



Office of the Board of Selectmen
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NEWTON BOARD OF SELECTMEN
PUBLIC HEARING ON THE 2020 TOWN BUDGET AND WARRANT ARTICLES
DATE: MONDAY, JANUARY 20, 2019
TIME: 7:15PM
LOCATION: NEWTON TOWN HALL, 2 TOWN HALL ROAD
PUBLIC HEARING MEETING MINUTES

Chairman Gonyer called the Public Hearing on the 2020 Town Budget and Warrant Articles at 7:15pm.

Chairman Gonyer read the following from the 2019 Town Warrant:

The Board of Selectmen will hold a Public Hearing on Monday, January 20, 2020 beginning at 7:15pm at the Newton Town Hall, 2 Town Hall Road, Newton, NH for the following:

In accordance with RSA 32:5, notice is hereby given to all residents of Newton, New Hampshire, that a Public Hearing for the purpose of gathering public input on the proposed 2020 Town Budget and Warrant Articles will be held on Monday, January 20, 2020 at the Newton Town Hall starting at 7:15pm. Snow date is Tuesday, January 21, 2020 at 7:15pm. The public is encouraged to attend.

Chairman Gonyer advised the public that the Board will only be discussing the warrant articles that the Board has the power to modify, recommend or not recommend.

Warrant Article 6 as read by Selectman Michaels:

“Shall the Town of Newton raise and appropriate as an operating budget, not including appropriations by special warrant articles and other appropriations voted separately, the amounts set forth on the budget posted with the warrant or as amended by vote of the first session, for the purposes set forth therein, totaling **\$3,604,090.00**. Should this article be defeated, the default budget shall be \$3,516,932.00, which is the same as last year, with certain adjustments required by previous action of the Town of Newton or by law; or the governing body may hold one special meeting, in accordance with RSA 40:13, X and XVI, to take up the issue of a revised operating budget only.”

The estimated budget increase from the 2019 ACTUAL budget to the 2020 PROPOSED budget represents a tax impact increase of \$0.51 per \$1,000.00 of assessed value.

Ms. Annie Collyer addressed the Board. She would like the Board to review the major differences between the 2019 and 2020 proposed operating budget. She recommended that the tax impact for the default be included in the warrant article.

Selectman Doggett reviewed some of the major increases in the 2020 department budgets. The increase to the Fire and Police Department is for vehicle maintenance and repairs.

Chairman Gonyer stated that some of the increases to the 2020 budget include higher cost for

FICA, Medicare, health and dental insurance. There will be 4 elections in 2020 which increased the Town Clerk's proposed 2020 budget.

Selectman Burrill noted that the Revaluation will be included in the 2020 Default Budget because the Town is mandated to perform a re-evaluation every 5 years.

Ms. Annie Collyer asked the Board about the increase to the Financial budget item IT. Chairman Gonyer stated that there is a need to upgrade several PC's due to support for the operating system no longer available and the age of the PC's do not make it feasible to upgrade.

Ms. Annie Collyer stated that she compiled figures on the average cost a household has paid for the Town portion of taxes over the past 10 years. She stated that the average paid out is about \$1,000.00.

Mr. William Stewart asked why the Fire Department vehicle maintenance increased \$20,000.00. Chief Alcainho stated that there are 3 vehicles that need repairs in order to pass State inspection and pump certification.

Selectman Doggett moved to recommend Warrant Article 6. The motion passed 4-1. Seconded by Selectman Foote. Chairman Gonyer, Selectmen Doggett, Foote and Michaels – aye. Selectman Burrill – nay.

Selectman Burrill stated that he did not recommend because in his opinion there is room for lowering the 2020 Proposed Operating Budget.

Selectman Doggett stated that in 2019 the Town portion of the tax bill was down \$0.23.

Warrant Article 7 as read by Selectman Foote:

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$10,200.00** to be deposited into the **Engineering & Renovation Capital Reserve Fund** created in 2015; said funds to come from the Unassigned Fund Balance. This represents the Rental Fees received.

This article would result in no increase in the amount to be raised by taxes.

Chairman Gonyer explained that the income comes from the rental fees at 8 Merrimac Road.

Selectman Doggett moved to recommend Warrant Article 7. Seconded by Selectman Burrill with a unanimous vote of 5-0.

