

Town of Amherst, NH BOARD OF SELECTMEN AGENDA

Barbara Landry Meeting Room 2 Main Street MONDAY, MARCH 27, 2023 6:30 PM

- 1. Call to Order
- 2. Pledge of Allegiance
- 3. Public Hearing: Public Hearing: Pursuant to RSA 31:95-b: III (a), the Amherst Board of Selectmen shall hold a public hearing in conjunction with its scheduled meeting for the purpose of accepting unanticipated money in the amount of \$15,000, donated to the Conservation Commission.
- 4. Citizens' Forum
- 5. Administration
 - 5.1. Administrative Updates
- 6. Staff Reports
 - 6.1. DPW New Hire
 - 6.2. Inactive Escrow Accounts
- 7. Approvals
 - 7.1. Assessing
 - 7.2. AP, Payroll and Minutes
- 8. Action Items
- 9. Old/New Business
- 10. Non-Public Session
 - 10.1. RSA 91-A:3 II (d) Consideration of the acquisition, sale, or lease of real or personal property which, if discussed in public, would likely benefit a party or parties whose interests are adverse to those of the general community.

Adjournment

Next Meeting: 4/3/2023

You are invited to a Zoom webinar.

When: Mar 27, 2023 06:30 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Topic: Board of Selectmen Meeting 3/27/23

Please click the link below to join the webinar: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82045049634

Or Telephone: 301 715 8592 Webinar ID: 820 4504 9634



Title: Administrative Updates **Department:** Administration

Meeting Date: March 27, 2023 **Staff Contact:**

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

BUDGET IMPACT:

(Include general ledger account numbers)

POLICY IMPLICATIONS:

DEPARTMENT HEAD RECOMMENDATION:

SUGGESTED MOTION:

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR RECOMMENDATION:

ATTACHMENTS:

None



Title: DPW New Hire Department: Public Works Meeting Date: March 27, 2023 Staff Contact: Eric Slosek

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

We are pleased to recommend to the BOS the hire of Patrick Ryan, for the position of Driver/Laborer at DPW. Patrick did very well during his oral board interview. We believe Patrick will make a great addition to our team. This is a full-time position with benefits.

BUDGET IMPACT:

(Include general ledger account numbers)
This position is fully funded in the budget.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS:

DEPARTMENT HEAD RECOMMENDATION:

Recommend to hire.

SUGGESTED MOTION:

I move to hire Patrick Ryan for the position of DPW Driver/Laborer, starting at Grade 4 Step 1, or \$19.12 per hour, under the conditions as stated in the conditional offer letter dated March 9, 2023. Patrick will be eligible for a Step increase upon satisfactory completion of his six-month probationary period. This is a full-time position with benefits.

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR RECOMMENDATION:

ATTACHMENTS:

- 1. p.ryan cond offer 001
- 2. p.ryan application 001
- 3. p.ryan resume 001
- 4. p.ryan PAR 001



Title: Inactive Escrow Accounts

Department: Finance Department

Meeting Date: March 27, 2023

Staff Contact: Debbie Bender

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

I have been working to clean up the Escrow Accounts, so that we only have subaccounts open which are actually being used. These five accounts have not had any activity in the past 2 years. After checking with other people who may have information on these accounts, I recommend that they be closed out and any remaining funds are transferred to the general fund.

BUDGET IMPACT:

(Include general ledger account numbers) N/A

POLICY IMPLICATIONS:

DEPARTMENT HEAD RECOMMENDATION:

Close these 5 Escrow Accounts

SUGGESTED MOTION:

I move that the following 5 escrow accounts, Walmart Septic, Landry Tables, National Grid, Road Open-Laym and TF Morgan Lot 4, be closed and any remaining funds transferred to the general fund.

