

Select Board Meeting
Tuesday, January 21, 2020
7 PM
Town Hall
Final Minutes

1. Call Meeting to Order

Members present: Anne Surman, Kathy Corson, Julie Gilman, Molly Cowan, Niko Papakonstantis, and Russ Dean were present at this meeting. The meeting was called to order by Ms. Corson at 7 PM.

2. Public Comment

a. None

3. Bond hearing

MOTION: Mr. Papakonstantis moved to open the Budget Hearing per RSA 33:8-a to discuss the Rec Park project only. Ms. Cowan seconded. All were in favor.

MOTION: Mr. Papakonstantis moved to open the Bond Hearing. Ms. Surman seconded. All were in favor.

Mr. Papakonstantis said that he has worked with Parks and Rec and Tighe and Bond and found a way to eliminate \$2 million from the Rec Park project, bringing the cost down to \$10.85 million. This plan would eliminate the outdoor walking track, some of the building's non-essential features, and the parking lot on Wayside Drive/Fuller Lane. He suggested they also consider closing off the Wayside/Fuller entrance to the park, to address the safety and parking concerns of that neighborhood. He added that because of where the pool is, the building has to go where it is proposed, which is close to the Acadia Lane development. Ms. Surman said there are many other issues with the project that need to be addressed, such as the points raised in the Facilities Committee report. Ms. Cowan was in support of the change, and said the Board could consider eliminating parking on Wayside/Fuller and look at permitted resident parking. Ms. Gilman said she appreciated Mr. Papakonstantis's efforts and the parking lot solution.

Ms. Corson said she has a total of 25 correspondences on this subject, which she will summarize, adding that each member of the Select Board has read them all. There were a total of eight in support, six of which were from 277 Water Street and one from Exeter Area Chamber. 16 were against, 12 of which were from abutters, 7 from the Acadia neighborhood and 5 from the Wayside neighborhood.

Ms. Corson added that the Facilities Committee said that this site needs to be looked at in terms of being overprogrammed. She doesn't feel there's enough parking for the building and programming. This project is not ready. She asked for public comment.

Susan Raycraft of 277 Water Street spoke in support, asking the Board to think of the positive things that will happen if the Rec Park project becomes a reality, with benefits for children, the disabled, seniors, and private groups holding meetings.

Molly Ruffner of 11 Hall Place said that town services such as the Rec program are an asset to the community and property values. She's in support of project going on the warrant. She added that the abutters' concerns should still be addressed.

Andy Hurst of 5 Wayside Drive, an abutter, said he is concerned about the safety of the young people in the neighborhood with an increase in traffic. He added that he is concerned about costs as well. He would like to raise the level of income to qualify for senior tax relief, which was last set in 2008, so that more seniors can qualify.

Jody Silverio of 61 Acadia Lane, an abutter, said that she purchased her condo knowing the Rec Center was there, but the amount of activity and traffic could be tripled. This would have a big impact on where they live.

Mike Wissler of 27 Old Town Farm Road, a member of the Rec Advisory Committee, spoke in favor of the project. The 2015 Needs Study identified the Rec Building as the facility the most in need of replacement. The cost of this project includes replacing that building as well as the Senior Center next door, which would free up those parcels for future development. Regarding the added costs of this project, the building is 10,000 square feet bigger than the 2017 plan, and includes a senior lounge, a walking track, Meals on Wheels, and ADA-compliant bathrooms. It's short-sighted to get tied up in the cost; Exeter deserves a world-class facility.

John Kirn of 7 Nathaniel Way said he would like to see the park get improvements, but needs it to be a place to walk his dog and take it off-leash. Ms. Surman said that NH law makes parks not dog-friendly, so they'd have to create new ordinance. Mr. Dean said the town ordinance specifically prohibits dogs in seven parks, including the Hampton Road Rec Park. Ms. Gilman said they haven't found an appropriate place because the dog waste can't leech into the river. She and Ms. Surman said they can look into the concept of a dog park prior to Deliberative Session. Mr. Papakonstantis said that upon approval of the Rec Park project, the town can apply for additional grants and raise money, so there could be funds for a dog park in the future.

Brandon Raineau of 6 Wayside Drive, an abutter, said he's concerned about safety and cost.

Steve Geiger of 9 Summer Street, a member of the Rec Advisory Board, said he joined the Board to help advocate for improvements to the pool, but found that an improvement to the Rec Center is more important. It can be paid for in 10 years, and rates are historically low. It's important to have a town-wide debate by having it on the ballot.

