

Budget Committee Public Meeting
Boscawen Municipal Complex
January 24, 2018 at 6 p.m.

Present: Alan H. Hardy, Mark E. Varney, Roger W. Sanborn, Edward J. Cherian Jr., Katie Phelps, Paula Dill, Kevin Wyman, Ray Fisher, Dean Hollins, Nicole Hoyt, Sherlene (Doddy) Fisher, Bruce Crawford, Brian Fleury, Rhoda Hardy, Barbara Randall, Gail Egounis, Kellee Jo Easler, Sarah Gerlack.

Barbara Randall opened the meeting. She has been temporarily appointed by the Select Board to find new members.

Meeting began at 6:04 pm. Roll call completed. Mark Varney noted the Minutes would be done by recording.

Nomination of Chair: Barbara Randall was nominated to be Chair by Rhoda Hardy, seconded by Doddy Fisher and passed by a unanimous vote.

Bruce Crawford was appointed as a voting member. He is an alternate.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT

Executive: Alan Hardy presented. The town now have a single Administrator. This salary comes solely out of the #4130 account.

Last year we kept a separate account for donations used for loss of a family member. Any draft would be approved by the Selectmen. The Selectmen's salary is on line 111. Administrator's salary is shown on the #112 line. There is a handout of the staffing in this building and how the responsibilities are broken up. In many cases a single staff member may have 2 to 3 responsibilities. The break down is in 2 separate accounts. The overtime account is there for hourly personnel. The contracted services and agreements are in most cases related to this building. That is where we put services and agreements with subcontractors. #332 is software services and hardware, but not in the IT capital budget. Typically that is upgrades in software, etc. The contractual computer maintenance is purely maintenance of computer systems, town wide. This doesn't apply if there is a specialized project. #335 is dues and subscriptions i.e. NHMA. We have a budget for non-computer equipment i.e. fireproof storage cabinets. #338 account is maintenance that is non-computer related maintenance hours. For example, work on the large format shredder. Telephone expenses directly associated with departments, also includes Metel, which is their monthly service for telephone access and lines. Along with his cell phone in that group. Meeting, travels and training we have kept the same. Office supplies, postage and advertising. Advertising is not quite what it sounds like, but advertising for executive is for public notice. We are required by law to find a general circulation paper to put notices in.

45 Gail Egounis asked if the overtime is for the only person that is not salary; the Administrative
46 Assistant. Alan Hardy said it is for two people; the Administrative Assistant and the Assistant to
47 the Administrator. Those two positions are hourly.

48
49 **Legal expenses:** These are broken into two separate accounts: General Legal for all departments
50 except Police Department and litigation. We utilize the services of Town Counsel and legislative
51 services available to use through NHMA as a member. A lot of time NHMA is helpful but they
52 do tell us Town Counsel is final word.

53
54 The second legal is just for litigation. We do have a constitutional challenge which is more difficult
55 for the town, because almost always the court will look at it. And eventually that can find its way
56 up to the Supreme Court. We have one now in Supreme Court over the necessity to pay taxes and
57 what form money takes. Those are issues that over time get very expensive.

58
59 Gail Egounis questioned the Supreme Court issue. Years ago she spoke to Dan St.Hilaire who
60 was the county attorney at that point and asked if someone was taking a totally frivolous lawsuit
61 against the town why the town has to pay the legal fees. Hardy explained.

62
63 **Town Buildings:** Alan said that we have the buildings broken up into expense centers. The first
64 line, building janitorial, is essentially the municipal complex. We are trying to look at options for
65 the Town Hall. It is a facility that we really don't derive much income from. We now have a
66 situation where we have quite a few customers paying the full rental fee of \$150.00. We do have
67 a weekly renter paying \$500 a month. We should show an increase of rental income in the future.

68
69 The 1913 Library is stable with the repairs that have been completed. The roof is stabilized and
70 the inside ceiling is a lot better. The leak coming down the north wall and into the engraved wood
71 is now stabilize. The temperature is kept at 50 degrees in the winter time.

