

**TOWN OF EXETER, NH
FIRST SESSION OF ANNUAL TOWN MEETING
DELIBERATIVE SESSION
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 2014**

The first session of the 2014 Town Meeting was held at Exeter Co-Operative High School, 1 Blue Hawk Drive, in the Arthur L. Hanson III Center for the Performing Arts. Town Moderator Paul Scafidi called the session to order at 9:05 AM. Moderator Scafidi asked attendees to join him in Pledging Allegiance to the American Flag. He introduced the Town Officials seated at the head tables – (from his left): Town Clerk Andrea Kohler, Acting Town Treasurer Allan Corey, Finance Director Doreen Ravell, Town Counsel Walter Mitchell, Town Manager Russell Dean, Selectman and Chair Don Clement, Selectman and Vice Chairman, Dan Chartrand, Selectman Matt Quandt, Selectwoman and Clerk, Julie Gilman and Selectman Frank Ferraro. Moderator Scafidi asked people coming into the auditorium sign in with Checklist Supervisors. It is custom for non-residents to be allowed to speak to certain Articles because of their expertise. A motion was made to allow these people to speak. The motion made, seconded and approved.

Moderator Scafidi will recognize one resident at a time, but will recognize the proponent of an Article to speak before any other resident. Each speaker is to state their name and address in Town. An amendment can be made to an Article, must be seconded, and then followed by discussion. Following discussion the Moderator will call for a voice vote, or a card vote, from the registered voters present at this Meeting.

Moderator Scafidi said the names of the candidates associated with Article 1 would be listed on the Ballot, as well as Articles 2 through 5, which are Zoning Articles. This meeting has no power to amend these Articles as previous public hearings have been held regarding the Zoning Articles. Moderator Scafidi said he and/or the Planning Director could address any questions or concerns relative to the Zoning Amendments following the meeting.

Article 6

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of five million and zero dollars (\$5,000,000) for the engineering design of a Wastewater Treatment Facility, Main Pump Station, and CSO Abatement Upgrades. The Town will authorize the issuance of not more than (\$5,000,000) of bonds or notes in accordance with the provisions of the Municipal Finance Act (RSA 33) and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to issue and negotiate such bonds or notes and to determine the rate of interest thereon; Debt service will be paid from the sewer fund (\$5,000,000). (3/5 ballot vote required for approval) Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 5-0

Moderator Scafidi called for discussion of the Article. Seeing none, Moderator Scafidi declared Article 6 would go on the ballot as presented.

Article 7

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 replacement and rehabilitation of water mains and sewer lines on Lincoln Street from Front Street to Main Street, Daniel Street, Tremont Street, and Winter Street. The Town will authorize the issuance of not more than (\$1,600,000) of bonds or notes in accordance with the provisions of the Municipal Finance Act (RSA 33) and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to issue and negotiate such bonds or notes and to determine the rate of interest thereon; Debt service will be paid from the water fund (\$1,400,000) and the sewer fund (\$200,000). (3/5 ballot vote required for approval) Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 5-0

Moderator Scafidi called for discussion of the Article. Seeing none, Moderator Scafidi declared Article 7 would go on the ballot as presented

Article 8

On petition of Thomas Stanek and others, to see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of one-million seven hundred eighty-six thousand seven hundred and fifty-eight dollars (\$1,786,758) for the purpose of removing the Great Dam and restoring the Exeter River, and to authorize the issuance of not more than (\$1,786,758) of bonds or notes in accordance with the provisions of the Municipal Finance Act (RSA 33) and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to issue and negotiate such bonds or notes and to determine the rate of interest thereon; furthermore, to authorize the Board of Selectmen to accept any state, federal and other grants and gifts related to the project. (The purpose of this article is to restore the Exeter River back to its natural condition, stop environment damage, reduce flooding, correct and comply with all current deficiencies and orders pending against the Town) (3/5 ballot vote required for approval) Not recommended by the Board of Selectmen 3-2.

Moderator Scafidi called for discussion of the Article.

