

**2013 TOWN WARRANT
TOWN of LEMPSTER
STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE**

To the voters of the Town of Lempster, in the County of Sullivan, in said State qualified to vote in Town affairs.

You are hereby notified to meet at the Goshen-Lempster school in said Lempster on Tuesday, the 12th day of March, 2013 at two thirty (2:30 P.M.) in the afternoon to open the polls for the voting of candidates, and at seven o'clock (7:00 P.M.) in the evening for the discussion of the articles of the warrant.

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

Results of Town Election were: Selectman, Mary Grenier; Treasurer, Kim Jordan; Auditor, James Grenier; Planning Board, Teresa Spada; Cemetery Trustee, Cheryl McGinnis; Trustee of Trust Funds, Barbara Parker; Library Trustees, Deborah Larrimore and James Beard; Moderator, Michael Shklar.

ARTICLE 2: To receive all reports and act thereon.

Motion: Mrs. Grenier Second: Mr. Schur Passed by voice vote.

ARTICLE 3: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of One Million Forty Two Thousand Nine Hundred Sixty Seven Dollars (\$1,042,967.00) for the purpose of General Town Operations. The Selectmen recommend this appropriation. (Majority vote required)

Executive	\$ 141,725.00
Election and Registration	4,250.00
Financial Administration	5,000.00
Legal Expenses	3,500.00
Employee Benefits	175,700.00
Planning Board	15,000.00
General Government Buildings	16,000.00
Appraisal of Property	26,000.00
Conservation Commission	5,100.00
Cemeteries	4,500.00
Insurance Property & Liability-all Depts	17,500.00
Contingency	5,000.00
Police Budget	58,000.00
Health Officer/ Supplies	1,850.00
Ambulance Service	2,500.00
Fire Department	44,895.00
Rescue Squad	17,700.00
Building Inspection	1,900.00
Emergency Management/Forest Fire	4,500.00
Highway Department	326,800.00
Street Lights	700.00
Solid Waste	90,475.00
Health Agencies	3,400.00
Sullivan Hospice	250.00
Southwest Community Services	900.00
West Central Services	1,100.00
Community Alliance	1,000.00
Newport Food Pantry	1,000.00
Direct Assistance	6,500.00
Sullivan Nutrition	400.00

Parks and Recreation	1,500.00
Library	20,100.00
Patriotic Purposes	500.00
Bonds and Notes Principal	27,667.00
Bonds and Notes Interest	10,055.00

Motion: Mr. McNeill Second: Mr. Metz Selectman Sauer discussed the operating budget with the assistance of a visual presentation. He highlighted three areas of the budget that created the majority of the increase. Those being: the payment for the new Fire-Rescue building, increases in employee health, retirement and other benefits (some of which were passed on to the Town due to the State no longer contributing to employee retirement) and additional compensation due to the addition of a fourth highway department employee.

Mr. Beard, acting Chairman, discussed the increase to the line item for the Conservation Commission. The increase would help support the Lake Host programs for Sand and Long Ponds. The summer programs help prevent the introduction of invasive plant species by the inspection of boats, trailers and other crafts at both pond locations.

A motion to amend the operating budget to \$1,015,197.00 was made by Jason Fulton, seconded by Phil Howard. Mr. Fulton made suggestions as to where the operating budget might be reduced. The motion to amend was defeated by a show of hands. Moderator Shklar called for a vote on Article 3 as originally presented; it was passed by a show of hands.

ARTICLE 4: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate Ninety One Thousand Dollars (\$91,000.00) to be added to the following Capital Reserve and Expendable Trust Funds previously established:

Town Office Info. Technology CIP 037	5,000.00
Transfer Station CIP 021	1,000.00
Landfill Closure CIP 022	1,000.00
New Cemetery CIP 023	1,000.00
Emergency Management Communications And Emergency Power (CIP 004)	2,000.00
Town Hall/Meetinghouse Restoration (CIP 030)	30,000.00
Town Bridge Repair & Reconstruction (CIP 018)	50,000.00
250 th Anniversary (CIP 045)	1,000.00

The Selectmen recommend this appropriation. (Majority vote required)

Motion: Susan Lichty Second: Jason Fulton

A motion to amend the article to a total of \$57,500 was made by Mr. Fulton and seconded by Mr. Onnela. Following a brief discussion of the amendment, Mr. Grenier called the question and was seconded by Mr. Williams. A show of hands defeated the amendment. Mr. Onnela called the question and was seconded by Mr. Goodspeed on the original article which was passed by a show of hands.

