

**State of New Hampshire
Minutes of Washington Town Meeting
March 11, 2014**

All portions of this report typed in bold were sent to the State DRA as a legal record of this meeting.

Moderator Barbara Gaskell called the 238th unbroken March tradition of the Annual Meeting to order at 9:23 AM. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and Moderator Gaskell introduced the Town Officials. Moderator Gaskell explained the procedures for voting, noting that the State now requires residents to show a photo ID in order to get a ballot.

Moderator Gaskell showed that the ballot box was empty and locked it. She noted that the polls would open at 10:00 AM. She also pointed out that there were two special ballots this year, one to vote on whether the Town should change the Town meeting to a two-day meeting, and one from the Planning Board to see if the town would like to adopt language to the Land Use Ordinance regarding motor homes. There was a record crowd in attendance in anticipation of the two bond articles to be voted on this year.

Before the meeting started, Janice Philbrick announced that the Washington Fire Department Auxiliary is selling Rada Cutlery to raise funds for the Explorer troop to train future firemen. They are trying to defray the training costs of \$500 for each participant.

ARTICLE 1. The following people received votes for an office elected by a non-partisan ballot:

Selectman for three years

Tom Marshall	147
David Wood	94
Robert Williams (write in)	16

Tom Marshall declared elected.

Town Clerk for three years

Sandra Poole	255
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Sandra Poole declared elected.

Moderator for two years

Barbara Gaskell	247
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Barbara Gaskell declared elected

Town Treasurer for one year

Lynda Roy	248
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Lynda Roy declared elected

Board of Assessors for three years	
Linda Cook	246
Linda Cook declared elected	
Cemetery Trustee for three years	
Phil Barker	220
Phil Barker declared elected	
Fire Chief for one year	
Brian Moser	235
Brian Moser declared elected	
Trustee of the Trust Funds for three years	
James Russell	236
James Russell declared elected	
Library Trustee for Three Years	
Patricia Liotta	244
Patricia Liotta declared elected	
Planning Board for Three Years (two positions)	
Michelle Dagesse	205
Linda Cook	198
Michelle Dagesse declared elected	
Linda Cook declared elected	
Supervisor of the Checklist for six years	
Elizabeth Sargent (write in)	39
Elizabeth Sargent declared elected	

Write in candidates receiving fewer than five (5) votes are not recorded here. Of the registered voters in Washington 269 cast their votes in this Town election.

ARTICLE 2. Guy Eaton moved to hear reports of any and all officers, committees and agents of the Town and Take any action in relation thereto.

Ken Eastman seconded the motion.

A list of corrections has already been compiled, but the following corrections to the Town Report were presented:

Page	Should Be	As Printed:
74	2012	2012.00
84	Fire Department Heading should be lower on the page	
86	Erosion	Corrosion
109	Trust Funds for Community Service	Missing

is missing the current Balance is \$3932.65

Voice Vote Passed as moved as corrected.

The results of the Planning Board Special Ballot were as follows:

To adopt changes to the Land Use Ordinance

YES 158 NO 99 Changes were passed

The results of the Town Ballot to see if Town Meeting should be held in 2 sessions:

YES 140 NO 124 Passed as written

Al Krygeris asked for clarifications for the acronyms on pg 35. Treasurer Linda Roy answered that NSF refers to checks written on insufficient funds and EFH/ACH refers to taxes paid by credit or debit cards.

Ron Roy commented that the Cemetery Trustees are not responsible for putting out flags on cemetery headstones, and that the Committee for Patriotic Purposes does. This was argued by Kitty West and Phil Barker that the Cemetery Trustees do put out flags.