Mimi Becker presented a slide show with a summary of the river study that has been ongoing since 2007. The Summary of Impacts and Benefits is attached. See attachment. Residents Brian Griset and Mike Lambert spoke in favor of the article and presented a poster with a picture of the last 50 year flood and its affects. Resident Jim Fellows questioned the discrepancy of the cost between the citizen petition article of 1.78 million and the presentation from the river committee of 1.24 million. Paul Vlasich, Town Engineer, explained the difference in cost of \$500,000 is the difference of cost to supply water to the Mills. Resident Jay Childs questions if there is any treatment or mitigation upstream from the damn. Town Engineer, Paul Vlasich explained that there was no major effort for restoration of the shore line and it will come naturally, however there may be funds available for sediment stabilization. Residents Julie Gilman and Eric Antisell spoke about the historical value of the damn. Ms. Gilman asks that residents read the historical portion of the study. Paul Vlasich spoke that if the warrant passed the project would take approximately two years. In applying for a grant from the Fish and Wildlife Federation, we had to compile a schedule for how the work was to be done in a two year time frame. Once the Water Treatment Plant is online it will open the door to remove the damn. Lionel Ingram, Chairman of the River Study Committee spoke to clarify the River Committee took no position on the Article as they were tasked to find solutions for damn removal versus damn modification. Resident Peter Richardson gave an email address exeterdamnstudy@gmail.com for any questions.

Moderator Scafidi called for further discussion of the Article. Seeing none, Moderator Scafidi declared Article 8 would go on the ballot as presented

Article 9

To choose all other necessary Town Officers, Auditors or Committees for the ensuing year.

Moderator Scafidi called for discussion of Article.

Selectman Dan Chartrand presented the following slate for the Budget Recommendations Committee as follows: Bill Campbell, Allan Corey, Rob Corson, Francine Hall, Phil Johnson, Bob Kelly, Peter Lennon, Nelson Lourenco, Judy Rowan, Corey Stevens, Anne Surman, Harry Thayer, Robert Wentworth, Don Woodward,

Anthony Zwaan; FENCE VIEWER: Doug Eastman; MEASURER OF WOOD & BARK: Doug Eastman; WEIGHER: Jay Perkins

Moderator Scafidi called for any further nominations. Seeing none, Moderator Scafidi declared the names would go on the ballot as presented.

Article 10

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 \$17,075,046. Should this article be defeated, the default budget shall be \$16,943,390 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. (Majority vote required) Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 4-1

Moderator Scafidi called for any discussion of the Article.

Resident Bob Eastman made a motion to amend Article 10 to: amend the Town Budget MS-6, account number 4611-4612 administration & Purchase of Natural Resources from \$32,682 to \$10,682. The purpose of this \$22,000 reduction is to remove the repairs of the Raynes barn roof from this line, as the voters have rejected it twice. By doing so, it will automatically amend Warrant Article 10 from \$17,075,046 to \$17,053,046. The motion was seconded and Moderator Scafidi asked for discussion of the amendment.

Resident Don Briselden gave a brief history of the barn and its importance to the Town of Exeter. He explained the Conservation Committee recommended putting this into the budget before the Budget Recommendations Committee, who recommended it to the Board of Selectmen through the budget process. Mr. Briselden urged voters to not vote for the amendment. Ann Surman spoke in favor of the amendment and questioned the process as it should be on the ballot for the voters to decide and not just moved into the budget. Bill Campbell spoke against the amendment as he feels the barn is a rich piece of history and he feels the Town needs to preserve it. Resident Dennis Brady questioned if the Conservation Committee has funds to replace the barn roof? Resident Briselden explained the monies in the Conservation Fund are designated for trail maintenance, yearly operations and land monitoring. The fund would be completely depleted if we used those funds. Resident Frank Ferraro feels the Conservation Committee has to set priorities and if replacement of the Raynes barn roof is essential the committee should dedicate funds for the project. Resident Allan Corey stated that most funds of the Conservation Committee are restricted and are mandated. Moderator Scafidi explained the amendment by Mr. Eastman would only reduce the bottom line of total budget. By law, specific statutory language must be used in the warrant article. Selectmen Ferraro argued RSA 32:10 specifically allows line items within the budget to be reduced. Town Attorney, Walter Mitchell explained voting can take place on a line item but it is not binding to the Selectmen unless you eliminate the purpose. To eliminate the purpose you would have to zero-out the line item on the MS-6. Moderator Scafidi explained the Selectmen do have the option to move money around within the budget if they find it elsewhere. Resident Robert Eastman asked if the amendment carries, would he need to make another amendment to reduce the total budget. Town Attorney, Walter Mitchell explained the amendment does two things, one, it reduces the bottom line of the budget and two, it expresses the consensus to the Selectmen where the reduction is to be taken. The commonly provision known as No Means No does not apply here unless you zero out the line item.

