

2007

Town of New Gloucester Minutes of Annual Town Meeting 2007

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**TOWN OF NEW GLOUCESTER
MINUTES OF ANNUAL TOWN MEETING
May 7, 2007**

The Town Meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m. by Town Clerk, Rosemary E. Kulow.

*The Clerk led the town meeting attendees in the **Pledge of Allegiance**.*

Presentation by the Fire-Rescue Department Color Guard. Gary Sacco, Fire Chief, dedicated the Parade Axes and presented plaques to Carl Tufts, accepted by great-nephew Ben Tufts, and Lloyd Morrison for their years of service.

Article 1. To choose a Moderator to preside at said meeting.

*Nomination of: Donald Libby
Nomination by: Beverly Cadigan
Seconded by: Steve Chandler
No other nominations were made.
Those in favor of closing nominations: all
Opposed: none
Nomination of Donald Libby carried.
3 votes were cast for Donald Libby.
Donald Libby was elected Moderator.*

The clerk administered the Oath of Office to the Moderator.

Article 2. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$441,060 from taxation and other sources for the ensuing year for the following:

101	Selectmen	\$ 19,700
102	Administration	\$261,350
105	Town Meetings/Elections	\$ 4,300
106	Tax Assessment	\$ 74,600
107	Code Enforcement	\$ 54,110
108	Legal	\$ 22,000
130	Unanticipated Expenses	<u>\$ 5,000</u>
	TOTAL	<u>\$441,060</u>

Budget Committee & Board of Selectmen recommend passage.

*Motion: Steve Chandler moved that Article 2 have passage as presented.
Second: Pat Dionisio
Discussion: None
Vote: It was voted that Article 2 have passage as presented - **\$441,060**.*

Article 3. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$74,102 from taxation and other sources for the ensuing year for the following:

103	General Assistance	\$ 27,800
131	Health Officer	\$ 1,500
132	Animal Control	\$ 12,250
135	Cemeteries	\$ 8,000
137	Interagency Requests	\$ 14,552
142	Water Treatment	\$ 10,000
	TOTAL	<u>\$ 74,102</u>

Board of Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend passage.

Motion: Steve Chandler moved that Article 3 have passage as presented.

Second: Pat Dionisio

Discussion: None

Vote: It was voted that Article 3 have passage as presented - \$74,102.

Article 4. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$221,240 from taxation and other sources for the ensuing year for the following:

111	Fire Department	\$183,390
112	Emergency Management	\$ 6,350
114	Street Lights	\$ 5,500
115	Public Safety Dispatch	\$ 26,000
	TOTAL	<u>\$221,240</u>

Board of Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend passage.

Motion: Steve Chandler moved that Article 4 have passage as presented.

Second: George Carman

Discussion: None

Vote: It was voted that Article 4 have passage as presented - \$221,240.

Article 5. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$1,009,750 from taxation and other sources for the ensuing year for the following:

116	Highway Department	\$ 598,850
117	Paving	\$ 194,000
120	Solid Waste	\$ 212,900
134	Tree Care	\$ 4,000
	TOTAL	<u>\$1,009,750</u>

Budget Committee & Board of Selectmen recommend passage.

Motion: Glenn Turner moved that Article 5 have passage as presented.

Second: Josh McHenry

Discussion: None

Vote: It was voted that Article 5 have passage as presented - \$1,009,750.

Article 6. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$166,955 from taxation and other sources for the ensuing year for the following:

123	Library	\$ 81,450
104	Buildings & Grounds	\$ 53,225
133	Parks & Recreation	\$ 25,500
113	Meeting House/Cable TV	\$ 6,780
	TOTAL	<u>\$166,955</u>

Budget Committee & Board of Selectmen recommend passage.

*Motion: Tim Terranova moved that Article 6 have passage as presented.
 Second: Josh McHenry
 Discussion: Roger Levasseur commented on this article.
 Vote: It was voted that Article 6 have passage as presented - \$166,955.*

Article 7. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$53,000 from taxes and a special revenue account for the following Public Works Capital Reserve accounts for the ensuing year:

<u>Account 127</u>		<u>Funding Sources</u>
Vehicles & Equipment	\$10,000	\$8,800 Tax + \$1,200 GL Spec. Rev.
Paving	33,000	Tax
Construction	5,000	Tax
Transfer Station	<u>5,000</u>	Tax
TOTAL	<u>\$53,000</u>	

Budget Committee & Board of Selectmen recommend passage.

