

**TOWN OF CORNISH
MINUTES OF TOWN MEETING
MARCH 16, 2015**

Article 1 The polls for secret ballot voting were open from 2-6pm. Janet Carper and Diann Perkins served as ballot clerks. Janet Carper, Tom Carper, Christine Hensley, Les MacMaster, Diann Perkins and Emily Ward served as ballot counters. Richard Ruhlin was elected Moderator to oversee the town meeting at 7 pm.

Before start of town meeting Chief Deputy Tom Baron of the York County Sheriffs office, was invited to speak. He thanked the townspeople, especially the fire department , for working closely together with the sheriffs office in assisting the community with calls. Statistics reported approximately 2,133 calls for service, consisting of; duties, 911 calls, and complaints. This is an increase in 100 calls from last year.

Moderator Richard Ruhlin noted that two officers Nancy Perkins, selectman, and Diane Harrington, Town Clerk/Tax Collector/Treasurer, were both vacating their prospective posts. On behalf of the town citizens he thanked them both for their years of service.

Article 2 The results of the votes of the elected officers announced: Selectman/Assessor/Overseer of the poor (3 year term)-Daniel Sherman 145 (elected), Norman Harding 55, Blank/Write-Ins- Mathieu Cama 5. Selectman/Assessor/Overseer of the poor (1 year term)- Karen James 100 (elected), Mathieu Cama 67, Roland Scott 41, Blanks/Write-Ins- Jeremy Smith 1; MSAD #55 School Board Member (3 year term)- Margaret Hoxie 147 (elected), Linda Brower 50, Blanks/Write-Ins 0; Road Commissioner (3 year term)- Robert Sturgeon 186 (elected), Blanks/Write-Ins- David Whitney 9, Roland Scott 2, Greg Sawyer 1, Steve Smith 1, Michael Sturgeon 1. Treasurer (3 year term)- Robyn Anderson 105 (elected), Blanks/Write-Ins- Katherine Blake 50, Julie Hanscom 36, Jeremy Smith 1. Town Clerk (3 year term)-Robyn Anderson 91 (elected), Katherine Blake 84, Julie Hanscom, 58, Blanks/Write-Ins- Jeremy Smith 1. Tax Collector (3 year term)-Robyn Anderson 92 (elected), Katherine Blake 71, Julie Hanscom 31, Blanks/Write-Ins- Jeremy Smith 1. Trustee Cornish Water District (2 positions for 3 year terms each)- Rodney Gilpatrick 164 (elected), Luke Ray 92 (elected), Todd K. Tufts 48, Blanks/Write-Ins- Jeremy Smith 1. All elected officers were sworn in their perspective offices.

Article 3 Voted to authorize the municipal officers to spend an amount not to exceed 1/6 of the budgeted amount in each category of the 2016 annual budget during the period Feb. 1, 2016 to Mar. 15, 2016 annual town meeting. This article legalizes municipal expenditures made after the fiscal year but before the annual town operating budget meeting.

Before voting on municipal appropriation articles Town Clerk and Moderator gave information on State Levy Limit calculation amount of \$761,162.22 = \$462,244.42 + \$298,162.22 (anticipated income from various state and municipal sources based on 2014 calculations) the amount of town budget if all articles on warrant were funded as requested \$782,435.50. At the town meeting the citizens approved article appropriation in the amount of \$779,335.50.

Article 4	Voted to raise and appropriate salaries and expenses of the town offices as follows:
	Selectman (Chairperson) \$7,500.00
	Selectman 2 nd 6,000.00
	Selectman 3 rd 6,000.00
	Treasurer 5,000.00
	Tax Collector 9,500.00
	Town Clerk 17,500.00
	Registrar of Voters 200.00
	Deputy Town Clerk 18,385.00
	Bookkeeper/Secretary 7,407.00
	Fire Chief 4,000.00
	1 st Assistant Chief 2,000.00
	2 nd Assistant Chief 1,000.00
	Ballot Clerks 600.00
	Moderator 75.00
	Matching Payroll Funds <u>\$8,000.00</u>
	Total Article \$93,167.00
Article 5	Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$500.00 for miscellaneous and contingent expenses.
Article 6	Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$13,000.00 for administrative and office expenses.
Article 7	Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$15,000.00 for software updates and computer maintenance.
Article 8	Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$2,500.00 for computer equipment replacement.
Article 9	Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,000.00 for anticipated legal fees.
Article 10	Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$5,000.00 for the town's annual audit.
Article 11	Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$9,000.00 for the maintenance of town buildings and properties.
Article 12	Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$25,000.00 for improvements to Pike Memorial Hall. Said funds to be retained in a perpetual account if unexpended.
Article 13	Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$2, 224.00 for 2015 dues to Maine Municipal Association.
Article 14	Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,200.00 for revisions to the assessing maps.
Article 15	Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$23,500.00 for all forms of insurance coverage for the upcoming year.
Article 16	Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$500.00 to be used for printing of Annual Cornish Town Reports.

