

MINUTES OF TOWN MEETING

March 10, 1998

(Second Year Under RSA 40:13 Official Ballot.)

The Annual Town Meeting was called to order at 8:00AM at the Swasey Gymnasium, by the Moderator, Electra L. Alessio, for the voting by written ballot for the election of Town Officers, the voting on 44 regular Town articles, 3 Zoning articles, as well as the voting by written ballot for the election of officers of Sanborn Regional School District and the voting on 15 articles for the School District.

The Town Clerk, Bettie C. Ouellette, broke the seals on the boxes of ballots and the Moderator inspected the ballot boxes. A second Accu-Vote machine was rented for this election. 50 new voting booths were purchased making total booths available 77, including one Handicapped. There were no waiting lines to enter, but there was a short delay in exiting as each voter had five ballots to be inserted into the ballot boxes.

The Ballot Clerks were Holly Ouellette, Donna M. Grier, John W. Whittier, Mary L. Mercurio, Marilyn B. Bartlett, Charles W. Bradley, Jr., and Gloria M. Parsons. The Assistant Moderator was David G. Conant. Police Officer was Chief Donald W. Briggs, Jr. The final results were announced at 9:45 PM. Some ballots had to be manually counted due to numerous write-ins. The ballots were sealed and transported to the Town Hall where they were locked up in the vault at 10:30 PM.

The total count was 1656 including 99 absentee ballots. 51 new voters were registered at the polls, bringing the total number of voters on the check list to 3498. Total of all five ballots handled was 8280 (1656x5).

The following results were obtained:

Article 1 - ELECTION OF TOWN OFFICERS

MODERATOR FOR TWO YEARS

Electra L. Alessio 1317 \*

SELECTMAN FOR THREE YEARS

Kevin W. Burke 864 \*  
Ellen L. Faulconer 676

SUPERVISOR OF CHECKLIST FOR SIX YEARS

Robert L. Pothier, Jr. 1283 \*

TREASURER FOR THREE YEARS

Dorothy M. Wagner 1255 \*

TRUSTEE OF TRUST FUNDS FOR THREE YEARS

Daniel J. Luparello 1075 \*  
R. Bradley Maxwell 1137 \*

TRUSTEE OF TRUST FUNDS FOR ONE YEAR

Janice Bradley 1152 \*

LIBRARY TRUSTEE FOR THREE YEARS

Anthony L. Whitcomb 1163 \*  
Kevin Burke 11 write-in

LIBRARY TRUSTEE FOR TWO YEARS

Ingerborg Lock 1182 \*

LIBRARY TRUSTEE FOR ONE YEAR

Judith L. Lukas 1186 \*

FIRE WARD FOR THREE YEARS

Nelson W. Seaman, III 1200 \*

FIRE WARD FOR ONE YEAR

Kevin Schea 1205 \*

MUNICIPAL BUDGET COMMITTEE FOR THREE YEARS

Carla Crane 1069 \*  
Debra Powers 1086 \*

MUNICIPAL BUDGET COMMITTEE FOR TWO YEARS

Natasha P. Leonard 1142 \*

PLANNING BOARD FOR THREE YEARS

Alan F. Hutchins 1073 \*  
Scott H. Ouellette 1128 \*

ARTICLE 2: Shall we adopt the provisions of RSA 31:95-c to restrict 100% of revenues from the operation of the Kingston Landfill to expenditures for the operation and future closing of the landfill? Such revenues and expenditures shall be accounted for in a special revenue fund to be known as the "Kingston Landfill" fund, separate from the general fund. Any surplus in said fund shall not be deemed part of the general fund accumulated surplus and shall be expended only after a vote by the legislative body to appropriate a specific amount from said fund for a specific purpose related to closure of the landfill [ The intent of this fund is to generate revenue to offset expenditures necessary for operation of the landfill and accumulate surplus revenue generated from said operation for the future closure of the Kingston Landfill.]

RECOMMENDED BY BUDGET COMMITTEE  
RECOMMENDED BY THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN

YES - 1404 NO - 133

ARTICLE 3A: In the event that ARTICLE 2 is approved, shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of \$2,133,381 (BOS \$2,143,511) which represents the operating budget. Said sum does not include special or individual articles.

RECOMMENDED BY THE BUDGET COMMITTEE  
RECOMMENDED BY THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN

YES - 1235 NO - 289

ARTICLE 3B: In the event that ARTICLE 2 is defeated, shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of \$2,387,532 which represents the operating budget? Said sum does not include special or individual articles.

