

## 2022 Town Meeting Minutes

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 Lempster Community School in said Lempster on Tuesday, the 8th day of March, 2022 at three thirty (3:30 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. The polls for voting on Article 1 will remain open until 7:30 P.M. Town

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

**Moderator Shklar opened the polls at 3:32pm. Moderator Shklar closed the polls at 7:33pm.**

**The following were elected: Mary Grenier, Selectman; Mary Fellows, Treasurer; James Grenier, Auditor; David Richards, Planning Board; Barbara Parker, Trustee of Trust Funds; Cheryl McGinnis, Cemetery Trustee; Mary Lou Reed, Library Trustee; Georgeana Hill, Library Trustee; Sharron Wallace, Supervisor of the Checklist; Michael Shklar, Moderator.**

**Moderator Michael Shklar called Lempster's Town Meeting to order at 7:00 pm. Moderator Shklar took a moment to recognize the passing of Keith Fulton and Carolyn Fellows. Moderator Shklar then started the meeting with a salute to the Flag.**

**ARTICLE 2:** To receive all reports and act thereon.

**Motion by Everett Thurber, seconded by Mary Grenier**

**Article two passed by voice vote.**

**ARTICLE 3:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,443,244.00 for general municipal operations. This article does not include appropriations contained in special or individual articles addressed separately. The Selectmen recommend this appropriation. (Majority vote required)

Executive	\$83,545.00
Election and Registration	\$74,905.00
Financial Administration	\$15,170.00
Appraisal of Property	\$23,000.00
Legal Expenses	\$20,000.00
Personnel Administration	\$219,550.00
Planning Board	\$15,000.00
General Government Buildings	\$21,130.00
Cemeteries	\$8,500.00
Insurance Property & Liability-all Depts.	\$21,800.00
Contingency	\$25,000.00
Police Budget	\$63,000.00
Ambulance Service	\$12,000.00
Rescue Squad	\$23,445.00
Fire Department	\$66,735.00
Forest Fire	\$6,650.00
Building Inspection	\$2,300.00
Emergency Management	\$3,250.00
Highway Department	\$402,570.00
Street Lights	\$980.00
Solid Waste	\$103,450.00
Health Officer/ Supplies	\$2,100.00
Animal Control	\$3,000.00
Health Agencies	\$8,000.00

Direct Assistance	\$7,000.00
Parks and Recreation	\$2,500.00
Library	\$19,000.00
Patriotic Purposes	\$500.00
Conservation Commission	\$5,100.00
Bonds and Notes Principal	\$165,780.00
Bonds and Notes Interest	\$18,284.00

***Motion by Mary Grenier, seconded by Everett Thurber***

***Selectman Mary Grenier presented the budget for 2022 and talked about the challenges of the overall cost increases of fuel, electric, and maintenance and how it affects this years budget. Article three passed by voice vote.***

***ARTICLE 4:*** To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$2,000.00 to be added to the Town Records Preservation Capital Reserve (CIP 013) previously established. The Selectmen recommend this appropriation. (Majority vote required)

***Motion by Mary Grenier, seconded by Traci Homol***

***Kevin Onnela talked about the total cost of all the warrant articles and asked people to think about the money that is being spent before passing the rest of the articles. Selectman Mary Grenier stated that it is better to put away a little each year rather than asking for one very large amount of money at one time. She also stated that if a need comes up mid-year it is important to have the funds to cover the need. Article four passed by voice vote.***

***ARTICLE 5:*** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$500.00 to be added to the Emergency Communication and Power Generation Equipment Capital Reserve (CIP 004) previously established. The Selectmen recommend this appropriation. (Majority vote required)

***Motion by Everett Thurber, seconded by Jon Thomas***

***Fire Chief Jon Thomas talked about how these funds are used, he mentioned equipment upgrades such as new radios for the department. Article five passed by voice vote.***

***ARTICLE 6:*** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$500.00 to be added to the Emergency Response Capital Reserve (CIP 051) previously established. The Selectmen recommend this appropriation. (Majority vote required)

***Motion by Phil Tirrell, seconded by Jon Thomas***

***Fire Chief Jon Thomas talked about how the department uses these funds. Alan Chandler inquired if there was not a CIP would the Selectmen find a way to pay for items needed by the department during an emergency. Chief Thomas explained the importance of having this fund set up before an emergency happens. Article six passed by voice vote.***

***ARTICLE 7:*** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$5,000.00 to be added to the Forest Fire Truck Capital Reserve Fund (CIP 055) previously established. The Selectmen recommend this appropriation. (Majority Vote Required)

***Motion by Jon Thomas, seconded by Phil Tirrell***

***Forest Fire Warden David Richards said that this is for the scheduled replacement of the current truck that is over 20 years old. Article seven passed by voice vote.***

***ARTICLE 8:*** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$5,000.00 to be added to the Emergency Water Supply System Capital Reserve (CIP 006) previously established. The Selectmen recommend this appropriation. (Majority vote required)

