

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL TOWN MEETING
TOWN OF NOTTINGHAM
2015

The Moderator, Bonnie Winona MacKinnon, called the meeting to order at 8:00 AM on Tuesday, March 10, 2015 at the Nottingham Municipal Building. Article #1 was acted upon from 8:00 AM to 7:00 PM. The meeting was recessed at 7:00 PM by the Moderator, to reconvene at 9:00 AM on Saturday, March 14, 2015 at the Nottingham Elementary School to act on **Articles # 2 through # 18.**

At 9:05 AM on March 14, 2015, The Moderator welcomed everyone. She asked that all cell phones be turned off and that voters register to vote with the ballot clerks and receive their green voter cards.

The Moderator called on the Supervisors of the Checklist, Chairman Dee Ann Decker, Ruth Anne Fuller, and Jo-Anna Arendarczyk, to come forward to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

The Moderator announced that lunch was being provided by the Nottingham Fire & Rescue Auxiliary and that the proceeds would be used to purchase carbon monoxide detectors for the fire and rescue crews.

The Moderator recognized all of the town officials, thanking them for their service. She further asked that all veterans stand and be recognized. They were given a round of applause. She thanked Brian McClelland for operating the sound/video system.

Fire chief, Jaye Vilchock, shared a few words of remembrance about EMT Diane Nugent, who died tragically on Thanksgiving Day, 2014.

The Moderator paid tribute to the following citizens:

“Chet Bachelder began serving the Town of Nottingham in 1964, doing the books for the school department. In the fifty years since, Chet has served as auditor for both the Town and the School Department, has served on the Planning Board and on the Budget Committee where he served as chair on multiple occasions. As if that weren’t enough, Chet has willingly volunteered for many special committees, such as the recent Marston Property Exploratory Committee and the School Transportation Committee. He also serves as an Inspector of the Elections.

For those who have served alongside him, Chet has been both a mentor and a role model. Even when he wasn’t serving as Chair, his knowledge and experience have helped guide the budget committee through the thoughtful consideration and preparation of the Town and School Budgets. His steady professionalism, respectful demeanor, and positive attitude should serve as an example to all who would hold office in the Town of Nottingham.

Thank you, Chet, for your unparalleled dedication and service to this town. Enjoy continued adventures!”

“Elaine Schmottlach: For twenty-five years Elaine not only served as a ballot clerk at most elections but she also volunteered her time coordinating the Democratic ballot clerk list. She helped teach all the ballot clerks, no matter their party. This involved many hours of recruiting, as well as training and scheduling. A librarian by profession, Elaine followed election legislation throughout her years of service to our elections. Her natural affinity for details, her need for

precise information and facts, made her one of the most knowledgeable people on the election crew. She was always eager to willingly share that knowledge with others. She has trained many Inspectors of the Elections and she has taught the ropes over these many years. So thank you, Elaine from the center of my heart, from the rest of the election crew, and from the whole community. Your love of fair and open elections drove you to serve us so well. We appreciate the many hours you have spent preserving the integrity of Nottingham's elections."

"Chris and Gail Mills, volunteer activists, organized the Nottingham Water Alliance, which was comprised of citizens from all over Nottingham, and they led a grass roots, non partisan effort to protect our drinking water. This movement is pretty famous now, internationally even, among environmentalists and champions of self government. The Mills devoted themselves for a decade and a half to the very real danger of a proposed water bottling plant which threatened to drain or pollute the wells of over 700 Nottingham homes. The Water Alliance met frequently at the Mills' home where citizens were welcomed with snacks and coffee, to savor over long discussions about strategy and actions. They also worked closely with the late Gail Darrell of Barnstead, and with the Community Environmental Defense Fund of Pennsylvania to develop a rights based ordinance to protect Nottingham's drinking water. Members of the Water Alliance educated the townspeople about the proposed Water Rights Ordinance, which passed at Town Meeting in 2008. It can be read on the town website. Chris and Gail have spent countless hours in this effort. They have personally attended nearly every bankruptcy hearing in Manchester, and reported back to the people of Nottingham at every turn. They did this without assistance from government; they led the good citizens of Nottingham who fought back against the taking of their water.

In July of 2014 the Large Groundwater Withdrawal Permit issued to USA Springs by the State of NH expired. The permit is finally dead! Today we celebrate the expiration of that ten year permit, and we honor and appreciate Chris and Gail Mills for their tireless and selfless service to our eco systems, to our water, and to our community. Thank you, Chris and Gail."