72
73 Town Hall, 14 High Street. Fire Station 15 High Street. The Fire station budget is part of the Fire
74 Department budget. Some other operational bills are kept in the Town Building budget so it is not
75 a burden on the Fire Department itself.

76
77 116 North Main Street. There has been money put aside to clean windows on an annual basis and
78 there is some money there to sand a room of hardwood floors. Maintenance is just for maintenance
79 materials for the building. To the best of my knowledge, there are only a few bulbs that are not
80 LED. The parking lot lighting is low output also. As you can see we reduced the budget for
81 utilities. I do not believe the budget will go down much more.

82
83 Torrent Station, 73 N. Main Street, is basically to keep the building stable. There isn't maintenance
84 money, just for the heat to be kept at 50 degrees as we do have the Model T fire truck being kept
85 there now.

86
87 Tax Deeded properties is necessary in case we sell those properties. Sometimes we get that money
88 back; but we do not know from year to year.

89

90 The next item is property liability insurance for the town. That is a number we get annually for
91 budget season. It went up from \$168.00. The contingency is required to be put up annually. The
92 balance of the contingency always comes from and returns to the general fund. It's there as a
93 protective measure and also appears on the warrant.

94
95 Gail Egounis asked about the deep cleaning. Is that in the town hall line? Alan Hardy said yes.

96
97 **Town Clerk:** Line 1 is the Town Clerk's salary which is the same as last year with a 3% COLA.
98 The Deputy is in there as well and 50% of her time is for clerk duties. Overtime is for the Deputy
99 Town Clerk, who is hourly. It is for elections and motor vehicle late hours on Thursdays.
100 Moderator and Supervisors was lowered a bit. Contracts and supplies now include the copy
101 machines in the kitchen which is primarily used for tax bills and sewer bills. 50% is coming out
102 of the Town Clerk's budget. Printing of town reports is kept the same. Meetings and travels will
103 be kept the same. It was low this year but it may be due to staff changes. The rest of the election
104 cost #620 is anything out of the moderators and supervisor's stipends. That is for coding of cards
105 that go into ballot machines. Vital statistics and dog licenses are fees we collect that are state
106 money. Vital records preservation is being kept the same. The \$5,000 usually is enough money
107 to do two books. Some of the historic records are falling apart.

108
109 Question: If Nicole Hoyt is the Town Clerk and Tax Collector does she receive both salaries?
110 Nicole Hoyt answered that she would be going forward. We have budgeted 2 separate people right
111 now, but if that's the case 50% will come from each account. That number is an unknown right
112 now as the Town Clerk is her own elected position.

113
114 **Administration:** Katie Phelps and Paula Dill. Treasurer and Deputy Treasurer salary. 2019 is
115 \$15,000 and the Deputy Treasurer, who is Cheryl Mitchell, and budgeted at \$7,500. Katie Phelps:
116 Line 112 is the Finance Director's salaries is up 8% which is because she went from hourly to
117 salary. This includes a 3% cola. Accounting Clerk salary line #114; that position has been
118 eliminated from her budget. Line #120 is overtime for her department which has been decreased
119 as she is salary and there is no longer an hourly position in her department. Line 310 is annual
120 audit services which decreased 27%. The annual audit is \$14,000. #303 is payroll service, which
121 includes weekly processing, checks and tax documents. No change this year. #332 is equipment
122 and software which remains the same. #571 is travel and meeting and will remain the same. New
123 account #572 which is for mobile phones for the town and is \$500 for the year.

124
125 Barbara Randall spoke. She noted that the Treasurer salary went up considerably. Paula Dill
126 spoke and said when she was offered the position it was much less than it is now for
127 responsibilities. She went through her job duties as it stands now. Barbara Randall asked how
128 many hours more it is than what was originally offered. Paula Dill said it went from once a week
129 for 1 or 2 hours and morphed into many more hours. We are asking for minimal salary compared
130 to others in this position elsewhere.

