

**State of New Hampshire
Town of Northumberland**

To the inhabitants of the Town of Northumberland, Coos County and State of New Hampshire, qualified to vote in Town affairs:

You are hereby notified to meet at the Northumberland Town Office, Selectmen's Meeting Room, 10 Station Square on the second Tuesday in March next, March 10th, 2015, to act upon the subjects hereinafter mentioned. You are hereby warned that on said date and at said place the polls will be opened at **9:00** in the forenoon and will remain open until **7:00** in the evening for the reception of your ballots under the Non-Partisan Ballot System. You are also hereby warned that on Saturday, March 14, 2015 and at the Groveton High School Ryan's Auditorium in said Town, at **11:00** in the forenoon, the matter of appropriations and such other business properly coming before said meeting will be taken up for your consideration and action.

The Annual Town Election for the Town of Northumberland and the Northumberland School District was declared opened at 9:00 AM, Tuesday, March 10, 2015 to act upon the subjects hereinafter mentioned. The polls were declared open for the reception of ballots. Moderator Young also announced that the absentee ballots would be processed at 1:00 PM. At 7:00 PM on March 10, 2014, Moderator Young announced that the polls were closed.

Moderator Keith Young called the town meeting to order at 11:00 AM on 3/14/2015 and announced that we would be using cards for voting today. Michael Phillips thanked everyone and made some clarity to the warrants and had a few welcoming and opening remarks. Moderator Young led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

Ballots cast: 323 on 3/10/15

*Articles 1-3 were printed on the official ballot.

***Article 1:** To choose by ballot the following Town Officers for the ensuing three years: one Selectman, Library Trustee, Trustee of Trust Funds, Cemetery Trustee.

Results:

Selectman: Michael Phillips- 114, Mario Audit- 92, Richard Marshall- 77, Wade White- 29 (Write-in)

Library Trustee: Sally Frizzell 306

Trustee of Trust Funds: Joel Kennett 285

Cemetery Trustee: Richard Paradis 278

***Article 2:** To choose by ballot the following Town Officers for the ensuing one year: one Auditor.

Results:

Auditor: Kimberly DeBlois 291

***Article 3:** Are you in favor of the adoption of Zoning Amendment No. 1 as proposed by the Town Planning Board for the Town Zoning Ordinance as follows: Amendment No 1 changes Section 7.3 (Building Permits) by inserting language in regards to "volume change of a structure" as an additional criteria that warrants the requirement of a building permit. The accompanying definitions in the zoning ordinance would be affected as follows: 5A- Footprint and/or Volume Change-Any difference in the size of an existing structure due to additions, demolition, or remodeling, or to any type of

separate structure(s) including pavement, concrete structures or slabs, wind energy systems, solar panels, outdoor wood-fired furnaces, etc. and to totally delete 16A due to repetitious wording describing remodeling or repairing.

Results: Yes: 110 No: 150

Article 3 defeated by ballot vote.

Article 4: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$2,845,200 dollars to replace and repair water and sewer mains in Town, specifically those outlined in the water/sewer project plan, and to authorize the issuance of not more than \$2,845,200 of bonds or notes in accordance with the provisions of the Municipal Finance Act (RSA 33) and to authorize the Selectmen to issue and negotiate the terms of such bonds or notes and to determine the rate of interest thereon; further, to authorize the Selectmen to apply for, accept and expend any grant monies that may become available for this purpose. Additionally to see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$60,100 dollars for the matching portion of a grant being applied for, if the grant is not received the monies will not be raised and appropriated. (Recommended by the Selectmen 3-0) (2/3 vote by ballot required)

Motion made by James Weagle and seconded by Michael Phillips to accept article as read.

James Weagle made a motion for Joe Ducharme, CMA Engineer, to speak. James Tierney seconded it. Motion to let him speak passed by voice vote.

Discussion:

Joe Ducharme had the floor for a power point presentation & discussion on the information for this article for voters. He explained the function of the water and sewer lines in Northumberland and had a power point of the area water and sewer lines. Ducharme had key components of the water and sewer plants. He stated that our system is very old. Ducharme said that they are well beyond their service life which could lead up to excess expense if not cared for. One of the things he recommends is to get the well capacity back up during phase 1. He said the limited staff here keeps things running well. He added that our pipes are old, weak, and brittle. Ducharme stated that when it gets to that stage it's a red flag to the community to replace those sections of pipe. He said that this community has some great challenges ahead of it for budgeting as there is throughout NH and the country. Ducharme's recommendation is to flush and redevelop the well system that is key and put a security system in as what we have is obsolete. He feels that adding another well should be studied. Ducharme said that the treatment process function has done very well to keep running, but electrical is difficult and challenging. He commented that the storage tanks have been well maintained but the pipes should be considered to be replaced. He said those should be the focus areas and to work with the water and sewer department to keep the system sustainable. Phase 1 includes the Brooklyn St. area as it is the biggest issue and across the river by the covered bridge. He said it was unusual to have 2 treatment systems in a town this size but that's how it was originally designed. Ducharme added that EPA and DES require testing for both systems. He said that the more users you have the better distribution of fees. He said that both water systems are running well and had no issues. He added that the sanitary sewers are a big challenge here with the old clay pipe which is much different to what is used today because it can crack with root pressure. He said clay was commonly used 30 years ago but not anymore. Ducharme said that compliance in general has been good for what the town has today and added that redeveloping the wells is a good thing to do. He said that the waste water facility gets busy with excess water from storms and recommends replacing the oldest most leaky system of the waste water facility and said that they are all over town so can't be done all at once. He stated that he felt the phase 1 sewer project

collection system in the Brooklyn Street area is the biggest area of concern. He said that it will be done all at the same time and replace the road just once. He commented that there are low interest loans, block grant funds, and implementation grants funds that requires a match available. He said that the town has submitted paperwork and he feels that the town has a good chance of qualifying for grants. He said delaying this project will only increase the costs down the road. Community need and community income are all factored in when applying for these funds. He added that this plan is a 10-20 year layout. Ducharme said that having fewer leaks in the system has a positive effect on the costs to the town. Ducharme said that is motivation and incentive in keeping the system sustainable. He said that this is a big decision and a big expense, but it needs to be done. Al Rossett asked Joe Ducharme how comfortable he was with the numbers for phase 1 and asked if this was a reasonable number to look forward to. Joe Ducharme answered that they talked to companies for an estimate and bids came in lower than the cost for Phase 1 project and now he is confident that he will meet the bids and needs. He said that they may have to push some of the sections into phase 2, but is very confident the numbers.

(PowerPoint presentation is attached)

James Tierney made a motion to amend the dollar amount to \$3,145,200 and it was seconded by Michael Phillips.