NOT RECOMMENDED BY BUDGET COMMITTEE  
NOT RECOMMENDED BY THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Should this article (either 3A/3B) be defeated, the operating budget shall be \$2,399,130 (the "default" budget).

YES - 268 NO - 1257

ARTICLE 4: Shall the Town authorize the Tax Collector to allow a 1 1/2% deduction from Town Property Tax when payment is made within 30 days of billing ?

RECOMMENDED BY BUDGET COMMITTEE  
RECOMMENDED BY THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN

YES - 1518 NO - 88

ARTICLE 5: Shall the Town direct the Historic District Commission to change the current regulations to not allow any synthetic siding on any structures in Historic District I and II? This vote will be advisory in nature only. Currently, synthetic materials (such as vinyl siding) are allowed if approved by the Historic District Commission.

YES - 490 NO - 1072

ARTICLE 6: We, the undersigned, hereby petition the Planning Board for an Amendment to the Zoning Ordinances by adding the following paragraph to Article IV, Section 4.15 of the Zoning and Building Code of the Town of Kingston, New Hampshire.

6. New construction of Commercial structures located in Historic District I, shall not exceed an area greater than 4000 sq. ft.

THE PLANNING BOARD VOTED TO DISAPPROVE THIS ARTICLE

YES - 642 NO - 955

ARTICLE 7: Shall the Town vote to designate the Class VI portion of Rockrimmon Road as a Class A Trail, as authorized by RSA 231-A; beginning at the west end of Tax Map R-24, Lot 12A and continuing along Rockrimmon Road westerly to the Danville town line ?

YES - 941 NO - 614

ARTICLE 8: Pursuant to RSA Chapter 675:4, the undersigned, Charles S. Briggs, and at least 24 other registered voters in the Town of Kingston, hereby submit this petition to change the Zoning Ordinance of the Town of Kingston, to revise Article IV, Paragraph 4.13 of the Zoning Ordinance to read as follows:

Historic District II: The Historic District II to include Alma Ave. from a line at the center of the road extending 150 feet in all directions from said line; both sides of Little River Road, from a line at the center of the road extending 300 feet in all directions from said line, starting at Alma Ave. and running Northeast, stopping 150 feet East of the second bridge; Farm Road from a line at the center of the road extending 300 feet in all directions from said line, starting at Little River Road and running West for 1350 feet.

THE PLANNING BOARD VOTED TO DISAPPROVE THIS ARTICLE

YES - 511 NO - 1045

ARTICLE 9: Are you in favor of the adoption of Article 9 as proposed by the Planning Board for the Town Zoning Ordinance as follows?

Change section 4.72 Definition, of Article 4.70 Wetlands Conservation District, by deleting what presently exists and replaces it with the following to become the new paragraph a:

a. The Wetlands Conservation District of Kingston includes those areas of Town that qualify as wetlands defined in the following manner: an area that is inundated or saturated by surface or ground water at a frequency and duration sufficient to support and that under normal conditions does support, a prevalence of vegetation typically adapted for life in saturated soil conditions. Wetlands include, but are not limited to, swamps, marshes, bogs and similar areas.

Wetlands shall be delineated on the basis of hydrophytic vegetation, hydric soils, and wetlands hydrology in accordance with the techniques outlined in the Corps of Engineers Wetlands Delineation Manual Technical Report Y-87-1, (January, 1987)

The present paragraph b. will remain as it is.

YES - 948 NO - 570

ARTICLE 10: Shall the Town authorize the Board of Selectmen to initiate semi-annual tax collection, pursuant to RSA 76:15 a, effective 1999? (By adopting this change, the Town will save funds currently spent on Tax Anticipation Notes.)

RECOMMENDED BY BUDGET COMMITTEE  
RECOMMENDED BY THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN

YES - 1073 NO - 513

ARTICLE 11: Shall the Town authorize the creation of a full-time Town Administrator at a yearly salary not to exceed \$32,000? Further, to raise and appropriate the sum of \$21,000 for eight (8) months.

BUDGET COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS \$11,000  
THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN RECOMMENDS \$21,000

YES - 485 NO 1079

ARTICLE 12: Shall the Town vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to enter into a lease agreement for the purpose of leasing a pickup truck to be used for the maintenance of municipal buildings and land and to raise and appropriate the sum of \$2500 for the first year's payment of this lease? To further authorize the Board of Selectmen to use this appropriation to purchase a vehicle, not to exceed the \$2500. (Currently, a Town employee is using his personal vehicle for this function.)

RECOMMENDED BY BUDGET COMMITTEE  
RECOMMENDED BY THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN

YES - 864 NO - 727

ARTICLE 13: Shall the Town authorize the charging of a fee to Kingston residents who receive ambulance service? (The purpose of this article would be to increase revenues for the Town to offset expenditures.)