Dan Chartrand of 63 Jady Hill Ave, a former member of the Select Board, spoke about the 2015 Townwide Facilities Plan done by HL Turner Group. The Rec Park project, and moving the Rec Department off of Court Street, is the linchpin to the town moving forward with a broad-based facilities plan. It opens up the potential for a new Public Safety facility or Town Offices, or they could put the property back into the private sector to generate revenue. He asked that they put this on the ballot.

Val Castonguay of 2 Hobart Street, a member of the Rec Advisory Board, said the Rec Camp provides a summer opportunity at a cost lower than other camps. With this project complete, more families will have an affordable option. There's also a safety aspect, as there's nowhere to put the kids when it's pouring. Parking is an issue, and this plan provides for more and better parking.

John Sinka of 61 Acadia Lane, an abutter, said that people have the right to live in their homes without undue noise, traffic, lighting, and fumes. The project has not addressed these issues and hasn't guaranteed it won't affect property values.

Jen Clarke of Acadia Lane, an abutter, is concerned that the current plan is missing the mark. Trees may be taken down. Green spaces are important. She talked to her neighbors and 55 of them signed a petition indicating they want further research done on this project. Many offerings proposed at the Rec Park are already offered at the Y.

Alan Pelletier of 19 Fuller Lane, an abutter, said there's been a parking lot in front of their house for the last 15 years. He appreciates them making the changes that Mr. Papakonstantis proposed tonight, but he also wants to look into some sort of barrier to give them privacy.

Gail Phillips of 4 Wayside Drive, an abutter, said she's glad to hear they're considering taking the Wayside Drive parking lot out of the project. She's not opposed to Rec Park improvements, but the current proposal is flawed. The Board's responsibility is to put forward the best project they can, or look at fixing the issues.

Debbie Proulx of 19A Newfields Road, the head of Meals on Wheels for Rockingham County, spoke in favor of the project. It's important to have a livable community. The Exeter Senior Center hasn't had any improvements for 50 years. They need to go forward to find a better fit.

Brinn Sullivan of 44 Hampton Falls Road, a member of the Rec Advisory Board, said the Board tried hard to put together a project that responded to the Master Plan and the guiding principles. They need more age-friendly facilities. Town Hall is not accessible and parking is difficult. The Y is not a solution, as it costs \$68/month per family and is not controlled by the town. Making money is not the priority for the Rec Department.

Caleb Burke of 23 Acadia Lane, an abutter, said he signed the petition against the project. It's been 50 years since the Rec Center has been updated, but now they're rushing into it. They need to slow down and talk to those affected. It's not right to put the access road where it is proposed.

Eileen O'Donnell of 10 Wayside Drive, an abutter, said she hopes they will lock the park gate on Wayside/Fuller to eliminate problems.

Kate Duncan, an abutter, said the civic process in this project wasn't the best, the news was dropped mid-holidays and the abutter meeting was January 2nd, which was inconvenient.

Bev Tappan of 7 RiverWoods Drive said she appreciates the concerns of the abutters and wants to look at other options for access, but more seniors will be aging in their homes and could use a place like the new Senior Center. If a building goes forward, she urged that they pursue energy efficiency and solar or other clean energy.

Alexis Simpson of 13 Main Street said that six years ago, she was part of a brainstorming process to see what was needed in Parks and Rec. They've been planning as a town to work on this, so it should not be a surprise. Upgrades need to be made to the fields to make them more safe and playable. As a state rep from Exeter, she's heard from seniors that they can't use the Senior Center when Meals on Wheels is in there, and this building would address that.

Jody Silverio of Acadia Lane spoke again, asking why if this plan has been in play for years, her land was sold as residential. Ms. Corson said she [Ms. Corson] has been advocating

for the abutters all along. The town wasn't given the option to purchase the land that is now Acadia Lane. Ms. Cowan said she has seen emails going back to 2014 from the former Rec Director who reached out to the developer of Acadia Lane regarding the town's plans for the Rec Park, and she wishes that that information was communicated to the buyers. Ms. Corson said that last year they should have taken the opportunity to reach out to the abutters again.

Denise Harrington of 44 Acadia Lane, an abutter, said she likes having the Rec Park there but there needs to be some compromise. Everyone at Acadia Lane disapproves of the new road directly behind their decks. They should readdress the plan to make something that works for all.

