

**THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
TOWN OF HILL, NH
TOWN MEETING MINUTES**

Tuesday, March 8, 2011

POLLS OPENED: 11:00 am

At the Hill Public Library, 30 Crescent Street By: Moderator, Gerard Desrochers

ARTICLE 1: To choose all necessary Town officials for the ensuing year.

NOTE: By law, the meeting must open before the voting starts. Therefore, the meeting and the polls will be open at 11:00AM for the consideration of Article 1. At noon, the meeting will recess but the polls shall remain open and shall not close until 7:00PM.

The meeting will reconvene at the Jennie D. Blake Elementary School on Thursday, March 10, 2011 at 7:00PM to act on the remaining articles of this warrant.

POLLS CLOSED: 7:05 pm By: Moderator, Gerard Desrochers

Registered Voters on Checklist:	745	
New Voters:	3	
Total registered voters:	748	
Ballots Cast:	131	17% of registered voters

Thursday, March 10, 2011

MEETING OPENED: 7:00 pm By: Moderator, Gerard Desrochers

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE LED BY: Moderator, Gerard Desrochers

ELECTIONS RESULTS READ BY: Moderator, Gerard Desrochers

VOTERS PRESENT: 95 **12% of registered voters**

Notation of corrections to original warrant stated by Moderator, Gerard Desrochers:

1. 2010 Appropriation column:

Solid Waste Disposal should be	\$ 81,105	not \$ 75,477
Total Operating Budget should be	\$875,373	not \$851,209

2. 2011 Selectmen Budget column should be \$941,676 not \$925,827

ARTICLE 2: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the following sums for the general municipal operations, exclusive of individual and special warrant articles:

	Approp. 2010	Selectmen 2011	Budget Comm 2011	Amendment
Executive	\$40,750	\$41,319	\$41,319	
Town Clerk	\$41,155	\$46,400	\$46,146	
Tax Collector	\$4,758	\$5,100	\$5,100	
Reval of Property	\$10,295	\$5,600	\$5,600	
Legal Expenses	\$4,000	\$4,000	\$4,000	
Personnel Admin.	\$18,190	\$19,775	\$19,775	
Planning & Zoning	\$3,950	\$3,955	\$2,000	
Gen. Govt. Bldg.	\$17,384	\$24,384	\$24,384	
Cemeteries	\$2,300	\$2,300	\$2,300	
Insurance	\$13,350	\$14,850	\$14,850	
Police	\$62,568	\$87,985	\$69,000	
Ambulance	\$27,430	\$20,065	\$20,065	
Fire	\$46,393	\$50,946	\$50,946	
Emergency Management	\$975	\$975	\$975	
Highways & Streets	\$280,807	\$281,795	\$281,795	
Street Lighting	\$3,600	\$3,600	\$3,600	
Recon. of Highways	\$49,062	\$54,660	\$54,660	
Solid Waste Disposal	\$81,405	\$81,405	\$78,405	
Water Services	\$134,700	\$143,849	\$143,849	
Health Agencies	\$4,038	\$5,038	\$5,038	
Welfare	\$4,000	\$5,000	\$5,000	
Parks & Recreation	\$3,088	\$9,200	\$9,200	
Library	\$21,000	\$28,000	\$28,000	
Patriotic Purposes	\$800	\$800	\$800	
Conservation	\$175	\$175	\$175	
Int. on Tax Anticipation Notes	\$500	\$500	\$500	
TOTAL OPERATING BUDGET:	\$876,373	\$941,676	\$917,482	(17,884) <u>899,598</u>

MOVED: Shaun Bresnahan, Jr.

SECOND: Selectman, Mark Dow

DISCUSSION: Questions were asked regarding employee wage increases & how much all increases would impact the total budget - Selectman Mike Brady stated that the plan was to give an across the board 3% increase. Budget Committer Chairman, Shaun Bresnahan, Jr. stated that the total is approximately \$7,500 to the budget. Concerns were expressed from residents about giving any raises this year due to the economy.

AMENDMENT #1: Reduce total operating budget to \$870,000. (A reduction of \$47,482.)

MOVED: Henry Osmer

SECOND: Bill Henry

DISCUSSION: Similar comments were made as with the original motion.

Resident, Bill Machado commented to the voters to be very careful and mindful of how much more the budget is cut. The cuts from the 2010 budget for example, resulted in reductions to town services including reduced hours at the Town Clerk Office, reduced hours at the Public Library as well as other reductions to other departmental services.

