

Warner Town Clerk

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Office Hours: Mon, Wed, Thurs,
8:00 – 3:00 PM
& Tues 8:00 – 6:00 PM

TUESDAY, MARCH 11, 2014 **TOWN OF WARNER ELECTION RESULTS**

Voting by Ballot, Article 1 Town Officers, Zoning and School

Article 1

To choose Town Officers for the ensuing year.

* denotes the winner for a contested office

Town Officers:

SELECTMAN For 3 years (*Vote for not more than 1*)

Allan N. Brown 441 *
Kimberley Edelmann 85
Deborah Sharrio 27

MODERATOR For 2 years (*Vote for not more than 1*)

Raymond Martin 503

BUDGET COMMITTEE For 3 years (*Vote for not more than 2*)

Kimberley Edelmann 343
John Leavitt 346

SUPERVISOR OF THE CHECKLIST For 6 years (*Vote for not more than 1*)

Christine Perkins 512

CHANDLER RESERVATION For 4 years (*Vote for not more than 1*)

Gerald B. Courser516

ALMONERS OF FOSTER & CURRIER FUNDS For 3 years (*Vote for not more than 1*)

Penny Sue Courser 512

TRUSTEE OF PILLSBURY FREE LIBRARY For 3 years (*Vote for not more than 3*)

Jeanne Hand 375
Caroline Hatala383
Sara McNeil434

TRUSTEE OF TRUST FUNDS For 3 years (*Vote for not more than 1*)

David Karrick 469

TRUSTEE OF TOWN CEMETERIES For 3 years (*Vote for not more than 1*)

Kenneth W. Cogswell 496

The following Zoning Ordinance Amendments are the condensed versions of the full zoning changes that are being proposed and recommended by the Warner Planning Board. (A complete version has been filed with these Minutes)

Zoning:

QUESTION 2: PASSED YES 414 NO 126

Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment #1 as proposed by the Planning Board for the Town Zoning Ordinance as follows:

Amendment #1:

Amend Article III DEFINITIONS, to clarify the definition of "Major Subdivision" by adding wording (in bold type below) currently existing elsewhere in the Zoning Ordinance, resulting in the definition reading as follows:

“Major subdivision” means any subdivision which creates 4 or more lots within a 5 year period or which requires the construction of a new street or the extension of municipal facilities.

QUESTION 3: PASSED YES389 NO130

Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment #2 as proposed by the Planning Board for the Town Wireless Telecommunication Facilities Ordinance as follows:

Amendment #2:

Amend Article 1002.00 APPLICABILITY by adding new paragraphs allowing collocation on and non-substantial modifications to existing facilities to comply with State of New Hampshire statutes passed in 2013 which governs with or without passage of this Article.

and, amend Article 1001.00 DEFINITIONS by adding a new paragraph “Substantial Modification” to comply with State of New Hampshire statutes passed in 2013 which governs with or without passage of this Article.

QUESTION 4: PASSED YES 371 NO163

Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment #3 as proposed by the Planning Board for the Town Zoning Ordinance as follows:

Amendment #3:

Amend Article IV GENERAL PROVISIONS by adding a paragraph Solar Energy Systems. The intent is to allow Solar Energy Systems in all zoning districts as encouraged in RSA 672:1, but create provisions for allowing solar energy systems above roofs and within yard setback areas only under certain conditions.

QUESTION 5: PASSED YES 388 NO132

Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment #4 as proposed by the Planning Board for the Town Zoning Ordinance as follows:

Amendment #4:

Amend the Zoning Ordinance Article XVII BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT by deleting paragraph B.4. (as shown by strikeouts below) since the Zoning Board of Adjustment does not have statutory authority to make district boundary determinations, rather it is the job of the Planning Board to establish boundary locations.

~~B.4. Hear and render determinations on any questions relative to the exact location of any district boundary shown on the zoning map;~~

Kearsarge Regional School District results for Warner:

QUESTION 1:

264 A. \$38,967,815 -proposed Operation Budget recommended by School Board

196 B. \$38,967,815 -proposed Operation Budget recommended by Municipal Budget Committee

To see if the School District will vote to raise and appropriate the Municipal Budget Committee’s recommended amount of \$38,967,815 for the support of schools, for the payment of salaries for the school district officials and agent, and for the payment for the statutory obligations of the District. The School Board recommends \$38,967,815. This article does not include appropriations voted in other warrant articles. This warrant article asks the voters to raise and appropriate for the support of schools, the salaries of School District Officials and Agents, and for the statutory obligations of said District, and to authorize the application against said appropriation of such sums as are estimated to be received from the State sources, together with other income, the School Board to certify to the Selectmen of each of the Towns of Bradford, New London, Newbury, Springfield, Sutton, Warner, and Wilmot, the amount to be raised by taxation by said towns.(School Board Recommends 6-0) (Municipal Budget Committee 8-1)

QUESTION 2: PASSED YES... 354 NO..... 188

To see If the School District will vote to raise and appropriate up to twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000) to be placed in the Special Education Expendable Trust Fund, established in 2008 within the provisions of RSA 198:20-c for the purpose of emergency funding of unforeseen Special Education costs incurred by the District, with such amount to be funded from surplus funds remaining on hand as of June 30, 2014. (School Board Recommends 8-0) (Municipal Budget Committee 8-0)

QUESTION 3: PASSED YES..... 342 NO...195

To see if the School District will vote to raise and appropriate up to fifty thousand dollars(\$50,000) to be placed in the School Buildings Maintenance Fund for the purpose of repair, unanticipated utility costs, and maintaining the school buildings and equipment, with such amount to be funded from surplus funds remaining on hand as of June 30, 2014. (School Board Recommends 8-0) (Municipal Budget Committee 8-0)

MODERATOR FOR 1 YEAR Brackett Scheffy..... 478

SCHOOL BOARD FOR 3 YEARS Janice L Loz.....213
Joseph Mendola.....292*

MUNICIPAL BUDGET COMMITTEE FOR 3 YEARS James Hand... 30 (WRITE IN)

ADJOURN TO WEDNESDAY MARCH 12, 2014

Moderator Ray Martin opened the Warner Annual Town Meeting at 7:00 PM, Wednesday, March 12, 2014, Warner Town Hall. He introduced himself, welcomed and thanked people for coming out on such a miserable rainy night. The audience stood as they recited the Pledge of Allegiance and then listened as Pastor Robert Wyman gave the Invocation.

Moderator Martin introduced Selectman David Hartman who stated that the 2013 Town Report was dedicated to Barbara Annis. He read the Dedication Report which gives highlights of Barbara's involvement and service in Town for over 48 years as a Warner resident. He noted that since moving here in 1966, Barbara's name has been in every Town Report either as an employee or volunteer. Mrs. Annis was asked to stand and was immediately acknowledged with a resounding round of applause.

