

## MINUTES OF TOWN MEETING

MARCH 9, 1999

The Annual Town Meeting was called to order at 8:00 AM at the Swasey Gymnasium by the Moderator, Electra L. Alessio, for the voting by secret ballot for the election of Town Officers, one Zoning article and 26 regular Town articles, as well as the voting for the election of officers of Sanborn Regional School District and the voting on 10 regular 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. There were no waiting lines.

The Ballot Clerks were Donna M. Grier, John M. Whitier, Marilyn B. Bartlett, Mary L. Mercurio, Holly Ouellette, Gloria M. Parsons and George A. Schiller, Jr. The Police Officer was Donald W. Briggs, Jr. The final results were announced by the Moderator at 9:45 PM. Many ballots had to be manually counted due to MANY write-ins. The ballots were sealed and transported to the Town Hall where they were locked up in the vault at 10:15 PM.

The total count was 1336, including 66 absentee ballots. 32 new voters were registered at the polls, bringing the total voters on the check list to 3489. Total of all ballots handled was 5,344 (1336 X 4).

The following results were obtained:

### ARTICLE 1: ELECTION OF TOWN OFFICERS

#### SELECTMAN FOR THREE YEARS

MARK A. HEITZ	1014 *
ELLEN FAULCONER	28 WRITE-INS

#### SUPERVISOR OF CHECK LIST FOR SIX YEARS

EDDIE C. THURNQUIST	1076 *
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#### TRUSTEE OF TRUST FUNDS FOR THREE YEARS

JOYCE DAVIES	1047 *
JOSHUA LEATE	138 WRITE-INS *

#### LIBRARY TRUSTEE FOR THREE YEARS

ELEANORE R. COFFIN	1033 *
ROBERT M. MCPHEE	1031 *
PETER J. SULLIVAN	1033 *

#### LIBRARY TRUSTEE FOR TWO YEARS

JUDITH L. LUKAS	1028 *
PAUL PINETTE	997 *

FIRE WARD FOR THREE YEARS

KEVIN SCHEA 1042 \*

MUNICIPAL BUDGET COMMITTEE FOR THREE YEARS

ELLEN L. FAULCONER	926 *
ROXANNE M. MOORE	863 *
KEVIN ST JAMES	135 WRITE-INS *
MARILYN BARTLETT	30 WRITE-INS *
GLORIA PARSONS	16 WRITE-INS
SANDY SEAMAN	14 WRITE-INS
JEREMY RUSSMAN	12 WRITE-INS

MUNICIPAL BUDGET COMMITTEE FOR TWO YEARS

SANDY SEAMAN	48 WRITE-INS *
ED CONANT	43 WRITE-INS *
GLORIA PARSONS	24 WRITE-INS
JEREMY RUSSMAN	23 WRITE-INS

PLANNING BOARD FOR THREE YEARS

GLENN G. COPPELMAN	1007 *
ELLEN L. FAULCONER	918 *

ARTICLE 2: Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of \$2,260,929 which represents the operating budget? Said sum does not include special or individual articles. Should Article 2 be defeated, the operating budget shall be \$2,133,381 (the "default" budget).

RECOMMENDED BY BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
RECOMMENDED BY BUDGET COMMITTEE

YES 853 \* NO 425

ARTICLE 3: Shall the Town authorize the Tax Collector to allow a 1 ½% deduction from Town Property Tax when payment is made within 30 days of billing?

NOT RECOMMENDED BY BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
NOT RECOMMENDED BY BUDGET COMMITTEE

YES 1102 \* NO 197

ARTICLE 4: Are you in favor of the adoption of the following amendment to the Town of Kingston zoning ordinance as proposed by the Planning Board?

Amend section 4:63, (b), by adding a final sentence to the section to read:

This paragraph supersedes the density requirement found in the Town of Kingston Aquifer Protection District ordinance.

*The purpose of this amendment is to clarify that a bonus density is available for developments that provide elderly housing within the Town's Elderly Housing District*

YES 801 \* NO 334

ARTICLE 5: Shall the Town approve an amendment of the cemetery by-laws of Kingston, NH, adopted March 7, 1973 and amended March 14, 1979, March 10, 1982, March 11, 1992, and March 15, 1995 as follows:

Paragraph B:

"Cemetery Plots – Size and Sell Price:

Cemetery plots are available in three sizes. Plots larger than the maximum listed size can be obtained by joining 10x20 plots.

Size	# of Graves	Price
8 ½ feet x 10 feet	2	\$300.00
10 feet x 10 feet	3	450.00
10 feet x 20 feet	6	900.00

2.. The last increase in the price of cemetery plots was approximately 6-7 years ago.

3. Even with the price increase, plots in Kingston will still be among the lowest priced in the area. *The sell price of a plot includes perpetual care. All and only plots sold since July 1st, 1966 include perpetual care.*

Plots will be sold by designated numbers as shown on the official map of the cemetery. Deeds for plots sold will be issued by the Town."