RECOMMENDED BY BUDGET COMMITTEE  
RECOMMENDED BY THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN

YES - 755 NO - 842

ARTICLE 14: Shall the Town establish a Capital Reserve Fund, under the provisions of RSA 35:1, to be known as the "Land Acquisition Capital Reserve Fund", for the purpose of future purchase of development rights, conservation easements and other land acquisitions?

RECOMMENDED BY BUDGET COMMITTEE  
RECOMMENDED BY THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN

YES - 1078 NO - 500

ARTICLE 15: Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of \$29,000 for a capital reserve fund for the future purchase of development rights, conservation easements and other land acquisitions in order to stabilize the tax base, maintain large tracts of lands and to help insure that the development of additional large multi-house subdivisions do not have a significant impact on taxes for education, fire and police?

RECOMMENDED BY BUDGET COMMITTEE  
RECOMMENDED BY THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN

YES - 1083 NO - 510

ARTICLE 16: Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of \$3,000 from the fund balance of December 31, 1997 for mandatory emergency training for Town emergency response? Said sum represents amount collected from the State of NH for emergency training for 1997?

RECOMMENDED BY BUDGET COMMITTEE  
RECOMMENDED BY THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN

YES - 1352 NO - 251

ARTICLE 17: Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of \$35,000 to be used to purchase a new 4 x 4 Highway truck with dump body, plows and hydraulic hook up for a sander? Truck to have a GVW of at least 15,000 pounds.

BUDGET COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS \$35,000  
BOARD OF SELECTMEN RECOMMENDS \$35,000

YES - 884 NO - 717

ARTICLE 18: Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of \$13,890 to provide a computerized circulation and cataloging system for the Nichols Memorial Library and name the Nichols Memorial Library Board of Trustees as agents to expend ?

NOT RECOMMENDED BY BUDGET COMMITTEE  
NOT RECOMMENDED BY THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN

YES - 623 NO - 980

ARTICLE 19: Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of \$35,000 to be added to the existing Nichols Memorial Library Reserve Fund for future library expansion and name the Nichols Memorial Library Board of Trustees and the Board of Selectmen as agents to expend ?

BUDGET COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS \$20,000  
BOARD OF SELECTMEN RECOMMENDS \$20,000

YES - 691 NO - 918

ARTICLE 20: Shall the voters accept a 1993 Ford Crown Victoria sedan, vin #2FACP71W1PX142413, from the Kingston Volunteer Fireman's Association to be used by the fire department as deemed necessary by the Fire Chief ? When the Kingston Fire Department no longer has use for said vehicle or if it is cost prohibitive to maintain said vehicle, it will revert back to the Kingston Volunteer Fireman's Association.

RECOMMENDED BY BUDGET COMMITTEE  
RECOMMENDED BY THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN

YES - 1181 NO - 416

ARTICLE 21: Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of \$4,500 to be used to purchase a trailer to house and transport hazardous material clean up equipment ?

NOT RECOMMENDED BY BUDGET COMMITTEE  
NOT RECOMMENDED BY THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN

YES - 313 NO - 1292

ARTICLE 22: Shall the Town authorize the creation of two full time Fire Fighter / Emergency Medical Technicians at a yearly salary of \$26,000 per position? Further to raise and appropriate the sum of \$26,000 to fund two full-time Fire Fighter/Emergency Medical Technicians. Said monies to constitute two salaries for 6 months, plus benefits.

NOT RECOMMENDED BY BUDGET COMMITTEE  
NOT RECOMMENDED BY THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN

YES - 460 NO - 1142

ARTICLE 23: Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of \$45,000 to be placed in the previously established Fire Department Capital Reserve Fund for Fire Apparatus Replacement ?

BUDGET COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS \$45,000  
BOARD OF SELECTMEN RECOMMENDS \$40,000

YES - 955 NO - 644

ARTICLE 24: Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of \$10,364.48 from the fund balance of December 31, 1997 to be placed in the Capital Reserve Account for the future replacement of the Ambulance ? Said sum represents the ambulance fees collected in fiscal year 1997.

BUDGET COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS \$8196.53  
BOARD OF SELECTMEN RECOMMENDS \$8196.53

YES - 989 NO - 599

ARTICLE 25: Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of \$0 to purchase Supplemental Disability Insurance for the members of the Kingston Fire Department?