Gaby Grossman of 31 Winter Street, the County Rep to the State Legislature, said Rec Programming has brought community, inclusion, and magic to this community, but right now, a person with a physical disability can't access the Rec building. She asked that they keep the conversation going by putting it on the ballot.

Dan Provost of 18 Wentworth Street, a member of the Rec Advisory Board, said that last year the voters approved \$250,000 for Rec Park study. Voters believe in the mission of Exeter Parks and Rec. This project offers a big ROI and expands those opportunities. It will replace the use of the courts with elementary schools, which are inadequate spaces. He asked that they give the voters the opportunity to decide.

Maria Proulx of 4 Stoneridge Lane said they've been working on this for years. They can't make everyone happy. They should move forward and not analyze this over and over. She's passionate about community and social well-being. This facility will serve the needs of every generation.

Nancy Belanger of Mill Street said the project has been going on since 2013. She urged the Board to put this on the ballot and let the voters decide.

Paul Royal of 3 Pumpkin Circle said it's okay to ask the voters to make this decision. Regarding Acadia Lane, he did his due diligence when he moved into town. They bought next to a Rec Park. It pays to pay attention to the community. The support for older citizens offered by this Rec Park is important. Property values have increased because this is a great town that people want to live in. He is conflicted, because if he were an abutter and a big parking lot went in, he would hate it.

Jason Proulx of 154 High Street said he has kids in the Rec Department programming, and he's a volunteer coach. The Rec Park is a godsend for working parents, but it needs a building. He wants to retire in this town, and Exeter has to draw young families in to support the elderly tax exemption.

Nick Champion of 75 Newfields Road said he has a young family and is in support of this project. They would gain an improved playground, basketball courts, and a community center accessible to all age groups. Currently they don't have the space to accommodate everyone who wants to participate. The Y costs \$68/month, plus a \$90 joining fee, which is over \$900 a year, vs \$162 a year in taxes for a park. If delayed, there's an increase of 8-10% each year. He would like this to be a choice for the voters.

Paul Gould of 12 Fuller Lane, an abutter, asked that they don't destroy the gem of a community in Fuller Lane.

Allan Pelletier of 19 Fuller Lane, an abutter, said his neighborhood was in place before any Rec Park was there. He bought for location and privacy. The soccer fields were put in after he bought his house. He did his due diligence.

Ms. Corson said what has been proposed is that there will be no parking lot or entrance on Wayside/Fuller. There will be no outdoor walking trail or extra soccer field. Parks and Rec must engage the abutters at Acadia Drive to ensure they are part of the process.

Ms. Corson read Article 4:

Parks/Recreation Building Design/Construction and Recreation Park Improvements (\$10,850,000)

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of ten million eight hundred fifty thousand and zero dollars (\$10,850,000) for the design and construction of a building, playground and field improvements at the Recreation Park on Hampton Road, and to authorize the issuance of not more than \$10,850,000 of bonds or notes in accordance with the provisions of the Municipal Finance Act (RSA 33); and further to authorize the Select Board to issue and negotiate such bonds or notes and to determine the rate of interest thereon. Debt service will be paid from the general fund. [She did not read the tax impact information.]

MOTION: Mr. Papakonstantis moved to put Article 4 on the ballot with the amendments put into the record by Ms. Corson [as above, there will be no parking lot or entrance on Wayside/Fuller; there will be no outdoor walking trail or extra soccer field; Parks and Rec must engage the abutters at Acadia Drive to ensure they are part of the process.] Ms. Cowan seconded. Ms. Gilman said she's in favor of moving this forward to the Deliberative Session. Some questions can already be answered with existing facts. The Board can change their recommendation at Deliberative Session. Ms. Cowan, Mr. Papakonstantis, and Ms. Gilman voted yea, and Ms. Surman and Ms. Corson voted nay. The motion passed 3-2.

MOTION: Mr. Papakonstantis moved to support Article 4 as described with the amendments. Ms. Cowan seconded. Ms. Cowan said the voters last year asked them to come up with a plan for them to vote on, and they now have a plan. This could change at Deliberative Session, but they should provide an opportunity to vote on it. Ms. Surman said this plan hasn't been fully thought out. The Facilities Committee raised other issues that didn't come up tonight. They haven't yet seen the results of the Public Safety Study. Ms. Cowan, Mr. Papakonstantis, and Ms. Gilman voted yea, and Ms. Surman and Ms. Corson voted nay. The motion passed 3-2.

Ms. Corson recessed the public hearing to go to discussion and action items.

