

TOWN OF TROY
Town Meeting Minutes
March 14, 2023

Town meeting began with the polls being opened at 10:00 am on Tuesday March 14, 2023 by Moderator Richard HKS Thackston at the Samuel E. Paul Community Center, for the purpose of electing Town Officers and voting on Zoning Amendments and the School District Warrant. Voting continued until 7:00 pm at which time the counting of the ballots commenced.

The meeting reconvened on Wednesday March 15, 2023 at the Troy Elementary School to act upon the remaining articles in the Town Warrant with Moderator Richard HKS Thackston presiding.

Moderator Richard HKS Thackston opened the meeting at 7:17pm and led us in the Pledge of Allegiance. Dick Thackston spoke and thanked Janet McCullough for all her many years of service to the town of Troy serving on many boards and elected positions. Then Dick introduced State Representative Jennifer Rhodes who read and presented Janet McCullough with a commendation award signed by Governor Sununu and a recognition of declaration signed by Speaker of the House Sherman A Packard in recognition of all the time she has given to the town.

The Moderator then read the ballot results from yesterday's voting.

Article 1 – Election of Officers

| | |
|----------------------------------|--|
| Selectman for 3yrs | Curtis Hopkins |
| Library Trustee 3 yrs | Kristan Tilton |
| Cemetery Trustee 3 yrs | Richard HKS Thackston |
| Fire Chief 3 yrs | Mark Huntoon |
| Trustee of the Trust Funds 3 yrs | Allan Bailey |
| Water & Sewer Commission 5 yrs | Courtney Davis |
| Water & Sewer Commission 4 yrs | Benjamin R Drugg |
| Water & Sewer Commission 3 yrs | Adam M Hopkins |
| Water & Sewer Commission 1 yr | Darline Harris |
| Planning Board 3 yrs | Michael Leclerc & Matthew Meacham |
| Planning Board 1 yr | David P Forcier II |
| Zoning Board of Adjustment 3 yrs | Brian Leblanc |
| Zoning Board of Adjustment 1 yr | Deborah Wilson |
| Budget Committee 3 yrs | Allan Bailey, Tara Chasse & Benjamin R Drugg |
| Budget Committee 2 yrs | Richard HKS Thackston & Matthew Meacham |
| Budget Committee 1 yr | Deborah Wilson |

Article 2 - Are you in favor of Amendment #1 as proposed by the Planning Board for the Troy Zoning Ordinance as follows?

To add a new Paragraph G. to Article XII – Supplemental Provisions, that would allow Campgrounds as a permitted use in the Mountain and Rural Districts, and by Conditional Use Permit in all other zoning districts, subject to certain criteria regarding lot size, setbacks, and standards set forth in the Site Plan Review Regulations.

89 YES 71 NO

Article 3 - Are you in favor of Amendment #2 as proposed by the Planning Board for the Troy Zoning Ordinance as follows?

To amend Article XXI – Definitions, by adding the following definitions:

Campground: Means a parcel of land used for recreational camping on which campsites are occupied for temporary use for recreational dwelling purposes only, and not for permanent residency.

Campsite: Means an area within a campground designated for the placement of a tent, recreational vehicle (as defined by RSA 216-I, VIII), or cabin for the overnight use of guests.

96 YES 64 NO

Article 4 - Are you in favor of Amendment #3 as proposed by the Planning Board for the Troy Zoning Ordinance as follows?

To amend Article XXI – Definitions, as follows: “Lot of Record – Land designated as a separate and distinct parcel in a legally recorded deed ~~and plan~~ filed in the records of Cheshire County Registry of Deeds in Keene, New Hampshire.”

105 YES 55 NO

Article 5 - Are you in favor of Amendment #4 as proposed by the Planning Board for the Troy Zoning Ordinance as follows?

