

## 2021 TOWN MEETING MINUTES

SATURDAY, MAY 1, 2021

The Business meeting was called to order at 1:00 p.m. by Moderator Longnecker. Pastor Eric Ekholm provided the Invocation and then the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Moderator Longnecker.

Moderator Longnecker read the Moderator Rules and the meeting will be run accordingly.

**Motion was made by Walter Scott to follow the "Robert Rules of Order" second by David Rapalyea. The motion passed in the affirmative.**

1. To choose the following Town Officers: Moderator (1 for 1 year); Selectman (1 for 3 years); Trustee of Trust Funds (1 for 3 years); Budget Committee (3 for 3 years) and (1 for 2 years); Planning Board (1 for 3 years); Zoning Board of Adjustment (1 for 3 years) and (1 for 1 year); Cemetery Trustees (1 for 3 years).

Office	Positions - Term	Candidates	Count **Winner
Moderator	1 for 1 years	Seelye Longnecker	12 **
Selectman	1 for 3 years	Brett Walker Tricia Thompson	89 ** 79
Trustee of the Trust Fund	1 for 3 years	Marcel Binette	136 **
Budget Committee	3 for 3 years	Salvatore Morgani David Kelly Jason Hood Clinton Morgani Jennifer Hoyt David Croft (Write-in)	77 122 ** 95 ** 17 68 104 **
	1 for 2 years	Jennifer Hoyt (Write-in)	9 **
Planning Board	1 for 3 years	Loretta Razin (Write-in)	17 **
Zoning Board of Adjustment	1 for 3 years	Loretta Razin (Write-in)	14 **
	1 for 1 year	Alfred Romano	126 **
Cemetery Trustees	2 for 3 years	Geoff Hodges (Write-in) Dora Rapalyea (Write-in) Harvey Peter (Write-in)	4 ** 4 ** 4

And to act upon the following subjects at the Business Meeting on **Saturday, the 1<sup>st</sup> day of May, 2021 at 1:00 p.m.:**

2. To see if the Town will vote to raise & appropriate the sum of One Hundred and Fifty-Six Thousand Dollars (\$156,000) for the expansion of fiber optic internet cable on North Road, Flaghole Road, Humphrey Road & Montgomery Road; and to authorize the issuance of not more than One Hundred and Fifty-Six Thousand Dollars (\$156,000) of bonds or notes in accordance with the provisions of the Municipal Finance Act (RSA 33) and to authorize the Selectmen to issue and negotiate such bonds or notes and to determine the rate of interest thereon; for the expansion of fiber optic internet cable on North Road, Flaghole Road, Humphrey Road & Montgomery Road. (Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend this article). (3/5 Ballot vote required.)

Motion made to accept article #3 as written was made by Walter Scott and seconded by Jeff Nangle.

Discussion: Selectman Brett Walker made a motion to amend the article to the new figures that were necessary after closer examination of the houses who needed high-speed internet. Proposed revision is : "To see if the Town will vote to raise & appropriate the sum of One Hundred and Twenty Thousand Dollars (\$120,000) for the expansion of fiber optic internet cable on North Road, Flaghole Road, Humphrey Road & Montgomery Road; and to authorize the issuance of not more than One Hundred and Twenty Thousand Dollars (\$120,000) of bonds or notes in accordance with the provisions of the Municipal Finance Act (RSA 33) and to authorize the Selectmen to issue and negotiate such bonds or notes and to determine the rate of interest thereon; for the expansion of fiber optic internet cable on North Road & Montgomery Road. Selectman Walker stated that the \$120,000 was the new estimate given by TDS telecom after removing Flaghole road and Humphrey road, which both have high-speed internet \$73,000 of this money would be coming from the American Rescue Plan Act. The remaining roughly \$50,000 would be borrowed as a note on the condition that this note could be payed back by the second half of the money from the American Rescue Plan Act. The reason this necessary was because the money would be given out in 2 payments one this year and one next year. The intention was to borrow the remaining money needed so that the project could be started ASAP. The B.O.S. Still do not know if this money can be used to pay off the note or not. If this note can not be paid off with the ARPA money then the selectmen would not take out the note and would instead wait until next year to fund the plan through the money from the ARPA. Louise Andrus asked if the new amended article included Humphrey Road, moderator Seelye Longnecker replied that Humphrey road already has high-speed internet. Margret Boyles asked if the second amount of the ARPA was not approved what would happen? Selectman Walker replied that the selectmen would not take a note out for the remaining balance if the second half of the money could not be used to repay it. Moderator Longnecker reiterated that it was not known if the ARPA money could be used to pay off a note even if it were for a project approved by that fund. Selectman Walker stated that if the money could not be used then the project would move forward in 2022 since all the money needed would be available then. He also stated that TDS was going to be asked about possibly starting beforehand with the \$73,000 as a down-payment. Lenny Birke asked if we could use funds from some other fund to pay for the TDS expansion of high-speed internet. Selectman Walker explained that legally the money can only be spent if it is on a warrant article already and as there is no other article to that effect this is the only article related to the funding of this project. Lenny Birke and several other residents expressed their support for the broadband project on North Rd, but were concerned that the second payment would not be available to pay off the note. Trisha Thompson stated she believed there were too many questions still in order to vote on this article. Harvey Peter asked if the amended