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR RECOMMENDATION:

ATTACHMENTS:

1. BOS meeting 03.27.23 - Inactive Escrow Accts to close

Close Acot

Master Account: 3313083805 TOWN OF AMHERST Escrow Account: 109200307536 WALMART SEPTIC

Scotic Review

				Sept	ic Kerlew			
Effective Date	Processed Date	Escrow	Description	Memo ID	Debit (-)	Credit (+)	Balance	
12/31/2022	12/30/2022	GOV'T BANK 715	INTEREST		.00	.01	44.26	
10/31/2022	10/31/2022	GOV'T BANK 715	INTEREST		.00	.01	44.25	
08/31/2022	08/31/2022	GOV'T BANK 715	INTEREST		.00	.01	44.24	
06/30/2022	06/30/2022	GOV'T BANK 715	INTEREST		.00	,01	44.23	
04/30/2022	04/29/2022	GOV'T BANK 715	INTEREST		.00	,01	44.22	
02/28/2022	02/28/2022	GOV'T BANK 715	INTEREST		.00	,01	44.21	
12/31/2021	12/31/2021	GOV'T BANK 715	INTEREST		.00	.01	44.20	
10/31/2021	10/29/2021	GOV'T BANK 715	INTEREST		.00	.01	44.19	
08/31/2021	08/31/2021	GOV'T BANK 715	INTEREST		.00	.01	44.18	
06/30/2021	06/30/2021	GOV'T BANK 715	INTEREST		.00	.01	44.17	
05/31/2021	05/28/2021	GOV'T BANK 715	INTEREST		.00	.01	44.16	
04/30/2021	04/30/2021	GOV'T BANK 715	INTEREST		.00	.01	44.15	
03/31/2021	03/31/2021	GOV'T BANK 715	INTEREST		.00	.01	44.14	
02/28/2021	02/26/2021	GOV'T BANK 715	INTEREST		.00	.01	44.13	

No Records in Finance or Community Dev.

No Records Finance also checked w) Jennifer No-records in archive Files

Master Account: 3313083805 TOWN OF AMHERST Escrow Account: 109200307557 LANDRY TABLES

-	Memori	l

Memorial							
Effective Date	Processed Date	Escrow	Description	Memo ID	Debit (-)	Credit (+)	Balance
01/31/2023	01/31/2023	GOV'T BANK 715	INTEREST		.00	.01	173.00
12/31/2022	12/30/2022	GOV'T BANK 715	INTEREST		.00	.01	172.99
11/30/2022	11/30/2022	GOV'T BANK 715	INTEREST		.00	.01	172.98
10/31/2022	10/31/2022	GOV'T BANK 715	INTEREST		.00	.01	172.97
09/30/2022	09/30/2022	GOV'T BANK 715	INTEREST		.00	.01	172.96
08/31/2022	08/31/2022	GOV'T BANK 715	INTEREST		.00	.01	172.95
07/31/2022	07/29/2022	GOV'T BANK 715	INTEREST		.00	.01	172.94
06/30/2022	06/30/2022	GOV'T BANK 715	INTEREST		.00	.01	172.93
05/31/2022	05/31/2022	GOV'T BANK 715	INTEREST		.00	.01	172.92
04/30/2022	04/29/2022	GOV'T BANK 715	INTEREST		.00	.01	172.91
03/31/2022	03/31/2022	GOV'T BANK 715	INTEREST		.00	.01	172.90
02/28/2022	02/28/2022	GOV'T BANK 715	INTEREST		.00	.01	172.89
01/31/2022	01/31/2022	GOV'T BANK 715	INTEREST		.00	.01	172,88
12/31/2021	12/31/2021	GOV'T BANK 715	INTEREST		.00	.01	172.87
11/30/2021	11/30/2021	GOV'T BANK 715	INTEREST		.00	.01	172.86
10/31/2021	10/29/2021	GOV'T BANK 715	INTEREST		.00	.01	172.85
09/30/2021	09/30/2021	GOV'T BANK 715	INTEREST		.00	.01	172.84
08/31/2021	08/31/2021	GOV'T BANK 715	INTEREST		.00	.01	172.83
07/31/2021	07/30/2021	GOV'T BANK 715	INTEREST		.00	.02	172.82
06/30/2021	06/30/2021	GOV'T BANK 715	INTEREST		.00	.02	172,80
05/31/2021	05/28/2021	GOV'T BANK 715	INTEREST		.00	.02	172.78
04/30/2021	04/30/2021	GOV'T BANK 715	INTEREST		.00	.02	172.76
03/31/2021	03/31/2021	GOV'T BANK 715	INTEREST		.00	.02	172.74
02/28/2021	02/26/2021	GOV'T BANK 715	INTEREST		.00	.02	172.72

