

ADJOURNED TOWN MEETING

**SATURDAY, MARCH 16, 1996
TALBOT GYMNASIUM, EXETER AREA HIGH SCHOOL**

Town Moderator Charles Tucker called the adjourned Town Meeting to order at 9:00 A.M. He introduced the people seated at the front table, namely the Board of Selectmen present (Alan Williams, Wendy Stanley Jones, Robert "Bucky" Rowe, and Paul Scafidi), Town Treasurer Donald Brabant, Town Clerk Linda Hartson, and Town Manager George Olson. He explained that Selectman Paul Binette had a previous commitment and was unable to attend today's meeting. Moderator Tucker reminded residents to check in with the Superintendents of the Checklist, receive their voting card for hand votes, and have their hand stamped for participation in ballot voting. He explained the voting process and discussion process - allowing all residents who wanted to speak to an article and/or amendment a chance to do so. Moderator Tucker further reminded residents that Articles 1 - 19 had been voted on by machine at the Town Elections on Tuesday, March 12. He also noted that a citizens petition had been received calling for a "secret ballot" on ARTICLES #21,22, and 38.

ARTICLE 20: To choose all other necessary Town Officers, Auditors or Committees for the ensuing year.

Selectman Wendy Stanley Jones made a motion for the following slate of officers to be nominated to fill the positions available for the ensuing year. The motion was seconded; no further nominations from the floor were received; no further discussion. Moderator Tucker called for a voice vote on the presented slate of officers; voice vote taken and Moderator Tucker declared that the presented slate of officers had been elected. The Town Clerk was instructed to cast one ballot for the Slate of Officers.

Measurer of Wood and Bark:	Octave Carboneau
Weigher:	George Wool
Fence Viewer:	Peter Dow
Budget Recommendations Committee:	Salvatore Morgani
	Ann Titus
	Donald Schultz
	John Payson
	Sam Daniell
	Neil Fitch
	Dwane Staples
	Jeff Warnock
	Douglas Forrest
	Brian Fieldsend
	Ann Burke
	Benjamin Labb

ARTICLE 21: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,256,000 for the purpose of extending municipal water and sewer services along Epping Road to support commercial and industrial tax base growth by the issuance of serial notes or bonds of the Town under, and in accordance with, the provisions of RSA Chapter 33 (Municipal Finance Act), as amended; the discretion of fixing dates, maturity, interest or discount rates, the place of payment, the forms and the details of said bonds or notes to be delegated to the Board of Selectmen. (The Board of Selectmen recommends this appropriation.)

Exeter resident and President of the Exeter Development Commission, Warren Hederson, addressed this Article. He explained that the objective is tax relief for Exeter. There is not much land available in Exeter to develop, and Epping Road does have some available land. However, there is no water and sewer provisions past Dreher-Holloway property. It appears that Exeter needs to provide an incentive - water and sewer - to attract industry to our area; and proposed is a partnership with Exeter and the prospective buyers. This acceptance would allow the Board of Selectmen some conditional authority to negotiate with the prospective buyer. This would be the tool that makes Exeter more competitive with other towns in our area. If this Article passes, Mr. Henderson hopes to form a committee that will work toward getting long-term tax relief for Exeter.

Many questions were asked concerning this proposal. What would residual impact be on neighboring properties? Answer - increase in value. What would traffic impact be on Columbus Avenue, Brentwood Road area? Answer - public benefits outweighs traffic impact.

Selectman Alan Williams, speaking as a citizen and not a Selectman, made a motion to amend Article 21: **"to include language in accordance with RSA 35, provided that funding shall not be allocated until such time as a bona fide anchor tenant is committed."** Motion was seconded. Discussion ensued. Town Treasurer Brabant said he was uncomfortable with this wording because reference to a whole chapter in the State statutes (RSA 35) had been mentioned and not a specific area. Selectman Jones and Mr. Henderson both urged defeat of this amendment. Tracey McGrail, President and Chairman of the Exeter area Chamber of Commerce urged defeat of this amendment. She pointed out that 4% of the taxpayers pay 35% of the taxes and these 4% would like to share those taxes with other businesses. The Board of Selectmen would not be looking for only one (1) tenant, but perhaps several businesses will come forth once this water and sewer is in place. She reminded the residents that the elected officials, Planning Board and Zoning Board members, and so on, are working in the best interest of the town and this amendment ties the hands of these boards.

