

**TOWN OF CORNISH
MINUTES OF TOWN MEETING
MARCH 21, 2016**

Article 1 The polls for secret ballot voting were open from 2-6pm. Janet Carper and Diann Perkins served as ballot clerks. Tom Carper, Janet Carper, John MacIntrye, Diane Perkins, Linwood Perkins, and Emily Ward (ballot counter for Water District) served as ballot counters. Robert Heard was elected Moderator to oversee the town meeting at 7:30pm.

Before start of town meeting State Senator David C. Woodsome was invited to address his audience about the issues being discussed at the state government level that impact the townspeople regarding Unclaimed Property, 211-Maine, and the web site to apply for the Maine Moose Permit Lottery <https://www5.informe.org/online/moose/>. Sheriff William L. King was also invited to address those present. Sheriff King indicated that during 2015 Sheriff's deputies responded to 22,637 calls for service, 5,944 in the fourth quarter. With this call volume and the priority nature of the calls, YCSO Management modified their deployment strategies and assigned more deputies on the road with only one deputy task assigned as a detective. (Detective Wilford Vachon's responsibilities also included court officer, evidence collection, and property/evidence room custodian.) Sheriff King informed the residences that crime has increased in the area and suggested; a contract deputy for the town would deter activities.

Article 2 The results of the votes of the elected officers were announced:
Selectman/Assessor/Overseer of the poor (3 year term) – Mathieu Cama 168 (elected) Blank/Write-ins 31. MSAD #55 School Board Member (3 year term)-Linda Brower 91 votes (elected) Bradley Perkins 89, Blanks/Write-ins 19. MSAD #55 School Board Member (1 year term)- Nancy Perkins 153 votes (elected), Blanks/Write-ins 46. Cornish Water District Trustee (3 year term)-Heidi Cates 180 votes (elected), Blanks/Write-ins 19. All elected officers, present at the meeting, were sworn in their perspective offices.

Article 3 To ratify secret ballot votes of warrant: “To see if the town will vote to authorize the Selectmen to establish a committee to develop a proposal for a new town office building and to explore financing for the same, all of which shall be subject to final approval by the voters”. The municipal officers have ordered this secret ballot referendum vote in accordance with 30a 2528.

Vote results: Yes Votes: 50 No votes: 149
Therefore, this warrant article fails

Article 4 To ratify secret ballot votes of warrant: “To see if the town will vote to secure interim space in the event Town Office renovations are necessary).
Vote results: Yes Votes: 73 No Votes: 123

Therefore, this warrant article fails

Article 5 Voted to authorize the municipal officers to spend an amount not to exceed 1/6 of the budgeted amount in each category of the 2017 annual budget during the period February 1, 2017 to March 19, 2017, the next anticipated annual town meeting. This article legalizes municipal expenditures made after the fiscal year end but before the annual town operating budget meeting.

Article 6 Voted to raise and appropriate all salaries and expenses of the town officers as follows:

Selectman (Chairperson)	\$7,500.00
Selectman 2 nd	6,000.00
Selectman 3 rd	6,000.00
Assessor	4,000.00
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
Assistant Chief	2,000.00
2 nd Assistant	1,000.00
Ballot Clerks	600.00
Moderator	75.00
Matching Payroll Funds	<u>8,000.00</u>
Total Article	\$97,167.00

Article 7 Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$500.00 for miscellaneous and contingent expenses.

Article 8 Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$15,400.00 for administrative and office expenses.

Article 9 Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$14,000.00 for software updates and computer maintenance.

Article 10 Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$500.00 for anticipated legal fees.

Article 11 Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$5,000.00 for the town's annual audit.

Article 12 Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$3,000.00 for the maintenance of town buildings and properties.

- Article 13 Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$6,000.00 for the utility cost of town buildings and properties.
- Article 14 Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$15,000.00 for capital improvements to Pike Memorial Hall. Said funds to be retained in a perpetual account if unexpended.
- Article 15 Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$2,276.00 for 2016 dues to Maine Municipal Association.
- Article 16 Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1300.00 for the revisions to the assessing maps.
- Article 17 Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$25,500.00 for all forms of insurance coverage for the upcoming year.
- Article 18 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 19 Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$112,000.00 for solid waste removal.
- Article 20 Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$7,000.00 for recycling.
- Article 21 Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$5,500.00 for the administrative costs and related expenses of the Planning Board.
- Article 22 Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$420.00 for dues of the Maine Planning and Development Commission.
- Article 23 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 24 Voted to take the sum of \$6,000.00 from surplus for economic and community development grant activities in Cornish if necessary.
- Article 25 Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,403.00 for animal shelter fees at Harvest Hills Animal Shelter, Inc.
- Article 26 Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$2,000.00 for animal control.