Discussion on amendment:

James Tierney added that he wanted to be sure that the water was not cut off in the area of the covered bridge. He added \$300,000 which is the money they feel they are short now. \$3,145,200 is the amount of the amendment to be sure. Rae Hurlbutt asked if this amendment is to cover going under bridge. James Tierney answered that it was. Mark Robinson asked for the money amount to be explained. James Tierney said it had to be broken out for DRA and that amount is total amount overall for the project and hopes that the cost doesn't go up. Kathy Wiles asked if there is 50% loss of water right now. Robin Irving answered that the town is in the midst of a water audit and showed 70% loss of water but taking Lost Nation out it was more like 55%. Michael Phillips said that big numbers are hard to put in place. He said we are developing capital improvement for long term. He added that our value is \$110 million and for every \$110 thousand we spend is a \$1 impact on our tax rate. He said we paid off the bond a year ago. Michael said that it breaks down to \$1 tax impact and not sure what grants we are going to get. He added that in what we are voting on is \$2.50 to \$3.00 impact for the next few years. Phillips said that all 5 phases add up to about \$12 million and that's what we have to figure out down the road. Kathy Wiles asked if phase 1 is worst part of town. Michael answered that this was a great question and said that the engineers evaluated that the old pipe under the bridge is critical and wanted it where it can be done most effectively together. Michael said there's a reason that the engineers have ordered phases. Robin Irving said she had discussion on project a whole and that it's driven by FEMA. Irving said in the wake of Hurricane Irene where many communities got cut off from their services. She added that in a natural disaster the entire other side of the town will have no services and mutual aid with another town is a lot of political work. Heather Caouette asked if we were asking for more grants. Robin Irving said that there are 2 projects for direction of drilling and removing of pipes under the bridge. She added that she has grant applications out for that. Irving said that Winter St. and Brooklyn St. has paperwork for a loan. Irving said that she is hoping to get 40%-50% grant on the project as a whole and added that some grants don't open until July 1. Dave Auger asked for clarification in increase. James Tierney said that the increase is for the bridge.

Hand Held Card vote: amendment passed

Discussion of amendment:

Norm Cotter asked if 5 years down the road if this would be good enough. Joe Ducharme said that

the pipes would not be attached to bridge.

James Weagle said that the bridge is not historical with pipes under it and now with no pipes the bridge can be on the historical list. Mark Robinson asked about the pipes and well on Brown Road. Joe Ducharme said that issue came up after the study and wanted to include that in phase 1. He said that they will look at the cost for the well redevelopment on Brown Road. He added that it got elevated in the last couple of the months. Mark Robinsons asked if we would redo our well that was 87%. Joe Ducharme answered that he didn't know what the redevelopment would be but the issue right before us is the well capacity had dropped and is concerned for summer month's capacity. He added that there's been a significant drop and the mineral deposits on the screens can be cleaned and flushed out in the wells, but it's not a long term fix. Kathy Wiles asked when this will take place if voted in today. Joe Ducharme said schedule wise that if it were voted in today it would be next 4-6-8 weeks getting applications for grant funding, design, documents approved by DES and USDA and construction next year. He said that the drilling under the river is approved and ready to go and bidders are holding bids for 180 days. Ducharme said that project could be done this year. Kathy Wiles said one more season of significant loss of water. Joe Ducharme answered that in that area there would be one more year of water loss. Al Rossetto asked if it will be all water and sewer or just water being done. Joe Ducharme said the additional appropriation would cover both water and sewer pipes. No further discussion.

Ballot vote: Yes 135 No 11

Amended Article 4 passed with the 2/3 vote needed.

Article 5: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$380,576.00 dollars for the purpose of operating and maintaining the water department. Said funds to be offset by the water user fees. Any shortfalls in the water user fees will be made up from the accumulated surplus in the "regular water account". (Recommended by Selectmen 3-0)

Motion made by Michael Phillips and seconded by James Tierney to accept article as read.

Discussion: James Tierney said that one item in Joe Decharme presentation is about\$ 60,000 repairs to electrical being proposed. Carl Ladd is asking about rumors on water and sewer fees being raised to cover all of this. James Tierney said that it's not going up dramatically, but going up in a slow progression over the next several years. He added that it depends on the number of users and businesses as to how we decide on the rates. Tierney said that we need new people in the system and it's being done slowly. He added that last year was 25 cents per thousand gallons in sewer and look at it again in 2015 for both water and sewer rates. Robin Irving said rate hikes are driven by financial agencies. She said that when they came out with original figure the selectmen used a much more practical approach with not hitting the public with a rate hike. Mark Robinson asked if it seemed like some of the water and sewer finances are being pushed onto tax payers. James Tierney said the current water rates are coving 65% of operating budget of water department, but tax payers wind up paying bond issue. He explained that the town owns the equipment and the water users use it but tax payers own it as an asset.

Michelle Ladd said she is looking rationally as to why article 5 and 6 are not being in the budget of the town. She said it made sense to her to have it all in one. James Tierney said the main reason that it is done like this starting 5-6 years ago is because it's an enterprise fund. He explained that the operating budget of town may not exceed the bottom line. He said that an enterprise fund may have an income to do it and that they can go above and beyond this number. He said if expenses got higher and revenue is enough to pay it, they can do it, so it's their separate budget. No further discussion.

Hand held card vote. Article 5 passed as read.

Article 6: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$392,860.00 dollars for the purpose of operating and maintaining the sewer department. Said funds to be offset by the sewer user fees. Any shortfalls in the sewer user fees will be made up from the accumulated surplus in the "regular sewer account". (Recommended by Selectmen 3-0)

Motion made by James Weagle and seconded by Michael Phillips to accept article as read.

No discussion. Hand held card vote.

Article 6 passed as read

Article 7: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,997,495.00 dollars which represents the operating budget of the Town, said sum exclusive of special or individual articles addressed. (Recommended by Selectmen 3-0)

Motion made by James Weagle and seconded by James Tierney to accept article as read.

Amendment given to Moderator Young to change dollar amount to \$1,897,495.00 (a drop of \$100,000). Motion by Nancy Merrow seconded by Michael Phillips to amend Article 7 and vote by secret ballot.