Warrant Article 8 as read by Selectman Burrill:

To see if the Town will vote, as proposed by the Board of Selectmen, to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,300.00 to increase the Town Treasurer Salary from \$6,200.00 to \$7,500.00 due to the increase of accounts, hours of work and additional responsibilities. (Last increase was 1996)

This article would result in an estimated \$0.003 increase per \$1,000.00 of assessed value to be raised by taxes.

Chairman Gonyer explained that the Treasurer receives a stipend and is not paid an hourly wage.

Selectman Doggett moved to recommend Warrant Article 8. Seconded by Selectman Foote with a unanimous vote of 5-0.

Warrant Article 9 as read by Chairman Gonyer:

Shall the Town **modify and expand the purpose of the Cable Access Revolving Fund to allow for funding of the Town's Information Technology?** 100% of the amount of revenues received as stated in the cable contract for cable access, including Franchise Fees, or as determined by the legislative body, will be deposited in the fund, and the money in the fund shall be allowed to accumulate from year to year and shall not be considered part of the Town's unassigned fund balance. The Town Treasurer shall have custody of all moneys in the fund and shall pay out the same only upon order of the governing body and no further approval is required by the legislative body to expend. Such funds may be expended only for the purpose for which the fund was created. This revolving fund was established in (2013) to provide Cable Access for public, educational or governmental use.

This article would result in no increase in the amount to be raised by taxes.

Chairman Gonyer explained that expanding the use of the funds will help to offset the taxes.

Mr. Jim Baker addressed the Board and inquired to the balance in the fund. Town Administrator Wrigley stated that as of December 31, 2018 the fund was over \$184, 000.00.

Selectman Doggett moved to recommend Warrant Article 9. Seconded by Selectman Burrill with a unanimous vote of 5-0.

Warrant Article 10 as read by Selectman Doggett:

To see if the Town will vote to modify the Elderly Exemption from property tax in the Town of Newton, based on the assessed value, for qualified taxpayers, to be as follows: for the person 65 years of age up to 74 years of age **\$100,000**; for a person 75 years of age up to 79 years of age **\$110,000**; for a person 80 years of age or older **\$125,000**. To qualify, the applicant must have resided in this state for at least 3 consecutive years, own the real estate individually or jointly, or if the real estate is owned by such a person's spouse, they must have been married for at least 5 years. In addition, the taxpayer must have a net income of not more than \$35,000 if single, or, if married, a combined net income of no greater than \$45,000, and own net assets not in excess of **\$85,000** excluding the value of the person's residence.

This article would result in no increase in the amount to be raised by taxes.

Chairman Gonyer stated that if this article passes it will help to lessen the tax burden for qualified elderly taxpayers.

Mr. Jim Baker asked if this is a modification to an existing policy. Town Administrator Wrigley replied yes and then reviewed the changes.

Selectman Burrill moved to recommend Warrant Article 10. Seconded by Selectman Foote with a unanimous vote of 5-0.

Warrant Article 11 as read by Selectman Michaels:

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, as proposed by the Town Administrator, the sum of **\$34,400.00 for Tax Map Conversion, Updating and ReCompilation Services**. This sum is to come from the unassigned fund balance. No amount to be raised from taxation. This is a non-lapsing appropriation per RSA 32:7, VI and will not lapse until the Map Conversion is completed or by December 31, 2025.

This article would result in no increase in the amount to be raised by taxes.

Town Administrator Wrigley stated that the reason for no tax impact is because the Town received some municipal funds from the State in 2019. The funds were placed in the Unassigned Fund Balance and will be used to digitize the tax maps.

Selectman Burrill moved to recommend Warrant Article 11. Seconded by Selectman Foote with a unanimous vote of 5-0.

Warrant Article 12 as read by Selectman Foote:

To see if the Town will vote, as proposed by the Board of Selectmen, to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$60,000.00** to be paid toward the **2020 SOLID WASTE DISPOSAL BUDGET** as an offset to the recycling and disposal costs, and to authorize the withdrawal of \$60,000 from the Transfer Station/Recycling Special Revenue Fund created in 2003 for this purpose.

This article would result in no increase in the amount to be raised by taxes

Chairman Gonyer stated that fees received from people dropping off bulk items at the Transfer Station goes into this fund. The \$60,000.00 will be withdrawn from the fund to offset taxes.

Ms. Annie Collyer asked the balance of the fund. Town Administrator Wrigley stated that as of November 2019 the balance was \$207,000.00.

Ms. Annie Collyer asked if this would cover the repairs to buildings at the Transfer Station. Chairman Gonyer stated that it will be used to offset taxes for disposal only.