131
132 **Tax Collector:** Nicole Hoyt presented. The salary is the same with a 3% COLA. The Deputy
133 changed slightly as her time has been used differently. Overtime is for herself or Sarah. Tax
134 equipment and software is now where the copy machine is which does the tax bills and sewer bills.
135 50% of the contractor comes out of this account and 50% comes out of Administration. This

136 includes the paper for the tax bills, which is purchased through Avitar. #334 is tax lien expenses
137 and deed expenses. This is for recording liens and lien releases. They are the company that does
138 their mortgage searches. #571 meetings and travel is being kept the same. #572, tax deeded
139 property which was moved from building to this section as it relates to the Tax Collector.

140
141 **Personnel:** Katie Phelps presented the Personnel budget. #110 is Human Resources salary is up
142 8% and has a 3% COLA. #115 is Overtime which is decreased 100% as she is salary now. #120
143 is Health Insurance, which includes the cost of single, family and retiree plans. This is up 17% for
144 2019. 10.5% is the health insurance increase. #121 is employee health insurance. Public Works
145 is down 2 full time people. #122 is drug testing. #215 is life insurance and is up for 22 full time
146 employees. #220 is Social Security based on salary. #222 is unemployment insurance. The total
147 premium due for 2019 is \$1,168.17. #224 is workers compensation insurance which has gone
148 down to \$13,064.99. Total due is \$14,701.01. #225 is Medicare requirement. #230 is retirement
149 benefits for employees which is up 7%. Midyear change in the rate. Policies and procedures
150 unchanged. #571 is meetings and travels which is unchanged at \$500.00. #572 is a new account
151 for this year for background checks for volunteers and staff; \$1,000. And #574 is a new program
152 in Personnel which is for exempt vacation buyout. \$6,514.00 which includes 1 week salary for
153 each individual. #800 is miscellaneous and is unchanged at \$1,500.00.

154
155 Gail Egounis asked why the life insurance line went up. Katie Phelps said previously it was for
156 \$50,000 life insurance for exempt employees but now it is for all employees. Gail Egounis asked
157 about premium holidays; do they anticipate doing that going forward. Katie Phelps found out late
158 that they were doing Premium holidays. Gail Egounis asked who the health insurance carrier is.
159 Katie Phelps answered Health Trust.

160
161 Doddy Fisher asked who does the background checks. Katie Phelps said she does. She goes to
162 the State of NH State Police. Gail Egounis asked what they charge. Katie Phelps said \$25.00.

163
164 **Planning & Community Development:** Kellee Easler presented. Assessing #113 is her
165 assessing salary which went down 10% and part time employee shows up under #114. #312 is for
166 the assessing services contractor. #1313 is software support with Avitar. #1315 is for the assessing
167 kiosk. #316 is a new line item and it's for the Intents to Cut. Their town Forester is now reviewing
168 and recommending and meeting with property owner. It's something that helps when we are doing
169 reports.

170
171 **Planning & Development:** Kellee Easler presented. #110 is 80% of her time. #111 is for the
172 part time assistant we hired at 40%. #112 is recording secretaries. That went up because we are
173 now utilizing outside sources instead of in house people. #113 is moved from 50% employee to
174 100%. We took her out of her other section. Her full time position is there. #120 is overtime
175 which decreased as she is salary. #332 is increased due to actuals. #540 is expense to be paid
176 from the income account when applicants come in. Land use advertising is public advertisement.
177 #550 is map bundle which includes \$745 for mapping software. #551 is town cell phone. #552 is
178 Central NH which increased due to actuals. #554 is code manual updates and those went down a
179 bit. Land Use regulation #555 is increased as we are increasing site plan, subdivision, and zoning
180 ordinance into one document and master plan updates. #571 meetings and travels decreased. #572
181 is office service agreements; copier, etc. #610 is general office equipment and is staying the same.

182
183 Gail Egounis questioned telephones. Do they all have separate town phones? Kellee Easler said
184 she does. Gail Egounis asked if they all have 2 phones. Kellee Easler said yes. Katie Phelps said
185 it was to help if their personal phones were subpoenaed. Gail Egounis asked about the increase
186 cost for the new copier. Are they encumbering at the end of the year? Kellee Easler said yes.