Discussion on amendment:

Nancy Merrow said that this was made specifically because at candidate's night by one of the candidates a comment made by Audit that \$100,000 can be cut from Police Department easily and this is the reason she has asked for \$100,000 cut. Marcel Platt said that \$100,000 off the police department budget will cut jobs and cannot be sustained. He added that at the public hearing that he said that he retired as of February 1, 2015. Platt said that the selectmen had asked for a flat budget and he did that and then some. He stated that he has now gone part time. Platt said that salaries and part time salaries never have moved since he got here in 2004. He added that if you take all of the numbers the actual increase is none. He went on to further explain his budget with insurance, etc. He said he decreased his budget by \$10,000 and feels that the police department as a whole has done well. He said when he leaves it will continue to do well and asks to support the police department. He said he doesn't get compensated for a lot that they do for the town's people. Marcel Platt said he does a lot more than 32 hours a week and doesn't get paid for it. Michael Phillips added that is the way he is thinking. He said that he supports public safety and the police department and he wants us all to discuss this. Phillips added that during the budget process he meets with the different department heads and with the police department was a moving target because 3 were not going to be continueing, but during that time they agreed to add another officer. He said that this is a good discussion and agrees with Marcel and hopes that the mill site has something go in. He added that Stratford looked into having us cover them, but they voted to keep their own department. He added that during the debate Mario Audit mentioned that cut and wanted to discuss it with the floor.

Norm Cotter asked how many full times and how many part time officers.

Marcel said 4 or 5 full time and up to 10 part time. Mark Robinson made a motion to move the question. It was not seconded. Jon Woodworth said to the selectmen that if this is voted in it is up to them where it's cut. James Tierney said the way its set up that could not be touched is water and sewer and everything else is under operating budget. Jon Woodworth said that he knows that it's been talked about. Jon Woodworth asked where did they want to see it come from. James Tierney said it's a no vote from him. James Tierney said no place wants to see it and it would be going to be spread across the rest of the departments. James said go no on the vote. James Weagle said that we

worked long and hard to get the budget like this and all 3 worked on this and a lot of things did not come up then. James Weagle asked for a no vote to keep as low as possible. Jon Woodworth asked Michael Phillips specifically brought up police department. Michael Phillips said he added a full time officer and feels a full time officer should be cut. Jon Woodworth said he disagreed with him. Phillips said he said we still have 4 full time and a 32 hours position. Barbara Weagle asked if Mario Audit can explain his proposed cut. Jack Bernard said on page 45 asked explanation in welfare line 444. James Tierney said it was not voted on it yet and it's warrant article 20. He added that it doesn't get filled in until we vote. Bernard said he didn't realize it. Dan Becker is weary of cuts proposed without knowing where it is coming from. An amendment is based on a candidates comment and would like to hear more nuts and bolts from the candidate and details as to why he said that. Al Beland asked if Marcel is going to work part time or work 32 hours. Marcel said no one was hired and they only switched rolls. He said that he went part time and a part time is full time. Al Beland said how are we paying a retirement plan and insurance and wondered if he still going to have that. James Tierney said when the 2 changed position Marcel went to part time rate and new individual didn't go up to Marcells rate because he hadn't been there that long. Tierney said that there was a large savings there and only 2 folks on health insurance and that no part timer gets benefits. He said that there is no additional expense. Tierney added that retirement contribution went up by 1% for first part of the year which Marcel was in and that there is a \$7500 savings in retirement contribution because he retired. Nancy Marshall asked if they changed positions who are the chief. Marcel said he was still chief. Michael Phillips referred to Al Beland that Marcel has served us well and that he told the board that come as early as summer time he would be taking a new position. At that point they would be looking for a new chief and if we get a new chief we increase by one and that concerns him.

Ed Robinson made a motion to move the question and seconded by Mark Robinson. Motion to move the question passed.

Voted to amend.

Nancy Merrow asked for a secret ballot. Moderator Young clarified that YES will lower and NO will stay same.

Results: Yes 45 No 100

(Moving to article 8 with voice vote while the Supervisors of the Checklist tally the votes.)

Amendment to article 7 has failed.

Article 7 as originally written:

Discussion:

Norm Cotter asked if the selectmen were in favor of a part time chief. Tierney said he was in favor and nothing in any law is against t. He added that Berlin also has part time chief. No further discussion.

Hand held card vote. Article 7 passed as originally read.

Article 8: To see if the Town will vote to enter into a lease/purchase contract for the purchase and outfitting of an ambulance. The contract is for 5 years. The approximate cost of the ambulance is \$147,474. The contract contains an "escape clause". The cost of the contract is as follows:

2015	\$31,781
2016	\$31,781

2017 \$31,781

2018 \$31,781

2019 \$31,781

Additionally, to see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$31,781 dollars as the 2015 payment under this lease/purchase contract. Said funds to come from the unreserved fund balance. (Recommended by Selectmen 3-0)

Motion made by James Weagle and seconded by James Tierney to accept article as read.

Amendment proposed changes dollar amount to \$31,288 instead of \$31,781. Motion made by James Weagle and second by James Tierney to amend.

Discussion on amendment:

Norm cotter asked why James Tierney said main reason \$37,781 had read \$150,000 for ambulance but they got the new figure in enough time to put in warrant article for cost of new ambulance. Tierney said that is why the change is a change and that this isn't a mistake. The lease/purchase agreement came in after the warrant article was published. No further discussion.

Hand held card vote. Amendment passed.

Discussion on amended article with lower dollar amount: James Weagle said it will be new cab and chassis with our box and in meantime we will get a loaner ambulance so that there will still will be services. He added that this is from total profit that the ambulance made this year which was a \$43,228 profit. Carl Ladd asked if it was coming from unreserved fund balance. James Weagle said \$31,288 will come from profits this year. Weagle said that once it's in an unreserved fund balance we can't touch it. Tierney said that next year it would come from the unreserved fund balance if they make a lot again this year again. Payments for years 16, 17, and 18 cannot come from a capital reserve fund by law and 65% of 5th payment hopefully comes out of profit and none out of taxes. He said that right now they work on a profit. Dan Becker asked if it's reasonable to assume that they get a profit each year. James Tierney said it's not common and in the past it had made money, but in last 4 years they lost money. He said in 2014 they changed over to a collection company and billing and since that changed the amount of money coming in has jumped even without calls increases and is much more efficient. Chris Wheelock asked how many miles on cab and chassis that we are replacing. Sam Oaks said chassis has a little over 100,000 miles on it. Chris Wheelock asked how many miles it got run last year. Sam Oaks said it wasn't road worthy last year. Sam said short distance was ok but it's not road worthy and doesn't want to blow it up and he doesn't have numbers on miles. Wheelock asked if we are replacing something we use 3 times a year. Oaks said we traded to a billing company and administration in the ambulance office has changed. He said that the bread and butter is with transfers and they want to maintain services to town and other towns who are satisfied with the services. Sam said their plan is to rotate to keep costs down and mileage down. Sam said they are replacing outdated equipment. Kathy Wiles asked how much we are saving by not purchasing a new ambulance as a whole. Sam said the quote of best for new with equipment from ground up was \$196,170.35. and a remounted ambulance cost \$147,474 for a difference of 25% savings. Mark Robinson said we are paying over \$100,000 for a 1 ton chassis. Sam said not it's a for a chassis and equipment. Dave Auger asked for estimate to replace turbo and seal and James Gibson answered that it was \$5000 to fix it. James Gibson said the old chassis was 14 years old and patched many times. James Gibson said 7 years is a threshold for an ambulance, but we rotate and put \$5-7 thousand a year into maintenance.

