

TOWN OF KINGSTON, N. H.
MINUTES OF THE TOWN MEETING
MARCH 10, 2009

The Annual Town Meeting was called to order at 8:00 AM at the Town Hall by Moderator Electra L. Alessio, for the voting by secret ballot for the election of Town Officers, 20 regular Town Articles and 10 Zoning Articles, as well as the voting for the election of Officers for Sanborn Regional School District and the voting of 9 Regular Articles for the School District.

Town Clerk Bettie C. Ouellette broke the seals on the boxes of ballots and the Moderator inspected the ballot boxes. Two Accu-Vote machines were used for this election.

The ballot clerks were Donna M. Grier, Joanne E. Lambert, Peter J. Sullivan, Marilyn B. Bartlett, Herbert G. Noyes, Sandra P. Foy, Debra F. Powers, Gloria M. Parsons, Ellen L. Faulconer, and Holly Ouellette.

The Police Officer was Donald W. Briggs, Jr. The results were announced by the Moderator at 9:30 PM. The ballots were sealed and locked in the vault at 10:00 PM.

The total count was 1,416, including 86 absentee ballots. 20 new voters were registered at the polls, bringing the total voters on the checklist to 3,999.

The following results were obtained:

Selectman for Three Years

Peter V. Broderick 1,072*

Town Clerk - Tax Collector for Three Years

Melissa J. Fowler 608

Bettie C. Ouellette 793*

Road Agent for Three Years

Richard D. St. Hilaire 1,205*

Trustee of Trust Funds for Three Years

Edmund J. Caillouette 1,104*

Trustee of Trust Funds for Two Years

George S. MacMahon 1,052*

Trustee of Trust Funds for One Year

Donna Winslow 1,075*

Police Officers for Three Years

James M. Champion 1,158*

Joel T. Johnson 1,104*

Library Trustee for Three Years

Jane H. Christie 1,031*

Wilhelmina Bradley 945*

Library Trustee for Two Years

Karen Conti 643*

Robert Grier 367

Fire Ward for Three Years

John A. Merrill 1,078*

Planning Board for Three Years

"Mike" Higgins 502

Ernest "Ernie" J. Landry 608*

Daniel Mastroianni 294

"Jay" Alberts 728*

Municipal Budget Committee for Three Years

Gary T. Finerty 996*

Marilyn Bartlett (write-ins) 20*

Municipal Budget Committee for Two Years

Ronald Conant 1,029*

Zoning Board of Adjustment for Three Years

Raymond R. Donald 982*

John Whittier (write-ins) 86*

"Jay" Alberts (write-ins) 11

ARTICLE 2: The voters adopted Amendment Number 2 to the existing Town Zoning Ordinance as proposed by the Kingston Planning Board as follows:

SIGN ORDINANCE

1. Purpose

The purpose of regulating signs is to promote and protect the public health, safety and welfare by regulating existing and proposed outdoor advertising, outdoor advertising signs, and outdoor signs of all types; to serve as a way of appropriately locating businesses; to protect property values; enhance and protect the physical appearance of the community; preserve the scenic and natural beauty and provide a more enjoyable and pleasing community; to reduce sign or advertising distractions and obstructions that may contribute to traffic accidents; reduce hazards that may be caused by signs overhanging or projecting over public rights of way; provide more open space, and curb the deterioration of natural beauty and community environment.

2. Definitions

1. **Area:** The area of one (1) side of a NOT MORE THAN TWO (2) SIDED SIGN.
2. **Development Project:** Any residential (3 units or more), commercial, industrial or mixed use development plan which is submitted to the Town for approval.
3. **Direct Illumination:** Illumination resulting from light emitted directly from a lamp or luminaire, not light diffused through translucent signs or reflected from other surfaces such as the ground or building faces.
4. **Directory Board:** A wall sign erected on a building wall at the ground floor level, or free standing and containing name identification for more than one activity or business located on a single building or a group of buildings. Each listing shall be no larger than one (1) square foot. A directory board shall be considered to be one wall sign.
5. **Foot-candle:** A unit of measure of the intensity of light falling on a surface, equal to one lumen per square foot and originally defined with reference to a standardized candle burning at one foot from a given surface.
6. **Free Standing Sign:** Unattached to any building. Sandwich boards and similar installations shall be considered free standing signs for purpose of this regulation. Also a sign supported by one or more uprights or braces permanently affixed into the ground is a free-standing sign.
7. **Identification Kiosk:** A free standing structure erected on a suitable foundation and designed to provide advertising space for a building or a group of buildings containing three or more businesses on a single premises or group of contiguous premises. The Identification kiosk may be an integrated part of a permitted free-standing sign or an additional free-standing sign.
8. **Identification Sign:** A sign indicating the location of or direction to, a separate function performed within one portion of that building. Examples of identification signs are: "entrance", "exit", "auditorium", etc. Identification signs do not name or advertise the activity conducted within or without the premises.
9. **Installed Lighting:** Attached, or fixed in place, whether or not connected to a power source.

