

2009
TOWN MEETING

Town of Greenfield
State of New Hampshire

10 MARCH 2009

Moderator Tom Mullins opened the meeting at 10:00 AM. Supervisor of the Checklist Linda Dodge read the checklist with 1145 names. The Moderator led the Pledge of Allegiance, and proceeded with Article 1 of the Town Warrant by opening the polls.

Article 1: To choose all necessary town officers for the year ensuing.

The Moderator closed the polls at 7:00 PM. Results were tabulated and reported, and the meeting was set to reconvene at 9:00 AM on Saturday, March 14, 2009.

Town Meeting reconvened on Saturday March 14, 2009. Moderator Tom Mullins called the meeting to order at 9:03 AM. House rules were read and explained by the Moderator.

1. There will be no smoking in the hall.
2. Unless otherwise stated before the meeting starts we will follow the articles as printed in the warrant.
3. The Moderator will read all articles; everyone has a right to hear what we are voting on.
4. Anyone wishing to speak to an article will wait to be recognized, stand and state his/her name.
5. Every article should have a fair hearing; therefore a motion to pass over the article will not be accepted.
6. Any person wishing to speak to an article a second time must wait until all those who wish to speak have had a chance to speak.
7. Anyone proposing an amendment to an article must submit the amendment in writing.
8. Once we have voted on an article we will not reconsider.
9. The meeting is being recorded.
10. Please keep your comments directed to the article and address the chair, not back and forth among individuals.
11. And last, if the Moderator has made a ruling that the assembly disagrees with they may overturn his ruling with a majority vote.

Motion was made, seconded, and carried to accept the rules as read. Moderator then led the body in the the Pledge of Allegiance.

Results of the town elections were then read as follows:

OFFICER ELECTION RESULTS:

Selectman for Three Years: Aaron Kullgren was unopposed, received 190 votes, and therefore is elected for the ensuing three years.

Town Clerk for three years: Edith (“Dee”) Sleeper was unopposed, received 197 votes, and therefore is elected for the ensuing three years.

Fire Chief for one year: James Plourde was unopposed, received 202 votes, and therefore is elected for the ensuing one year.

Budget Committee Member for three years: Myron Steere was unopposed, received 176 votes, and therefore is elected for the ensuing three years for one seat. No others were elected, and therefore one open seat remains.

Budget Committee Member for two years: no one was elected for this position, and therefore remains open.

Trustee of Trust Funds & Cemetery Trustee for three years: no one was elected for this position, and therefore remains open.

Library Trustee for three years: no one was elected for this position, and therefore remains open.

Library Trustee for one year: MaryAnn Grant was unopposed, received 196 votes, and therefore is elected for the ensuing year.

Planning Board Member for three years: Gilbert Morris received 181 votes, Myron Steere received 162 votes, and therefore Gilbert Morris and Myron Steere are elected for the ensuing three years.

Schoolboard Representative for three years: John Gryval received 29 write-in votes, and therefore is elected for the ensuing three years.

At this time the Moderator asked John Gryval to speak regarding the school district budget, which he did. Moderator read the school district ballot results.

CONVAL SCHOOL DISTRICT RESULTS: (Greenfield only)

Warrant Article #1:	YES	80	NO	130	Failed
Warrant Article #2:	YES	79	NO	136	Failed
Warrant Article #3:	YES	116	NO	97	Passed
Warrant Article #4:	YES	112	NO	96	Passed
Warrant Article #5:	YES	132	NO	79	Passed
Warrant Article #6:	YES	87	NO	130	Failed
Warrant Article #7:	YES	125	NO	89	Passed
Warrant Article #8:	YES	180	NO	31	Passed

Warrant Article #9: School District Moderator for three years: Tom Mullins was unopposed, received 194 votes, and therefore is elected for the ensuing three years.

Article 1(a): To hear the reports of agents, standing committees, or other officers heretofore, and chosen and to pass any vote relative thereto.

Peter Hopkins, Emergency Management Director, spoke about the ice storm and subsequent power outage in the town in December. He thanked all of the volunteers for their efforts, and said he was pleased to see the townspeople helping each other out as much as they did. At this time Moderator Tom Mullins also thanked the volunteers who helped count ballots at the November elections, and in particular, the Supervisors of the Checklist. Gil Bliss then stated that he would like to thank the Town for recognizing the GIVers by putting a picture of them on the cover of the Town Report.

Article 1 (b): To vote by ballot on the following proposed amendments to the Greenfield Zoning Ordinance.

Moderator read the results of the Zoning Ordinance vote.

Amendment #1: Amend the Greenfield Zoning Ordinance as proposed by the Planning Board by adding the following **Small Wind Energy Systems Ordinance** as Section X, and renumbering the following sections accordingly.

SECTION X. SMALL WIND ENERGY SYSTEMS ORDINANCE

A. Purpose:

This small wind energy systems ordinance is enacted in accordance with RSA 674:62-66, and the purposes outlined in RSA 672:1-III-a. The purpose of this ordinance is to accommodate small wind energy systems as an accessory use in appropriate locations, while protecting the public's health, safety and welfare. In addition, this ordinance provides a permitting process for small wind energy systems to ensure compliance with the provisions of the requirements and standards established herein.

B. Definitions

1. "Meteorological Tower (Met Tower) means the tower, base plate, anchors, guy wires and hardware, anemometers (wind speed indicators), wind direction vanes, booms to hold equipment for anemometers and vanes, data loggers, instrument wiring and any telemetry devices that are used to monitor or transmit wind speed and wind flow characteristics over a period of time for either instantaneous wind information or to characterize the wind resources at a given location. For the purposes of this ordinance, met towers shall refer only to those whose purpose are to analyze the environmental factors needed to assess the potential to install, construct or erect a small wind energy system.
2. "Modification" means any change to the small wind energy system that materially alters the size, type or location of the small wind energy system. Like-kind replacements shall not be construed to be a modification.
3. "Net metering" means the difference between the electricity supplied to a customer over the electric distribution system and the electricity generated by the customer's small wind energy system that is fed back into the electric distribution system over a billing period.