Richard Cotter made a motion to move the question and Sandy Mason seconded it. Motion passed.

Hand held card vote.

Amended Article 8 passed

Article 9: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$11,647 to be placed in the Ambulance Capital Reserve Fund, established 1990. This sum to come from the surplus fund balance from revenues collected by the Groveton Emergency Medical Services during the 2014 fiscal year. (Recommended by Selectmen 3-0)

Motion made by James Tierney and seconded by James Weagle to accept article as read.

Amendment proposed to change to \$12,140 motion by James Tierney and second by Michael Phillips.

Discussion on amendment: James Weagle said that this is adding in the difference added into this fund and not a tax impact.

Hand held card vote on amendment. Amendment passed to article 9.

Discussion on amended article 9: Mark Robinson asked what is for. Moderator Keith Young answered that it was the left over profit after article 8. Robinson asked if this was left after the bills of the building we are renting. Jim Tierney said it was 2014 revenue. He added that this was after paying all the bills they made a profit. He said normally it's been in capital reserve fund but this year we are taking some for first payment for rebuilt ambulance and the rest for the capital reserve fund. Tierney added that the same things will come up for 2015. No further discussion.

Hand held card vote. Amended article 9 passed.

Article 10: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$10,000 dollars to be placed in the Police Cruiser Capital Reserve Fund, of which Board of Selectmen are agents to expend, established 2001. (Recommended by Selectmen 3-0)

Motion made by Michael Phillips and seconded by James Weagle to accept article as read.

Discussion: Michael Phillips said the next 6 7 8 articles are about capital reserve funds. He said how they go about this is budget \$1 tax impact a year to set money aside for future needs. Phillips added that something like a cruiser you put some money away each year without putting a full cost in one tax year. He added that when you add them up it's about \$1 tax impact to what we can afford is to what he stuck to for principle. No further discussion.

Hand held card vote. Article 10 passed as read.

Article 11: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$31,500 dollars for the purchase and equipping of a police vehicle, said sum to be offset by trade-in or sale of old cruiser and an amount not to exceed \$31,500 to be withdrawn from the Police Cruiser Capital Reserve Fund and no amount to be raised from taxation. (Recommended by Selectmen 3-0)

Motion made by James Weagle and seconded by James Tierney to accept article as read.

Discussion: Marcel Platt said to give an idea they are looking for replacing 2009 crown Victoria currently with 177,000 miles on it. He said we replace on a local level a lot differently than the state level. The overall cost of a cruiser this year is about a \$818 increase, which he feels isn't bad. He said the current vehicle is all wheel drive which the new one will be. Mark Robinson asked about the wording of this. He asked about taxation and no amount to be raised by taxation. James Tierney said if we don't put that phrase in then DRA, when they look at it and set tax rate, won't be adding in total amount. He said that one phrase stops them from using that amount in setting the tax rate. No further discussion.

Hand held card vote. Article 11 passed as read.

Article 12: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$25,000 dollars to be placed in the Highway Equipment Capital Reserve Fund, established 1982, of which Board of Selectmen are agents to expend. (Recommended by Selectmen 3-0)

Motion made by Michael Phillips and seconded by James Tierney to accept article as read.

Discussion: Michael Phillips said we are about to get into questions about our equipment. He added that the main things such as the trucks throughout the town, highway, water, and sewer that we set aside this amount a year for this. He said that it should be \$60,000 but we can't afford that so this is what we are doing. No further discussion

Hand held card vote. Article 12 passed as read.

Article 13: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$5,000 dollars to be placed in the Water Pump Capital Reserve Fund, established 2011, of which Board of Selectmen are agents to expend. (Recommended by Selectmen 3-0)

Motion made by James Weagle and seconded by Michael Phillips to accept article as read.

Discussion: Carl Ladd said once we got into the mode of approving without a lot of discussion not counting the budget and water the rest of the additional money articles, we are talking about \$300,000 above and beyond the budget and we are looking at a \$3 tax rate impact. He added that before we keep going we are significantly raising the taxes if we don't think about it. Michael Phillips said he does agree to this and is aware of what he is talking about and to be clear we are already in for a \$180,000 a year for the current bond it might add another dollar and that the capital reserve fund is a dollar. He added that the requests for capital reserve fund should be added up to \$1 tax impact. Phillips said when we get to some of the others that would be another dollar tax impact and this is what the board is in charge of looking at and responsible to explain to the voters. Elizabeth Pearce asked if the water pump fund is covered with water project funds. Michael Phillips said that bond is more like pipes in the ground and cleaning the well. He added that the if pumps fail and needs to be replaced this is what the fund is for. Phillips said this is a fund that allows us to deal with the unexpected. Nancy Merrow said that we have currently been running on \$800,000 of unpaid taxes for people who cannot afford to pay. She said that we have to borrow to pay the bills and that's what we are doing and uncommitted tax exemptions that we need to cover. Nancy said people need to start thinking. No further discussion.

Hand held card vote. Article 13 passed as read.

Article 14: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$15,000 dollars to be

placed in the Sludge Removal Expendable Trust Fund, established 2011, of which Board of Selectmen are agents to expend. (Recommended by Selectmen 3-0)

Motion made by James Weagle and seconded by Michael Phillips to accept article as read.

Discussion Kathy Wiles said this was listed in the screen along with water pump. Michael Phillips said around the year 2030 we will need to clean our lagoons and estimated cost is 1 million. To afford to do that we need to put money away for that for our children and people using it in 2030 in beyond. In truth we are nowhere near where we are need to be. Lagoons is not part of that work Weagle said sludge removal was listed as system deficiencies on screen. Rae Hurlbutt sludge removal pertains to lagoons...30 years down the road lagoons might be obsolete will it be used to replace lagoons if in 30 years they are obsolete. J Tierney said a warrant article would have to be made to change the purpose as in the past few years of reserve funds of no use anymore. It would be voted on at town meeting. E. Pearce said she understood about putting money aside and where is it. Is it in bank account. J Tierney said it's in a bank account and we are not getting much interest. E Pearce sked if something can be done to make the money. Tierney said trustee of trust funds decide what to do with these funds and the best return is the stock market. E Pearce asked if we are collecting this money is it necessary to take money now? Maybe people could use this money to lower taxes if we are not doing with it. Tierney said it's a smaller amount to take it now and in 20 years it will be more than a million. Everything is going up. It's like taking a little now to be better prepared for then. 2001 was last time it was done and done in 1 summer. No further discussion.