10. **Lumen:** The unit used to measure the actual amount of light which is produced by a lamp.
11. **Non-Conforming Sign:** A sign lawfully existing at the time of adoption of this regulation or any subsequent amendment which does not conform to one (1) or more provisions of this regulation.
12. **Opaque:** Opaque means that material must not transmit light from an internal illumination source.
13. **Outdoor Light Fixtures:** Outdoor electrically powered illuminating devices, outdoor lighting or reflective surfaces, lamps and similar devices, either permanently installed or portable, which are used for illumination or advertisement. Such devices shall include, but are not limited to, search, spot and flood lights.
14. **Portable Sign:** A sign not designed or intended to be permanently affixed into the ground or to a structure. Portable signs are not permitted. Movable directional signs are not considered to be portable signs.
15. **Projecting Sign:** An outdoor sign which is attached to a wall at an angle.
16. **Roof Sign:** A sign located upon or over a roof of a building.
17. **Sandwich Board Sign:** A moveable sign not secured or attached to the ground or surface upon which it is located, but supported by its own frame and most often forming the cross-sectional shape of an A.
18. **Sign:** A sign is a name, identification description, display or illustration or any other visual display which is affixed to, painted, or represented directly or indirectly upon a building, structure or piece of land and which directs attention to an object, product, place, activity, person, institution, organization or business. However, a sign shall not include any display of official court or public office notices or any official traffic control device, nor shall it include the flag, emblem or insignia of a nation, state, county, municipality, or public school.
19. **Sign Area:** The area of one (1) side of a NOT MORE THAN TWO (2) SIDED SIGN. The area of the square, rectangle, triangle, circle, or combination thereof, which encompasses the facing of a sign, including copy, insignia, background and borders. The structural supports of a sign are to be excluded in determining the signable area. Where a supporting structure bears more than one sign, all such signs on the structure shall be considered as one sign, and so measured.
20. **Sign, external lighting:** Any sign the facing of which reflects light from a source intentionally directed upon it.
21. **Sign Face:** The surface of a sign visible from the public way. Each sign face counts as one sign. Each sign face counts as one sign except that a sign with two sign faces shall be counted as one sign.
22. **Sign, Internal lighting:** Any sign which has the source of light entirely enclosed within the sign and not directly visible to the eye.
23. **Temporary Sign:** Any sign intended to be displayed for no more than thirty (30) days and without permanent frost resistant anchoring to the ground.
24. **Wall Sign:** An outdoor sign which is attached flat to, painted on, or pinned away from a building wall or part thereof, and does not project more than 18 inches from the wall.
25. **Wall Sign Area:** The area of the facade of a building up to the roof line. The façade includes the gable areas for pitched roofed buildings.

26. **Window Sign:** A sign that is affixed to a window or hanging inside a window that is visible from outside of a building. A window sign shall be considered and regulated as a sign that is affixed to a building.
27. **Visible:** Capable of being seen without visual aid by a person of normal visual acuity.

3. Sign Requirements

A. General Provisions

1. Sign Approval Required - Except as otherwise herein provided, no person shall erect, modify or move any signs visible from the public way without first applying for and obtaining a sign approval. In the case of a new commercial or industrial activity, or in the case of a change of or expansion of an existing commercial or industrial activity that falls within the site plan review authority of the Planning Board, sign permits will be included within the site plan review process. In the case where a sign permit is requested for a business not subject to the Planning Board's site plan review authority, the permit will be applied through and granted by the building inspector within the office of the Board of Selectmen. If the sign is located in the Historic Districts, section 4.10.5 of the Kingston Zoning Ordinance must be followed. Approval shall be required for newly installed signs or expanded signs in all zoning districts which currently include:

- Industrial
- Commercial CI
- Commercial CII
- Commercial CIII
- Rural Residential
- Single family residential
- Single family residential agricultural
- Elderly Housing
- Historic Districts I & II

Changes in sign lighting shall require review. Reductions in sign area shall not require review or approval. Changes in language or fascia shall not require review unless the change also increases the signage, changes the lighting, or represents a new signage area not previously approved.