Mr. Williams said that all the taxpayers have is "good intentions" with the Article as it is written. He would like to see more control

No further discussion on the amendment; Moderator Tucker called for a voice vote. **NAYS had it, and amendment defeated.**

Discussion on original Article ensued. Question: Would a different tax rate be negotiated for these new businesses? Answer - NO, same tax rate applies.

No further disussion; Moderator Tucker reminded residents that this must be a checklist and ballot vote and must be open for one(1) hour. He declared the ballot boxes open at 9:49 A.M.

At 10:53 A.M. Moderator Tucker asked if all voters had participated in voting on ARTICLE 21 who so desired to; no voters came forth, and the ballot boxes were closed. **RESULTS: YES = 241 NO = 43. ARTICLE 21 passed.**

Selectman Paul Scafidi made a motion to consider ARTICLE 38 at this time. The motion was seconded. Mr. Scafidi explained that Article 38 refers to subtracting from the budget presented and therefore must be considered prior to discussion of the total budget. Moderator Tucker called for a voice vote on this motion - AYES had it, and motion passed.

ARTICLE 38: On petition of Alan Williams and others, to see if the Town will vote to abolish the position of Finance Director established by vote of the Selectmen and to delete the \$40,000 appropriation made therefore. (The Board of Selectmen opposes this appropriation reduction.)

A motion was made and seconded to accept this Article. Resident John Detwiler addressed this Article and said he was opposed to the postion of Finance Director. He asked what the \$40,000 represented - Town Manger Olson responded "salary and benefits for remainder of the year." Much discussion continued on this Article, particularly referring to the current staff number and their capabilities being upgraded rather than hiring a Finance Director. Town Treasurer Brabant explained that the present staff does it job very well; there are 2 full-time staff members currently, and they take care of all accounting functions. He, as Town Treasurer, is responsible for investing the Town's money, borrowing money for the Town, and overseeing the large picture. Mr. Brabant is a part-time employee; he does not supervise the present accounting department staff, and he is not a candidate for the new position. Mr. Brabant would be working in conjunction with the Finance Director. It is felt that the new person will streamline the Town's accounting process and hopefully save the Town money. A job description has been written for this position and residents are welcome to look at it.

Much discussion - pro and con - continued. Mr. Jim Griswold, a long-time member of the Budget Recommendations committee, urged support of this position. He said the auditing firm had been recommending this position for many years, but in order to save money, the Budget Committee and Board of Selectmen had chosen to ignore the recommendation in past years. However, it is now time to make this move and hire the Finance Director. Mr. Griswold firmly believes that this person's salary will be saved every year by the savings he/she will be able to make for the Town.

No further discussion; Moderator Tucker read the Article once again. He reminded the voters that this was a checklist and ballot vote, and that a NO vote meant hiring a Finance Director, while a YES vote meant not to hire a Finance Director. Moderator Tucker declared the ballot boxes open for voting. Following the vote, the ballots were counted and Moderator Tucker declared the vote to be **YES = 94 NO = 182, ARTICLE 38 defeated.**

ARTICLE 23: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to accept, on behalf of the Town, gifts, legacies and devises made to the Town in trust for any public purpose, as permitted by RSA 31:19.

A motion was made and seconded to accept this Article. Town Manager Olson addressed this Article and explained its purpose. No further discussion; Moderator Tucker called for a voice vote. He declared the **AYES have it and ARTICLE 23** passed as presented.

ARTICLE 24: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$73,691 to pay the second of five annual installments owed on the Town's ladder truck. (The Board of Selectmen recommends this appropriation.)