In his State of the Town address Selectman Guy Eaton mentioned the property revaluation was done last year. The tax rate increased as a result of this but property values are now down 11%. The budget overall increased less than 2%. He noted that the Selectmen wanted to remove articles 3 and 4 from the warrant, but they were reinstated during budget bond meeting. Town volunteers Ray Clarke, the Hanssens, and the Kluks and Police Chief Marshall were honored with poems written by Selectman Eaton. He also read a poem for David Dailey who died in 2013

ARTICLE 3. Jed Schwartz moved that the town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Two Million Five Hundred Fifty Two Thousand Five Hundred and One Dollars (\$2,552,501) for the construction of a new Safety Complex, and to authorize the issuance of not more than \$2,552,501.00 of bonds or notes in accordance with the provisions of the Municipal Finance Act (RSA 33) and to authorize the municipal officials to issue and negotiate such bonds or notes and to determine the rate of interest thereon and further to raise and appropriate an additional sum of \$132,500.00 for the first year's interest payment on the bond.

[Two-Thirds vote is required for passage; the polls will remain open for at least one hour]

Shawn Atkins seconded the motion.

Prior to discussing this Article Moderator Gaskell pointed out that colored paper ballots were to be used to vote for this Article and Article 4. She also asked that voters show their yellow voter card or their voter registration form when they cast their ballot.

Jed Schwartz noted the outstanding crowd in attendance. He outlined the process that was followed to bring this project to the town and noted that the volunteer fire department has been in service for 75 years.

At this point, Moderator Gaskell noted that it was 10:00 AM and the polls were open.

In 2010 a Needs Task Force mentioned the need for an upgraded fire station and the fire station was included in another report in 2012. A committee was formed in March of 2013 to explore the creation of a safety complex. Schwartz noted that the committee sponsored meetings, site visits and outreach that were intended to inform the public about their needs and plans. They wanted to eliminate redundancy, support emergency personnel and all emergency departments. They chose a design and a build firm, documented their needs and posted their meeting minutes on the Town website. They created a design to complement the surrounding neighborhood and to enhance the value to the Town.

Schwartz outlined the current deficiencies at the fire station: no exhaust, the truck bays are too small, the doors are too narrow, there is no decontamination area, there is no place to wash trucks, there is inadequate storage and no heated storage, no office space and training classes cannot be held there because there is no ADA access. The building is inefficient to heat and is not suitable for an addition.

The Police Station has been housed in the old schoolhouse for 20 years and it falls below acceptable standards. There is no sally port, no showers, no holding area and it is not ADA accessible. There is no privacy, no offices, no evidence storage, the building is uninsulated, and not suitable for its present use.

The proposed new complex addresses all of these deficiencies. There is a guaranteed maximum price for the project. We shouldn't delay this project because the need is critical and the cost will continue to rise. The current 5% interest rate will increase. This project will add 73 cents per 1000 to the tax rate, about \$146.00 per year for someone with a \$200,000.00 property. Schwartz emphasized that the studies have been done, so we don't need to spend more money on further study.

Fire Captain Shawn Atkins noted that the Town has purchased additional property with funds raised by the Fire Department. Six other properties in Town were considered inadequate. He showed a slide of the current site proposal. He described the layout of building and noted that the original 'want' plan was scaled down to 9400 sq ft. The appearance of the building was created around the space requirements. Aspects that are not visible include a state required sprinkler system, a new 30,000 gallon cistern, a back up generator and oil/water separators for the floor drains.

Kitty West asked what would be above the garage area. Atkins replied it would be used for hanging equipment storage. No living space or storage above was planned in order to keep costs down and eliminate the need for additional emergency exits. Other questions were asked about the heating system (propane), wetlands (the current septic area will be

removed so there will be no building on wetlands), whether the building will be constantly manned (only when on duty police or other personnel are in the building), and what the square footage was for each department.

Several residents asked about how the plan had changed from earlier proposals with regard to floor space, how much the building will cost to operate, and possible future needs that are not currently being incorporated in the plan.

Rescue Squad Commander Bob Wright discussed the current emergency personnel and noted that they are always in need of volunteers. He pointed out that if there are not enough volunteers, the Town may one day be paying for emergency staff and adequate space should be provided.

Further questions addressed funding of the project, whether lack of police presence in the Town center should be considered, what would happen to the old schoolhouse if the police dept moved and how variances to the Building Code would be handled.

