and sewer bills. Mr. Bevans said there should not be a problem cutting \$100,000 out of the proposed budget.

Mike Fisher of 4 Circle Drive stated he wanted to thank the Town for moving the Town voting during the day to the Public Library and not having it at the School to take away from the kids. Mr. Fisher stated he is fortunate that he budgeted for increases to come this coming year. It hurts to see the people on the fixed incomes not being able to afford things because he will be on a fixed income one day. The County taxes are down, State education is down, local education is down, and municipal budget is up. We do not take care of our residents and we need to look at what we are spending.

Bob Marchand of 252 Queen Street said he was amazed that even with his Veteran's credit his taxes went up \$750. Now he hears that the Veteran's Credit is on the chopping block at Town Meeting. People who are living paycheck to paycheck cannot afford the taxes. Select Board Chair Carey stated that there was a legislative change and every Town and City in New Hampshire will need to readopt the credit in order for it to remain at the \$500.00 amount rather than reverting to \$50.00, there is no inclination from this Town to go down to the \$50.00. Mr. Marchand said thank you for the clarification.

Fred Reagan of 44 Academy Street stated that he agreed with Mr. Murphy. Mr. Reagan asked what the story was with street lighting. Select Board Chair Carey said it is the increase in electricity to pay for the lighting. Why are we cutting Town Beautification? Select Board Chair Carey said that Ms. Towle has asked the Town not to pay her for beautification and she donates a lot to the Town. Mr. Reagan said it should be increased there is more to beautify than just King Street. Mr. Reagan said the budget is too high and the town will not be able to point to the School District much longer. We get Police, Fire, and Road Work, and administrative services in total that is not much for services.

Sean Skabo of 44 Goodhue Road used to be on the Budget Committee as the Chair. When he was on the Committee they made sure the budget never went above 3 to 3.5%. He believed everyone gets a raise at 3%. 4.6% is the average for America and you are asking 8% and 13%. You are hurting people and driving people out of Town. If you don't lower the budget people will vote it down. Chair Cherian said they do not create the budget the Select Board creates the budget. All the Budget Committee does is recommend or not recommend the budget. Mr. Skabo asked what the committee is looking at doing. Chair Cherian said they will deliberate after the public hearing, but his views are that there is nothing gold plated but we cannot do this all at once. Ms. Daneau said please review the last set of minutes from the Budget Meeting because they asked a tremendous amount of questions last meeting and it may help clarify reasons behind the proposed budget.

Scott Maltzie of 57 Chandler Street, thanked the Budget Committee, employees, and the Select Board for their hard work and did not want anyone leaving tonight thinking the Town's People don't appreciate the hard work you all put in. One of the reasons he moved here was because the taxes were substantially lower than most towns. He has lived here for 24 years, his taxes have doubled and doubled again and the doubling should have happened at his 29th year in town after doing some math. We do need to sharpen our pencils and figure out ways to manage our money and find savings in some places.

Beverly Drouin of 19 Tremont Street stated she felt the points made tonight are valid and articulate. Looking at the demographics of Boscawen there are only 1800 people in Boscawen working and the median average household income in Boscawen is \$80,000. We are a serious blue collar community. She feels like the proposed budget set forth is like a teenager with a credit card gone wild. None of us would set our house hold budgets like that. Warrant Article 7 should be broken down separately for the capital reserves. The third point is that the people in the library can barely hear or see you on the screen. This meeting should have been held on a weekend in the Town Hall.

Most are unable to come because they do not have child care or because it is a work evening. This budget cannot be passed the way it is.

Jim Porter of 255 Daniel Webster Highway stated he's lived in Town for 30 years, he had to get a part time job and only 100 gallons of oil instead of filling it, combined with the added taxes. The taxes need to come down.

Angela Fellers 266 Queen Street stated the tax bill increasing is concerning. If you go to the budgets and look at Town Administrator 7%, Code Enforcement Officer 10%, Town Clerk 10%, Administrative Assistant 8% increase, Assistant to the Town Clerk 16% increase, and the list continues. When you look at the tax payers increases is 3 to 4% increase if the Town's workers are getting 8% increases how do you justify that to the Tax Payers. Select Board Chair Carey said you are looking at positions not people. Those percentages are based off of the amount of work they may be doing in those departments and may have more than one job title which falls under other departments. There was also employees who had a longevity correction due to some oversight and those employees went many years without that increase. It is very complicated when employees take on different positions and we need to figure out a better way to communicate that to the tax payers. Ms. Fellers said this budget needs to come down. She wanted to know why the cost was shared for the sewer project when many do not have that service provide to them. Select Board Chair Carey said the wastewater plant is in Concord and we do not have control over that. The Town of Boscawen has a lot of storm water going into the sewer system and to the waste water plant and being treated. That is where the Town as a whole is needing to contribute to fix the storm water from infiltrating the sewer lines and heading to the waste water treatment.