*Motion: Jeff Hamilton moved that Article 7 have passage as presented.
 Second: John Randall
 Discussion: Brian Whitney and Linda Segars commented on this article.
 Vote: It was voted that Article 7 have passage as presented - \$53,000.*

Article 8. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$455,000 from taxes, the undesignated fund balance, and the TIF district account for the following Public Safety Capital Reserve accounts for the ensuing year:

<u>Account 127</u>		<u>Funding Sources</u>
Water for Fire Protection	\$ 5,000	Tax
Fire Rescue Station	<u>450,000</u>	\$300,000 UFB + \$150,000 TIF
TOTAL	<u>\$455,000</u>	

Budget Committee & Board of Selectmen recommend passage.

*Motion: Mary Bickerstaff moved that Article 8 have passage as presented.
 Second: George Carman
 Discussion: Roger Levasseur and Jeff Hamilton commented on this article.
 Vote: It was voted that Article 8 have passage as presented - \$455,000.*

Article 9. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$25,000 from taxation for the following Facilities Capital Reserve accounts for the ensuing year:

<u>Account 127</u>		<u>Funding Sources</u>
Fairgrounds Playground	\$ 5,000	Tax
Library	\$ 5,000	Tax
Future Building Needs	\$10,000	Tax
Parks & Recreation	\$ 5,000	Tax
TOTAL	<u>\$25,000</u>	

Budget Committee & Board of Selectmen recommend passage.

Motion: Steve Chandler moved that Article 9 have passage as presented.

Second: Tim Terranova

Discussion: None

Vote: It was voted that Article 9 have passage as presented - \$25,000.

Article 10. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$35,000 from taxation for a Revaluation Capital Reserve account for the ensuing year.

Budget Committee & Board of Selectmen recommend passage.

Motion: Steve Chandler moved that Article 10 have passage as presented.

Second: Glenn Turner

Discussion: None

Vote: It was voted that Article 10 have passage as presented - \$35,000.

Article 11. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$115,000 from taxation, capital reserve accounts, general ledger special revenue accounts and TIF district funds for the following Public Works Capital Improvements for the ensuing year:

<u>Account 128</u>		<u>Funding Sources</u>
Trans. Station Safety Repairs	\$ 22,500	\$22,500 T.S. CR
P.W. Garage Safety Repairs	22,500	\$9,500 GL Spec. Revenue + \$13,000 Tax
P.W. Containment Units	30,500	GL Spec. Rev. Acct.
Transfer Station Engineering	25,000	TIF District Funds
Cemeteries Tractor-Mower	<u>14,500</u>	\$13,720 Hwy CR + \$780 GL Spec Rev
TOTAL	<u>\$115,000</u>	

Budget Committee & Board of Selectmen recommend passage.

Motion: Josh McHenry moved that Article 11 have passage as presented.

Second: Beverly Cadigan

Discussion: Roger Levasseur, Beth Sutherland, and Beverly Cadigan commented on this article.

Vote: It was voted that Article 11 have passage as presented - \$115,000.

Article 12. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate \$200,000 from capital reserve for the Woodman Road Reconstruction Capital Improvement for the ensuing year:

<u>Account 128</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Capital Reserve Funding Sources</u>
Meadow Brook Crossing	<u>\$200,000</u>	\$100,000 Bridge + \$100,000 Rd Recon

The Budget Committee & Board of Selectmen agree that project scope should include only the Meadow Brook crossing portion of Phase I. However, the cost amounts each body agreed to differ because the Budget Committee used the estimate provided by engineers, and the Board of Selectmen reduced the allocation to a number closer to the actual bid amount.

Motion: John Randall moved that Article 12 have passage as presented.

Second: Pat Dionisio

Discussion: Roger Levasseur, Jeff Hamilton, Michael Fralich, Noni Wills, Chris Becksvoot, Peggy Becksvoot, Gary Harriman, Brian Whitney, Larry Zuckerman, and Beth Sutherland commented on this article.

Motion: Josh McHenry asked to move the question.

Vote: It was voted that Article 12 have passage as presented - \$200,000.