4. Proclamations/Recognitions
 - a. None
5. Approval of Minutes
 - a. Regular Meeting: January 6th, 2020 - Tabled
6. Appointments
 - a. None
7. Discussion/Action Items
 - a. Lincoln Street Parking Report

Dave Sharples introduced John Burke, an independent parking consultant who conducted an analysis of Lincoln Street parking.

Mr. Burke said that of the rail stations serving the Downeaster, Exeter has the highest ridership and the fewest number of spaces at the lowest price. It's reasonable to think about pricing this lot. Free parking has unintended consequences. He recommended a daily rate for the lot around \$3-5 a day, and a discounted monthly rate of \$40 a month. Pay by phone is the newest technology, so not everyone needs to use the kiosk. They could look at locating 40 spaces in the school parking lot for monthly permit holders - which would prevent turnover during school hours - or use this area for Lincoln Street employee/owner parking. There's a mid-day parking shortage in the 2 hour zone, and non-compliance with the 2 hour limit. By charging a fee for the train station lot and metering the 2 hour zone, they would create an economic push for commuters to the surplus free parking. Metering the 2 hour zone improves turnover compared to signed free 2 hour spaces. The concern was that they would lose business by losing the short term 15 minute parking; to address this, they could make the first 15 minutes free at all meters, or have a handful of free 15-minute-only spaces. They can offer all-day permits to employees or a resident who can demonstrate hardship. He said they also priced out what the implementation would look like, number of kiosks, signage, etc, as well as hand-held ticket devices.

Mr. Dean said the goal for tonight is to get reaction from the Board and to make sure the Board understood the implementation cost, which is \$115,000 in year one. They could take the police budget placeholder at \$115,000, and they anticipate bringing in \$50,000 in fees and fines in the first year. There's also an option to put it as an article on the ballot. Ms. Surman asked if the amount of money involved obligated them to take it to the voters. Mr. Dean said he didn't believe it was a must, but they could.

Ms. Corson said there was a clear need in the Lincoln Street area. Eventually the town will likely put paid parking downtown as well. She suggested doing two hours free. She asked for the public to comment.

Dan Chartrand asked that they do paid parking downtown as well. The lack of value the town is placing on parking is killing the town.

Jason Kellerbee, owner of Trackside Cafe, said that Exeter is the busiest train station because it's free. If they start charging, riders will probably go to other stations and not come to his restaurant. That said, he's in favor of charging at the train station and offering free two hour parking.

Jud Lovering, who owns Jim's Barbershop, said that train parking is the problem. 15 minutes free is not going to help his business, 30 mins or an hour would be better. Currently on Lincoln Street, nobody is in the stores but the parking spaces are full. Meters would keep people moving, but if there's too much expense involved it could hurt business. He doesn't want to see the neighborhood die either from no parking or from too expensive parking.

Abdul Hamid Khan, owner of Romeo's Pizza, said he has to search for a spot in the morning. If there were meters, there would be no parking left for employees. He is against meters.

Darren Winham, the Economic Development Director, said that two hour parking on that street can no longer be enforced, and train riders are exploiting that and parking in places that make it difficult for businesses. They could create a system with the school lot that would be

permit parking only. Ms. Corson said that the School Board says the parents don't want this. Mr. Winham said when the school looks at this report, he's hoping their fears will be allayed by permit-only enforced parking.

Amanda Kelly, an Exeter resident, asked if they have data on what happens to businesses when towns adopt paid parking. Mr. Burke said that the most successful downtowns have the highest priced parking. There can be impacts on convenience type shopping, which can be handled. Businesses can offer validation.

Chief Stephan Poulin said there's a definite parking problem on Lincoln Street. Last year, the Police were able to chalk tires, can no longer do that. With kiosk or pay by plate, a lot of leeway, can work with business owners.

Ms. Gilman said there's also a problem of awareness of the parking map, and suggested they do advertising at the train station of the parking alternatives.

Corey Stevens, a member of the Budget Recommendations Committee, asked why Lincoln Street Parking is on the warrant and not in the operating budget. There is a placeholder for this in the Police budget. Mr. Dean said that if they increase this budget by \$65,000, the YOY increase is over 3%, and it is not part of the default budget. Ms. Corson said she wanted the public to weigh in on it as a warrant article. Corey Stevens said that some issues are compelling enough to put in the budget and say they made a decision that it's important for the town. It should be in the budget and be over with. Ms. Surman agreed. Ms. Gilman said if they put it in the budget they have more time to figure out the details. Ms. Cowan said she wanted a more robust discussion on this from the citizenry.