Resident Virginia Raub, a member of the Conservation Committee explained to apply for Grant funding, you have to have matching funds and this would allow us to move forward in applying for available grants.

Selectman Dan Chartrand called the question. Moderator Scafidi called for a card vote. Ayes 35, Nays 85 the Nays have it. Moderator Scafidi declared the amendment does not carry. Moderator Scafidi called for further discussion of the article.

Resident Rob Corson made a motion to reduce the MS-6 line item of Economic Development from \$69,149 to \$1,500 reducing the budget to \$17,007,397. The motion was seconded and Moderator Scafidi called for discussion of amendment.

Resident Barry Sandburg, Chairperson of the Economic Develop Commission, spoke against the amendment as he feels this new position is important to bring new business into town, its part of the long range goal and important to the strategic plan. This position will help maintain the businesses we have now as well as reaching out and working with all segments of the community, business, art, health, education and the tourist community. Resident Kathy Corson, Clerk of the Economic Development commission spoke in favor of the amendment as she feels this work could be done on a contract basis. Town Treasurer, Allan Corey spoke in favor of the article. He feels the amount of business brought into Town would not cover the expense of the position nor would it lower the tax rate. Selectman, Dan Chartrand spoke against that amendment as he feels the creation of this position will help control the residential property tax by focusing on the revenue side of government. Resident Christine Soutter, the Economic Development Manager for the Town of Somersworth explained what her job does and her duties.

The voters called the question. Moderator Scafidi called for a card vote. Ayes 60, Nays 67, Moderator Scafidi declared the amendment does not carry. Moderator Scafidi called for further discussion of the article. Seeing none, Moderator Scafidi declared Article 10 would go on the ballot as presented. Selectman Dan Chartrand made a motion to restrict further consideration of this article. The motion was seconded. Moderator Scafidi called for a voice vote. They Ayes have it.

Article 11

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 \$2,538,457. Should this article be defeated, the water default budget shall be \$2,409,803 which is the same as last year, with certain adjustments required by previous action of the Town of Exeter or by law. (Majority vote required) Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 5-0

Russ Dean explained the water budget and the process.

Moderator Scafidi called for discussion of the Article. Seeing none, Moderator Scafidi declared Article 11 would go on the ballot as presented.

Article 12

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 \$2,412,706. Should this article be defeated, the default budget shall be \$2,432,299 which is the same as last year, with certain adjustments required by previous action of the Town of Exeter or by law. (Majority vote required) Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 5-0

Moderator Scafidi called for discussion of the Article. Seeing none, Moderator Scafidi declared Article 12 would go on the ballot as presented.

Article 13

To see if the Town will vote to approve the cost items included in the collective bargaining agreement reached between the Board of Selectmen and the Exeter SEIU 1984 (Public Works/Town Office unit) which calls for the following salaries and benefits at the current staffing levels:

Year	Estimated Salary and Benefits Increase	Health Insurance Savings
FY14	\$42,728	(\$35,904)
FY15	\$16,522	(\$71,809)

And further, to raise and appropriate the sum of six thousand eight hundred and twenty four dollars (\$6,824) for the 2014 fiscal year, such sum representing the additional costs attributable to the increase in salaries and benefits over those of the appropriation at current staffing levels. (Majority vote required)
Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 5-0

Moderator Scafidi called for discussion of the Article. Seeing none, Moderator Scafidi declared Article13 would go on the ballot as presented.