The Moderator introduced Selectman David Karrick to give the Town Report Memoriam. Selectman Karrick began by saying that Warner had lost two of its prominent citizens in 2013, Alice Bartlett Violette in July and her husband Alderic "Dick" O. Violette in September and they had just celebrated their 75th wedding anniversary in June. Selectman Karrick read highlights of the Violette's lives from 1935 when Dick came to Warner from Maine with the Civilian Conservation Corps and met and married Warner native Alice Bartlett thru their years of community involvement and employment to the establishment of the New Hampshire Telephone Museum which houses an extensive collection of telephones from Dick's long career with Merrimack County Telephone Company (now TDS) where he started as a lineman and retired as the President and Chairman.

The Moderator said 566 voters or 28% of the registered voters voted on Election Day. He read the results for Town, Zoning and School Officials and Questions and reminded winning candidates to be sworn in at the Town Clerk's Office before beginning their duties. (Election results recorded at the beginning of these minutes)

Selectman Hartman was next to give a "State of Warner" for 2013. He said he just completed his ninth year as Selectman and it has been a privilege this past year to work with fellow Selectmen Clyde Carson and David Karrick, who both have the honor of representing Warner at the State House in Concord. He said both men work hard and never "shirk" their responsibilities in either role.

Selectman Hartman said Selectman Karrick had completed 2 terms as Selectman (6 years) and had chosen not to run again. He asked Mr. Karrick to step forward to receive a gift from the Town in appreciation of his outstanding service to Warner. David Karrick received applause as he thanked the Town for the gift of a walking stick with a compass in the top.

Before Selectman Hartman listed "events of 2013 and projects that lie ahead", he said Warner had hired its second Town Administrator, James (Jim) Bingham, in 2013. He said Jim worked with the Selectmen to:

- i. complete the repair and replacement of the Town Hall front steps
- ii. replace the unanticipated, suddenly non-working Old Graded School heating system with a grant-funded new double boiler heating system
- iii. negotiate a cell tower lease on Town property
- iv. move the Exit 9 round-about project from Phase 1 to Phase 2, Design Process

The audience laughed and applauded when Selectman Hartman paused to say, "Thank you, Jim, for staying on for the whole year- we didn't drive you away!"

Selectman Hartman's presentation included:

- 1) 2013 Town Meeting
 - a) Authorization for Selectmen to negotiate a 25 year lease agreement with Cingular Wireless LLC Communication Cell Tower Complex
 - b) Communication Tower Lease Agreement includes:
 - i) Tower construction on 1 acre of Town Forrest land on North Road
 - ii) \$2000 a month rent (income) to the Town
 - iii) Income to be addressed in Warrant Article 7 tonight
 - iv) Lease clauses and property taxes bring the total income over the life of the lease to over \$500,000
 - c) Funds approved and direction given to Selectmen to pursue the building of a round-about at exit 9
- 2) On going exit 9 round-about contractual work with engineering firm McFarland & Johnson
 - a) Engineering Study completed
 - b) Study under review with NH Department of Transportation
 - c) According to NHDOT, construction is scheduled for 2015
 - d) Article 9 addresses funding for the project in the 2014 Town Budget
 - e) Project is funded 2/3 State reimbursement, 1/3 Town
- 3) Odd Fellows Building
 - a) Weston Solution has presented BOS with Phase 2 Brownsfield Site Investigation Report on the hazardous material contamination
 - b) Selectmen have been working with the NH Department of Environmental Services exploring strategies and funding to develop a Hazardous Mitigation Plan for the site
 - c) Town not eligible for Federal Clean Up grant money due to buying the building in 2002 and not gaining ownership through the non payment of taxes
 - d) Demolition may cost over \$100,000 including removal of contaminants
 - e) Year long negotiations with a potential buyer who proposed moving the building down to an East Main St property have ended
 - f) Article 17 addresses funding further work on the building and site
- 4) Economic Development
 - a) BOS aware of the forces that impact tax rate
 - b) Strong focus will be on the exit 7 & 9 areas of Town
 - c) BOS Moving forward to create an Economic Committee
 - d) State liquor store targeted for exit 9 but that is only 1 of many commercial lots available
- 5) Silver Lake
 - a) "Thank You" to Parks & Recreation and Alfred Hanson who made many improvements
- 6) Bagley Field
 - a) Thanks to Parks & Recreation for Bagley Park skating rink upgrades and maintenance
- 7) Town Hall front steps
 - a) Thank you to Warner Highway crew for an excellent job
 - b) Job cost - \$21,000 VS contractor bid of \$53,000

- 8) Town Report cover
 - a) A Time Capsule was placed under Town Hall front stairs before the steps were completed
 - b) Contents are from the Warner Historical Society members & Simonds Elementary School students
- 9) North Road culvert for French Brook
 - a) Highway crew completed the project for \$15,000 - much less than estimates received
- 10) Fish & Game on Bartlett Loop, major culvert project over Children's Brook
 - a) Culvert washed out in summer of 2012 during a flooding rain storm
 - b) Approval received from Department of Transportation for 80/20 Funding
 - c) Project slated for completion in the beginning of 2014
 - d) Article 16 addresses replenishing the Bridge Capital Reserve Fund for the Town's share of the project
- 11) Town did not reconstruct any roads in 2013
 - a) Waldron Hill Road: #1 on Town's list to be rebuilt
 - b) Article 10 addresses funding for this project
- 12) Employee Recognition
 - a) Thank you and Good Luck to Patrick Moore, Public Works Department employee recently retired after 10 years of service
- 13) Energy Committee
 - a) Focused on making Warner more energy efficient
 - b) Advised Selectmen on the replacement of the Old Graded School heating system
 - c) Involved in the process of recommending the most efficient heating system for the proposed new Fire Station
 - i) Evaluating the use of a wood pellet fired heating system for New Fire Station
 - d) Investigating possibility of a Solar Generating Electric System that would provide electricity for Town buildings
 - i) Selectmen Hartman and Karrick have had solar panels installed at their residences, partly as a "show of confidence" that the systems work
- 14) Fall Foliage Festival – "Thank You" to:
 - a) Committee & Volunteers
 - b) President Sean Bohman and wife Suzanne for their work in creating a new venue for the festival
 - c) Warner Power, opening their parking lots for the event
- 15) Warner is now a designated Currier & Ives Scenic Byway Town
- 16) Rail to Trail
 - a) Proposal presented to the Selectboard for a project from Concord to Sunapee
 - b) Goal is to link the two towns through reconnection of the Concord and Claremont Railroad Right of Ways
- 17) Credit to the Conservation Commission for continued efforts to protect the Warner River corridor

Selectman Hartman ended by saying that in 2013 much time was dedicated to the New Fire Station proposal. He said meetings were held with the Selectboard, Fire Department, Fire Station Architect, Energy Committee and Budget Committee to determine the appropriate time to bring the project before the voters. He said it is a "challenge" trying to "balance the opportunity to obtain the most favorable financing and bid pricing available with the potential tax impact on residents".