Article 13. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate \$25,000 from capital reserve for the following Public Safety Capital Improvement for the ensuing year:

Installation of Fire Ponds & Cisterns **\$25,000**

Budget Committee & Board of Selectmen recommend passage.

Motion: Steve Chandler moved that Article 13 have passage as presented.

Second: Mary Bickerstaff

Discussion: None

Vote: It was voted that Article 13 have passage as presented - \$25,000.

Article 14. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate \$63,000 from capital reserve and a general ledger special revenue account for the following Buildings & Grounds Capital Improvement for the ensuing year:

<u>Account 128</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Funding Sources</u>
Fairgrounds Track Upgrade	\$11,000	Fairgrounds Capital Reserve
Fairgrounds Infield Upgrade	<u>52,000</u>	\$40,000 Frgrds CR + \$12,000 GL Spec Rev
TOTAL	<u>\$63,000</u>	

Budget Committee & Board of Selectmen recommend passage.

Motion: Sam Coggeshall moved that Article 14 have passage as presented.

Second: Beth Sutherland

Discussion: Hal Phillips, Brian Whitney, Roger Levasseur, Mary Bickerstaff, George Carman, Debbie May, Steve Chandler and Beth Sutherland commented on this article.

Vote: It was voted that Article 14 have passage as presented - \$63,000.

Article 15. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$93,630 from taxation and other sources for the ensuing year for the following:

122	Planning	\$ 91,900
124	Environmental Resource Com.	\$ 230
126	Water Resources	\$ 300
129	Sabbathday Lake Water Testing	<u>\$ 1,200</u>
	TOTAL	<u>\$ 93,630</u>

Budget Committee & Board of Selectmen recommend passage.

Motion: Steve Chandler moved that Article 15 have passage as presented.

Second: George Carman

Discussion: Brian Whitney, Keith Smaldon, Christopher Rheault, Roger Levasseur, Janet Smaldon and Larry Zuckerman commented on this article.

Vote: It was voted that Article 15 have passage as presented - \$93,630.

A BREAK WAS TAKEN AT 8:30 P.M. AND THE MEETING RESUMED AT 8:45 P.M.

Article 16. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$557,290 from taxation and other sources for the ensuing year for the following:

109	Insurance	\$295,500
125	Social Security/Retirement	\$ 83,250
139	Debt Service	<u>\$178,540</u>
	TOTAL	<u>\$557,290</u>

Budget Committee & Board of Selectmen recommend passage.

Motion: Roger Levasseur moved that Article 16 have passage as presented.

Second: Kathleen Potter

Discussion: None

Vote: It was voted that Article 16 have passage as presented - \$557,290.

Article 17. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$185,866 from taxation for the ensuing year for the following:

144	TIF District	\$175,866 (Estimated; determined when tax rate calculated.)
145	Tax Abatements	<u>10,000</u>
	TOTAL	<u>\$185,866</u>

Budget Committee & Board of Selectmen recommend passage.

Motion: Roger Levasseur moved that Article 17 have passage as presented.

Second: Kathleen Potter

Discussion: None

Vote: It was voted that Article 17 have passage as presented - \$185,866.

Article 18. To see if the Town will vote to accept and spend the following categories of State revenue funds during the ensuing year:

1. Municipal Revenue Sharing
2. MDOT URIP
3. Tree Growth Reimbursement
4. General Assistance Reimbursement
5. Veterans Exemption Reimbursement
6. Snowmobile Registration Funds
7. Public Library State Aid
8. Emergency Management Assistance/Homeland Security Grants
9. Other State Aid (*pass-through funds and property tax relief*)
10. State Grants or Other Funds (*not included in items 1 – 9 above.*)

Budget Committee & Board of Selectmen recommend passage.

Motion: Glenn Turner moved that Article 18 have passage as presented.

Second: Josh McHenry

Discussion: None

Vote: It was voted that Article 18 have passage as presented.