article fails is there another way to get those funds. Selectman walker again stated the money is guaranteed, but the second half will not be given until 2022. Louise Andrus asked if there was a signed contract with TDS and when this project would start if it were approved. Selectman Walker explained that a contract can't be signed until funding is approved, and the project start date was up to TDS, who would likely not set a date until the contract were signed, which was contingent on approval of the warrant article passing and funding approved. William MacDuffie Sr. asked how we are paying for this project. Selectman James Hoyt answered that they are hoping to work with TDS and try to get the project started ASAP if the funding is approved. TDS is a business and would probably want all the money up front before the project is started and that the money would not be borrowed if the ARPA money can't be used to pay it back. David Rapalyea asked if there was a cost for the interest on that note. Selectman Walker responded the first year interest would be \$1,500 at 3% estimate. Moderator Longnecker explained this would be a ballot cast vote. A short intermission was taken, starting at 1:40 so that residents could cast their votes. At 2:45 Moderator Longnecker asked if anyone else present needed to vote before the closing of the polls for this article. She then asked the Supervisors of the Checklist to count the votes for this article. The vote count was 36 in favor and 30 opposed. The article failed to pass the 3/5 majority threshold, the article did not pass.

3. To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of One Million Three Hundred Forty-Eight Thousand Five Hundred and Thirty-Six Dollars (\$1,348,536) which represents the operating budget recommended by the budget committee. This sum does not include the amounts appropriated in special or individual warrant articles in this warrant. (Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend this appropriation).

Motion made to accept article #3 as written was made by Jeff Nangle and seconded by Walter Scott. Discussion: Walter Scott was given the floor by Moderator Longnecker. Walter Scott proposed increasing the transfer station hours on Wednesday nights by 2 hours, currently 2-6pm changing them to 1-7pm to allow residents with difficulty getting to the station on time more availability. When Selectman Walker asked how much he wanted the budget increased. Walter suggested \$5000. Selectman Walker added that the increase in the budget could not be specifically added to the transfer station in this manner, however the selectmen would be sure to use the money towards the transfer station budget. David Rapalyea asked why the full budget was not printed in the town report. TA April Rollins stated that the new format was proposed by the DRA and could be changed back next year. Steve Preston asked what insurance the town had, and TA Rollins replied the town has Primex. No further discussion was made, a brief break was taken while Walter Scott wrote up the proposed change. Walter Scott read the amendment to the warrant article "to add \$5000.00 to the town budget to extend the transfer station hours to 1-7pm". This would increase the new proposed budget to \$1,353,536) Moderator Longnecker read the new proposed article. "To add \$5000.00 to the proposed town budget to extend the transfer station hours to 1-7pm and to if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of One Million Three Hundred Fifty-Three Thousand Five Hundred and Thirty-Six Dollars (\$1,353,536) which represents the operating budget recommended by the budget committee and This sum does not include the amounts appropriated in special or individual warrant articles in this warrant." A motion was made to accept the amended budget by Jeff Nangle and seconded by Gayle Landry. A vote was called by Moderator Longnecker. The article passed with a majority in the affirmative.

4. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Seventy-Four Hundred Dollars (\$7,400) to be added to the **Reassessment Capital Reserve Fund**, established in 1976. (Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend this appropriation).

Motion made to accept article #4 as written was made by Walter Scott and seconded by David Rapalyea. Discussion: No discussion was had. A vote was called by Moderator Longnecker. The article passed with a majority in the affirmative.

5. To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Twenty-Five Hundred Dollars (\$2,500) be added to the **Buildings and Grounds Capital Reserve Fund**, established in 1992. (Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend this appropriation).

Motion made to accept article #5 as written was made by Walter Scott and seconded by Selectman James Hoyt. Discussion: No discussion was had. A vote was called by Moderator Longnecker. The article passed with a majority in the affirmative.

6. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Twenty-Four Hundred Dollars (\$2,400) to be placed in the **Defibrillator & Maintenance Expendable Trust Fund**, established in 2016. (Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend this appropriation).

Motion made to accept article #6 as written was made by Walter Scott and seconded by Selectman James Hoyt. Discussion: No discussion was had. A vote was called by Moderator Longnecker. The article passed with a majority vote in the affirmative.

7. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Forty-Nine Thousand Dollars (\$49,000) to be added to the **Emergency Services/Fire Rescue Equipment Capital Reserve Fund** established in 1994 and combined in 2019. (Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend this appropriation).

Motion made to accept article #7 as written was made by Walter Scott and seconded by David Rapalyea.

Discussion: No discussion was had. A vote was called by Moderator Longnecker. The article passed with a majority in the affirmative.

8. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Twenty-Five Hundred Dollars (\$2,500) to be placed in the **Cistern & Dry Hydrant Maintenance and Repair Expendable Trust Fund**, established in 2016 and renamed in 2017. (Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend this appropriation.)

Motion made to accept article #8 as written was made by Walter Scott and seconded by David Rapalyea. Discussion: No discussion was had. A vote was called by Moderator Longnecker. The article passed with a majority in the affirmative.

9. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Eighty-Seven Hundred Dollars (\$8,700) to be placed in the **Air Pack Equipment & Maintenance Expendable Trust Fund** established in 2016. (The Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend this appropriation.)

Motion made to accept article #9 as written was made by Walter Scott and seconded by David Rapalyea.

Discussion: No discussion was had. A vote was called by Moderator Longnecker. The article passed with a majority in the affirmative.

10. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000) to be added to the **Recreation Capital Reserve Fund**, established in 1987. (Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend this appropriation).

Motion made to accept article #10 as written was made by Walter Scott and seconded by David Rapalyea. Discussion: No discussion was had. A vote was called by Moderator Longnecker. The article passed with a majority in the affirmative.

11. To see if the Town will vote to discontinue the **Police Department Capital Reserve Fund**, established in 1994 with all of the remaining funds to be deposited into the general fund. (Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend this appropriation). (Majority vote required.)

Motion made to accept article #11 as written was made by Walter Scott and seconded by David Rapalyea. Discussion: Mary Heath asked how much money was left in the fund. Selectman Walker replied with the amount of \$1,988 dollars. Trisha Thompson asked why we were getting rid of this fund? Does that mean there is never going to be a police department again? Selectman Walker responded that the money is simply sitting in the account and can't be used for anything. If it were closed that money could be used to offset the tax rate for residents. Motion made to accept article #11 as written was made by Walter Scott and seconded by David Rapalyea. A vote was called by Moderator Longnecker. The vote passed with a majority in the affirmative, 3 opposed 50+ in favor.

12. To see if the Town will vote to re-purpose the **Land Acquisition Capital Reserve Fund**, established in 1996 to the **Transfer Station / Recycling Capital Reserve Fund** established in 2002 and repurposed in 2019 and further to name the Selectmen agents of said fund. (Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend this article). (2/3rds Majority vote required.)

Motion made to accept article #11 as written was made by Walter Scott and seconded by David Rapalyea. Discussion: Selectman Walker explained the purpose of this article was to fund the new compactor that was being proposed for the transfer station. The \$56,416 could be used to fully fund the compactor at no additional cost to tax payers. Selectmen Walker spoke of the statistics related to the significant increases in cost for the hauling of trash over the last few years alone and how those costs will not likely decrease. The use of a compactor to reduce the volume of trash is the only reasonable way to expect to lower costs. Al Romano state that he believed we should not take the money from this fund. William MacDuffie Sr. said that he did not want to eliminate this fund, and that the money should be raised another way. Walter Scott asked if this included the cost of the generator. Selectman Walker stated that the total cost of \$55,000 dollar to \$59,000 dollar estimates he gave included generator and compactor costs. Trisha Thompson asked if an alternative like pay to throw was looked into, like giving a 2-bag limit to each household or charging a fee of \$1.00 per bag. Selectman Walker suggested that if we limit the number of bags then we will just end up with trash all over the sides of the roads. Motion made to accept article #11 as written was made by Walter Scott and seconded by Jeff Nangle. A vote was called by Moderator Longnecker. 28 votes in favor, 27 votes against. The Article failed due to a lack of 2/3 majority.

13. To discontinue the **Land Acquisition Capital Reserve Fund** established in 1996 with all of the funds going to the general fund balance. If Article 12 passes this Article is null & void. (Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend this article). (Majority vote required.)

Motion made to accept article #11 as written was made by Walter Scott and seconded by Jeff Nangle. Discussion: William MacDuffie Sr. stated that this fund should be kept, eventually a new Highway Department would need to be created and this money could be used towards that. Joe Landry stated that he agreed with MacDuffie. Motion made to accept article #11 as written was made by Walter Scott and seconded by Jeff Nangle. A vote was called by Moderator Longnecker. 4 votes for the remaining against. The Article failed due to a lack of 2/3 majority.