2. Maintenance and Conformance of Signs - No sign shall be erected or altered except in conformity with the provisions herein. The sign must be kept clean, neatly painted and free from all hazards such as, but not limited to, faulty wiring and loose fastenings, and must be maintained at all times in such safe condition so as not to be detrimental to the public health or safety or constitute a distraction or obstruction that may contribute to traffic accidents.
3. General Safety Standards for Signs - No sign, whether new or existing, shall be permitted that causes a sight, traffic, health or welfare hazard or results in a nuisance due to illumination, placement, display, or manner of construction.
4. Street Numbers - All signs proposed in the commercial and Industrial zones shall incorporate the businesses street number in the sign design. The street number must be prominent in the design and

sized appropriately for the speed of the road upon which the business and sign are located.

5. Exceptions - For the purpose of this regulation, the term "sign" does not include signs erected and maintained for public safety and welfare or pursuant to and in discharge of any governmental function, or required by law, regulation or governmental regulation.

B. Temporary Signs

The following temporary signs are permitted:

1. Temporary Signs Giving Notice. Signs of a temporary nature such as advertisements and other commercial signs of a similar nature are permitted for a period not to exceed thirty (30) days and shall be removed by the person(s) who posted the signs within forty-eight (48) hours after fulfilling its function. Temporary signs specified in this section shall not be attached or painted to fences, trees, or other natural features, utility poles, or the like and shall not be placed in a position that will obstruct or impair vision or traffic or in any manner create a hazard or disturbance to the health and welfare of the general public.
2. Residential Real Estate Developments. Signs located at the entrance for residential developments may be installed until the roadway is accepted by the Town or the last lot is developed, whichever is earlier.
3. All temporary signs shall conform to the specific standards in Section D.

C. Provisions.

The following provisions relating to signs are applicable in all districts.

1. One sign identifying the name, address and profession of a permitted home occupation or a lawfully existing nonconforming home occupation is allowed provided such sign does not exceed one (1) sq. ft. in area.
2. A bulletin board or similar sign in connection with any church, museum, library, school or similar public structure not exceeding 12 sq. ft. is allowed. The sign may only be externally lit.
3. No sign shall have visible moving parts, blinking, moving or glaring illumination, or any part consisting of banners, pennants, ribbons, streamers, spinners or other similar devices. No sign shall be of the computer animation type. This regulation does not prohibit a wall name sign consisting solely of a rectangular banner made of a flexible cloth-type material, attached at all corners either perpendicular or flat, and conforming to all of these regulations. In addition, one "Open" flag is permitted per business.
4. A string of lights shall not be used for the purpose of advertising or attracting attention unless as an integral part of a permitted sign.
5. Illuminating signs whose specific purpose is outlining any part of a building, such as a gable, roof, sidewalk or corner, are prohibited.
6. Illumination of building signs shall be permitted from the hours of 7:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m., except that this time restriction shall not apply to the illuminated signs of emergency facilities and retail, commercial and industrial establishments during such hours as the establishments are lawfully open to the public or work hours are regularly in effect. Free standing signs may be lit twenty-four (24) hours a day provided they meet the standards of the Town's lighting

ordinance.

7. All businesses shall be limited to one free-standing sign on the lot where the business is located. No signs shall be permitted for any businesses not conducted in Kingston or that are not located on the subject property.
8. In addition to the maximum number and size of signs permitted, directional signs placed at driveway locations, containing no advertising material, having a display area not exceeding five (5) square feet, and not extending higher than seven (7) feet above ground level, are permitted.
9. Legally existing non-conforming signs may continue but may not be altered, or relocated on the same premises unless they are brought into conformance with these regulations. Normal maintenance and repairs are permitted.
10. In addition to the maximum number and size of permitted signs, identification signs may be erected over or by the doorway or entrance to such portion of the building. The sign area shall not exceed ten percent (10%) of the area of such doorway or entrance to such portion of the building.
11. Portable signs are not permitted.

