

RESULTS OF THE JACKSON TOWN MEETING MARCH 13, 2014

Polls were opened at 8:01 AM and closed at 7:00PM on March 11, 2014 by Moderator Willis Kelley to vote on Articles one through five.

The town meeting was called to order by Moderator Kelley on Thursday, March 13th at 7:00PM. Trish Hanlon led the group in a moment of prayer and reflection. Moderator Kelley then led the attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance and one verse of God Bless America.

In his opening comments, Moderator Kelley reviewed the results from Tuesday's ballot, reading aloud the winners of the election for town offices, school offices and warrant article results.

ARTICLE 1: To choose the necessary Town Officers for the ensuing year.

Position	Elected Candidate-# of votes
Selectmen for 3 yrs.	John Allen - 287
Town Clerk/Tax Collector for 3 yrs.	Karen Burton - 289
Town Treasurer for 3 yrs.	Kathleen Dougherty – 162 W-I
Library Trustee for 3 yrs.	Anne Lee Doig - 268
Town Moderator for 2 yrs.	Willis “Bill” Kelley - 268
Financial Auditor for 1 yr.	Dave Mason - 254
Supervisor of the Checklist for 6 yrs.	Karen Amato - 280
Trustee of the Trust Funds for 3 yrs.	Margaret “Joan” Davies - 276
Trustee of Cemeteries for 3 yrs.	Barbara Theriault – 295
School Moderator for 1 yr.	Tim Scott – 284
Member of the School Board for 3 yrs.	Keith Bradley – 257
Member of the School Board for 2 yrs.	Jerry Dougherty – 242
School Clerk for 1 yr.	Courtney Coutreau – 3 W-I
School Treasurer for 1 yr.	Christine Thompson – 3 W-I

ARTICLE 2: To see if the Town will vote to rescind Article 59, which was passed at the March 10, 1987, Town of Jackson Annual Town Meeting.

Article 59 said:

To see if the Town will vote, pursuant to RSA 31:41-C to prohibit the distribution of campaign material or electioneering or any activity which affects the safety, welfare, and rights of the voters in or around the Town Hall and on adjacent land owned by the town at any election held for any purpose in the Town of Jackson. Selectmen are in favor (3-0-0).

Result of votes: Yes: 252 No: 62

ARTICLE 3: To see if the Town will vote to ratify the electioneering policy as adopted by the Jackson School Board on August 19, 2013, which states as follows:

The Whitney Center may be used for federal, state, and local elections provided that electioneering is limited to the grassy area between the school parking lot and the entranceway to the Whitney Center, from the tree to Route 16B, as shown on the attached Plan. The “attached plan” is available for review at the Jackson Town Office and will be available for review at the Annual Town Meeting. Selectmen are in favor (3-0-0).

Result of votes: Yes: 283 No: 29

ARTICLE 4: To see if the Town will vote to approve the Electioneering Ordinance proposed by the Board of Selectmen, which prohibits the placement of political signs on Town-owned property. The Ordinance is available

for review at the Jackson Town Office and will be available for review at the Annual Town Meeting. Selectmen are in favor (3-0-0).

Result of votes: Yes: 279 No: 32

ARTICLE 5: Shall we permit the public library to retain all money it receives from its income-generating equipment to be used for general repairs and upgrading and for the purchase of books, supplies and income-generating equipment. Selectmen are in favor (3-0-0).

Result of votes: Yes: 300 No: 16

Moderator Kelley reminded everyone to be courteous and polite and if you have any questions or comments to direct those questions or comments to the moderator. He will give everyone a chance to speak on an article.

Moderator Kelley recognized Selectman John Allen regarding a quick message. John Allen announced we recently received an anonymous donation for a fine bench, which will sit outside the offices for when people are waiting. We are going to donate the bench in memories of Arthur Fernald and Michael Clemons and eventually get a plaque for those guys for their service to the town.

Moderator Kelley then asked for a motion to dismiss with the reading of the entire warrant since we will be reading and addressing each warrant individually. So moved and passed.

ARTICLE 6: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the Selectmen's recommended **Operating Budget** of the Town in the amount of **1,908,998**, not including appropriations by special warrant articles and other appropriations voted separately (see 2014 Budget). Selectmen are in favor (3-0-0).