14. To see if the Town will authorize the Board to enter into a five-year lease purchase agreement for the Transfer Station to purchase a trash compactor in the amount of Thirty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$35,000), and raise and appropriate \$7,500 for the first year's payment. This agreement contains an escape clause. If Article 12 passes this Article is null & void. (Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend this article). (Majority vote required.)

Motion made to accept article #11 as written was made by Walter Scott and seconded by Selectman Jim Hoyt. Discussion: Selectman Jim Hoyt asked that article 14 and article 15 be reversed in their order since it made more sense to raise the \$40,000 dollars to buy the compactor than to raise \$35,00 to lease. Motion to change order made by Selectman Hoyt and seconded by Selectman Herbert. A vote was called by Moderator Longnecker, motion passed. Article #15 was then discussed first. Upon completion of discussion and vote on article #15. Selectman Walker made a motion to rescind article #14, Selectman Hoyt seconded. A vote was called by Moderator Longnecker. The article passed with a majority in the affirmative. Article #14 was rescinded because the approval for the funding of the compactor was already passed.

15. To see if the Town will vote to raise & appropriate the sum of Forty Thousand Dollars (\$40,000) to be added to the **Transfer Station/Recycling Capital Reserve Fund** established in 2002 and repurposed in 2019. If Article 12 or 13 passes this Article is null & void. (Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend this article). (Majority vote required.)

Motion made to accept article #11 as written was made by Gail Henry and seconded by David Rapalyea. Discussion: David Hostetler asked if the other option was a lease option or lease to own, Selectman Walker replied that was simply to lease for 5 years. William MacDuffie Sr. stated that it would make more sense to buy the compactor than to lease it. Motion made to accept article #11 as written was made by Gail Henry and seconded by David Rapalyea. A vote was called by Moderator Longnecker. The article was voted in the affirmative.

16. To see if the Town will vote to establish a **Salisbury Land Purchase Capital Reserve Fund** for the purpose of purchasing land for the Town and to see if the Town will vote to raise & appropriate the sum of Two Thousand dollars (\$2,000) to be added to said fund and further to name the Board of Selectmen as agents to the fund. If Article 12 or 13 passes this Article shall be considered. (Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend this article). (Majority voted required.)

Selectman Walker made a motion to rescind article #16 Selectman Hoyt seconded. A vote was called by Moderator Longnecker. The article passed with a majority in the affirmative. Article #16 was rescinded because the approval for the funding of the compactor was already passed.

17. To see if the Town will vote to adopt the provisions RSA 32:5 V-b, Any town may vote to

require that the annual budget and all special warrant articles having a tax impact, as determined by the governing body, shall contain a notation stating the estimated tax impact of the article. The determination of the estimated tax impact shall be subject to approval by the governing body. (Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend this article). (Majority vote required.)

Motion made to accept article #11 as written was made by Walter Scott and seconded by David Rapalyea. Discussion: Selectman Walker explained that the purpose of this article and the respective RSA was to bring more transparency and an easier understanding to residents on how much an article would in fact impact them. Instead of just having total costs it would break down all costs into a basic cost per \$1,000 on resident's taxes. So as an example, instead of saying just \$10,000 it might also say \$.07 per \$1,000 on your tax burden. Motion made to accept article #11 as written was made by Walter Scott and seconded by Selectman Jim Hoyt. A vote was called by Moderator Longnecker. The article was voted in the affirmative.

18. To hear the reports of the Officers of the town, agents, auditors and committees appointed and pass any vote relating thereto.

Moderator Longnecker explained that all reports were available in the town reports up front.

19. To transact any other business that may legally come before this meeting.

David Rapalyea, Supervisor of the Checklist, thanked Seelye Longnecker for her being Moderator for both elections in the fall and at Town Election and Meeting. He asked that if anyone was interested in becoming moderator to please contact himself, any of the other supervisors or TA April Rollins. Peter Ballou spoke on how many town positions are still empty, and the need for more people to step-up and fill those vacancies. Louise Andrus read a letter related to the decrease in the elementary school's attendance and stated her concern is that in the not too distant future the school district might be looking to close Salisbury Elementary all together. She urged residents to get involved and figure out why so many students are going elsewhere. She said the next school board meeting is May 10<sup>th</sup>. Walter Scott asked the selectmen about why volunteers were not being allowed to help out at the transfer station. Selectman Walker explained that they were, the town was just concerned about liability and were confirming if anything needed to be done by the town to ensure no undue liability would come from allowing volunteers at the transfer station. The selectmen are working with Bert, the transfer station manager, on how they will handle volunteers. Selectman Walker stated that this was to be discussed further at the Selectmen Meeting the following week. Moderator Longnecker asked if there was any more discussion to be had, no one made any motion to do so. The Town meeting was then adjourned 2:05pm.

Submitted by,



James Zink-Mailloux, Town Clerk