D. Specific Standards

1. The following signs are not regulated by this section:
 - a. Signs displayed internally within the border of a window of a building if the sign or grouping of signs does not occupy more than 30 percent of the surface area of such window and if illuminated shall only be illuminated during hours of operation.
 - b. Directional signs as described in Section C.8.
 - c. Identification signs as described in Section C.10.

2. Free Standing Signs.

Free standing signs shall conform to the following table:

Free Standing Signage			
District	Height	Size	Setback Front/Side property line
Industrial	25 feet	80 sq ft	10 ft / 25 ft
Commercial (CI, II, III) *	25 feet	80 sq ft	10 ft / 25 ft
Rural Residential	12 feet	24 sq ft	10 ft / 20 ft
Historic I & II	12 feet	24 sq ft	10 ft / 25 ft
Elderly Housing	8 feet	15 sq ft	10 ft/25 ft
Single Family Residential	Not Allowed		
Single Family Residential Agricultural	8 feet	15 sq ft	10 ft / 25 ft

Note: Residential Home Occupations allow a sign not more than two square feet in area.

* - Including Rural Residential lots abutting Route 125.

3. Multi-tenant Developments.

The standards of this section for maximum number and maximum square footage of signage are limits which cannot be exceeded, but which do not create any right or entitlement to the maximums.

The standards of this section apply on a per building basis. In calculating allowable signage, each principal building together with its accessory buildings or structures, if any, shall count as one building.

Facilities or developments that have 3 or more separate tenants or businesses may provide for additional signage in accordance with the following table:

Multi-tenant Developments			
District	Identification Kiosk	Height	Size / Sign
Industrial	Yes	12 feet	6 inches X 4 feet per unit
Commercial (CI, II, III)	Yes	12 feet	6 inches X 4 feet per unit
Rural Residential	Yes	12 feet	6 inches X 4 feet per unit
Historic I & II	Yes	12 feet	6 inches X 4 feet per unit
Elderly Housing	Not Allowed	Not allowed	Not Allowed
Single Family Residential	Not Allowed	Not allowed	Not Allowed
Single Family Residential Agricultural	Not Allowed	Not Allowed	Not allowed

4. Building Signage.

Signage on a building is permitted provided that it is placed on a building in conformance with the following table. Signs in windows that exceed 30 % of the individual window area shall be considered building signage.

Building Signage

District	Sign, Area/Sign	% Wall Area	Total Area (not to exceed)
Industrial	N/A	10%	500 sq ft
Commercial (I, II, III) *	N/A	10%	500 sq ft
Rural Residential	24 sq ft	N/A	N/A
Historic I & II	24 sq ft	N/A	N/A
Elderly Housing	2 sq ft	N/A	N/A
Single Family Residential	2 sq ft	N/A	N/A
Single Family Residential Agricultural	2 sq ft	N/A	N/A

N/A means not applicable

* - Including Rural Residential lots abutting Route 125.

5. Sign Lighting.

- a. Building signs that use lighting as text are permitted provided such text is stationary.
- b. Changeable face and text signs are permitted, provided the text changes are limited to one change per 12 hour period.
- c. Sign lighting shall utilize high-efficiency fluorescent, CFL, or other energy efficient fixtures. LEDs can be utilized for internal lighting or external lighting of the sign face.
- d. External sign lighting shall meet the Town of Kingston lighting ordinance.

Sign Lighting		
District	Internal	External
Industrial	Yes	Yes
Commercial (I, II, III) *	Yes	Yes
Rural Residential	No	Yes
Historic I & II	No	Yes
Elderly Housing	No	Yes
Single Family Residential	No	Yes
Single Family Residential Agricultural	No	Yes

*- Including Rural Residential lots abutting Route 125.

E. Validity and Severability

Should any provision of this regulation be declared by the courts to be invalid, the decision shall not invalidate any other provision of this regulation which can be given effect without the invalid provision, and to this end the provisions of these regulations are severable.

F. Variance Provision

The Board of Adjustment shall have authority to allow slight variances from the specific terms of this Ordinance in accordance with Article IX, section 9.10.

And

Amend Section 7.90.3.b of the Residential Home Occupation Ordinance to change the section so that it reads “two square feet” instead of “one square foot”.