Article 14

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, through special warrant article, the sum of one-hundred nine thousand five hundred and ninety five dollars (\$109,595), for the support of various human service agencies that will serve Exeter residents in 2014:

Agency	Amount
A Safe Place	\$5,500
Area Home Care	\$13,000
Big Brother/Big Sister	\$9,000
Child and Family Services	\$12,000
Crossroads House	\$3,500
Families First	\$3,000
Friends Program (formerly RSVP)	\$2,200
Great Bay Kids	\$2,495
Meals on Wheels – Food	\$9,200
New Generation Shelter	\$2,000
New Outlook Teen Center	\$2,700
Richie McFarland Center	\$9,000
Rockingham Community Action	\$11,000
Seacoast Family Promise	\$1,500
Seacoast Mental Health	\$8,500
Seacoast VNA	\$5,000
Sexual Assault Support Services (SASS)	\$3,000
St. Vincent De Paul	\$5,000
Womenade of Greater Squamscott	\$2,000
Total	\$109,595

(Majority vote required) Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 5-0

Moderator Scafidi called for discussion of the Article. Seeing none, Moderator Scafidi declared Article 14 would go on the ballot as presented.

Article 15

To see if the Town will vote to establish a capital reserve fund under RSA 35:1 for the purpose of making capital improvements to town sidewalks including construction and replacement of new town sidewalks, and repair and replacement of existing town sidewalks and to raise and appropriate the sum of eighty-thousand dollars (\$80,000) to be placed in this fund and further the Board of Selectmen shall be named agents of the fund and be authorized to make expenditures from the fund. (Majority vote required) Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 5-0

Moderator Scafidi called for discussion of the Article. Seeing none, Moderator Scafidi declared Article 15 would go on the ballot as presented.

Article 16

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, through special warrant article, the sum of fifty-thousand dollars (\$50,000), for the purpose of conducting a Town-wide Facilities Plan, to include building use recommendations on short and long term needs for all town buildings. (Majority vote required) Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 5-0

Moderator Scafidi called for discussion of the Article. Seeing none, Moderator Scafidi declared Article 16 would go on the ballot as presented.

Article 17

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, through special warrant article, the sum of one-hundred forty-nine thousand five-hundred dollars (\$149,500) for the purpose of purchasing for conservation the approximately 34-acre Elliott property (Tax Map 26, Lot 15) (known as the 'Growing Oaklands' project) located east of Watson Road and abutting the western portion of the Oaklands Town Forest. The Growing Oaklands project adds a critical portion of a popular trail into town ownership and conserves wildlife habitat for several rare species. The total cost of the project is \$149,500, with the following revenue funding sources: \$26,490 from general taxation, \$33,510 from 2003 conservation bond proceeds; \$25,000 from the Conservation Commission's Conservation Fund; \$54,000 from a US Natural Resources Conservation Service grant; and \$10,500 to be privately raised by Southeast Land Trust of New Hampshire; furthermore, to authorize the Board of Selectmen to accept any state, federal and other grants and gifts related to the project. As part of this purchase, the property will be subject to a conservation easement granted to the US Natural Resources Conservation Service. (Majority vote required) Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 3-2

Moderator Scafidi called for discussion of the Article Resident Virginia Raub made a motion to amend the article to read: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, through special warrant article, the sum of twenty-six thousand four hundred and ninety dollars (\$26,490) for the purpose of purchasing for conservation the approximately 34 acre Elliott property Tax Map 26 Lot15) known as the Growing Oaklands' project located east of Watson Road and abutting the eastern portion of the Oaklands' Town Forrest. The sum will be combined with \$33,510 remaining from the 2003 conservation bond proceeds and 25,000 from the conservation commission's conservation Fund to fund the Town of Exeter's\$85,000

share of the total purchase price. The Growing Oaklands' project adds a critical portion of a popular trail into town ownership and conserves wildlife habitat for several rare species. The balance of the total cost of the project is \$149,500 with the following funding sources: \$54,000 from a US Natural Resource Conservation Service grant; and \$10,500 to be privately raised by Southeast Land Trust of New Hampshire; furthermore, to authorize the Board of Selectmen to accept any state, federal and other grants and gifts related to the project. As part of the purchase, the property will be subject to a conservation easement granted to the US Natural Resources Conservation Service. The motion was seconded and Moderator Scafidi asked for discussion of the amendment. Seeing none, Moderator Scafidi called for a voice vote. They Ayes have it. Moderator Scafidi declared the amendment passed. He called for further discussion. Seeing none, Moderator Scafidi declared the Article 17 would go on the ballot as amended.