Mr. Bevans stated he had a whole bunch of stuff that could be pulled out. The Budget Committee used to be able to decrease the budget line by line. The supplies in the general office should be looked at. Why is there a lot of encumbering and then raising the money? Chair Cherian said encumbering the funds allows for the money to be set aside for a specific purpose to be used the following year and can only be used for that purpose. Mr. Bevans asked why the taxpayers can't have any money back. I don't know that we need to have a Christmas party for Town Employee's at \$2,500. That's about \$4.00 that could go back to tax payers to buy a half a dozen eggs.

Ms. Manning asked why the Town hasn't gone for any grants like Woody Hollow did for their sewer project. Town Administrator Phelps said they are looking into grants for the proposed sewer replacement project but having Town Meeting approval puts the Town in a better position for the grants. They are looking into Rural Development, CDBG and DES.

Loren Martin of 225 Water Street noted that some of the things that she heard tonight from the tax payers is that the sewer project isn't going to benefit everyone. Has the Town looked into RSA 52: A and devising a special assessment district where the people receiving the service pay for the service. Town Administrator Phelps said she has not looked into it. Select Board Chair Carey said no because most of the people would not be able to afford it. Mrs. Martin said looking at the percent increases the Select Board agreed to a 6% COLA increase along with merit and longevity. Its real numbers and not just numbers on a page. Everyone should be put under one budget under personnel to be able to see and digest the salaries and understand.

Mr. Ray Fisher would like to know why the offices are not open to the public on Friday. Selectman Dickey said he asked a year ago why they couldn't open the offices to the public on Friday's and he was told that it would be a lot of work and they would not have the opportunity to have a catch up day and get clerical items resolved. Select Board Chair Carey said the public still has access to the employees on Fridays they can be reached by email, phone, tax kiosk, and the car registration kiosk. Mr. Fisher said that does not work and they should look into working again on Fridays for the public.

Mr. Maltzie asked about the sewer project many years back for a sewer bond. Select Board Chair Carey said that is correct the sewer project has been done in phases. We are at the point of a potential catastrophe now with tree roots growing into our sewer lines.

Mr. Young stated it is wrong that the Town's people have to go to all of these meetings to babysit the people they elected and entrusted with doing the right things for the Town. That is why he attended the meeting tonight to voice his concerns and in hopes that they will do what's right and lower the budget.

Select Board Chair Carey said things such as the tax credits and exemptions, along with current use and untaxable properties are put on the shoulders of the tax payers who do not receive those things. The credits are at \$87,000 the Exemptions are at almost a million dollars, there are about 10,000 acres in current uses and about \$78 million dollars in untaxable properties. We are working on PILOT agreements with nonprofits. We are thankful for the Town's people who do not have those credits and exemptions and are happy for increasing those credits for those people who are able to receive them.

Chair Cherian closed the public hearing at 7:56pm.

Select Board Chair Carey said she is wondering if there were any Department Heads that would be willing to go back and relook at their budgets. Chair Cherian said that they are looking at the proposed budget unless there is time to move the meeting and then schedule another public hearing. Select Board Chair Carey said what about moving the Public Hearing to a date certain so it would not have to be re noticed. Chair Cherian said it could not be moved to a date certain because the Public Hearing was already closed. Chair Cherian asked if there was enough time to notice another public hearing. Town Clerk Hoyt said we do not have enough time to notice the public hearing because then we would not meet the statutory time requirements to have a Town Report for Town Meeting. Selectman Burdick stated he is still fairly new but when they preliminary approved the budget to be sent to the Budget Committee he thought it was to get thoughts and opinions from the committee on what should be removed or modified. Chair Cherian said this is not an elected Budget Committee. They do not go line by line and take out and create the budget and modify it that is what the Select Board does. The Budget Committee can give their thoughts on if they agree with the proposed budget or not. The committee gave their input that it was too high and needed to come down prior to the public hearing. Selectman Dickey asked Town Clerk Hoyt when she would need the budgets by for the Town Report. Town Clerk Hoyt said there are many things that need to be done after the budget gets approved. At the least she would need to have them by president's day which is pushing it. Chair Cherian said he does not see it working out to have it by the deadline. Mrs. Hardy asked if they could add an addendum to the Town Report showing the