Selectman Doggett moved to recommend Warrant Article 12. Seconded by Selectman Burrill with a unanimous vote of 5-0.

Warrant Article 13 as read by Selectman Burrill:

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$26,327.00** for the following **Community Services:**

AREA HOMECARE & FAMILY SERVICES	\$ 3,800.00
CHILD ADVOCACY CENTER	2,000.00
DRUGS ARE DANGEROUS	2,500.00
HAVEN	3,050.00
LAMPREY HEALTH CARE	1,600.00
NHSPCA	750.00
ROCKINGHAM COUNTY COMMUNITY ACTION	5,000.00
ROCKINGHAM NUTRITION MEALS ON WHEELS	2,927.00
VIC GEARY CENTER	2,700.00
WAYPOINT (f/k/a CHILD AND FAMILY SERVICES)	<u>2,000.00</u>
	\$26,327.00

This article would result in an estimated \$0.051 increase per \$1,000.00 of assessed value to be raised by taxes.

Chairman Gonyer stated that these services are used by the Police, Fire and Welfare Departments.

Mr. Roger Hamel asked why "Family Mediation" was dropped. Chief Jewett stated that the organization is going through a re-branding and are not asking for donations at this time.

Selectman Burrill moved to recommend Warrant Article 13. Seconded by Selectman Doggett with a unanimous vote of 5-0.

Warrant Article 14 as read by Chairman Gonyer:

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, as proposed by the Recreation Commission the sum of **\$4,500.00 for Recreational Programs and Trips for Newton Senior Citizens.**

This article would result in an estimated \$0.009 increase per \$1,000.00 of assessed value to be raised by taxes.

Chairman Gonyer clarified that the funds are for Newton Senior Citizens.

Selectman Doggett moved to recommend Warrant Article 14. Seconded by Selectman Burrill with a unanimous vote of 5-0.

Warrant Article 15 as read by Selectman Doggett:

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, as proposed by the Recreation Commission, the sum of **\$15,750.00 to hire three Part-Time Lifeguards, one Part-Time Supervisor of Lifeguards, and to purchase the necessary Safety Equipment,** to oversee the safety of all swimmers at the Town Beach between May 2020 and September 2020.

This article would result in an estimated \$0.031 increase per \$1,000.00 of assessed value to be raised by taxes.

Selectman Burrill explained that the increase to the article is for hiring a part-time supervisor. The Supervisor will be the contact for any emergencies the Lifeguards may have. They will handle any paperwork needed and ensure safety guidelines are being followed.

Selectman Doggett moved to recommend Warrant Article 15. Seconded by Selectman Burrill with a unanimous vote of 5-0.

Warrant Article 16 as read by Selectman Michaels:

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, as proposed by the Board of Selectmen the sum of **\$5,000.00 for a Sign at the Street Entrance of the Safety Complex** located at 8 Merrimac Road.

This article would result in an estimated \$0.010 increase per \$1,000.00 of assessed value to be raised by taxes.

Chairman Gonyer stated that the article was placed on the warrant per a request from a resident.

Mr. Baker asked how the Board arrived at \$5,000.00. Selectman Doggett stated that the original quote was for \$25,000.00 and the Board felt that the proposed sign was more than was needed.

Selectman Doggett moved to recommend Warrant Article 16. Seconded by Selectman Foote for discussion.

Selectman Foote asked if the funds from the Engineering and Renovation of the Land and Buildings located at 8 Merrimac Road, Capital Reserve Fund, could be used. Selectman Doggett stated the fund cannot be used for new structures.

The motion passed 3 – 2. Selectman Doggett, Foote, and Michaels – aye. Chairman Gonyer and Selectman Burrill – nay.

Both Chairman Gonyer and Selectman Burrill stated that there are signs already at 8 Merrimac Road. There are higher priorities within the Town that should take precedent.

Warrant Article 17 as read by Selectman Foote:

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, as proposed by the Board of Selectmen the sum of **\$50,000.00** to be deposited into the **Engineering & Renovation of the Land and Buildings located at 8 Merrimac Road, Capital Reserve Fund**, created in 2015.

This article would result in an estimated \$0.098 increase per \$1,000.00 of assessed value to be raised by taxes.

Chairman Gonyer stated that this would be to help offset future costs of building repairs and maintenance at 8 Merrimac Road.