To explain the New Fire Station project to-date, Selectman Hartman introduced Jonathan Holly from Warren Street Architects and Civil Engineer George Ferdette. Selectman Hartman said the presentation would be informational and meetings will be held during the year to give residents a chance to ask questions. Mr. Holly and Mr. Ferdette used a Powerpoint Presentation to describe the site, building exterior, floor plans, pricing, permitting, etc for the New Station. (Powerpoint Presentation included with these minutes)

The Moderator answered one question to explain where the New Fire Station site was located. He said the site is on East Main Street, on the river side, across from where "Dr. Levis lived" and added that future informational meetings would be scheduled to allow residents to ask their questions.

Moderator Martin read a message from Assessing Clerk, Martha Mical, reminding residents that a Re-evaluation would be starting in 2014 in compliance with the State schedule and the Town has been approving funds for this reval at the last several Town Meetings. He said the Assessors will begin visiting properties May 1, 2014 to verify residential information on the Tax Cards. He said property owners will be sent notification of new assessments starting in March 2015. He added that if property owners are unavailable to accompany the Assessor through the property, a card will be left for the homeowner so that a future appointment for the Assessor to return can be made.

Mrs. Mical also asked the Moderator to poll the audience on their desire to make the Property Cards, which are public documents, available on-line. Asking for a show of hands, the Moderator declared those "Not in Favor" in the Majority. He said this vote was "non-binding and informational" and the proposal is in the discussion stage only.

The Moderator explained the rules for tonight's meeting: he uses a modified version of Robert's Rules of Order, 10 minutes for initial presentation, 3 minutes there after, raise your hand to speak to an issue and step up to a microphone if necessary, speak to the Moderator, use a civil tone, wait your turn, a Paper Ballot Vote request needs 5 voters in support, hold up your ballots for a Hand Vote, Moderator will read the Article, ask for a Motion and a Second, recognize a Presenter and people wishing to speak a second time on an issue may do so after others have spoken.

Moderator introduced Michael Cutting, Budget Committee Chairman, to present the 2014 Proposed Budget. Mr. Cutting began by thanking the Committee Members for their hard work on the budget and especially wanted to thank Vice-Chair, Kimberly Edelman, for preparing the meeting minutes. (The Powerpoint Presentation Mr. Cutting used to explain the 2014 Proposed Operating and Capital Budgets is on file with these minutes.)

Article 6 - Passed

Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of \$ 2,967,008.00 (Two Million, Nine Hundred Sixty-Seven Thousand, Eight Dollars) as a 2014 Operating Budget? This amount does not include amounts from any other warrant articles. (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen; Recommended by the Budget Committee)

Read by the Moderator. Article Moved and Seconded.

No discussion.

Moderator called for a Voice Vote.

Majority in Favor.

Article 6 Passed.

Article 7 - Passed

Shall the Town vote to have rental proceeds from the lease agreement between New Cingular Wireless PCS, LLC and the Town for a Communications (Cell) Tower located on Town Forest land off North Road be placed in the general fund? (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen; Recommended by the Budget Committee)

Read by the Moderator. Article Moved and Seconded.

Selectman David Hartman provided explanation on Article 7. He said per State law, revenue generated by a Town Forrest must be deposited into a Special Town Forrest Fund solely for Town Forrest expenses unless directed otherwise by Town Vote. He said Article 7 is asking that the lease revenue be deposited into the Town's General Fund.

Michael Franklin asked if passing Article 7 was setting precedent for other revenue generated in Town to go into the General Fund. Selectman Harman said Article 7 is speaking specifically about the Communication Tower revenue.

Motion by James Gaffney:

To Amend Article 7 to state that the rental proceeds go into a Rainy Day Fund to be used only for emergencies and only expended from the fund after holding a Public Meeting where a Vote is held. Seconded.

The Moderator was informed by the Selectmen and stated that Warner does not have a "Rainy Day Fund". He asked Mr. Gaffney if his motion included establishing one and Mr. Gaffney replied, "Yes".

Budget Committee member, Martha Bodnarick said at the 2013 Town Meeting voters directed the Board of Selectmen to look for leases like the Communication Tower and find sources of revenue for the Town. She said the way to provide revenue for the Town is to put the lease money into the General Fund. She asked people to vote against the Amendment.

Selectman Karrick said if the lease money was in a Rainy Day Fund it would not be available for operations of the Town or to reduce taxes.

Selectman Carson said the Cell Tower lease money was included in the 2014 Budget as revenue and to

move the money to a Rainy Day Fund would reduce an already conservative revenue estimate which would affect the tax rate.

Richard Colfer spoke against putting the lease money into the General Fund where it would get “sucked into an abyss some place.” He recommended putting it into a restricted fund - a Rainy Day Fund or Capital Reserve Fund or the Forrest Fund – where it can be used when needed and not lost in the operating budget.

Jere Henley asked for the amount of revenue anticipated and how did the Budget Committee feel about establishing a Rainy Day Fund? Selectman Hartman replied that the specific terms of the lease are \$2000 a month - \$24,000 a year, yearly property taxes, additional taxes on future improvements and review of the lease every five years over the course of the twenty-five year lease

Budget Committee Chairman, Michael Cutting said the Budget Committee has not discussed a Rainy Day Fund. He said he was against putting the money into a Rainy Day Fund because the lease money is a reliable source of revenue for the next 25 years. He said the Budget Committee works with the Department to make sure they do not spend unnecessarily and what is not spent goes into the General Fund to reduce the tax rate. He said budgets are built to meet the needs of the departments and the Town while staying fiscally responsible which includes developing revenue sources that are dependable.

Gerry Marsh asked and was told that a State Liquor Store is not exempt from paying Town property taxes.

Rebecca Courser Moved the Question on the Amendment.

Voice vote on Amendment. Majority voting Against the Amendment.

Amendment Defeated

Lydia Harmon asked if there was another fund option for the lease money where revenue and spending could be tracked. Town Administrator Jim Bingham said Capital Reserve Funds are set up with a specific purpose so it would be difficult to put the lease money into a Rainy Day Fund with no particular purpose. He added that a Rainy Day Fund is a good idea and Article 15 is asking to set up a Contingency Fund which, allowed by a new State Law, can be set up with the requirement that expenditures are tracked and reported.

Mr. Gaffney stated that if he remembered correctly, the State has a good idea that requires unspent money to go into a Rainy Day Fund; the Town has nothing like that and should think about saving money.

Martha Bodnarick Moved the Question on Article 7 as originally presented.

Voice vote in Article 7 as originally presented. Majority voting in Favor.

Article 7 Passed.

Article 8 - Passed

Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of \$20,000.00 (Twenty Thousand Dollars) to be added to the already established Property Revaluation Capital Reserve Fund? (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen; Recommended by the Budget Committee)

Read by the Moderator. Article Moved and Seconded.