DISCUSSION: Jerry Dougherty III, has an amendment to the bottom line, Moderator Kelley asked if it should be inserted at this time or wait until we get to the warrant article. Jerry Dougherty III, choses to act now. He asks if the town will raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,892,498 for the operating budget with said changes to come from reducing Planning Zoning by \$12,500 for Master Plan Build-out, \$3,000 for Fireworks and \$1,000 for beautification. The idea is these numbers are duplicated in other places in the warrant. Jerry Dougherty III, will let the selectmen explain. Moderator Kelley reminds everyone that they will be voting on the bottom line. It is up to the selectmen how they adjust that number up or down on that amount. Jerry Dougherty III gives the wording of the amendment to Willis Kelley. Moderator Kelley reads the following:

The amendment as proposed to see if the town will raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,892,498 for the operating budget. Said changes come from reducing Planning and Zoning by \$12,500 for the Master Plan Build-out, Recreation and Parks by \$3,000 for Fireworks and \$1,000 for beautification. The amendment is asking for the reducing of the bottom line \$16,500.00 for duplications of fireworks expense, town beautification and Master Plan Build-out. Betsy Harding asks for explanation of where duplication is. John Allen said that we already encumbered those funds, making those funds still available. The second item from page 89, Fireworks is in the Budget and duplicated in Article 34. Finally, Jackson Chamber Beautification Project is in the Budget and duplicated in Article 35. Jerry Dougherty IV, clarified that by taking it out of the budget, we will be voting on Articles 34 & 35 later and can vote up or down later.

Moderator Kelley reminded everyone that it is required today for the minutes for speakers to state their name for the record and names printed in the minutes.

Sarah Isberg asked should the articles be removed and left in the budget. Jerry Dougherty IV said because the selectmen were in favor of the articles, it is likely they will pass. John Allen agrees with Jerry Dougherty III that we leave it in. Moderator Kelley explained that a YES vote on the amendment reduces the bottom line and a NO vote means you are against it. The amendment was moved and seconded and passed unanimously.

Vote: (on operating budget of \$1,892,498, a net \$16,500 reduction to the original proposed budget). Verbal approval.

Dave Mason spoke about the change in tax rate, being 35% increase and his concern is whether there is a balance in the Un-designated Fund Balance from last year. Last year, the selectmen used \$454,000 of these unused funds to stabilize the tax rate. Again, in October, the selectmen used an additional \$147K to offset the tax rate. Dave Mason stated the selectmen could have proposed using funds from the unreserved account to offset the budget and warrant articles.

John Allen explained the process and their belief that they did severely underestimate the revenues. We do not know what they will be. With that said hopefully, we will have money coming in. We do have over 1 million in unreserved funds account. Trying to keep the unreserved fund at somewhere between 12-15% is recommended. Roughly, \$430,000 could be used to stabilize the tax rate this fall. Selectmen Bob Thompson mentioned that upper level recommendation was 17% for unreserved funds accounts and now it is advised to be between 12-15%. Jerry Dougherty IV said the unreserved fund balance should be considered for many years to come, not necessarily just for this fiscal year. Use of the Unreserved (Un-Designated) Fund Balance is ok for this year; look at it for future years.

Leslie Schomaker asked about the tax rate and John Allen mentioned that there is a reevaluation coming up and it could change the dynamics of it. Martha Benesh asked about \$1K in interest paid last year. Jerry Dougherty IV said we did not borrow money and that that item was in case we borrowed money.

Town Clerk/Tax Collectors Budget: Sarah Clemons asked why it has gone up. Selectmen John Allen mentioned the increase in hours that is proposed. Sarah Clemons asked what the wage was, what it will be and what the hourly rate would be. Selectmen Allen replied that the hourly rate has not changed only the number of hours increased (Please note correction, Town Clerk/Tax Collector position became salary on March 10, 2011 Article 27). Moderator Kelley explained that the Clerk's hours will increase and the Deputy Clerk's hours will decrease with the net result approximately \$5K more. Sarah asked if it is just wage and not benefits. Selectmen Bob Thompson stated a year ago at this time the Town Clerk/ Tax Collectors office was previously open eighteen hours to the public (Please note correction that one year ago the clerk/collectors office was open 16 hours to the public). The office will now be open twenty-eight hours to the public plus allowing another 7 hours of work to be done when the office is closed. Jerry Dougherty III asks why the Deputy Clerk's salary goes down so significantly. John Allen replied they were hoping that, the person working full time would not need a deputy as much. Penny Miller asked about the Town Clerk collecting a \$3 surcharge for every car registration, is that money included in wages or... Selectmen John Allen stated that it goes to revenue to the town, not the Town Clerk.

Selectmen Bob Thompson mentioned that the budget did not allow for \$750 for Elections & Registration Expenses. We are proposing funding \$750 for that line item. We cannot spend anything for an item if the budget is zero. If the budget has \$1 then we can spend for that line item. Moderator Kelley said the Selectmen are motioning to amend the bottom line budget by \$750. Karen Burton stated why it is not in the clerk's budget this year. Moderator Kelley said whether under responsibility of clerk or town, DRA would decide. Vote to increase by \$750
The amendment was moved and seconded and a verbal approval.