Those in favor of the project emphasized the practicality of the building for the long term, how much work has gone into the planning phase, and the fact that such a project will only cost more if it is put off for another year.

Others complained that residents were not adequately informed of the proposed plan, nor were their opinions regarding what the Town needs considered. They pointed out that nothing was said about the East Washington fire station, or other possible locations for a new safety complex. Some felt the cost was too high and the project was being rushed through. Some emphasized that the Town should focus on needs, not wants.

Moderator Gaskell opened paper ballot voting on this Article at 11:40 AM and closed at 12:47 PM with a coincident recess for lunch.

Ballot Vote: Motion Failed
Number of ballots cast 246
Yes 93
No 153

At 12:47 Moderator Gaskell called the Meeting back to order.

Selectman Guy Eaton presented the Annual Rich Cook Community Service Award to Lolly Gilbert who volunteers as a Rescue Squad member, Trustee of the Trust Funds, and generally is available to help out where and whenever needed.

Moderator Gaskell was asked to mention that the Energy Committee had a questionnaire they would like residents to fill out and that they are having a raffle drawing.

ARTICLE 4. Tom Marshall moved that the town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Two Million Thirty-Eight Thousand Dollars (\$2,038,000) for the rehabilitation of the Meetinghouse/Town Hall, in accordance with the construction plans dated 10-01-12, and accepted by the Board of Selectmen and to authorize the issuance of not more than \$1,838,000 of bonds or notes in accordance with the provisions of the Municipal Finance Act (RSA 33) and to authorize the municipal officials to issue and negotiate such bonds or notes and to determine the rate of interest thereon, furthermore to accept \$200,000 in pledges.

[Two-Thirds vote is required for passage; the polls will remain open for at least one hour]

Guy Eaton seconded the motion.

Selectman Tom Marshall noted that the project was ready to go with bid ready plans that have a 5% increase applied to cover the higher cost of building materials. He said that scaling back the project at this point would be costly and was not recommended. He added that pledges made towards the project would be withdrawn if the plans were changed. In addition to pledges, the Town will apply for another LCHIP grant which the Selectmen feel the Town has a good chance of being awarded.

Addressing complaints about the addition to house an elevator, Marshall said this cost will be covered by a specific donation and that this addition includes a back entrance, ADA accessible bathrooms and stairs to the second floor. The addition is necessary even without an elevator. He urged residents to vote to move forward on this project rather than continuing to piecemeal repairs and work arounds.

There was no further discussion on the Article.

Moderator Gaskell opened paper ballot voting on this Article at 1:04 PM and closed at 2:06 PM.

Ballot Vote: Motion Failed

Number of ballots cast 213

Yes 91

No 122

At this point, Janice Philbrick made a motion to permit non-residents speak at Town Meeting. Bob Wright seconded the motion.

Voice Vote: passed as moved

ARTICLE 5. Guy Eaton moved that the town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Four Hundred Thirty Seven Thousand Seven Hundred Thirty Nine Dollars (\$437,739.00) to defray the costs of General Government for the ensuing year. This article is exclusive of all other warrant articles. Tom Marshall seconded the motion.

Selectmen Eaton noted that this amount was increased by \$20,000 to accommodate rising motor fuel costs.

Voice Vote: passed as moved

ARTICLE 6. Bob Wright moved that the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000.00) to be added to the Police Cruiser Replacement Capital Reserve Fund previously established. Guy Eaton seconded the motion.

Rescue Squad Captain Bob Wright noted the value in adding to this fund regularly rather than requiring a vote to fund new vehicles all at once.

Voice Vote: passed as moved

ARTICLE 7. Guy Eaton moved that the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.00) to be added to the Police Equipment Replacement Capital Reserve Fund previously established. Bob Wright seconded the motion.

Voice Vote: passed as moved

ARTICLE 8. Guy Eaton moved that the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of One Hundred Thirty One Thousand Six Hundred Thirty Five Dollars (\$131,635.00) for the operation of the Police Department for the ensuing year. Bob Wright seconded the motion.