ARTICLE 5: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000.00) to be added to the Town Building Repair Expendable Trust Fund (CIP 012) previously established. The Selectmen recommend this appropriation. (Majority vote required)

Motion: Mr. Thurber Second: Mr. Sauer

Selectman Thurber spoke to the need have funds available in the event of emergency repairs in any of the town buildings. Mr. McNeill called the question, seconded by Mr. Grenier; Article 5 passed by a show of hands.

ARTICLE 6: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Five Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$5,500.00) to be added to the Forest Fire Truck Capital Reserve Fund (CIP 005) previously established. The Selectmen recommend this appropriation. (Majority vote required)

Motion: Mr. McNeill Second: Mr. Richards

Mr. Richards, Forest Fire Warden, presented information regarding a "skid-unit" for the recently purchased Forest Fire truck. He indicated that when working a brush fire, utilizing foam to smother the fire is more effective and the skid unit can carry more foam than water.

A motion to amend the article to \$3,500 was made by Mr. Fulton and seconded by Mr. Onnela. Mr. Richards further explained that the total cost of the unit is approximately \$11,000, so this appropriation represents half of what would be needed. By reducing the appropriation to \$3,500, it would take an additional year to have sufficient funds to purchase the unit based on the current price.

Mr. McNeill called the question and was seconded by Mr. Diehl. The amendment was defeated by a show of hands. Mr. Grenier called the question and was seconded by an unidentified individual. The Moderator called for a vote by a show of hands. The article passed in its original form.

ARTICLE 7: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Twenty Thousand Dollars (\$20,000.00) to be added to the Fire Pumper Capital Reserve Fund (CIP 008) previously established. The Selectmen recommend this appropriation. (Majority vote required)

Motion: Ms. Chadwick Second: Mr. McNeill

Fire Chief, Jon Thomas, spoke to the need to continue to put away money for this piece of fire equipment.

A motion to amend the article to \$10,000 was made by Mr. Fulton and seconded by Mr. Onnela. The question was called by Mr. McNeill and seconded by Mr. Tirrell. The amendment was defeated by a show of hands. A motion to cease debate was made and seconded by unidentified individuals. Article 7 passed by show of hands.

ARTICLE 8: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000.00) to be added to the Municipal Buildings Complex Capital Reserve Fund (CIP 010) previously established. The Selectmen recommend this appropriation. (Majority vote required)

Motion: Mrs. Grenier Second: Mrs. Locher Mrs. Locher, Administrative Assistant to the Selectmen, spoke briefly concerning the possible expansion at 929 Route 10 to include Town Offices, Police Department, etc., and the need to start saving for future projects. Mr. McNeill called the question and was seconded by Ms. Newton. Article 8 passed by a show of hands.

ARTICLE 9: To see if the Town will vote to discontinue the Library Roof Capital Reserve Fund (CIP 041). Said funds, with accumulated interest to date of withdrawal, are to be transferred to the town's general fund. Selectmen recommend this appropriation. (Majority vote required)

Motion: Mrs. Grenier Second: Mr. McNeill Article 9 passed by a show of hands.

ARTICLE 10: To see if the Town will vote to discontinue the Highway Roller and Trailer Capital Reserve Fund (CIP 031). Said funds, with accumulated interest to date of withdrawal, are to be transferred to the town's general fund. The Selectmen recommend this appropriation. (Majority vote required)

Motion: Mrs. Grenier Second: Mr. Sauer Article 10 passed by show of hands.

ARTICLE 11: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Two Hundred Three Dollars (\$203.00) to be placed in the Highway Department Equipment Capital Reserve (CIP 026) previously established. These funds to come from the undesignated fund balance (this represents the funds from the discontinuation of the Highway Roller and Trailer Capital Reserve Fund.) This article is contingent on the passing of Article 10. The Selectmen recommend this appropriation. (Majority vote required)

Motion: Mr. Onnela Second: Mr. Porter Article 11 passed by a show of hands.