Ms. Corson read the proposed Article 13:

Lincoln Street Parking Program (\$115,000)

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of one hundred fifteen thousand and zero dollars (\$115,000) for the purpose of implementing recommendations from the Lincoln Street parking report dated January 14th, 2020, to include paid parking along Lincoln Street. The sum raised will be paid back to the town's general fund through parking fees. All parking revenues exceeding the initial program cost will be accounted for in the Municipal Transportation Improvement Fund adopted by the Town at the 2005 Town Meeting. This sum (\$115,000) to come from the unassigned fund balance. (Estimated tax impact: no tax impact).

MOTION: Ms. Cowan moved to include the Lincoln Street Parking Program as described with one-hour free parking as a warrant article. Mr. Papakonstantis seconded. Mr. Papakonstantis said he's inclined to put it in the budget, but doesn't want it to go over 3%. Ms. Cowan, Ms. Gilman, and Mr. Papakonstantis voted yay; Ms. Surman voted nay; and Ms. Corson abstained. The motion passed 3-1-1.

The Board voted 5-0 to recommend the article on the warrant.

b. Public Hearings: FY20 Budget, Bonds, Articles

MOTION: Mr. Papakonstantis moved to open the budget hearing on the warrant articles. Ms. Surman seconded. All were in favor.

Mr. Dean read Article 8:

2020 Operating Budget

Shall the Town of Exeter raise and appropriate as an operating budget, not including appropriation 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 19,605,537. Should this article be defeated, the default budget shall be \$19,323,051, which is the same as last year, with certain adjustments required by previous action of the Town of Exeter 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. (Estimated Tax Impact: .18/1,000 assessed property value, \$18.00/100,000 assessed property value).

He added that the \$19,605,537 figure is a 2.83% increase over FY19. He discussed the components of the budget and revenue projections. The operating budget tax impact is \$5.47/1,000. With the tax credits, it's 19 cents more, at \$5.66/1,000.

Mr. Dean read Article 9:

2020 Water Fund Budget

Shall the Town of Exeter raise and appropriate as a water operating budget, not including appropriation 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 \$3,552,795. Should this article be defeated, the water default budget shall be \$3,457,712 which is the same as last year, with certain adjustments required by previous action of the Town of Exeter or by law.

Mr. Dean added that the Water Fund is an 8.25% increase over FY19. Rate adjustments have been made for 2020.

Mr. Dean read Article 10:

2020 Sewer Fund Budget

Shall the Town of Exeter raise and appropriate as a sewer operating budget, not including appropriation 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 \$7,686,605. Should this article be defeated, the default budget shall be \$7,584,841 which is the same as last year, with certain adjustments required by previous action of the Town of Exeter or by law.

MOTION: Mr. Papakonstantis moved the Select Board recommend Article 8, the 2020 Operating Budget, totaling \$19,605,537. Ms. Surman seconded. All were in favor.

MOTION: Mr. Papakonstantis moved the Select Board recommend Article 9, the 2020 Water Fund Budget, of \$3,552,795. Ms. Surman seconded. All were in favor.

MOTION: Mr. Papakonstantis moved the Select Board recommend Article 10, the 2020 Sewer Fund Budget, of \$7,686,605. Ms. Gilman seconded. All were in favor.

MOTION: Ms. Gilman moved to close the public hearing on the 2020 Operating Budget. Mr. Papakonstantis seconded. All were in favor.

MOTION: Ms. Cowan moved to reopen the recessed bond hearing. Mr. Papakonstantis seconded. All were in favor.

Ms. Corson read Article 5:

Squamscott River Sewer Siphons Project (\$1,600,000)

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of one million six hundred thousand and zero dollars (\$1,600,000) for the purpose of design, construction, and installation of siphons from Jady Hill to the Main Pump Station and design of improvements to the Webster Ave pump station and force main design as part of the project, and to authorize the Select Board to enter into a loan agreement of up to \$1,600,000 through the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services Clean Water State Revolving Fund for this purpose. The loan will be repaid as follows: a 10% forgiven by agreement with NHDES, and \$1,440,000 in sewer fees over 10 years. (Estimated Tax Impact: no tax impact, sewer funds plus 10% loan forgiveness).

Ms. Corson asked for public comment, but there was none.

MOTION: Ms. Gilman moved to recommend Article 5 as presented. Mr. Papakonstantis seconded. All were in favor.

