

**2015 TOWN WARRANT**

**MINUTES OF THE 2015 TOWN MEETING FOR THE TOWN OF WEBSTER  
THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE  
SATURDAY, MARCH 14, 2015**

Select Board Chairman Roy Fanjoy called the meeting to order at 10:00 am, welcomed everyone and introduced Select Board Member Roger Becker. Selectman Becker recognized Judith Jones for her many years of service to the Town and upcoming retirement. She was presented with a bouquet of roses and a hand-crafted crystal bowl made by Pepi Herrmann engraved with "Presented to Judy Jones in recognition of more than 26 years of service to the Town of Webster March 2015." A standing ovation was given.

Chairman Fanjoy spoke on behalf of Bobby Drown thanking the residents for supporting him and his family at the benefit BBQ.

Clarence Jeffrey led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Moderator Robert Pearson reviewed the rules and procedures of the meeting.

Selectman Fanjoy gave a presentation of accomplishments in 2014 and the proposed budget for 2015. He stated that the total budget is up by 0.09%; the operating budget is up 6.43% partially due to salary increases of 3-5%. The Select Board reviewed the COLA increases for the last seven years. He stated that most Town employees are not even equal or close to being equal to the COLA increases in the community. Chairman Fanjoy thanked Road Agent Emmett Bean and his crew for keeping up with the challenging February storms (applause given by audience). Chairman Fanjoy stated a motion will be made to amend the Road Agent's budget to increase by \$40,000. He highlighted some of the expenditures in the budget; a new police cruiser and Little Hill Road project will be finished in 2015. According to reports from the NH Municipal Association, Webster's expenditures are in line with other towns our size. He mentioned that there are five employees eligible for health insurance benefits based on the current personnel policy.

Moderator Pearson reviewed the process should a ballot vote be requested. He recognized and thanked Clarence Jeffrey, a WWII Veteran for leading us in the Pledge of Allegiance. He thanked the Election Officials and volunteers for running a smooth Town Election.

Moderator Pearson announced the results of the Town Election on March 10, 2015 stating there were 1,255 registered voters and 198 ballots were cast.

**ARTICLE 1.** To choose all necessary Town Officers for the ensuing year. (BY BALLOT)

OFFICE	# YRS. TERM	NAME	# OF VOTES
Selectman	3	Roger Becker	162
Selectman	1	Michael Borek	180
Cemetery Trustee	3	Darlene Cummings	190
Library Trustee	3	by write-in – Leslie Collins	57
Trustee of Trust Funds	3	Brenda Silver	187

**ARTICLE 2.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,381,278 for general municipal operations. This article does not include appropriations contained in special or individual articles addressed separately.

*Moved by Selectman Bruce Johnson and seconded by Selectman Roger Becker.*

*Chairman Fanjoy made a motion to amend the article to appropriate the sum of \$1,421,278. This \$40,000 increase is to go into the Road Agent's budget for Highways and Roads. Seconded by Selectman Johnson.*

*No discussion.*

*Moderator called for a voice vote on the amendment. Amendment to Article 2 passed by voice vote.*

*Moderator called for a voice vote on the amended article.*

**AMENDED ARTICLE PASSED BY VOICE VOTE.**

**ARTICLE 3.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$165,000 for Highway Road Preservation.

*Moved by Selectman Johnson and seconded by Selectman Becker.*

*No discussion.*

*Moderator called for a voice vote.*

**PASSED BY VOICE VOTE.**

*George Cummings made a motion to restrict reconsideration of Article 2 and 3. It was seconded.*

*No discussion.*

*Moderator called for a voice vote to restrict reconsideration of Articles 2 and 3.*

**PASSED BY VOICE VOTE.**

**ARTICLE 4.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$10,000 to help offset the cost of the bond for “Funds to Repair Dam” passed at the Pillsbury Lake Water District Special Meeting held August 5, 2006.

*Moved by Selectman Johnson and seconded by Selectman Becker.*

*No discussion.*

*Moderator called for a voice vote.*

**PASSED BY VOICE VOTE.**

**ARTICLE 5.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$6,350 for the purpose of purchasing Avitar Software for the Town Clerk’s Office.

**This is a Special Warrant Article**

*Moved by Selectman Johnson and seconded by Selectman Becker.*

*No discussion.*

*Moderator called for a voice vote.*

**PASSED BY VOICE VOTE.**

**ARTICLE 6.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$209,000 to be added to the following established Capital Reserve Funds under RSA 35:1.

