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Article 10

To see if the town will vote to authorize the Select Board to enter into a five year lease-purchase agreement in the amount of \$150,000 for the purpose of leasing a backhoe, and to raise and appropriate the sum of \$30,000 for the first year's payment for that purpose. No lease will be entered into without an escape clause. The Budget Committee recommends this article. The Select Board recommends this article.

Select Board member Bill Keyser moved the article. When asked to explain the article, he replied, "Well, if I can't sell the truck, I sure as hell can't sell the backhoe!" His quip drew appreciative laughter from the audience.

Toby Locke said that the point of Town Meeting is to be able to discuss things, not to table them before people have had a chance to discuss them. He said he was for the truck and is for the backhoe because "the amount of money we spend on rentals is crazy."

After further discussion about the costs of ownership and the problems hiring and retaining Highway Department employees, Steve Barton moved to table the motion. The motion to table passed on a voice vote.

Article 11

To see if the citizens of Andover will vote to amend the Town Noise Ordinance (dated 2017) by removing under Exemptions "Special Permits" issued by the Town. This article was submitted by petition.

Petitioner Donna Baker-Hartwell moved the article and explained that this warrant article is only about ensuring that businesses adhere to our Noise Ordinance by removing Section 3. This is all because the Select Board allowed a private logging company to begin logging about 5 AM for about seven weeks last September.

Pecco Beaufays said those seven weeks "were an absolute disaster" for him at the Highland Lake Inn because of complaints from his guests. Toby Locke spoke against the article. Attorney Serge pointed out that if this article passes, it limits the Select Board in its discretion to waive the Noise Ordinance in any circumstance not specifically addressed in the ordinance.

Other residents spoke against the article; some expressed concerns about whether eliminating special permits was the right way to address the problems Donna cited with the way Section 3 was handled last September.

After a voice vote and a show of voter

cards were each too close to call, Moderator Mishcon "divided the house" in order to make a precise count of voter cards easier. Article 11 passed 77 to 48.

Article 12

We the Town of Andover hereby call upon our State and Federal elected representatives to enact carbon-pricing legislation to protect New Hampshire from the costs and environmental risks of continued climate inaction. To protect households, we support a Carbon Fee and Dividend approach that charges fossil fuel producers for their carbon pollution and rebates the money collected to all residents on an equal basis. Enacting a Carbon Cash-Back program decreases long-term fossil-fuel dependence, aids in the economic transition for energy consumers, and keeps local energy dollars in New Hampshire's economy. Carbon Cash-Back has been championed by US economists (January 17, 2019 Wall St. Journal) as the most effective and fair way to deliver rapid reductions in harmful carbon emissions at the scale required for our safety. We expect our representatives to lead in this critical moment for the health and well-being of our citizens and for the protection of New Hampshire's natural resources upon which we all rely.

The record of the vote approving this article shall be transmitted by written notice to Andover's State Legislators, to the Governor of New Hampshire, to Andover's Congressional Delegation, and to the President of the United States, informing them of the instructions from their constituents, by Andover's Select Board, within 30 days of this vote. This article is submitted by petition.

Petitioner Susan Chase moved and explained the article. Her explanation closely followed the coverage about the proposed Carbon Cash-Back program that has appeared in the press, including in recent issues of *The Andover Beacon*.

Toby Locke spoke against the proposal on the basis that even "green" things like electric cars and windmills still have a large carbon footprint, so "we're not there yet" to be able to tax carbon as proposed.

Ken Wells clarified that this is only about fossil fuels that are combustible, not about petroleum products used for pharmaceuticals or manufacturing goods. Others spoke against it as being a tax that would just get passed on to the consumers and as an inappropriate new government program.

Others spoke in favor as a necessary incentive to change our behaviors. Pecco Beaufays pointed out that this program is working well in Germany.

Article 12 passed on a show of voter cards.

Article 13

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

Town Administrator Marj Roy disputed a statement made earlier in the meeting that the Town Office made mistakes doing the Highway Department payroll. "The New Hampshire Department of Labor was in at the end of February and did a complete payroll audit, and there were no findings of incorrect checks."

Mario Ratzki presented the New Hampshire Resolution for Fair Redistricting to the Town Moderator, who read it to the meeting: "To see if the town will urge the New Hampshire General Court, following the 2020 census, to redraw the state's political maps in a fair manner providing for the effective representation of New Hampshire's voters. And, in order to fulfill this obligation, the New Hampshire General Court shall appoint an independent redistricting commission to draw the district maps in a way that does not rely on partisan data favoring political parties or candidates. Within 30 days after the Town Election, the record of the vote approving this article shall be transmitted by written notice from the town Select Board to all town state legislators and to the Governor of New Hampshire informing them of the results."

Mario spoke to the need for fair and rational re-districting. A motion to table was defeated. A motion to end debate passed unanimously on a voice vote. The motion concerning the New Hampshire Resolution for Fair Redistricting passed on a voice vote.

Janet Moore thanked Dave Blinn for his three years as a member of the Select Board, and thanked Jon Mishcon for running three Town Meetings. There was general applause.

Toby Locke, a commissioner of the Andover Village District, pointed out that no one asked the Village District commissioners for input in expanding the Village District. "If you're going to have substandard lots that require water and we can't provide it, you're going to have problems."

Paul Currier recognized John Thompson for his service as our former elected Road Agent, to loud applause.

Steve Barton moved to create a seven-member committee to develop a Highway Department plan with Herbie Barton as chair, with the plan to be presented next year. Discussion followed of how to set up the committee, who should be on the committee, and whether it's even appropriate for Town Meeting to discuss specifics like that.

The original motion failed on a voice vote. Steve then moved to create a seven-member committee to develop a Highway Department plan. This motion (which differed from the first only in not specifying who would chair the committee) passed on a voice vote, and the meeting was adjourned.

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