Additional comments and questions were also made regarding the Library. Questions were asked about expenditures, hours & wages. A question was asked of the Trustees if the original budget increase was for additional wages. Library Trustee, Gayle Seip responded by saying that the budget increase was for additional hours being added to the Librarian's wages. Other questions and comments were also responded to by Mrs. Seip.

Other comments were made regarding the public hours of the Library. It was felt that more hours were not needed but different hours were (ei. evenings & weekends). Examples were stated regarding surrounding communities the size of Hill that do not have Libraries open as many hours and had much smaller budgets.

AMENDMENT #1 FAILED as MOVED

AMENDMENT #2: Reduce total operating budget to \$899,598. (A reduction of \$17,884.)

MOVED: Shaun Bresnahan, Jr.

SECOND: voter

DISCUSSION: Similar comments were made as with the original motion and amendment.

Mr. Bresnahan made suggestions to make cuts in the following areas: Police, Highway, Town Clerk, Parks & Recreation, Library and other miscellaneous areas.

AMENDMENT #2 PASSED as MOVED

ARTICLE 2 PASSED as AMENDED to \$899,598

ARTICLE 3: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$99,500 to be deposited into the following capital reserve funds, as indicated. (Recommended by the Selectmen and Budget Committee)

		<u>Amendment</u>
Building Improvements:	\$10,000	
Fire Heavy Equipment:	\$10,000	
Highway Heavy Equipment	\$30,000	
Police Heavy Equipment	\$ 2,000	
Revaluation of Properties	\$10,000	
Road Improvements	\$20,000	
Transfer Station Improvements	\$ 1,000	
Wellhead Protection Area	\$ 1,000	
Gravel Crushing	\$15,000	
Archival Preservation	\$ 500	

MOVED: Selectman, Mike Brady

SECOND: Selectman, John Lynch

DISCUSSION: Explanations were presented by Selectmen of what each account is used for.

AMENDMENT: Move the following amounts to Archival Preservation - \$5,000 from Fire, \$10,000 from Highway, \$5,000 from Reval (Total of \$20,000)

MOVED: Rick Vincent

SECOND: Paula McDonough

DISCUSSION: Rick Vincent felt that more efforts should be made to protect the Town's historical documents. Currently documents are being exposed to array of hazardous elements.

Selectman, Brady did not feel that this was wise to change around the Capital Reserve funding for this project at this time.

Mr. Brady explained that the Board of Selectmen has intentions to create a committee to review the downstairs area of the Town Office building and help development a plan for its use. Town Clerk, Desiree L. Mahurin offered the reminder that a committee was developed 6 years and ago and did present a plan to the Town but nothing has ever been done. She suggested that if a committee is formed and a plan developed it should be followed through with this time.

AMENDMENT FAILED as MOVED

ARTICLE 3 **PASSED as ORIGINALLY MOVED**

ARTICLE 4: To see if the Town will vote to withdraw \$13,505 from the Edwin W. Ferrin Memorial Trust as per the trust document to be deposited in the General Fund to offset the General Government Expenses.

MOVED: Selectman, Mike Brady

SECOND: Selectman, John Lynch

DISCUSSION: This represents 2/3 of the interest earned on the Fund.

AMENDMENT: To correct the interest figure to be \$10,284.82

MOVED: Selectman, Mike Brady

SECOND: Selectman, John Lynch

DISCUSSION: The interest figure was recorded incorrectly in the warrant.

AMENDMENT PASSED as MOVED

ARTICLE 4 **PASSED as AMENDED to \$10,284.82**

ARTICLE 5: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$5,000 to fund an Old Home Day Event this year. (Recommended by the Selectmen and Budget Committee)

MOVED: Selectman, Mike Brady

SECOND: Selectman, John Lynch

DISCUSSION: Desiree L. Mahurin, member of the Old Home Day Committee presented to the audience some history of Old Home Day and the current activities that are being planned. The committee has enlisted the support from non-profit groups in Town already and hopes to get more on board to help cut costs to the Town.

Mrs. Mahurin explained that a grant has been applied for and that it is the hopes of the committee that little or no tax dollars will be needed to fund this event. If the grant comes in and activities become supported by local groups then funds would not be touched.

Concerns were expressed from some that they did not feel that funds should be raised by taxation for this event. Others felt that this is a traditional event that occurs every 10 years and \$5,000 wasn't much for every ten years.