4. "Power Grid" means the transmission system managed by ISO New England, created to balance the supply and demand of electricity for consumers in New England.
5. "Shadow flicker" means the visible flicker effect when rotating blades of the wind generator cast shadows on the ground and nearby structures causing a repeating pattern of light and shadow.
6. "Small wind energy system" means a wind energy conversion system consisting of a wind generator, a tower, associated control or conversion electronics, which has a rated capacity of 100 kilowatts or less and will be used primarily for onsite consumption.
7. "System height" means the vertical distance from ground level to the tip of the wind generator blade when it is at its highest point.
8. "Tower" means the monopole, guyed monopole or lattice structure that supports a wind generator.
9. "Tower height" means the height above grade of the fixed portion of the tower, excluding the wind generator.
10. "Wind generator" means the blades and associated mechanical and electrical conversion components mounted on top of the tower whose purpose is to convert kinetic energy of the wind into rotational energy used to generate electricity.

C. Procedure for Review

1. Applications For: Small wind energy systems, their towers and associated equipment shall be subject to site plan review and approval. An application with designs for towers, additional support features and all associated facilities and accessories shall be submitted to the Planning Board who will establish a schedule for processing the application.
2. Permitted Areas: The installation and operation of small wind energy system facilities are permitted in the Rural/Agricultural District. They are also permitted in the General Residence District but only as a special exception granted by the Board of Adjustment. When considering applications for the construction and operation of small wind energy systems, the Planning Board and the Board of Adjustment will consider such factors as proximity to residential building, the impact on the value of surrounding properties, its affect on the character and natural features of the site, the frequency of maintenance personnel visiting the site, nuisances it may create such as interference with neighborhood television, telephone or radio reception plus any comments from abutters.
3. Additional Systems: The combination of all small wind energy systems on a lot cannot exceed a total output capacity of 100 kW.
4. Application: Applications submitted to the Planning Board shall also contain a site plan with the following information:

- a. Property lines and physical dimensions of the applicant's property.
 - b. Location, dimensions and types of existing major structures on the property.
 - c. Location of the proposed small wind energy system, foundations, guy anchors and associated equipment.
 - d. Tower foundation blueprints or drawings.
 - e. Tower blueprints or drawing.
 - f. Setback requirements as outlined in this ordinance.
 - g. The right-of-way of any public road that is contiguous with the property.
 - h. Any overhead utility lines.
 - i. Small wind energy system specifications including manufacturer, model, rotor diameter, tower height, tower type, nameplate generation capacity.
 - j. Small wind energy systems that will be connected to the power grid shall include a copy of the application for interconnection with their electric utility provider.
 - k. Sound level analysis prepared by the wind generator manufacturer or qualified engineer.
 - l. Electrical components in sufficient detail to allow for a determination that the manner of installation conforms to the NH State Building Code.
 - m. Evidence of compliance of non-applicability with Federal Aviation Administration requirements.
 - n. List of abutters to the applicant's property.
5. Abutter and Regional Notification: Public notification will be in accordance with the Site Plan Review Process.
 6. Bond Posting: The Planning Board can require that an applicant, for the construction of a small wind energy system, post a bond to cover the cost of removal if it should ever be abandoned.

D. Standards:

1. The Planning Board shall evaluate the application for compliance with the following standards;
 - a) Setbacks:

1. The setback shall be calculated by multiplying the minimum setback requirement number by the system height and measured from the center of the tower base to the property line, public roads, or nearest point on the foundation of an occupied building.

Minimum Setback Requirements			
Occupied Buildings on Participating Landowner Property	Occupied Buildings on Abutting Property	Property Lines of Abutting Property and Utility Lines	Public Roads
0	1.5	1.1	1.5

2. Small wind energy systems must meet all setbacks for principal structures for the zoning district in which the system is located.
 - b) System Height: The maximum system height shall be restricted to 35 feet above the tree canopy within 300 feet of the small wind energy system. In no situation shall the system height exceed 150 feet.
 - c) Sound Level: The small wind energy system shall not exceed 60 decibels using the A scale (DBA), as measured at the site property line, except during short-term events such as severe wind storms and utility outages.
 - d) Shadow Flicker: Small wind energy systems shall be sited in a manner that does not result in significant shadow flicker impacts. Significant shadow flicker is defined as more than 30 hours per year on abutting occupied buildings. The applicant has the burden of proving that the shadow flicker will not have significant adverse impact on neighboring or adjacent uses. Potential shadow flicker will be addressed either through siting or mitigation measures.
 - e) Signs: All signs including flags, streamers and decorative items, both temporary and permanent, are prohibited on the small wind energy system, except for manufacturer identification or appropriate warning signs.
 - f) Code Compliance: The small wind energy system shall comply with all applicable sections of the New Hampshire State Building Code.
 - g) Aviation: The small wind energy system shall be built to comply with all applicable Federal Aviation Administration regulations including but not limited to 14 C.F.R. part 77, subpart B regarding installations close to airports, and the New Hampshire Aviation regulations, including but not limited to RSA 422-b and RSA 424.
 - h) Visual Impacts: It is inherent that small wind energy systems may pose some visual impacts due to the tower height needed to access wind resources. The purpose of this section is to reduce the visual impacts, without restricting the owner's access to the optimal wind resources on the property.