Comments:

1. Current plot prices are: \$200 for 2 grave plot, \$300 for 3 grave plot and \$600 for 6 grave plot.

YES 909 \*

NO 345

ARTICLE 6: Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of \$69,000 for the purchase of a new 80 horse power Caterpillar Model 416 CIT loader backhoe for the Highway Department? The present backhoe is over ten years old.

RECOMMENDED BY BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
RECOMMENDED BY BUDGET COMMITTEE

YES 635

NO 657 \*

ARTICLE 7. Shall the Town change the classification of the Landfill Operator from part-time to full-time, including benefits? This would provide the necessary management required to continue the operation of the landfill in preparation for the future closure. This position would be funded through the Kingston Landfill Special Revenue Fund.

RECOMMENDED BY BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
RECOMMENDED BY BUDGET COMMITTEE

YES 713 \*

NO 581

ARTICLE 8: Shall the Town authorize the Board of Selectmen to implement a "pay-per-bag" policy for residential trash pick-up at a fee of \$1.00 (one dollar) per bag? Acceptable recycled material would not be subject to this fee. A "per bag" fee would not apply to bags of household trash brought to the landfill by individual Town residents (Landfill fees, as determined by the Board of Selectmen would still apply.).

This article is meant to encourage and promote recycling efforts while providing revenue to offset the costs of residential trash pick-up.

YES 185

NO 1102 \*

ARTICLE 9: Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of \$45,000 to be placed in the previously established Fire Department Capital Reserve Fund for Apparatus Replacement?

RECOMMENDED BY BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
RECOMMENDED BY BUDGET COMMITTEE

YES 854 \*

NO 428

ARTICLE 10: Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of \$14,106.16 to the Capital Reserve Account for future replacement of the Ambulance? Said sum represents the collected Ambulance fees for 1998. Kingston residents are not charged for ambulance service.

RECOMMENDED BY BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
RECOMMENDED BY BUDGET COMMITTEE

YES 983 \*

NO 294

ARTICLE 11: Shall the Town adopt the provisions of RSA 31:95-c to restrict 100% of the revenues from ambulance billing of non-residents to expenditures for the purpose of replacement of the Kingston Fire Department Ambulance? Such revenues and expenditures shall be accounted for in a special revenue fund to be known as the Ambulance Replacement 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 the purpose of the fund or source of revenue.

RECOMMENDED BY BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
RECOMMENDED BY BUDGET COMMITTEE

YES 1050 \*

NO 212

ARTICLE 12: Shall the Town increase the hours of the fire department secretary from 30 to 40 hours and change the title to secretary/Emergency Medical Technician? The first year cost to be an additional \$8,829 plus benefits. The fire department budget already shows the salary increase. The purpose of this warrant article is to increase the hours from 30 hours per week to 40 hours per week, which is considered full-time, and add the full-time benefits.

RECOMMENDED BY BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
RECOMMENDED BY BUDGET COMMITTEE

YES 846 \*

NO 446

ARTICLE 13: Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of \$13,500.00, plus benefits, and to authorize the hiring of a full-time Emergency Medical Technician/fire fighter for the Town of Kingston? The first year to be funded for only six months at \$13,500.00 plus benefits. The position would be responsible for day-time ambulance coverage, day-time fire fighting, day-time training officer, day-time fire inspections, minor maintenance of equipment and a variety of other related responsibilities.

RECOMMENDED BY BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
NOT RECOMMENDED BY BUDGET COMMITTEE

YES 838 \*

NO 456

ARTICLE 14: Shall the Town adopt the provisions of RSA 31:95-c to restrict 100% of the revenues from ambulance billing of residents to expenditures for the purpose of hiring full-time Fire Department personnel? Such revenues and expenditures shall be accounted for in a special revenue fund to be known as the Kingston Fire Department Full-time Personnel 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 specific purpose related to the purpose of the fund or source of revenue.

RECOMMENDED BY BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
NOT RECOMMENDED BY BUDGET COMMITTEE

YES 658 \*                      NO 613

ARTICLE 15: Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of \$14,000 (Fourteen thousand dollars) to be used to purchase and install an engine exhaust filtration system at the central fire station?

RECOMMENDED BY BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
RECOMMENDED BY BUDGET COMMITTEE

YES 624                      NO 671 \*

ARTICLE 16: Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of \$35,000 (thirty five thousand dollars) 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?

RECOMMENDED BY BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
RECOMMENDED BY BUDGET COMMITTEE

YES 726 \*                      NO 571

ARTICLE 17: Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of \$7,500 (seven thousand five hundred dollars) to help fund a computerized circulation system for the Nichols Memorial Library and name the Nichols Memorial Library Board of Trustees as agents to expend?

RECOMMENDED BY BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
RECOMMENDED BY BUDGET COMMITTEE

YES 784 \*                      NO 513

ARTICLE 18: Shall the Town vote, as authorized under the provisions of RSA 79-A (Current Use Taxation) to account for all revenues received from the Land Use Change Tax Fund, separate from the General Fund and deposit 50% of said revenues into the existing Conservation Fund in accordance with RSA 36-A:5 III, as authorized by RSA 79-A:25 II, to be used for the future purchase of land and/or easements and associated costs?