*Sarah “Sally” Becker made a motion to dispense of the reading of the entire article because we had it in front of us. Seconded by Dianne Klabecek.*

Office Equipment	6,500
Fire Dept. – Air Packs	7,000
Bridge Improvements	40,000
Fire Dept. – Dry Hydrant/Repairs	2,000
Reappraisal	7,500
Town Hall Improvements	20,000
Police Cruiser	15,000
Emergency Apparatus	48,000
Highway Land/Building Fund	30,000
Fire Department – Bunker Gear	2,500
Public Safety Building	5,000
Webster/Hopkinton Transfer Station	10,000
Cemetery Improvement Fund	1,000
Police Equipment	2,500
Highway Equipment	7,500
Medical Equipment	2,500
Tax Maps	2,000

**This is a Special Warrant Article**

*David MacDonald questioned why we need to add to the Capital Reserve Funds and what the maximum for the funds is. Chairman Fanjoy explained we need to continue to add to the funds so we do not get hit with a major bill all at once. Road Agent Bean spoke specifically about two red-lined bridges in Town and the cost to replace one is over two million dollars. Fire Chief Rob Wolinski said the monetary line for fire bunker gear is down from last year in consideration of keeping costs down.*

*Moderator called for a voice vote.*

**PASSED BY VOICE VOTE.**

**ARTICLE 7.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$27,000 to add to the following established Expendable Trust Funds per RSA 31:19-a.

Forest Fire	1,000
Legal (Webster)	4,000
Welfare	2,000
Police Vehicle Maintenance	1,000
Highway	5,000
Fire Department Equipment	5,000
Compensated Absences	9,000

**This is a Special Warrant Article**

*Moved by Selectman Johnson and seconded by Selectman Fanjoy.*

*No discussion.*

*Moderator called for a voice vote.*

**PASSED BY VOICE VOTE.**

**ARTICLE 8.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate a sum of up to \$34,000 for the purchase of a 2015 Police Cruiser and related equipment, and to sell or trade-in the Police Department 2007 Ford Explorer and authorize the withdrawal of up to \$34,000 from the Police Cruiser Capital Reserve Fund created for that purpose. No funds will be raised by taxation.

**This is a Special Warrant Article**

*Moved by Selectman Johnson and seconded by Selectman Becker.*

*Guy LaRoche asked what the Police Department currently had for vehicles and why a new one is needed. Police Chief Robert Dupuis explained there is a 2007 Ford Explorer, a 2010 Crown Vic and a 2014 Ford Police Utility. He spoke of several problems with the 2007 cruiser including rust, alternator issue, high mileage and poor gas mileage. The new cruiser would be more cost-effective for the taxpayers.*

*Jon Pearson stated the Town voted to sell this cruiser a few years ago when a new one was purchased but the Select Board kept the cruiser. Tara Gunnigle questioned the cost of having three cruisers vs. the cost of two cruisers and having the officers on call and if there was any cost savings to doing this. Chairman Fanjoy asked the Chief of Police to explain. The arrangement was that if the officers had a take-home cruiser they would be on call. The officers logged over 2,000 hours in 2014 and only got paid for the hours they were called out. It would not be cost-effective to pay the officers to switch vehicles at each shift change.*

*George Cummings moved the question. There were several seconds to the motion.*

*Moderator called for a voice vote.*

**PASSED BY VOICE VOTE.**

*George Cummings made a motion to restrict reconsideration of Articles 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8. It was seconded by Karen King.*

*No discussion.*

*Moderator called for a voice vote to restrict reconsideration of Articles 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8.*

**PASSED BY VOICE VOTE.**

**ARTICLE 9.** To see if the Town will vote to change, pursuant to RSA 35:16, the purpose of the existing “constructing a Softball Field” Capital Reserve Fund to any related work on the Webster Youth Sports Softball or Soccer Field and to name the Select Board and the Parks Commission Chairman as agents to expend.

**(2/3 Vote required, by Hand Count)**

*Moved by Selectman Johnson and seconded by Selectman Becker.*

*Selectman Johnson stated there was \$2,000 in the account and this article will expand the options of where the money can be spent.*

*Moderator called for a hand count vote.*

**PASSED BY CARD (hand count) VOTE – 131 Yes 0 No**

ARTICLE 10. To see if the Town will vote to change, pursuant to RSA 35:16, the purpose of the existing “Bridge Improvements” Capital Reserve Fund to Bridge and Culvert Improvements and any other construction or engineering needs related thereto and to name the Select Board and Road Agent as agents to expend.