Sgt. Ross Oberlin then led the audience in a simple 30 second lesson in how to join Nixle, a messaging platform on Email, facebook and twitter, which the Police Department uses to alert citizens of situations that might pose a danger. He explained what kind of messages they send out to subscriber's cellphone or computer. (phone texting capability is necessary). The Police Department's aim is to have all citizens connected to Nixle.

Jill Sunde was called to the podium to lead in a moment of introspective quiet reflection.

Jaye Vilchuck made a motion seconded by Judith Thibeau to consider Article #9 prior to Article #3, the ambulance operating budget, and explained the need thereof.

There being no discussion, the motion passed by card vote.

The Moderator then read the results of the Town elections held on March 10, 2015:

Selectman 3 years	Mark A. Carpenter
Town Clerk 3 year	Sandra W. Weston
Cemetery Trustee 3 years	Peter J. Corriveau
Trustee of the Trust Funds 3 years	Gail Mills (by write-in)
Library Trustee 3 years	Kathleen N. Matthews
Planning Board Member 3 years	Gary Anderson

Planning Board Member 3 years
Budget Committee Member 3 years
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Budget Committee Member 3 years
Zoning Board Member 3 years
Board of Assessors Member 3 years

Susan P. Mooney
Jennifer A. Biron
Carrie Lee (by write-in)
Dawn Fernald (by write-in)
Teresa L. Bascom
John Morin

ARTICLE #2: Are you in favor of amending the Nottingham Zoning Ordinance, Article II Zoning Districts and District Regulations Section C.2 Residential-Agricultural District, which currently reads as follows:

2. There shall be between the property line, water's edge ("reference line" as described in RSA 483-B:4 XVII), and any building, a minimum distance of fifty (50') feet, twenty (20') feet for grandfathered non-conforming lots of less than two (2) acres, as of the date of passage (03/08/94), in all directions. Special exceptions to this ordinance may be granted by the Zoning Board of Adjustment based on weighing of the following considerations, but in no case shall less than twenty (20') feet be permitted for habitable structures or nonhabitable structures of fifty (50') square feet in area or greater:

To be replaced with:

C.2 Residential- Agricultural District

2. There shall be between the property line, water's edge ("reference line" as described in RSA 483-B:4 XVII), and any dwelling, a minimum distance of fifty (50') feet, twenty (20') feet for grandfathered non-conforming lots of less than two (2) acres, as of the date of passage (03/08/94), in all directions. Setbacks for accessory buildings including septic systems shall be fifty (50') feet minimum distance from the lot frontage property line (20') feet for grandfathered non-conforming lots of less than two (2) acres and twenty (20') feet minimum distance from the side and rear property lines. Special exceptions to this ordinance may be granted by the Zoning Board of Adjustment based on weighing of the following considerations, but in no case shall less than twenty (20') feet be permitted for habitable structures or nonhabitable structures of fifty (50') square feet in area or greater. The Planning Board recommends this article (7 – 0).

YES 691

NO 348

ARTICLE #9: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$22,350.00** (Twenty Two Thousand Three Hundred Fifty Dollars) for the purpose of purchasing the necessary fuel, supplies, equipment, and maintenance to run the ambulance and billing services for 2015; and to authorize the withdrawal of \$22,350.00 (Twenty Two Thousand Three Hundred Fifty Dollars) from the Ambulance and Equipment Replacement Special Revenue Fund created for this purpose. **The Board of Selectmen recommends this appropriation (3 – 0). The Budget Committee recommends this appropriation (8 – 0). Majority vote required.** The estimated tax impact is \$0.00 per \$1,000 of property valuation.

Article #9 was moved by Mark Carpenter and seconded by Mary Bonser.

After discussion, Article #9 passed by card vote.

ARTICLE #3: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$3,582,150.00** (Three Million Five Hundred Eighty Two Thousand and One Hundred Fifty Dollars) which is the

Budget Committee's recommended amount for the 2015 Operating Budget (8 - 0). The Board of Selectmen recommends **\$3,582,150.00** (Three Million Five Hundred Eighty Two Thousand and One Hundred Fifty Dollars) (3 - 0). This article does not include appropriations voted in other special or individual warrant articles addressed in this warrant. **Majority Vote Required.** The estimated tax impact is \$3.917 per \$1,000 of property valuation.

Article #3 as read was moved by Mark Carpenter and seconded by Mary Bonser.

Chris Sterndale, Town Administrator, gave a power point presentation on the budget and then explained the budget line by line.

