

Meeting from page 1

Goings, Jim Hersey, and Mary Anne Levesque, Budget Committee.

Because Articles 1 through 3 were on the ballot, the meeting started with Article 4 (see below).

Article 1

To choose all necessary town officers for the ensuing year. (By ballot vote during polling hours). The complete results appear on page 7.

Article 2

Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 1 as proposed by the Planning Board for the Town Zoning Ordinance, as follows? The Andover Village District boundaries would be revised. The boundaries would be expanded along Route 11. It will be bound by a portion of the Rail Trail; by the Bridge Street area to the area across from North Short Street; and to include Lawrence Street and a portion of Bradley Lake Road. The revised and expanded Andover Village District will be shown on the map entitled "Andover Zoning Map of March 2020" which will be attached to and made part of the Zoning Ordinance and referred to as the "Zoning Map." (By ballot vote during polling hours). Article 2 passed by a vote of 163 to 76.

Article 3

Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 2 as proposed by the Planning Board for the Town Zoning Ordinance, as follows? The Cilleyville Village District boundaries would be revised. The boundaries would be expanded to include the entire length of Cilleyville Road and include Depot Street. It will also include the properties along Route 11 from Cilleyville Road to Depot Street. The revised and expanded Cilleyville Village District will be shown on the map entitled "Andover Zoning Map of March 2020" which will be attached to and made part of the Zoning Ordinance and referred to as the "Zoning Map." (By ballot vote during polling hours). Article 3 passed by a vote of 169 to 70.

Article 4

To see if the town will vote to secure a \$1.5 million bond for the purpose to create a highway maintenance building and to purchase necessary equipment and tools needed for all town roads. Town maintenance will be managed and supervised by the Town of Andover personnel. The Select Board does not recommend this article. The Budget Committee does not recommend this article. This article was submitted by petition. 2/3 ballot vote required.

Petitioner Herbie Barton introduced the article, with assistance from Steve Barton. They pointed out that the consensus of last year's Town Meeting was to move in the direction of the Town having its own Highway Department

and an appointed part-time Road Agent, and Article 4 would be a good way to accomplish that. Steve said there should be a committee because that would take it out of the hands of the Select Board, which hasn't accomplished what last year's meeting asked of them.

Jeff Newcomb pointed out that the proposed \$1.5 million was incomplete and that the notification deadline had been missed. He felt another year of planning was needed in order to avoid the waste that comes with haste.

The moderator, attorney Matt Serge, and Select Board member Chuck Keyser explained that there were serious problems with Article 4 as petitioned. As a result, if it were passed, the New Hampshire Department of Revenue Administration (DRA) would not allow it to be a mandatory act of Town Meeting; DRA would reduce it to a merely advisory act.

DRA's problems with Article 4 were: the language is flawed in that it doesn't "raise and appropriate" the \$1.5 million; in violation of state law, it exceeds 10% of the total budget approved by the Budget Committee; and it does not make clear exactly what the \$1.5 million would be spent on.

After much further discussion, Toby Locke made a motion to table Article 4 until next year. The motion to table Article 4 passed by unanimous voice vote.

Article 5

To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$350,000 (gross budget) for the construction of a Highway Department garage, including tools, and to authorize the issuance of not more than \$350,000, and to authorize the issuance of not more than \$350,000 of bonds or notes in accordance with the provisions of the Municipal Finance Act (RSA 33) and to authorize the municipal officials to issue and negotiate such bonds or notes and to determine the rate of interest thereon. The Budget Committee recommends this article. The Select Board recommends this article. 2/3 ballot vote required.

Chuck Keyser introduced Article 5 for the Select Board. He explained the importance of the garage, what it would look like, and the bond's impact on taxes. He pointed out that it's been five years since Town Meeting first voted to move toward the town having its own highway department and that this would be an important step in the right direction.