Police Chief Marshall clarified some of the line items in this article. Jim Hofford asked what Chief Marshall thought about the proposed new complex. Chief Marshall noted that his job is to patrol and if the Police Cruiser were parked inside a building, no one would know if someone was at the station. He noted that the Fire Department and the Police Department work very closely together and that he would work with whatever plan is chosen.

Voice Vote: passed as moved

ARTICLE 9. Ed Thayer moved that the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Three Hundred Eighty Four Thousand and Five Dollars (\$384,005.00) for operation of the Public Works Department for the ensuing year. Bob Wright seconded the motion.

Public Works Director Ed Thayer noted that this budget was flat. Thayer was commended and asked to keep up the good work.

Voice Vote: passed as moved

ARTICLE 10. Ed Thayer moved that the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of One Hundred Thirty Five Thousand Dollars (\$135,000.00) for the road paving the appropriation will be offset with any Highway Block Grant Funds received. Guy Eaton seconded the motion.

Thayer noted that Block Grant Funds come from the State gas tax. He expects about \$53,000.00 to come from that fund. The money will be used to continue repaving East Washington Rd.

Voice Vote: passed as moved

ARTICLE 11. Ed Thayer moved that the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Forty Thousand Dollars (\$40,000.00) to add to the previously established Highway Equipment Capital Reserve Fund. Tom Marshall seconded the motion.

Thayer noted that this account has been in place about 10 years and currently has \$30,000.00. The Town will need a new backhoe in 3 years. He said the Highway Department has been buying federal surplus equipment with this fund. Peter France asked what a new highway truck would cost, and Thayer said about \$167,000.00.

Voice Vote: passed as moved

ARTICLE 12. Ed Thayer moved that the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Eighty Thousand Dollars (\$80,000.00) to add to the previously established Bridge Maintenance Capital Reserve Fund. Bob Wright seconded the motion.

Thayer said that this fund was established 3 years ago and is used to correct deficiencies in Town bridges and on culvert projects. The Town will be installing a new culvert on Bailey Rd. and a bridge on Valley Rd will replace an old culvert. They will also be working on a bridge on Ayers Pond Rd. The fund currently has \$260,000.00.

Voice Vote: passed as moved

ARTICLE 13. Ken Eastman moved that the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000.00) to add to the previously established Capital Reserve Fund to install a new Leach Field for the Camp Morgan septic system. This will be a non-lapsing appropriation per RSA 32:7 VI and will not lapse until the Leach Field is complete or by December 2019, whichever is sooner. Guy Eaton seconded the motion.

Larry Gaskell asked if this fund was not previously established.

Gaskell then moved to add “the previously established Capital Reserve Fund” to the Article.

Ken Eastman seconded the motion.

Voice Vote on the amendment: passed as moved.

Selectman Eastman said this project would be completed in 2016. He noted that the last payment might be more and that the septic plan would be resubmitted if it were not approved at that time.

Voice Vote: passed as amended

ARTICLE 14. Ed Thayer moved that the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of One Hundred Fourteen Thousand Four Hundred Seventy Nine Dollars (\$114,479.00) for the operation of the Solid Waste Recycling Center and for the Landfill Closure for the ensuing year. Guy Eaton seconded the motion.

Thayer noted that the budget was increased by \$5,000.00 in order for the Town to host a Hazardous Waste Collection Day. Other towns may participate in this collection and share the expenses. Residents will need to show identification in order to participate.

He also said that Compost bins have been ordered and residents may contact Dave at the Transfer Station in order to purchase one.

Voice Vote: passed as moved

ARTICLE 15. Ed Thayer moved that the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum Four Thousand Three Hundred Dollars (\$4,300.00) for Emergency Management for the ensuing year. Bob Wright seconded the motion.

Thayer noted that the Emergency Plan was due for an update so the Town can apply for grants to be reimbursed for these expenses. He said volunteers would be needed for the update. Jan Philbrick said that there would be a mailing sent to all residents asking about resources they can share and what special needs they might have in the case of an emergency.

