

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL TOWN MEETING  
TOWN OF NOTTINGHAM  
2016

The Moderator, Bonnie Winona MacKinnon, called the meeting to order at 8:00 AM on Tuesday, March 8, 2016 at the Nottingham Municipal Building. Articles #1 through #5 were 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 12, 2016 at the Nottingham Elementary School to act on **Articles # 6 through # 20.**

At 9:07 AM on March 12, 2016, 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 Girl Scouts and Boy Scouts to come forward to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

The Moderator announced that lunch was being provided by the Pat Desrosiers and Chelli Tennis and that all donations would be given to the Nottingham Police Department.

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. Further, she recognized Mary Bonser for her fifteen years of service on the Board of Selectmen and Mark Carpenter for his four years of service on the Board of Selectmen.

The Moderator announced that the following non-residents would be allowed to speak during the meeting: Heidi Carlson, Chris Sterndale, Zachery Gagnon, Brett LeBlanc, Len Martel, Phil Corbett, Eric Stern, Gunnar Foss, and James Calderone.

The rules of order can be found on the inside cover of the Annual Report.

The Moderator then read the results of the Town elections held on March 8, 2016:

Selectman	3 years	Charlene Andersen
Selectman	2 years	Tiler F. Eaton
Moderator	2 years	Bonnie Winona MacKinnon
Cemetery Trustee	3 years	Teresa L. Bascom
Trustee of the Trust Funds	3 years	Denise Blaha (write-in)
Library Trustee	3 years	Sara Wotton
Library Trustee	3 years	Susan Medeiros
Library Trustee	1 year	Laura Cottrell
Supervisor of the Checklist	6 years	Joanna M. Arendarczyk
Planning Board Member	3 years	Eduard Viel
Planning Board Member	3 years	Dirk Grotenhuis
Budget Committee Member	3 years	Jeffrey Wheeler
Budget Committee Member	3 years	Anthony Dumas
Budget Committee Member	3 years	Suzanne Edin
Zoning Board Member	3 years	Michael Russo
Board of Assessors	3 years	Eugene T. Reed
Board of Assessors	2 years	Arthur Stockus

**ARTICLE #2:** Are you in favor of omitting the following definitions in the Nottingham Zoning Ordinances which currently read as follows:

**ANIMAL FEED LOT** – an agricultural establishment consisting of confined feeding areas and related structures used for the raising of livestock. An animal feedlot shall be considered one on which more than five (5) adult animals are raised simultaneously.

**CAMPGROUND** – any area of land on which are located two or more cabins, tents, trailers, shelters or other accommodations of a design or character suitable for seasonal, temporary living purposes, regardless of whether such structures or other accommodations actually are occupied or other.

Recommended by the Nottingham Planning Board (7-0).

YES                      774                      NO                      391

**ARTICLE #3:** Are you in favor of amending the following definitions in the Nottingham Zoning Ordinance?

**Current:**

**BUILDING INSPECTOR** – refers to the Board of Selectmen whenever no active Building Inspector is available in Town.

**SOIL SCIENTIST** – a person qualified in soils classification and licensed by the State of New Hampshire.

**SURVEYING** – means any service or work, the adequate performance of which involves the art of locating and measuring lines, angles, features for the purpose of determining areas for the monumenting of property and for the platting and layout of lands and for the preparation and perpetuation of plats that represent these surveys.

**To be changed to:**

**BUILDING INSPECTOR** – *The officer or other designated authority charged with the administration and enforcement of the Town Regulations, Zoning Ordinance, and Building Code. Whenever no active Building Inspector is available in Town, this refers to the Board of Selectmen.*

**SOIL SCIENTIST** – *See Certified Soil Scientist.*

**SURVEYING** – *Any service or work, the adequate performance of which involves the art of locating and measuring lines, angles, features for the purpose of determining areas for the monumenting of property and for the platting and layout of lands and for the preparation and perpetuation of plats that represent these surveys. Land surveyors are required to hold a license from the State of New Hampshire.*

Recommended by the Nottingham Planning Board (7-0).

YES                      945                      NO                      243

**ARTICLE #4:** Are you in favor of adding the following definitions to the Nottingham Zoning Ordinance?

**ABUTTER** – *As defined under RSA 672:3 and 676:4 I, any person whose property is located in New Hampshire and adjoins or is directly across the street or stream from the land under consideration by the local land use board. For purposes of receiving testimony only, and not for purposes of notification, the term “abutter” shall include any person who is able to demonstrate*

the land will be directly affected by the proposal under consideration. For purposes of receipt of notification by a municipality of a local land use board hearing, in the case of an abutting property being under a condominium or other collective form of ownership, the term abutter means the officers of the collective or association, as defined in RSA 356-B:3, XXIII. For purposes of receipt of notification by a municipality of a local land use board hearing, in the case of an abutting property being under a manufactured housing park form of ownership as defined in RSA 205-A:1, II, the term "abutter" includes the manufactured housing park owner and the tenants who own manufactured housing which adjoins or is directly across the street or stream from the land under consideration by the local land use board.

