MINUTES OF THE
BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Regular Meeting of
January 16, 2020

The Board of Selectmen held a meeting on Thursday, January 16, 2020 at Salem Town Hall, 33 Geremonty Drive, Salem, NH.


ABSENT: Chairman Jim Keller

CALL TO ORDER:
Vice Chairman Barnes began by calling the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. He joined the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance.

1. Meeting Minutes:
MOTION: by Selectman Lyons
Move to approve the Board of Selectmen Meeting Public Session Minutes from January 6, 2020.
SECOND: by Selectwoman Withrow
VOTE: 4-0-0
The motion passed unanimously.

2. Chairman Comments:
Chairman Barnes stated that they sent condolences because Selectman Keller’s father had passed away today.

3. Receive and Vote on Citizen Petition Warrant Articles
Manager Dillon stated that they received three petition articles. He started by reading Article 24 the Kelley Library petition. “Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate a sum of Twenty Thousand Three Hundred Twenty-Two Dollars ($20,322) being a 2.8% increase, such sum representing the cost of increased economic benefits for the employees of the Kelley Library, the amount being set by the cost of living increase determined by the Social Security Administration.”

Alison Baker, Library Director, stated that she was there for questions.

MOTION: by Selectman Bryant
Move to forward Article 24 to the 2020 annual Town Meeting Warrant with recommendation.
SECONd: by Selectwoman Withrow
VOTE: 4-0-0
The motion passed unanimously.
**Article 25**
Manager Dillon stated that the next article was brought before the Board before. He read the petition. “Shall the Town vote to discontinue the following described rights-of-way or highways: A portion of Ash Street running from its western terminus easterly approximately 130.7 feet to the western sideline of Ash Street, as shown on Property Tax Map 80?”

Manager Dillon showed the location of the section of Ash Street on a map.

Peter Marinelli, 4 Ash Street, stated that he was here to answer any questions.

Selectman Lyons asked if staff had a recommendation.

Manager Dillon stated that staff supported this request.

**MOTION:** by Selectman Bryant  
Move to forward Article 25 to the 2020 annual Town Meeting Warrant with recommendation.  
**SECOND:** by Selectwoman Withrow  
**VOTE:** 4-0-0  
The motion passed unanimously.

**Article 23**
Manager Dillon read the third petition. “Shall we allow the operation of sports book retail locations within the Town of Salem.” There was no cost for the item.

Selectman Lyons asked about explaining the two-fer going on here.

Manager Dillon spoke about the history of this Article. The intent was to comply with the new State Law allowing for sports betting. It was originally submitted as a Zoning Amendment and they were required to place it on the Warrant once the signatures were validated. The RSA set specific language that had to be passed in order for sports betting to be allowed. The petitioner submitted this petition was unable to withdraw the original Zoning Amendment petition. People would end up voting on both.

Chairman Barnes asked which of the two was more important in allowing sports betting.

Manager Dillon answered that this petition was the more important one for what the petitioner was trying to do.

Selectman Lyons asked if this Article failed and the Zoning Article passed then the vote to allow sports betting was invalid.

Manager Dillon stated that was correct.

Selectman Lyons asked about the Planning Board vote and if they understood the legal issues relating to this Article.
Manager Dillon stated that someone could challenge things but for what the petitioner was trying to do this was the important one.

Selectman Lyons stated that at some time the Board would own it. He asked what position would they defend.

Manager Dillon stated that he did not understand what Selectman Lyons meant.

Selectman Lyons stated that the Town would have to defend it if the vote was challenged.

Chairman Barnes stated that Selectwoman Withrow had stepped down at 7:07 PM.

Manager Dillon stated that if this was approved then the Town could defend that sports betting was legal.

Selectman Lyons stated that he understood that. He wanted to know what happened if the Zoning Article passed and this failed.

Manager Dillon stated that he had spoken with the two different legal firms that the Town consulted with and they were conflicted on that.

Lisa Withrow, 9 Hemlock Lane, stated that, speaking as the petitioner, this was the only Warrant Article that mattered regarding sports betting. She would not contest it if the Zoning Article passed and this failed because this was the correct petition for sports betting.

Selectman Bryant asked where the wording for the original Zoning Amendment came from.

Ms. Withrow stated that she asked someone for advice and they missed something.

Selectman Bryant stated that the Zoning Amendment was a moot point.