Ms. Corson read Article 6:

Westside Drive Reconstruction Design/Engineering (\$100,000)

To see if the Town will raise and appropriate, through special warrant article, the sum of one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000), for the purpose of planning and design of wastewater and drainage upgrades to the Westside Drive neighborhood area, and to authorize the Select Board to enter into a loan agreement of up to \$100,000 through the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services Clean Water State Revolving Fund for this purpose. The loan will be repaid as follows: \$75,000 will be forgiven by agreement with NHDES, and \$25,000 will come from sewer fees. (Estimated Tax Impact: no tax impact, sewer funds plus loan forgiveness).

Ms. Corson asked for public comment, but there was none.

MOTION: Mr. Papakonstantis moved to recommend Article 6, Westside Drive Reconstruction Design/Engineering, in the amount of \$100,000 as presented. Ms. Surman seconded. All were in favor.

MOTION: Mr. Papakonstantis moved to close the public bond hearing. Ms. Gilman seconded. All were in favor.

MOTION: Mr. Papakonstantis moved to open the public hearing on the Warrant Articles. Ms. Surman seconded. All were in favor.

Ms. Corson read Article 11:

Groundwater/Surface Water Assessment Program (\$200,000)

To see if the Town will raise and appropriate, through special warrant article, the sum of two hundred thousand dollars (\$200,000), for the purpose of groundwater and surface water rehabilitation, engineering, feasibility study, and land acquisition for water supply purposes. This sum to come from \$200,000 in water funds. (Estimated Tax Impact: no tax impact, water funds).

Ms. Corson asked if the public had comments, but there were none.

MOTION: Mr. Papakonstantis moved the Select Board recommend Article 11, Groundwater/Surface Water Assessment Program, as presented. Ms. Cowan seconded. All were in favor.

Ms. Corson read Article 12:

Folsom Acres Lift Station Rehabilitation (\$150,000)

To see if the Town will raise and appropriate, through special warrant article, the sum of one hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$150,000), for the purpose of rehabilitating the sewer lift station located in Folsom Acres off Prentiss Way. This sum to come from \$150,000 sewer fees. (Estimated Tax Impact: no tax impact, sewer funds).

Ms. Corson asked if the public had comments, but there were none.

MOTION: Ms. Surman moved to recommend Article 12, Folsom Acres Lift Station Rehabilitation, as presented. Ms. Cowan seconded. All were in favor.

Ms. Corson read Article 14 [Lincoln Street Parking, addressed above, is #13]:

Pickpocket Dam (\$110,000)

To see if the Town will raise and appropriate, through special warrant article, the sum of one hundred ten thousand dollars (\$110,000), for the purpose of completing tasks related to a letter of deficiency from the NHDES on Pickpocket Dam. This sum to come from general taxation. (Estimated Tax Impact: .050/1,000, \$5.01/100,000 assessed property value).

Ms. Corson asked if the public had comments, but there were none.

MOTION: Mr. Papakonstantis moved that the Select Board recommend Article 14, on Pickpocket Dam, as presented. Ms. Cowan seconded. Ms. Cowan, Ms. Gilman, and Mr. Papakonstantis voted yay; Ms. Surman and Ms. Corson voted nay. The motion passed 3-2.

Ms. Corson read Article 15:

Appropriate to Capital Reserve Fund – Parks Improvements (\$100,000)

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of one-hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000) to be added to the Parks Improvement Capital Reserve Fund previously established. This sum to come from general taxation. (Estimated Tax Impact: .046/1,000, \$4.55/100,000 value).

Ms. Corson asked if the public had any comments, but there were none.

MOTION: Mr. Papakonstantis moved the Select Board recommend Article 15, Appropriate to Capital Reserve Fund – Parks Improvements, as presented. Ms. Cowan seconded. Ms. Cowan, Ms. Corson, Ms. Gilman, and Mr. Papakonstantis voted yay; Ms. Surman voted nay. The motion passed 4-1.

Ms. Corson read Article 16:

Communications Repeater Site Improvements (\$78,792)

To see if the Town will raise and appropriate, through special warrant article, the sum of seventy eight thousand seven hundred and ninety two dollars (\$78,792), for the purpose of making improvements to the town's public safety communications systems. This sum to come from general taxation. (Estimated Tax Impact: .036/1,000, \$3.59/100,000 value).

Ms. Corson asked if the public had any comments, but there were none.

MOTION: Mr. Papakonstantis moved that the Select Board recommend Article 16, Communications Repeater Site Improvements, as presented. Ms. Surman seconded. All were in favor.