YES 684* NO 500

ARTICLE 3: The voters adopted Amendment Number 3 to the existing Town of Kingston Zoning Ordinance as proposed by the Kingston Planning Board as follows:

4.10.5 Kingston Historic District Sign Ordinance

c. Specific Provisions

- 7) Illumination of free standing signs in Historic District 1 and 2 shall be permitted from the hours of 7:00 AM to 10:00 PM except that this

time restriction shall not apply to the illuminated signs of emergency facilities and retail and commercial establishments during such hours as the establishments are lawfully open to the public.

YES 726* NO 518

ARTICLE 4: The voters adopted Amendment Number 4 to the existing Town of Kingston Zoning Ordinance as proposed by the Kingston Planning Board as follows:

Amend Section 4.80, Commercial Zone C-I of the Kingston Zoning Ordinance in the following manner:

Section 4.80.6 Prohibited Uses, remove the phrase, "Materials distribution plants" from the list of prohibited uses, so that section 4.80.6.3 will read, Truck Terminals.

YES 628* NO 556

ARTICLE 5: The voters adopted Amendment Number 5 to the existing Town of Kingston Zoning Ordinance as proposed by the Kingston Planning Board as follows:

Amend Section 4.100, Commercial Zone C-III of the Kingston Zoning Ordinance in the following manner:

Section 4.100.5 Prohibited Uses, remove the phrase, "Materials distribution plants" from the list of prohibited uses, so that section 4.100.5.3 will read, Truck Terminals are prohibited.

YES 628* NO 536

ARTICLE 6: The voters adopted Amendment Number 6 to the existing Town of Kingston Zoning Ordinance as proposed by the Kingston Planning Board as follows:

To re-zone the following lots from Rural Residential to Commercial Zone II: Map R40, lots 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, and 18.

Note: This article would provide for an expansion of the C-II district to the easterly side of Route 125.

YES 633* NO 550

ARTICLE 7: The voters adopted Amendment Number 7 to the existing Town of Kingston Zoning Ordinance as proposed by the Kingston Planning Board as follows:

Amend Commercial Zone C-II to add under permitted uses:

4.90.5.9 Establishments serving food and beverage such as, but not limited to: restaurants, cafes, and taverns.

YES 801* NO 401

ARTICLE 8: The voters adopted Amendment Number 8 to the existing Town of Kingston Zoning Ordinance as proposed by the Kingston Planning Board as follows:

Amend section 4.80.5 to include the following additional permitted uses:

4.80.5 Permitted Uses:

- 4.80.1** Animal hospitals, kennels and veterinarian establishments; and residential units as an accessory use to these primary principal uses.
- 4.80.5.10** General indoor recreation facilities (i.e. a building for indoor activities such as a health club, indoor soccer facility or racquetball facility)
- 4.80.5.11** Warehousing

YES 805* NO 340

ARTICLE 9: The voters adopted Amendment Number 9 as proposed by petition for the existing Town Zoning, Building and Land Use Ordinances as follows:

Amend Commercial III Prohibited Uses

1.0 Residential Construction is prohibited, except as provided in “pre-existing use” exception.

To add:

Or in a mixed commercial/residential use plan when the residential structures are for over age 55 housing and are a minimum of 1,000 feet from the center line of Route 125. All residential buffers must apply.

YES 631* NO 489

ARTICLE 10: The voters did not adopt Amendment Number 10 as proposed by petition for the existing Town Zoning, Building and Land Use Ordinances as follows:

Amend Historic District I Regulations as follows:

Add to permitted uses 4.10.4.1

j. Bed and Breakfast Establishments and Inns

k. Multi-family housing

l. Assisted living facilities

m. Nursing Homes

n. Adult day care facilities

◆ NEW YES 516 NO 634* HIRE ◆

ARTICLE 11: The voters adopted Amendment Number 11 as proposed by petition for the existing Town Zoning, Building and Land Use Ordinances as follows:

Amend Historic District I Regulations as follows to provide consistent zoning along both sides of the Plains:

Remove lots
U-9 1, 2, 7, 8, 9, 41-50
U-10 5, 6, 7, 41, 42
From the Single Family Zone.