A motion was made and seconded to accept this Article. Selectman Paul Scafidi addressed this Article. He said that we had agreed to a five-year lease agreement on the ladder truck, and this was the second installment on that lease. No further discussion; Moderator Tucker called for a voice vote. He declared the **AYES HAVE IT and Article 24** passed as presented.

ARTICLE 25: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$56,000 to be added to the Portsmouth Avenue Capital Reserve Fund previously established. (The Board of Selectmen recommends this appropriation.)

A motion was made and seconded to accept this Article. Town Manager Geoge Olson addressed this Article. He explained that the State will be reconstructing and widening Portsmouth Avenue south from Dairy Queen to Flynn's Car Wash. Expected completion is the year 2000. The State will pay 75% and the Town must pay 25% of the expense. This Article calls for the first needed payment into this fund. No further discussion. Moderator Tucker called for a voice vote. He declared the **AYES HAVE IT AND Article 25** passed as presented.

ARTICLE 26: To see if the Town will vote to fix the annual salary of the Town Clerk at \$37,294.94, and to raise and appropriate the sum of \$6,495 above the sum budgeted therefore, of which \$2,756 is retroactive pay from January 1, 1994 through December 31, 1995. (The Board of Selectmen recommends this appropriation.)

A motion was made and seconded to accept this Article. There was no discussion. Moderator Tucker called for a voice vote. He declared the **AYES have it and ARTICLE 26** passed as presented.

ARTICLE 27: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$132,250 for the purpose of making repairs to the Swasey Parkway seawall and overlook. (The Board of Selectmen recommends this appropriation.)

A motion was made and seconded to accept this Article. Douglas Dicey, Trustee of the Swasey Parkway, addressed this Article. He explained that a consultant had been hired last year to examine the deteriorating seawall and overlook and had recommended that it needed to be fixed immediately. The seawall has been crumbling because of the many storms we have had. This money would be the first phase of this entire project. Mr. Dicey had applied for a Federal Grant for this project, but it was not accepted this year, and

he will apply again next year. Mr. Dicey was asked what the total cost of the project would be, and he answered \$250,000. Mr. Alan Williams asked if Phillips Exeter Academy had been asked to contribute to this project? Mr. Dicey explained that PEA has not been approached about this and presently it is felt that PEA pays its fair share of taxes. Mr. Dicey further said that it is very hopeful that the repairs will fix the deterioration problem of the seawall and its overlook. No further discussion; Moderator Tucker called for a voice vote. He declared that the **AYES have it and Article 27 passed as presented.**

At this time, Moderator Tucker said we would now go back to ARTICLE 22 - the budget. He reminded the voters that the petition submitted called for a checklist and ballot vote on this ARTICLE.

ARTICLE 22: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$10,208,716, which represents the operating budget. Said sum does not include special articles to be addressed. (The Board of Selectmen recommends this appropriation.)

A motion was made and seconded to accept this Article. Sal Morgani, Chairman of the Budget Recommendations Committee, addressed this Article. He said he and the Committee had spent many hours going over the proposed budget and felt very comfortable urging support of this budget.

Town Manager George Olson made a motion to amend the proposed amount by \$20,000 to cover the unanticipated snow fighting budget. The motion was seconded. Mr. Olson explained that last year had been mild and we were able to use only that money appropriated for snow removal; however this year Mother Nature did not consult with him and Mr. Noyes before allowing all the snow we had to fall. Mr. Olson explained that money is needed for the remainder of this winter, as well as for the months of November and December. **The budget amount now would read \$10,228,716.** No further discussion on the amendment; Moderator Tucker called for a voice vote on the amendment. He declared the **AYES HAVE IT and the amendment passed.**

Selectman Robert Rowe then made a motion to amend the budget further by \$18,000 for new voting equipment. The motion was seconded. Town Clerk Linda Hartson addressed this amendment. She explained that the process of voting will now be different with the passage of the recent Official Ballot. There is a concern that **all the warrant articles will not fit on the present lever machines.** The Town will be looking at and trying out electronic scanning voting machines for possible purchase prior to next APRIL's Town and School District elections/voting. Ms. Hartson had a sample ballot which she held up for the voters to see which represents the method we will be balloting. She also explained that money is needed to purchase voting booths, as well as additional postage, envelopes, etc. for absentee ballots. It has been discussed and the Town will look into selling our present lever machines which will generate funds for election/town meeting purposes.