adjusted budget. Select Board Chair Carey said she does not see why not that's something they have done in the past with other items. Town Administrator Phelps asked if the Select Board could vote to amend the budget at Town Meeting. Select Board Chair Carey said yes but it would be cleaner to make the amendments prior. Chair Cherian said the only choice at this point is to have the committee deliberate on what is in front of them currently. He said to have the revised budget ready for Town Meeting and let the Budget Committee members look at it ahead of time because they may speak up at Town Meeting and say that they were against the proposed budget before but with the changes the Select Board made they could be in favor of the revised budget.

Mr. Randall made a motion to not recommend Article 6 to approve the proposed 2023 budget. Seconded by Mr. Tillman. Roll call vote: Mr. Tillman- Yes, Mr. Randall – Yes, Chair Cherian- Yes, Ms. Daneau- Yes, Mrs. Hardy- No motion passes 4-1

Ms. Daneau said it is very evident tonight that the Towns people would not go for the budget proposed tonight and she is happy the Budget Committee will not be recommending the proposed budget.

Chair Cherian asked what the annual bond payments would be for the sewer project. Town Administrator Phelps said we do not have the sources of revenue yet to know what the offsets would be. Chair Cherian suggested having some sort of payment number to show residents some sort of figure even though we may receive money through grants to offset. TA Phelps will work on that. Mr. Randall asked if there was a way to calculate to some degree how much we would save from fixing the infiltration of water. Select Board Chair Carey said it is in the Underwood Engineer report. Town Clerk Hoyt said it is over 60% that is rain water.

Mr. Tillman motioned to recommend Article 5 for the Sewer Project. Seconded by Mr. Randall. Roll call vote; Mr. Tillman- Yes, Mr. Randall- Yes, Chair Cherian- Yes, Ms. Daneau- Yes, Mrs. Hardy- Yes. Motion passes to a 5-0 vote.

Ms. Daneau asked if it was possible to do individual articles for the Capital Reserves. Town Administrator Phelps said she would have to check with DRA but doesn't think so. Chair Cherian said that the amounts are extremely high and is doubled since last year, this is one we cannot do all in one year. Mrs. Hardy asked about the Fire Department and if this was a new proposal because the study found that there were big items to be fixed in the Fire Department. Fire Chief Kenney said it is to build up a fund to make repairs or add an addition in the future. With \$100,000 we would still be behind the eight ball to get the department to where it needs to be. The proposed fire department rebuild would have cost around eight million dollars. Ms. Daneau asked if this was the first year for the contribution. Fire Chief Kenney said no it is not the first year for the contribution but it would be for the first year to add \$100,000 into the capital reserve. Fire Chief Kenney said there was money being put away for engineering costs and now it is proposed to repurpose the CRF for the Fire Station to allow for the repairs, addition, and in case there needs to be another engineering study. Ms. Daneau asked if the bottom line contributed to the capital reserves be amended at Town Meeting. Select Board Chair Carey said yes. Mrs. Hardy asked if the cruiser contribution could go down. Chief Wyman said to get a cruiser fully equipped to what they need to meet the Police standards is \$65,000. Mrs. Hardy asked if the contributions to capping the landfill could be brought down from \$40,000.

Public Works Director Hollins said two years ago it cost a little over a million dollars to cap it and the only income coming in is the tipping fees coming across the scale. There is not enough money to cover engineering design for the cap with the little bit of money that is in the reserves. At some point DES is going to come in and say your C&D Landfill is closed we need the design for the cap. Ms. Daneau asked if there were any grants that could help with offsetting the contributions. Public Works Director said every year Underwood Engineers puts in for it and they do not receive it. It is very much like the sewer project, unless you have the money and it is voted forward at Town Meeting it puts us in a hard spot for grants. Mrs. Hardy said it does not seem wise to cut it in half she would suggest only cutting it \$150,000.

Mr. Tillman motioned to recommend Article 7 contributions to the Capital Reserve Fund. No second motion.

Mr. Randall motioned to not recommend Article 7 contributions to the Capital Reserves previously established. Seconded by Ms. Daneau. Roll call vote; Mr. Tillman- No, Mr. Randall- Yes, Chair Cherian- Yes, Ms. Daneau- Yes, Mrs. Hardy- Yes. Motion passes 4-1 vote.