ARTICLE 12: To see if the Town will vote to discontinue the Plow Truck Capital Reserve Fund (CIP 032). Said funds, with accumulated interest to date of withdrawal, are to be transferred to the town's general fund. The Selectmen recommend this appropriation. (Majority vote required)

Motion: Mrs. Grenier Second: Mr. Sauer Article 12 passed by show of hands.

ARTICLE 13: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Sixty Four Thousand Four Hundred Seventy Two Dollars (\$64,472.00) to be placed in the Highway Department Equipment Capital Reserve (CIP 026) previously established. These funds to come from the undesignated fund balance (this represents the discontinuation of the Plow Truck Capital Reserve Fund.) This article is contingent on the passing of Article 12. The Selectmen recommend this appropriation. (Majority vote required)

Motion: Mr. Onnela Second: Mr. Grenier A motion to amend the article to \$64,572.00 was made by Mr. Onnela and seconded by an unidentified individual. The motion to amend was passed by a show of hands. The increase represented additional accrued interest. Article 13 passed as amended by a show of hands.

ARTICLE 14: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Twenty Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000.00) to be added to the Highway Department Equipment Capital Reserve Fund (CIP 026) previously established. The Selectmen recommend this appropriation. (Majority vote required)

Motion: Mr. Thurber Second: Mr. Sauer A motion to amend the article to \$1,000.00 made by Mr. Onnela and seconded by Mr. Howard was defeated by a show of hands. Mr. McNeill called the question and seconded by Mr. Fulton. Article 14 passed by a show of hands.

ARTICLE 15: To see if the Town will vote to establish a Road Reconstruction and Paving Capital Reserve Fund (CIP 048) under the provisions of RSA 35:1 for the purpose of reconstruction and paving of town roads and to raise and appropriate Thirty Thousand Dollars (\$30,000.00) to be placed in the fund. Furthermore, to authorize the Selectmen to be agents to expend from this fund. The Selectmen recommend this appropriation. (Majority vote required)

Motion: Mr. Thurber Second: Mr. Grenier Mr. Simino, Highway Supervisor, spoke to the need to have funds available for work on the roads in addition to what is received in the form of Highway Block Grant from the State of NH. Mr. McNeill called the question and was seconded by Mrs. Peck. Article 15 passed by a show of hands.

ARTICLE 16: To see if the Town will vote to establish a Cemetery Tree Management Capital Reserve Fund (CIP 047) under the provisions of RSA 35:1 for the purpose of removal and care of cemetery trees and shrubs and to raise and appropriate Two Thousand Dollars (\$2,000.00) to be placed in the fund. The Selectmen recommend this appropriation. (Majority vote required)

Motion: Mr. Diehl Second: Ms. Stamatakis Mr. Diehl spoke about the work recently done in the cemetery to remove branches and trees which were in danger of damaging surrounding stones. In anticipation of further work being needed the Cemetery Trustees requested the creation of the CIP and its initial funding. The question was called by Mr. Onnela and seconded by Mr. Porter. The article passed by a show of hands

ARTICLE 17: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Cemetery Trustees to be agents to expend from the Cemetery Tree Management Capital Reserve Fund (CIP 047). (Majority vote required)

Motion: Mr. Onnela Second: Porter Article 17 passed by show of hands.

ARTICLE 18: To see if the Town will vote to establish a Conservation Easement Capital Reserve Fund (CIP 046) under the provisions of RSA 35:1 for the purpose of a Conservation Easement for the Long Pond Town Forest to include survey, legal fees, and ongoing management and to raise and appropriate Two Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$2,500.00) to be placed in the fund. The Selectmen recommend this appropriation. (Majority vote required)

Motion: Mr. Sauer Second: Ms. Lichty Mr. Beard, acting Chairman of the Conservation Commission, presented information about the proposed Conservation Easement via a Power Point presentation. He outlined the property that would be involved, the allowable uses and restrictions to the property, the process of donating the land, and stewardship and monitoring. He indicated that The Society for the Protection of NH Forests had provided information and assistance in the development of the proposal. "The Forest Society has worked with over 40 conservation projects involving town or city owned land." (Taken from memo dated 2/6/13 from Brian Hotz, Senior Director of Strategic Projects to the Town of Lempster.) Article 18 passed by a show of hands following a motion to cease debate made by Mrs. Peck and seconded by Mr. McNeill.