Selectman Karrick provided explanation on Article 8: Property Revaluation cost will be \$103,300 with additional Utility Revaluation costs between \$35,000 and \$45,000. He said any unspent money will

remain in the Capital Reserve Fund for the 2020 Revaluation. He asked Assessing Clerk Martha Mical for her input. Mrs. Mical added that paying extra employee hours and printing incidentals totaled between \$16,000 and \$20,000 for the last Reval.

The Moderator answered Jeanne Hand's question that the Capital Reserve Fund balance is \$124,302.96.

Budget Chairman, Michael Cutting said the Budget Committee reviews the funds requested every year and as the Revaluation gets closer they adjust the requested amount up or down to reflect what will actually be needed and to ensure the CRF is not being built up unnecessarily.

Martha Bodnarick Moved the Question on Article 8.

Voice vote. Majority voting in Favor.

Article 8 Passed.

Motion by John Leavitt:

To Move Article 21 forward and be heard next. Seconded.

Explanation by Mr. Leavitt that Article 21 is pertinent to the discussions about Capital Reserve Funds.

Voice vote on the Motion. Majority voting in Favor.

Motion Passed.

Article 21 moved forward to be heard next.

Article 21 - Failed

Shall the Town vote to rescind the Board of Selectmen's authority to act as authorized agents of the Highway Equipment Capital Reserve Fund? All expenditures henceforth must be approved by the majority vote of the legal voters present and voting at an annual or special town meeting as per RSA 35:15. (By Petition)

Read by the Moderator. Article Moved and Seconded.

John Leavitt read from a prepared statement supporting Article 21.

"I hope you all have had an opportunity to read the flyer on Article 21. It was written to help the Warner tax payers better understand the issue, prompt discussion and perhaps motivate some to attend town meeting.

*Initially **Capital Reserve Funds** were established to enable the town to accumulate funds, in advance, over several years. The funds then could be used for large capital expenditures, thereby avoiding large spikes in the tax rate from year to year. The Highway Equipment Fund was first established in 1994. At first the Board of Selectman were not the Authorized Agents. Proposed expenditures had to be brought to the town for approval at town meeting. In a few instances large expenditures were denied, over ruling the recommendation of the Board of Selectmen. The system worked relatively well. No special town meetings were ever required. The town survived.*

In 2005 the town mistakenly voted to assign the Board of Selectman as the sole authorized agents of the Fund. In doing so, we relinquished our ability to limit, restrict or approve any highway equipment purchases. In short; we approve the accumulation of the funds from year to year but have absolutely no control over how or when those funds are spent. In the eight years since the Board of Selectman became the authorized agents there have been three questionable purchases a wood chipper, a street sweeper, and a ten wheel dump truck. If these purchases were brought before the town for a vote, they may or may

not have been approved. The issue here is not the merits of each of these purchases it is that the tax payers had no opportunity to vote on any of them.

Article 21 is an effort to rectify an ill-conceived and fundamentally flawed process that is hurting the tax payers of Warner. There are several reasons to approve this Article:

- 1) Even when the Selectmen attempt to make decisions that coincide with the will of the town it is impossible for this or any other Board to consistently do so. Mistakes and misjudgments will and have been made. This single fact alone should be enough to encourage any Board of Selectmen not only to seek the opinion of the Warner tax payers on large expenditures but also seek our approval at town meeting. Passing this article will require them to do so.
- 2) There is very poor reporting of any Capital Reserve Fund expenditures to Warner's tax payers. Town report has very limited details and **there is no record book available for public review which is a violation of state law. REPEAT!** For those interested the law is RSA 35:17. There are some who will say if the tax payers are so concerned then they should attend the Selectmen's meetings, This assertion is a "red herring" because information at Selectmen's meetings are limited, public participation is at the chairman's discretion, documents are often only available to Board members, and the audience does not have a vote. There is little motivation for the public to attend.
- 3) There have been several instances when The Budget Committee has recommended reducing proposed appropriations primarily in an effort to limit the Selectmen's ability to expend from a particular CRF. This severely hampers the town's ability to grow the Capital Reserve Funds and is counter productive to their intended purpose. For instance, the town is soon facing a 2-3 million dollar fire station expense, yet this year the Budget Committee is not recommending a proposed appropriation of only \$50,000 primarily because the Selectmen are the authorized agents.
- 4) The recent purchase of the ten wheel dump truck is a resounding testament that the current process is not in the best interest of the town. In 2012, in response to the purchase of a \$35,000 street sweeper, there was an effort to bring the Highway Equipment Fund under control. An Article was passed that required that all expenditures from the fund be included in the Capital Improvement Plan, that there must be a public hearing, and that a detailed report must be available to the public for review and that report must be included in the following year's Town Report. **There is no such report for the new ten wheeler.!** At last years town meeting the Highway Equipment Fund's proposed appropriation was reduced by half, from \$60,000 to \$30,000. This was another attempt to restrict the Selectman's ability to expend funds by reducing an appropriation. Budget Committee Chairman, Michael Cutting, explained to the town that the budget committee was recommending a \$30,000 reduction in the appropriation because they felt this was not the year to purchase a ten wheel dump truck. The town approved the reduced appropriation; thinking that they were squashing a ten wheeler purchase in 2013. In June, only three months later, the Selectmen held a public hearing, concerning the purchase of a ten wheeler. Michael Cutting reminded the BOS of the towns vote and asked if the Selectmen wanted to go against the town's wishes. The Selectmen responded by voting 2-1 to purchase the ten wheeler anyway.

The action of the selectmen angered many in town. However, the town was unintentionally complicit in these events. In 2005 a few people warned the town that something like this would eventually happen. Giving any BOS the authority to spend Capital Reserve Funds without town approval was a colossal mistake. Yet the town willingly relinquished their control to the BOS.

Warner has gradually drifted away from the initial intended purpose of Capital Reserve Funds. It is not unusual to see Articles with small proposed appropriations going into funds that consistently have small balances. The number of CRFs have expanded from two in 1994 to fifteen today. The BOS are now the authorized agents for all of them and the town has no control over any. If all the CRF proposed appropriations are approved this year the BOS will have exclusive control over more than 1.2 million of our tax dollars. This money can be spent with no tax payer right to deliberation, review, inquiry or vote. Some think these funds are being abused and misused. They may be right. One thing we can be sure of; lacking town control will invite much more serious abuses in the future. It is inevitable! To think otherwise is naive.

If Article 21 passes it will return the control of only one of the 15 CRFs to the tax payers. It may also send a message to the current BOS to seek our input or approval prior to future spending of other CRFs, but don't count on it.

However, if this Article is defeated, what message do you think we will be sending this and future Boards of Selectmen?"

Allan Brown commented that he did not want to tell people how to vote but to tell them of his experiences. He said he dealt with issues during his many years working for the Town in the two ways that Mr. Leavitt described: 1) every request brought up at Town Meeting for a vote before purchase and 2) Capital Reserve Funds created/requested at Town Meeting with Selectmen named as agents able to spend from the fund during the year.