There was no further discussion on this second amendment, and Moderator Tucker called for a voice vote. He declared the **AYES have it and this amendment has passed.**

Moderator Tucker then read the amended Article that will be voted on...To see if the Town **will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$10,246,716**, which represents the operating budget....There being no further questions/discussion, he declared the ballot boxes open for ARTICLE 22. The voting completed, Moderator Tucker declared the ballot boxes closed, and the election inspectors counted the votes. **YES = 229 NO = 27**
Moderator Tucker declared that ARTICLE 22, as amended, had passed.

ARTICLE 28: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$4,000 for the purpose of constructing a fence at the Park Street Common. (The Board of Selectmen recommends this appropriation.)

Moderator Tucker explained that he, personally, has a conflict with this Article as he is an abutter of the Park Street Common, and therefore asked Ted Klemarczyk to come forward as his Assistant Moderator to conduct the proceedings of this Article. Mr. Klemarczyk read the Article. A motion was made and seconded to accept this Article. Town Manager Olson explained that a letter had been received from a resident asking that the Town fence in the Park Street Common, i.e. swings, playground area, to prevent any accidents with motorists going by and the children playing in the Park.

Questions and discussion ensued: what kind of Fence? answer - probably chain link. Is the Town now providing babysitting service? answer - no. Discussion that chain link fencing might not be very eye appealing; parents should watch their children more carefully and responsibly.

Charles Tucker, resident of the area, said that he is opposed to the Article. He has lived there for many years, and worked with the neighbors of this area on the Park Street Common. As a group they have spent much time and money to grass in the Common, plant flowers, shrubs, and make it look like it does today. He went on to say the Town cannot be responsible for our children. Parents need to be. He contacted a landscaping company and discussed the situation with them. The Company suggested that a thistle-type hedge be planted instead of a fence, and the cost for the hedge would be far less. Therefore, Mr. Tucker made a motion to amend Article 28 **"To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$2,500 for the purpose of buying materials to construct a hedge and gates at the Park Street Common"**. This motion was seconded. Mr. Tucker explained further that this money was not to be used for labor to put in the hedge and gate, but rather for the materials only. He, and the neighbors feel that the Common would look better with a hedge than a chainlink fence.

No further discussion on this amendment; Moderator Klemarczyk called for a voice vote on the amendment before the meeting. He declared the **AYES have it and the amendment to raise \$2,500 for the purpose of buying materials to construct a hedge and gates at the Park Street Common had passed.**

Mr. Dana Wyman, another resident of the area, suggested that the playground equipment be moved to the other end of the Common. He made a motion to amend the Article further by adding **"and to move the Gym equipment to the rear of the triangle (Park Street/Park Court)"**. A second was heard on this amendment. Douglas Dicey, Recreation Director spoke in opposition to this amendment. He explained that the ballfield that is now there would be too close to the road if the playground equipment is moved to that end also. No further discussion; Moderator Klemarczyk called for a voice vote on this amendment. He declared that the **NAYS have it, and this amendment failed.**

Moderator Klemarczyk called for a voice vote on the previously voted Amended Article...raise \$2,500 for the ... Park Street Common. That voice vote being too close, Moderator Klemarczyk called for a card vote. That taken, he declared YES = 166 NO = 60, **ARTICLE 28 passed, as amended.**

ARTICLE 29: To see if the Town will vote to establish a Capital Reserve Fund under the provisions of RSA 35:1 for the purpose of engineering and rebuilding the Town's tennis courts at the Recreation Park and to raise and appropriate the sum of \$25,000 to be placed in this fund. (The Board of Selectmen recommends this appropriation.)