2/24/23, 11:21 AM

Record Transaction History

Record Transaction History

Record Transaction History

Record Transaction History

2/27/23, 11:21 AM

Record Transaction History

Record Transaction History

2/27/23, 11:21 AM

Record Transaction History

Record Transaction History

2/27/23, 11:21 AM

Record Transaction History

Record

Escrow Account: 109200307558 NATIONAL GRID

Effective Date	Processed Date	Escrow	Description	Memo ID	Debit (-)	Credit (+)	Balance
01/31/2023	01/31/2023	GOV'T BANK 715	INTEREST		.00	.05	644.56
12/31/2022	12/30/2022	GOV'T BANK 715	INTEREST		.00	.05	644.5
11/30/2022	11/30/2022	GOV'T BANK 715	INTEREST		.00	.05	644.46
10/31/2022	10/31/2022	GOV'T BANK 715	INTEREST		.00	.05	644.4
09/30/2022	09/30/2022	GOV'T BANK 715	INTEREST		.00	.05	644.30
08/31/2022	08/31/2022	GOV'T BANK 715	INTEREST		.00	.05	644.3
07/31/2022	07/29/2022	GOV'T BANK 715	INTEREST		.00	.05	644.20
06/30/2022	06/30/2022	GOV'T BANK 715	INTEREST		.00	.05	644.2
05/31/2022	05/31/2022	GOV'T BANK 715	INTEREST		.00	.05	644.1
04/30/2022	04/29/2022	GOV'T BANK 715	INTEREST		.00	.05	644.1
03/31/2022	03/31/2022	GOV'T BANK 715	INTEREST		.00	.05	644.0
02/28/2022	02/28/2022	GOV'T BANK 715	INTEREST		.00	.05	644.0
01/31/2022	01/31/2022	GOV'T BANK 715	INTEREST		.00	.05	643.9
12/31/2021	12/31/2021	GOV'T BANK 715	INTEREST		.00	.05	643.9
11/30/2021	11/30/2021	GOV'T BANK 715	INTEREST		.00	.05	643.8
10/31/2021	10/29/2021	GOV'T BANK 715	INTEREST		.00	.05	643.8
09/30/2021	09/30/2021	GOV'T BANK 715	INTEREST		.00	.05	643.7
08/31/2021	08/31/2021	GOV'T BANK 715	INTEREST		.00	.05	643.
07/31/2021	07/30/2021	GOV'T BANK 715	INTEREST		.00	.06	643.6
06/30/2021	06/30/2021	GOV'T BANK 715	INTEREST		.00	.08	643.6
05/31/2021	05/28/2021	GOV'T BANK 715	INTEREST		.00	.08	643.
04/30/2021	04/30/2021	GOV'T BANK 715	INTEREST		.00	.08	643.4
03/31/2021	03/31/2021	GOV'T BANK 715	INTEREST		.00	.08	643.3
02/28/2021	02/26/2021	GOV'T BANK 715	INTEREST		.00	.07	643.2