BUDGET RECOMMENDS ZERO DOLLARS (\$0)  
BOARD OF SELECTMEN RECOMMENDS ZERO DOLLARS (\$0)

YES - 1011 NO - 509

ARTICLE 26: Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of \$54,200 toward covering the cost of materials for completion of the soccer/softball/baseball field and a portion of the playground equipment on recreational land owned by the town of Kingston (formerly Kingston Fairgrounds) and to name the Kingston Board of Selectmen as the agents to expend ?

NOT RECOMMENDED BY BUDGET COMMITTEE  
NOT RECOMMENDED BY THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN

YES - 478 NO - 1098

ARTICLE 27: Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of \$5,000 to be used for fireworks during the Kingston Days Celebration ?

NOT RECOMMENDED BY BUDGET COMMITTEE  
RECOMMENDED BY THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN

YES - 705 NO - 865

ARTICLE 28: Shall the Town vote to change the intent of the Recreation Department Capital Reserve Fund to include "the use of the money to be used for the purpose of developing recreational lands?" This requires a 2/3 vote to pass.

RECOMMENDED BY BUDGET COMMITTEE  
RECOMMENDED BY THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN

YES - 1058 NO - 497

1037 NEEDED TO PASS

ARTICLE 29: Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of \$8,362 to the Rockingham Visiting Nurse Association and Hospice for providing continued health care service to the residents ?

RECOMMENDED BY BUDGET COMMITTEE  
RECOMMENDED BY THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN

YES - 1263 NO - 301

ARTICLE 30: Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,500 to provide funding for Family Mediation and Juvenile Services ?

BUDGET COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS \$1500  
BOARD OF SELECTMEN RECOMMENDS \$1500

YES - 1009 NO - 547

ARTICLE 31: Shall the Town raise and appropriate \$2,250 for The Richie McFarland Children's Center (\$250.00 for each child from Kingston receiving service - 9 children served) ?

BUDGET COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS \$2250  
BOARD OF SELECTMEN RECOMMENDS \$2250

YES - 991 NO - 554

ARTICLE 32: Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,000 to assist Cross Roads House, Inc., a non-profit organization, in providing emergency shelter and transitional housing services to the area's homeless population ?

NOT RECOMMENDED BY BUDGET COMMITTEE  
NOT RECOMMENDED BY THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN

YES - 502 NO - 1047

ARTICLE 33: Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of \$750.00 to assist the Pregnancy Care Center serving the Merrimack Valley and southern New Hampshire, a non-profit organization, in providing services in 1997 to 27 women and children living in Kingston, NH ?

NOT RECOMMENDED BY BUDGET COMMITTEE  
NOT RECOMMENDED BY THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN

YES - 504 NO - 1057

ARTICLE 34: Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of \$3,500 in 1998 to assist with our counseling services to families and children? Child and Family Services of NH is an independent, non-profit agency dedicated to advancing the well-being of children by providing an array of social services to strengthen family life and by promoting community commitment to meet the needs of children.

NOT RECOMMENDED BY BUDGET COMMITTEE  
NOT RECOMMENDED BY THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN

YES - 447 NO - 1103

ARTICLE 35: Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,620.00 for the purpose of defraying the cost of services provided to the Town of Kingston and its residents by Seacoast Big Brothers Big Sisters of New Hampshire ?

NOT RECOMMENDED BY BUDGET COMMITTEE  
NOT RECOMMENDED BY THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN

YES - 353 NO - 1199

ARTICLE 36: Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,433 for Sexual Assault Support Services, a non-profit agency serving Rockingham, Strafford and southern York Counties ? Sexual Assault Support Services provides crisis intervention, education/prevention programs and support groups to survivors of sexual violence, their parents, partners and friends. These services are available to residents of Kingston upon request.

NOT RECOMMENDED BY BUDGET COMMITTEE  
NOT RECOMMENDED BY THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN

YES - 463 NO - 1137

ARTICLE 37: Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of \$3,000 for the purpose of helping to defray the cost of services provided to the Town of Kingston and its residents by Area Homemaker Home Health Aide Service, Inc. ?

BUDGET COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS \$3000  
BOARD OF SELECTMEN RECOMMENDS \$3000

YES - 1006 NO - 578

ARTICLE 38: Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of \$3,200.00 from the 1998 general fund to support the Senior Citizen Transportation Program and the Medical Care Services provided by Lamprey Health Care ?

Explanation

Transportation for basic needs such as shopping, banking, pharmacy and appointments is provided to seniors and those with disabilities residing in Kingston. Individual medical appointments are arranged through this program for those who need transportation to providers throughout the area.

Medical care is available at Lamprey Health Care's Raymond and Newmarket offices. Sliding fee scale is available for those who are uninsured or underinsured.