**MOTION:** by Selectman Bryant

*Move to forward Article 26 to the 2020 annual Town Meeting Warrant with recommendation.*

**SECOND:** by Selectman Lyons

Selectman Lyons stated that they would go in questionable on what would happen. They would cross the bridge of what to do when it happened.

**VOTE:** 3-0-0

Selectwoman Withrow returned to the Board at 7:18 PM
4. **Determine Public Hearing Date for Sports Betting Citizen Petition in Accordance with**

   RSA 287-I:6,1(b) – **Between February 9 and 24, 2020**

Chairman Barnes stated that they had to schedule a hearing. He read the statute RSA 287-I:6 I(b):

“The selectmen, aldermen, or city council shall hold a public hearing on the question at least 15 days but not more than 30 days before the question is to be voted on. Notice of the hearing shall be posted in at least 2 public places in the municipality and published in a newspaper of general circulation at least 7 days before the hearing.” The date range was between February 9ᵗʰ and February 24ᵗʰ. His recommendation was that they hold it on February 10ᵗʰ.

Selectman Bryant stated that sounded good.

Chairman Barnes asked to have that hearing posted for February 10ᵗʰ.

Manager Dillon stated okay.

5. **Public Hearing and Vote on 2020 Bond/Note Warrant Articles**

Chairman Barnes opened the Public Hearing at 7:18 PM.

Manager Dillon went over the list of articles and stated that if all of the Warrant Articles passed then it would be a .86% increase over last year on the tax impact. There were a few bonds being discussed and he had the tax impacts for the first year depending on the term of the bond. He wanted to cover the totals for all of the bonds since each individually was not a big difference but it added up when they were combined.

Selectman Bryant asked if the increase was in cents or by percentage.

Manager Dillon answered stated that it was percentage.

**Article 7 – Land Acquisition**

Selectman Bryant read the Article: “Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Two Million Three Hundred Thousand Dollars ($2,300,000) (gross appropriation) for the purpose of purchasing land identified as Tax Map 90, Lot 1397, and abutting property identified as Tax Map 82, Lot 1294 to construct a new fire station, and to cover the costs associated with obtaining a bond issue for said project, and to authorize the issuance of not more than One Million Nine Hundred Thousand Dollars ($1,900,000) of bonds or notes in accordance with the provisions of the Municipal Finance Act (RSA 33, as amended) with the remaining balance of Four Hundred Thousand ($400,000) to come from Public Safety Impact Fees; to authorize the Board of Selectmen to apply for, obtain, and accept any and all Federal, State, or other Aid or other revenue source that may become available for said project, and to comply with all laws applicable to said project; to authorize the Board of Selectmen to issue, negotiate, sell, and deliver said bonds and notes and to determine the rate of interest thereon and the maturity and other items thereof; and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to take any and all action necessary to carry out any vote hereunder or take any other action relative thereto, including acquiring or conveying interests in real property necessary to complete this work? Requires a 3/5 ballot vote.

Selectman Bryant then read the background: “This article is requesting funding to purchase property to be used for a new Main Street Headquarters Fire Station. The current Main Street
Headquarters Fire Station property was purchased in 1965 and the Fire Station, which is 12,360 square feet, was constructed in 1967 (53 years old). The new Headquarters Fire Station would be constructed to meet the current and future needs of the Town and Fire Department. It would include: a modern fire dispatch center; meet ADA regulations; will continue to be geographically located in the current Main Street Headquarters Fire Station area, which will minimize the effect of response time changes and continue maximizing the advantage of a centrally located fire station; a modern disaster Emergency Operations Center for the Town; improved health and safety for visitors and employees; better protect our significant financial investment in apparatus and specialized equipment currently stored out in the elements; and improved overall Fire Department efficiency.

Manager Dillon asked if they wanted to go through each or have the public comment first.

Chairman Barnes stated that he would have them moved first then do the staff presentation.

**MOTION:** by Selectman Bryant

*Move to forward Article 7 to the 2020 annual Town Meeting Warrant with recommendation.*

**SECOND:** by Selectwoman Withrow

Selectman Lyons asked about the order and if they would vote now.

Chairman Barnes stated that they would vote after getting public input.