Voice Vote: passed as moved

ARTICLE 16. Michelle Dagesse moved that the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000.00) to be added to the Health Insurance Reimbursable Account previously established. Guy Eaton seconded the motion.

Voice Vote: passed as moved

ARTICLE 17. Brian Moser moved that the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Ninety One Thousand Two Hundred Sixty Two Dollars (\$91,262.00) for the operation of the Rescue Squad and Fire Department for the ensuing year. Bob Wright seconded the motion.

Voice Vote: passed as moved

ARTICLE 18. Bob Wright moved that the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum Twenty Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000.00) to add to the Rescue Squad Equipment Capital Reserve Fund previously established. Fifteen thousand is to come from taxation and Ten Thousand will come from the Ambulance Billing Fund. Brian Moser seconded the motion.

Bob Wright noted that there was \$136,105.00 in the fund. The Rescue Squad has decided not to replace their ambulance outright this year because Lolly Gilbert has applied for a grant to purchase a new ambulance. If this grant is not received, the ambulance will be purchased next year. Wright noted that Rescue calls were up last year.

Nancy Tanner asked why this article was not recommended by the Selectmen. Selectman Eaton said that the State DRA considers these routine articles. Tanner said that all Capital reserve articles are special. Selectman Eaton verbally offered a recommendation.

Voice Vote: passed as moved

ARTICLE 19. Brian Moser moved that the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Twenty Thousand Dollars (\$20,000.00) to add to the Fire Apparatus Capital Reserve Fund that has been previously established. Bob Wright seconded the motion.

Fire Chief Brian Moser noted that this fund has been used to buy the Fire Department ATV and a fire truck.

Voice Vote: passed as moved

ARTICLE 20. Brian Moser moved that the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum Thirty Seven Thousand Five Hundred Sixty Five Dollars (\$37,565.00) for Emergency Communications for the ensuing year. Bob Wright seconded the motion.

Moser noted that there was an increase from last year for dispatch services from Hillsboro. The fees Hillsboro charged were low for a long time. Now Hillsboro has changed their dispatch center to Concord. Washington will eventually switch to a new service provider, TMA, which will also cost more than we have been paying Hillsboro.

Voice Vote: passed as moved

ARTICLE 21. Lynn Cook moved that the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000.00) to be placed in the existing Capital Reserve Revaluation Fund. Guy Eaton seconded the motion.

Voice Vote: passed as moved

ARTICLE 22. Bob Wright moved that the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Forty One Thousand Seven Hundred Five Dollars (\$41,705.00) for the operation of the Shedd Free Library for the ensuing year. John Corrigan seconded the motion.

Jim Hofford spoke in favor of the Library and its services. Applause.

Voice Vote: passed as moved

ARTICLE 23. Carolyn Russell moved that the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Fifty Three Thousand Seven Hundred Thirty Nine Dollars (\$53,739.00) for Health and Welfare for the ensuing year. Guy Eaton seconded the motion.

Jean Kluk noted that the budget has stayed consistent over several years and that unused money is transferred back to the General Fund. She wondered if a fund could be established for welfare so unused money can be carried over to the next year. Neither Selectman Guy Eaton nor Carolyn Russell were aware of any town with such a fund.

Jim Hofford asked about the decline in welfare recipients. Russell replied that she can only count people who come for help. Al Krygeris asked about the case numbers and Russell replied that they are used to preserve the anonymity of the clients.

Voice Vote: passed as moved

ARTICLE 24. Guy Eaton moved that the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Fifty Eight Thousand Four Hundred and Forty Four Dollars (\$58,444.00) for the operation of the Parks and Recreation Commission and for Patriotic Purposes for the ensuing year. Steve Hanssen seconded the motion.

Eaton noted that increases in this budget were due to plans to put a new roof on the pavilion and for pay increases for the lifeguards and water safety staff. The war monument in the center of Town would also be stabilized this year.