To clarify what Mr. Leavitt said about purchasing the wood chipper, Mr. Brown said it was his request to buy the wood chipper. He said he explained at a Town Meeting what he wanted to purchase. He said the request resulted from a declared FEMA disaster after which funds were available to spend on wood chippers and then became harder and harder to rent because surrounding towns also needed them.

Mr. Brown said the second item he wanted to clarify was that as a member of the Budget Committee he voted against approving \$50,000 for the Fire Department because at the time of the request there was no specific job outlined or job estimate presented. He said the Budget Committee told the Fire Department they could present their request with specifics at Town Meeting for consideration.

Town Administrator Jim Bingham said it was important for the Townspeople to know the process and thought the wrong impression was being presented regarding the purchase of the 10-wheeled truck. He said the Selectboard had done it's "due diligence" and followed the rules of purchase. He said 3 quotes for a ten wheeled truck were obtained, discussions were held with the Director of Public Works, comparisons were made against a 6 wheeled truck, the price difference was \$23,000, cost analysis using jobs the truck would be used for were made, the heavy hauling capacity need was reviewed resulting in a savings of \$12,000 with the 10 wheel truck. He said Public Meetings were held to present and explain data and request input from the public before holding 2 Public Hearings to decide which truck to purchase. He said he agreed with Mr. Leavitt that the Town Report format should be revised to document spending from the Capital Reserves more clearly.

An audience member asked that the Director of Public Works address the issue and was told he was out working on the roads.

Richard Colfer said in 1994 the Budget Committee established the first Capital Reserve Fund for the purpose of saving money each year toward a specific planned purchase in a specific year and to reduce the tax burden that resulted in requesting, approving and paying for "big ticket" items in the same year requested. He said the request for the specific purchase was brought forward at the Town Meeting for Voters to discuss and then vote to approve or disapprove.

Mr. Colfer said the issue is not whether the purchases are needed but if voters have the degree of confidence in the Selectmen to decide what to do in the best interest for the Town. He said a \$179,000 10-wheeled dump truck was purchased in November 2013. He asked why the purchase could not have waited 4 months until tonight's meeting and brought before the voters to decide if it was appropriate to purchase. He said if money is "arbitrarily" spent from a CRF without input from the Townspeople then the purpose of the funds is no longer to save for the future but to spend money because something is available to buy and money is available to spend.

Geralyn Smariga said Officials are elected to do what's best for the Town and she feels they do an "excellent job". She commented that the Highway Department is "superb", they need the equipment they have and who knows better than they do regarding what additional or replacement equipment is needed or what funds are needed to purchase future equipment. Ms. Smariga added that the Selectmen are elected to do a job and she does not see any reason to change the current process.

Martha Bodnarick said during her 5 years on the Budget Committee the Selectmen had not "arbitrarily" spent money - especially with a Town Administrator and the Budget Committee "watching over them". She said voters elect Selectmen to do a job and asked voters not to counteract the Selectman's actions or restrict them.

James Gaffney said the current process as explained by the Town Administrator, included Public Meetings. He said the only "process change" asked for in Article 21 is to hold a different type of Public Meeting - a "Special Town Meeting" - that would allow Townspeople to vote "For or Against" a purchase. He said he did not think that "simple change would grossly impact how the Town operates or functions" especially since Article 21 does not require delaying purchases until the next Town Meeting.

Mr. Gaffney requested a Paper Ballot with 5 voters in agreement.

Martha Mical Moved the Question. Seconded.

Dan Watts asked what it cost to hold a Special Town Meeting. Selectman Hartman answered there are State Laws to follow such as asking permission from the State to hold a Special Town Meeting and explaining what the emergency is that requires the meeting be held, if the emergency was foreseeable or avoidable and there are expenses to publishing notification of the meeting

Moderator read Article 21 before explaining how to vote with paper ballots.

Paper Ballot Results: 48 -YES 83 - NO

Article 21 Failed.

Article 9 - Passed

Shall the Town raise and appropriate the amount of \$45,000.00 (Forty Five Thousand Dollars) to be

added to the already established Exit 9 Improvements Capital Reserve Fund? (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen; Recommended by the Budget Committee)
Read by the Moderator. Article Moved and Seconded.

Selectman Carson explained that a Capital Reserve Fund was established a few years ago when the project at Exit 9 was first presented. He said \$42,000 was approved for Phase 1, \$128,500 was approved in 2013 for Phase 2, Warren Street Architects have completed and submitted the Project Design to the State and when State approval is received then Warren Street Architects can review the Construction Designs and begin the project. He said the project is partially funded by a State grant and since the Town has been paying its portion right along, the remaining portion due is \$88,000. Selectman Carson said rather than request the total amount in 2014 since construction will not start until 2015, the Board is asking for half the total this year and will request the balance at next year's Town Meeting.

Alice Chamberlain asked when the Town voted to approve the Exit 9 project. She was told by Selectman Carson that at the 2013 Town Meeting, voters were asked if they wanted a traffic light or a roundabout, with the Majority in favor of a roundabout.

James Hand said the Town has spent \$133,000 in 3 years and asked what it has received for that. Selectman Carson said the Town has completed the Design Phase with Warren Street Architects.

The Moderator clarified that the estimated project total of \$750,000 includes design, engineering and construction, the Town is responsible for 1/3 (\$250,000) and will be reimbursed from the State for the remaining 2/3 (\$500,000). He said the Town has spent a total of \$170,500 (\$42,000 + \$128,500) to date, is asking for part of the \$88,000 remaining this year and will ask for the remaining balance next year.

Selectman Carson explained that the Town will probably have to get a short term construction loan to cover any payments that come due during the project until the State reimbursement is received.

Martha Bodnarick wishing to respond to the earlier question asking when this project was approved said the "general sense" at the 2013 Town Meeting was in favor of a roundabout. She said Town Vote/Approval has only been given through Phase 2 which makes the Town eligible for reimbursement from the State for 2/3 of what it pays toward the project. She said the Town will lose its place on the State list for grant money if it does not complete the entire project.

Jeanne Hand asked why there was \$588.07 in a Traffic Control Signal Exit 9 Capital Reserve Fund if the Townspeople support a roundabout. Town Administrator Jim Bingham said that CRF was closed by a vote at the 2012 Town Meeting with the balance going into the General Fund because funds from one CRF can not be moved into another CRF. He said it was a reporting error that the Traffic Control Signal Exit 9 CRF appeared in the 2013 Town Report.

James Gaffney said he wanted to comment on the reference to the General Fund and a Rainy Day Fund. The topic was ruled Out of Order by the Moderator based on his decision it was not related to Article 9.

Motion made to Move the Question on Article 9.

A resident asked if Voting in Favor of Article 9 was the final vote for approving the roundabout. The Moderator answered, "No" adding that Passing Article 9 was appropriating money for completing Design Phase 2.