Larry Best, Fire Chief, stated that he had a presentation on how they chose the station. The town had three fire districts with a station in each district. Station locations were important for response times. Arriving quickly kept down the fire growth and improved survival rates on EMS calls. They used a national standard to gage how well they were doing with emergency responses. Chief Best covered the response time targets which was four minutes or fewer to arrive on scene. He showed a heat map showing the response times. The goal was 90% and they were at 66%. The west side had the longest response times. They plotted out the calls from the last five years. The highest call volume was in the center of town. They had done over 25,700 mapped calls during that time. Chief Best covered why they chose the Main Street location. The first reason was the response times because they determined that there would be negative impacts if they moved outside the half mile radius of the current station. They also had done a space needs study which determined that they needed a 4.5 to 5-acre property for a new station. They had also looked at a training facility which would need 2.5 acres. That meant it was 7 to 7.5 acres needed. The Main Street fire station was in a great location. He compared the four-minute response time from the current area to the proposed area. They mostly overlapped. It would take a station on the west side to change response times there and that was not in the plans now. Chief Best covered the lots which were owned by the same person. He showed the property location and a conceptual of the potential station. The second parcel would provide a backup exit in case of problems on Main Street so that emergency responders could still get out. This worked well geographically.

Chairman Barnes asked for public comment.
Jeff Hatch, 35 Royal Circle, stated that it was a perfect site. He asked about the current site and what would happen to the old site.

Chairman Barnes stated that he would not be there to make that decision.

Selectman Lyons stated that he would commit to selling the property.

Selectman Bryant and Selectwoman Withrow also committed to selling it if a new fire station was built.

Selectman Lyons stated that he favored buying the land and if this was successful then they would move to the next step. He supported the idea of a new fire station.

Chairman Barnes stated that they had been talking about a new central fire station for a long time. It was time to move on it.

**VOTE:** 4-0-0

The motion passed unanimously.

Selectman Bryant complimented the staff for working on it. They had spent a lot of time planning it out. The proposed station was by the commercial buildings and not the residential neighborhood.

Chief Best stated thank you. The other stations were in residential areas so they were aware of how to be a good neighbor with them.

Manager Dillon stated that he wanted to cover the bond schedules. He presented the impacts for 10, 15, and 20-year bond options.

Selectman Lyons asked if they had to make the decision now. He felt that they would make the decision once the bond passed.

Manager Dillon answered no.

Selectman Lyons stated that they would have to consider going long-term.

Manager Dillon stated that the questions came up last night at the Budget Committee so he wanted to have the Board discuss it so he could offer an answer.

**Article 8 – Land Acquisition**

Selectman Bryant read the Warrant Article: “Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of One Million Two Hundred Thousand Dollars ($1,200,000) (gross appropriation) for the purpose of purchasing land identified as Tax Map 84, Lot 1595, and Tax Map 84, Lot 1614 for intersection improvements at Bridge Street, School Street, and Main Street, and to cover the costs associated with obtaining a bond issue for said project, and to authorize the issuance of not more than One Million Two Hundred Thousand Dollars ($1,200,000) of bonds or notes in
accordance with the provisions of the Municipal Finance Act (RSA 33, as amended); to
authorize the Board of Selectmen to apply for, obtain, and accept any and all Federal, State, or
other Aid or other revenue source that may become available for said project, and to comply
with all laws applicable to said project; to authorize the Board of Selectmen to issue, negotiate,
sell, and deliver said bonds and notes and to determine the rate of interest thereon and the
maturity and other items thereof; and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to take any and all
action necessary to carry out any vote hereunder or take any other action relative thereto,
including acquiring or conveying interests in real property necessary to complete this work?
Requires a 3/5 ballot vote.

He continued with the background information: “Within the context of transportation
infrastructure improvements, Municipal Services performs field analysis to look at corridor and
intersection improvements. In 2019, as part of that process, an analysis was done on the Main
Street Corridor including the School Street/Main Street/Bridge Street intersection as it was
identified to have considerable congestion, limiting traffic flow, notwithstanding collaterally
effected the Lawrence Road connection. A consultant was procured to perform traffic counts and
collect data to present conceptual designs that would improve traffic through the area. The
designs were limited given limited right of way and the feasibility of building a new intersection
was negligible. With the understanding that two parcels were available directly abutting the
intersection it was recommended the Town seek to purchase those so a comprehensive design
could be done to construct an intersection the provides an improved level of service limiting
traffic impacts.”