Article 18

To see if the Town will adopt the Community Revitalization Tax Relief Incentive outlined in Chapter 79-E of state law and to designate four commercial areas as meeting the standards for an eligible district as set forth in RSA 79-E:2? (The four districts will consist of areas zoned C-1 "Central Area Commercial" and WC "Waterfront Commercial". A map of these districts is available on the Town's website and Town Clerk's Office.) Majority vote required. Recommended by the Board of Selectmen
5-0

Moderator Scafidi called for discussion of the Article. Seeing none, Moderator Scafidi declared Article 18 would go on the ballot as presented.

Article 19

To see if the Town will vote to adopt RSA 162-K of the New Hampshire Revised Statutes, which if adopted will allow the Town to establish tax increment financing districts upon approval of the legislative body. Majority vote required. Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 3-2

Moderator Scafidi called for discussion of the Article. Seeing none, Moderator Scafidi declared Article 19 would go on the ballot as presented.

Article 20

To see if the Town will vote to increase the current motor vehicle local option fee from \$3.25 to \$4.00 to fund transportation services for senior and disabled residents and transportation service needs consistent with RSA 261:153 VI. Proceeds from the fee will be deposited into the Town's Municipal Transportation Improvement Fund. This article will not impact the tax rate. Majority vote required. Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 3-2

Moderator Scafidi called for discussion of the Article. Resident Harry Thayer made the motion to amend the article to remove the phrase, "This article will not impact the tax rate." The motion was seconded. Moderator Scafidi called for discussion of the amendment.

Resident Donna Schlachman reminded the voters that this is a user fee and does not affect the property tax rate. It is a fee charged on your vehicle registration.

Moderator Scafidi called for further discussion of the amendment. Seeing none, Moderator Scafidi called for a card vote. Ayes 35, Nays 71, Moderator Scafidi declared the amendment does not carry. Moderator Scafidi called for further discussion of the article.

Resident Harry Thayer made a motion to amend the article by adding the word “property” in front of “tax rate”. The motion was seconded. Moderator Scafidi called for discussion of the amendment. Seeing none, he called for a voice vote of the amendment. The Ayes have it. Moderator Scafidi declared the amendment passed. He called for discussion of the Article as amended, seeing none he declared the Article 20 will go on the ballot as amended.

Article 21

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to negotiate a long term lease with Great Bay Kids Company on Town owned property located on Hampton Road (Tax Map 69, Lot 4) with terms and conditions to be determined by the Board of Selectmen. Majority vote required. Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 3-2

Moderator Scafidi called for discussion of the Article.

Wendy Monroe, Director of the Great Bay Kids Company, spoke in favor of the Article. She explained that for the last 13 years, the company has had a lease through the Exeter School District, and due to the growing needs of the school district the lease will not be extended past May 2015. The Great Bay Kids Company has been searching for property to relocate or to build a new center in Exeter. We feel the property on Hampton Road is the perfect spot to build a new facility. This article will allow us to negotiate a fair market lease with the Exeter Selectmen. Resident Meg Bateman spoke in favor of the Article as she feels it will generate revenue, develop property at no cost to the Town, and meet the demand for quality child care in the community. Resident Bob Prior feels that although Great Bay Kids Company is great business and provides excellent child care he questions the process.

Mr. Prior made a motion to amend the Article as follows, To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to negotiate a long term lease with Great Bay Kids Company for Town owned property located on Hampton Road (Tax Map 69, Lot 4) which is a parcel of open land that is behind the Town pool and Recreation facility with terms and duration of the lease to be determined by the Board of Selectmen. Should Article 16 of this year’s warrant be approved, then no long-term lease agreement shall be executed between the Town and Great Bay Kids Company until the Town-wide Facilities Plan has been completed and it shows that this project is determined to be in the best interest of the Town. Further, prior to executing a lease with Great Bay Kids Company, the Town must do an analysis of current Town owned land that can be utilized for recreation to ensure adequate space is set aside for the future recreation needs of the citizens of Exeter. The results of this analysis shall be presented and discussed in a public forum. Finally, Great Bay Kids Company must obtain all necessary approvals from land use boards prior to entering into a long-term lease agreement with the Town. The motion was seconded. Moderator Scafidi called for discussion of the amendment.