- i) The applicant shall demonstrate through project site planning and proposed mitigation that the small wind energy system's visual impacts will be minimized for surrounding neighbors and the community. This may include, but not be limited to information regarding site selection, wind generator design or appearance, buffering, and screening of ground mounted electrical and control equipment. All electrical conduits shall be underground, except when the financial costs are prohibitive.
 - ii) The color of the small wind energy system shall either be the stock color from the manufacturer or painted with a non-reflective, unobtrusive color that blends in with the surrounding environment. Approved colors include but are not limited to white, off-white or gray.
 - iii) A small wind energy system shall not be artificially lit unless such lighting is required by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA). If lighting is required, the applicant shall provide a copy of the FAA determination to establish the required markings and/or lights for the small wind energy system.
- i) **Approved Wind Generators:** The manufacturer and model of the wind generator to be used in the proposed small wind energy system must have been approved by the California Energy Commission or the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority, or a similar list approved by the state of New Hampshire, if applicable.
 - j) **Utility Connection:** If the proposed small wind energy system is to be connected to the power grid through net metering, it shall adhere to RSA 362-A:9.
 - k) **Access:** The tower shall be designed and installed so as to not provide step bolts or a ladder readily accessible to the public for a minimum height of 8 feet above the ground. All ground-mounted electrical and control equipment shall be labeled and secured to prevent unauthorized access.
 - l) **Clearing:** Clearing of natural vegetation shall be limited to that which is necessary for the construction, operation and maintenance of the small wind energy system and as otherwise prescribed by applicable laws, regulations and ordinances.

E. Abandonment:

1. At such time that a small wind energy system is scheduled to be abandoned or discontinued, the applicant will notify the building inspector by certified U.S. mail of the proposed date of abandonment or discontinuation of operations.
2. Upon abandonment or discontinuation of use, the owner shall physically remove the small wind energy system within 90 days from the date of abandonment or discontinuation of use. This period may be extended at the request of the owner and at the discretion of the building inspector. "Physically remove" shall include, but not be limited to:

- a) Removal of the wind generator and tower and related above-grade structures.
 - b) Restoration of the location of the small wind energy system to its natural condition, except that any landscaping, grading or below-grade foundation may remain in its same condition at initiation of abandonment.
3. In the event that an applicant fails to give such notice, the system shall be considered abandoned or discontinued if the system is out-of-service for a continuous 12-month period. After 12 months of inoperability, the building inspector may issue a Notice of Abandonment to the owner of the small wind energy system. The owner shall have the right to respond to the Notice of Abandonment within 30 days from the Notice receipt date. After review of the information provided by the owner, the building inspector shall determine if the small wind energy system has been abandoned. If it is determined that the small wind energy system has not been abandoned, the building inspector shall withdraw the Notice of Abandonment and notify the owner of the withdrawal.
 4. If the owner fails to respond to the Notice of Abandonment or if, after review by the building inspector, it is determined that the small wind energy system has been abandoned or discontinued, the owner of the small wind energy system shall remove the wind generator and tower at the owner's sole expense within 3 months of receipt of the Notice of Abandonment. If the owner fails to physically remove the small wind energy system after the Notice of Abandonment procedure, the building inspector may pursue legal action to have the small wind energy system removed at the owner's expense.

F. Violation:

It is unlawful for any person to construct, install or operate a small wind energy system that is not in compliance with this ordinance. Small wind energy systems installed prior to the adoption of this ordinance are exempt from this ordinance except when modifications are proposed to the small wind energy system.

G. Penalties:

Any person who fails to comply with any provision of this ordinance or a building permit issued pursuant to this ordinance shall be subject to enforcement and penalties as allowed by NH Revised Statutes Annotated Chapter 676:L17.”

YES 153 NO 59 Amendment passes.

Amendment #2: Amend the Greenfield Zoning Ordinance as proposed by the Planning Board by adding the following **Outdoor Wood-Fired Hydronic Heaters Ordinance** as Section XI, and renumbering the following sections accordingly.

SECTION XI. OUTDOOR WOOD-FIRED HYDRONIC HEATERS ORDINANCE

All outdoor wood-fired hydronic heaters shall adhere to the requirements set forth in RSA 125-R titled Outdoor Wood-Fired Hydronic Heaters.

YES 149 NO 60 Amendment passes.

Amendment #3: Amend the Greenfield Zoning Ordinance as proposed by the Planning Board by adding the following **Building Construction** as Section XV, and renumbering the following sections accordingly.

SECTION XV. BUILDING CONSTRUCTION

A. Adoption – Title

Pursuant to RSA 674:51, the town of Greenfield adopts the enforcement of the State Building Code as set forth in RSA 155-A; continues the appointed position of Building Inspector, hereinafter known as the Code Enforcement Officer to enforce the State Building Code; authorizes the Code Enforcement Officer to review and determine compliance of building plans, issue building permits, inspect the work authorized by the building permits, issue appropriate use occupancy certificates, permit the Board of Selectmen to charge reasonable fees for such service, and exercise other enforcement action as authorized by RSA Chapter 676. These regulations shall be known and cited as the “Building Ordinance of the town of Greenfield,, New Hampshire,” and referred to herein as the “Code”. The Code shall be construed to provide minimum requirements for the health, safety and general welfare insofar as they are dependent upon building construction.

B. Declaration of Purpose.

The purpose of this code is to establish uniform rules and regulations for the construction of buildings and structures within the corporate limits of the Town of Greenfield. This Code is not intended, nor shall it be construed, to create a duty on the part of the Town of Greenfield or its officials, employees or agents, to protect the health, safety, or economic interest of any person or entity, and no person or entity shall have the right to rely on this Code, or any action taken on not taken hereunder, as a basis to assert any claim for any loss, damage or expense against the Town, its officials, employees or agents.

C. Effect on other legislation

No provisions of the Town Zoning Ordinance or any other legal statute pertaining to the location, use or construction of buildings shall be nullified by the provisions of this Code.