MOTION: by Selectman Bryant
Move to forward Article 8 to the 2020 annual Town Meeting Warrant with recommendation.
SECOND: by Selectwoman Withrow

Roy Sorenson, Municipal Services Director, stated that last year they had money in the Road
Program to look at the Main Street Corridor. They hired a consultant to review the area. He
stated that there were two properties for sale which would allow them to redesign this
intersection. The drawing was a conceptual and this was in the historic district.

Chairman Barnes asked for public input. There was none.

VOTE: 4-0-0
The motion passed unanimously.

Manager Dillon went over the bond schedules for the three options.

Article 9 – West Duston Road Neighborhood Water and Sewer
Selectman Bryant read the article and background information: “Shall the Town vote to raise and
appropriate the sum of One Million Six Hundred Thousand Dollars ($1,600,000) for water and
sewer improvements in the West Duston Road neighborhood and to cover the costs associated
with obtaining a bond issue, and to authorize the issuance of not more than $1,600,000 of bonds
or notes in accordance with the provisions of the Municipal Finance Act (RSA 33) and to
authorize the Board of Selectmen to issue and negotiate such bonds or notes and to determine
the rate of interest thereon; and to further authorize the Board of Selectmen to apply for, accept, and expend, without further action by the town, unanticipated money from a state, federal, or other governmental unit or a private source, and take any and all action necessary to carry out any vote hereunder or take any other action relative thereto, including acquiring or conveying interests in real property necessary to complete this work. Requires a 3/5 ballot vote.”

He continued with the background: This article is requesting funding for addition of water and sewer infrastructure and related work (engineering, permitting, inspection, right-of-way, road restoration, etc.) on West Duston Road, Community Street, Lakeside Street, and Lakeview Street. Sewer construction addresses failing septic systems adjacent to Canobie Lake, the Town’s primary water supply. Water construction expands the water system to extend service to the neighborhood. Road reconstruction for this project will be funded through the Road Construction and Engineering Program which includes the following: West Duston Road, Community Street, Lakeview Street, Lakeside Street, and McGrath Street. There was no impact to the water rate and a twelve to eighteen cent impact on the sewer rate.

**MOTION:** by Selectman Bryant
Move to forward Article 9 to the 2020 annual Town Meeting Warrant with recommendation.

**SECOND:** by Selectwoman Withrow

Manager Dillon stated that this was discussed at the December 6th meeting and there had been a lot of citizens that spoke about this when the Road Program was discussed.

Mr. Sorenson stated that some of the streets were coming up in the Road Program. The residents brought up that several homes had failed septic systems along the lake. The project had come up before in the past. It was needed for utility improvements. The utilities currently bordered the area of this project. The road reconstruction funding would come from the Road Program.

Manager Dillon stated that the difference in sewer impacts was dependent on the bond length.

Selectman Lyons stated that they were advertising a rate that might not be correct.

Manager Dillon stated that they would adjust the sewer rate accordingly depending on the length of the bond.

Selectman Lyons stated that he thought they did not intend to adjust the sewer rate.

Manager Dillon stated that the staff would come before the Board to adjust the sewer rate if the project passed. It would be in March to take effect in July.

Selectman Lyons stated it was not baked into the rate currently then.

Manager Dillon answered that was correct. He stated that determining the bond length would be helpful so that they could tell the voters what impact to expect on the sewer rate.

Selectman Lyons stated that he would support the longer bond.
Chairman Barnes stated that they needed to deal with one motion before making that motion. He asked for public input. There was none.

VOTE: 4-0-0
The motion passed unanimously.

MOTION: by Selectman Lyons
Move to set Article 9 as a twenty-year bond.
SECOND: by Selectman Bryant

Selectwoman Withrow asked if it made sense to pay for a long-term bond for these improvements.

Nicole McGee, Finance Director, stated that it would depend on what they planned to do with the sewer system going forward. She recommended going longer so that users did not have a spike.

Selectwoman Withrow stated that she would follow that advice.

VOTE: 4-0-0
The motion passed unanimously.