A motion was made and seconded to accept this Article. Recreation Director Douglas Dicey addressed this Article. He explained that the Town's tennis courts have been deteriorating over the past several years, and the Town has been spending money on these courts in a "band-aid" fashion. Now the courts are in such a deplorable condition that it may be unsafe for patrons to use them. These courts have been used by many people over the years and have been said to be an excellent recreational facility. Mr. Dicey is afraid that if the courts are not properly taken care of now, they will not be able to be used in the future.

Alan Williams, resident of Exeter, said he doesn't beleive the tennis courts are a priority that need to be addressed at this time. He suggested that private developers and/or contributors be contacted for money to fix these courts. Residents in support of this Article spoke saying that it is disgraceful that our well-respected Town have such recreational facility in such a sad appearing state. The Tennis Booster's Club raises money annually and that money is used for tennis balls, equipment, uniforms, and so on, not for Town courts repair.

Selectman Scafidi said the Board of Selectmen approved this article because it felt that tennis courts are an asset to our Town. It was felt that if the Town spent money over a ten-year period to fix things up, it would be better received than if we asked for \$100,000 to take care of the project all at once. Another resident stated that if money is being spent for Park Street Common, it should also be spent on this valuable property.

There being no further discussion, Moderator Tucker called for a voice vote. He declared **the AYES HAVE IT and ARTICLE 29 has passed.**

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn for lunch. It was approved by a voice vote, and Moderator Tucker said the meeting would resume at 1:25 P.M., same place.

At 1:25 P.M. a motion was made and seconded to go back into session for this adjourned town meeting. Selectman Paul Scafidi made a motion "to limit reconsideration of Article 22." The motion was seconded; no discussion; Moderator Tucker called for a voice vote; He declared **the AYES HAVE It, motion carried.**

ARTICLE 30: To see if the Town will vote to discontinue Southside Road adjacent to the Markie and Holloway land on the west side of Epping Road subject to a completed layout of a widened and extended Garrison Lane to Epping Road in 1996.

A motion was made and seconded to accept Article 30 as written. Peter Dow, Planning Director and member of the Exeter Development Commission, addressed this article. He said that the Commission had encouraged the Board of Selectmen to sponsor this Article. Presently this property is a public right-of-way, but it is not maintained by the Town. This needs to be addressed prior to any further action on the Garrison Lane area. Mr. Dow was asked what tax ramifications there would be? He answered that the Dreher-Holloway and Markie properties will become more valuable because their lot lines will change. Mr. Dow was asked if this Road has anything to do with residential property? He responded that it only deals with Bay Bank property which is about 350 acres.

No further discussion; Moderator Tucker called for a voice vote. He declared the **AYES HAVE IT and Article 30 has passed.**

ARTICLE 31: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$156,550 to purchase a new ambulance and authorize the withdrawal of \$156,550 from the Capital Reserve Fund created for that purpose. (The Board of Selectmen recommends this withdrawal from the Ambulance Fund.)

A motion was made and seconded to accept this Article. Chief John Carbonneau addressed this article. "Rescue 2" does not have the necessary medical equipment that is needed today. He sees the need for operating two (2) ambulances; the newer one is equipped with this necessary equipment. The money in the Capital Reserve Fund is from user's fees, and therefore would not be burdening the taxpayers any. Chief Carbonneau was asked what the value of the old "RESCUE 2" is and would it be traded or sold at private sale? Chief Carbonneau answered that it is thought to be worth between \$2,500 and \$7,500. They have spoken about the possibility of donating this ambulance - RESCUE 2 - to Newfields, but nothing definite yet.