Financial Administration Budget of \$186,564: is there any discussion? Linda Little asked about the Town Administrator who has not been here a year and we gave her a 30% increase. I know we are here to vote on the Town Clerk's and the Police Department's increases. So why does the town administrator not have to wait? Moderator Kelley explained we are only talking about Town Administrator salary now and not the Town Clerk or Police Department. Selectmen Bob Thompson mentioned why the salaries were \$80,115 last year and \$80,504 for this year. Bob Thompson mentioned a restructuring in the Town Offices, and that upon hiring there was a contingent of a 90-day review and that is when her salary was restructured. There has been a reduction in the assistant's position, which allows for town administrator's increase. There is a 16% salary increase for this year. Linda Little is asking for clarification of 30% increase from last year, Bob Thompson mentions the agreement of a salary increase after her 90-day review. Bea Davis stated that the Town Administrator's salary is \$46,488, "Boy that's a hell of a job" plus benefits. Moderator Kelley asked if there are additional questions, Nancy Davis asked why our salaries and benefits are so high compared to Bartlett's Town Report. Bartlett's Administrator's salary is \$50K because only one person is running the office.

Christine Crow asked what steps the Selectmen are taking to find lower cost health insurance and asked whom do you call. Selectmen Bob Thompson stated we shop around every year or every other year. Bottom line is health insurance is going up for many years. Selectmen Thompson stated the employees pay 15% contribution of the cost and the town pays 85% of the health insurance benefits. The comment "The Town might not be able to afford to pay 85%". Bill Wogisch stated the Town Clerk is an elected official. Full time employees are hired.

George Howard asked what the basis for how we came up with the salary for the hourly rate. Selectmen said it is an hourly rate. George Howard asked what the hourly rate is; selectmen do not have the rate but could provide later. Jeanette Heidmann asked about the raise from the 90-day review, up 16% from last year's salary. Bob Thompson confirmed that the Town Administrator's salary did increase by 16% above what was budgeted for last year. Frank

Benesh asked how many hours per week, does she work. And did you say a 16% increase in total wages. Bob Thompson said between 37.5 to 40 hours per week.

Penny Miller mentioned that some employees pay 15% of their health insurance and others are grandfathered in with their health insurance. Are there current town employees that are grandfathered in with 100% health insurance? Selectmen Bob Thompson responded there are two. Someone asked is there an expiration date as to when they will no longer be grandfathered in? John Allen says NO to this question. Nancy Davis asked about why the cost of the premium is so high. COBRA is not nearly so high.

Martha Benesh asked is the Town Administrator salaried or is she time clocked. John Allen stated she is salary.

Andy Kearns asked if the 15% paid in is included in the health insurance line. Jerry Dougherty IV stated the insurance is a gross appropriation and it includes the 15% from the employee for the insurance. What comes from taxes will be less than that.

Hank Dresch asked why in 2013, Planning Board expended money where there was nothing appropriated and yet in the Clerk's Budget you needed to add funds for the Election and Registrations Expenses. Peter Malia explained there are exceptions that when a line item does not have any money then selectmen cannot use it. That is why we put \$750 back in.

Building Inspection – Gino Funicella asked why increase in rate. John Allen stated it is due to lack of billable hours. Jeanette Heidmann asked is this another total appropriation line item; John Allen said yes it should be a wash.

Public Safety – Jeanette Heidmann asked why increase in salaries for police by \$23K, are we hiring someone? Bill Lockard said NO to hiring, a question came up when we realized our police department is under-paid. It would be easy for another police department to pick them up for a slightly higher salary. We need to try to increase their salary to a more normal level. Bill Wogisch said that Carl will be receiving a 4% increase and the other officers will be receiving 8% increase. Additional increases over the next three years will be necessary. Wendy McVey asked are each of the officer's full time? Moderator Kelley said we have three full-time and one part time officer.

Bartlett Jackson Ambulance – Penny Miller asked how is it divided, John Allen said it is 60/40. Moderator Kelley stated the amount is extremely low for the cost of that operation.

Highway, Bridges and Street Light - Sara Clemons asked for breakdown of who is receiving what increases. A 4% increase across the board. Is the Road Agent getting a different increase than the rest of the staff? Jay Henry says NO it is the same.

Solid Waste Disposal – Selectmen John Allen stated we need to appropriate ground water monitoring. Gino Funicella stated in the early 90's we only had a couple of years of expenses for this issue. Moderator Kelley asked are we motioning to amend the bottom line by \$2,500? Jerry Dougherty IV stated we are in a contract with HEB since 2011 and 2012. Selectmen Bob Thompson stated we just received the letter from the Department of Environment Services two weeks ago.

The amendment was moved and seconded and a verbal approval.