Voice vote. Majority voting in Favor.

Article 9 Passed.

Article 10 - Passed

Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of \$175,000.00 (One Hundred Seventy Five Thousand Dollars) to be added to the already established Highway Road Construction Capital Reserve Fund? (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen; Recommended by the Budget Committee)
Read by the Moderator. Article Moved and Seconded.

Selectman Hartman explained Article 10 in the absence of the Director of Public Works, Matt Waite. He said the Capital Improvement Program, updated and revised yearly by Departments and the Planning Board, prioritized a \$750,000 reconstruction project for Waldron Hill Road for 2014, the project will go through the bid process and the CRF balance is \$268,286.76.

In answer to Thomas VanVechten's question Selectman Hartman replied that the use of the words, "road, highway, street, avenue" are used interchangeably and the name of the capital reserve in Article 10, Highway Road Construction, refers to projects that involve road construction for highways that are under Town control which basically are in the category of Class V Highways.

Motion made to Move the Question on Article 10.

Voice vote. Majority voting in Favor.

Article 10 Passed.

Motion by Allan Brown:

To Restrict Reconsideration on Articles 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 21. Seconded.

Moderator explained that to "Restrict Reconsideration" means the Articles in the Motion may not be brought up again later in this meeting for a Vote. He said the Articles may be brought up for Reconsideration but Voting again on the Article must be done at a future meeting held no earlier than 7 days from tonight with proper notification.

Voice vote. Majority voting in Favor.

Motion Passed to Restrict Reconsideration.

Article 11- Passed

Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of \$100,000.00 (One Hundred Thousand Dollars) to be added to the already established Highway Equipment Capital Reserve Fund? (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen; Recommended by the Budget Committee)
Read by the Moderator. Article Moved and Seconded.

Selectman Karrick provided explanation on Article 11 in the absence of the Director of Public Works, Matt Waite saying the Capital Improvement Program lists the replacement of the 1999 Galion Road Grader in 2015, there have been recent costly repairs to the grader due to age and metal fatigue - 2 axles in the last 2 years and the 3rd axle just broke - approximately \$20,000, the CRF balance is \$26,425 and the replacement cost for a new grader is around \$300,000

Motion made to Move the Question on Article 11.

Voice vote. Majority voting in Favor.

Article 11 Passed.

Article 12- Passed

Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of \$10,000.00 (Ten Thousand Dollars) to add to the already established Police Department Vehicle Capital Reserve Fund? (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen; Recommended by the Budget Committee)

Read by the Moderator. Article Moved and Seconded.

Police Chief William Chandler provided explanation on Article 12 saying the request was part of the Cruiser Fleet Management Plan for the replacement of cruisers, he lowered this years request from \$15,000 to \$10,000, a cruiser was replaced in 2013 for \$31,400 and the CRF balance is \$17,000.

An audience member asked why the CRF balance in the Town Report was reported as \$1900. Chief Chandler said he did not know why that was but when he became aware of the incorrect amount he researched and obtained the accurate balance for tonight's meeting.

Lydia Harmon asked if the next cruiser purchase was expected to cost more than the last purchase. Chief Chandler said he expected it to be about the same. He added that it is important not to wait until the cruiser is beyond usability because it becomes worthless as a trade in or as a financial return on the purchase of the new vehicle.

James Gaffney asked for Chief Chandler's opinion on the condition of the current vehicles. The Chief said the overall condition is "Good", SUV - purchased in 2007, anticipated use is 8 - 10 years, not an every day use vehicle, 50,000 miles; 2010 Cruiser - 50,000 miles; 2013 Cruiser - 5000 miles; all are well maintained.

Jeanne Hand expressed concern and asked why several Capital Reserve Fund balances stated at tonight's meeting contrasted with balances reported in the Town Report, specifically: Police Department Vehicle CRF and Highway Equipment CRF and the Traffic Control Signal Exit 9 CRF that does not even exist any more.

Town Administrator, James Bingham said the process of paying from Town accounts for a certain item and receiving the reimbursement from the Trustees of the Trust Funds who oversee the Capital Reserve Funds sometimes takes time and Year End reporting of Fund balances by law must be "actual" and not "estimated" or based on outstanding invoices. He used the November 2013 10-wheel truck purchase as an example saying that the Town Report balance for the Highway Equipment CRF is as of December 31, 2013 and does not reflect the truck purchase because funds from the CRF were not reimbursed to the Town until February 2014. Mr. Bingham said his intention is to track the funds through the Finance Office for more accurate up-to-date figures.

Brief discussion of options on how to improve the accuracy of reported fund balances was allowed by the Moderator before he returned the discussion to Article 12. John Leavitt commented that the accounting of the Capital Reserve Funds is done "very poorly" noting the truck purchase/reimbursement as an example and that the State law requirement to keep a record book could have helped flag the time lag in reimbursing the Town. Andrew Bodnarick suggested including an "as of" date with the CRF balances reported in the Town Report.

Motion made to Move the Question on Article 12.

Voice vote. Majority voting in Favor.

Article 12 Passed.

Article 13 - Passed

Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of \$70,000.00 (Seventy Thousand Dollars) to be added to the already established Fire/Rescue Vehicle Capital Reserve Fund? (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen; Recommended by the Budget Committee)

Read by the Moderator. Article Moved and Seconded.

In place of an explanation of Article 13, Fire Chief Edward Raymond said he would answer questions from the audience. Responding to John Leavitt he said the next vehicle replacement is the 1996 Freightliner for approximately \$350,000. Chief Raymond answered James Gaffney's question that the Town purchased a Suburban Rescue Vehicle in 2013 but is paying off a bond on the previous purchase. The Town Administrator and Selectmen provided the Bond Balance - \$308,000, total 20 year interest - \$69,500.

Mr. Gaffney asked if it was financially better for the Town to apply \$70,000 to the current bond balance or add it to a Capital Reserve Fund earning minimal interest.

Motion to Amend made by James Gaffney:

To Amend Article 13 to apply the sum of \$70,000 toward the \$308,000 principle balance of the loan for the Fire Vehicle and not into the Fire/Rescue Vehicle Capital Reserve Fund. Seconded.

Martha Bodnarick explained Capital Reserve Funds were set up so the Town could save toward expensive, inevitable or emergency purchases. She asked voters to vote down the Amendment and Pass Article 13.

Selectman Carson said the Town had not been saving sufficiently and that is why there was the need to bond the Fire Truck. He said to avoid having to do that again and be better prepared the Board is requesting the Town put money into a Capital Reserve Fund.

As a Point of Order Edward Mical asked if the Amendment could be allowed and was it changing the intent of Article 13 to apply the \$70,000 to the loan balance since Article 13 was specific in requesting the money go into a CRF. The Moderator said he would allow the Amendment but his decision could be overruled by 50% of the voters.

Ginger Marsh stated it is important to check the loan agreement for penalties for early pay off.