**CERTIFIED SOIL SCIENTIST** – A person who, by reason of his or her special knowledge of soil classification and mapping as acquired by course work and experience, as specified by RSA 310-A:84, I and II and who is certified by the State of New Hampshire Board of Natural Scientists.

**COMPLETENESS REVIEW** – The process used by the Planning Board and/or their designated agent to ensure that all necessary applications/permits/plans/various paperwork required from the applicant have been submitted with the application for Subdivision to be considered for approval by the Planning Board.

**PUBLIC HEARING** – A publicly advertised item on the Planning Board agenda at which public comment on a specific application is heard, as specified under RSA 675:7.

**TOWN** – Town of Nottingham officials and/or employees, or its designated agents.

**4K AREA** – A reserved 4,000 sq. ft. area of land reserved for sewage disposal.

**STREAM** – Surface water that flows for sufficient times of the year to develop and maintain defined channels but may not flow during dry portions of the year. Includes, but is not limited to, all perennial and intermittent streams located on U.S. Geological Survey Maps.

Recommended by the Nottingham Planning Board (7-0).

YES	893	NO	281
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**ARTICLE #5:** Are you in favor of increasing the Board of Selectmen to 5 members?

YES	667	NO	543
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**ARTICLE #6:** To see if the municipality will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$750,000.00 (Seven Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars) for the purchase and equipping of a new "quint" fire truck, and to authorize the issuance of not more than \$425,000.00 (Four Hundred Twenty Five Thousand Dollars) of bonds or notes in accordance with the provisions of the Municipal Finance Act (RSA 33) and to authorize the municipal officials to issue and negotiate such bonds or notes and to determine the rate of interest thereon. Furthermore, to authorize the withdrawal of \$325,000.00 (Three Hundred Twenty Five Thousand Dollars) from the Fire and Rescue Vehicle Capital Reserve Fund created for this purpose. **Two thirds (2/3) Ballot Vote Required.** The estimated tax impact is \$0.143 per \$1,000 of property valuation, starting in 2017.

**The Board of Selectmen recommends this appropriation (3 - 0).**

**The Budget Committee recommends this appropriation (8 - 3).**

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

Chief Jaye Vilchok put on a power point presentation regarding the “quint”, following which a lengthy discussion ensued by those in favor of and those opposed to the Article.

The Moderator announced that there would be a secret ballot on Article 6 and opened the polls at 11:03 a.m. for one hour.

At 12:04 the Moderator announced the results of the secret ballot:

YES	109	NO	98
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(138 Votes were needed to pass.)

Article #6 failed by secret ballot.

**Article #7:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$3,618,862.00** (Three Million Six Hundred Eighteen Thousand Eight Hundred Sixty Two Dollars) for the 2016 Operating Budget. 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 \$3.574 per \$1,000 of property valuation.

**The Board of Selectmen recommends this appropriation (3 - 0).**

**The Budget Committee recommends this appropriation (10 - 1).**

**Article # 7** was moved by Donna Danis and seconded by Mark Carpenter. Town Administrator, Chris Sterndale, presented the budget.

A motion was made by Rhoda Capron and seconded by Steve Soreff, to amend Line 127 of Article #7 as follows:

To amend the cemetery budget, increasing it by \$1,000 for the purpose of performing maintenance and repair on the Stevens Batchelder Cemetery on Stevens Hill Road. The funds would come from the interest of the existing Stevens and Batchelder Trust Fund which was established in 1917 for this purpose. This will increase the bottom line of the town budget by \$1,000 but will not affect the tax rate.

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

William Garnett made a motion seconded by Rhoda Capron to amend line 127 of Article #7 as follows:

That the corroded septic system drain pipes at the municipal office building be replaced within the next thirty days and that \$5,000 (Five Thousand Dollars) be added to line 127.

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

**Amended Article #7:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$3,624,862 (Three Million Six Hundred Twenty-four Thousand Eight Hundred Sixty-Two Dollars) for the 2016 Operating Budget. 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 \$3.574 per \$1,000 of property valuation.

**The Board of Selectmen recommends this appropriation (3 - 0).**

**The Budget Committee recommends this appropriation (10 – 1).**



After discussion, Article #7 as amended passed by card vote.

A motion was made and seconded to invoke the provisions of RSA 40:10 as to Articles #6 and #7.

The motion passed by card vote.