D. Administration

The provisions of this Code and its requirements will be enforced by the Code Enforcement Officer. In the absence of the Code Enforcement Officer, the Board of Selectmen shall perform his/her duties. The applicant for a permit shall be responsible for meeting the minimum requirements of the State Building Code and the Town of Greenfield shall not be held liable for any failure on the part of the Contractor or Applicant to comply with the provisions of the State Building Code as provided for in RSA 155-A:2.

E. Term of permit

A permit under which no work is started within six (6) months after issuance will expire by limitation. If an Excavation has been wholly or partially completed or the foundation walls have been erected and the project is terminated, the parties granted the permit would be required to bring the excavation back to grade within six (6) months after the date of the permit. Failure to carry construction beyond first-floor flooring within six (6) months or to complete exterior structural details as specified in filed plans and specifications within twelve (12) months after the start of work will be considered evidence of termination of the project for which the permit was issued. A building permit for a new structure or for alterations to an existing structure shall expire two (2) years after the date issued. If any work has not been completed which is covered by the original permit, a new permit shall be required unless the Code Enforcement Officer has previously approved a schedule for construction which runs past the expiration date of the original permit but in no instance will a permit term exceed two (2) years and six (6) months.

F. Standards

It is required by this Code that all buildings and structures, including manufactured homes that are erected, enlarged, altered, repaired substantially, moved, demolished, or change the occupancy of a building or structure shall comply with the following requirements:

1. State Building Code, as set forth in RSA 155-A.
2. Certificate of Occupancy: The Code Enforcement Officer shall not issue a certificate of occupancy until the applicant has satisfied the Code Officer that all of the work has been completed in compliance with the Code, the septic system meets the requirements of the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services Subsurface Bureau and local regulations, and the driveway ordinance has been met.

YES 139 NO 66 Amendment passes.

Article 1 (c): To vote by ballot on the following proposed amendments to the **Greenfield Floodplain Development Ordinance**.

Amendment #1:

Amend Item I, Definition of Terms as proposed by the Planning Board for the town Floodplain Development Ordinance definitions as follows:

Existing Definition:

“Regulatory floodway” means the channel of a river or other watercourse and the adjacent land areas that must be reserved in order to discharge the base flood without cumulatively increasing the water surface elevation more than a designated height. These areas are designated as floodways on the Flood Boundary and Floodway Map.

Proposed Definition:

“Regulatory Floodway” means the channel of a river or other watercourse and the adjacent land areas that must be reserved in order to discharge the base flood without cumulatively increasing the water surface elevation more than a designated height.

YES 160 NO 48 Amendment passes.

Amendment #2: Amend the town Floodplain Development Ordinance as proposed by the Planning Board as follows:

A. Create a new Item II and renumber existing Item II and all following accordingly.

Item II

All proposed development in any special flood hazard area shall require a permit.

B. In Item VI.1 change reference from RSA 48s-A:3 to RSA482-A:3

C. Insert at the beginning of Item VII, the following before Items VII a-c

1. In special flood hazard areas, the Building Inspector shall determine the 100 year flood elevation in the following order of precedence according to the data available.

D. Remove existing Item VII.C which reads:

In Zone AO, the flood elevation is determined by adding the elevation of the highest adjacent grade to the depth number specified on the FIRM of if no depth number is specified on the FIRM at least 2 feet.

YES 157 NO 51 Amendment passes.

Article 2: To see if the Municipality will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **Six Hundred Two Thousand, Three hundred Seventy Dollars (\$602,370.00)** to support the operation and maintenance of town property. Allocation as follows: (Majority vote required)

Ambulance	\$23,801
Building Inspector/Code Enf.	5,730
Cemeteries	12,025
Conservation	3,635
Elections/Registration	27,690
Executive	119,409
Financial Administration	60,231
General Government Buildings	46,018
Health Agencies	5,634
Insurance	29,948
Interest of Bonds	40,147
Interest on TAN	6,000
Legal Expenses	20,000
Other Debt Service	7,035
Other General Government	38,525

Patriotic Purposes	900
Payroll Expenses	38,922
Planning Board	17,255
Principal of Bonds	65,000
Regional Association Dues	3,165
Street Lighting	4,500
Welfare Administration	22,500
Zoning Board of Adjustment	<u>4,300</u>
	\$602,370

Marsha Davis expressed her concerns about the budget, stating that in these difficult economic times perhaps we should not be giving any pay raises to town employees. She is particularly concerned about the wages and benefits for the Administrative Assistant, and the fact that the Welfare hours and pay are going to this same person, she is guessing, during the same office hours.

Ms. Davis went into lengthy detailed explanation of why she is concerned and feels that many people cannot keep up with their taxes now and why should we expand on salaries when so many other people in town (and the country) are losing their jobs. Selectman Jarvis Adams mentioned that the budget hearing is a better place to get into the particular items of the budget.

Marsha Davis stated she would like to make a motion to freeze salaries for town employees. Moderator Tom Mullins asked Town Counsel for clarification on the procedure for this motion, since it would effect other articles. Town Counsel reply was if the line item amount is changed, technically it would change the bottom line for that budget, but the Selectmen still have the authority to move money within that particular budget if they so choose. The Moderator added that if all salaries are to be involved, the motion will need to be made as each department budget comes up, since they each have their own salary line items.

Selectman Adams commented that wages of the town employees is actually down, as is the overall budget.

Dan Beard stated that if we are going to vote on salaries, we should be fair and make the decision "across the board".

Moderator Tom Mullins then clarified the difference between line items and articles.

Margaret Charig Bliss said that she feels that the Selectman have worked hard to put together a reasonable budget and that we should respect their decisions.