Article 10 – Policy Brook Flood Hazard Mitigation
Selectman Bryant read the article and the background. Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Four Million Two Hundred Thirty Thousand Dollars ($4,230,000) for two culvert replacements in the Policy Brook watershed at #142 Main Street and on the former railroad corridor adjacent to #72 South Broadway, and to cover the costs associated with obtaining a bond issue for said project and to authorize the issuance of not more than One Million Fifty-Seven Thousand Five Hundred Dollars ($1,057,500) of bonds or notes in accordance with the provisions of the Municipal Finance Act (RSA 33, as amended); with the remaining balance of Three Million One Hundred Seventy-Two Thousand Five Hundred Dollars ($3,172,500) to come from a FEMA Pre-Disaster Hazard Mitigation Grant; to authorize the Board of Selectmen to issue, negotiate, sell, and deliver such bonds or notes and to determine the rate of interest thereon and the maturity and other terms thereof; to authorize the Board of Selectmen to apply for, obtain, and accept any and all Federal, State, or other Aid or other revenue source that may become available for said project and to comply with all laws applicable to said project; and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to take any and all action necessary to carry out any vote hereunder or take any other action relative thereto, including acquiring or conveying interests in real property necessary to complete this work? Requires a 3/5 ballot vote. This project is contingent upon receiving the grant award from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).

Background: Work is identified in the Town’s Hazard Mitigation Plan and is planned to be partially (75%) funded by a FEMA Pre-Disaster Hazard Mitigation grant. The project proposes to replace two culvert crossings affecting the Policy Brook watershed. The first involves the replacement of an approximate 700' long culvert system running under Main Street and across private property at #142 Main Street (Rite Aid). The proposed structure will be approximately
3'x12' in size, designed to convey the 50-year storm event before overtopping of Main Street. The second involves replacement of an approximately 5'X5' (granite block constructed) box culvert under the former railroad corridor that currently serves as a multi-use trail. The proposed structure will be approximately 5'X12' in size, designed to satisfy the 50-year storm event.

MOTION: by Selectman Bryant
Move to forward Article 10 to the 2020 annual Town Meeting Warrant with recommendation.
SECOND: by Selectman Lyons

Manager Dillon noted that language was added regarding the contingency so that the Town did not have to raise the money if they did not get the grant.

Mr. Sorenson stated that this was a long culvert. He covered the current culvert which ran underneath Rite Aid and emptied out behind it between the Fire Station and Romano’s which would be put in a better place. The Route 28 Project was replacing one culvert. This replaced the other one in that area under the rail bed that was a foot higher and caused flooding as a result. This would clear up the flooding through that section that happened during major storm events.

Selectman Lyons asked the rate impact.

Manager Dillon stated that this was bond so there was no payment this year.

Selectman Lyons asked about why the previous Article had an impact shown.

Manager Dillon stated that the Board would have to make the appropriation because that bond was coming from the Sewer Fund.

Chairman Barnes asked for public input. There was none.

VOTE: 4-0-0
The motion passed unanimously.

Selectman Lyons asked about the water rate impact on the previous Article.

Manager Dillon stated that it showed zero. They could absorb the cost of that bond in the Water Fund without raising the rate.

Article 11 – Stormwater Planning Project
Selectman Bryant read the article and the background information: “Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of $75,000 for the purpose of stormwater planning work relative to management of the municipal storm drain system in accordance with the 2017 NH Small MS4 General Permit, and to authorize the issuance of not more than $75,000 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 such bonds or notes and to determine the rate of interest thereon, and to further authorize the Selectmen to offset a portion of said appropriation by applying for a Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) loan, it being understood that
repayment of the loan may include up to 100% principal forgiveness. Completion of this project is contingent upon approval of a CWSRF loan application. Requires a 3/5 ballot vote.”

Background: This project includes tasks to assist the Town in complying with the requirements of the MS4 (Small Municipal Separate Storm Sewer) Permit which regulates stormwater discharges specifically to focus on impairments where the receiving water already has an approved TMDL (Total Maximum Daily Load). In particular investigations to locate sources of illicit discharges located in catchments tributary to bacteria impaired waters and gather data so prioritization and ranking analysis can be performed. The scope also includes the development of a Phosphorus Source Identification Report for Captain Pond which is impaired for phosphorus. There was no tax impact because it was loan forgiveness.

MOTION: by Selectman Bryant
Move to forward Article 11 to the 2020 annual Town Meeting Warrant with recommendation.
SECOND: by Selectwoman Withrow

Mr. Sorenson stated that they had a presentation on a previous loan a few meetings ago where the loan was forgiven. This was a similar loan. He spoke about how this would help with the MS-4 permit.

Chairman Barnes opened up for public comment. There was none.

VOTE: 4-0-0
The motion passed unanimously.