To amend Article XI – Mill District, as follows:

D. Performance Standards. The following standards are intended to address aesthetic issues, as well as off-site impacts associated with the redevelopment of the site. ~~Any proposed use in the Mill District must first obtain site plan approval from the Planning Board, subject to the Town's Site Plan Review Regulations.~~

101 YES 59 NO

Article 6 - Bond to perform Wastewater Treatment Facility Upgrade Planning, Piloting, Sludge Removal and/or Upgrade Implementation

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Seven Hundred Sixty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$765,000) for the purpose of performing Wastewater Treatment Facility Upgrade Planning, Piloting, Sludge Removal and/or Implementation of any Upgrades that are deemed necessary through the Upgrade Planning process, that will qualify the Town for federal and state funds, such sum to be raised by the issuance of serial bonds and notes not to exceed Seven Hundred Sixty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$765,000) under and in compliance with the provisions of the Municipal Finance Act (NH RSA 33:1 et. seq., as amended) and to authorize the Town to issue and negotiate such bonds or notes and determine the rate of interest thereon, and to take such actions as may be necessary to affect the issuance, negotiation, sale, and delivery of such bonds or notes as shall be in the best interest of the Town. Additionally, to authorize the Town to apply for and accept grants or other funds that may reduce the amount to be repaid and participate in the State Revolving Fund (SRF) RSA 486.14 established for this purpose, and to allow the Town to expend such monies as become available from the federal and state governments and pass any vote relating thereto. It is anticipated that the Town will receive up to Two Hundred Sixty-Six Thousand Two Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$266,250) in principal forgiveness from the State Revolving Fund loan program.

If this Article passes, Article 7, is removed from the Warrant. If this Article does not pass, continue to Article 7 for consideration.

The Board of Selectmen recommends this appropriation. The Budget Committee recommends this appropriation. 3/5 Ballot Vote Required.

Discussion followed Ballot Vote 55 YES 6 NO

PASSED AS PRESENTED

Article 7 - Bond to perform Wastewater Treatment Facility Upgrade Planning and Piloting

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Two Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$200,000) for the purpose of performing Wastewater Treatment Facility Upgrade Planning and Piloting, that will qualify the Town for federal and state funds, such sum to be raised by the issuance of serial bonds and notes not to exceed Two Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$200,000) under and in compliance with the provisions of the Municipal Finance Act (NH RSA 33:1 et. seq., as amended) and to authorize the Town to issue and negotiate such bonds or notes and determine the rate of interest thereon, and to take such actions as may be necessary to affect the issuance, negotiation, sale and delivery of such bonds or notes as shall be in the best interest of the Town. Additionally, to authorize the Town to apply for and accept grants or other funds that may reduce the amount to be repaid and participate in the State Revolving Fund (SRF) RSA 486.14 established for this purpose, and to allow the Town to expend such monies as become available from the federal and state governments and pass any vote relating thereto. It is anticipated that the Town will receive up to One Hundred Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$125,000) in principal forgiveness from the State Revolving Fund loan program.

The Board of Selectmen recommends this appropriation. The Budget Committee recommends this appropriation. 3/5 Ballot Vote Required

REMOVED FROM THE WARRANT

Article 8 – Operating Budget

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Two Million Six Hundred Eleven Thousand Four Hundred Seventy-Nine Dollars (\$2,611,479) for general government operations January 1, 2023 to December 31, 2023.

| | Recommendations | |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------|------------------|
| | Board of Selectmen | Budget Committee |
| Selectmen’s Office | \$305,720 | \$305,720 |
| Town Clerk/Tax Collector’s Office | \$138,948 | \$138,948 |
| Elections & Registration | \$1,528 | \$1,528 |
| Auditors for Town Books | \$56,000 | \$56,000 |
| Judicial & Legal | \$30,000 | \$30,000 |
| Historical Society | \$950 | \$950 |
| Planning Board | \$4,829 | \$4,829 |
| Zoning Board of Adjustment | \$1,854 | \$1,854 |
| Kimball Hall | \$8,300 | \$8,300 |
| Town Hall Building | \$32,701 | \$32,701 |
| Cheshire Railroad Depot | \$4,430 | \$4,430 |
| Regional Associations | \$4,050 | \$4,050 |
| Other General Government | \$10,000 | \$10,000 |
| Police Department | \$471,281 | \$471,281 |
| Police Revenue Offset | \$44,907 | \$44,907 |
| Ambulance Service | \$148,223 | \$148,223 |
| Emergency Services Building | \$11,246 | \$11,246 |
| Fire Department | \$110,069 | \$110,069 |
| Forest Fire Suppression | \$2,485 | \$2,485 |
| Building Inspector | \$20,000 | \$20,000 |
| Emergency Management | \$442 | \$442 |
| Highway Department | \$297,999 | \$297,999 |
| Street Lighting | \$15,000 | \$15,000 |
| Transfer Station/Recycling | \$145,420 | \$145,420 |
| Animal Control | \$1,850 | \$1,850 |
| Welfare General Assistance | \$30,122 | \$30,122 |
| Town Common | \$7,800 | \$7,800 |
| War Memorial Recreation | \$28,884 | \$28,884 |
| Recreation Program | \$54,794 | \$54,794 |
| Library | \$117,548 | \$117,548 |
| Patriotic Purposes | \$800 | \$800 |
| Industrial Development | \$1 | \$1 |
| Conservation Commission | \$1,557 | \$1,557 |
| Tax Anticipation Note Interest | \$20,000 | \$20,000 |