Recreations and parks – Reduce this by \$4K for duplications as previously mentioned. Angus Badger asked why the Ball Field is separated. Selectmen John Allen said because of maintenance of fields. Ray Abbott said, "It is a mess, because of State of NH".

TANS Interest Paid – If money is needed, the item must be in the budget.

Moderator Kelley read aloud the new amended total bottom line of the operating budget is \$1,895,748.00

Vote: Verbal approval (unanimous)

ARTICLE 7: To see if the Town will vote to approve the Ordinance Pertaining to State and National Criminal Back grounding of Persons Engaged in Municipal Affairs pursuant to RSA 31:102-a and b. The Ordinance is available for review at the Jackson Town Office and will be available for review at the Annual Town Meeting. Selectmen are in favor (3-0-0).

DISCUSSION: Selectmen Bob Thompson spoke about a hawker or a peddler needs to have a federal background check. Selectmen have reviewed it and three selectmen have decided to have further study of this amendment. Selectmen are now recommending this article be defeated. Kevin Donohoe asked in the next year or two how do you expect to resolve this. Selectmen Thompson stated that the federal authorities who oversee federal background checks used to issue federal background checks on peddlers, hawkers and vendors. The federal authorities decided they would not perform these background checks without a specific law passed or without prior town ordinance. Selectmen Thompson asked to allow the selectmen to further review it over the next year and get the wording right. Trish Hanlon says Thank You.
Vote: Verbal defeat

ARTICLE 8: To see if the Town will vote to change the office of Town Treasurer from an elected position to an appointed position in accordance with RSA 41:26-e. Such appointment shall be made in accordance with RSA 669:17-d by the board of selectmen. Such appointment shall be made in writing and shall include the compensation to be paid. If approved the person holding the elected office shall continue to hold such office until the next annual town election following the vote. Selectmen are in favor (2-1-0).

DISCUSSION: Moved and seconded. Moderator Kelley received a request for a written ballot on this discussion. Bea Davis brought up petition for secret ballot. Ray Abbot stated why we should not give up the opportunity to elect our treasurer. He asked us to vote down this Article. Betsy Harding asked for the two selectmen to state why they chose to approve this article. Bill Lockard and Bob Thompson spoke why they voted for this. Andy Kearns asked about why appointing a person should be an option. Hank Benesh wondered why selectmen voted 2-1-0, was it because of need to have a qualified individual? Bill Lockard stated we are not trying to make a change. Dave Mason, Town Auditor said the Treasurer needs to be independent; and this article is a bad idea. Warren Schomaker, Treasurer, stated the election on March 11 elected a candidate, and now this article is asking us to cut her term to one year and change her position to appointed.

Moderator Kelley stated there are RSAs that require the appointment of a Treasurer in the case of the Treasurer leaving unexpectedly without any input from town residents. There may be a transition period where there may not be a treasurer available for a month or two. Kathy Dougherty elected as Town Treasurer would like to appoint a deputy if allowed by the town. Gino Funicella gave his reason for running was because he felt appointment by selectmen was not a good idea. Bea Davis stated since 1931 we have only had four elected treasurers. Moderator Kelley reminded that there is a secret ballot requested for this topic. Moderator Kelley stated that the signatures have been validated. If the petition is to be pulled, the petitioner and the five signatures must unanimously agree to pull the petition. Town Attorney stated the law requires the petitioner and the five names are registered voters and must be present to vote. One of the original voters was not present; therefore, this petition is null and void.

Wendy McVey spoke of the importance of Warren Schomaker and gave thanks to him for his dedication. Town Residents gave Warren Schomaker a standing ovation.
Vote: Verbal defeat

ARTICLE 9: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$32,500** for the purpose of granting **Health Insurance Benefits to the Town Clerk/Tax Collector** which is offered to all full time town employees as stated in the Jackson Personnel Policy. If approved, Health Insurance will be included in future operating budgets. Selectmen are in favor (3-0-0).

DISCUSSION: Bill Wogisch asked about the facts of benefits to all full time employees; Karen is not a full time employee; she is a part-time employee number 1. Number two her position is an elected position and I do not believe in the history of Jackson that we ever offered benefits to a part-time employee that was elected. What is the cost of this position compared to the past Town Clerk? Bob Thompson responded it would increase by 67% if both articles pass. John Allen stated that we are making that position a full time position by extending the hours. Jeanette Heidmann stated that Karen is assuming the majority of the hours, and she, Jeanette, is going to work limited part time hours to cover for training and time off. Karen wants to give more service to this office and many people have said they want this office open more hours. By adding the cost in Article 6, we now have given her the additional hours. There are many precedents set by many towns that already give their town clerk tax/tax collectors benefits for their full time position. So it is not like this has not already been done before. It is up to Karen what she wants her office hours to be. Everyone assumes that she will work the same as Selectmen's office. Jerry Dougherty III stated Selectmen cannot regulate the hours of an elected official. Sarah Clemons is not happy with the 67% raise that will affect her, also if this is going to be done then next year we could be voting to give the town treasurer benefits. Andy Kearns mentioned that the gross appropriations are the full amount and that Karen will be contributing 15%. Leslie Schomaker asked about the salary of