ARTICLE 19: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen to be agents to expend from Conservation Easement Capital Reserve Fund (CIP 046). (Majority vote required)

Motion: Mr. Beard Second: Mr. Thurber A motion to amend Article 19 was made by an unidentified individual and seconded by Mr. Diehl. The following is the amendment:

and to see if the town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to convey a conservation easement on the town owned Long Pond Town Forest Tax map 238, Lot 1; Tax map 239, Lot 14; and Tax map 240, Lot 1, so that the same shall be subject to a conservation easement, in perpetuity, the particular terms of the conservation easement to be determined by the Board of Selectmen, (with the concurrence of the Conservation Commission), said authorization to include the authority to execute any and all deeds, documents or other instruments in the name of the Town that may be necessary to accomplish the foregoing. Said easement to be held by the Society for the Protection of New Hampshire Forests or other similar qualified organization as determined by the Board of Selectmen (with the concurrence of the Conservation Commission).

A motion to cease debate was made by Mr. Rodeschin, seconded by Mr. Fabrycky, and was passed by a show of hands. Mr. Clark proposed an amendment which would change the wording "with the concurrence of the Conservation Commission" to "with the input of the Conservation Commission". The motion to amend was seconded by an unidentified individual. The amendment passed by a show of hands, a motion to cease debate was passed. Article 19 passed, as amended, by a show of hands. Yes: 49; No: 40.

ARTICLE 20: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the selectmen to enter into a ten year lease-purchase agreement for up to One Hundred Sixty Thousand Dollars (\$160,000.00) for the purpose of lease-purchase of a backhoe for the Highway Department (CIP 049), and to raise and appropriate the sum of up to Sixteen Thousand Dollars (\$16,000.00) for the first year's payment for that purpose. This lease-purchase agreement contains an escape clause. The Selectmen recommend this appropriation. (Majority vote required)

Motion: Mr. Grenier Second: Mr. Sauer Mr. Simino, Highway Supervisor, spoke to the benefit of adding this piece of equipment to the Highway Department. He indicated that the current backhoe was scheduled to be replaced four years ago, and sustains significant "wear and tear" due to the need to use it at the Transfer Station twice a week as well as driving it back and forth from various work sites around town to the Transfer Station. The additional backhoe would allow Mr. Simino to schedule road repairs and /or maintenance in more than one location at a time. A motion to amend the article to \$1.00 was

defeated. Mr. Grenier called the question which was seconded by Mrs. Peck. Article 20 passed by a show of hands.

ARTICLE 21: To see if the Town will vote to accept an LCHIP grant for Twenty Thousand Dollars (\$20,000.00) and furthermore to raise and appropriate Forty Thousand Dollars (\$40,000.00) for repair and restoration of windows at the Town Hall/Meetinghouse with Twenty Thousand Dollars (\$20,000.00) to come from the LCHIP Grant and Twenty Thousand Dollars (\$20,000.00) from the Town Hall/Meetinghouse Capital Reserve Fund (CIP 030). The Selectmen recommend this appropriation. (Majority vote required)

Motion: Ms. Pinkney Second: Mr. Diehl Ms. Pinkney explained that the money being used as matching funds to the LCHIP grant was already in CIP 030, so no additional money needed to be raised by taxes. The article passed by a show of hands.

ARTICLE 22: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00) to support Old Home Day events. The Selectmen recommend this appropriation. (Majority vote required)

*Motion: John Williams Second: Ms. McCabe
No discussion, article passed by show of hands.*

ARTICLE 23: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to allow one percent (1%) discount on property taxes paid in full within ten (10) days of the issue.

*Motion: Mr. Diehl Second: Mr. Grenier
No discussion, article passed by show of hands.*

ARTICLE 24: To transact any other business that may legally come before this Town Meeting.

Motion to Adjourn: Mr. McNeill Second: Mrs. McNeill Motion passed unanimously.

Submitted with great relief,



Gayle Newton, Town Clerk