YES 609* NO 511

ARTICLE 12: The Town voted to 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 \$4,406,738.00. Had this article been defeated, the default budget would have been \$4,319,715.00, which is the same as last year, with certain adjustments required by previous action of the Town 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. This operating budget warrant article does not include appropriations contained in any other warrant articles.

YES 693* NO 624

ARTICLE 13: The Town voted to authorize the Tax Collector to allow a 1½% deduction from Property Tax when payment is made within 30 days of billing.

YES 1,301* NO 63

ARTICLE 14: The Town did not vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$75,000.00 to be placed in the Expendable Trust Fund to repair, maintain and improve Town buildings.

YES 473 NO 841*

ARTICLE 15: The Town did not vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$75,000.00 to be placed in the previously approved Capital Reserve Fund for future replacement of Highway Equipment.

YES 640 NO 699*

ARTICLE 16: The Town did not vote to raise and appropriate, as proposed by petition, the sum of \$75,000.00 to be added to the Fire Apparatus Replacement Capital Reserve Fund.

YES 634 NO 716*

ARTICLE 17: The Town did not vote to raise and appropriate, as proposed by petition, the sum of \$29,000.00 to be added to the Fire Department's Building Replacement, Upgrade and Refurbishment Capital Reserve Fund.

YES 584 NO 754*

ARTICLE 18: The Town did not vote to raise and appropriate, as proposed by petition, the sum of \$55,000.00 for the purpose of installing new lighting, insulation and a ceiling in the apparatus bays of Central Station, and authorize the withdrawal of said \$55,000.00 from the Fire Department's Building Replacement, Upgrade and Refurbishment Capital Reserve Fund created for such purpose.

YES 641 NO 700*

ARTICLE 19: The Town did not vote to raise and appropriate, as proposed by petition, the sum of \$5,000.00 for the purpose of a fireworks display during the Kingston Days 2009 celebration.

YES 576 NO 773*

ARTICLE 20: The Town did not vote to raise and appropriate, as proposed by petition, the sum of \$40,000.00 to be added to the existing Nichols Memorial Library Capital Reserve Fund for Future Library Expansion and name the Nichols Memorial Library Board of Trustees and the Kingston Board of Selectmen as agents to expend.

YES 480 NO 877*

ARTICLE 21: The Town voted to raise and appropriate, as proposed by petition, the sum of \$1,500.00 for the purpose of conducting courtesy inspections of boats using the boat launches on Main Street, on Kingston Lake, to remove fragments of exotic invasive aquatic species and to educate the public on how to prevent the spread of exotic species from waterbody to waterbody. This will provide a Lake Host with twelve hours a week for ten weeks, to conduct inspections and educate boaters from Memorial Day to Labor Day, 2009, thereby minimizing the potential for an infestation of exotic species, such as variable milfoil, that could make recreation on Kingston Lake dangerous, disrupt the ecological balance of the lake, reduce the value of shoreline properties, and would be expensive to control and difficult to eliminate.

YES 846* NO 514

ARTICLE 22: The Town voted to raise and appropriate, as proposed by petition, the sum of \$600,000.00 to purchase approximately 200 acres of land located in the northwest corner of Town and identified on Kingston Tax Map R32 as lots 2, 8 and 11, and allow withdrawal of \$600,000.00 from the Land Acquisition Capital Reserve Fund for this purchase. Further, the Town authorized the Board of Selectmen to place a conservation easement on said property in order to permanently conserve the land, and authorized the Board of Selectmen to accept any funds from the State of New Hampshire, the federal government, or private sources to support the acquisition and permanent protection of this land. This purchase will conserve the Town's rural character, provide open space for outdoor recreation by the public, help to stabilize the tax base, and ensure that an area prime for residential development does not have a significant negative impact on taxes because of the need for increased Town services such as

education, fire, and police. This purchase will be in partnership with the Southeast Land Trust of New Hampshire, a non-profit conservation organization, or other qualified organization, which will hold a conservation easement on the land purchased. It is expected that the residual funding necessary to complete the purchase will be raised from sources other than the Town of Kingston. This will be a non-lapsing appropriation per RSA 32:7, VI, and will not lapse until the land is purchased or by December 31, 2014, whichever is sooner. This article has no tax impact.