Selectman Foote asked why the funds for the signs could not come from this fund as this is a different fund. Town Administrator Wrigley reiterated that the sign is not a renovation.

Ms. Annie Collyer asked if this was a new article. Selectman Burrill stated that it is not.

Mr. Roger Hamel asked if the reserve fund described in Article 7 is the same reserve fund in Article 17 and if so, they should be described the same. The Board agreed that it is the same fund and will be described the same on the 2020 Town Warrant.

Mr. Chester Bearce asked why the word "Engineering" is in the fund name. The Board explained that it could be used for an engineering purposes should it be needed as well as renovation.

Selectman Burrill moved to recommend Warrant Article 17. Seconded by Selectman Foote. The motion passed 4-1. Chairman Gonyer, Selectmen Doggett, Burrill and Michaels – aye. Selectman Foote – nay.

Selectman Foote stated that in his opinion this is liken to an insurance policy which the Town already has.

Warrant Article 18 as read by Chairman Gonyer:

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen to enter into a ten year lease/purchase agreement to purchase a fully equipped **E-One Fire Apparatus** for the Fire Department at a cost of **\$649,000.00**, payable over a term of 10 years at a rate of \$76,744.14 annually, and to raise and appropriate \$76,744.14 for the first year's payment. The full cost of the vehicle is \$669,000.00; the amount of the lease reflects the trade-in value of the vehicles being replaced. *This agreement does contain an escape clause.* (Majority vote required.)

This article would result in an estimated \$0.15 increase per \$1,000.00 of assessed value to be raised by taxes.

Chairman Gonyer stated that it has been mentioned previously that the Town has some very old fire apparatus vehicles that have high maintenance and repair costs.

Mr. Roger Hamel asked how long the current lease for the Tanker is. Town Administrator Wrigley believes it was purchased in 2015 and is for six years.

Mr. Jim Baker asked if each year this would need to be on the warrant. Chairman Gonyer stated no because there is an escape clause which means that it would go into default budget until paid off.

Ms. Annie Collyer asked if there are any unexpended funds left. The Board agreed that there are some remaining funds. Ms. Annie Collyer recommends that the Board place the unexpended fund into a Capital Reserve Fund.

Ms. Annie Collyer asked if in the previous article it was mentioned that the funds might be used for paving a portion of the driveway at 8 Merrimac Road. Chairman Gonyer stated the Board has no plans at this time because the funds are not there.

Chief Alcainho stated that the oldest apparatus vehicle has cost the Town over \$100,000.00 in repairs over the last 10 years. He went on to state that the new vehicle will replace 2 of the older vehicles which will help save on repairs and maintenance.

Mr. Jim Baker commented that the Board should explain the rationale behind placing money in a Capital Reserve Fund.

Selectman Doggett moved to recommend Warrant Article 18. Seconded by Selectman Burrill with a unanimous vote of 5-0.

Warrant Article 19 as read by Selectman Doggett:

If article 18 fails, to see if the Town will vote, as proposed by the Fire Chief, to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$50,000.00** to be placed in the existing Capital Reserve Fund known as the **“Fire Apparatus and Equipment / Refurbishment Fund”** voted in 2011.

This article would result in an estimated \$0.098 increase per \$1,000.00 of assessed value to be raised by taxes.

Chairman Gonyer explained that if Article 18 fails and Article 19 passes, \$50,000.00 would be placed in the Capital Reserve Fund.

Selectman Doggett moved to recommend Warrant Article 19. Seconded by Selectman Foote for discussion.

Ms. Annie Collyer recommends adding “null and void” at the end of the warrant article.

The motion passed with a 4-1 vote. Selectman Doggett, Burrill, Foote and Michaels – aye. Chairman Gonyer – nay.

Chairman Gonyer is in favor of Article 21 which is not conditional.

Warrant Article 20 as read by Selectman Michaels:

To see if the Town will vote, as proposed by the Board of Selectmen and the Police Chief, to establish a Capital Reserve Fund under the provisions of RSA 35:1 to be known as the **“POLICE CRUISERS AND EQUIPMENT FUND”** for the purpose of maintenance, repairs and purchase of cruisers and equipment; and to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$25,000.00** to be placed in this fund and to name the Board of Selectmen as Agents.

This article would result in an estimated \$0.049 increase per \$1,000.00 of assessed value to be raised by taxes.

Chairman Gonyer stated that this is a new Capital Reserve Fund that would be established to fund the Police Department future needs for cruisers and equipment.