187
188 AGComm: Kellee Jo Easler presented. Administration is staying the same. The community
189 garden is staying the same. Physical Improvements is staying the same; \$300. Conservation
190 Commission – Professional Services staying the same at \$400.00. Mapping and research staying
191 the same. Dues and fees are staying the same; \$700. Meetings and travels staying the same at
192 \$200. Education is staying the same at \$400. Conservation Commission supplies are staying the
193 same.

194
195 Gail Egounis noted that conservation has not been spent in years. Alan Hardy spoke. A lot of the
196 work we've been doing over the past couple of years is in the Town Forest so the operating
197 accounts for the town forest are through those accounts. Gail Egounis asked what was in the Town
198 Forest account. Katie Phelps reported that we had a little over \$30,000. Alan Hardy said we had
199 proceeds in that account for the last cut. Ed Cherian spoke. The Town Forest has \$37,000 in it
200 right now. They are well funded due to land use change tax as well as from forest cuts. Gail
201 Egounis asked if they are looking at any properties. Ed Cherian reported on what the Commission
202 is looking at for new properties. Gail Egounis stated that purchases may be well into \$100,000
203 and they may need to come to the town with a Warrant Article. Ed Cherian stated that he felt that
204 they would come up with their own funds.

205
206 **Health Department:** Kellee Jo Easler presented. Her job moved from hourly to salary and is
207 10%. Katie Phelps is her deputy. #571 is meetings and travels and has decreased. Office supplies
208 stayed the same. Pest and dog control stayed the same. #4415 is not on there. Katie stated there
209 will be no warrant articles for that this year.

210
211 **Police Department:** Kevin Wyman presented. Salaries will have a COLA. The chief will have
212 5% on top of the COLA for a merit. The Lieutenant position is increased due to longevity plus
213 3% COLA. There is a decrease in #114 as an officer left to go to Concord. #116 is increased a
214 little due to longevity and won't take effect until October. #117 increased due to salary increase
215 last year. Overtime is the same. Holiday pay stays the same. Legal is for pay out to the Merrimack
216 County attorney's office for court help and computer expenses has been decreased. They
217 encumbered it last year. Telephone is decreased due to a new contract with Verizon. Uniforms
218 were the same. Office expenses stay the same. Training stays the same. Dispatch is decreased.
219 Fuel – we have been running full staff for 3 years but looking at the history, they decreased.
220 Maintenance stays the same.

221
222 Gail Egounis asked if dispatch was a contract. Kevin stated it was.

223
224 **Fire Department:** Ray Fisher presented. #110 operating salaries. That went to \$130,000 up 37%
225 per the Board of Selectmen. Fire Fighters insurance is \$10,000. Radio maintenance stayed the
226 same at \$4,000. Maintenance at \$1,500 same as last year. Turnout gear is at \$5,500 same as last
227 year. SEBA maintenance \$3,500, same as last year. Most of that is testing. Utilities \$12,000

228 same as last year. Dispatch and dues is \$30,211. Computers and software went to \$5,000 which
229 is down \$1000. Fire Department training and forest fires \$5,000. We didn't use that in fighting
230 forest fires this year. He bought something else under that line item. We bought a new exhaust
231 system that we put in the new station. Fire Department equipment \$12,000 which is down \$1,000.

232
233 **Life Safety:** Salary is \$7,653.00 which is up by 3% COLA. Meetings and travel stayed the same.
234 Office supplies stayed the same.