No further discussion; Moderator Tucker called for a voice vote. He declared the **AYES HAVE IT and Article 31 passed.**

ARTICLE 32: On petition of Pam Mink Cary and others, to see if the Town of Exeter will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,000 for the support of Coastal Employment Associates, Inc. Coastal Employment specializes in finding people with disabilities employment. (The Board of Selectmen recommends this appropriation.)

A motion was made and seconded to accept this Article. Ted Klemarczyk asked that Sue Lyons, the Director of Coastal Employment, and a resident of Portsmouth, be allowed to address the meeting. Moderator Tucker asked the voters if they had any objection to Ms. Lyons speaking. There being none, Ms. Lyons addressed this Article. She said it is a vocational agency that is presently assisting 31 disabled adults find employment in the area. It is the hope of the Agency to integrate these disabled adults into a community. The State has not given them as much funding as before, and therefore they must appeal to the communities. Ms. Lyons was asked how many Exeter clients were involved. She answered that presently there is only one (1).

No further discussion; Moderator Tucker called for a voice vote. He declared the **AYES have it and Article 32 has passed.**

ARTICLE 33: On petition of Tom Chamberlin and others, to see if the Town will vote to authorize the Exeter Conservation Commission to either negotiate and sell an 11.2 acre parcel adjacent to the Exeter River on Linden Street (tax map parcel 12-2-22.001) subject to a conservation easement or subdivide one buildable lot for an amount not less than its fair market value to be confirmed by a MAI appraisal with proceeds from the sale to be returned to the Exeter Conservation Fund.

A motion was made and seconded to accept the Article. Peter Dow, Conservation Commission member, addressed the article. He mentioned that this subject first came before the Town in 1992 to obtain authority to pursue the sale of the "McDonald" property. Now they are looking for re-authorization for the sale of this property. Mr. Dow was asked what the present property value is and he said in the mid-30's. Mr. Dow was asked what was intended use for the part of the land they want to sell, and Mr. Dow said it would be sold for a single family home, with the remaining land used as it is now. The parcel sold will not be on the river. Access will be gained from the driveway off Linden Street.

There was no further discussion, and Moderator Tucker called for a voice vote. He declared the **AYES HAVE it and Article 33 has passed.**

ARTICLE 34: On petition of Robert S. Hawkins and others, to see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$9,600 for the Exeter Public Library for funding for the "Reach to Read Family Literacy Program" for 1996. (The Board of Selectmen recommends this appropriation.)

A motion was made and seconded to accept this Article. Mr. Hawkins was not present and Library Trustee Donald Shultz addressed this article, by reading a letter from Mr. Hawkins urging support of this worthwhile project.

There was no further discussion, Moderator Tucker called for a voice vote. He declared the **AYES HAVE it and Article 34 has passed.**

ARTICLE 35: On petition of Neal W. Ferris and others, to see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$50,000 to support the operations of Exeter's New Outlook Program, which provides a safe, structured environment for teen activities, and free community service. (The Board of Selectmen does not recommend this appropriation.)

A motion was made and seconded to accept this Article. Dr. Berton Dibble addressed this article. He gave history of this project's establishment, and spoke about the Exeter Healthcare building on Court Street which has become available for rent. This project would like to be able to occupy its space, but they need money to support salaries, trips, and other activities. Ken Smith, a resident of Exeter, spoke on the value of this Teen project as he had been a member of this Teen Center; he urged support. Several people spoke both for and against this appropriation of funds by the Town. Selectman Wendy Stanley Jones explained that the Selectmen did not support this because they do not feel that we should support one group over another in town, i.e. teens over "Brownies, Boy Scouts..." There should be fund

raising projects if the teens want this center so badly. The Board was ask if this money was a line item in the budget - answer NO; will they be back next year asking for more money - answer NOT SURE!

After much discussion, Moderator Tucker called for a card vote on this article. **YES = 172 NO = 41 Article 35 was declared passed.**

ARTICLE 36: On petition of Cliff Sinnott and others, to see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$8,000 to support the Cooperative Alliance for Seacoast Transportation (COAST) for the purpose of maintaining fixed-route public transit service in Exeter providing access for residents of Stratham, Greenland, Portsmouth, Newington and beyond. (The Board of Selectmen recommends this appropriation.)