Voice Vote: passed as moved

ARTICLE 25. Guy Eaton moved that the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Nine Thousand Dollars (\$9,000.00) to be added to the previously established Dock Replacement Capital Reserve account. Steve Hanssen seconded the motion.

Eaton noted that this is the 3rd year of this fund and the Town plans to replace the floating docks in 2 years.

Voice Vote: passed as moved

ARTICLE 26. Ken Eastman moved that the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of One Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$1,500.00) to support the Town's lake host program. Guy Eaton seconded the motion.

Eastman noted that this program has been operating for 5 years. Currently Highland Lake and Millen Pond participate. Other water bodies are encouraged to participate. Volunteers are now looking at not only plants, but Asian clams, zebra mussels and rock snot.

Voice Vote: passed as moved

ARTICLE 27. Michelle Dagesse moved that the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00) for Debt Service for the ensuing year. Colleen Duggan seconded the motion.

Voice Vote: passed as moved

ARTICLE 28. Ed Thayer moved that the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Eight Thousand Seven Hundred and Fifty Dollars (\$8,750.00) from the Recycling Equipment Fund for the purpose of purchasing recycling container for the use of the Transfer Station. Bob Wright seconded the motion.

Thayer noted the increase of \$750.00 to this article is due to the actual price of replacing the 1985 roll off container.

Voice Vote: passed as moved

ARTICLE 29. Ken Eastman moved that the Town vote to raise and appropriate fifteen thousand dollars (\$15,000) and instruct the Selectmen to consider the essential Washington needs of fire, rescue, police, and emergency operations, as well as the needs of the town hall and schoolhouse. The selectmen will convey the interim results of this inquiry in the form of quarterly: mailings, public meetings, website postings, handbills, newspaper articles, and any means necessary to distribute information for public awareness. The selectmen are encouraged to do as much as possible to bring the public together in this endeavor. The goal is to create an informed voter, ready to discuss and act on the selectmen's findings at the 2015 town meeting.

The selectmen should consider, but are not limited to, such issues as: (1) a comparison of proposed costs and facilities with those of comparable towns; (2) adequacy of present facilities; (3) possible modifications of existing facilities; (4) locations, size, and cost parameters of any new facilities; (5) future operational costs of existing or proposed facilities; (6) possible alternative services available. The Selectmen shall actively engage Washington citizens and seek public input. They should also give careful attention to the views of current members of the Washington Fire/Rescue and Police Departments, as well as to the relevant work of previous committees and individuals. For their work, the Selectmen may engage

such professional assistance as is required _____. This will be a non-lapsing appropriation per RSA 32:7 VI and will not lapse until the results are complete or by December 2019, whichever is sooner.

Tom Marshall seconded the motion.

The Selectmen are committed to getting the word out about Town needs and options for dealing with them. The Selectmen noted the provider they had in mind was Municipal Resources, Inc. which was recommended by four other towns. They noted that most of the research and fact finding has been done, and that this consultant would analyze the data from a neutral perspective. They have not already contracted with the firm. They clarified that \$10,000 would be for the consultant and \$5,000 would go to expenses and advertising.

Several residents disagreed with the need to pay an outside consultant and questioned whether the amount budgeted would be adequate to get any value from such a consultant. Others felt the perspective of someone without a vested interest in the outcome of the project would be useful. Some residents noted the body of the article seemed to refer only to the proposed safety complex.

Jean Kluk moved that the Article be amended to say that the Selectmen will work with the Planning Board and the consultant. Laurie Dube seconded the motion.

Voice vote: Amendment passed.

Allen Treadwell moved that the amount of money in the Article be reduced to \$5,000 and not include a consultant. Bob Williams seconded the motion.

The voice vote was not decisive, so Moderator Gaskell asked for a show of hands on the amendment.

Hand vote: Amendment passed.