| | | |
|------------------------|-------------|-------------|
| Water/Sewer Department | \$481,741 | \$481,741 |
| TOTAL | \$2,611,479 | \$2,611,479 |

The Board of Selectmen recommends this appropriation. The Budget Committee recommends this appropriation.

PASSED AS PRESENTED

Motion passed to not reconsider any previous articles

Article 9 - Sewer Plant Upgrade Bond Payment

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Eighty-Eight Thousand One Hundred Ninety-Five Dollars (\$88,195) for the annual bond payment for Sewer Plant Upgrades completed in 2007. The payment is broken down by principal amount of Seventy-Five Thousand Ninety-Eight Dollars (\$75,098) and interest amount of Thirteen Thousand Ninety-Seven Dollars (\$13,097).

The Board of Selectmen recommends this appropriation. The Budget Committee recommends this appropriation.

PASSED AS PRESENTED

Article 10 – Water Systems Improvement Bond Payment

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Forty-One Thousand Six Hundred One Dollars (\$41,601) for the annual bond payment for Water Systems Improvements completed in 2010. The payment is broken down by principal amount of Thirty-Three Thousand Nine Hundred Thirty-Six Dollars (\$33,936) and interest amount of Seven Thousand Six Hundred Sixty-Five Dollars (\$7,665).

The Board of Selectmen recommends this appropriation. The Budget Committee recommends this appropriation.

PASSED AS PRESENTED

Article 11 – Broadband Bond Payment

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Fifteen Thousand Sixty-Three Dollars (\$15,063) for the annual bond payment for the Broadband Project completed in 2021. The payment is broken down by principal amount of Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000) and interest amount of Five Thousand Sixty-Three Dollars (\$5,063).

The Board of Selectmen recommends this appropriation. The Budget Committee recommends this appropriation.

PASSED AS PRESENTED

Article 12 – Reassessment of Town Property

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Seventy Thousand Dollars (\$70,000) for the purpose of hiring a qualified assessing firm to conduct the state mandated Statistical Update of all town properties and to authorize the withdrawal of up to Seventy Thousand Dollars (\$70,000) from the Reassessment Capital Reserve Fund to offset this expense. No funds are to come from taxation.

The Board of Selectmen recommends this appropriation. The Budget Committee recommends this appropriation.

PASSED AS PRESENTED

Article 13 - Capital Reserve Funds Deposits

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of One Hundred Thirty Thousand Dollars (\$130,000) to deposit into the Capital Reserve Funds as specified:

| | |
|--------------------|-----------------|
| Reassessment | \$20,000 |
| Fire Department | \$25,000 |
| Highway Department | \$25,000 |
| Highway & Streets | \$50,000 |
| Police Department | <u>\$10,000</u> |
| <u>TOTAL</u> | \$130,000 |

The funds to be raised from general taxation.

The Board of Selectmen recommends this appropriation. The Budget Committee recommends this appropriation.