Greg Martus asked if any of the Wage and Benefit Committee recommendations have been implemented. Selectman Aaron Kullgren stated that a merit system is being used to determine raises. It was then reiterated that the budget hearing is a better place to discuss the particulars, and that overall the budget is reasonable.

At this time Marsha Davis withdrew her proposed motion.

The question of paid taxes was raised, specifically what percentage of people cannot pay their taxes? Treasurer Katherine Heck stated that we collected 89% of the taxes due for 2008.

Linda Dodge asked: if the article passes do the Selectman have the choice NOT to give raises. The answer was yes. She would recommend to the Selectmen that they do not give the raises, even if the article passes. It was pointed out by someone that if we give reasonable raises in good times (vs. huge raises), we should also give reasonable raises in bad times.

It was also stated that the Administrative Assistant's duties now include duties previously filled by other people, specifically the Recreation Department Director which we no longer have, and that, also, therefore justifies an increase. James Farquahar said that we should cut things, not people.

At this time there was a motion to move the article. Seconded. **Voice vote: Article passes.**

Article 3: To see if the Municipality will vote to raise and appropriate the amount of **Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000.00)**, in accordance with RSA Chapter 35, to create a Town Buildings Maintenance Capital Reserve Fund for the purpose of maintaining all town buildings and to further name the Board of Selectmen as the agents to expend these funds. (Majority vote required) – *Selectmen support this article.*

The Capital Reserve Fund was explained, and in particular, how it effects our borrowing situation. There was some discussion about how we got to the number in the Reserve Fund, and the answer was primarily that if we know we have some large expenditures coming, we should begin to set aside money for them. This would cover expenses beyond the day-to-day requirements. The question was raised: why does each department have a line item for building maintenance? The answer is that each department has its own specific needs.

Margaret Charig Bliss made a motion to amend the article to add "following a public hearing".

Voice vote: Amendment passes. Voice vote: Amended Article passes.

Article 4: To see if the Municipality will vote to raise and appropriate the amount of **Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000.00)**, and place said amount in the existing Town Office Building Energy Efficiency Capital Reserve Fund for the purpose of designing, purchasing and installing energy equipment and renovations. (Majority vote required) *Selectmen support this article.*

Dan Wolaver explained what the Energy Committee has done this past year, specifically in the Town Office building, and further explained what they propose be done in the following year.

Voice vote: Article passes.

Article 5: To see if the Municipality will vote to discontinue the existing 200th Anniversary Savings Account. (Majority vote required) – *Selectmen support this article.*

Treasure Katherine Heck explained that this is a "housekeeping issue"; this account has been sitting for some time but cannot be closed without approval of the Town body. There is \$681.01 in the account now.

Voice vote: Article passes.

Article 6: If Article 5 passes, to see if the Municipality will vote to raise and appropriate the amount of **Six Hundred Eighty One Dollars and One Cent (\$681.01)**, from surplus and to further establish an expendable trust fund, known as the Fire Department's 100th Anniversary Fund and to further name the Board of Selectmen as the agents to expend these funds. (Majority vote required) *Selectmen support this article.*

Treasurer Katherine Heck stated that the amount is as of the printing of the Town Report. An amendment was made to add "plus interest earned through March 16, 2009".

Voice vote: Amendment passes. Voice vote: Amended Article passes.

Article 7: To see if the Municipality will vote to discontinue the existing Forest Fire Fighters Savings Account. (Majority vote required) *Selectmen support this article.*

Treasurer Katherine Heck stated that this is also a "housekeeping item". This account is not being utilized. Fire Chief Jim Plourde was asked to speak. He stated that he would like to see this account remain open as a safeguard in the event that we have a large forest fire.

There was some confusion about the difference between this account and the line item in the Fire Department budget. The Fire Chief explained that what is in the annual budget is for smaller expenses, and that the account is for the larger bills associated with forest fires. He added that this scenario is the only time our fire fighters are paid an hourly wage.

Several people questioned the way that this account could be effected, namely, if it is closed does the money go into the general fund? Yes. If it stays open, is there a way to add money to it? Yes.

Voice vote: Article fails.

Article 8: If Article 7 passes, to see if the Municipality will vote to raise and appropriate the amount of **Five Thousand, One Hundred Sixty Three Dollars (\$5,163.00)** from surplus and place the funds into to the existing Fire Truck Capital Reserve Fund. (Majority vote required) *Selectmen support this article.*

[Due to the result of Article #7, this Article became a non-issue.]

Article 9: To see if the Municipality will vote to change the purpose of the existing Fire Truck Capital Reserve Fund to be the Fire/Rescue Apparatus Capital Reserve Fund and to further name the Board of Selectmen as the agents to expend these funds. (2/3 Vote required). *Selectmen support this article*

Fire Chief Jim Plourde spoke, saying that this is a "housekeeping issue". The fund as currently titled cannot be used for rescue apparatus, but for fire trucks only. Changing the name of the fund would allow more flexibility in how the funds can be used when the needs arise.

Margaret Charig Bliss made a motion to amend the article to add "following a public hearing". Greg Martus asked why were changing to selectmen control instead of as we have before?

Ms. Bliss withdrew her amendment. After some discussion about what a “noticed” public hearing means, a modified amendment was made to add “following a newspaper noticed public hearing”. The question was raised again: why do the Selectmen need to be the fiscal agents? Selectman Jarvis Adams responded that it would be more practical in case the funds are needed suddenly and/or unexpectedly, rather than hold a special Town Meeting to utilize the funds.

Voice vote: Amendment passes.

Voice vote: Article passes as amended with the required majority 2/3 vote.