the Town Clerk and the salary of the Town Administrator and the responsibilities with each office. Moderator Kelley reminded we must stay on this article. Peter Benson stated there has been a lot of discussion around the personnel and staffing whether elected or appointed or whether they are part-time or full time. I sat in on the budget committee hearings, and our town employees are our most valuable resource. They are the only assets that appreciate over time. Fire trucks and buildings depreciate over time. Good employees are worth gold. We need to offer them for a good wage and health insurance. Bob Burton stated that Karen had planned no increase in salary for the position. Her idea was to make the office more available with more office hours. Warren Schomaker stated that he has worked closely with Karen the past year, and that we could not find a more dedicated person who he finds is refreshing. I have heard her say many times that she would like to make her hours more user friendly. Not just when the window is open, but also there is work being done when the window is closed. Warren stated that he is in favor of what this warrant article is about. Jeff Maynard, stated I just did the math, if this article is approved my taxes are going to go up 15 cents, "That's a bargain". Gino Funicella reminded everyone that Karen was overwhelmingly elected and that the office probably takes in 99% of all revenue for the town. And to have a top shelf person who will work in that office is vital. Sarah Clemons asked about a new policy if Karen is granted health insurance and is it for Karen only or the family. Moderator Kelley replied that the status of the new employee governs what policy they choose. Sarah Isberg asked is our road agent elected, Moderator Kelley replied no.

Karen Burton, Town Clerk/Tax Collector, wanted to clarify the way we handled this article and the next one is to protect the town. By stating that the person who holds this position must meet the minimum requirements that are offered by the town policy to all other full time employees. So, if the next employee who comes in and wants to work 20 hours per week, they would not be eligible for that benefit, because they are not meeting the minimal requirements that was set by the town.

Vote: Verbal approval (unanimous)

ARTICLE 10: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$4,000** for the purpose of granting **New Hampshire Retirement System (NHRS) Benefits to the Town Clerk/Tax Collector** which is offered to all full time town employees as stated in the Jackson Personnel Policy. If approved, NHRS Benefits will be included in future operating budgets. Selectmen are in favor (3-0-0).

DISCUSSION: none Vote: Verbal approval (unanimous)

ARTICLE 11: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$6,500** for the purchase a **phone system for the Town Offices** for the purpose of upgrading the current system so that all town buildings can be interconnected. Selectmen are in favor (3-0-0).

DISCUSSION: Larry Garland replied all town buildings and offices but not the school. The Library is a town building. Penny Miller asked do we pay for cell phones. Moderator Kelley said NO. Would it be more cost effective to pay for a cell phones or having a landline? It is for all town buildings and offices not just the highway department. Jay Henry answered the question about cell phone coverage. There is not enough quality service for fire, highway and police. Frank Benesh wanted to confirm that this would be a reduction in our operating costs. Bob Thompson confirmed that it is correct. With the quote from Northledge Technologies, we will be having a savings of \$1200 a year/month. We will be saving on landline cost.

Vote: Verbal approval (unanimous)

ARTICLE 12: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$1,500** for the purchase of a **portable sound system** for the purpose of amplifying Town Meetings and special events. Selectmen are in favor (3-0-0).

DISCUSSION: Ann Bennett reminded everyone there is a sound system in this building. John Allen mentioned the need at selectmen's meetings and town events. At the Memorial Day service, he was able to hear much better.

Vote: Verbal approval (unanimous)

ARTICLE 13: To see if the Town will vote to discontinue the Library Capital Reserve Fund (0061) created in 2008 for the purpose of constructing the new library, (Fund Balance as of 12/31/13 \$0.00). Selectmen are in favor (3-0-0).

DISCUSSION: none Vote: Verbal approval (unanimous)

ARTICLE 14: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$60,000** to be placed in the **Old Library Capital Reserve Fund** (0069 -Fund Balance as of 12/31/13 \$4,895.15) for the purpose of constructing a restroom and septic system, supplying water to, and maintenance of the Old Library. Selectmen are in favor (3-0-0).