Ms. Corson read Article 17:

Highway Truck Replacement (\$65,872)

To see if the Town will raise and appropriate, through special warrant article, the sum of sixty five thousand eight hundred and seventy two dollars (\$65,872), for the purpose of purchasing a replacement for Highway Truck #9, purchased in 2007. This vehicle is primarily used for light duty hauling, landscaping, asphalt work, drainage and catch basin maintenance. This sum to come from general taxation. (Estimated Tax Impact: .030/1,000, \$3.00/100,000 assessed property value).

Ms. Corson asked if the public had any comments, but there were none.

MOTION: Mr. Papakonstantis moved the Select Board recommend Article 17, Highway Truck Replacement, as presented. Ms. Surman seconded. All were in favor.

Ms. Corson read Article 18:

Appropriate to Capital Reserve Fund – Sidewalks (\$60,000)

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of sixty thousand dollars (\$60,000) to be added to the Sidewalk Repair and Replacement Capital Reserve Fund previously established. This sum to come from general taxation. (Estimated Tax Impact: .027/1,000, \$2.73/100,000 value).

Ms. Corson asked if the public had any comments, but there were none.

MOTION: Mr. Papakonstantis moved the Select Board recommend Article 18, Appropriate to Capital Reserve Fund – Sidewalks, as presented. Ms. Surman seconded. All were in favor.

Ms. Corson read Article 19:

Replace Parks/Recreation Tractor with Mini-Loader (\$58,000)

To see if the Town will raise and appropriate, through special warrant article, the sum of fifty eight thousand dollars (\$58,000), for the purpose of purchasing a replacement of the Parks/Recreation Department 1999 tractor with a mini-loader. This sum to come from general taxation. (Estimated Tax Impact: .026/1,000, \$2.64/100,000 assessed property value).

Ms. Corson asked if the public had any comments, but there were none.

MOTION: Mr. Papakonstantis moved that the Select Board recommend Article 19, Replace Parks/Recreation Tractor with Mini-Loader, as presented. Ms. Surman seconded. All were in favor.

Ms. Corson read Article 20:

Conservation Fund (\$50,000)

To see if the Town will raise and appropriate, through special warrant article, the sum of fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000), to the Conservation Fund established pursuant to RSA 36-A:5. These funds will be used for purposes consistent with the Conservation Fund including the purchase of interests in real property to be held for conservation purposes. This sum to come from general taxation. (Estimated Tax Impact: .023/1,000, \$2.28/100,000 assessed property value).

Ms. Corson asked if the public had any comments, but there were none.

MOTION: Mr. Papakonstantis moved the Select Board recommend Article 20 on the appropriation to the Conservation Fund of \$50,000. Ms. Surman seconded. All were in favor.

Ms. Corson read Article 21:

Maintenance Sedan Replacement (\$24,000)

To see if the Town will raise and appropriate, through special warrant article, the sum of twenty four thousand dollars (\$24,000), for the purpose of replacing a 2008 Crown Victoria maintenance vehicle with a transit van. This sum to come from general taxation. (Estimated Tax Impact: .011/1,000, \$1.09/100,000 assessed property value).

Ms. Corson asked if the public had any comments, but there were none.

MOTION: Mr. Papakonstantis moved the Select Board recommend Article 21, Maintenance Sedan Replacement, as presented. Ms. Surman seconded. All were in favor.

Ms. Corson read Article 22:

Appropriate to Sick Leave Trust Fund (\$100,000)

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000) to be added to the Sick Leave Expendable Trust Fund previously established. This sum to come from the unassigned fund balance. (Estimated Tax Impact: None. No amount to be raised by taxation).

Ms. Corson asked if the public had any comments, but there were none.

MOTION: Mr. Papakonstantis moved the Select Board recommend Article 22, Appropriate to Sick Leave Trust Fund, as presented. Ms. Surman seconded. All were in favor.

Ms. Corson read Article 23:

Snow and Ice Fund Appropriation (\$50,000)

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of fifty-thousand dollars (\$50,000) to be added to the Snow and Ice Deficit Non-Capital Reserve Fund previously established. This sum to come from the unassigned fund balance. (Estimated Tax Impact: None. No amount to be raised by taxation).

Ms. Corson asked if the public had any comments, but there were none.

MOTION: Mr. Papakonstantis moved the Select Board recommend Article 23, Snow and Ice Fund Appropriation, as presented. Ms. Surman seconded. All were in favor.