MUNICIPAL SERVICES ARTICLES

- Article 17 Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$ 11,000.00 to cover the anticipated cost of street lighting which is under contract with Central Maine Power.
- Article 18 Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$107,000.00 for solid waste removal.
- Article 19 Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$7,000 for recycling.

PLANNING, CODE ENFORCEMENT & ANIMAL CONTROL ARTICLES

- Article 20 Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$5,500.00 for the administrative costs and related expenses of the Planning Board.
Both Planning Board and Budget Committee recommended \$4,500.00
- Article 21 Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$408.00 for the dues of the Southern Maine Planning and Development Commission.
- Article 22 Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$ 300.00 toward the support of the Saco River Corridor Commission, for its continued water quality monitoring program.
- Article 23 Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$6000.00 from Surplus funds, if necessary for economic and community development activities in Cornish.
- Article 24 Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1403.00 for animal shelter fees at Harvest Hills Animal Shelter, Inc.
- Article 25 Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,500.00 for animal control.

PARKS AND RECREATION ARTICLES

- Article 26 Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$6,800.00 to be used for maintenance and continuing improvements to the "Route 25 Recreation Fields Project". Said funds to be retained in a perpetual account if unexpended.
- Article 27 Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$900.00 for the care of Cornish Parks.
- Article 28 Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$500.00 for the observance of Memorial Day.
- Article 29 Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$3,500.00 in support of the Sacopee Valley Recreation Council.
- Article 30 Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$300.00 for materials to decorate Thompson Park at Christmas time.
- Article 31 Voted to transfer to Cornish Snow Cruiser Snowmobile Club an amount equal to 100% of the snowmobile registration fees collected by the Town. Last year's amount was \$483.26.

EMERGENCY SERVICES ARTICLES

- Article 32 Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$29,000.00 for the maintenance of the Cornish Fire Department. Said funds to be retained in a perpetual account if unexpended.
- Article 33 Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$20,000.00 for the purpose of updating fire equipment and major repairs. Said funds to be retained in a perpetual account if unexpended
- Article 34 Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$2,400.00 to be used for updating of personal protective clothing. Said fund to be retained in a perpetual account if unexpended.
- Article 35 Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$7,000.00 for fire and rescue dispatching services provided by Department of Public Safety.
- Article 36 Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$150.00 for the Emergency Management Agency Contingency Fund.
- Article 37 Voted to take from Surplus \$5000.00 for Major Fire Payroll if necessary, Fire Chief and Budget Committee recommends \$5000.00 from Surplus, if necessary.
- Article 38 Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$5000.00 for firefighter payroll.
- Article 39 Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$44,232.00 for fire hydrant rental.
- Article 40 Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$17,000.00 for the maintenance and operation of Sacopee Rescue Unit. To be pain in 3 equal installments in the months of April, August and November.
- Article 41 Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$5,000.00 for the Capital Reserve account of the Sacopee Rescue Unit.

MAINTENANCE OF ROADS AND BRIDGES

- Article 42 Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$100,000.00 for the purpose of removal of winter sand from the streets, repair of roads and bridges, tarring and retarring of town roads, cutting bushes along town maintained roadways as a form of road maintenance. Said fund to be retained in a perpetual account if unexpended.
- Article 43 Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$150,000.00 for snow removal and sanding of municipal roadways.

EDUCATION AND PRESERVATION ARTICLES

- Article 44 Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$12,000.00 for the support of Bonney Memorial Library.
- Article 45 Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,000.00 to fund the Capital Improvement Account for the purpose of adapting Pike Memorial Hall to comply with the American With Disabilities Act. Any unexpended balances to be retained in a perpetual account for future needs.
- Article 46 Voted to raise and appropriate and contribute the sum of \$300.00 toward the costs of the Sacopee Summer Concert Series at the Cornish Band Stand, organized by the Saco River Festival Association.
- Article 47 Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,400.00 for a commemorative marker at the site in Riverside Cemetery where the remains found at Pike Hall are placed. Any unexpended funds to be used for a commemorative sign at Pike Hall.
- Article 48 Voted to raise and appropriate the sum not to exceed \$500.00 to move and place the school bell from the former elementary school to the new site.
- Article 49 Voted to dedicate the franchise fees received from Time Warner Inc. and any grants received through the franchise negotiations to TV-2 for the purchase and maintenance of equipment, and for the operating costs, as deemed necessary to support the TV-2 program and retain funds from fees to reimburse Town Departments (Office & Fire Dept.) for internet expense.
- Article 50 Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,000.00 for the support of Cornish Historical Society.