Transaction History

Transaction History

Port No Record

No Reco

Master Account: 3313083805 TOWN OF AMHERST

Escrow Account: 109200307585 ROAD OPEN-LAYM

1/11/2000

				1/16/2020			
Effective Date	Processed Date	Escrow	Description	Memo ID	Debit (-)	Credit (+)	Balance
01/31/2023	01/31/2023	GOV'T BANK 715	INTEREST		.00	.09	1024.15
12/31/2022	12/30/2022	GOV'T BANK 715	INTEREST		.00	.09	1024.06
11/30/2022	11/30/2022	GOV'T BANK 715	INTEREST		.00	.08	1023.97
10/31/2022	10/31/2022	GOV'T BANK 715	INTEREST		.00	.09	1023.89
09/30/2022	09/30/2022	GOV'T BANK 715	INTEREST		.00	.08	1023.80
08/31/2022	08/31/2022	GOV'T BANK 715	INTEREST		.00	.09	1023.7
07/31/2022	07/29/2022	GOV'T BANK 715	INTEREST		.00	.09	1023.6
06/30/2022	06/30/2022	GOV'T BANK 715	INTEREST		.00	.08	1023.5
05/31/2022	05/31/2022	GOV'T BANK 715	INTEREST		.00	.09	1023.4
04/30/2022	04/29/2022	GOV'T BANK 715	INTEREST		.00	.08	1023.3
03/31/2022	03/31/2022	GOV'T BANK 715	INTEREST		.00	.09	1023.2
02/28/2022	02/28/2022	GOV'T BANK 715	INTEREST		.00	.08	1023.2
01/31/2022	01/31/2022	GOV'T BANK 715	INTEREST		.00	.09	1023.1
12/31/2021	12/31/2021	GOV'T BANK 715	INTEREST		.00	.09	1023.0
11/30/2021	11/30/2021	GOV'T BANK 715	INTEREST		.00	.08	1022.9
10/31/2021	10/29/2021	GOV'T BANK 715	INTEREST		.00	.09	1022.8
09/30/2021	09/30/2021	GOV'T BANK 715	INTEREST		.00	.08	1022.
08/31/2021	08/31/2021	GOV'T BANK 715	INTEREST		.00	.09	1022.6
07/31/2021	07/30/2021	GOV'T BANK 715	INTEREST		.00	.09	1022.6
06/30/2021	06/30/2021	GOV'T BANK 715	INTEREST		,,00	.13	1022.
05/31/2021	05/28/2021	GOV'T BANK 715	INTEREST		.00	.13	1022.3
04/30/2021	04/30/2021	GOV'T BANK 715	INTEREST		.00	.13	1022.2
03/31/2021	03/31/2021	GOV'T BANK 715	INTEREST		.00	.13	1022.
02/28/2021	02/26/2021	GOV'T BANK 715	INTEREST		.00	,12	1021.

Transaction History

Opened in 2006.



Close Acct

Master Account: 3313083805 TOWN OF AMHERST Escrow Account: 109200307537 TF MORGAN LOT 4

ML 4-47-1

Effective Date	Processed Date	Escrow	Description	Memo ID	Debit (-)	Credit (+)	Balance
01/31/2023	01/31/2023	GOV'T BANK 715	INTEREST		.00	.04	472.97
12/31/2022	12/30/2022	GOV'T BANK 715	INTEREST		.00	.04	472.93
11/30/2022	11/30/2022	GOV'T BANK 715	INTEREST		.00	.04	472.89
10/31/2022	10/31/2022	GOV'T BANK 715	INTEREST		.00	.04	472.85
09/30/2022	09/30/2022	GOV'T BANK 715	INTEREST		.00	.04	472.8
08/31/2022	08/31/2022	GOV'T BANK 715	INTEREST		.00	.04	472.7
07/31/2022	07/29/2022	GOV'T BANK 715	INTEREST		.00	.04	472.73
06/30/2022	06/30/2022	GOV'T BANK 715	INTEREST		.00	.04	472.69
05/31/2022	05/31/2022	GOV'T BANK 715	INTEREST		.00	.04	472.69
04/30/2022	04/29/2022	GOV'T BANK 715	INTEREST		.00	.04	472.6
03/31/2022	03/31/2022	GOV'T BANK 715	INTEREST		.00	.04	472.5
02/28/2022	02/28/2022	GOV'T BANK 715	INTEREST		.00	.04	472.5
01/31/2022	01/31/2022	GOV'T BANK 715	INTEREST		.00	.04	472.4
12/31/2021	12/31/2021	GOV'T BANK 715	INTEREST		.00	.04	472.4
11/30/2021	11/30/2021	GOV'T BANK 715	INTEREST		.00	.04	472.4
10/31/2021	10/29/2021	GOV'T BANK 715	INTEREST		.00	.04	472.3
09/30/2021	09/30/2021	GOV'T BANK 715	INTEREST		.00	.04	472.3
08/31/2021	08/31/2021	GOV'T BANK 715	INTEREST		.00	.04	472.2
07/31/2021	07/30/2021	GOV'T BANK 715	INTEREST		.00	.04	472.2
06/30/2021	06/30/2021	GOV'T BANK 715	INTEREST		.00	.06	472.2
05/31/2021	05/28/2021	GOV'T BANK 715	INTEREST		.00	.06	472.1
04/30/2021	04/30/2021	GOV'T BANK 715	INTEREST		.00	.06	472.0
03/31/2021	03/31/2021	GOV'T BANK 715	INTEREST		.00	.06	472.0
02/28/2021	02/26/2021	GOV'T BANK 715	INTEREST		.00	.05	471.9



Title: Assessing Department: Assessing

Meeting Date: March 27, 2023 Staff Contact: Michele Boudreau

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

BUDGET IMPACT:

(Include general ledger account numbers)

POLICY IMPLICATIONS:

DEPARTMENT HEAD RECOMMENDATION:

SUGGESTED MOTION:

Solar Exemption

Item A. I have reviewed the attached SOLAR EXEMPTION Application provided and the applicant qualifies for the Tax Credit under RSA 72:62 for the 2023 tax year.