A motion was made and seconded to accept this Article. Mr. Sinnott addressed this Article. He gave the route the bus will travel and said "it provides an alternative way to get to a destination"; "with the advent of train service coming to Exeter, bus travel will help get people here"; and "traffic problems are so bad, hopefully bus travel will alleviate some of the problems".

Tracey McGrail, Chamber of Commerce Director, said that the Chamber is fully behind this issue.

No further discussion; Moderator Tucker called for a voice vote; he declared the **AYES HAVE IT, and ARTICLE 36 has passed.**

ARTICLE 37: On petition of Joanna Pellerin and others, to see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$70,000 towards the purchase of the Elie Sehnaoui property on the corner of Front and Court Streets (Tax Map 9-10, Lot 15, 10.02 and 010). This money to be used toward the purchase of the property by the Town of Exeter provided that the remainder of the purchase price be raised by private subscription not later than December 31, 1996, with the condition that the property remain recreational open space for the enjoyment of residents of Exeter. (The Board of Selectmen does not recommend this appropriation.)

A motion was made and seconded to accept this Article. Ms. Pellerin addressed this Article. She made a motion to amend this Article by adding.."to see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate half the purchase price not to exceed the sum of \$70,000." She made this amendment because they have not pinpointed a selling price for this property. Following discussion, Moderator Tucker called for a voice vote on the amendment. **The AYES have it, and the amendment passed.** Ms. Pellerin then spoke to the amended Article. She said that the property is presently assessed at approximately \$144,496 and the property taxes are \$4,248. Following discussion, Moderator Tucker called for a voice vote. It was too close to determine, and he called for a card vote. **YES = 108, NO = 71. He declared ARTICLE 37 has passed as amended.**

ARTICLE 39: On petition of Kevin Fleming and others, to see if the Town will vote to urge our representatives to the General Court of New Hampshire and the United States Congress to pass laws reforming electoral campaign financing...

Measures to accomplish this may include, but not be limited to, the following:... #1 ..., #2 ..., #3 ..., #4 ..., #5 ...

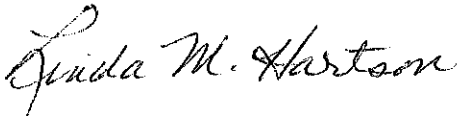
A motion was made and seconded to accept this Article. Mr. Fleming addressed this Article, and explained where it had originated. Exeter Resident Thomas Gage made an amendment "to strike all the wording in the list of measures". A motion was made and seconded to accept this amendment. Following discussion, Moderator Tucker called for a voice vote on the amendment. It was too close to determine, so he called for a card vote, and it was apparent that the **NAYS HAVE IT**, and the amendment failed. No further discussion, Moderator Tucker called for a card vote on the original Article **YES = 76 NO = 61** He declared the Article had passed.

ARTICLE 40: On petition of Herbert S. Moyer and others, to see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$6,000 for the purpose of increasing Selectmen's salaries by \$1,000 to \$3,000/year, with the chairman having an additional \$1,000 ... for an annual total of \$4,000. (The Board of Selectmen recommends this appropriation.)

A motion was made and seconded to accept this Article. Mr. Moyer addressed this Article with the use of charts, overheads and computer overlays. Ted Klemarczyk, former Selectman and former Town Clerk, echoed Mr. Moyer's sentiments that the Selectmen need a raise. Following further discussion, Moderator Tucker called for a voice vote. He declared the **AYES have it**, and **ARTICLE 40 has passed.**

ARTICLE 41: To transact any other business that may legally come before said meeting. There being none, Moderator Tucker entertained a motion for adjournment at 4:07 P.M. This motion was seconded, and unanimously approved. Moderator Tucker declared this Annual Town Meeting closed.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,



Linda M. Hartson, Exeter Town Clerk