***Motion by Phil Tirrell, seconded by Jon Thomas***

***Fire Chief Jon Thomas talked about the importance of having reliable water supply when working an active fire. Chief Thomas reported the completion of dry hydrant at Richardson Brook located at the top of the mountain. The next place that they would be looking into is the Benway Hill and Hurd Road area. Article eight passed by voice vote.***

**ARTICLE 9:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$15,000.00 to be added to the Fire Department Equipment Capital Reserve (CIP 036) previously established. The Selectmen recommend this appropriation. (Majority vote required)

**Motion by Jon Thomas, seconded by Joe Moulton**

Fire Chief Jon Thomas talked about the large repairs that were completed to the 20 year old tanker truck over the past year. Alan Chandler made a motion to amend to \$10,000.00 seconded by John Tremblay. More discussion was had about the age, needed repairs and New Hampshire laws. Jim Grenier made a motion to cease debate seconded by Jon Metz; passed. Motion to amend failed. Article nine passed as originally presented by voice vote.

**ARTICLE 10:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$2,000.00 to be added to the Rescue Equipment Capital Reserve (CIP 052) previously established. The Selectmen recommend this appropriation. (Majority vote required)

**Motion by Joe Moulton, seconded by Ron Clark**

Rescue Captain Beth Clark-Moulton explained how these funds are used to replace equipment that comes to its end of life. Article ten passed by voice vote.

**ARTICLE 11:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$8,500.00 to be added to the Rescue Squad Truck Capital Reserve (CIP 054) previously established. The Selectmen recommend this appropriation. (Majority vote required)

**Motion by Jon Thomas, seconded by Joe Moulton**

Rescue Captain Beth Clark-Moulton stated that this is for the replacement of the 2012 Rescue Squad truck. Alan Chandler asked when would the replacement happen, Beth responded that the hope is to replace the current truck in the next two years. Fire Chief Jon Thomas commented that this truck goes on every call. Jim Grenier talked about the importance of this vehicle and the critical supplies that it has on board during a medical call. Article eleven passed by voice vote.

**ARTICLE 12:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$7,900.00 to be added to the Appraisal of Property Capital Reserve (CIP 027) previously established. The Selectmen recommend this appropriation. (Majority vote required)

**Motion by Mary Grenier, seconded by Mark Adams**

Selectman Mary Grenier presented, stating that this is to set money aside for the town wide five year appraisal required by state law. Article twelve passed by voice vote.

**ARTICLE 13:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$2,500.00 to be added to the Town Office Information Technology Capital Reserve (CIP037) previously established. The Selectmen recommend this appropriation. (Majority vote required)

**Motion by Mary Grenier, seconded by Traci Homol**

Alan Chandler asked how much is set aside in this account currently, Selectman Traci Homol responded stating we currently have just over \$29,000.00. Traci stated that the server at the Town Office needs to be replaced for security purposes and is in the plan to be completed this year. Article thirteen passed by voice vote.

**ARTICLE 14:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$5,000.00 to be added to the Town Bridge and Culverts Expendable Trust (CIP018) previously established. The Selectmen recommend this appropriation. (Majority vote required)

**Motion by Mary Grenier, seconded by Everett Thurber**

Selectman Mary Grenier spoke about the work that has been completed this past year, noting that the town was able to replace four bridges that desperately needed to be done. Selectman Grenier also talked about the flood that took place this past year and that the town was able to make all the roads passable with the use of funds derived from the unreserved balance, stating that as of today the town has not received any FEMA money to help cover the cost, although it is in the works. Article fourteen passed by voice vote.

**ARTICLE 15:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$20,000.00 to be added to the Town Highway Equipment Capital Reserve (CIP026) previously established. The Selectmen recommend this appropriation. (Majority vote required)

**Motion by Mary Grenier, seconded by Traci Homol**

**Highway Supervisor Daryl Simino spoke about how this fund is used to repair and or replace important highway equipment as needed. Article fifteen passed by voice vote.**

**ARTICLE 16:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$25,000.00 to be added to the Road Reconstruction and Paving Capital Reserve (CIP 048) previously established. The Selectmen recommend this appropriation. (Majority vote required)

**Motion by Mary Grenier, seconded by Everett Thurber**

**Selectman Mary Grenier explained after the loan for the paving of Mountain Road is paid off, we should start thinking about repaving Lovejoy Road. She stated that although it will be a costly job it is an important road to the whole community. Article sixteen passed by voice vote.**

**ARTICLE 17:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$14,250.00 for the purpose of the tenth payment of the lease-purchase of the Highway Department Backhoe (CIP 049). The Selectmen recommend this appropriation. (Majority vote required)

**Motion by Mary Grenier, seconded by Traci Homol**

**Selectman Mary Grenier stated that this is the last lease payment on the towns backhoe. Article seventeen passed by voice vote.**

**ARTICLE 18:** To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$24,634.00 to be added to the Highway Equipment Capital Reserve (CIP 026) previously established. This sum to come from unassigned fund balance. No amount to be raised from taxation. These funds came from the sale of three Highway Trucks two in 2020 and one in 2021. The Selectmen recommend this appropriation. (Majority vote required)