Suggested Motion:

Our Assessor has reviewed the application for the solar exemption under RSA 72:62 and recommends approval. Therefore, I move to approve the solar exemption in the amount of \$20,000 for Map 011, Lot 005-001 commencing in tax year 2023.

Sales Ratio Report Department of Revenue 2022

Item B. I have completed a review of the information for the sales ratio survey. Enclosed is a copy of the results for the Board of Selectmen's review. Please note that a certification form (PINK) also needs to be signed by the Board of Selectmen, indicating that the data provided to the DRA is complete and accurate to the best of their knowledge. If any questions arise, please let me know.

The results of the ratio study are as follows; the volume of sales decreased a little over 28% from 2021 to 2022. However, the average selling price increased 10.8%. The weighted mean is 77.6%. This is the statistic used to determine the town's apportionment of the taxes that are shared among multiple municipalities (county, state etc.). The median assessment to sale ratio is 80%. This is the statistic we use for abatements, current use, and utilities. The coefficient of dispersion (COD) is 12%. This is the statistic used to measure equity among the assessments. The price related differential (PRD) was 1.04. This statistic indicates a slight bias towards the higher valued properties.

The above statistics, when the confidence interval is considered, fall within the guidelines established by the NH Assessing Standards Board.

Suggested Motion:

The Assessor has submitted the Department of Revenue Sales Ratio Survey Study and recommends approval and signatures. Therefore, I move to accept and sign, the 2022 Department of Revenue Sales Ratio Survey Study.

BTLA Settlement and Abatement

Item C. The taxpayer has appealed the assessment of this property and feels as though the assessed value is disproportionate to other similar properties in the area. They have provided an analysis for various properties and their corresponding assessment and tax increase. They have not provided an appraisal.

The assessor inspected the property on August 8, 2022. There was a minor change in the sketch coding that resulted in an additional reduction in value. The taxpayer was unsatisfied with the result and the current appeal to the NH Board of Tax & Land Appeals ensued.

The assessor has had lengthy discussions with the taxpayers and has come to a compromise to settle this matter. The taxpayers agree to settle this matter if we revise the assessment of this property to \$544,000.

Furthermore, the appellant agrees not to file for abatement in subsequent years until the town does a town-wide reassessment or there is a material change to the property.

Suggested Motion:

The Assessor recommends accepting the settlement assessment of \$544,000 from \$586,700 and grant an abatement of \$910.00 for 2021 and \$902.00 for 2022 for Map 004, Lot 161-007. Therefore, I move to accept the settlement and abate \$910.00 for 2021 and \$902.00 for 2022 tax years Map 004-161-007.

Item D. The taxpayer has appealed the assessment of his property and feels as though the assessed value is disproportionate to other comparable properties in the area. They have provided an analysis for various properties and their corresponding assessment and tax increase. They have not provided an appraisal.

The assessor inspected the property on March 13, 2023. During the inspection it was noted there is a change in heat type and there are a couple of low-quality sheds and a patio not previously assessed. The resulting value change should be abated.

The proposed revised assessment of \$338,700 is much closer in value to the to the five similar style properties cited by the taxpayer.

Furthermore, the appellant agrees not to file for abatement in subsequent years until the town does a town-wide reassessment or there is a material change to the property.

Suggested Motion:

The Assessor recommends accepting the settlement assessment of \$338,700 from \$372,500 and grant an abatement of \$720.00 for 2021 and \$714.00 for 2022 for Map 010, Lot 035-000. Therefore, I move to accept the settlement and abate \$720.00 for

2021 and \$714.00 for 2022 tax years Map 010-035-000.

Disabled Exemption

Item E. The applicant has applied for a Disabled Exemption under RSA 72:37-b, which meets the income and asset limits and qualifies for the exemption.