RECOMMENDED BY BUDGET COMMITTEE  
RECOMMENDED BY THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN

YES - 1299 NO - 303

ARTICLE 39: Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of \$0 to cover the cost, which is not covered by tuition, title XX funding, or special education funds, of Kingston Children attending the Kingston Children's Center ?

NOT RECOMMENDED BY BUDGET COMMITTEE  
NOT RECOMMENDED BY THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN

YES - 333 NO - 1201

ARTICLE 40: Shall the Town continue its consistent support of the Kingston's Children Center by voting to raise and appropriate the sum of \$2,750, which represents the amount appropriated in 1997, to cover costs not covered by tuition, title XX funding, or special education funds, of Kingston Children attending the Kingston Children's Center ?

NOT RECOMMENDED BY BUDGET COMMITTEE  
NOT RECOMMENDED BY THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN

YES - 430 NO - 1152

ARTICLE 41: Shall the Town raise and appropriate \$2,000 in their 1998 budget for the support of Seacoast Mental Health Center, Inc. ?

RECOMMENDED BY BUDGET COMMITTEE  
RECOMMENDED BY THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN

YES - 824      NO - 769

ARTICLE 42: Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of \$1150 to the New Hampshire SPCA to support the many services they provide to the Town of Kingston, including:

Sheltering and Adoption of Homeless Animals  
Impoundment Facilities  
Lost and Found Services  
Animal Cruelty / Neglect Investigation  
Assistance to Animal Control Officers  
Public Information Services and Referrals  
Pet Therapy, and More

BUDGET COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS \$575  
BOARD OF SELECTMEN RECOMMENDS \$575

YES - 911      NO - 691

ARTICLE 43: Shall we adopt an exemption for the disabled <per RSA 72:37-c>? The exemption, based on assessed value, for qualified taxpayers shall be \$50,000.00.

To qualify, the person must have been a New Hampshire resident for at least 5 years and own and occupy the real estate individually or jointly, or if the real estate is owned by a spouse, they must have been married for at least 5 years. In addition, the taxpayer must have a net income of not more than \$35,000.00 or, if married, a combined net income of not more than \$40,000.00; and own net assets not in excess of \$50,000.00 excluding the value of the person's residence.

YES - 960      NO - 589

ARTICLE 44: Shall we adopt the optional adjusted elderly exemptions from property tax pursuant to RSA 72:39-a and RSA 72:43-h? The optional exemptions, based on assessed value, for qualified taxpayers, shall be as follows:

- For a person 65 years of age up to 75 years, \$45,000;
- For a person 75 years of age up to 80 years; \$65,000;
- For a person 80 years of age and older, \$85,000.

To qualify, the person must have been a New Hampshire resident for at least five (5) years; own the real estate individually or jointly, or if the real estate is owned by his spouse, they must have been married for at least five (5) years. In addition, the taxpayer must have a net income of not more than \$13,400, or, if married, a combined net income of less than \$20,400 and own net assets not in excess of \$45,000, excluding the person's residence.

Other elderly exemptions that have been previously adopted are hereby rescinded upon adoption of this article.

YES - 1194 NO - 372

School results were certified and given to the School District Clerk, Caroly J. Brickett. (The detailed results will be printed in the annual School District report.) Total school votes were as follows:

SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER FROM KINGSTON FOR THREE YEARS

"Shelly" Gove	708
Paul Reczek	751 *

SCHOOL DISTRICT MODERATOR FOR ONE YEAR

Richard "Rick" Russman	1256 *
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BUDGET COMMITTEE MEMBER FROM KINGSTON FOR ONE YEAR

Anne Dumke	1246 *
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BUDGET COMMITTEE MEMBER FROM KINGSTON FOR TWO YEARS

Carroll E. Wright	1136 *
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BUDGET COMMITTEE MEMBER FROM KINGSTON FOR THREE YEARS

George A. Schiller, Jr.	814 *
Anthony L. Whitcomb	555

BUDGET COMMITTEE MEMBER AT LARGE FOR THREE YEARS

Roxanne M. Moore	1035 *
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	YES	NO
ARTICLE 2	1404	128
ARTICLE 3	849	729
ARTICLE 4	413	1177
ARTICLE 5	527	1066
ARTICLE 6	934	659
ARTICLE 7	970	596
ARTICLE 8	828	698
ARTICLE 9	716	750
ARTICLE 10	902	665
ARTICLE 11	646	919
ARTICLE 12	918	638
ARTICLE 13	1167	412
ARTICLE 14	1113	463
ARTICLE 15	379	1145

Meeting was adjourned at 10:00 P.M.

*Beth C. Ouellette*  
Kingston Town Clerk