235
236 Gail Egounis – Fire Department equipment was budgeted for \$13,000 and \$2,500 was spent. Was
237 that the SCBA's? Chief Fisher said yes. Did Capital Reserve stay the same? Chief Fisher stated
238 it stayed the same. Katie Phelps said it was the ventilation system as well. Gail Egounis asked
239 what prompted the decision to go with a 32 hour a week Fire Chief. Was it due to more calls,
240 paperwork falling to the wayside? Mark Varney stated that right now a lot of the reports that come
241 from the Fire Department are generated by Katie Phelps. They will now be done by the new Fire
242 Chief. There is a lot going on with Penacook Rescue, etc. We need to modernize. The Board of
243 Selectmen sat down and decided to go with a 32 hour position. Ed Cherian stated that he agreed
244 with what Mark Varney stated. Mark Varney noted that for several years Salisbury has not been
245 a contributor and going forward they will move forward with their own Warrant Article to
246 contribute. Gail Egounis stated that she feels it is a lot of money for a small town. Ed Cherian
247 stated that if we went to a municipal rescue service or municipal run rescue service it will be costly.

248
249 Rhoda Hardy noted that the reason the budget has been this low in large part is because Chief
250 Fisher has wanted to keep it this low. He's done a lot for the town. The fact that we're going from
251 last year's budget to this much more, is because it's long overdue.

252
253 Ed Cherian said that it's not just for the Chief, we have a stipend line in the budget for the
254 volunteers. Mark Varney, said Chief Fisher's initial salary line was \$95,000 and that is based on
255 26 fire fighters, one chief, one deputy, etc. and we figured the stipend out, based on how many
256 calls. We are budgeting for what the potential would be, not based on an unknown.

257
258 Chief Fisher noted that now we are going to pay the new chief out of that salary line and really the
259 budget that he has for the rest of the people hasn't changed. Mark Varney said we increased that
260 line.

261
262 **Emergency Management:** Shawn Brechtel is not here so Mark Varney spoke. #4290300 which
263 was the Director went up 3%. Emergency Management Deputy Director went up 3%. The
264 equipment stayed the same. Meetings and travel stayed the same. Vehicle maintenance went up
265 \$1,000.00. The Police Department Humvee is now an emergency management vehicle for the
266 town.

267
268 **Public Works:** Dean Hollins presented. Cemeteries #442 equipment maintenance is basically
269 lawn mower repairs, etc. and will remain the same. Highway and streets; the Public Works pay
270 scale; the Board agreed to raise the pay scale up 1 pay bracket of 5% plus 3% COLA. General
271 laborer is split between highway and solid waste so the remaining pay is in solid waste budget for
272 him. Overtime is the same. Utilities are the same. Uniforms and safety equipment is the same.
273 Salt remains the same. Based on the weather. Road signs – cost has gone up \$20 a sign to replace

274 them. Road resurfacing is decreased based on bid prices. Meetings and dues remains the same.
275 Road oil is the actual prices. Patch material is the actual price. General supplies is the same.
276 Gasoline is the same. Equipment repairs is the same. Equipment is for the band shovels, rakes,
277 brooms and will remains the same. Street lighting is the actual cost. That will be up 5%. Care of
278 trees will remains the same. Trimming storm damaged trees, etc. Sidewalk repairs are actual cost.

279
280 Sanitation/solid waste is the other half of laborer salary. He has an open position and he has 7 or
281 8 applicants for it. #112, Solid Waste Operator went from 1 day a week to 2 days a week. He also
282 had a longevity pay raise. Overtime remains the same. Utilities have increased a little. Tipping
283 fees stays the same. Recycling is picking up again. Tires is strictly replacement tires on roll off
284 truck. Equipment maintenance stays the same. Membership/dues stayed the same. Solid waste
285 clean-up and ground water sampling is based on real numbers. Landfill maintenance is in
286 preparation of 2020. This will be going into a dumpster and hauled off. That is the preparation to
287 get ready to revamp the backside of the transfer station. We will be meeting with DES in the near
288 future to see what's expected from the town once the landfill is closed in 2020.

289
290 Barbara Randall asked about recycling being up. Is that the amount being recycled? Dean Hollins
291 said yes. Price of aluminum is good right now so we are making money there. There is no market
292 right now for glass and plastic. Cardboard is up.

293
294 Gail Egounis asked about ground water sampling. Wasn't one of them supposed to no longer be
295 monitored? Dean Hollins explained.