SOCIAL SERVICES ARTICLES

- Article 51 Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,000.00 for the support of the American Red Cross.
- Article 52 Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$2000.00 for the support of general assistance cases.
- Article 53 Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$750.00 for the York County Community Action Program.
- Article 54 DEFEATED: To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$500.00 for the support of Home Health Visiting Nurses.
- Article 55 Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,200.00 for the support of the Southern Maine Agency on Aging, providing Meals on Wheels, medical benefit assistance and support for seniors.
- Article 56 DEFEATED: To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$500.00 for the support of Caring Unlimited, York County's Domestic Violence Program.

- Article 57 DEFEATED: To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$500.00 for the support of the Lake Region Senior Services Inc. Healthcare Access Program.
- Article 58 DEFEATED: To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$500.00 for the support of Maine Behavioral Healthcare, merger of behavioral health organization Spring Harbor Hospital, Community Counseling Center & Mid-Coast Mental Health Center.
- Article 59 DEFEATED: To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,000.00 for the support of Sexual Assault Response Services of Southern Maine (SARSSM), providing services to combat the crime of sexual assault.
- Article 60 Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$701.50 for The LifeFlight Foundation (for LifeFlight of Maine), providing emergency medical helicopter service.
- Article 61 DEFEATED: To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$100.00 for the support of Maine Public Broadcasting Network.

MISCELLANEOUS ARTICLES

- Article 62 Voted to increase the property tax levy limit of \$462,244.47 established for Cornish by State law in the event that the municipal budget approved under the preceding articles result in a tax commitment that is greater than the property tax levy limit. After all the expenditures articles were voted on the 2015 budget amount approved was over the limit.
- Article 63 Voted to adopt the following updated maps as presented by O'Donnell and Associates: Land Use District Map; Water Quality Plan; and the Maine Department of Environmental Protection Mandatory Shoreland Zoning. Maps can be viewed at the town office during regular business hours.
- Article 64 Voted to enact an ordinance entitled "Town of Cornish Ordinance for the Recall of Elected Officials".
- Article 65 DEFEATED: To see if the town will vote to move the Annual Town Meeting date to the 4th Saturday in March commencing at 9:00am; with voting for election of town officials on preceding Friday 2-8 pm starting in 2016.
- Article 66 Voted to approve a Community Block Grant application for a Public Facilities Infrastructure Grant in Category 3, and to submit same to the Department of Economic and Community Development, and if said program is approved, to accept said grant funds, make assurances, assume such responsibilities and exercise such authority as is necessary and reasonable implement such program.

- Article 67 Voted to except private donations, grants, and/or state and federal funding available for the following activities:
- A. State Municipal Revenue Sharing
 - B. Tree Growth Reimbursement
 - C. Local Road Assistance
 - D. State Aid to Education (Including Federal Pass Through Funds and Property Tax Relief)
 - E. Public Library State Aid
 - F. Civil Emergency Funds
 - G. General Assistance Reimbursement
 - H. Snowmobile Registration Fee Refunding
 - I. Veterans Exemption Reimbursement
 - J. State Grant or Other Funding (Includes all funds that are received from the state or other sources which are not included in the above categories).
- Article 68 Voted to authorize the selectmen and treasurer to procure temporary loans in anticipation of real estate tax income for the purpose of satisfying the obligation of the town.
- Article 69 Voted to fix rate of interest on unpaid real estate and personal property taxes after December 31,2015 at 7%.
- Article 70 Voted to discount the real estate and personal property taxes paid within 30 (thirty) days of the date of commitment at a rate of 3%.
- Article 71 Voted to authorize the selectmen to sell any or all tax liens or deeds held by the town, which in their judgment is in the best interest of the town, and to execute quit claim deeds for such property. All expired tax liens to be posted conspicuously in at least four places and as conspicuously in Your Weekly Shopping Guide.
- Article 72 Voted to authorize the selectmen to appoint all necessary officers (other than elected positions) for the ensuing year
- Article 73 Voted to authorize the selectmen to transfer monies from surplus funds to cover any overdrafts existing at the end of the fiscal year.

Raise and Appropriate	\$739,335.50
Bond	<u>\$ 40,000.00</u>
	\$779,335.50
From SURPLUS	\$11,000.00
Recreation fields	<u>\$11,000.00</u>
	\$22,000.00