**(2/3 Vote required, by Hand Count)**

*Moved by Selectman Johnson and seconded by Selectman Becker.*

*Chairman Fanjoy explained this would broaden the use of the funds to include the entrance and exit of the bridge, engineering and culverts.*

*Moderator called for a hand count vote.*

**PASSED BY CARD (hand count) VOTE – 141 Yes 0 No**

*Sarah “Sally” Becker asked the Moderator to dispense of the reading of the entire article 11.*

ARTICLE 11. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board to offer for sale, as adopted at the annual Town Meeting of 1994 per RSA 80:42 III and 80:80 III, to only those Pillsbury Lake District abutters whose lot is developed, those lots owned by the Town located in the Pillsbury Lake District, with the stipulation that the lots be merged with the existing Pillsbury Lake District developed abutting lot and no further lot-line adjustment will be allowed. The price will be determined by the Select Board at the time of sale. The properties available are as follows:

Map 10-1-48 (Windsor Terrace)

Map 10-1-61 (Windsor Terrace)

Map 10-1-70 (Deer Meadow Road)

Map 10-1-72 (Newport Circle)

**(Map 10-1-70 and Map 10-1-72 to be sold as a block)**

Map 10-2-18 (Deer Meadow Road)

Map 10-4-52 (Franklin Pierce Drive)

Map 10-4-53 (Franklin Pierce Drive)

**(Map 10-4-52 and Map 10-4-53 to be sold as a block)**

Map 10-4-72A (New Hampshire Drive)

Map 10-5-38 (Centennial Drive)

Map 10-5-70 (Rogers Drive)

Map 10-5-75 (Rogers Drive)

Map 10-5-85 (General Stark Drive)

Map 10-5-168 (Deer Meadow Road)

Map 10-6-42 (Manchester Drive)

Map 10-6-43 (Manchester Drive)

**(Map 10-6-42 and Map 10-6-43 to be sold as a block)**

Map 10-6-84 (Danbury Drive)

*Moved by Selectman Johnson and seconded by Selectman Becker.*

*No discussion.*

*Moderator called for a voice vote.*

**PASSED BY VOICE VOTE.**

ARTICLE 12. Resolved that the State of New Hampshire provide a comprehensive meaningful system of funding for State Education needs. To see if the Town will vote to ask our governor and our state legislators to reform state funding for education with that reform to be directed to significant reduction of property taxes. The record of the vote approving this article shall be transmitted by written notice from the Select Board to the governor and state legislators informing them of the instructions from their constituents within 30 days of the vote.

*Moved by Selectman Johnson and seconded by Selectman Becker.*

*Selectman Johnson explained that high property taxes are becoming less sustainable and the state legislature continues to down shift costs to the communities. "Here is our chance to speak up as one and say that change is needed and start working on that change".*

*Moderator called for a voice vote.*

**PASSED BY VOICE VOTE.**

ARTICLE 13. To see if the Town will vote to require the Board of Selectmen to publish a complete listing of all Town Employees names, positions, salaries and benefits, and a line by line accounting in each department reporting in the Town Report.

**SUBMITTED BY PETITION**

*Moved by Tara Gunnigle and seconded by Jon Pearson.*

*Tara Gunnigle made a motion to amend the article to read "Part One: To see if the Town will vote to require the Board of Selectmen to publish a complete listing of all Town employees, names, positions, salaries, benefits in the Town Report. Part Two: And further to see if the Town will vote the operating budget in separate warrant articles for example: 1. General Government 2. Police Department 3. Fire Department 4. Highways and Streets".*

*Jon Pearson seconded the amendment.*

*Harold Janeway suggested the two parts of the amendment be separated and spoke in opposition to the amendment.*

*Tara Gunnigle stressed that this amendment is a transparency matter to see where the money is going and nothing against Town employees.*

*Financial Administrator Wendy Pinkham commented that she would be glad to share any financial information with the public.*

*Moderator called for a voice vote to the amendment. Amendment Failed by voice vote.*

*Moderator called for a voice vote.*

**FAILED BY VOICE VOTE.**

ARTICLE 14. To transact any other business that may legally come before this meeting.

*Selectman Becker recognized outgoing Select Board Chairman, Roy Fanjoy for his service.*

*Emmett Bean thanked the community for their support.*

*Tara Gunnigle explained that the County Jail's inmates have a work program and they can do beautification projects in Town. She asked the Select Board to consider separating the operating budget in next year's warrant citing the 2012 Warrant as an example.*

*Richard Inman asked the Board if they were going to re appoint members for the Police Advisory Committee. Selectman Johnson said they will not be reappointing members to the committee because it did not work and there was too much controversy.*

*There was clarification that the Select Board cannot overspend the bottom line of the operating budget and that monies can be shifted around. The exception to that is if the specific line has been zeroed out; money cannot be moved into it. Highway and Welfare lines cannot be zeroed out.*

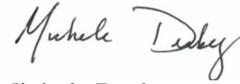
*Paula Fanjoy made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Therese Larson.*

*Moderator called for a voice vote to adjourn the meeting.*

**PASSED BY VOICE VOTE.**

*Meeting adjourned at 11:36 am.*

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Michele Derby".

Michele Derby  
Town Clerk