- Article 27 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 28 Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,000.00 for the care of Cornish Parks.
- Article 29 Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$650.00 for the observance of Memorial Day.
- Article 30 Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$3,500.00 in support of the Sacopee Valley Recreation Council.
- Article 31 Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$300.00 for holiday decorations.
- Article 32 Voted to transfer to the Cornish Sno-Cruiser Snowmobile Club an amount equal to 100% of the snowmobile registration fees collected by the town.
- Article 33 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 the department account if unexpended.
- Article 34 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 35 Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$2,400.00 to be used for updating personal protective equipment. Said funds to be retained in a perpetual account if unexpended.
- Article 36 Voted to raise and appropriate a sum of \$7,000.00 for fire and rescue dispatching services provided by the Department of Public Safety.
- Article 37 Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$150.00 for the Emergency Management Agency Contingency Fund.
- Article 38 Voted to take from surplus, \$5,000.00 for Major Fire Payroll if necessary.
- Article 39 Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$5,000.00 for firefighter payroll.
- Article 40 DEFEATED to see if the town will take from surplus, \$3,500.00 to be used as matching funds for a RCFP Grant, to be used by the Fire Department to install dry hydrants, or purchase of other fire related items.
- Article 41 Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$44,232.00 for fire hydrant rental.

- Article 42 Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$17,000.00 for the maintenance and operation costs for Sacopee Rescue.
- Article 43 Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$10,000.00 for the Sacopee Rescue Capital Reserve account.
- Article 44 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 re-tarring 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 45 Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$25,000.00 for the purpose of proposed intersection improvement at South Hiram Road and Route 25.
- Article 46 Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$150,000.00 for snow removal and sanding operations in the town.
- Article 47 Voted to raise and appropriate sum of \$12,000.00 for the support of Bonney Memorial Library.
- Article 48 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 49 Voted to raise, appropriate and contribute \$300.00 toward the costs of the Sacopee Summer Concert Series at the Cornish Bandstand, organized by the Saco River Festival Association.
- Article 50 Voted to dedicate the franchise fees received from Time Warner Cable Inc. and any grants received through franchise negotiations to TV-2 for the purchase and maintenance of equipment, and for operating costs.
- Article 51 Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,000.00 for the support of the Cornish Historical Society.
- Article 52 Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$2,000.00 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 Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$500.00 for support of Home Health Visiting Nurses.

- Article 55 Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,250.00 for support of Southern Maine Agency on Aging, providing Meals on Wheels, medical benefit assistance & support for Seniors.
- Article 56 Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$500.00 for the support of Caring Unlimited, Your County's Domestic Violence Program.
- Article 57 DEFEATED to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,000.00 for support of Sexual Assault Response Services of Southern Maine (SARSSM), providing services to combat the crime of sexual assault.
- Article 58 DEFEATED to raise and appropriate the sum of \$500.00 for support of KIDS FREE TO GROW (CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION COUNCIL OF YOUR COUNTY) to address their mission "To prevent child abuse and neglect by empowering children and families in York County"
- Article 59 To ratify secret ballot votes of warrant: Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$9,500 for the purchase of a Cornish Veterans' Memorial Monument which will have the following engraved working "IN HONOR OF ALL THE VETERANS OF CORNISH WHO HAVE SERVED OUR COUNTRY". The black granite monument would be 5 feet wide, 4 feet tall, and 8 inches thick and be placed in a lot near the gazebo at Cornish Riverside Cemetery. Said lot would be deeded to the Town of Cornish and be maintained by the Riverside Cemetery Association. Any unexpended balance to be returned in an account for future development of the site. This article placed by Voter's Petition Paper for Town Meeting Secret Ballot Vote on an Article of Business (30-M.R.S.A. §2522 and 2528(5)).
Vote Results: 102 Yea and 91 Nay Therefore, this warrant article PASSES
- Article 60 Voted to increase the property tax levy limit of \$480,145.28 established for Cornish by State Law in the event that the municipal budget approved under the preceding articles will result in a tax commitment that is greater than that property tax levy limit.
- Article 61 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 to improvement such a program.
- Article 62 Voted to accept 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 (Federal Pass Through Funds & 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 63 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 64 Voted that the rate of interest the town will fix on unpaid real estate and personal property taxes after December 31, 2016 at 7%.

Article 65 Voted to discount real estate and personal property taxes 3% if paid within 30 days of commitment.

Article 66 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, 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 67 Voted to authorize the selectmen to appoint all necessary officers (other than elected positions) for the ensuing year.

Article 68 Voted to authorize the selectmen to transfer monies from surplus funds to cover any overdrafts existing at the end of the fiscal year.

State Levy Limit calculation amount \$480,145.28 plus anticipated income from various state and municipal sources (309,097.83) equals \$789,243.11.

Raised and Appropriated	\$746.098.00
Bond	<u>\$ 40.000.00</u>
Total	\$786.000.00

Funds from Surplus	\$ 11,000.00
Recreation Fields	\$ 11,000.00

A True Copy of meeting minutes.

Attest: _____
Clerk of Cornish