NOT RECOMMENDED BY BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
NOT RECOMMENDED BY BUDGET COMMITTEE

YES 498                      NO 760 \*

ARTICLE 19: Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of \$5,000 (five thousand dollars) to be added to the existing Kingston Recreation Capital Reserve Fund?

RECOMMENDED BY BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
RECOMMENDED BY BUDGET COMMITTEE

YES 763 \*

NO 518

ARTICLE 20: Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of \$10,886 (ten thousand eight hundred eighty six dollars) to be used for phase II of the playground and to name the Kingston Board of Selectmen and the Kingston Recreation Commission as agents to expend? This money to be used for expansion to the existing playground structure which would include handicap accessibility.

NOT RECOMMENDED BY BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
NOT RECOMMENDED BY BUDGET COMMITTEE

YES 425

NO 863 \*

ARTICLE 21: Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of \$87,000 to be placed in the "Land Acquisition 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 land and to help insure that development of additional large multi-house subdivisions do not have a significant impact on taxes for education, fire and police?

RECOMMENDED BY BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
RECOMMENDED BY BUDGET COMMITTEE

YES 840 \*

NO 445

ARTICLE 22: Shall the Town establish a Capital Reserve Fund under the provisions of RSA 35:1 for the purpose of future reconstruction of the Hunt Rd./Newton Junction Rd./Route 125 Intersection? Further, to raise and appropriate the sum of \$0 to be added to this fund and authorize the Board of Selectmen as agents to expend. THIS SUM TO COME FROM FUND BALANCE (SURPLUS) AND NO AMOUNT TO BE RAISED FROM TAXATION.

RECOMMENDED BY BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
RECOMMENDED BY BUDGET COMMITTEE

YES 945 \*

NO 332

ARTICLE 23: Shall the Town raise and appropriate \$2,000 to Emmaus, Inc. (a Haverhill, Mass. Non-profit homeless shelter agency) for serving the human needs of 7 homeless Kingston people during 1998? Requested amount represents half the cost of Emmaus, Inc. to provide emergency shelter services at \$30 per bed night for a total of 480 bed nights.

The intent of this article:

- 1) To compensate Emmaus, Inc. for half their costs to help the Town of Kingston fulfill its legal obligation per NH State Law RSA 165:1 which states: "Whenever a person in any town is poor and unable to support himself, he shall be relieved and maintained by the overseers of public welfare of such town, whether or not he has a residence there".
- 2) An expression of gratitude from the Town of Kingston.

RECOMMENDED BY BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
RECOMMENDED BY BUDGET COMMITTEE

YES 949 \*

NO 331

ARTICLE 24: Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,000 to assist Crossroads House, Inc., a non-profit organization, in providing emergency shelter and transitional housing services to the area's homeless population? The intent of this article:

- 1) To compensate Crossroads House, Inc. for their cost over the years to help the Town of Kingston fulfill its legal obligation per NH State Law RSA 165:1 which states: "Whenever a person in any town is poor and unable to support himself, he shall be relieved and maintained by the overseers of public welfare of such town whether or not he has a residence there".
- 2) An expression of gratitude from the Town of Kingston.

NOT RECOMMENDED BY BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
NOT RECOMMENDED BY BUDGET COMMITTEE

YES 535                      NO 736 \*

ARTICLE 25: Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$833.00 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.

RECOMMENDED BY BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
RECOMMENDED BY BUDGET COMMITTEE

YES 958 \*                      NO 317

ARTICLE 26: Shall the Town support the Kingston Children's 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 BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
NOT RECOMMENDED BY BUDGET COMMITTEE

YES 370                      NO 910 \*

School results were certified and given to the School District Clerk, Carol 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

KURT W. BAITZ	730 *
HERBERT G. NOYES	426

SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER-AT-LARGE FOR THREE YEARS

MARK W. FURLONG	1013 *
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BUDGET COMMITTEE FROM KINGSTON FOR ONE YEAR

DAN SULLIVAN	31 WRITE-INS *
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BUDGET COMMITTEE FROM KINGSTON FOR THREE YEARS

STEVEN DOUGLAS ROSS

18 WRITE-INS \*

BUDGET COMMITTEE MEMBER-AT-LARGE FOR TWO YEARS

SHEILA GRENON

985 \*

SCHOOL DISTRICT MODERATOR FOR ONE YEAR

RICHARD "RICK" RUSSMAN

1010 \*

	YES	NO
ARTICLE 2	1114	93
ARTICLE 3	745	506
ARTICLE 4	625	632
ARTICLE 5	596	664
ARTICLE 6	667	585
ARTICLE 7	674	532
ARTICLE 8	950	322
ARTICLE 9	330	934
ARTICLE 10	872	406

Meeting was adjourned at 10:00 PM.

Respectively submitted,

  
Bettie C. Ouellette,  
Kingston Town Clerk