Article 10: If Article 9 passes, to see if the Municipality will vote to raise and appropriate the amount of **Fourteen Thousand, Eight Hundred Thirty Seven Dollars (\$14,837.00)** to place the funds in the newly established Fire/Rescue Apparatus Capital Reserve Fund and to further name the Board of Selectmen as the agents to expend these funds. (Majority vote required) *Selectmen support this article*

Chief Plourde stated that we need to add to this fund. Andre Wood asked, if we need to change the language to match that of Article #9. Kevin O’Connell asked if we could remove the stipulation regarding fiscal responsibility to avoid confusion. The Moderator asked Town Counsel for his opinion, which was that it doesn’t matter either way. Motion was made to amend the Article, deleting the language after the name of the fund.

Voice vote: Amendment passes.

Ron Lucas made an appeal to the community to not spend any money that wasn’t absolutely necessary, and this, he feels is unnecessary. Gil Bliss made a motion to amend the figure to Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000.00).

Voice vote: Amendment fails. Voice vote: Amended Article passes.

Article 11: If Article 9 fails to pass, to see if the Municipality will vote to raise and appropriate the amount of **Fourteen Thousand, Eight Hundred Thirty Seven Dollars (\$14,837.00)** and to further place the funds in the already established Fire Truck Capital Reserve Fund and to further name the Board of Selectmen as the agents to expend these funds. (Majority vote required) *Selectmen support this article.*

[Due to the result of Article #9, this Article became a non-issue.]

Article 12: To see if the Municipality will vote to raise and appropriate the amount of **Twenty Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000.00)** for the purpose of purchasing Portable Generator(s) and all associated equipment and installation associated with the generator(s) for the Town of Greenfield, housed at the Fire Station; **\$12,500.00 (50%)** to be derived from a Federal Grant, **\$12,500.00 (50%)** to be derived from taxation. This is contingent upon acceptance of the grant, without funding through the grant there will be no expenditure. (Majority vote required) *Selectmen support this article.*

There was discussion regarding the money involved, maintaining the equipment, and the use/need for it. Peter Hopkins addressed this issue, saying that the Fire Department would

maintain the equipment and it would be primarily used for keeping the pipes from freezing in town buildings. Comment was made regarding the ice storm in December, noting that the Town seemed to manage well without this generator.

Voice vote: Article failed.

Article 13: To see if the Municipality will vote to change the one-year Fire Chief elected position to a two year elected position. (Majority vote required) *Selectmen support this article.*

Chief Plourde explained that he is requesting this change mainly so that the Town elections would coincide with the internal Fire Department elections, those being every two years.

Voice vote: Article passes.

Article 14: To see if the Municipality will vote to authorize the payment of hourly wages to the emergency volunteer firefighters/rescue personnel, they will only be paid a wage in the event the President of the United States declares a state of emergency in the State of New Hampshire, wages will be paid through federal disaster funding. (Majority vote required) *Selectmen support this article.*

Chief Plourde and Peter Hopkins explained that if a National State of Emergency is declared, that is the only time that this hourly wage would be in effect. We need to have an hourly wage set to be reimbursed by Federal funds. State funds are not generally forthcoming.

Voice vote: Article passes.

Article 15: To see if the Municipality will vote to raise and appropriate the amount of **Seventy Eight Thousand, Seven Hundred Ninety Seven Dollars (\$78,797.00)** to support the Fire Department. Allocation as follows: (Majority vote required) *Selectmen support this article.*

Building Repairs/Maint.	\$2,500
Chiefs Wages	1,800
Computer Support/Maint.	500
Dues & Subscriptions	1,450
Electricity	4,250
Emergency Management	1,500
Equipment	5,270
Equipment Replacement	9,650
Expense Reimbursements	7,500
Fire Alarm System	550
Fire Prevention	700
Forest Fire Equipment	550
Forest Fire Reimbursements	500
Gasoline & Diesel Fuel	3,500
General Supplies	750
Heating Fuel	4,500
Insurance – General Liability	1,000
Insurance – Supplemental	350

Insurance – Vehicle	2,900
Medical Supplies	2,650
Mutual Aid	14,377
Postage	200
Radio Repairs/Maint.	1,600
Telephone	2,200
Training Services	3,050
Uniform Allowance	1,500
Vehicle Repairs/Maint.	<u>3,500</u>
	\$78,797

Chief Plourde stated that he worked hard to keep his budget flat. Marsha Davis asked if unspent money in the Fire Department budget (at the end of the year) could be put into the Capital Reserve Fund. The answer was no, but it could be put into the savings account. John Halper asked: if department heads have discretion in their budget or do they have to go to the selectmen? The Selectmen replied that department heads have discretion subject to the authority of the Selectmen.

Voice vote: Article passes.

Article 16: To see if the Municipality will vote to authorize the Selectmen to enter into a seven-year lease agreement in the amount of **One Hundred Ten Thousand Dollars (\$110,000.00)** for the purpose of entering into a lease/purchase for a 2009 Caterpillar Backhoe, fully equipped, for the Highway Department and to further utilize the old Backhoe for as trade in, valued at \$9,000, for the old Backhoe for the first years payment. This lease agreement contains a municipal funding clause. (Majority Vote required). *Selectmen support this article.*

At this time Wyatt “Duffy” Fox, Supervisor of the Highway Department, announced that he will retire as of June 30th of this year. There was a standing ovation and a round of applause.

The backhoe was discussed briefly. Brenda Parker asked if a web site like “Craig’s List” would be a possibility for finding equipment. Selectman Jarvis Adams replied that CAT will allow us to make payments whereas “Craig’s List” won’t. However, “Craig’s List” has been explored for other smaller items and the Selectmen are looking into those kinds of alternatives wherever they can.

Voice vote: Article passes.

Article 17: To see if the Municipality will vote to establish a Capital Reserve Fund under the provisions of RSA 35:1 for the purpose of purchasing Highway Equipment to raise and appropriate the amount of **Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000.00)** to be placed in this fund and to further name the Board of Selectmen as the agents to expend these funds. (Majority Vote required). *Selectmen support this article.*

There was no discussion on this fund. An amendment was made to add “after a newspaper noticed public hearing”, just as in the other fund articles.