Article 19. To see if the Town will vote to apply the following anticipated revenues to reduce the tax commitment:

Building & Inspection Fees	\$ 29,145
Transfer Station Fees	\$ 21,000
Boat Excise Tax	\$ 6,300
Auto Excise Tax	\$ 900,000
Town Fees	\$ 20,000
Recreation Program Fees	\$ 8,000
Refuse Collection Licenses	\$ 200
Fines & Reimbursements	\$ 2,000
Clerk Fees	\$ 4,000
Rent Income	\$ 600
Revenue Sharing GL	\$ 95,153
Copy/Fax Fees	\$ 2,200
TIF GL	\$ 175,000
Other GL Revenue	\$ 54,500
Cable TV Franchise Fees	\$ 20,000
Library Revenue	\$ 1,200
Interest from Overdue Tax Pmts.	\$ 16,000
Interest from Investments	\$ 300,000
Undesignated Fund Balance	\$ 400,000
Capital Reserve Income	\$ 452,120
TOTAL	<u>\$2,507,418</u>

Budget Committee & Board of Selectmen recommend passage.

Motion: George Carman moved that Article 19 have passage as presented.

Second: Roger Levasseur

Discussion: Keith Smaldon and Brian Whitney commented on this article.

Vote: It was voted that Article 19 have passage as presented.

Article 20. AUTHORITY TO ACCEPT REVENUE IN EXCESS OF AMOUNT BUDGETED: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Clerk/Treasurer to accept revenue in excess of amounts budgeted on behalf of the town.

Motion: Roger Levasseur moved that Article 20 have passage as read.

Second: Josh McHenry

Discussion: None

Vote: It was voted that Article 20 have passage as read.

Article 21. AUTHORITY TO ACCEPT GRANTS: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to apply for and accept, on behalf of the Town, state and federal grants and grants from nonprofit organizations for municipal purposes, including when necessary, the authority to sign the grant contract and accept the conditions that accompany grant funds, and to appropriate and expend grant funds for the authorized purposes.

Motion: Sam Coggeshall moved that Article 21 have passage as read.

Second: Josh McHenry

Discussion: None

Vote: It was voted that Article 21 have passage as read.

Article 22. ACCEPTANCE OF GIFTS OF MONEY OR PERSONAL PROPERTY: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to accept gifts of money or personal property to the Town and to appropriate and expend such money for such public purposes as the Board deems to be in the interest of the Town.

Motion: Beth Sutherland moved that Article 22 have passage as read.

Second: Kevin Sullivan

Discussion: None

Vote: It was voted that Article 22 have passage as read.

Article 23. ACCEPTANCE OF *CONDITIONAL* GIFTS OF MONEY AND PERSONAL PROPERTY: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to accept conditional gifts of money to the Town and to appropriate and expend the funds for the purposes for which the gift was made and in accordance with any conditions imposed by the donor and to accept conditional gifts of personal property to the Town and to use the property in the manner specified by the donor.

Motion: Mark Gilbert moved that Article 23 have passage as read.

Second: Jeff Hamilton

Discussion: John Gundersdorf commented on this article.

Vote: It was voted that Article 23 have passage as read.

Article 24. RETURNING UNEXPENDED CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUNDS TO CAPITAL RESERVE ACCOUNTS: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to return unexpended capital improvement funds to their corresponding capital reserve accounts.

Motion: Frank Chambers moved that Article 24 have passage as read.

Second: Josh McHenry

Discussion: Roger Levasseur commented on this article.

Vote: It was voted that Article 24 have passage as read.

Article 25. ESTABLISHMENT OF INTEREST RATE FOR LATE TAX PAYMENTS: To see if the Town will vote to fix a date and terms when taxes shall become due and payable, and set an interest rate of 12.00 percent per annum. The 12% interest rate is authorized under Title 36 M.R.S.A. Section 505.4, as of January 1, 2007.

Recommendation: that Friday, October 12, 2007 and Friday, April 11, 2008 be established as the dates taxes are due and payable, and that interest at the rate of 12% per annum will be charged after such dates.

Motion: Kevin Sullivan moved that Article 25 have passage as read.

Second: Roger Levasseur

Discussion: None

Vote: It was voted that Article 25 have passage as read.

Article 26. ESTABLISHMENT OF INTEREST RATE FOR ABATED TAXES: To see if the town will vote to set the interest rate at seven percent (7%) per annum to be paid by the town on abated taxes pursuant to 36 M.R.S.A. Section 506-A.

Motion: Kevin Sullivan moved that Article 26 have passage as read.

Second: Josh McHenry

Discussion: None

Vote: It was voted that Article 26 have passage as read.

Article 27. ACCEPTANCE OF TAX PREPAYMENTS: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Tax Collector or Treasurer to accept prepayments of taxes not yet committed, pursuant to 36 M.R.S.A. § 506.