Mike Favreau, Exeter Parks and Recreation Director, spoke against the amendment. He feels there is an implication that there has been no forethought to what can be done with this piece of property. The property has been surveyed and it is a buildable lot. The Parks and Recreation Department has all the field space it needs to run our programs. The Great Bay Kids Company will be able to develop the land to build a facility on this property which will increase the value of Town owned land. Mr. Favreau does not see expansion of the pool. Resident Donna Schlachman spoke in favor of the amendment pointing out the

2002 Town Master Plan which is specific to the process of this Town in regards to making decisions of our assets. The Master Plan establishes general policies and goals with which to guide development. She feels that building a new building it will change the nature of the Park and Recreation facility. According to the Future Land Use section of the 2002 Master Plan, the land use is intended to describe and establish the Town's broad vision for its future land development. It requires careful evaluation and synthesis of all other parts of the Master Plan and to take into account many factors including community goals, capability of land use, etc. and she feels the amendment speaks to the process.

The voters called the amendment to vote. The motion was seconded. Moderator Scafidi called for a card vote. Ayes 36, Nays 60, Moderator Scafidi declared the amendment does not carry. Moderator Scafidi called for further discussion of the Article.

Resident and Town Treasurer Allen Corey feels there are a large number of questions regarding how this transaction is going to take place. Several residents spoke in favor of the Article. Resident Brian Griset questions if the Board of Selectmen can only negotiate with Great Bay Kids Company for this parcel of land. Town Attorney Walter Mitchell said yes.

Resident Jeff Martin made a motion to amend the Article to add the words "or other entity" after Great Bay Kids Company. The motion was seconded. Moderator Scafidi asked for discussion of the amendment.

Several residents spoke against the amendment.

A motion was made to call the amendment to a vote. It was seconded. Moderator Scafidi called for a voice vote. The Nays have it. Moderator Scafidi declared the amendment does not carry. Moderator Scafidi called for further discussion of the Article. Resident Nora Arico made a motion to amend the Article to substitute the word "negotiate" to "discuss" and to add the words "behind the Exeter pool" after the words "Hampton Road". The motion was seconded and Moderator Scafidi called for discussion of the amendment.

Selectman Don Clement spoke against the amendment as it changes the content or meaning.

The residents call the vote of the amendment. Moderator Scafidi called for a voice vote of the amendment. The Nays have it. Moderator Scafidi declared the amendment does not carry. Moderator Scafidi called for discussion of the Article. A motion was made to call the vote of the Article. Moderator Scafidi called for a voice vote of the Article. The Ayes have it. Moderator Scafidi declared Article 21 will go on the ballot as written. A motion was given not to reconsider all Articles voted on. The Moderator called for a voice vote. The Ayes have it.

Article 22

On petition of Stephanie Marshall and others, "to see if the Town will vote to express its opposition to the transport of toxic tar sands oil through New Hampshire, and further, to (1) communicate this opposition to the Governor and NH General Court and to the New Hampshire delegation in the US Congress requesting they take all reasonable steps to oppose the transport of tar sands oil through New Hampshire, and (2) to send a copy of this resolution and the official results from the Town Meeting vote to all relevant state and federal officials, including the NH Office of Energy and Planning, the N.H. Site Evaluation Committee and the U.S. State Department, as well as the chief executive officers of those companies directly involved in the production and proposed transportation of tar sands oil including Portland Pipe Line Corporation, Montreal Pipe Line Limited, Imperial Oil, ExxonMobil, and Enbridge, Inc." Majority vote required.

Moderator Scafidi called for discussion of the Article. Eric Antisell made a motion to add the words “via existing pipelines” after the word transport under #1. The motion was seconded. Moderator Scafidi called for discussion of the amendment.