DISCUSSION: Joan Aubrey, member of the old library committee, stated it has taken us 2 years to get a state approved septic system. Fritz Koeppel, neighbor, has granted us an easement for the leach field which will be on the Wentworth property. The \$60K will cover the cost of fixtures, and additional insulation as well as outside painting, fixing the ramp and grading of property. Dick Bennett does not believe \$60k will preserve that building. We already have bathrooms available in town. He believes there will be additional expenses in the future. Ray Abbott said it should have been done years ago. Penny Miller asked if there was any income generating fees that could be charged. Has the town ever considered selling the property with deeded restriction to protect the architecture of the building? Moderator Kelley stated to his recollection that there has never been any discussion about selling the facility. Bill Wogisch stated the girls have given a lot of time and effort, and this investment would be well worth it. John McVey asked what the value of the property is. Selectmen do not currently have the value of that property. Emily Benson asked about using the bathroom at the church. We have use of the bathroom, but it is not fair to the church to go into the building at night. We did approach the church and received permission to go across their property with the septic system. There is access to the bathroom when the church is open, just not at night. The old library committee approached the church about access for the septic system only. Larry Garland asked any other water fixtures proposed. Joan said no just, what is in the lavatory. There possibly will be outside faucets to water the flowers.

Barbara Theriault stated she has seen the work these girls have done. The building is beautiful all the floors have been redone and it is worth saving our history. Sarah Isberg said come and see the property. Peter Benson mentioned this is a change of use. Various concerns about a building on property that is not owned by the town. What is the best option for the building not just the most expensive? Allen Brooks spoke to other people about moving it to another location; this option would cost significantly more. This building and where it sits are important to us, and where it sits is as important to us as the building itself. Betsy Harding reminded people there is a time limit of 3 years to complete the project.

Vote: Article passed by hand vote

The old library is on the National Historic Register it is a small amount of money. Town owned property should have a toilet.

ARTICLE 15: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$5,000** to be placed in the **Bridge Repair Expendable Trust Fund** (0034 - Fund Balance as of 12/31/13 \$31,646.14) for the purpose of repairing and maintaining bridges. Selectmen are in favor (3-0-0).

DISCUSSION: - none Vote: Verbal approval (unanimous)

ARTICLE 16: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$5,000** to be placed in the **Dry Hydrant Expendable Trust Fund** (0049 - Fund Balance as of 12/31/13 \$184.54) for the purpose of repairing dry hydrants. Selectmen are in favor (3-0-0).

DISCUSSION: Jeanette Heidmann asked what a dry hydrant is. Jay Henry said it has no water, yet allows pumping from a pond. Bob Davis asked how many have been taken out. Jay Henry replied only three have been taken out.

Vote: Verbal approval (unanimous)

ARTICLE 17: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$18,000** for **sidewalk repairs** for the purpose of repairing the sidewalk from the Wildcat Service Station to the covered bridge. Selectmen are in favor (3-0-0).

DISCUSSION: Betsy Harding asked do we contract out. Bob Thompson confirmed we contract out for all paving. Jay Henry said the state is not responsible for sidewalks anywhere in the State of New Hampshire.

Vote: Verbal approval (unanimous)

ARTICLE 18: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$50,000** to be placed in the **Highway Truck Capital Reserve Fund** (0048 - Fund Balance as of 12/31/13 \$75,179.88) for the purpose of purchasing a new highway truck. Selectmen are in favor (3-0-0).

DISCUSSION: Jerry Dougherty IV asked when we are targeting to buy this truck. Jay Henry said this year. Jerry Dougherty IV mentioned that we were doing away with this account when we created the heavy highway account. Jay clarified.

Vote: Verbal approval (unanimous)

ARTICLE 19: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$95,000** for the **purchase of a new highway truck**. The sum of \$70,000 shall be withdrawn from the Highway Truck Capital Reserve Fund (see article 18) for this purpose and the remainder shall come from the proceeds from the sale of the 2005 highway truck (approximately \$25,000). Selectmen are in favor (3-0-0).

DISCUSSION: none Vote: Verbal approval (unanimous)

ARTICLE 20: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$30,000** to be placed in the **State Aid Reconstruction Expendable Fund** (0058 - Fund Balance as of 12/31/13 \$9,440.92) for the purpose of repairing and maintaining state roads in Jackson. Selectmen are in favor (3-0-0).

DISCUSSION: none Vote: Verbal approval (unanimous)

ARTICLE 21: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$100,000** to be placed in the **Road Reconstruction Capital Reserve Fund** (0064 - Fund Balance as of 12/31/13 \$5,180.34) for the purpose of road reconstruction of town roads. Selectmen are in favor (3-0-0).

DISCUSSION: Hank Dresch asked what is the definition of road reconstruction. Jay Henry replied it is reclaiming the road including pavement and all additional work needed.

Jerry Dougherty IV recommended offsetting this expense by using the Unreserved Fund Balance.

Vote: Verbal approval (unanimous)

ARTICLE 22: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$38,000** to be placed in the **Highway Repair and Reconstruction Fund** (MM - Fund Balance as of 12/31/13 \$4,777.95) for the purpose of highway repair and reconstruction. The sum of \$38,000, which is contingent upon the Town receipt of that amount from the anticipated State Highway Block Grant in 2014-2015. Selectmen are in favor (3-0-0).