Hand held card vote. Article 14 passed as read.

Article 15: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$40,000 dollars to be placed in the Road Maintenance Capital Reserve Fund, of which Board of Selectmen are agents to expend. established 2009. (Recommended by Selectmen 3-0)

Motion made by James Weagle and seconded by Michael Phillips to accept article as read.

No discussion.

Hand held card vote. Article 15 passed as read.

Article 16: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$3,811 to be placed into the Transfer Station Equipment Capital Reserve Fund, of which Board of Selectmen are agents to expend, established 2009, with \$3,811 to come from fund balance (of which \$3,811 is from 2014 steel sale proceeds). No amount to be raised in taxation. (Recommended by Selectmen 3-0)

Motion made by James Weagle and seconded by James Tierney to accept article as read.

No discussion.

Hand held card vote. Article 16 passed as read.

Article 17: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$5,000 to be placed into the Water Tank Expendable Trust Fund, established in 2014, of which Board of Selectmen are agents to expend. (Recommended by Selectmen 3-0)

Motion made by Michael Phillips and seconded by James Weagle to accept article as read.

No Discussion.

Hand held card vote. Article 17 passed as read.

Article 18: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$110,500 dollars for the purchase of a backhoe, said sum to be offset by trade-in and an amount not to exceed \$110,500 to be withdrawn from the Highway Equipment Capital Reserve Fund and no amount to be raised from taxation. (Recommended by Selectmen 3-0)

Motion made by Michael Phillips and seconded by James Weagle to accept article as read.

Discussion: Dave Auger asked to explain why it is necessary and what is the condition of current equipment. Phillips said backhoe and loader is together and it would be discussed in this article and the next article. Phillips said 10-15-18 years are what we have as life for equipment. Phillips said that the backhoe was recently out 7-9 days. He added that currently it is a 2004 JCB and loader is a 1997. Phillips stated that the back hoe is having serious problems and needs attention. Phillips added that the next article both are because John Deere gave a phenomenal offer on both of these vehicles together if we do both. The CAT people offered a higher rate of \$20,000 dollars. Phillips said that is the big picture and why we are talking about both because the numbers are much less due to phenomenal trade in offer. John Normand said that we are going to get John Deere and wondered who is going to service them. Phillips said it comes out of a Pembroke office. Glenn Cassady said they have a mobile service and it's a warranty plan and that they monitor oil changes and have a warranty services in place. He added that they are all about 2 hours away. Cassady stated that the local dealers around are not longer a JCB dealer and Concord is currently servicing the one they have. Glenn said they are having issues with it but all dealers have a mobile service. Mark Robinson asked if it was a lease or purchase. James Tierney said this is an outright purchase. Robinson wanted to know how many hours on the JCB and Glenn said roughly 900+ hours in 10 years. Glenn said they were not considering another back hoe but it has serious mechanical issues that have arisen. He said last time it was down 13 days and parts had to come from England and Germany, so it's expensive to get parts shipped. He said there was a lot of electrical replaced and added that something major will happen and it's reached its life. He said that the loader is starting to burn up. Glenn explained the services given to these vehicles and told of why these vehicles needed to be replaced. He said that in the past 2 years \$9700 dollars have been spent on repairs not counting regular maintenance. He said they offered us a lot of money for a trade in. Glenn added that they've put in a lot of hours of research into this. Kathy Wiles asked that if we expend this money how much would be left in the reserve fund. Phillips said that currently there is \$89,000 and we just added \$25,000 so that's \$114,000 and the math works. Samantha McMann asked if article 18 fails will we go through article 19 or is it a pkg deal. Phillips said it's a trade in and the deal drops substantially without both. Mark Robinson said we should see a \$5-8 thousand in drop in maintenance in the budget. Glenn answered that he already cut the main budget line for maintenance.

Mario Audit made a motion to move the question seconded by Terrance Bedell. Motion passed to move question.

Hand held card vote. Article 18 passed as read.

Article 19: To see if the Town will vote to enter into a lease/purchase agreement for the purchase of a loader. The contract is for 3 years. The approximate cost of the loader is \$147,750, less any trade-in. The contract contains an “escape clause”. The cost of the contract is as follows:

2015	\$24,000
2016	\$24,000
2017	\$24,000

Additionally, to see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$24,000 dollars as the 2015 payment under this lease/purchase contract. (Recommended by Selectmen 3-0)

Motion made by James Weagle and seconded by James Tierney to accept article as read.

Discussion: Kathy Wiles asked how much is in the fund and if we expend how much and wondered if there was any left could we use it for our 2015 payment. Tierney said if both items are approved not all trade in goes with 1 may not go towards just one. He said that we cannot use capital reserve funds for lease except for the final payment when you get title. He said that there will still be some money left. Dave auger said if article 19 passes does it obligate next year’s budget. Tierney answered yes. Dave auger asked the definition of escape clause. Tierney said they take it back at no penalty. Larry Gray asked if anyone considered a rental or used. Glenn said it never got brought to us. No further discussion.

Hand held card vote. Article 19 passed as read.

Article 20: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$43,991 dollars, to fund the following charitable organizations at the amounts shown:

Groveton Senior Meals	\$15,000
Child Advocacy Center of Coos County	\$ 2438
Northwoods Home Health & Hospice	\$12,759
Northern Human Services	\$ 2,650
Caleb Interfaith Volunteer Caregivers	\$ 2,000
Tri-County Community Action	\$ 4,225
Northern Gateway Regional Chamber of Commerce	\$ 1,219
CASA of New Hampshire	\$ 500
American Red Cross – NH Region	\$ 2,200
Center for New Beginnings	\$ 500
Lancaster Community Cupboard	\$ 500

(Recommended by Selectmen 3-0)

Motion made by James Tierney and seconded by James Weagle to accept article as read.