Ms. Daneau asked if Article 8 was created in regards to the state roundabout project on King Street. Select Board Chair Carey said yes it has to do with the King Street Corridor Project. Central New Hampshire Regional Planning Commission made a recommendation to start saving for the project in order to have funds available for things the State would not cover. CNHRPC recommended to save about \$300,000.

Mrs. Hardy motioned to recommend Article 8 to create and allocate money for the King Street Improvements. Seconded by Ms. Daneau. Roll call vote; Mr. Tillman- Yes, Mr. Randall- Yes, Chair Cherian- No, Ms. Daneau- Yes, Mrs. Hardy- Yes. Motion passes to a 4-1 vote.

Mr. Tillman motioned to recommend Article 9 for the creation of a Parks and Recreation Capital Reserve. Seconded by Chair Cherian. Roll call vote; Mr. Tillman- Yes, Mr. Randall- Yes, Chair Cherian- Yes, Ms. Daneau- Yes, Mrs. Hardy- Yes. Motion passes to a 5-0 vote.

Ms. Daneau asked if the Municipal Transportation tax would come back to the Town or would it go to the State. Town Clerk Hoyt said it would come back to the Town. Mrs. Hardy said this would allow for any road maintenance to be paid out of the Municipal Transportation Tax fund. Chair Cherian asked why it needed to be a Capital Reserve Fund. PCD Director Easler stated that is how the state statute reads. Select Board Chair Carey said it is segregated for a specific purpose.

Mr. Randall motioned to recommend Article 10 to adopt RSA 261:153 VI. Seconded by Ms. Daneau. Roll call vote; Mr. Tillman- No, Mr. Randall- Yes, Chair Cherian-No, Ms. Daneau- Yes, Mrs. Hardy- Yes. Motion passes to a 3-2 vote.

Selectman Burdick said if Article 17 passes then 18 would be null in void. Chairwoman Carey said if we could sell some of the properties it will help offset costs and would no longer be something the Town would have to keep up with the maintenance for an unused building. If there is no sale

and no study “no means no” and work can’t be done. If the study is done then we could have a dollar amount to bring to next year’s Town meeting to see if the tax payers want to spend the money to fix the issues at Town Hall.

Mr. Tillman motioned to not recommend Article 18 to complete the Town Hall Assessment. Seconded by Mr. Randall. Roll call vote; Mr. Tillman- Yes, Mr. Randall- Yes, Chair Cherian- Yes, Ms. Daneau- Yes, Mrs. Hardy- Yes. Motion passes to a 5-0 vote.

Mr. Tillman motioned to recommend Article 22 to establish the Contingency Fund. Seconded by Chair Cherian. Roll call vote; Mr. Tillman- Yes, Mr. Randall- Yes, Chair Cherian- Yes, Ms. Daneau- Yes, Mrs. Hardy- Yes. Motion passes to a 5-0 vote.

Mr. Tillman motioned to recommend Article 23 to contribute to Court Appointed Special Advocates. Seconded by Mr. Randall. Roll call vote; Mr. Tillman- Yes, Mr. Randall- Yes, Chair Cherian- Yes, Ms. Daneau- Yes, Mrs. Hardy- Yes. Motion passes to a 5-0 vote.

Mr. Tillman motioned to recommend Article 24 to contribute to the American Red Cross. Seconded by Mr. Randall. Roll call vote; Mr. Tillman- Yes, Mr. Randall- Yes, Chair Cherian- Yes, Ms. Daneau- Yes, Mrs. Hardy- Yes. Motion passes to a 5-0 vote.

Mrs. Hardy motioned to recommend Article 25 to contribute to Community Action Program. Seconded by Mr. Randall. Roll call vote; Mr. Tillman- Yes, Mr. Randall- Yes, Chair Cherian- Yes, Ms. Daneau- Yes, Mrs. Hardy- Yes. Motion passes to a 5-0 vote.

Mr. Tillman motioned to recommend Article 26 to contribute to the Boscawen Historical Society. Seconded by Ms. Daneau. Roll call vote; Mr. Tillman- Yes, Mr. Randall- Yes, Chair Cherian- No, Ms. Daneau- Yes, Mrs. Hardy- Yes. Motion passes to a 4-1 vote.

A motion to adjourn at 9:13 pm was made by Mr. Randall, seconded by Mr. Tillman, and passed by a unanimous vote.

Respectfully submitted by Kearsten O’Brien