Warrant Article 19 -- continued

Selectman Doggett asked to have his recorded vote on Article 19 changed to "nay". He stated that he was under the impression that Article 21 was going to be removed from the warrant.

Warrant Article 20 – continued

Selectman Burrill stated that the Town has pushed the older vehicles to their limit.

Selectman Burrill moved to recommend Warrant Article 20. Seconded by Selectman Doggett with a unanimous vote of 5-0

Warrant Article 21 as read by Selectman Foote:

To see if the Town will vote, as proposed by the Board of Selectmen and the Fire Chief, to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$25,000.00** to be placed in the existing **Capital Reserve Fund** known as the **"Fire Apparatus and Equipment / Refurbishment Fund"** voted in 2011.

This article would result in an estimated \$0.049 increase per \$1,000.00 of assessed value to be raised by taxes

Chief Alcainho addressed the Board and expressed concern that Article 19 and 21 are asking to place a total of \$75,000.00 into the same fund and that the voters will reject both articles.

Chairman Gonyer, Selectman Doggett and Burrill would support Article 21 because it is non-conditional.

Selectman Foote moved to recommend Warrant Article 21. Seconded by Selectman Doggett. The motion passed 3-2. Chairman Gonyer, Selectman Doggett and Burrill – aye. Selectman Foote and Michaels – nay.

Selectman Doggett moved to reconsider Article 19 the vote to recommend. Seconded by Selectman Burrill for discussion.

The Board agreed that both Article 19 and 21 are not needed. Chief Alcainho stated that the Fire Department proposed Article 19.

Selectman Doggett would like to reduce the amount from \$50,000.00 to \$25,000.00.

The motion passed 4-1. Selectman Doggett, Burrill, Foote and Michaels – aye. Chairman Gonyer – nay.

Selectman Burrill moved to reconsider Article 21 and to not recommend Article 21. Seconded by Selectman Doggett for discussion.

Chief Alcainho asked if both Article 19 and 21 will be removed from the Warrant. Selectman Burrill stated that Article 21 would be fund at \$0 and would be done at the Deliberative Session.

Mr. Roger Hamel commented that the Board can modify the article.

Selectman Doggett moved to strike Article 21 if it is allowed by statutes. Seconded by Selectman Burrill. The motion passed 4 -1. Selectman Doggett, Burrill, Foote and Michaels – aye. Chairman Gonyer – nay.

The motion to not recommend Article 21 passed 4-1. Selectman Doggett, Burrill, Foote and Michaels – aye. Chairman Gonyer – nay.

Warrant Article 22 as read by Selectman Burrill:

To see if the Town will vote **to accept the donation of a former Newton 1941 Pumper Fire Truck** to be used for special events and to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$750.00** for maintenance and repairs to the truck.

This article would result in an estimated \$0.001 increase per \$1,000.00 of assessed value to be raised by taxes.

Chairman Gonyer stated that a resident offered to donate a Newton 1941 fire truck provided the Town maintain the truck.

Mr. Chester Bearce recommended removing the word “pumper” so the it will pass inspection. He also stated that as an antique it does not need to be inspected yearly.

Selectman Burrill moved to remove the word “Pumper” from the Warrant Article 22. Seconded by Selectman Doggett with a unanimous vote of 5-0.

Selectman Doggett moved to recommend Warrant Article 22. Seconded by Selectman Foote. The motion passed 4 – 1. Chairman Gonyer, Selectman Doggett, Foote and Michaels – aye. Selectman Burrill – nay.

Selectman Burrill stated that in his opinion it is an unnecessary expense. Chairman Gonyer stated that the truck could be rented out.

Warrant Article 23 as read by Chairman Gonyer:

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, as proposed by the Board of Selectmen, the sum of **\$50,000.00** to be placed in the Capital Reserve Fund called **ROAD SYSTEMS IMPROVEMENTS**.

This article would result in an estimated \$0.098 increase per \$1,000.00 of assessed value to be raised by taxes.

Chairman Gonyer stated that this will go into a Capital Reserve Fund already created to help repair additional Town roads.

Selectman Doggett moved to reduce the amount to \$25,000.00 in Warrant Article 23. Seconded by Selectman Burrill with a unanimous vote of 5-0.

Selectman Doggett moved to recommend Warrant Article 23. Seconded by Selectman Foote with a unanimous vote of 5-0.