VOTED and verified by hand count: 41 = yes 39 = no

ARTICLE 5 PASSED as MOVED

ARTICLE 6: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$8,000 for the laying of a foundation for an equipment shed at the town gravel pit. (Recommended by the Selectmen and Budget Committee)

MOVED: Selectman, Mike Brady

SECOND: Selectman, John Lynch

DISCUSSION: Selectman Lynch explained that the Town has sawn lumber already being stored for this at the pit on Murray Hill Road. The planned shed will be 40' X 40' and will be used to store sand @ the pit on Murray Hill Road.

ARTICLE 6 PASSED as MOVED

ARTICLE 7: To see if the Town will vote to reduce the number of elected budget committee members-at-large to five (5) in accordance with the provisions of RSA 32:15 paragraph IV.

MOVED: Selectman, Mike Brady

SECOND: Selectman, John Lynch

DISCUSSION: Selectman Brady explained that due to continued vacancies and difficulty scheduling that it may be a good idea to reduce the size of the elected committee from 12 to 5 members.

Concerns were expressed that 5 was too small of a number

AMENDMENT: members-at-large to seven (7)

MOVED: Shaun Bresnahan, Jr.

SECOND: Betty Meyerhoefer

AMENDMENT FAILED as MOVED

ARTICLE 7 FAILED as MOVED

MEETING ADJOURNED: 8:35 pm

By: Moderator, Gerard Desrochers

Registered Voters present: 95

12% of registered voters present

BUDGET SUMMARY:

		<u>AMENDMENT</u>	<u>PASSED \$</u>
ARTICLE 2	Operating Budget	917,482	
ARTICLE 3	Capital Reserve Funds		899,598
	10,000 Building	(17,884)	
	10,000 Fire		
	30,000 Highway		
	2,000 Police		
	10,000 Reval		
	20,000 Roads		
	1,000 Xfer St		
	1,000 Wellhead		
	15,000 Gravel		
	500 Archives		
ARTICLE 5	Old Home Day	5,000	
ARTICLE 6	Equip Shed foundation	8,000	
TOTAL RECOMMENDED		1,029,982	
(10% of recommended Budget = \$102,999)		(17,884)	1,012,098

Given under my hands and seal this 15th day of March, 2011.



Desiree L. Mahurin
Town Clerk/Tax Collector
Town of Hill, NH

ELECTION RESULTS

For the Town of Hill, NH

By: Desiree L. Mahurin, Town Clerk

March 8, 2011

<p>SELECTMAN (VOTE FOR ONE) for 3 Years</p> <p>John Lynch _____ 108</p> <p>7 write ins</p>	<p>LIBRARY TRUSTEE (VOTE FOR ONE) for 3 Years</p> <p>Write In:</p> <p>Melanie Waldvogel _____ 11</p> <p>11 additional write ins</p>
<p>BUDGET COMMITTEE (VOTE FOR FOUR) for 3 Years</p> <p>Paul Meyerhoefer _____ 109</p> <p>George Robie _____ 104</p> <p>Write Ins:</p> <p>Rick Vincent _____ 6</p> <p>Marc Coffin _____ 4</p> <p>22 additional write ins</p>	<p>CEMETERY TRUSTEE (VOTE FOR ONE) for 3 Years</p> <p>George Robie _____ 113</p> <p>1 write in</p>
<p>BUDGET COMMITTEE (VOTE FOR ONE) for 2 years</p> <p>Write In:</p> <p>Raymond Judd _____ 2</p> <p>15 additional write ins</p>	<p>TREASURER (VOTE FOR ONE) for 1 year</p> <p>Judith Brady _____ 114</p>
<p>BUDGET COMMITTEE (VOTE FOR ONE) for 1 year</p> <p>Write In:</p> <p>Bill Henry _____ 2</p> <p>7 additional write ins</p>	<p>TWN CLK/TAX COLLECTOR (VOTE FOR ONE) for 3 years</p> <p>Desiree L. Mahurin _____ 111</p> <p>5 write ins</p>
<p>CHECKLIST SUPERVISOR (VOTE FOR ONE) for 6 years</p> <p>Write In:</p> <p>Linda Denningham _____ 4</p> <p>7 additional write ins</p>	<p>TRUST FUND TRUSTEE (VOTE FOR ONE) for 3 years</p> <p>Nancy Chaddock _____ 116</p> <p>2 write ins</p>
	<p>TRUST FUND TRUSTEE (VOTE FOR ONE) for 2 years</p> <p>Write In:</p> <p>Mike Stanley _____ 3</p> <p>6 additional write ins</p>
	<p>Registered voters on cklst = 748 Ballots cast = 131 Percentage of voters = 17%</p>