DISCUSSION: None Vote: Verbal approval (unanimous)

ARTICLE 23: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$30,000** to be placed in the **Heavy Highway Vehicle Capital Reserve Fund** (0068 - Fund Balance as of 12/31/13 \$39.59) for the purpose of purchasing heavy highway vehicles. Selectmen are in favor (3-0-0).

DISCUSSION: Jerry Dougherty IV asked for reason for this fund. Jay Henry replied it was to put money away for future purchases. Jerry Dougherty suggested not appropriating this year. Jerry Dougherty motioned to amend to a sum of \$5k. Moved and Seconded. Bob Thompson said 27 vehicles have been purchased over 33 years. Goal was to replenish the fund for future needs. Any questions on amendment? Purpose for purchasing heavy equipment. Could it be used for repairs? Jay Henry says NO.

Vote on Amendment to make it \$5k amendment defeated.

Vote: Verbal approval (unanimous)

ARTICLE 24: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$3,000** to be placed in the **Police Department Equipment Expendable Trust Fund** (0051 - Fund Balance as of 12/31/13 \$8,729.82) for the purpose of purchasing, repairing or maintaining Police Department Equipment. Selectmen are in favor (3-0-0).

DISCUSSION: none Vote: Verbal approval (unanimous)

ARTICLE 25: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$15,350** to be placed in the **Police Cruiser Capital Reserve Fund** (0027 - Fund Balance as of 12/31/13 \$27,681.50) for the purpose of purchasing a new police cruiser. Selectmen are in favor (3-0-0).

DISCUSSION: Jeanette Heidmann asked the timing of said purchase. Carl stated in the next 12 months.

Vote: Verbal approval (unanimous)

ARTICLE 26: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$100,000** to be placed in the **Fire Department Truck Capital Reserve Fund** (0003 - Fund Balance as of 12/31/13 \$259,173.04) for the purpose of purchasing a new fire truck. Selectmen are in favor (3-0-0).

DISCUSSION: Jerry Dougherty IV asked how soon are you thinking of buying a fire truck? Jay Henry stated 2 years at the earliest. Cost goes up 2% every year. Hank Dresch asked if there is a restriction on the size of the truck and if it will fit into the existing spot. Jay Henry stated the problem we are facing right now is to replace this truck with the exact same thing; it will be a little bit longer. We will need to make some modifications to the garage. Jay Henry stated they might need to extend building and they hope to raise the funds for this through fundraising. Kathleen Dougherty asked if maybe we not pass this for this year and wait for next year. Jay Henry stated he understands and asked what it would do if we lower it to \$50K. Jerry Dougherty IV, says it would increase our taxes \$65 for a home valued at \$300,000. Bob

Thompson talked about the age of some trucks and the length of useful life left in the trucks. Jerry Dougherty IV mentioned the tax rate increase and mentioned again we do have the ability to use the unreserved fund balance to offset that. Jerry Dougherty IV asked to amend Article 26 from \$100K to \$50K. Motioned and Seconded. Is there any Discussion on the Amendment? Peter Benson mentioned we are in the design phase for this truck. Not having the funding really limits us on how we go about doing the work. Bob Thompson stated we are not looking to at this fund to purchase one fire truck, in the next 2 years. We are looking at this fund to help us get our fleet up to date in the form of two trucks within the next 6-7 years. Jerry Dougherty III said so you are talking about a million dollars in 7 years. Jerry Dougherty thinks that it should be bonded it so that the people who are paying for it are also the people who are benefiting from it. Bill Wogisch noted we already have \$250K, twenty-five percent put away, we only need another \$750K, over 7 years at \$100K a year.

Vote: Amendment defeated

Vote: Verbal approval (unanimous)

ARTICLE 27: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate **\$500** for the Eastern Slope Airport Authority for the purpose of operating the **Eastern Slope Regional Airport**. Submitted by petition. Selectmen are in favor (3-0-0).

DISCUSSION: Jerry Dougherty III was on the board for 18 years, they have about a \$175K budget. The Town of Fryeburg pays Eighty percent. If not a dime is contributed, then the Town of Fryeburg pays for the whole thing. It has important economic and safety contributions to the entire valley. Five hundred dollars is a token payment by the town. It shows we are interested in that asset. Peter Benson said he always speaks against this article. It is not the money it is the principle of the thing. Peter Benson asked how it benefits our town and what do they use our money for? Jay Henry stated he heard that Eastern Maine Aviation is DONE, is it just the garage part of it. There is a reply of YES. Jerry Dougherty IV stated the airport is an FAA designated and supported regional airport. Kathleen Dougherty said the airport is there if we need it and we need to support. Anne Kantack stated we do not use the airport; we use the helicopter that goes to Maine Medical, Boston or Dartmouth. Anne spoke to multiple doctors and ER nurses and no one remembers ever having sent a patient to that airport. Jerry Dougherty III said the helicopters that fly in and out of this area use some of the navigational aids, whether they are operated or supported by Fryeburg Regional Airport. Those helicopters use the approach guidance when flying in, provided by that airport.