ARTICLE #8: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$100,000.00 (one hundred thousand dollars) for the purpose of developing recreational facilities, including but not limited to ballfields and trails at the Marston Farm, said funds to be withdrawn from the existing Recreation Revolving Fund; and, to authorize the Board of Selectmen to apply for and accept gifts, grants, and donations for that purpose, which shall be accounted for separately, as required by law. This will be a non-lapsing appropriation per RSA 32:7, VI and will not lapse until the project is completed or by December 31, 2020, whichever is sooner. Majority vote required. There is no tax impact for this appropriation.

**The Board of Selectmen recommends this appropriation (3 - 0).**

**The Budget Committee recommends this appropriation (11 - 0).**

Article #8 was moved by Donna Danis and Seconded by Mary Bonser: Donna Danis and Michael Hadik presented a power point presentation.

A motion for a secret ballot was withdrawn.

After discussion, Article #8 passed by card vote.

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

ARTICLE #9: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$100,000.00 (one hundred thousand dollars) for the purpose of developing recreational facilities, including but not limited to ballfields and trails at the Marston Farm, said funds to be raised through taxation. This will be a non-lapsing appropriation per RSA 32:7, VI and will not lapse until the project is completed or by December 31, 2020, whichever is sooner. The estimated tax impact is \$0.16 per \$1,000 of property valuation.

**The Board of Selectmen recommends this appropriation (2 - 1).**

**The Budget Committee recommends this appropriation (10 - 1).**

Article #9 was moved by Donna Danis and seconded by Mary Bonser.

A motion by Debra Rennick and seconded by Gail Mills and signed by the necessary number of registered voters was made for a secret ballot on Article #9. The Moderator opened the polls at 2:13 p. m.

Article #9 passed by secret ballot. YES 125 NO 46

A motion was made and seconded 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 \$100,000.00 (One Hundred Thousand Dollars) to be added to the Fire Department Vehicle Capital Reserve Fund for the purpose of purchasing Fire/Rescue vehicles. Majority vote required. The estimated tax impact is \$0.16 per \$1,000 of property valuation.

**The Board of Selectmen recommends this appropriation (3 - 0).**

**The Budget Committee recommends this appropriation (11 - 0).**

Article #10 was moved by Mark Carpenter and seconded by Mary Bonser.

After discussion, Article #10 passed by card vote.

A motion was made and seconded 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 \$200,000.00 (Two Hundred Thousand Dollars) for engineering, design and highway construction and reconstruction on Gebig Road, Ledge Farm Road, Deerfield 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. Majority Vote Required. The estimated tax impact is \$0.336 per \$1,000 of property valuation.

**The Board of Selectmen recommends this appropriation (3 - 0).**

**The Budget Committee recommends this appropriation (11 - 0).**

Article #11 was moved by Mary Bonser and seconded by Mark Carpenter.

After discussion, Article #11 passed by card vote.

A motion was made and seconded 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 establish a contingency fund for the current year for unanticipated expenses, pursuant to RSA 31:98-a, and related to employee retirements and terminations that may arise, and further to raise and appropriate \$20,000.00 (Twenty Thousand Dollars) to go into the fund. This sum to come from fund balance and no amount to be raised from taxation. Any appropriation left in the fund at the end of the year will lapse to the general fund. Majority Vote Required. The estimated tax impact is \$0.000 per \$1,000 of property valuation.

**The Board of Selectmen recommends this appropriation (3 - 0).**

**The Budget Committee recommends this appropriation (11 - 0).**

Article #12 was moved by Mary Bonser and seconded by Donna Danis.

There being no discussion, Article #12 passed by card vote.

A motion was made and seconded 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 establish an expendable trust fund under the provisions of RSA 31:19-a to be known as the Invasive Species Prevention and Eradication Removal Fund for the purpose of protecting Nottingham lakes and ponds. Furthermore, to raise and appropriate the sum of \$10,000.00 (ten thousand dollars) to be placed in this fund, with this amount to come from taxation; further to name the Selectmen as agents to expend from the fund. Majority vote required. The estimated tax impact is \$0.016 per \$1,000 of property valuation.

**The Board of Selectmen recommends this appropriation (2 - 0).**

**The Budget Committee recommends this appropriation (11 – 0).**

Article #13 was moved by Donna Danis and seconded by Steve Soreff.

A motion was made by Charlene Andersen and seconded by DeeAnn Decker to amend Article #13 as follows:

To see if the Town will vote to establish an expendable trust fund under the provisions of RSA 31:19-a to be known as the Invasive Species Prevention and Eradication Removal Fund for the purpose of protecting Nottingham's public water bodies. Furthermore, to raise and appropriate the sum of \$10,000.00 (ten thousand dollars) to be placed in this fund, with this amount to come from taxation; further to name the Selectmen as agents to expend from the fund.

After discussion, the amendment to Article #13 passed by card vote.

Article #13 as amended passed by card vote.

