**State of New Hampshire**

**County of Carroll, Town of Ossipee**

**2017 Town Meeting**

**March 15, 2017**

Moderator Katy Meserve opened the meeting at 6:30 pm, asking everyone to turn off their cell phones or at least put them on silent. Moderator Meserve then asked everyone to stand and join her in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Moderator Meserve then proceeded with her thank you of the Elections and setting up for Town Meeting. She then announced that the swearing in for the newly elected town officers will be on Monday, March 20 at 5:30 pm here at the Town Hall.

Moderator Meserve announced everyone should have a sheet of the Guidelines that will be followed, a voting card, ballot slips and a Town Report, and all are available as you come in. If you do not have a voting card you cannot address this body. If you find any errors or omissions in the Town Report, please bring them to the attention of Kellie Skehan the Town Clerk.

Moderator Meserve then announced that anyone who is not a registered voter will not be able to speak on a motion. If there is such a person in attendance and wishes to be heard, they may appeal to the Moderator who will then ask if anyone objects, and upon hearing to no objections, the body will be polled. Moderator then asked if there were any non-voters here that wishes to speak at this meeting and what article.

James Eldridge – Chief of Police

Jen Berkowitz – School Out Program, Article #10

Doris Sirois – Freedom Food Pantry

Craig Brady – Article #10, Recreation Department

Mr. Brad Harriman – Public Works Director

Mr. Sager – Town Attorney

Ellen White – Town Administrator

Moderator Meserve made the introductions of the people to her left: Kellie Skehan, Town Clerk/Tax Collector; Bob Freeman, Selectman; Frank Riley, Selectman; Richard Morgan, Selectman; Ellen White, Town Administrator; Brad Harriman, Public Works Director and Richard Sager, Town Attorney.

Then Moderator Meserve introduced Joe Goss, Budget Committee Chairman and asked that he introduce his committee. Joe Goss then allowed each member to introduce themselves. Ann Scott, West Ossipee Fire Department; Julie Rosiak, Jonathan Smith, Kathleen Maloney, Donna Gridley, Marie McConarty, Center Ossipee Fire Department and Lynne Parker, Ossipee Conner Fire Department.

Moderator Meserve asked that everyone look over the Guidelines, and if they had any questions. She then explained about the secret ballot if there is one in the evening. Moderator Meserve then asked if there were any questions on the Guidelines for Town Meeting.

Moderator Meserve then went to the results of the Town Elections. She explained that there was a tie for the Selectman’s race between Sam Martin and Kathleen Maloney with each receiving 104 votes. The tie was broken by a coin toss and Sam Martin took that race. Trustees of the Trust Funds, Pete Zavas received 217 votes; Cemetery Trustee, Rick St. Jean received 214; Library Trustee, Denise Castle received 218; Budget Committee Member (3yrs), Joe Goss received 197; Budget Committee Member (2yrs), Stephen Mosier received 199; Planning Board Members (2 Positions), Pete Zavas with 135 votes and Tim Otterbach with 123 votes; Zoning Board of Adjustment, Ralph Wurster received 208 votes.

Moderator then went to the rest of the articles on the ballot

Article #2 YES - 170 NO - 47

Article #3 YES - 192 NO - 56

Article #4 YES - 197 NO - 54

Article #5 YES - 196 NO - 53

Article #6 YES - 204 NO - 46

Article #7 YES - 205 NO - 42

Article #8 YES - 103 NO - 148

Article #9 YES - 81 NO – 158

Moderator Meserve then read the results for the Town of Ossipee only School Warrant. She explained that the New Durham postponed their elections so we do not have their results. James Manning for School Board Member of Brookfield received 200; School Board Member from Wolfeboro Stacy Trites received 200; School Board Member At Large, Wendy Fenderson received 132 , Lois Jean Stevens 47, Darrell Pack received 28, and for Moderator, Randy Walker received 201.

Moderator Meserve then went to the articles on the ballot.