A motion was made by Mark Carpenter and seconded by Mary Bonser to amend line 01-4153.10-690, Legal Expense, from \$10,000 to \$0.00. After an explanation of the amendment, there being no discussion, the motion to amend was passed by card vote.

A motion was made by Mark Carpenter and seconded by Mary Bonser to amend line 01-4312.10-018 (Highway Hired Equipment Plowing) from \$12,000 to \$22,000.00 After discussion, the motion to amend was passed by card vote,

A motion was made by Grant (Skip) Seaverns and seconded by Mike Rousseau to amend line 01-4520.10-010 Rec. Salaries F/T to increase the amount from \$0.00 to \$12,190.

After discussion, the motion to amend failed by card vote.

Article #3 as amended passed by card vote.

A motion was made by DeeAnn Decker and seconded by Mary Bonser to invoke the provisions of RSA 40:10 as to Article #3. The motion passed by card vote.

ARTICLE #4: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$19,000.00** (Nineteen Thousand Dollars) for replacement of the roof over the Community Center Gym and Kitchen areas. **The Board of Selectmen recommends this appropriation (3 - 0). The Budget Committee recommends this appropriation (8 - 0). Majority Vote Required.** The estimated tax impact is \$0.035 per \$1,000 of property valuation.

Article #4 as read was moved by Mary Bonser and seconded by Mark Carpenter.

After discussion, Article #4 as read passed by card vote.

A motion was made by Mary Bonser and seconded by DeeAnn Decker to invoke the provisions of RSA 40:10 as to Article #4. The motion passed by card vote.

ARTICLE #5: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$200,000.00** (Two Hundred Thousand Dollars) for engineering, design and highway construction and reconstruction on Lavoie Drive and Freeman Hall Road or other roads in Nottingham if a priority arises. This is a non-lapsing appropriation per RSA 32:7 VI and will not lapse until the work is complete or not later than one year after the end of fiscal year 2016, whichever occurs earlier.

The Board of Selectmen recommends this appropriation (3 – 0). The Budget Committee recommends this appropriation (8 – 0). Majority Vote Required.

The estimated tax impact is \$0.367 per \$1,000 of property valuation.

Article #5 as read was moved by Mary Bonser and seconded by Donna Danis.

After discussion, Article #5 passed by card vote.

A motion was made by Mary Bonser and seconded by Sandra Weston to invoke the provisions of RSA 40:10 as to Article #5. The motion passed by card vote.

ARTICLE #6: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$50,000.00** (Fifty Thousand Dollars) to be added to the Highway Truck Capital Reserve Fund previously established for the purpose of purchasing trucks for the Highway Department. **The Board of Selectmen recommends this appropriation (3 – 0). The Budget Committee recommends this appropriation (8 – 0). (Majority Vote Required)**

The estimated tax impact is \$0.092 per \$1,000 of property valuation.

Article #6 as read was moved by Mark Carpenter and seconded by Mary Bonser.

After discussion, Article #5 passed by card vote.

A motion was made by Mary Bonser and seconded by Sandra Weston to invoke the provisions of RSA 40:10 as to Article #6. The motion passed by card vote.

ARTICLE #7: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$203,500.00** (Two Hundred and Three Thousand Five Hundred Dollars) for the purchase of a truck with dump body, snow plow, wing, and sander for the Highway Department, and to authorize the withdrawal of **\$203,500.00** (Two Hundred and Three Thousand Five Hundred Dollars) from the Highway Truck Capital Reserve Fund created for this purpose. **The Board of Selectmen recommends this appropriation (3 – 0). The Budget Committee recommends this appropriation (8 – 0). Majority vote required.**

The estimated tax impact is \$0.00 per \$1,000 of property valuation.

Article #7 was moved by Donna Danis and seconded by Mark Carpenter.

A motion was made by Donna Danis and seconded by Mary Bonser to amend Article #7 from \$203,500.00 to \$199,000.00.

After discussion, the motion to amend Article #7 passed by card vote.

Article #7 as amended passed by card vote.

A motion was made by Sandra Weston and seconded by Mary Bonser to invoke the provisions of RSA 40:10 as to Article #7. The motion passed by card vote.

At 11:45 am, the Moderator announced a forty-five minute break for lunch, to reassemble at 12:40 pm. The meeting resumed at 12:45 PM.