296
297 Other Sanitation and storm drainage is for repair of catch basins. Sewer agreement is a bill that
298 goes to City of Concord every year. Engineering Services is a requirement by DES to do
299 maintenance on their sewer system.

300
301 **Parks and Recreation:** Alan Hardy presented with Nicole Hoyt. Penny was unable to make this
302 meeting. Park and Rec program is well received. Minor repairs on Dorvel House are for
303 maintenance and painting at a cost of \$2,000. Nicole Hoyt spoke regarding program fees. We
304 charge \$25.00 per kid not to exceed \$50.00. Fees have been kept this way for a while. No changes
305 for another year. The program runs with 50-60 kids. Not all of them there every day. Sometimes
306 as many as 80 kids. We have a few situations where people have donated for families who may
307 not be able to pay that fee. Hardy noted that we carry expenses in this budget for the summer
308 concert series. That program is a good one. From an operating standpoint, the budget is remaining
309 essentially the same as last year.

310
311 Gail Egounis asked if they are all getting a 3% COLA, including the summer staff? Hardy said
312 yes. Nicole Hoyt corrected her statement that it is \$50.00 per child not to exceed \$100.00.

313
314 **Library:** Alan Hardy noted that the town doesn't manage the library budget. The Library Trustees
315 manage the budget. There will be someone here for the hearing. But what you see is the amount
316 of money that is transferred to their control on an annual basis. The budget is supplied by the
317 town, but not managed by the town.

318

319 **Old Home Day:** Ed Cherian spoke. There is a Warrant Article to establish a revolving fund for
320 Old Home Day. It raises money and spends money throughout the year on a fluctuating basis.
321 The Old Home Day Committee raises these funds. It is a line item in budget for \$7,500 which is
322 what the Old Home Day committee requested that the town pay for the fireworks.

323
324 **Welfare:** Sarah Gerlack presented her budget. Salary is increased is due to the fact that she is
325 doing welfare 50% of the time, compared to last year which was 37.5%. Deputy Welfare officer
326 is a new line; it is 12 hours a week. Meetings and travels was low last year. This year it is for 2
327 people. Welfare phone is for a cell phone she has to use for emergency contact.

328
329 Gail: She can see the need for 32 hours a week in the winter. Is 32 hours a week consistent?
330 Sarah said yes we are busy every single day. There is a need due to their new programs and time
331 spent with clients. She also helps the Health Officer out.

332
333 Alan Hardy asked if Sarah Gerlack or Barbara Randall could explain the backpack program. She
334 stated that 38 children in Boscawen Elementary School participated in the program. It ensures that
335 those 38 children have breakfast, lunch, dinner and a snack for their weekend. It's their first year
336 doing this program and it's been received positively.

337
338 Welfare Assistance did get dangerously close this year. A manufactured home park was vacated
339 this past year and four families required support. The cost of living has gone up so Sarah asked
340 for \$5,000 more increasing it to \$50,000.

341
342 Alan Hardy said there was an Operating Budget master sheet with individual budgets in it. He
343 wanted to speak about 2 separate line items.

344
345 #4130 executive (Katie said under tab 4). Alan Hardy noted that the 3rd and 4th line item from the
346 budget #4583831 is for \$7,500 for Old Home Day fireworks. Town beautification is budgeted
347 under account #4583803 and there is \$1,250 there. The budget for 2019 is \$3,878,979.00.

348
349 Gail Egounis asked if they had a chance to look over the salary increase comparisons she
350 submitted. Alan Hardy said no. She noted that there is significant increases in the administrative
351 payroll every year. Ed Cherian said there were a lot of changes this year. We had a clerk resign
352 and we had to cover for that. We had 2 Co-Administrators that changed to one full time
353 Administrator. We have stepped up and are paying staff appropriately. Once that happened it
354 opened up a job which created a promotion. A lot of it reflects that the complexity of the jobs
355 have changed a lot. Boscawen has grown a lot. There are a lot of new houses, a lot of new
356 apartment buildings. The increase reflects busier staff and more people in town that need more
357 services. Ed Cherian stated that it means that in order to retain staff, we need to pay them
358 appropriately. Mark Varney stated that the reason why executive went up is that we went to a
359 single administrator. Katie Phelps' position became a salary position instead of hourly. We did
360 the same for Kellee Easler. We gave merit increases for the work load increase. Community
361 Development has 2 full time positions and one part time. Last year we had 3 full time positions.
362 Alan Hardy noted that we increased responsibilities for positions.