PASSED AS PRESENTED

Article 14 – Expendable Trust Funds Deposits

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Forty-Nine Thousand Dollars (\$49,000) to deposit into the Expendable Trust Funds as specified:

| | |
|---------------------------------|----------------|
| Town Buildings & Repairs | \$25,000 |
| Demolition, Repair of Buildings | \$7,500 |
| Samuel E. Paul War Memorial | \$1,500 |
| Gay-Kimball Library | \$10,000 |
| Computer Technology | <u>\$5,000</u> |
| <u>TOTAL</u> | \$49,000 |

Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000), Town Buildings & Repairs, to come from unassigned fund balance, the remainder to come from general taxation.

The Board of Selectmen recommends this appropriation. The Budget Committee recommends this appropriation.

PASSED AS PRESENTED

Article 15 – Elizabeth Giorgianni Trust Fund Changes

To see if the Town will vote to continue to follow the guidelines for the Elizabeth Giorgianni Trust Fund, as established at Town Meeting 2018. The principal balance of the Elizabeth Giorgianni Trust Fund shall remain in the trust fund and allowed to grow for at least five years before considering any disbursements from the fund. Any increase in principal of the Elizabeth Giorgianni Trust Fund shall remain in the trust fund and be allowed to grow for at least five years before considering any disbursements from the fund. When five years have elapsed, the voters may instruct the Trustees of the Trust Funds to begin disbursing a percentage of the annual increase in the balance of the Elizabeth Giorgianni Trust Fund. The amount disbursed each year shall be less than the increase earned during the previous calendar year. When five

years have elapsed, the voters may instruct the Trustees of the Trust Funds to allow the fund to continue to grow before considering any disbursements from the Elizabeth Giorgianni Trust Fund. When five years have elapsed, the voters may decide how to expend the disbursement from the Elizabeth Giorgianni Trust Fund.

The Board of Selectmen recommends this article. The Budget Committee recommends this article.

PASSED AS PRESENTED

Article 16 – Cemetery Operating Budget

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Thirty-Eight Thousand Five Hundred Thirty-Nine Dollars (\$38,539) for the care of cemeteries and to authorize the withdrawal of Thirty-Six Thousand Nine Hundred Fourteen Dollars (\$36,914) from the Cemetery Maintenance Expendable Trust and the Cemetery Perpetual Care Trust Funds. The balance of One Thousand Six Hundred Twenty-Five Dollars (\$1,625) to be raised from general taxation.

The Board of Selectmen recommends this appropriation. The Budget Committee recommends this appropriation.

PASSED AS PRESENTED

Article 17 - Cemetery Maintenance Trust & Perpetual Care Trust

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Nine Hundred Dollars (\$900) to be placed in the following accounts with said funds to come from the unassigned fund balance. Three Hundred Sixty Dollars (\$360) to go into the Cemetery Perpetual Care Trust Fund and Five Hundred Forty Dollars (\$540) to go into the Cemetery Maintenance Expendable Trust Fund.

The Board of Selectmen recommends this appropriation. The Budget Committee recommends this appropriation.

PASSED AS PRESENTED

Article 18 – Highway Department Vehicle

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Seventy-Five Thousand Dollars (\$75,000) for the purpose of purchasing a 2023 Ford F-450 dump truck and all necessary equipment. And to see if the Town will authorize withdrawal of same from the Highway Department Capital Reserve Fund.

The Board of Selectmen recommends this appropriation. The Budget Committee recommends this appropriation.

PASSED AS PRESENTED

Article 19 – Highway Department Equipment

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Seventy Thousand Dollars (\$70,000) for the purpose of purchasing a backhoe to replace the aging 2005 New Holland backhoe currently in service. And to see if the Town will authorize withdrawal of same from the Highway Department Capital Reserve Fund.

The Board of Selectmen recommends this appropriation. The Budget Committee recommends this appropriation.

PASSED AS PRESENTED

Article 20 - Roads & Streets

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Seventy-Three Thousand Dollars (\$73,000) for road repair and maintenance as specified:

| | |
|--|-----------|
| Bigelow Hill Road (project completion) | \$ 73,000 |
|--|-----------|

The funds are to be raised from:

| | |
|--------------------------------------|-----------|
| Highway Block Grant (2023 Estimated) | \$ 55,598 |
| General Taxation | \$ 17,402 |
| | \$ 73,000 |

The Board of Selectmen recommend this appropriation. The Budget Committee recommends this appropriation.