The Moderator announced that the Library Landscape Committee seeks support with raising funds to re-do the War Memorial Garden at the library. The committee is currently conducting two fundraisers-the sale of High Mowing garden seeds and the pre-ordering of locally grown vegetables, flowers and herb plants. Order forms are available at the library until March 28th.

ARTICLE #8: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$50,000.00** (Fifty Thousand Dollars) to be added to the Fire Department Vehicle Capital Reserve Fund for the purpose of purchasing Fire/Rescue vehicles. **The Board of Selectmen recommends this appropriation (3 – 0). The Budget Committee recommends this appropriation (8 – 0). Majority vote required.**

The estimated tax impact is \$0.092 per \$1,000 of property valuation.

Article #8 as read was moved by Mary Bonser and seconded by Donna Danis.

After discussion, Article #8 passed by card vote.

A motion was made by Mary Bonser and seconded by Donna Danis to invoke the provisions of RSA 40:10 as to Article #8. The motion passed by card vote.

A motion was made by Mary Bonser and seconded by Donna Danis to invoke the provisions of RSA 40:10 as to Article #9. The motion passed by card vote.

ARTICLE #10: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$49,000.00** (Forty Nine Thousand Dollars) for the purpose of purchasing a Pickup Truck and all necessary lettering, equipment and lighting for the Fire/Rescue Department. **The Board of Selectmen recommends this appropriation (3 – 0). The Budget Committee recommends this appropriation (8 – 0). Majority vote required.**

The estimated tax impact is \$0.090 per \$1,000 of property valuation.

Article #10 was moved by Donna Danis and seconded by Mark Carpenter.

After discussion, Article #10 passed by card vote.

A motion was made by Mark Carpenter and seconded by Donna Danis to invoke the provisions of RSA 40:10 as to Article #10. The motion passed by card vote.

ARTICLE #11: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$5,000.00** (Five Thousand Dollars) to be added to the Non-Capital Reserve Fund previously established for the purpose of funding the Tri-Centennial Fund for the celebration of the Town of Nottingham's 300th Birthday to take place in the year 2022. **The Board of Selectmen recommends this appropriation (3 – 0). The Budget Committee recommends this appropriations (8 – 0). Majority vote required.**

The estimated tax impact is \$0.009 per \$1,000 of property valuation.

Article #11 as read was moved by Mary Bonser and seconded by Donna Danis.

A motion to amend Article #11 was made by DeeAnn Decker and seconded by John Decker to reduce the amount from \$5,000.00 to \$0.00.

After discussion, the motion to amend Article #11 failed by card vote.

Article #11 as written passed by card vote.

A motion was made by Mary Bonser and seconded by Donna Danis to invoke the provisions of RSA 40:10 as to Article #11. The motion passed by card vote.

ARTICLE #12: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$3,000.00** (Three Thousand Dollars) to be added to the Expendable Trust Fund previously established for the purpose of maintenance, repair or replacement of Heating, Ventilation & Air Conditioning (HVAC), Electrical, Plumbing or other major systems in Town buildings or facilities and appoint the Selectmen as agents to expend from the fund. **The Board of Selectmen recommends this appropriation (3 – 0). The Budget Committee recommends this appropriation (8 – 0). Majority vote required.**

The estimated tax impact is \$0.006 per \$1,000 of property valuation.

Article #12 as read was moved by Mark Carpenter and seconded by Mary Bonser.

After discussion, Article #12 passed by card vote.

A motion was made by Mary Bonser and seconded by Sandra Weston to invoke the provisions of RSA 40:10 as to Article #12. The motion passed by card vote.

ARTICLE #13: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$26,566.00** (Twenty Six Thousand Five Hundred Sixty Six Dollars) in support of the following Social Service Agencies:

AGENCY	AMOUNT
Seacoast Family Promise	\$100.00
Corner Stone VNA	\$2,393.00
Lamprey Health Care	\$4,500.00
Seacoast Mental Health	\$1,000.00
Child & Family Services	\$1,000.00
Richie McFarland Children Center	\$2,700.00
Sexual Assault Support Serv	\$700.00
A Safe Place & Sexual Assault Support Serv	\$750.00
AIDS Response Seacoast	\$575.00
Friends Retired Sr. Volunteer Program	\$100.00
Rockingham Co Comm Act Program	\$5,500.00
Rock Cty Nutrition Meals/Wheels	\$1,398.00
Area Homecare/Family	\$1,100.00
Child Advocacy Center	\$1,750.00
Victims Inc.	\$500.00
American Red Cross	\$500.00
CASA	\$500.00
Ready Rides	\$1,500.00
GRAND TOTAL	\$26,566.00

The Board of Selectmen recommends this appropriation (3 – 0). The Budget Committee recommends this appropriation (7 in favor). Majority vote required.