Article #2 YES - 170 NO - 85

Article #3 YES - 183 NO - 70

Article #4 YES - 161 NO - 87

Moderator Meserve then asked that we open our Town Reports to the yellow section for the Town Warrant. She explained that we have already gone over Articles 1 – 9 and would begin with Article #10, but first would like Selectman Morgan to address the body. Selectman Morgan explained how all the department heads, the budget committee and the Board of Selectmen have worked hard to bring this budget to Town Meeting. He then stated that this warrant is less then last year by $58,000.00.

**Article #10** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the Budget Committee recommended sum of five million six hundred fifty thousand one hundred thirty-eight dollars ($5,650,138) for general municipal operations. This article does not include appropriations contained in special or individual articles addressed separately. (Recommended by Budget Committee 8-0) (Amount recommended by the Selectmen is five million six hundred forty-eight thousand seven hundred ninety-six dollars ($5,648,796) by a vote of 3-0) (Majority vote required)

**ACCOUNT NAME 2016 Budget 2017 Selectmen 2017 Budget Comm.**

**Conservation Agent $3,230.00 $4,306.00 $4,306.00**

**Selectmen's Salary $16,364.00 $16,364.00 $16,364.00**

**Town Clerk/Tax Collector $295,850.00 $299,925.00 $299,925.00**

**Elections $12,400.00 $3,975.00 $3,975.00**

**Voter Registration $11,242.00 $4,826.00 $4,826.00**

**Treasurer $11,330.00 $11,030.00 $11,030.00**

**Selectmen's Office $679,916.00 $662,611.00 $662,611.00**

**Economic Development $2,500.00 $2,500.00 $2,500.00**

**Ossipee Lake Dam Authority $8,170.00 $8,126.00 $8,126.00**

**Legal $35,000.00 $35,000.00 $35,000.00**

**Planning Board $16,221.00 $22,659.00 $22,659.00**

**ZBA $5,739.00 $8,149.00 $8,149.00**

**Government Buildings $220,748.00 $216,216.00 $216,216.00**

**Trustee of Trust Funds $6,289.00 $6,289.00 $6,289.00**

**Cemeteries $34,204.00 $36,810.00 $36,810.00**

**Insurance $65,000.00 $123,500.00 $123,500.00**

**Police Department $1,061,663.00 $1,125,266.00 $1,125,266.00**

**Police Special Duty $25,000.00 $25,000.00 $25,000.00**

**Dog Officer $13,829.00 $13,829.00 $13,829.00**

**Fire Warden $21,955.00 $21,955.00 $21,955.00**

**Highway $1,297,450.00 $1,293,450.00 $1,293,450.00**

**Transfer Station $433,083.00 $439,543.00 $439,543.00**

**Outside Agencies**

**Appalachian Mtn. Teen Project $1,200.00 $1,200.00 $1,200.00**

**Tri-County CAP $12,000.00 $12,000.00 $12,000.00**

**Caregivers of S. Carroll County $2,500.00 $2,500.00 $2,500.00**

**Carroll County Transit $3,000.00 $3,000.00 $3,000.00**

**End 68 Hours of Hunger $5,000.00 $5,000.00 $5,000.00**

**Freedom Food Pantry $8,000.00 $8,000.00 $8,000.00**

**Kingswood Youth Group $4,000.00 $4,000.00 $5,000.00**

**LIFE Ministries $6,000.00 $6,000.00 $6,000.00**

**Ossipee Revitalization (Main St) $5,000.00 $5,000.00 $5,000.00**

**Medication Bridge $353.00 $450.00 $450.00**

**Northern Human Services $4,425.00 $4,425.00 $4,425.00**

**Ossipee Concerned Citizens $20,000.00 $20,000.00 $20,000.00**

**OCC Day Care $7,000.00 $7,000.00 $7,000.00**

**Ossipee Children's Fund $20,000.00 $20,000.00 $20,000.00**

**Ossipee Historical Society $4,000.00 $4,000.00 $4,000.00**

**School's Out Program $20,000.00 $25,000.00 $25,000.00**

**Starting Point $2,254.00 $2,254.00 $2,596.00**

**White Mountain Comm. Health $4,033.00 $3,779.00 $3,779.00**

**Central NH VNA & Hospice $14,000.00 $14,000.00 $14,000.00**

**Tyler Blain House n/a $400.00 $400.00**

**Ambulance $192,429.00 $260,420.00 $260,420.00**

**Emergency Management $6,700.00 $6,700.00 $6,700.00**

**General Assistance $55,269.00 $55,269.00 $55,269.00**

**Recreation $182,285.00 $161,912.00 $161,912.00**

**Library $221,485.00 $220,895.00 $220,895.00**

**Patriotic Purposes $2,000.00 $2,000.00 $2,000.00**

**Conservation Commission $5,965.00 $6,569.00 $6,569.00**

**Long Term Debt-Principle $ - $ - $ -**

**Long Term Debt-Interest $ - $ - $ -**

**Interest on Line of Credit $10,000.00 $10,000.00 $10,000.00**

**Water $205,852.00 $205,852.00 $205,852.00**

**Sewer $189,842.00 $189,842.00 $189,842.00**

**TOTAL $5,491,775.00 $5,648,796.00 $5,650,138.00**

**Moved and Seconded**

**Passed as Read**

**Mr. Ronald Adams asked that we do not reconsider article #10.**

**Moved and Seconded**

**Passed**

**Article** **#11** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of three hundred thousand dollars ($300,000) for the purpose of repair and improvements of Town roads. (Recommended by Selectmen 3-0) (Recommended by Budget Committee 8-0) (Majority vote required)

Moved and Seconded

Passed as Read

**Article** **#12** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of thirty thousand dollars ($30,000) to be added to the Highway Equipment Capital Reserve Fund previously established. (Recommended by Selectmen 3-0) (Recommended by Budget Committee 8-0) (Majority vote required)

Moved and Seconded

Passed as Read

**Article** **#13** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of twenty-five thousand dollars ($25,000) for the purpose of Town building improvements (Town Hall, Freight House, Highway Garage, Library & Police Station). (Recommended by Selectmen 3-0) (Recommended by Budget Committee 8-0) (Majority vote required)

Moved and Seconded

An amendment was made to add the OCC Building and increase the sum to be raised to $35,000.00.

Moved and Seconded

Amended Article #13 To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of thirty-five thousand dollars ($35,000.00) for the purpose of Town building improvements (Town Hall, Freight House, Highway Garage, Library, Police Station & OCC Building).

Passed as Amended

**Article** **#14** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of twenty thousand dollars ($20,000) to be added to the Bridge Repair and/or Replacement Expendable Trust Fund previously established. (Recommended by Selectmen 3-0) (Recommended by Budget Committee 8-0) (Majority vote required)

Moved and Seconded

Passed as Read

**Article #15** To see if the Town will vote to establish a Capital Reserve Fund under the provisions of RSA 35:1 for the purpose of acquiring a Town Beach on Ossipee Lake and to raise and appropriate the sum of twenty-five thousand dollars ($25,000) to be placed in this fund and to appoint the Selectmen as agents to expend. (Recommended by Selectmen 3-0) (Recommended by Budget Committee 8-0) (Majority vote required)

Moved and Seconded

Passed as Read

Mr. Adams asked not to reconsider articles 11-15.

Moved and Seconded

Passed

Moderator Meserve asked for a short recess at 7:30 pm

Moderator Meserve asked everyone to come back to their seats and moved on to Article #16.