Chief Raymond answered an audience member's question confirming that repairs have been made to the vehicle scheduled for replacement in 2016. He said his hope is to extend the use and delay a new vehicle purchase.

Motion made to Move the Question on the Amendment to Article 13. Seconded.

Voice vote on the Amendment. Majority voting Against

Amendment Failed.

Hearing no further discussion, the Moderator called for a Vote on Article 13 as originally presented.

Voice vote. Majority voting in Favor.

Article 13 Passed as originally presented.

Article 14 - Passed as Amended

Original Article 14: Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of \$50,000.00 (Fifty Thousand Dollars) to be added to the already established Fire Department Building/Renovation Capital Reserve Fund? (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen; Not Recommended by the Budget Committee)

Amended Article 14: Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of \$25,000.00 to be added to the already established Fire Department Building/Renovation Capital Reserve Fund for the repair or replacement of the entire Fire Station roof.

Original Article 14 Read by the Moderator. Article Moved and Seconded.

Fire Chief Edward Raymond explained that funds were needed to pay for replacing the roof, to address mold and ventilation issues, to replace a door in the building and for basic maintenance needed on the currently used 1964 Fire Station on the corner of School Street and East Main Street.

Selectman Karrick added that the Selectboard wanted to have funds available for possibly purchasing the strip of State owned land abutting the New Fire Station site located on East Main Street heading out of Town toward Hopkinton.

Martha Bodnarick, Budget Committee Member said she would like to keep funds for maintenance of the Fire Station separate from funds for the New Fire Station. She said if the Selectmen have a potential use or purpose for funds they are requesting then those requests should be stated. She added that if the Selectmen want to look further into options at the new Fire Station site they should do it in a "clear open fashion."

Motion to Amend made by Martha Bodnarick:

To Amend Article 14 and appropriate \$25,000 - not \$50,000 - to the already established Fire Department Building/Renovation Capital Reserve Fund for the repair or replacement of the entire Fire Station roof. Seconded.

Continuing discussion included:

- question from Cheryl Gibsons asking why money would be put toward a building that has not been approved and to expand a site that has raised many questions and concerns, she personally could not remember voting to approve purchasing the land for the New Fire Station and asked if that is a decision that Townspeople can not vote on because it is a decision of the Selectmen.
- John Leavitt commented that spending from a Capital Reserve Fund is a Selectboard's decision if Townspeople vote that authority to the board, the just voted down Article 21 was an attempt to return the spending authority of one CFR to voters and if estimates have been received for review he would recommend not putting a metal roof on a building the Town will be selling.
- Barbara Annis asked if Capital Reserves are used for long term investments as they were told earlier in this meeting, then why are funds to repair the current Fire Station's roof going into a Capital Reserve and not the Operation Budget as a one time expense.

There was a question raised on whether or not it was possible to designate the Amendment amount of

\$25,000 specifically to the Fire Station “roof repair/replacement” since the name of the Capital Reserve Fund is “Fire Department Building/Renovation”.

Selectman Hartman stated that in the past, funds from this CRF have been used for the acquisition of the site for the New Fire Station and a sprinkler system for the current Fire Station. He said funds requested in Article 14 were intended to be used for a new roof for the current station and to pay for the cost of further exploration and gathering additional information to answer concerns and issues regarding the New Fire Station. He said although \$200,000 has been spent in total to date on the New Fire Station project, he is not personally convinced they have the “bottom line” information needed to spend \$2.7 million dollars so he would recommend putting aside some money to continue research.

Mr. Leavett said in his research on the original creation of the Fire Department Building/Renovation CRF the same question was asked and the ruling then was that funds could be spent on “any Fire Department building” lacking in maintenance.

Motion made to Move the Amendment on Article 14.

Voice vote. Majority not clear.

Moderator asks for a show of hands. **YES... 69** NO... 41

Amendment to Article 14 Passed.

Motion to Amend made by Andrew Bodnarick:

To restrict the \$25,000 expenditure to the replacement of the roof "as stated" in the discussion tonight. Seconded.

Friendly Motion Amendment by James Gaffney accepted by Mr. Bodnarick:

To add, “the roof of the current Fire Station.”

Amended Motion stated in whole by Moderator:

To restrict the \$25,000 expenditure on the replacement of the roof of the current Fire Station building as stated in the discussion tonight. Seconded.

Discussion continued on how to financially address the Fire Station mold problem, the validity of the amendment was questioned and stated that the purpose of the CRF would have to be changed. The Moderator said the CRF name included “Renovation” and believed the intent of the voters present was to restrict the funds - if Article 14 passed - to the “renovation of the roof for the *current* Fire Station building on East Main Street" adding his decision could be overturned by 50% of the voters.

Voice vote. Majority voted Against the Amendment.

Amendment Failed.

James Gaffney asked how the Selectmen intended to spend the \$25,000. Moderator ruled the question Out of Order since voters just turned down a restriction on how to spend the money.

Selectman Carson stated that the immediate need was the roof on the current Fire Station. He said without the additional funds engineering and other studies could not be done which meant the Selectmen would not be able to gather more information concerning the New Fire Station to present to the Townspeople. .

Budget Chairman, Michael Cutting said the majority of Budget Committee members were not originally in favor of the \$50,000 request because they had not been provided information on the cost of the roof repair/replacement. He said figures have since been provided and he is in favor of maintaining this Public Building. He added that he had a change of "thought" after attending a recent New Fire Station Informational Public Meeting. He said it appears a new station is inevitable however studies that cost money are necessary to determine if the land the Town has purchased is appropriate and will sustain the building proposed to be built on it. He said he supported appropriating funds for more studies like the Geo Tech Engineering Study so the Selectmen could obtain "concrete evidence" to present to the Townspeople about the proposed site which seems to be the biggest project concern.

Motion made to Move the Question on Article 14 as Amended.

Nancy Ladd asked if the vote was for the amended amount of \$25,000 or zero and was the \$50,000 amount no longer an option. Moderator responded by saying the Article could be brought up later for reconsideration if it is not restricted.

Moderator stated Article 14 as Amended:

To Amend Article 14 to add \$25,000 to the already established Fire Dept. Building/Renovation Capital Reserve Fund for the repair or replacement of the entire Fire Station roof.

Voice vote. Majority in Favor.

Article 14 Passed as Amended.

Motion by Andrew Bodnarick:

To Restrict Reconsideration on Articles 11,12,13,14. Seconded.

Voice vote. Majority voting in Favor.

Motion to Restrict Passed.

Article 15 - Passed

Shall the Town vote to establish a contingency fund in accordance with RSA 31:98-a for the current year to be used by the Board of Selectmen for unanticipated expenses that may arise and further to raise and appropriate the amount of \$10,000.00 (Ten Thousand Dollars) to go into the fund? This sum is to come from fund balance and no amount to be raised from taxation. Any appropriation left in the fund at the end of the year will lapse to the general fund. Majority vote required.