Discussion: Jack Bernard said at one time they requested that people who request money to be here to tell us about it. Tierney said it was requested when budget committee was here and asked to include a letter and we’ve gotten those letters from everyone who made a request. Brian Bresnahan is guessing the total amount is returned to this community. Brian said that he is involved with the Northern Gateway Regional Chamber of Commerce and said the kiosk is visited daily and that the towns internet went down and we went to kiosk to finish their work. Marcel spoke on child advocacy center which is now located in Groveton above the bank. Brian Bresnahan said Tri County Cap moved to Groveton from Lancaster. Kathy Wiles said that these articles do come back to this community. She said weatherization, oil, & electrical assistance has been spent well in Groveton. Megan Littlehale spoke on Northern Human Services. Nancy Merrow asked about criteria and some of not been

answered was the numbers based on population or actual services to the people. James Tierney said it was reported on numbers served in Groveton. Nancy Merrow asked about senior meals and what is the \$15,000 used for. Deb Montgomery said it was used for food and gas for stoves and is all billed directly to town. Nancy Merrow asked if the Groveton Foundation funded gas. Deb Montgomery answered no and added that it was a donation to the church. Nancy asked Ms. Montgomery who got paid for their services. Deb answered that the money that is collected pays for the cooks and none of pay is from \$15,000. Merrow stated that it pays for meals, takeout, and delivery and added that it's \$12-17000 dollars additional income. Deb Montgomery said they serve 44 weeks a year. Nancy Merrow said 28 people per week and 13 deliveries only came to \$12000. She added that she thought it was done originally done by James Wemyss . Deb Montgomery said that was a long time ago and things have changed. Deb added that the money from town is for food, garbage bags, and supplies. James Tierney said the bill is to the town and added that if the bill doesn't come in it doesn't go out. No further discussion.

Hand held card vote. Article 20 passed as read.

Article 21: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,970 for the Tri-County CAP, Inc, North Country Elder Program in support of the Seniors Meals Program home delivery. (Inserted by petition of voters) (Recommended by Selectmen 3-0)

Motion made by John Normand and seconded by James Weagle to accept article as read.

Discussion: John Normand said that the meals are brought out of Whitefield and the recipients get 2 hot per week and 5 frozen per week. He added that it's 7 per week. Normand said that in 2014 71 people in town received this. Normand said that 2793 meals are delivered and most of the recipients are home bound. No further discussion.

Hand held card vote. Article 21 passed as read.

Article 22: To see if the Town of Northumberland will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$2,500.00 (Twenty five hundred dollars) to support North Country Transit's Senior Transportation. (Inserted by petition of voters) (Recommended by Selectmen 3-0)

Motion made by John Normand and seconded by Mario Audit to accept article as read.

Discussion: John Normand said that this is the little blue bus seen in town and its wheelchair accessible and in town 7 days a week 3 or 4 times a day to do anything that they want to do. John works 2 days and Paul Bouchard works 3. Mark Robinson asked if they go to the hospital and said that we have an ambulance for that. Several in the crowd answered that it was for an appointment. No further discussion.

Hand held card vote. Article 22 passed as read.

Article 23: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,500 dollars for the purpose of supporting the Groveton Chem-Free Graduation Fund. These funds to be used to promote alcohol and drug free youth by sponsoring a chemical-free graduation celebration. (Inserted by petition of voters) (Recommended by Selectmen 3-0)

Motion made by Barbara Wheelock and seconded by Melinda Kennett to accept article

as read.

Discussion Nancy Merrow asked if they were a petitioner. Barbara and Melinda are both petitioners... No further discussion.

Hand held card vote. Article 23 passed as read.

Article 24: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$2,500 dollars for the Groveton Cal Ripken Baseball program, to be used to cover accident and liability insurance, tournaments and registration fees. (Inserted by petition of voters) (Recommended by Selectmen 3-0)

Motion made by Angela Simino and seconded by Mario Audit to accept article as read.

Discussion: Mark Robinson asked if this was part of rec center and Angie Simino answered that it wasn't. Mark asked if it was school related. Angela Simino said it was a group of volunteers made up of several towns and it's done under their rules and added that it is not associated with the rec or school. No further discussion.

Hand held card vote. Article 24 passed as read.

Article 25: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$2,500 dollars for the Groveton Community Christmas Organization. (Recommended by Selectmen 3-0)

Motion made by James Weagle and seconded by Michael Phillips to accept article as read.

No discussion.

Hand held card vote. Article 25 passed as read.

Article 26: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,000 dollars for the Groveton Beautification Organization. (Recommended by Selectmen 3-0)

Motion made by James Tierney and seconded by Michael Phillips to accept article as read.

Discussion: Eric Mortenson asked what we are beautifying. Jodi Paradis answered that they are putting up flowers around town. No further discussion.

Hand held card vote. Article 26 passed as read.

Article 27; To see if the Town will vote to change the name and intent of the Water Pump Capital Reserve Fund, established 2011, of which the Board of Selectmen are agents to expend, to the Water System CRF. The new intent will allow the fund to be used for the purchase, repair and rebuild of any part of the water system, not just pumps. Additionally, to appoint the Board of Selectmen as agents to expend. (2/3 vote required) (Recommended by Selectmen 3-0)

Motion made by James Weagle and seconded by James Tierney to accept article as read.

Discussion Mark Robinson said if the money gets lost in water system fund in repairs could we not

have this money. James Weagle said that if something happens and something needs to be repaired we have the option to use this and it can only be used for the pump. If something critical goes down we can at least fix it. No further discussion.

Vote count on hand held cards by Supervisors of the Checklist. Yes has it as there were only 2 no and the rest were yes. Article 27 passed as read.

Article 28: To see if the Town will vote to change the name and intent of the Municipal Office Building Capital Reserve Fund, established 2010, of which the Board of Selectmen are agents to expend, to the Municipal Buildings Fund CRF. The new intent will allow the fund to be used for the purchase, repair, rebuild or alteration to any municipal building. Additionally, to appoint the Board of Selectmen as agents to expend. (2/3 vote required) (Recommended by Selectmen 3-0)

Motion made by James Tierney and seconded by James Weagle to accept article as read.

Discussion. Al Rossetto asked to define building. Tierney said the new verbiage includes town office, garage, transfer station, and any other municipal buildings. He added that repairs can be done to any building. Rossetto asked if the library was included. Tierney said that the library has library trustees, but it has its own money sources and own people running it. Robin Irving asked if the Meeting House was included in this article. Tierney answered that it did include that building. Mark Robinson asked about purchasing a building. Tierney answered that voters are involved with a purchase. Kathy Frechette asked if that included a rented building. Weagle answered that is was not including a rented building. Uldric Bernard said he was bringing up old sour subject that we moved out of the other building and now we are paying another rent deal. He said he was for the new building. Moderator Young answered that it doesn't have anything to do with this and will get back to it on article 35. No further discussion.

Hand held card vote counted by Supervisors of the Checklist. Yes has it as only 3 apposed. Article 28 passed as read.