Voice vote: Amendment passes. Voice vote: Amended Article passes.

Article 18: To see if the municipality will vote to raise and appropriate the amount of **Five Hundred Twenty Nine Thousand, Eight Hundred Eight Dollars (\$529,808.00)** to support the Highway Department. Allocation as follows: (Majority vote required) *Selectmen support this article.*

Advertising	\$ 575
Building Repairs/Maint.	3,000
Calcium Chloride – Summer	1
Computer Support/Maint.	500
Drainage Material	9,000
Drug/Alcohol Testing	600
Dues & Subscriptions	100
Education/Conventions	1,500
Electricity	2,750
Equipment Rental	8,000
Fire Alarm System	450
F/T Wages	98,966
Gasoline & Diesel Fuel	35,000
General Supplies	525
Gravel/Processing	20,000
Heating Fuel	6,000
Hydraulic Jackhammer	1
Insurance – Dental	2,377
Insurance – Disability	1,997
Insurance – Health	37,788
Insurance - Life	111
Insurance – Vehicle	2,700
Mileage	50
O/T Wages	14,851
Protective Clothing	1,000
Public Works – P/T Wages	1,836
Retirement	14,700
Road Reconstruction	70,000
Salt & Sand	33,500
Sealing & Tarring	28,080
Small Tools	1,450
Street Signs	1,000
Supervisor Salary	51,075
Telephone	1,250
Vehicle Repairs/Maintenance	27,000
WA #2 – '07 Dump Truck	20,044
WA #14 – Front End Loader	31,031
Welding Supplies	<u>1,000</u>
	\$529,808

There was little discussion regarding this Article, except for brief comments from Mr. Fox. He explained why there is a dollar amount of only One Dollar (\$1.00) for some line items, this being that they were not anticipating expenses for these items this year, but did not want the line items to be removed from the budget.

Voice vote: Article passes.

Article 19: To see if the Municipality will vote to establish a Capital Reserve Fund under the provision of RSA 35:1 for the purpose of Library Roof Repairs and to raise and appropriate the sum of **Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000.00)** to be placed in this fund and to further name the Board of Selectmen as the agents to expend these funds. (Majority Vote required). *Selectmen support this article.*

Again an amendment was made to add “after a newspaper noticed public hearing”. George Rainier asked if the Library Trustees should be the agents of this fund. The Budget Committee is against the idea. Library Trustee MaryAnn Grant said that this fund is different than the others in that this is for a one-time specific project that will most likely be finished this year.

Voice vote: Amendment passes. Voice vote: Amended Article passes.

Article 20: To see if the municipality will vote to raise and appropriate the amount of **Sixty Four Thousand, Two Hundred Seventy Five Dollars (\$64,275.00)** to support the Stephenson Memorial Library. Allocation as follows: (Majority Vote required). *Selectmen support this article.*

Books & Periodicals	5,000
Building Repairs/Maint.	2,600
Computer Equipment	100
Computer Software	250
Computer Support/Maint.	200
Dues & Professional Exp.	250
Education/Conventions	325
Electricity	2,800
Fire/Security System	600
General Supplies & Postage	1,250
Heating Fuel	6,000
Mileage	300
Office Equipment	5
P/T Wages	41,895
Programs/Entertainment	500
Sewer Fees	600
Telephone	<u>1,600</u>
	\$64,275

Library Trustee MaryAnn Grant stated that the overall budget is down by about \$10,000.00. She added that there is a lot going on in the Library, specifically programs for children, and that the Library is getting a lot of use.

The question was raised: “Why does the Town have to pay for sewer?” Selectman Jarvis Adams responded that since the “Library” is a user of the sewer system it is only fair to account for the usage as if it were a private building.

Peter Hopkins said that he appreciates what the Library staff have been doing. Gil Bliss added that he sees the number of people using the Library expanding, and also appreciates the availability. David Buchanan said that we still need contributions and volunteers to keep things going.

Voice vote: Article passes.

Article 21: To see if the municipality will vote to raise and appropriate the amount of **Seventeen Thousand, Eight Hundred Thirty Three Dollars (\$17,833.00)** to support the Parks & Recreation Department. Allocation as follows: (Majority Vote required). *Selectmen support this article.*

Advertising	250
Building Repair/Maint.	350
Computer Software	30
Computer Support/Maint.	350
Contract Services	2,553
Coordinator	5,000
Dues	100
Electricity	1,000
Fire Alarm System	330
Garden Supplies	500
General Supplies	250
Grounds Maint.	1,170
Heat (Propane)	800
Lifeguard Wages	4,000
Mileage	350
Telephone	<u>800</u>
	\$17,833

Selectman Aaron Kullgren explained how this budget has changed. The groundskeeping line items have been moved to the general account. MaryAnn Grant does all of the gardening and won't take any money for her work. The Biggest change is the coordinator position. The administration work is currently being done by the office personnel. The highway department is overseeing the grounds. The Parks and Recreation Committee has been working on rewriting the director's job description, and it will now be an activities person.

Conrad Dumas, Committee Chair, made an amendment to increase the coordinator money from \$5,000 to \$10,000. He spoke about what the committee has been doing, and said that they feel the Oak Park concession stand should be making money.