MOTION: Mr. Papakonstantis moved to recess from the warrant article hearing. Ms. Surman seconded. All were in favor.

c. TIF Plan Amendment Hearing

MOTION: Ms. Surman moved to open the public hearing on the Epping Road TIF amendment. Mr. Papakonstantis seconded. All were in favor.

Darren Winham, the Economic Development Director, discussed Article 24, the Epping Road TIF Amendment. This would allocate up to \$1 million for corridor study on the Route 27/Epping Road 101 interchange (exit 9) to Brentwood Road, and infrastructure improvements between the interchange and Continental Drive. They may consider a center lane on Epping Road between Cronin Road and Continental Drive and a new Sidewalk. This will fund improvements without increasing the amount or length of the TIF bond, and they will still have \$2.5 million in borrowing authority to do other planned improvements. The TIF Advisory board moved unanimously to approve the amendments. He added that the taxable increase in value of this area from 2016 - 2019 was \$43,238,246.

Ms. Corson asked for public comment.

Tom Monahan of the TIF Advisory Board said that a lot of development is coming in, which requires this roadway improvement.

MOTION: Ms. Surman moved to close the public hearing on the TIF Plan amendment. Mr. Papakonstantis seconded. All were in favor.

MOTION: Mr. Papakonstantis moved to reconvene the Warrant Article Hearing. Ms. Surman seconded. All were in favor.

Ms. Corson read Article 24:

Epping Road TIF Amendment

Shall the Town adopt the provisions of the Epping Road Tax Increment District Plan Amendment (dated January 7, 2020) in accordance with RSA 162-K:9 IV which allocates the use of tax increments for retirement of bonds and notes as outlined in the plan amendment.

MOTION: Mr. Papakonstantis moved the Select Board recommend Article 24, the Epping Road TIF amendment. Ms. Cowan seconded. All were in favor.

Ms. Corson waived the reading of Article 25, a Citizen's Petition Article, *Petition Against the Granite Bridge Pipeline*. Ms. Corson took issue with the wording of the Article referencing the Right to a Healthy Climate Ordinance. Ms. Gilman said they don't have to recommend citizens' petitions. The Board decided not to recommend the article.

Ms. Corson read Article 26:

Citizen's Petition Article – Holiday Parade

By petition, Shall the town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,500 dollars and no cents to defray the expense of the annual Exeter Holiday Parade for the public under the direction of the Selectmen or a committee to be appointed to serve gratuitously for this purpose.

Mr. Dean said since there's a financial component, this article does require a recommendation. He mentioned that currently, the Memorial Day Parade is funded at \$3,500 and the Holiday Parade is at \$3,000.

The Board agreed to let Beth Dupell speak; she is a non-resident but is an organizer of the Holiday Parade.

Ms. Dupell said that the basic components of a parade are three marching bands, a police detail, and Porta-Potties, which cost \$4,200-4,300. They're asking for \$1,500 funding more than what they have now, for a total of \$4,500. Any additional entertainment would be paid for through fundraising.

MOTION: Ms. Surman moved the Select Board recommend Article 26, on the Holiday Parade, as presented. Ms. Gilman seconded. All were in favor.

Ms. Corson waived the reading of Article 27 *Citizen's Petition Article - Resolution to Take Action on Climate Pollution*. The Board did not make a decision on the article.

Ms. Corson waived the reading of Article 28, *Citizen's Petition Article – New Hampshire Resolution for Fair Redistricting*. The Board did not make a decision on the article.

Ms. Corson read Article 29, *To transact any other business that may legally come before this meeting*.

MOTION: Mr. Papakonstantis moved to close the public hearing on the warrant articles. Ms. Surman seconded. All were in favor.

8. Regular Business

a. Tax Abatements, Veterans Credits and Exemptions

i. None

b. Permits & Approvals

i. None

c. Town Manager's Report

i. None

d. Select Board Committee Reports

i. None

e. Correspondence

i. Mr. Dean said there's an ad for the "One for All" system. He will double-check with the Town Clerk on whether it is currently available.

ii. A letter from the Energy Committee, which refers to the Granite Bridge project.

iii. Other correspondence will be addressed at the next meeting.

9. Review Board Calendar

a. The next meeting is February 3rd. The Board will determine via email which Select Board member is speaking to which article at Deliberative Session.

10. Non-Public Session

a. None

11. Adjournment

MOTION: Mr. Papakonstantis moved to adjourn. Ms. Surman seconded. All were in favor and the meeting adjourned at 11:43 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Joanna Bartell
Recording Secretary