363

364 Bruce Crawford noted that it's difficult for instance with Dean Hollins people. They are trying to
365 compare them with what GMI pays. They will get overtime in the summer but will be laid off in
366 the winter and no benefits. Will the town be better off to contract this out because of the increase
367 due to benefits. It wasn't that long ago that when you walked in the town hall building there were
368 only 2 people here. And the whole town ran fine. The town hasn't grown that much. They do
369 have a tremendous amount of growth it seems like. There were one shot expenses quoted like
370 closing Kesavan Park. Some of the percentages are out of kilter too. The salary in the Fire
371 Department budget shows a 20% increase. That is a huge percentage change. He is concerned
372 with what affect this will have on the tax rate. Gail Egounis asked Katie Phelps if there was a
373 revenue budget. Her bottom line concern is the increase in the operating budget, coupled with the
374 loss of revenue. What will that do to people's tax bills?

375
376 Much discussion ensued regarding school budgets and how that reflected on the town budget.
377 Rhoda Hardy stated that she had her first federal government employee come to the food pantry
378 this week.

379
380 Warrant Articles. Ed Cherian stated that there was no one here to defend any of the Warrant
381 Articles requesting donations. Alan Hardy said that for any of the donation Warrant Articles, the
382 people have been asked to come and speak at the Public Hearing.

383
384 Barbara asked if the Red Cross asked for a donation? Alan Hardy said we didn't. What's not on
385 the Warrant is a request for \$5,000 from Riverbend. They won't come and talk about it so it isn't
386 supported. The TAP grant would be the completion of .6 mile of rail trail to the other side of
387 Hannah Dustin. They have put in for the grant but the organization started out the meeting with
388 the town saying it wouldn't cost the town a penny. Mark Varney said in subsequent meetings they
389 came in and said they'd do a lot of fund raising but the Town would need to be willing to put up
390 \$380,000. The Town said what about no cost to the town? They came back and said that on the
391 Concord end they will pave the rail trail. That would shut it down for the snowmobilers, etc.

392 Warrant Articles:

393
394 Alan Hardy explained. This is the evolution of the portal from the Department of Revenue
395 Administration. We now plug the information in and it brings out a DRA correct warrant. If there
396 is any conflict, we can work out the wording.

397
398 Article I is regarding the election.

399
400 Article II is the sum of the operating budget.

401
402 Article III is the Contribution to town Capital Reserve Funds.

403
404 There won't be a \$60,000 contribution to the fire truck capital reserve fund. The fire department
405 safety equipment is the same amount. He suggested we pull out the combined budget because on
406 the back side you can see the combined contributions. Within the last adjustment you can see the
407 number 42403920 – that will change one more time. Ed Cherian noted that a number of these
408 articles have not been voted on by the Board yet, as they are under review by NHDRA. Katie
409 Phelps noted that a number of Warrant Articles have changed.

410
411 Discussion regarding meeting again to discuss the Warrants before the next meeting. Katie Phelps
412 was asked to work up a little revenue budget. February 6th at 6:30 pm is the next meeting. Ed
413 Cherian asked if we could move it up earlier. The Board of Selectmen would get through this at
414 the next meeting. 6:00 pm was the suggested meeting time. It was agreed upon. We can go
415 through the Warrant before the hearing.

416
417 Next meeting will be February 6th at 6 pm.

418
419 A motion to adjourn by everyone, seconded by the rest.

420
421 *Respectfully submitted by Rose Fife*
422

DRAFT