**Article #16** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of forty thousand eight hundred sixty dollars ($40,860) for the purpose of purchasing one new police cruiser and equipment. This sum to come from the Town’s unreserved fund balance (surplus) and no amount to be raised from taxation. (Recommended by Selectmen 3-0) (Recommended by Budget Committee 8-0) (Majority vote required)

Moved and Seconded

Passed as Read

**Article** **#17** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of forty-six thousand five hundred dollars ($46,500) for the purpose of purchasing a new dispatch computer system and software for the Police Department cruisers. This sum to come from the Town’s unreserved fund balance (surplus) and no amount to be raised from taxation. (Recommended by the Selectmen 3-0) (Recommended by the Budget Committee 8-0) (Majority vote required)

Moved and Seconded

Passed as Read

**Article** **#18** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of fifty-nine thousand two hundred ninety dollars ($59,290) for the purpose of paying the Ossipee Water System's bond payment for one (1) year. (Recommended by Selectmen 3-0) (Recommended by Budget Committee 8-0) (Majority vote required)

Moved and Seconded

Passed as Read

**Article #19** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of twenty-five thousand dollars ($25,000) to be added to the Revaluation Capital Reserve Account previously established for the purpose of a complete revaluation of the Town in the year 2020. (Recommended by Selectmen 3-0) (Recommended by Budget Committee 8-0) (Majority vote required)

Moved and Second

Passed as Read

**Article #20** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of eighteen thousand dollars ($18,000) for the purpose of upgrading the server and computer equipment at Town Hall. (Recommended by Selectmen 3-0) (Recommended by Budget Committee 8-0) (Majority vote required)

Moved and Second

Passed as Read

**Article #21** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of five thousand dollars ($5,000) to be added to the Benefit Pay Expendable Trust Fund previously established. (Recommended by Selectmen 3-0) (Recommended by Budget Committee 8-0) (Majority vote required)

Moved and Seconded

Passed as Read

**Article #22** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of twenty-six thousand dollars ($26,000) to be added to the Invasive Species Control Fund previously established for the purpose of preventing and treating milfoil in Ossipee Lake. (Recommended by Selectmen 3-0) (Recommended by Budget Committee 8-0) (Majority vote required)

Moved and Seconded

Passed as Read

**Article #23** To see if the Town will vote to approve the cost items included in the collective bargaining agreement reached between the Town and AFSCME Local #534 which calls for the following increases in salaries and benefits at the current staffing level:

Fiscal Year Estimated Increase

2017 $13,432   
and further to raise and appropriate the sum of thirteen thousand four hundred thirty-two dollars ($13,432) for the current fiscal year, such sum representing the additional costs attributable to the increase in salaries and benefits required by the new agreement over those that would be paid at current staffing levels. (Recommended by Selectmen 3-0) (Recommended by Budget Committee 8-0) (Majority vote required)

Moved and Seconded

Passed as Read

Mr. Adams asked not to reconsider Articles #16 – 23.

Moved and Seconded

Passed

**Article #24** Shall the Town, if Article #23 is defeated, authorize the governing body to call one special meeting, at its option, to address article cost items only? (Majority vote required)

Moderator Meserve asked Richard Sager how to handle this article? Attorney Sager said to vote to pass over.

Moved and Seconded

Passed over

**Article #25** To see if the Town will vote to appoint the Selectmen as agents to expend from the Ossipee Town Water Capital Reserve Fund previously established. (Recommended by Selectmen 3-0) (Recommended by Budget Committee 8-0) (Majority vote required)

Moved and Seconded

Passed as Read

**Article #26** To see if the Town will vote to appoint the Selectmen as agents to expend from the Ossipee Town Sewer Capital Reserve Fund previously established. (Recommended by Selectmen 3-0) (Recommended by Budget Committee 8-0) (Majority vote required)

Moved and Seconded

Passed as Read

**Article #27** To see if the Town will vote to accept the donation of a build-out study from the Dan Hole Pond Watershed Trust to be used for informational purposes by various Town Departments, Boards and Commissions including but not limited to the updating of the Town's Master Plan. (Majority vote required)

Moved and Seconded

Passed as Read

Mr. Adams asked not to reconsider Articles # 24 - 27

**Article #28** To hear reports of agents, auditors, committees, or officers thereof.

There was no other reports and a motion to adjourn was called.

Moderator Meserve moved to adjourn 8:40 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Kellie J. Skehan

Town of Ossipee

Town Clerk