Warrant Article 24 as read by Selectman Doggett:

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, as proposed by the Gale Library Trustees, the sum of **\$3,500.00** to remove and install a new Flagpole at the Gale Library, located at 16 South Main Street.

This article would result in an estimated \$0.007 increase per \$1,000.00 of assessed value to be raised by taxes.

The Board asked if the flagpole was in eminent danger of falling. Town Administrator Wrigley stated that the last Building Inspector did not believe so.

Selectman Doggett moved to not recommend Warrant Article 24. Seconded by Selectman Burrill with a unanimous vote of 5-0.

Warrant Article 25 as read by Selectman Michaels:

On a petition of 25 or more legal voters, to see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$100,000.00** to upgrade and replace Greenie Park Playground Equipment and add proper safety surfacing. This is a non-lapsing appropriation per RSA 32:7, VI and will not lapse until the Greenie Park Playground upgrade is completed or by December 31, 2025.

This article would result in an estimated \$0.195 increase per \$1,000.00 of assessed value to be raised by taxes.

Ms. Erin Stevens, a representative from Friends of Newton Recreation, addressed the Board. She explained that her organization is looking to update the playground only. They estimate the cost to be \$88,000.00 with \$12,000.00 in case of unforeseen issues during the renovation. She went on to state that there are some safety issues on some of the current equipment.

Ms. Annie Collyer stated that there are numerous safety concerns with the playground. She went on to state that should the article fail, they should consider using the large rocks that are already there to make a natural playground.

Selectman Doggett stated that he has concerns at the cost of the project. He would support the article if it were lower.

Both Chairman Gonyer and Selectman Foote commented on the poor conditions of the park.

Selectman Burrill stated that if the Article does not pass, maybe next year ask for less and do the park in 5 years.

Mr. Bob Marchand addressed the Board and would like the voters to be able to vote on the article as written.

Selectman Michaels stated that having a safe park within the Town, will most likely increase property values.

Selectman Foote moved to recommend Warrant Article 25. Seconded by Selectman Michaels. The motion passed 4 – 1. Chairman Gonyer, Selectman Burrill, Foote and Michaels – aye. Selectman Doggett – nay.

Warrant Article 26 as read by Selectman Foote:

On a petition of 25 or more legal voters, shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$4,936.00** (\$1 per person) based on the population numbers provided in the 2017 Census American Community Survey, to support the substance misuse prevention, suicide prevention and community wellness services of the SoRock Coalition for Healthy Youth. SoRock's work promotes wellness and nurtures resiliency for the children, youth and families of Newton as well as surrounding communities. SoRock works through coordinating community education, programming & resources and collaborating with federal and state agencies to help direct additional resources to the towns they serve.

This article would result in an estimated \$0.010 increase per \$1,000.00 of assessed value to be raised by taxes

Ms. Charlotte Scott, a coordinator for SoRock, addressed the Board. She is asking the Town to fund this organization. For the past 10 years, SoRock, received federal grants but have now aged out. The funds would be used for staffing.

Chairman Gonyer stated that should the Article pass, the service will be included in the list of Community Services Article that is presented each year.

Selectman Doggett moved to recommend Warrant Article 26. Seconded by Selectman Foote with a unanimous vote of 5-0.

Warrant Article 27 as read by Selectman Burrill:

On a petition of 25 or more eligible voters of the Town of Newton will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$1,000.00** to support a **LAKE HOST PROGRAM** at the Newton Town **BOAT RAMP** for the 2020 summer season. The Lake Host Program is a collaborative effort between NH Department of Environmental Services, NH Lakes and local lake associations. It trains and employs individuals to provide courtesy boat inspections to prevent the spread of aquatic invasive plants, such as milfoil, from one lake to another thereby protecting public lake uses such as swimming, fishing and boating.

This article would result in an estimated \$0.002 increase per \$1,000.00 of assessed value to be raised by taxes.

Chairman Gonyer stated that this program provides a courtesy boat inspection and is voluntary. The program strives to educate boaters on invasive plants and how they can contaminate a lake/pond if not remove from the boat.

Selectman Burrill stated that the funds will be used for minimal payroll.

Mr. Jim Baker stated that this organization does a fantastic job.

Selectman Doggett moved to recommend Warrant Article 27. Seconded by Selectman Burrill with a unanimous vote of 5-0.

Chairman Gonyer closed the meeting at 10:10pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane M. Morin
Board of Selectmen Secretary