Myron Steere of the Budget Committee asked if the Parks & Recreation Committee voted on the amendment. Conrad Dumas said that the committee discussed \$15,000, but Conrad himself is suggesting \$10,000. He feels that the right person would generate income and justify the increased figure. Lori Weeks stated that volunteers are not a reliable system. She has spoken with many of the townspeople about the Recreation Department and feels that there are many needs. It seems worth the extra money to support the community. Selectman Aaron Kullgren said that the wages were established at 10 hours per week at a rate of \$15.00 per hour, resulting in an annual wage of \$7,800.00. Andrew Heck added that his family doesn't notice a difference without a director. He believes that volunteers will step forward. Gil

Bliss stated that next year he would support an increase if it were shown that it was warranted, but he could not support it now. He added that the Selectmen have based the budget on priorities. Peter Hopkins offered a suggestion of a compromise of \$7,500. Selectman Jarvis Adams said that he sees the coordinator as a facilitator for volunteers.

Motion to amend from \$5,000 to \$10,000: **Voice vote: Amendment fails.**

Peter Hopkins made a motion to amend from \$5,000 to \$7,800. Andrew Heck stated that earlier there was a lot of discussion about raises for essential people, and this seems like unnecessary spending. Lori Weeks said that she just wants to see quality service. Selectmen were split on whether or not they would support an increase.

Voice vote: Amendment passes. The Moderator's declaration was challenged, and a hand count was requested. YES = 32 NO = 40+ therefore the Amendment fails.

Discussion went back to the original Article. Ron Lucas said that this shows where we stand: volunteers need to be commended, and the community has an opportunity to come together.

Voice vote: Article passes.

Article 22: To see if the Municipality will vote to establish a Capital Reserve Fund under the provision of RSA 35 for the purpose of purchasing a Police Vehicle and to raise and appropriate the sum of **Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.00)** to be placed in this fund and to further name the Board of Selectmen as the agents to expend these funds. (Majority Vote required). *Selectmen support this article.*

An amendment was made to add "after a newspaper noticed public hearing". Chief Brian Giammarino said that both vehicles are in good shape now, but will both need to be replaced in a couple of years, one right after the other. Selectman Aaron Kullgren stated that this amount could be used for a lease later on; no one wanted to ask for cars we don't need now, but we don't want to be caught short if the need arises.

Voice vote: Article passes.

Article 23: To see if the municipality will vote to raise and appropriate the amount of **Two Hundred Three Thousand, Five Hundred Ninety-Six Dollars (\$203,596.00)** to support the Police Department. Allocation as follows: (Majority Vote required). *Selectmen support this article.*

Chiefs Salary	65,000
Computer Equipment	500
Computer Software	200
Computer Support	2,000
F/T Wages	42,432
Gasoline	7,000
General Supplies	1,500
Insurance – Dental	1,564
Insurance – Disability	938
Insurance – General Liability	5,500

Insurance – Health	16,727
Insurance- Life	56
Insurance – Vehicle	750
Mutual Aid	14,613
O/T Wages	2,000
P/T Wages	16,500
Personal Equipment	3,500
Postage	200
Radio Repair/Maint	200
Retirement	13,416
Telephone	3,000
Training Service	1,500
Vehicle Repair/Maint.	<u>4,500</u>
	\$203,596

Marsha Davis asked about the Chief's raise, stating that \$10,000.00 is huge. The Selectmen addressed this issue, stating that this was not a raise, but a pay adjustment. Chief Giammarino was the second lowest paid chief in the area, plus other towns pay prosecutors at about \$20,000 per year, whereas our chief does all of our prosecuting himself. Brenda Parker asked about the retirement package. Selectman Aaron Kullgren explained that police officers do not get social security, but rather their retirement is mandated by the state, and that the officers also contribute.

Voice vote: Article passes.

Article 24: To see if the Municipality will vote to raise and appropriate the amount of **One Hundred Seven Thousand, Four Hundred Nine Dollars (\$107,409.00)** to support the Recycling Center. Allocation as follows: (Majority Vote required.) *Selectmen support this article.*

Advertising	200
Building Repairs/Maint.	1,000
Contract Services	36,400
Dues & Subscriptions	250
Education/Convention	275
Electricity	1,000
Equipment Maintenance	1,500
Forklift Propane	300
General Supplies	1,000
Hazardous Waste	1,500
Heating Fuel	275
Insurance – Dental	715
Insurance – Disability	430
Insurance – General Liab.	120
Insurance – Health	13,018
Insurance - Life	28
Insurance – Vehicle	25
Mileage	300
P/T Wages	11,500
Refrigerant Removal	400

Retirement	2,756
Supervisor Wages	30,917
Telephone	500
Tire Removal	500
Used Oil Collection Grant	<u>2,500</u>
	\$107,409

Selectman Aaron Kullgren spoke about the challenge that was put to the town last year. We have increased our recycling from about 18% to 40%, but have not reached the 50% mark that was in the challenge.

Matt Blanchard explained how we handle some materials and how the current economy has effected the recycling process. He feels that the market for some materials is starting to come back up. He was asked if the forklift will “make it” another year. He said, “we’ll make it work”.

Voice vote: Article passes.

Article 25: To transact any other business that may legally come before this meeting.

#1: John Halper stated that he sees fewer people attending since the Town Meeting has been moved to Saturday. He made a motion to change the meetings back to Friday night. The question was asked: should we raise this question here and now? The Moderator replied that this is how it got changed in the first place, so it is fair to do it again. There was much discussion about the pros and cons about each day. It was noted that no matter which day it is held there will be people who are inconvenienced at will not be able to attend.

Voice vote: Motion fails.

#2: Robert Geisel, past Tax Collector, asked to address the people. He made a public apology for his actions when he was the Tax Collector.

#3: Brenda Parker asked about the savings account for the Conservation Committee. She wanted to know where the money goes. Selectman Karen Day responded, explaining that it is used for land conservation in a few different ways, such as helping people get easements.

#4: Chris Weeks stated that he feels more people should take an interest in the deliberative meetings and that, in turn, would make Town Meetings shorter. He added that he is looking forward to seeing more volunteers.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:03 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Edith P. Sleeper, Town Clerk