Topical note: At the 2008 Town Meeting, Kingston voters passed a similar article (Article 22), authorizing appropriation of \$600,000.00 from the Land Acquisition Capital Reserve Fund to purchase the identified parcels. Because the transaction was not completed in 2008, the appropriation lapsed. This warrant article will re-appropriate the \$600,000.00, allow for additional fundraising to occur, and ensure sufficient time for the transaction to be processed.

YES 695* NO 485

ARTICLE 23: The Town voted to raise and appropriate, as proposed by petition, the sum of \$29,000.00 to be placed in the Land Acquisition Capital Reserve Fund for the future purchase of development rights, conservation easements, and other land acquisition to stabilize the tax base, maintain large tracts of land as such, and to help ensure that the development of additional large multi-house subdivisions does not have significant impact on taxes for Town services such as education, fire, and police.

YES 623* NO 565

ARTICLE 24: The Town did not vote to change the intent of the existing Recreation Capital Reserve Fund to include updating and refurbishing the former "YWCA" building, building equipment and land purchased in 2008. This would have required a 2/3 vote.

YES 666 NO 502*

ARTICLE 25: The Town voted to raise and appropriate the amount of \$45,000.00 for the purpose of repairing and renovating the former YWCA land and buildings and building equipment located at 24 Main Street in Kingston (Tax Map U5, Lot 62) for use as a community recreation facility, and authorized withdrawal and expenditure of up to that amount from the Recreation Capital Reserve Fund.

YES 618* NO 563

ARTICLE 26: The Town voted to raise and appropriate, as proposed by petition, the amount of \$2,040.00 to support Rockingham Nutrition and Meals on Wheels Program's service providing meals for older, homebound and disabled Kingston residents.

YES 1,047* NO 149

ARTICLE 27: The Town did not vote to create, as proposed by petition, a permanent, part-time position of Cable TV Operator/Coordinator and raise and appropriate the sum of \$6,300.00, which represents nine months of funding. This individual would have been responsible for broadcasting live Town Meetings; recruiting, training and scheduling volunteers; preparing and scheduling programs for re-broadcasting; and maintaining the video equipment in good working order. This position would have been funded from the franchise fees paid to the Town of Kingston from the cable operating company, as specified in the original Cable System Franchise Agreement.

YES 509 NO 674*

ARTICLE 28: The Town did not vote to raise and appropriate, as proposed by petition, the sum of \$2,500.00 for the purpose of funding Phase II of the Historic District Commission's Design Guidelines (Phase I was completed in 2008 by Noble & Wickersham, LLC). As a guidance document, these Guidelines would have been drafted as a set of recommendations for preferred practices, and not as a set of mandatory rules. In this way, the Guidelines would provide predictability to all parties, and allow for flexibility of application to each specific site and proposal. Written guidelines are helpful to property owners and developers because they give them advance notice of how the Commission is likely to interpret its regulations.

YES 485 NO 682*

ARTICLE 29: The Town voted to raise and appropriate, as proposed by petition, the sum of \$4,000.00 (to be matched by the council with an additional \$4,000.00), to treat the remaining open channel bay of Powwow Pond for Najas Minor aquatic vegetation. This plant has shown rapid infiltration and is threatening to close down recreation and swimming in the pond. This funding will help maintain the value of waterfront properties and their contribution to the tax base of Kingston.

YES 941* NO 418

ARTICLE 30: The Town voted, as proposed by petition, to advise the Selectmen of the Town of Kingston to cap any increase of their Annual Budget to any projected increase in revenue above the last Annual Budget and in no case to increase the Annual Budget more than the rate of inflation as defined by the "National Consumer Price Index - (Urban/Rural)" (CPI-U/R) as averaged over the twelve months preceding the vote on the new Annual Budget.

◆ NEW HAMPSHIRE ◆
YES 860* NO 431

ARTICLE 31: The Town voted, as proposed by petition, to approve the following resolution to be forwarded to our State Representatives, our State Senator, and our Governor:

"Resolved: We, the citizens of Kingston, N. H., believe in a New Hampshire that is just and fair. The property tax has become unjust and unfair. State leaders

who take a pledge for no new taxes perpetuate higher and higher property taxes. We call on our State Representatives, our State Senator, and our Governor to reject the "Pledge", have an open discussion covering all options, and adopt a revenue system that lowers property taxes."

YES 1,029 NO 301

Results were announced at 9:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Bettie C. Ouellette

Bettie C. Ouellette
Kingston Town Clerk