Vote: Verbal approval (unanimous)

ARTICLE 28: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$2,500** for the **Gibson Center** for Senior Services, Inc., for the purpose of supporting Jackson home delivered meals, congregate meals, transportation and program services. Submitted by petition. Selectmen are in favor (3-0-0).

DISCUSSION: none Vote: Verbal approval (unanimous)

ARTICLE 29: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$2,600** for **Children Unlimited, Inc.** for the purpose of supporting the Early Supports & Services Program (birth to 3 years). Submitted by petition. Selectmen are in favor (3-0-0).

DISCUSSION: Bill Wogisch asked where it is located

Vote: Verbal approval (unanimous)

ARTICLE 30: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$3,000** for **Tri-County Community Action** for the purpose of continuing services of the Fuel Assistance Program for the residents of Jackson. Submitted by petition. Selectmen are in favor (3-0-0).

DISCUSSION: Bill Botsford asked to amend this article to \$6K; this year's statistics are 19 residents in Jackson were served for a total of \$16,447 these figures are from Tri-County Cap. Amendment to \$6K approved

Vote: Article as amended - Approved

ARTICLE 31: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$716** for **Northern Human Services** for the purpose of providing Jackson residents who are uninsured, services at a sliding fee scale. Submitted by petition. Selectmen are in favor (3-0-0).

DISCUSSION: Sarah Clemons asked do we need this with Obama Care. Judith English said that it is not just for uninsured people, that our daughter has had many years of services from Northern Human Services. She believes that \$716 is a small amount to pay for all the services it provides to people in this area. Bill Botsford stated Doctor Angus Badger amended this last year to \$1500. This is a good deal.

Vote: Verbal approval (unanimous)

ARTICLE 32: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$1,336** for **White Mountain Community Health Center** for the purpose of providing Carroll County residents who are uninsured or underinsured medical care. Submitted by petition. Selectmen are in favor (3-0-0).

DISCUSSION: Kevin Donohue asked is this just for Jackson or Carroll County Residents that do not live in Jackson. Moderator Kelley stated it is for the county and believes the funds are spread throughout the county.

Vote: Verbal approval (unanimous)

ARTICLE 33: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$679** for **Starting Point** for the purpose of providing advocacy and support to victims of domestic and sexual violence and their children. Submitted by petition. Selectmen are in favor (3-0-0).

DISCUSSION: none Vote: Verbal approval (unanimous)

ARTICLE 34: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$3,000** for the **Jackson Chamber of Commerce** for the purpose of contributing to the Fireworks Fund. Selectmen are in favor (3-0-0).

DISCUSSION: none Vote: Verbal approval (unanimous)

ARTICLE 35: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$1,000** for the **Jackson Chamber of Commerce** for the purpose of contributing to the Holiday Beautification Project. Selectmen are in favor (3-0-0).

DISCUSSION: none Vote: Verbal approval (unanimous)

ARTICLE 36: To see if the town will vote to change the Bartlett Jackson Ambulance by-laws to provide for grammatically gender neutral wording and change the number of required meetings to two per calendar year. This same article is being voted on in the Town of Bartlett. Selectmen are in favor (3-0-0).

DISCUSSION: Bob Thompson said the committee felt that there was not a need for quarterly meetings. Ginger Bailey asked has Bartlett already voted on this. Response: Bartlett's Town Meeting is tonight. Moderator Kelley stated this is a \$100K program and we are getting a bargain. Jerry Dougherty IV stated this is just for functioning for selectmen.

Vote: Verbal approval (unanimous)

ARTICLE 37: To act upon other business which may legally come before this meeting.

Given under our hands and seals this Eleventh day of February in the year Two Thousand Fourteen.

DISCUSSION: No money or official vote. Ray Abbott suggested that Karen send tax bills out the last half by ambulance. Sarah Clemons thanked the Selectmen for the announcement of the bench in memory of Michael and Arthur. It is greatly appreciated, thank you very much. Bill Kelley gave thanks to Selectmen for being a huge help. Moderator Kelley asked for a motion to dissolve this meeting. Moved and Seconded.

Vote: Verbal approval (unanimous)

John Allen, Selectmen

Bob Thompson, Selectmen

Bill Lockard, Selectmen

Town of Jackson Board of Selectmen

Karen Burton, Town Clerk

A true copy attest