Suggested Motion:

The Assessor has reviewed the application for a Disabled Exemption under RSA 72:37-b and recommends approval. Therefore, I move to approve the Disabled Exemption for Map 006, Lot 045-005 commencing in Tax Year 2023.

Elderly Exemption

Item F. The applicant has applied for an Elderly Exemption under RSA 72:39-a, which meets the income and asset limits and qualifies for the exemption.

Suggested Motion: The Assessor has reviewed the application for an Elderly Exemption under RSA 72:39-a and recommends approval. Therefore, I move to approve the Elderly Exemption for Map 004, Lot 018-002 commencing in Tax Year 2023.

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR RECOMMENDATION:

ATTACHMENTS:

- 1. Item A Confidential
- 2. Item B Confidential
- 3. Item C Confidential
- 4. Item D Confidential
- 5. Item E Confidential

6. Item F Confidential



Title: AP, Payroll and Minutes **Department:** Administration

Meeting Date: March 27, 2023 **Staff Contact:**

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

BUDGET IMPACT:

(Include general ledger account numbers)

POLICY IMPLICATIONS:

DEPARTMENT HEAD RECOMMENDATION:

SUGGESTED MOTION:

Approvals:

Payroll

PR1~ I move to approve one (1) FY23 Payroll Manifest in the amount of \$235,497.90 dated March 23, 2023, subject to review and audit.

Accounts Payable

AP1 ~ I move to approve one (1) FY23 Accounts Payable Manifest in the amount of \$35,552.08 datedMarch 17, 2023, subject to review and audit. (NH DMV)

AP2 ~ I move to approve one (1) FY23 Accounts Payable Manifest in the amount of \$717,159.18 dated November 24, 2023, subject to review and audit. (Vendors)

Minutes

~ I move to approve the Board of Selectmen meeting minutes of March 13, 2023

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR RECOMMENDATION:

ATTACHMENTS:

1. 2023.03.13 BOS_DRAFT-dp w_NonPub



37

38

Town of Amherst, NH BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING MINUTES

Barbara Landry Meeting Room 2 Main Street Monday, March 13, 2023, 6:00PM

1	Attendees: Chairman Peter Lyon, Selectman Bill Stoughton, Selectman John D'Angelo,
2	Selectman Grella, and Selectman Danielle Pray
3 4 5	Also present: Town Administrator Dean Shankle and Kristan Patenaude – Recording Secretary
6	1. Call to Ondon
7 8	1. Call to Order Chairman Peter Lyon called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.
9	Chairman Feter Lyon caned the meeting to order at 0.00 p.m.
10	2. Non-Public Session
11	2.1 RSA 91-A:3 II(e) Pending Litigation Consideration or negotiation of
12	pending claims or litigation which has been threatened in writing or filed by or
13	against the public body or any subdivision thereof, or by or against any member
14	thereof because of his or her membership in such public body, until the claim or
15	litigation has been fully adjudicated or otherwise settled.
16	
17	2.2. RSA 91-A:3 II(d) Consideration of the acquisition, sale, or lease of real or
18	personal property which, if discussed in public, would likely benefit a party or
19	parties whose interests are adverse to those of the general community.
20	
21	2.3 RSA 91-A:3 II (a) the dismissal, promotion, or compensation of any public
22	employee or the disciplining of such employee, or the investigation of any charges
23	against him or her, unless the employee affected (1) has a right to a meeting and
24	(2) requests that the meeting be open, in which case the request shall be granted.
25	
26	A MOTION was made by Chairman Lyon and SECONDED by Selectman D'Angelo to enter
27	into Non-Public Session at 5:58pm., per RSA 91-A:3 II(e) (d) and (a).
28	Roll Call Voting: Selectman Grella – aye; Selectman D'Angelo – aye; Selectman Pray – aye;
29	Selectman Stoughton – aye; and Chairman Lyon – aye; 5-0-0; motion carried unanimously.
30	Also massert, Deep Chemble, Town Administrator Eric Closely, DDW Director
31 32	Also present: Dean Shankle, Town Administrator, Eric Slosek, DPW Director
33	A discussion of a pending BTLA case was held by the Board of Selectmen (RSA 91-A:3
34	II(e)). No votes were taken, or decisions made.
35	In(c)). 110 votes were taken, of decisions made.
36	A discussion of town policy and the compensation of an employee was held by the Board of

Selectmen (RSA 91-A:3 II(a)). No votes were taken.