The estimated tax impact is \$0.049 per \$1,000 of property valuation.

Article #13 as read was moved by Mary Bonser and seconded by Mark Carpenter.

After discussion, Article #13 passed by card vote.

A motion was made by Mary Bonser and seconded by Donna Danis to invoke the provisions of RSA 40:10 as to Article #13. The motion passed by card vote.

ARTICLE #14: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$4,000.00** (Four Thousand Dollars) for the purpose of conducting courtesy inspections of boats using the State Boat Launch at the Fundy Boat Ramp and the Pawtuckaway State Park Boat Ramps on Pawtuckaway Lake to remove fragments of exotic invasive aquatic species and to educate the public on how to prevent the spread of exotic species from water body to water body. **The Board of Selectmen recommends this appropriation (3 – 0). The Budget Committee recommends this appropriation (6 in favor). Majority vote required.**
The estimated tax impact is \$0.007 per \$1,000 of property valuation.

Article #14 as read was moved by Donna Danis and seconded by Mary Bonser.

After discussion, Article #14 passed by card vote.

A motion was made by Donna Danis and seconded by Mary Bonser to invoke the provisions of RSA 40:10 as to Article #14. The motion passed by card vote.

ARTICLE #15: To see if the Town will vote to change the number of Library Trustees from three (3) to five (5), in accordance with RSA 202-A:6. If the town votes to enlarge the board to five (5) members, at the first annual meeting following this meeting, the town shall elect two (2) members for a 3-year term and one (1) member for a one-year term. At the next succeeding annual meeting two (2) members shall be elected for a 3-year term, at the next following annual meeting one (1) member shall be elected for a 3-year term, and at succeeding annual meetings members shall be elected to fill the vacancies regularly occurring. **The Board of Selectmen recommends this warrant article (3 – 0). Majority vote required.**

Article #15 as read was moved by Mary Bonser and seconded by Donna Danis.

After discussion, Article #15 passed by card vote.

A motion was made by Mary Bonser and seconded by Mark Carpenter to invoke the provisions of RSA 40:10 as to Article #15. The motion passed by card vote.

ARTICLE #16: To see if the Town will limit the amount held in the “Cable Franchise Fund” previously established, to a maximum of \$30,000.00 (Thirty Thousand Dollars) at any time, and direct all funds in excess of that amount to the general fund. **The Board of Selectmen recommends this warrant article (3 – 0). The Budget Committee recommends this appropriation (8 – 0). Majority vote required.**

Article #16 as read was moved by Mark Carpenter and seconded by Mary Bonser.

After discussion, Article #16 passed by card vote.

A motion was made by Donna Danis and seconded by Mark Carpenter to invoke the provisions of RSA 40:10 as to Article #16. The motion passed by card vote.

ARTICLE #17: To see if the Town will approve of directing the Board of Selectmen and Board of Assessors to mail a copy of any property tax card that changes assessed value to a property owner during any tax year, with the exception of the assessing "revaluation year". "Revaluation year" occurs once every five (5) years, and the company contracted to perform the revaluation will mail new assessments to all property owners. **The Board of Selectmen recommends this warrant article (3 – 0). The Budget Committee recommends this appropriation (8 – 0). Majority vote required.**

Article #17 as read was moved by Donna Danis and seconded by Mark Carpenter.

After discussion, Article #17 passed by card vote.

A motion was made by Mary Bonser and seconded by Donna Danis to invoke the provisions of RSA 40:10 as to Article #17. The motion passed by card vote.

ARTICLE #18: To transact any other business which may legally come before this meeting.

Sam Demeritt, chair of the Conservation Commission , acknowledged the late Noel Carlson for his work on the commission.

Grant (Skip) Seaverns made a motion seconded by Ed Viel for the Board of Selectmen to establish a subcommittee to assist the Recreation Department with use of the Recreation Revolving Fund in the budget process.

There being no discussion, the motion passed by card vote.

Janet Horvath made a motion seconded by Sandra Weston to invoke the provisions of RSA 40:10 as to the above motion.

The motion passed by card vote.

Upon motion to adjourn made by Mary Bonser and seconded by Mark Carpenter, the meeting adjourned at 1:50 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Sandra W. Weston".

Sandra W. Weston, Town Clerk