Herbie Barton pointed out that his own plan (see Article 4, above) would provide for everything needed for our Highway Department, not just a garage, and asked if Article 5 would increase taxes, which it was agreed would be true. He made a motion to table Article 5 until next year. The motion to table

See Meeting on page 9

Town Voting Results for 2020

Bonnie Wesley, Town Clerk		Supervisor of Checklist for 6 years	
School Board		Doug Phelps	198
Brandon Adams	223	Supervisor of Checklist for 4 years	
Molly Morgan	4	Vicki Mishcon	191
Steve Barton	2	Library Trustee	
Chris Cloutier	2	Alita Phelps	204
One each for Joe Cloutier, Mark Heller, James Thompson, Toby Locke, Scott Kidder, Janet Plummer, Anna Hattan, Jessica Adams, Trembly, Nancy Teach, M. Coolidge, Greg Stetson.		Town Moderator	
School Moderator		Jon Mishcon	7
Adrienne Summers	190	Mark Stetson	5
School Treasurer		Ed Becker	4
Shirley Currier	232	Betsy Paine	3
School Clerk		Andy Guptill	2
Christie Coll	10	Toby Locke	2
Gail Parenteau	2	One each for Percy Hill, Mark Thompson, Kathy Hildebrand, Marj Roy, Dennis Fenton, Nancy Teach, Dan Coolidge, Walter Locke, Jenny Koron, Greg Stetson, Jane Slayton, Doug Phelps, Kent Armstrong, John Thompson, Suz Hodgson	
Shirley Currier	2	Select Board	
One each for Bill Keyser, Andy Guptill, J. Thompson, M. Thompson, Toby Locke, G. Stetson, Molly Morgan, J. Slayton, Kitty Kidder, A. Estin, Beth Chamberlain, Shirley Currier, J. Bradish, B. Gilman, S. Otis.		Todd Goings	170
Budget Committee		Dave Blinn	5
Vote for two positions		Jeff Newcomb	5
Jim Hanson	173	Two each for Doug Phelps, Jim Delaney, Molly Morgan, Steve Barton. One each for Lenny Caron, John Thompson, William Bates, Jim Hanson.	
Greg Stetson	131*	Town Treasurer	
Molly Morgan 97		Shirley Currier	200
*Greg disqualified himself and endorsed Molly Morgan.		Trustee of Trust Funds	
Cemetery Trustee		Joanne Edgar	11
Bill Keyser	10	Warrant Articles	
Alex Estin	3	Articles 2 and 3 appeared on the ballot, by law.	
Two each for Pat Cutter, Steven Bowers, Jeff Sweet; one each for Toby Locke, Beth Chamberlain, Dave Blinn, Jay Rice, Walt Locke, Jason Budek, John Barton, Beth Frost, Diane Miller, Jim Reed, John Thompson, Brenda Lance, Kathy Hildebrand, Megan Barton.		Article 2, to revise the Andover Village District boundaries, passed 163 to 76.	

Budget from page 1

ing approved total appropriations of \$5,988,886. This was an increase of \$121,500 over the Budget Committee's recommended total of \$5,867,386. The voters added back \$46,500 to the operating budget, plus another \$75,000 for an additional teacher. Both the Budget and School Board Committee did not recommend this addition. The net assessment based on estimated revenues may result in a 3.7% increase in the school tax rate.

Andover Town Meeting

After much debate, Andover voters settled on an operating budget of \$1,986,296 – a decrease of \$103 from the Budget Committee's recommendation. Contributing to the net change were increases of \$10,000 and \$9,000 respectively for Forest Fire Equipment and the Fourth of July. Road Agent Wages were reduced from a recommended amount of \$30,000 to \$18,025.

The warrant article to raise and appropriate \$1,500,000 for a Highway

Department maintenance building and equipment was tabled, as were articles to finance a bond for the purpose of constructing a highway garage and tools. Additionally, Articles 9 and 10 were tabled as well. These had to do with raising funds for the lease/purchase of a 1-ton truck and backhoe respectively.

The total appropriations of \$2,260,796 plus the addition of war service credits and overlay bring the total net to be raised in taxes of \$2,339,050 – a decrease of \$182,751 from 2019. Should anticipated revenues of \$807,456 be realized, it would reduce this amount to a net appropriation of \$1,531,594. This is up from the 2019 net appropriation by \$143,504.

Andover Fire District Meeting

The Andover Fire District's proposed budget is \$167,675, as recommended by the Commissioners and the Budget Committee. This will be voted on at the District's annual meeting on Tuesday, April 7, at 7:30 PM at the East Andover station.

THIS PAGE IS SPONSORED BY: **RAGGED MOUNTAIN FISH AND GAME CLUB**