

**TOWN OF HEBRON, NH
TOWN MEETING MINUTES
MAY 11, 2021 AND MAY 13, 2021**

Note: The original wording of articles is in *italics*; amendments are in *italics* and **bold**; and the results of voting on an article are **bold** and CAPITALIZED.

TUESDAY, MAY 11, 2021: CHURCH LANE

ARTICLE 1: To choose all Town Officers for the ensuing year by official ballot, including one (1) Selectman (3) year term; one (1) Tax Collector (3) year term; one (1) Town Clerk (3) year term; one (1) Library Trustee (3) year term; one (1) Trustee of Trust Funds (3) year term; one (1) Supervisor of the Checklist (1) year term; one (1) Auditor (2) year term.

Moderator Roger Larochelle opened the polls at 11:00 a.m. and closed the polls at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, May 11, 2021 for ballot voting on Article 1 for the election of town officers and Article 2 through 5 for zoning amendments. The election was conducted as a drive-thru from Church Lane outside the Union Congregational Church with 129 election day and absentee ballots cast.

RESULTS OF VOTING FOR TOWN OFFICES (ARTICLE 1) AND ZONING AMENDMENTS (ARTICLES 2 THROUGH 5) ARE RECORDED SEPARATELY

THURSDAY, MAY 13, 2021: TOWN COMMON

Moderator Roger Larochelle declared the May 13, 2021 town meeting open at 6:00 p.m. upon the ringing of the Union Congregational Church bell. After the Pledge of Allegiance, the Moderator introduced town officials, the police chief, and the fire chief to the audience.

The Moderator reviewed with the attendees the meeting rules and the process for asking questions and submitting amendments. The results of the Tuesday, May 11, 2021 voting for town officials and zoning amendments were reported by the Moderator.

The Moderator informed the attendees the current town report reflects income and expenses for January 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020 due to the one-time 18-month fiscal year needed to transition to a fiscal year of July 1 – June 30. Next year's town report will reflect 12 months of income and expenses for the fiscal year of July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021.

There were approximately 64 attendees at the meeting.

ARTICLE 6: *Paul Hazelton moved and John Dunklee seconded the motion to see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Twenty-One Thousand Eight Hundred Sixty-Three Dollars (\$21,863) to be added to the Road Emergency Repairs Capital Reserve Fund. Said sum to come from unassigned fund balance. This amount represents funds from the Federal Emergency Management Agency for repairs made to town roads. (Majority vote required) Recommended by the Selectmen*

Selectman Hazelton spoke to the motion and explained this article is straight-forward by setting aside funds in an orderly fashion. The Town received the funds from the Federal Emergency Management Agency as a result of Fire Chief John Fischer's efforts.

ARTICLE 6 AS PRESENTED PASSED BY VOICE VOTE

ARTICLE 7: *Patrick Moriarty moved and Paul Hazelton seconded the motion to see if the town will vote to establish a Hebron Library Capital Reserve Fund under the provisions of RSA 35:1 for the purpose of studying, designing and potentially constructing a new library and to raise and appropriate the sum of Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000) to be placed in the fund. Further, to name the Selectmen as agents to expend from said fund. (Majority vote required) Recommended by the Selectmen*

Selectman Moriarty spoke to the motion and stated the Town Space Needs Committee has worked diligently in studying the space needs of the town, and there is a potential for developing a new library facility. Suzanne Smith asked if this fund could also be used to renovate the current library and expand into the adjoining old town clerk/tax collector's office. Selectman Hazelton stated this fund is a starting point for a future building program. The current library and the old town clerk/tax collector's office would be difficult to renovate and expand particularly due to property boundary line constraints. The Town Space Needs Committee has been researching other library location possibilities.

ARTICLE 7 AS PRESENTED PASSED BY VOICE VOTE

ARTICLE 8: *Richard James moved and George Bolln seconded the motion to see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000) to prepare Crescent Lane for paving and pave the road. This is a non-lapsing appropriation and shall not lapse until May 15, 2024 or until the project is completed, whichever occurs first. (Majority vote required). Recommended by the Selectmen*

Selectman James spoke to the motion and explained the Select Board confers with the Town Road Agent on needed town road repairs and maintenance. Crescent Lane was designated for improvements this coming fiscal year.

ARTICLE 8 AS PRESENTED PASSED BY VOICE VOTE

ARTICLE 9: *Paul Hazelton moved and Steve Derochea seconded the motion to see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000) to prepare Beachwood Road for repaving road. This is a non-lapsing appropriation and shall not lapse until May 15, 2024 or until the project is completed, whichever occurs first. (Majority vote required). Recommended by the Selectmen*

Selectman Hazelton spoke to the motion and stated this article is similar to Article 8 but for Beachwood Road. Steve Derochea asked if the road would be paved from the junction of West Shore Road and Beachwood Road to the bottom of Beachwood Road. Maynard Young also asked if the road would be paved. Selectman Hazelton stated he assumes the entire road would be paved.