Voice Vote: passed as amended

ARTICLE 30. Brian Moser moved that the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000.00) for future planning of a safety complex. This will be a non-lapsing appropriation per RSA 32:7 VI and will not lapse until the work is complete or by December 2019, whichever is sooner. Jed Schwartz seconded the motion.

Brian Moser noted that Article 3 did not pass and that the money in this article would be used to continue to work on the safety complex plan. There was much debate on how this money would be used and whether it was needed at all.

Some felt the plan presented was fine, it just needed to be understood and approved by the voters. Many emphasized the need to contact and get the opinions and support of the residents of Washington.

The Selectmen weighed in with their opinions of Washington's needs. Tom Marshall assured the voters that the Selectmen are not opposed to anything but they do need answers to questions about other available properties for a new safety complex that have not been considered. They have not investigated the cost and value of tearing down the existing fire station. Guy Eaton noted that he thinks the proposed cost of the new complex is too high and that not all alternatives have been thoroughly examined, and that the old schoolhouse could be modified for other Town uses. Ken Eastman thinks further research is required, including the question of whether we need a police department at all.

Further comments were made in favor of having the Police Department in the center of town, the fact that the existing Police Department building will still have to be maintained, and the fact that the Selectmen and the residents of Town are not in agreement about what the Town needs and how those needs can best be met.

Larry Gaskell made a motion to amend the Article to include "the Selectmen act as agents to expend". Ron Jager seconded the motion.

Voice vote: Amendment passed.

Voice vote: Passed as amended.

ARTICLE 31. Ken Eastman moved that the Town vote to raise and appropriate Forty One Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$41,500) to purchase and install four exhaust emission pipes, ducts, and fan in the Center Fire Station. The system can be installed in low ceiling circumstances and can be dismantled and moved to another location at a relatively low cost. This will be a non-lapsing appropriation per RSA 32:7 VI and will not lapse until the installation is complete or by December 2019, whichever is sooner. Guy Eaton seconded the motion.

Eastman noted that the amount for this Article was increased from \$30,000 to add funds for drop modifications of two exhaust pipes on the East Washington fire trucks and additional electrical work. This exhaust system is critical for fire station operations.

Bob Hoffstetter, a volunteer fireman, described the current unacceptable conditions inside the fire station when the trucks are running and exhaust fumes fill the building. Proper systems will attach directly to the truck exhausts with no delay for a fan to draw exhaust already in the building to the outside. This system could be re-used in a new safety complex building in the future.

Voice Vote: passed as moved

ARTICLE 32. To transact any other business that may legally come before this meeting.

Vivian Clark said that Olde Home Days are scheduled to occur in 2015 and wanted to know if residents wanted to have it. There were some yeses. Larry Gaskell said the Selectmen need to appoint a committee and funding will need to be provided.

Andrew Hatch brought up the names of the winners of the Energy Committee raffle. Winners were Evie Boyce, Ann Lischke and Nan Schwartz.

Laurie Dube and Jim Hofford thought the Town should have a Capital Reserve fund for major building projects.

Charlene Eastman asked about the plan to paint the west side of Town Hall. Tom Marshall said the money was allocated last year, but the Town will need an appropriation to finish the other sides because the Meetinghouse Article did not pass.

Jean Kluk of the Planning Board thanked everyone who participated in the Town Planning survey. Planning board will schedule a workshop for the community to discuss the results. Tom Marshall added that the special ballot about future Town meetings was a direct result of the Planning Board survey.

Tara Van Meter asked about the possibility of landscaping around town buildings. Guy Eaton noted that there are flowers planted around the bandstand. Grace Jager pointed out that there is no historical reason to add plantings around town building foundations. Laurie Dube added that the Hillsboro Bird & Garden Club is always looking for members.

Nancy Tanner asked how much money in the fund balance is currently undesignated and where is that information.

Bob Wright moved to adjourn at 4:04 PM. Al Krygeris seconded the motion.

Voice Vote: passed as moved

Respectfully submitted by,

**Colleen Duggan
Deputy Town Clerk**

**A True Copy – Attest:
Colleen Duggan
Deputy Town Clerk**