PASSED AS PRESENTED

Article 21 – Transfer Station Bags

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of up to Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000) to purchase transfer station bags and to authorize the withdrawal of Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000) from the Transfer Station/Recycling Center Special Revenue Fund to offset this expense.

The Board of Selectmen recommends this appropriation. The Budget Committee recommends this appropriation.

PASSED AS PRESENTED

Article 22 – Troy Historical Society, Kimball Hall

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate up to the sum of Eleven Thousand One Hundred Two Dollars (\$11,102) for the purpose of completing repairs to the exterior of Kimball Hall. The funds to come from Town Buildings & Repairs Expendable Trust.

The Board of Selectmen recommends this appropriation. The Budget Committee recommends this appropriation.

PASSED AS PRESENTED

Article 23 – Computer Technology Upgrade

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000) for the purpose of upgrading outdated computer hardware systems. The funds to come from the Computer Expendable Trust Fund.

The Board of Selectmen recommends this appropriation. The Budget Committee recommends this appropriation.

PASSED AS PRESENTED

Article 24 - Wage Increases

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Nineteen Thousand Three Hundred Ninety-Seven Dollars (\$19,397) for the purpose of providing Town employees with wage increases effective for all payroll after April 1, 2023. This amount includes payroll related expenses. This raise shall not apply to any elected officials, Library employees or Water and Sewer Department employees. (Library and Water and Sewer Department employees raises are covered in their own budgets separately). The raises will be based on cost-of-living increases, longevity and merit as recommended by department heads to the Board of Selectmen.

The Board of Selectmen recommends this appropriation. The Budget Committee recommends this appropriation.

PASSED AS PRESENTED

Article 25 - Town Clerk, Tax Collector Compensation

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Two Thousand Seven Hundred Thirty-Three Dollars (\$2,733) for the purpose of providing the Town Clerk, Tax Collector with a 4.5% increase for all payroll after April 1, 2023. This amount includes payroll related expenses.

The Board of Selectmen recommends this appropriation. The Budget Committee does not recommend this appropriation.

PASSED AS PRESENTED

Article 26 – Support for Public Services

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Fifteen Thousand Eight Hundred Fifteen Dollars (\$15,815) to support public services as specified:

| | |
|--|----------|
| Meals on Wheels | \$1,552 |
| Home Healthcare & Hospice | \$2,145 |
| Southwestern Community Services | \$2,500 |
| Monadnock Child Advocacy Center | \$2,500 |
| The Community Kitchen | \$1,100 |
| Community Volunteer Transportation | \$1,000 |
| CASA | \$1,000 |
| One Hundred Nights | \$1,000 |
| Monadnock Family Services | \$2,662 |
| Monadnock Center for Crisis Prevention | \$356 |
| <u>TOTAL</u> | \$15,815 |

The Board of Selectmen recommends this appropriation. The Budget Committee recommends this appropriation.

PASSED AS PRESENTED

Article 27 – Readopt Veterans’ Credit (72:28,II)

To see if the Town will vote to readopt the Veterans’ Tax Credit in accordance with RSA 72:28, II, for an annual tax credit on residential property of Five Hundred Dollars (\$500). (Majority vote required).

The Board of Selectmen recommends this article. The Budget Committee recommends this article.

PASSED AS PRESENTED

Article 28 - Town Clerk/Tax Collector Position

To see if the Town will vote to discontinue the combined offices of Town Clerk and Tax Collector effective with the term of the current Town Clerk/Tax Collector in March 2024.

The Board of Selectmen recommend this article.

FAILED

Article 29 – Town Clerk Position

To see if the Town will vote in favor of a three-year term for the office of Town Clerk effective with the end of the term of the current Town Clerk/Tax Collector in March 2024.

The Board of Selectmen recommend this article.

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Article 30 – Tax Collector Position

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to appoint, pursuant to RSA 41:2, a Tax Collector for a period of three years beginning at the end of the current term of the Town Clerk/Tax Collector in March 2024.

The Board of Selectmen recommend this article.

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Meeting adjourned at 9:39 pm



Marcy Johnson
Town Clerk