Motion: Kevin Sullivan moved that Article 27 have passage as read.

Second: Robert Hubbard

Discussion: None

Vote: It was voted that Article 27 have passage as read.

Article 28. DISPOSITION OF FORECLOSED PROPERTY: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to sell and dispose of the following foreclosed properties on such terms as the Board of Selectmen finds to be in the best interests of the Town.

<u>MAP</u>	<u>LOT</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>LAND/BUILDING</u>
6	41-A	19 Outlet Rd	House & land
2	22-D	328B Sabbathday Rd	Mobile home & land
8	5-C	23 Winsaw Rd	Mobile home & land
2	8-1	21 Maine St	Mobile home, no land
3	22-F	near Shady Lane	Land
12	21-A	83 Wharff Rd	House & land
12	21-K	off Woodman Rd	Land
12	21-L	off Woodman Rd	Land
12	21-M	off Woodman Rd	Land
10	13-J2	182 Bald Hill Rd	Mobile home, no land

Motion: Roger Levasseur moved that Article 28 have passage.

Second: Mark Gilbert

Discussion: The Town Manager informed those present that since the printing of the warrant, payments had been received for the following properties: (1) Map 6 Lot 41-A at 19 Outlet Road, (2) Map 2 Lot 22-D at 328B Sabbathday Road, (3) Map 8 Lot 5-C at 23 Winsaw Road, and (4) Map 10 Lot 13-J2 at 182 Bald Hill Road. She recommended removing these properties from consideration.

Motion: Steve Libby moved and Mary Bickerstaff seconded a motion to amend this article by eliminating from consideration the following properties: (1) Map 6 Lot 41-A 19 Outlet Road, (2) Map 2 Lot 22-D 328B Sabbathday Road, (3) Map 8 Lot 5-C 23 Winsaw Road, and (4) Map 10 Lot 13-J2 182 Bald Hill Road. Motion passed.

Vote: Article 28 passed as amended.

Article 29. DISPOSITION OF SURPLUS TOWN PROPERTY: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to sell and dispose of surplus town-owned personal property on such terms and conditions as the Board of Selectmen finds to be in the best interests of the Town and to deposit proceeds from such sales in the corresponding capital reserve accounts.

Motion: Frank Chambers moved that Article 29 have passage as read.

Second: Josh McHenry

Discussion: Josh McHenry commented on this article.

Vote: It was voted that Article 29 have passage as read.

Article 30. ACCEPTANCE OF A TOWN WAY: To see if the Town will vote to accept Briarwood Drive as a public/town way.

Motion: Greg Hamann moved that Article 30 have passage as read.

Second: Elliot Sarantakos

Discussion: Roger Levasseur, Richard Cadigan, Brian Whitney, Jane Arbuckle, and Carrie MacDonald commented on this article.

Vote: It was voted that Article 30 not be accepted as read.

Article 31. AUTHORIZATION OF OVERDRAFT: To see if the Town will vote to approve an overdraft of \$763 of the FY06 Debt Service account.

Motion: Peggy Becksvoort moved that Article 31 have passage as read.

Second: Josh McHenry

Discussion: Janet Smaldon and Beth Sutherland commented on this article.

Vote: It was voted that Article 31 have passage as read.

Article 32. AUTHORIZATION OF OVERDRAFT: To see if the Town will vote to approve an overdraft of \$6,334 of the FY06 Public Health and Welfare (General Assistance) account.

Motion: Robert Hubbard moved that Article 32 have passage as read.

Second: Josh McHenry

Discussion: None

Vote: It was voted that Article 32 have passage as read.

Article 33. AUTHORIZATION OF ALLOCATION FROM UNDESIGNATED FUND BALANCE FOR FY07 FIRE DEPARTMENT BUDGET: To see if the Town will vote to approve an additional allocation of up to \$10,000 from the undesignated fund balance to prevent overspending Fire Department account 111 in the FY07 budget; these additional funds shall not be used unless absolutely necessary.

Motion: Roger Levasseur moved that Article 33 have passage as read.

Second: George Carman

Discussion: None

Vote: It was voted that Article 33 have passage as read.

Roger Levasseur moved and George Carman seconded a motion to adjourn at 9:20 p.m. The motion passed unanimously.

ATTEST: _____
Town Clerk, Rosemary E. Kulow