ARTICLE 9 AS PRESENTED PASSED BY VOICE VOTE

ARTICLE 10: *Patrick Moriarty moved and John Hilson seconded the motion to see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Twelve Thousand Two Hundred Twenty-Five Dollars (\$12,225) for the*

Gazebo Programs with: \$7,075 to be raised by taxes, \$1,000 from anticipated Donations and Grants, and \$4,150 to come from fund balance. (Majority vote required). Recommended by the Selectmen

Selectman Moriarty spoke to the motion and thanked the Gazebo Program Committee for their efforts. He further stated the amount being raised is lower than in previous years as there is some money left over from the prior year. Everett Begor, member of the Gazebo Program Committee, stated the committee prepared a plan to try to safely hold the programs for this coming summer. There will be sufficient PA speakers in use to allow for 360-degree surround sound. Depending on the pandemic, food vendors and popcorn will be available to attendees. Mr. Begor explained that due to scheduling and for accounting purposes, the money being raised through this article is for the 2022 programs.

ARTICLE 10 AS PRESENTED PASSED BY VOICE VOTE

ARTICLE 11: *Richard James moved and Parker Griffin seconded the motion to see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Five Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$5,500) to update the Hebron Town Forest Stewardship Plan. This is a non-lapsing appropriation and shall not lapse until May 15, 2024 or until the project is completed, whichever occurs first. (Majority vote required). Recommended by the Selectmen*

Selectman James spoke to the motion and stated the Hebron Town Forest is an asset and having a plan will assist in taking care of this asset and natural resource. Martha Twombly of the Hebron Conservation Commission provided background information about the forest. The current forest management plan requires updating and will take into consideration the Natural Resource Inventory completed on the property that details natural habitat areas and plant communities.

ARTICLE 11 AS PRESENTED PASSED BY VOICE VOTE

ARTICLE 12: *Paul Hazelton moved and Mark Coulson seconded the motion to see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Eighty-Three Thousand One Hundred Dollars (\$83,100) to be added to the capital reserve funds and reserve funds as follows:*

- *Police - \$7,500*
- *Highway - \$10,000*
- *Fire - \$20,000*
- *Ambulance - \$15,000*
- *Communications - \$5,000*
- *Assessment Services - \$8,600*
- *Cemetery Tombstones and Fence - \$2,000*
- *Road Emergency Repairs - \$5,000*
- *Culvert Repair & Maintenance - \$5,000*
- *Preservation of Town Records - \$5,000*

(Majority vote required). Recommended by the Selectmen

Selectman Hazelton spoke to the motion and explained the town contributes to capital reserve funds each year to be able to plan ahead to manage the town's needs. Don Franklin mentioned the town appropriated funds last year to the Dry Hydrant and Security Alarm capital reserve accounts but contributions to those capital reserve accounts are not included in this coming fiscal year's

appropriation. Selectman Moriarty explained the Select Board did not appropriate funds for those capital reserve accounts as the security alarm system is complete and there are no suitable locations for additional dry hydrants at this time. Mr. Franklin asked if a capital reserve account requires an annual contribution each year to maintain the account. Selectman Moriarty will research if there is a requirement.

ARTICLE 12 AS PRESENTED PASSED BY VOICE VOTE

ARTICLE 13: *Patrick Moriarty moved and Parker Griffin seconded the motion to see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of One Million Four Hundred Forty Thousand Two Hundred Ninety-Six Dollars (\$1,440,296) as an operating budget for the fiscal year July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022. This article EXCLUDES appropriations made under all previous articles. (Majority vote required). Recommended by the Selectmen*

Selectman Moriarty spoke to the motion and explained where the various financial reports are located in the town report and the budget process with the town departments. He further explained the town's valuation, how the tax rate is set, and that the town has no control over school and county taxes.

ARTICLE 13 AS PRESENTED PASSED BY VOICE VOTE

OTHER BUSINESS:

- Suzanne Smith along with fellow Conservation Commission members presented a commendation from New Hampshire Governor Christopher T. Sununu to Bruce Barnard, a long-time Conservation Commission member, thanking Mr. Barnard for his fifty plus years of service to Hebron as a Selectman, Conservation Commission member, and numerous other town boards and committees.
- Mark Coulson asked the Selectmen to comment on the adverse opinion issued by the town's external auditors, Roberts and Greene PLLC, for not depreciating town assets. Selectman Hazelton stated that the town at this time is not depreciating town assets. Selectman Moriarty mentioned that some town departments have not completed inventorying their assets.
- Don Franklin asked why the assessment of the town office building is not higher. Selectman Moriarty will check with the insurance company to be sure the building is adequately insured. Mr. Franklin also asked if the MS-535 listed in the town report is through June 30, 2020 or December 31, 2020. A town official will try to get back to Mr. Franklin with that information.
- The bond payments schedule listed in the town report was explained to the attendees.

Mark Coulson moved and Suzanne Smith seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:40 p.m. The motion to adjourn passed by voice vote.

A true copy of action taken at the Hebron Town Meeting held on May 13, 2021.

Tracey H. Steenbergen
Hebron Town Clerk