Article 29: To see if the Town will vote to enter into a deeded easement agreement on those portions of Mechanic Street not owned by the town for the purpose of extending water and sewer mains down the length of Mechanic Street, said construction to be fully funded through grant funding prior to entering into the agreement. The Town will retain ownership and responsibility for upkeep and maintenance of the water and sewer mains. (Recommended by Selectmen 3-0)

Motion made by James Weagle and seconded by James Tierney to accept article as read.

Amendment adds “and/or private financing” into article 29 instead of just “grant funded” and it changes it from “Mechanic Street” to “Loop Road”.

Motion made by James Tierney and seconded by James Weagle to amend this article.

Discussion on amendment: Tierney said no money is needed from town and added that once it's in we own it operate it and maintain it. He said that the pipes would be ours and the road would be Chapman's and private. Tierney said that if the pipe breaks we fix it and put it back the way it was and added that hopefully with a new construction it will be ok for 20-30 years. Tierney added that hopefully there will be new businesses in there paying for this.

James Tierney made a motion and James Weagle seconded it to allow Steve Lafrance

talk about the design and amendment.

Steve Lafrance, engineer, said that Bob Chapman asked him to come and do presentation on the old mill site. He said Chapman asked for a plan to provide good water and sewer to this site. He said that this article is just the Mechanic Street site he said and it's pretty simple. He showed a map of what they are talking about doing and having access from 2 locations. Steve said Bob Chapman has an idea of creating a loop and constructing new buildings on the site. He said the intent is to provide municipal water and gravity sewer to these proposed buildings. He said it's unlikely that it could be serviced by a gravity sewer so it will need a pump house. He said that by the town accepting this easement will accept responsibility of this water and sewer and is required by one of the grants. He said that once the work is complete the town will accept maintenance. Steve said the cost estimate \$1.35 million just for utilities. Chapman is talking to quite a few different companies who express interest and said that Chapman is putting a lot of effort into it. Mark Robinson asked Steve Lafrance about fire hydrants. Lafrance said they are on there, 5 or 6 on it. Marks asked if it was for industrial use. Lafrance said it would put more demand on the system, but it's dropped and this won't get us back to that level of demand that we once had. Lafrance said it will be connected by the bridge and Mechanic Street. He added that it wouldn't take much effort to connect another point to the hill. Lafrance said there is a 10 inch pipe by covered bridge currently but they are talking 8 inch pipe now. Mark Robinson asked if we could currently handle it extra and Steve answered absolutely. Mark asked if it's under river would it change pressure. Steve answered no because tank elevation doesn't change. Wade White said pictures looks look and asked if anyone has done test board and doesn't see how it would work but the pictures and ideas look good. Steve Lafrance answered that the test boards have not been done. White said once you go down 6 feet there's a lot of chips and logs. Lafrance said detailed analysis has not been done yet but he feels confident and the town is not going to pay the bill but once it is completed town owns it. Cathy Riendeau asked how long it would be to do it. Steve said 6 months of design and permits and roughly a year to begin. Steve said laying the ground work with the article can start federal paperwork and such. Lafrance said he feels we should lay the ground work as it's the best opportunity. Nancy Merrow said at the public hearing did she not hear that there were proof that 25 jobs needed to be ready to go. Robin Irving said the grant requires 25 jobs be promised for the money, so yes. Irving added that if they do not follow through with 25 jobs, the company has to pay back \$20,000 per job. Kathy Wiles asked who guaranteeing the EBC grant. Tierney said you have to supply the name of the company coming in on the documentation for the grant and that the application will have that and it's up to Mr. Chapman to supply that information. Kathy said we need to support this article. Dan Becker asked if the selectmen are confident that we are not adding headaches. Tierney said no and he trusts the engineers work and no danger. Tierney said there is new construction and doesn't expect problems. Lee Rice asked about the materials if they are compatible. Steve Lafance said they expect the same materials to fit what we have now. Mark Robinson asked on pump station on sewer, electricity and maintenance. Lafrance said once we are the owner we take that over.

Dave Auger made a motion to move the question and it was seconded by Daniel Becker. Vote to move passed.

Discussion on amended article 29: Jon woodworth said he assumes that someone is going to oversee it. Tierney said water department and DES are going to oversee this project. No further discussion

Hand held card vote. Amended article 29 passed as read.

Article 30: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$100,000 dollars for the purpose of paying down the Tax Anticipation Note. (Recommended by Selectmen 3-0)

Motion made by James Weagle and seconded by James Tierney to accept article as

read.

Discussion: Michael Phillips wanted to talk about our debt. He said that we have a tan note and we owe \$800,000. He added that half we could have paid off and then borrow again. Phillips said that what has happened is the past years we have been in debt. He said part of this is due to inability to pay taxes and get caught up. Phillips said when we take a property and bid it out we do not get the taxes back on that bid. He added that part of this tan note is about we lose value on properties being out for bid and we have to make it up. He explained about setting a tax rate and set an overlay. He said we put \$30,000 in overlay which is a small amount and too make this zero is fine, but he wanted to let people know these things. Tracey Morrill wanted to know what we pay on interest. Michael Phillips said \$11,000 last year paid on interest. Michael said it's not an investors dream and point well taken. Dave Auger asked Michael Phillips about abatement request from utilities if the town loses what will happen with revenue and is there a payback from prior years. Michael said Eversource, Fairpoint, and Powerhouse Systems are asking for the abatement. Michael said Eversource could get \$750,000 in 2016 in a worst case scenario. Fairpoint is not huge and Powerhouse isn't much. Michael said we don't expect to lose, but we need to be aware of it. Carl Ladd said he's not an expert but if we are adding \$100,000 to the taxes we are already going to be collecting we are going to raise their taxes which will increase uncollected taxes and is confused how it will benefit us. Tierney said he spoke to DRA and it is much easier to change a money amount then not, so it was put in as a number just to talk about. He said it's ok if there is no vote its ok and number changed and talk about it with the folks who vote. He said if we want to start paying it down we can but it's merely discussion. Phillips said we could read between the lines in this someone can change this to zero so to amend or vote no. Jon Woodworth said if we vote yes are we going to be able to borrow again. Phillips said it is a possibility. Kathy Wiles mentioned the tax loss. Wiles asked if there are abatements being issued. Phillips said that he hears many stories of explanations from those who can't pay taxes back. He said when they get into a hole it's hard to get out of it. He added in scenarios if someone comes forward from a foreclosure they have abated interest if it's paid in full. Wiles wants to know how many we took back for unpaid taxes. Phillips said we currently have 6 to sell. He said 16 have sold from 2008-2014 from what we have taken. Elizabeth Pearce said we are currently in debt by \$800+ thousand dollars and what are chances of town going bankrupt. Phillips said if nothing changes and we keep losing and our valuation doesn't change this pattern will continue and maybe a tan note isn't enough. Phillips said something needs to happen and he's hopeful. Tierney said 3 years we'd be tapped out on our current TAN note with the short fall.