(Recommended by the Board of Selectmen; Recommended by the Budget Committee)

Read by the Moderator. Article Moved and Seconded.

Selectman Carson provided explanation on Article 15 stating that newly passed legislation allows Towns to have a contingency fund per RSA 31:98-a provided tracking and explanation of spending is presented at the next years Town Meeting.

Motion made to Move the Question on Article 15. Seconded.

Voice vote. Majority voting in Favor.

Article 15 Passed.

Article 16 - Passed

Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of \$25,000.00 (Twenty Five Thousand Dollars) to be added

to the already established Bridge Replacement & Maintenance Capital Reserve Fund? (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen; Recommended by the Budget Committee)
Read by the Moderator. Article Moved and Seconded.

In the absence of the Director of Public Works, Matt Waite, Selectman Hartman provided explanation on Article 16 saying that there are 19 bridges in Warner that need repair or replacement and State Bridge Aid is applied for whenever possible. He said the Town has been approved for State/Town - 80/20 Bridge Aid for the Bartlett Loop culvert. Answering Suzanne Cummings question, Selectman Hartman said the Bridge Replacement CRF balance was \$73,513.

Motion made to Move the Question on Article 16.

Voice vote. Majority voting in Favor.

Article 16 Passed.

Article 17 - Passed

Shall the Town vote to authorize the creation of The Odd Fellows Building Capital Reserve Fund for the purpose of hazard mitigation of this Brownfield site, to raise and appropriate \$5,000 (Five Thousand Dollars) to be placed in this Fund and to name the Board of Selectmen as Agents to expend?

(Recommended by the Board of Selectmen; Recommended by the Budget Committee)

Read by the Moderator. Article Moved and Seconded.

Selectman Karrick provided explanation on Article 17 saying that a Site Analysis showed hazardous materials - asbestos, PCB and lead contaminates - which the Town must address whatever happens with the building. He said funds will be combined with any grant money attainable to conduct detailed studies of the contaminants and to develop a cost effective clean-up plan to meet all NH and Federal environmental standards.

When James Gaffney asked why the Town doesn't put the building up for auction "every month until it sells" Selectman Carson said it is a difficult building to sell due to the lack of parking, the amount of money needed to renovate it and because the Town must mitigate the hazardous materials before it can do anything with it.

John Leavitt said the Town can sell the building if the mitigation of hazardous material was included in the contract as the new owner's responsibility. He said he spoke to the Selectmen about a CRF previously established for the Odd Fellows Building and said Article 17 is creating a second CRF for the same building. He said his original suggestion was to amend Article 17 but is now recommending voting against Article 17 and telling the Selectmen to find the \$5000 in the Operating Budget.

Selectmen Carson explained that another Odd Fellow CRF was not found to exist and Article 17 would establish a fund of "earnest money" to help show the Town's intentions when applying for grant money.

Speaking as a member of many years on the Odd Fellow Building Committee Rebecca Courser said the follow through with potential buyers is a long, arduous process, recent buyer interest ended after a year of involvement, a new potential buyer has come forward, the committee has researched public, private, senior, low-income, office space and condo uses but the parking, condition of the building and hazardous materials are problems and it is a long slow process to deal with a buyer and the building issues.

Motion made by James Gaffney:

To have the Town put the Odd Fellows Building up for Auction until it sells.

Moderator ruled the Motion Out of Order because Article 17 sets up a Capital Reserve Fund. Mr. Gaffney was told he could bring up his request later in the meeting after Article 23.

Motion made to Move the Question on Article 17.

Voice vote. Majority voting in Favor.

Article 17 Passed

Article 18 - Passed

Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of \$5,000.00 (Five Thousand Dollars) to be added to the already established Transfer Station Equipment Capital Reserve Fund? (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen; Recommended by the Budget Committee)

Read by the Moderator. Article Moved and Seconded.

In the absence of the Director of Public Works, Matt Waite, Selectman Carson explained the Capital Reserve Fund has \$26,093, \$5000 is needed to replace the Bobcat/Loader in 2015, estimated cost is \$35,000 and this purchase is included in the Capital Improvement Plan.

Motion made to Move the Question on Article 18.

Voice vote. Majority voting in Favor.

Article 18 Passed.

Article 19 - Passed

Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of \$5,000.00 (Five Thousand Dollars) to be added to the already established Town Hall Building Improvements Capital Reserve Fund? (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen; Recommended by the Budget Committee)

Read by the Moderator. Article Moved and Seconded.

Selectman Hartman said the Town Hall Building Improvements CRF had been used for many projects and updates in Town Hall including added insulation and roof repair. He said in time they would like to replace the lift with an elevator. He said he would like to name the lift after recently deceased long time resident Fred Creed who depended on the lift to get to Town Meeting. Mr. Creed's widow Cathy Creed thanked Selectman Hartman for his idea and asked if the Town Hall front steps repair were funded with this CRF. Selectman Hartman said the steps were funded through the Operating Budget.

Motion made to Move the Question on Article 19.

Voice vote. Majority voting in Favor.

Article 19 Passed.

Article 20 - Passed

Shall the Town vote to authorize the Trustees of the Pillsbury Free Library full duties and powers under RSA 202 - A:11 in managing the operation of the Library?

Read by the Moderator. Article Moved and Seconded.

Town Administrator, Jim Bingham said this was a housekeeping measure, in 1890 the Pillsbury family established the Library Trustees and gave them full power to manage the Library operations, the Town is now reaffirming those powers at the recommendation of the Department of Revenue Administration - basically "reaffirming what is already going on".

Lydia Harmon asked and was told that nothing would be changing; things would continue as they have.

Suzanne Cummings said she had talked with (Librarian) Nancy Ladd and asked if Passing Article 20 would take away any of her powers and was told, "No". Mrs. Cummings said she was relieved to hear that because Nancy provides a great service to the community.

Motion made to Move the Question on Article 20.

Voice vote. Majority voting in Favor.

Article 20 Passed.

Article 22 - Passed

RESOLVED, the people of Warner, NH stand with communities across the country to defend democracy from the corrupting effects of undue corporate power by amending the United States Constitution to establish that:

1. Only human beings, not corporations, are endowed with constitutional rights, and
2. Money is not speech, and therefore regulating political contributions and spending is not equivalent to limiting political speech.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the People of Warner, NH hereby instruct our state and federal representatives to enact resolutions and legislation to advance this effort.

(By Petition)

Read by the Moderator. Article Moved and Seconded.

Michael Franklin provided information on Article 22

Discussion followed.

Motion made to Move the Question on Article 22.

Voice vote. Majority voting in Favor.

Article 22 Passed.

Article 23

To transact any other business that may legally come before the meeting.

Motion to Adjourn. Seconded.

Voice vote. Majority in Favor.

Motion to Adjourn Passed.

Meeting Adjourned at 10:15 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Judith A. Newman-Rogers
Warner Town Clerk