Resident Bob Prior spoke against the amendment as we do not know exactly how the tar sands oil is being transported through Exeter and urges to vote against the amendment.

Moderator Scafidi called for further discussion of the amendment. Seeing none, Moderator Scafidi called for a voice vote. The Nays have it. Moderator Scafidi declared the amendment does not carry. Moderator Scafidi called for further discussion of the Article. Seeing none, he declared Article 22 to go on the ballot as written.

Article 23

By petition of Herb Moyer and other eligible voters of the Town of Exeter, NH, “to see if the town will vote to urge: That the New Hampshire State Legislature join nearly 500 municipalities and 16 other states, including all other New England states, in calling upon Congress to move forward a constitutional amendment that: 1) guarantees the right of our elected representatives and of the American people to safeguard fair elections through authority to regulate political spending, and 2) clarifies that constitutional rights were established for people, not corporations. That the New Hampshire Congressional delegation supports such a constitutional amendment. That the New Hampshire State Legislature support such an amendment once it is approved by Congress and sent to the State for ratification. And furthermore, that this Town Meeting vote be a record that We the People want Congress and our state legislature to:

- Institute full, effective and immediate electronic disclosure of all election-related spending by any individual, group, corporation, party or institution.
- Provide for fair, nonpartisan and vigorous enforcement of existing campaign laws and regulations by federal and state agencies.
- Enact an absolute ban on campaign contributions by foreign governments, foreign agencies, foreign corporations or their subsidiaries and employees in the U.S.
- Enact legislation that would cut down on the influence of big bankroll donors by multiplying the power of small donations through the use of voter vouchers, tax credits and matching public funds.
- The record of the vote approving this article shall be transmitted by written notice to Exeter’s congressional delegation, and to Exeter’s state legislators, and to the President of the United States informing them of the instructions from their constituents by the Board of Selectmen within 30 days of the vote. Majority vote required.

Moderator Scafidi called for discussion of the article. Nora Arico made a motion to amend the Article to take out the word “individual”. It was seconded and Moderator Scafidi called for discussion of the amendment. Seeing none, he called for a voice vote. The Nays have it. Resident Nora Arico made a motion to remove the comma after the word “individual”. The motion was seconded and the Moderator called for discussion of the amendment. Seeing none, the Moderator called for a voice vote. The Ayes have it. Moderator Scafidi declared the amendment carries. Moderator Scafidi called for more discussion of the Article as amended. Seeing none, Moderator Scafidi declared Article will go on the ballot as amended.

Article 24

By petition of Jill and Allan Mayo and others, “to see if the Town will vote to help lessen our nation’s dependence on fossil fuels and to promote the use of solar energy in our town, by adopting the provisions of RSA 72:61 through RSA 72:64 inclusively, which allows for each New Hampshire city and town, to adopt an exemption from the assessed value of the solar-related equipment, for property tax purposes, for persons owning real property, which is equipped with solar energy systems intended for use at the immediate site. The property tax exemption shall only be in the amount equal to 100% of the assessed value of qualifying solar related equipment under these statutes. Per RSA 72:61, a “solar energy system” means a system which utilizes solar energy to heat or cool the interior of a building or to heat water for use in a building and which includes one or more collectors and a storage container. “Solar energy system” also means a system which provides electricity for a building by the use of photovoltaic panels. (A majority vote of yes would continue the Town’s current practice of not increasing home valuation due to the solar installation for assessment purposes and would preclude the Town from, in the future, potentially collecting property tax on the assessed value of the solar-related equipment, as such a tax would reduce the benefit of installing such a system and would disincentivize installing one.)

Moderator Scafidi called for discussion of the Article. Seeing none, Moderator Scafidi declared the Article will go on the ballot as written.

There being no further business to come before the meeting, Moderator Scafidi entertained a motion to adjourn the Deliberative Session of the Annual Town Meeting. So moved and seconded with no opposition. Moderator Scafidi declared the meeting adjourned at 3:42 PM and the meeting to resume at 7:00 AM on Tuesday March 11, 2013 at the Talbot Gym on Linden Street for voting purposes.

Respectfully Submitted,

Andrea Kohler
Exeter Town Clerk