Dave Auger made a motion to amend to change number to “\$25,000” and seconded by Michael Phillips.

Discussion on amending to \$25,000: Auger likes the idea of talking about the problem and doing a little a time each year. No further discussion on amending.

Hand held card vote. Amendment passed.

Discussion on article 30 amended article: Deb Lakin says the burden is being put on tax payers because of people not paying their taxes. Deb added that she's fortunate to be able to pay her taxes. No further discussion.

Hand held card count vote by Supervisors of the Checklist. Results: 56 YES 30 NO. Amended article 30 passed as read.

Article 31: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$8,986 dollars for the Northumberland Police Department, to be used for the purchase of two (2) mobile radios for the police cruisers and further to authorize the selectmen to apply for and accept any grants for said

purchase and balance to come from taxation. (Recommended by Selectmen 3-0)

Motion made by James Weagle and seconded by Michael Phillips to accept article as read.

Discussion: Marcel Platt said it had to be brought to the people due to dollar amount. He explained that the current radios are 14 years old and showing indication of problems. Marcel said he decided to put 2 in and hoping to get grants for reimbursement for half. Uldric Bernard said other than chasing for grants for radios why this wasn't in regular budget. Marcel said it would be out of the cap improvement fund and operating budget for equipment is only \$3000. Carl Ladd said it should be budgetary item and why wouldn't it be put in budget line. Carl said it simply seems it's budgeting by nickel and dime and all these articles. Ladd said he really thinks it has to be part of a budget. Mike Phillips said to get grant money we had to have it on warrant article. Mark Robinson wondered why new car doesn't come with radio. Marcel said it is being maintained as needed and no support on the old radios. Kathy Wiles asks for what happens to 50% that comes back. Keith Young said the balance comes back to the town. James Tierney said we pay up front and if this passes, he puts in for grants, and by the time the tax rate is set we only look at it from \$4500 figure. Heather Caouette said if there is \$3000 in budget why not put it towards this. Marcel said that the \$3000 is for the other equipment. No further discussion.

Hand held card vote. Article 31 passed as read.

Article 32: To see if the Town will vote to accept Scott Street, so called, and upgrade its Class VI road classification to Class V in order to be maintained by the Town as a public way, such street running off Riverside Drive and deeded to the town by Irving R. and Paulina M. Covell on July 26, 1961 (this deed having been recorded at the Coos Registry of Deeds at Vol. 509 Page 100 on November 6, 1967). (Inserted by petition of voters) (Recommended by Selectmen 3-0)

Motion made by Ed Robinson and seconded by George Riendeau to accept article as read.

Discussion: Cindy Rainville said that this street goes to her parents' home. She said this past winter the town stopped plowing and was told to go through this process to have it maintained again because of the classification of this road. Michael Phillips said it was not ever accepted as a road and should have never been maintained but it is totally reasonable for town to plow it and he is voting for it as a public road to recognize them. Elaine Gray said all of these articles are sent to town attorney and they asked if this road was ever accepted and the research showed that it was never approved in that manner. Mr. Covill deeded it to the town and a trailer park got denied in 1969. Because it never had been approved or unapproved and asked that it be taken to the voters. The planning board did not approve them maintaining this road but this requires a 2/3 vote because the planning board didn't approve it. Ed Robinson said the town has always maintained it and paved it. Uldric Bernard said in the past anyone who wanted to give their road to the town had to have road up to standards. Dave Auger asked about planning board decision and Elaine Gray answered that the planning board said it had to be 2/3 majority vote. Al Rossetto said planning board decided not to accept it because it needs work to come up to code. He believes we should not take over and upgrade it basically a private driveway. George Riendeau said it is town owned. Kathy Wiles we already have been taking care of it for 40 years and we should continue. Mark Robinson said the town owns the road already and so we should step up and take care of it. James Tierney said the request for a different road came up 2 years ago for Gould road. He said we hadn't maintained it so we didn't take that over to maintain it. Tierney added that if this is what the body wants to do we'll have to plow it. He said it will be met to specks of a class v road which could be dirt. Terrance Bedell asked what is the liability. James

Tierney said it's a class VI road can be barred and town has no liability. He said basically it's used at your own risk. Samantha McMann asked how many lived there. Elaine answered 1. Devin Atkinson asked if they were under the assumption that it was being plowed by the town. Riendeaus said it being plowed when they bought it.

Terri Charron made a motion to move the question and seconded by Carl Ladd. Passed to move.

Card vote counted by Supervisors of the Checklist. There are only a few nos so the yes's have it by 2/3 majority. Article 32 passed as read.

Article 33: To see if the Town will vote to instruct the Selectmen to appoint all other officers as required by law.

Motion made by Michael Phillips and seconded by James Weagle to accept article as read.

No discussion.

Hand held card vote. Article 33 passed as read.

Article 34: To hear reports of agents, auditors, committees or other officers heretofore chosen and pass any vote relating thereto.

Motion made by Michael Phillips and seconded by James Weagle to accept article as read.

No discussion.

Hand held card vote. Article 34 passed as read.

Article 35: To transact any other business that may be legally brought before said meeting.

Motion made by Carl Ladd and seconded by Denise Normand to accept article as read.

Discussion: Uldric Bernard said everything got passed and we are in a crisis of no one payed taxes and we can't pay TAN note. He added that he believes somewhere along the line if we never want to give up anything we are going to go bankrupt. He wondered why are we still using old town office and now we've added just to use the room and loss of tax revenue. He said if we don't cut across the board and we continue to struggle and lose their houses we will have to make hard choices in the near future. Bernard said he'd like to see things up and running at the mill. Cathy Riendeau said it means a lot to have their article approved. Moderator Keith Young asked everyone to return their cards to the Supervisors of the checklist as they left the meeting. No further discussion.

Hand held card vote. Article 35 passed as read.

Motion made by Carl Ladd and seconded by Denise Normand to adjourn. Motion passed unanimously by hand held card vote.

Meeting was adjourned at 3:10 by Moderator Keith Young on 3/14/2015.

NORTHUMBERLAND SCHOOL ELECTION RESULTS:

Ballots cast: 322

Moderator: Keith Young (Write-in)

Clerk: Kathy Wiles

Treasurer: Melody Barney

Board of Education: Glenn Cassady

Respectfully submitted,

Melinda "Min" Marshall Kennett

Town Clerk

Town of Northumberland