Article 12 – Wastewater Asset Management
Selectman Bryant read the article and the background information: “Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of $30,000 for the purpose of planning work relative to management of the municipal wastewater pump station system through the previously established Asset Management Plan development project, and to authorize the issuance of not more than $30,000 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 such bonds or notes and to determine the rate of interest thereon, and to further authorize the Selectmen to offset a portion of said appropriation by applying for a Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) loan, it being understood that repayment of the loan may include up to 100% principal forgiveness. Completion of this project is contingent upon the Town receiving 100% principal forgiveness on the loan. Requires a 3/5 ballot vote.”

Background: This article funds the total anticipated cost of developing Phase II of an asset management plan for the Towns wastewater collection system. Phase I, Article 10 of the 2017 Town Warrant, was recently completed and paid in full. This project will assist in continued development of inventory along with prioritization of assets based on condition assessment, criticality, life cycle cost analysis, and developing funding strategy including implementation plan. All data gathered will be entered into the Town database and VUEWorks GIS asset and work order system. This loan qualifies for 100% principal forgiveness from the NHDES Clean Water State Revolving Fund and has no tax rate impact.
MOTION: by Selectman Bryant

Move to forward Article 12 to the 2020 annual Town Meeting Warrant with recommendation.

SECOND: by Selectwoman Withrow

Mr. Sorenson stated that this was Phase II. Phase I was completed last year. This work was focused towards I & I remediation. NH DES was happy with the work they were doing and would continue to support it.

Chairman Barnes asked for public comment. There was none.

VOTE: 4-0-0

The motion passed unanimously.

Chairman Barnes closed the Public Hearing at 8:11 PM.

6. Discussion on Assigning Warrant Articles for February 1, 2020 Deliberative Session

Passed over.

7. Town Manager’s Report/Questions from Board of Selectmen

Manager Dillon stated that the traffic signal optimization Warrant Article had language making it contingent on getting the grant in order for the Town to move forward with the project. The other thing was that he was hoping to confirm a time for the February 1st meeting.

Chairman Barnes stated that it should be set for 7:30 AM.

Manager Dillon stated thank you.

8. Old Business/Tabled and Pending

None.

9. Additions and/or Requests by Public or Board by Vote:

Stephen Boyd, 5 Lyndale Avenue, asked about the Tax Collector Warrant Article that was being presented. He stated that it was an elected position throughout the state. People would be running for office. They would have to campaign “no” relating to that Article which could send a mixed message. It had been a quiet year with little mudslinging. He urged them to reconsider.

Selectwoman Withrow asked what happened if it passed to the person who was elected to the Tax Collector position.

Manager Dillon stated that someone would be elected this year. The Warrant Article the Board added was at the end of the Warrant. If may seem confusing but the appointment would not happen until after the next Town Meeting (in 2021). It would become a one-year term if the Warrant Article passed. He stated that most towns he surveyed did not have elected Tax Collectors. They surveyed other towns and 14 of the 15 responses were from towns with appointed Tax Collectors. They could get someone like the retiring person and he would be willing to appoint that person to the position if it became appointed. If they had other issues with
the person then it would be a big problem.

Mr. Boyd stated that they had over 100 towns and Manager Dillon had only heard from fifteen. He felt it was a quiet year. It was about politics and power. All of these Articles deserved a yes. They could lose one article because three-fifths was a high threshold to meet if someone was out there saying no.

Selectman Lyons stated that they could not pull it back now.

Manager Dillon stated that it would be on the ballot but they could change the recommendation from the Board.

Mr. Hatch stated that it would bring up the old appointed versus elected debate. There was a big difference in qualifications. He felt it was better for them to be appointed. When the Board did a call for candidates, they had requirements they were looking for. If the person did not meet the qualifications then they put out another call. If it was elected then they were stuck with that person for three years. Mr. Hatch was in favor of appointing the staff. This was an important job. It was about getting the right person for the job and not about taking power away.

Selectman Lyons stated that he expected the people to keep the power. It was an important position and if it was messed up then the Town would have big trouble. They needed to offer the voters the choice.

10. Upcoming Meetings
   - February 3, 2020
   - February 10, 2020
   - February 24, 2020

ADJOURNMENT AT 8:24 P.M.
MOTION: by Selectman Bryant
Move to adjourn at 8:24 PM.
SECOND: by Selectwoman Withrow
ROLL CALL VOTE: 4-0-0
The motion passed unanimously.

Notes/minutes taken by: Jeremiah Lamson
Approved: Board of Selectmen
Date Approved: February 3, 2020