**Motion by Mary Grenier, seconded by Traci Homol**

**Selectman Mary Grenier explained that these funds came from the sale of old highway equipment that has now been upgraded. Alan Chandler asked if the town has a specific use for these funds. Selectman Grenier said not at this time. Highway Supervisor Daryl Simino said that the funds should go back into the highway fund to be used by the highway department. Article eighteen passed by voice vote.**

**ARTICLE 19:** To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$30,000.00 to be added to the Grader Capital Reserve (CIP 057) previously established. The Selectmen recommend this appropriation. (Majority vote required)

**Motion by Mary Grenier, seconded by Everett Thurber**

**Selectman Mary Grenier talked about the number of dirt roads we have in the community and the importance of a good grader. Our grader is very old and will need to be replaced in the next few years. Selectman Grenier stated that the town would look into purchasing equipment that is only a few years old from surrounding towns when the time comes. Article nineteen passed by voice vote.**

**ARTICLE 20:** To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$5,000.00 for the purpose of removing and replacing 90 feet of the existing log bumper on the Long Pond Wharf with non- treated logs. The Selectmen recommend this appropriation. (Majority vote required)

**Motion by Beth Clark-Moulton, seconded by Phil Tirrell**

**Selectman Everett Thurber talked about the work that has been started and what still needs to be completed. Phil Tirrell talked about the history of the wharf and said that we have more boat traffic than in years past. Alan Chandler asked if \$5,000.00 would cover the cost of the job. Selectman Everett Thurber said that the \$5,000.00 is a starting point but that the Town does not have any estimates as of today, we do have a permit from the State of New Hampshire it is valid until 2025. Fire Chief Jon Thomas said that this project could also help the Fire Department with water supply at Long Pond in the winter months. Jim Grenier made a motion to cease debate seconded by Mark Adams passed. Article twenty passed by voice vote.**

**ARTICLE 21:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$2,000.00 to be added to the Transfer Station Equipment Capital Reserve (CIP 021) previously established. The Selectmen recommend this appropriation. (Majority vote required)

**Motion by Glen Wirkkala, seconded by Mary Grenier**



**Highway Supervisor Daryl Simino talked about the repairs required to be completed at the Transfer Station. The compactor is one of three repairs that needs to be done, with the compactor being the most expensive. Article twenty one passed by voice vote.**

**ARTICLE 22:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,000.00 to be added to the Landfill Closure Capital Reserve (CIP 022) previously established. The Selectmen recommend this appropriation. (Majority vote required)

**Motion by Mary Grenier, seconded by Mark Adams**

**Selectman Mary Grenier said it would take the town saving for 35 to 40 years in order to complete the job, if and or when it needs to be fully closed. We currently have \$70,000.00 in this CIP. Mark Adams stated this is monitored by the State of New Hampshire and it shows a good faith effort by setting these funds aside each year. Article twenty two passed by voice vote.**

**ARTICLE 23:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,000.00 to be added to the New Cemetery Capital Reserve (CIP 023) previously established. The Selectmen recommend this appropriation. (Majority vote required)

**Motion by Carol Stamatakis, seconded by Glen Wirkkala**

**Cemetery Trustee Carol Stamatakis talked about the current Cemetery and stated funds from this CIP will be used to purchase land when more space is needed. Article twenty three passed by voice vote.**

**ARTICLE 24:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,000.00 for the purpose of supporting Old Home Day events. The Selectmen recommend this appropriation. (Majority vote required)

**Motion by Traci Homol, seconded by Mary Grenier**

**Article twenty four passed by voice vote.**

**ARTICLE 25:** To see if the town will vote to establish a Professional Assistance Contingency Capital Reserve Fund (CIP 058) under the provisions of RSA 35:1 for the purpose of covering large cost items such as engineering or legal fees associated with Planning Board projects and to raise and appropriate the sum of \$5,000.00 to be placed in this fund. Further, to name the Planning Board Members and the Selectmen as agents to expend from said fund. The Selectmen recommend this article. (Majority Vote Required)

**Motion by William Rodeschin, seconded by David Richards**

**Mark Adams of the Planning Board talked about how the board will use these funds. Specifically stating they will be for legal fees, engineering and mailing of legal notices due to any large developments. Mark also stated that although funds are needed upfront, the developer would reimburse the Town. There was much discussion as to why the article says the Planning Board Members and the Selectmen are agents to expend from this fund instead of just the Selectmen. Erik Walker made a motion to amend, seconded by Alan Chandler to have the article read "Selectmen as agents to expend from said fund" and to remove Planning Board. Selectman Mary Grenier stated that the original wording means in conjunction with the Select Board. Joe Moulton made a motion to cease debate, seconded by Traci Homol motion passed. Motion to amend failed by voice vote. Article twenty five passed as originally presented by voice vote.**

**ARTICLE 26:** To transact any other business that may legally come before this Town Meeting.

**Selectman Mary Grenier thanked everyone who took his or her time to come out for Town Meeting and how important it is in understanding what takes place in our community for the rest of the year.**

**Motion to adjourn the meeting made by Mary Grenier at 8:25pm, seconded by Linda Callahan all in favor.**

Respectively,



Linda Callahan  
Town Clerk