A motion was made and seconded 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 \$75,000.00 (Seventy Five Thousand Dollars) to be added to the Highway Truck Capital Reserve Fund previously established for the purpose of purchasing trucks for the Highway Department. Majority Vote Required. The estimated tax impact is \$0.126 per \$1,000 of property valuation.

**The Board of Selectmen recommends this appropriation (3 - 0).**

**The Budget Committee recommends this appropriation (11 - 0).**

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

There being no discussion, Article #14 passed by card vote.

A motion was made and seconded 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 raise and appropriate the sum \$25,000.00 (Twenty Five Thousand Dollars) to be added to the previously established Capital Reserve Fund for the purpose of performing a statutory revaluation of property every five years. The next revaluation will take place in 2020. Majority vote required. The estimated tax impact is \$0.042 per \$1,000 of property valuation.

**The Board of Selectmen recommends this appropriation (3 - 0).**

**The Budget Committee recommends this appropriation (11 - 0).**

Article #15 was moved by Mark Carpenter and seconded by Mary Bonser.

There being no discussion, Article #15 passed by card vote.

A motion was made and seconded 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 vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$22,100.00 (Twenty Two Thousand One Hundred Dollars) for the purpose of purchasing the necessary fuel, supplies, equipment, and maintenance to run the ambulance and billing services for 2016; and to authorize the withdrawal of \$22,100.00 (Twenty Two Thousand One Hundred Dollars) from the

Ambulance and Equipment Replacement Special Revenue Fund created for this purpose. Majority vote required. The estimated tax impact is \$0.00 per \$1,000 of property valuation.

**The Board of Selectmen recommends this appropriation (3 - 0).**

**The Budget Committee recommends this appropriation (11 - 0).**

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

After discussion, Article #16 passed by card vote.

A motion was made and seconded 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 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. Majority vote required. The estimated tax impact is \$0.008 per \$1,000 of property valuation.

**The Board of Selectmen recommends this appropriation (3 - 0).**

**The Budget Committee recommends this appropriation (11 - 0).**

Article #17 was moved by Steve Soreff and seconded by Donna Danis.

A motion to amend Article #17 failed for lack of a second.

After discussion, Article #17 as written passed by card vote.

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

ARTICLE #18: 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 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. Majority vote required. The estimated tax impact is \$0.008 per \$1,000 of property valuation.

**The Board of Selectmen recommends this appropriation (3 - 0).**

**The Budget Committee recommends this appropriation (11 - 0).**

Article #18 was moved by Mary Bonser and seconded by Mark Carpenter.

After discussion, Article #18 passed by card vote.

A motion was made and seconded to invoke the provisions of RSA 40:10 as to Article #18. The motion passed by card vote.

ARTICLE #19: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$26,575.00 (Twenty Six Thousand Five Hundred Seventy Five Dollars) in support of the following Social Service Agencies:

AGENCY	AMOUNT
AIDS Response Seacoast	\$575.00
American Red Cross Great Bay Chapter	\$500.00
Area HomeCare & Family Services, Inc.	\$1,100.00
CASA - Court Appointed Special Advocates	\$500.00
Child Advocacy Center	\$1,750.00
Child and Family Services	\$1,000.00
Cornerstone VNA	\$2,400.00
Friends Program RSVP	\$100.00
Haven (A Safe Place & merge w/ SASS)	\$1,450.00
Lamprey Health Care	\$4,500.00
Ready Rides	\$1,500.00
Richie McFarland Children's Center	\$2,700.00
Rockingham County Community Action Program	\$5,500.00
Rockingham Nutrition & Meals on Wheels	\$1,400.00
Seacoast Family Promise	\$100.00
Seacoast Mental Health	\$1,000.00
Victims Inc.	\$500.00
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>\$26,575.00</b>

Majority vote required. The estimated tax impact is \$.045 per \$1,000 of property valuation.

**The Board of Selectmen recommends this appropriation (3 - 0).**

**The Budget Committee recommends this appropriation (11 - 0).**

Article #19 was moved by Donna Danis and seconded by Mark Carpenter.

After discussion, Article #19 passed by card vote.

A motion was made and seconded to invoke the provisions of RSA 40:10 as to Article #19. The motion passed by card vote.

ARTICLE #20: To transact any other business, which may legally come before this meeting.

Chet Batchelder asked for an up-date on the status of the USA Springs property.

Chris Sterndale stated that the matter was still in the Bankruptcy Court and the \$860,000 owed in back taxes is approaching the value of the property. Mark Carpenter stated that the town should get a Writ of Mandamus before the court to order the Selectmen to support the "water ordinance".

There being no further business to come before this meeting, a motion to adjourn which was seconded passed by card vote. The meeting adjourned at 4:03 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:



Sandra W. Weston, Town Clerk