Discussion of the third non-public item (RSA 91-A:3 II(d)) will be held at the conclusion of the public meeting.

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- 42 A MOTION was made by Selectman D'Angelo and SECONDED by Selectman Stoughton to 43 exit Non-Public Session at 6:20pm.
- 44 Roll Call Voting: Selectman Grella aye; Selectman D'Angelo aye; Selectman Pray aye;
- 45 Selectman Stoughton aye; and Chairman Lyon aye; 5-0-0; motion carried unanimously.

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The Board reconvened public session at 6:30pm.

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3. Pledge of Allegiance – led by Rand Peck.

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4. Board Appointment: Fourth of July Committee

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4.1 Tom Darnall, Application for Fourth of July Committee

Chairman Lyon noted that Tom Darnall has been recommended for this appointment by the Chair of the Fourth of July Committee.

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Tom Darnall stated that he has been working with the parade since 2008 in various capacities and is now ready to take on a more formal role.

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The Board thanked Tom Darnall for his volunteer effort on this Committee.

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A MOTION was made by Selectman Stoughton and SECONDED by Selectman D'Angelo to appoint Tom Darnall to the Fourth of July Committee for a term ending September 2024. Voting: 5-0-0; motion carried unanimously.

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73 74 5. Citizen's Forum

5.1 Village Residents' Traffic Concerns

Chairman Lyon explained that Doug Chabinsky, resident, has been before the Board on a couple of occasions regarding concerns about the speed, volume, and truck traffic in the Village. Chairman Lyon noted that the Town has contracted with Mobycon to conduct research and work with Village residents regarding what changes can be made to the Village streets in order to address these concerns and others. This is a long-term study, and some Village residents are hoping for more short-term solutions. He noted that a public meeting will be held with Mobycon on April 6th at 6:30pm at the Wilkins School to hear from residents. This meeting will be publicized in a number of ways. This evening, the Board hopes to hear from residents regarding their concerns on this topic.

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Doug Chabinsky, 89 Boston Post Road, stated that there is a problem in the Village with many large trucks coming through exceeding 25mph, with some well over 35 mph. There are concerns regarding safety, such as accessing crosswalks, and noise for those who live in the Village. There needs to be a short-term issue to address these concerns. This could involve 'no thru trucking' signs, weight limits on certain roads in Town, extending the 25mph speed limit

- past Wilkins School, or lowering the speed to 20 mph throughout the Village. He also
- 83 suggested speed bumps scattered throughout the roads. He stated that he would also like to see
- 84 more enforcement from the Police Department, leading to tickets and not simply warnings,
- 85 particularly for commercial vehicles.

Will Ludt, 3 School Street, stated that he believes the Village will be under attack within the next few years based on three upcoming nearby developments. These developments will all junction into the Village area. He stated that the noise in the Village from traffic is horrific. He and his wife cannot sit on their back patio, due to the noise from large trucks and motorcycles 'No thru trucking' signs may help. If traffic made this kind of noise in other neighborhoods in Town, people would be up in arms, and something would be done. The residents of this area are being told to tolerate it because of the location. This is not fair, as this is a neighborhood as well.

Jeanne Ludt, 3 School Street, stated that she was tempted to purchase a decibel meter to get specific data readings at her house. She would like to see actual data from someone that reflects the noise levels on a regular basis. She stated that she believes it will be important for the Planning Board to consider the current traffic issue in the Village when reviewing the impacts for upcoming nearby development applications, including the amount of time that residents will need to be enduring construction from these developments.

Dave Deysher, 5 Manchester Road, stated that he believes there are three critical roads of concern: Boston Post Road, Christian Hill Road, and Manchester Road. These roads are among the busiest and most abused in Town. He stated that residents of the Village cannot enjoy being outdoors. It is likely only a matter of time until someone is hit while walking in the Village. He stated that enforcement, through ticketing and not warnings, is important.

Kyle Coffey, 14 Courthouse Road, stated that he would like to add Courthouse Road to the list of critical roads. He stated that he has been walking with his family in the Village and had to push his small children into the woods to get them out of the way of speeding cars. He stated that he and his family actively avoid walking down their own street while out on walks. He noted that this is a neighborhood. The residents of the Village choose to live here, but this is still a neighborhood. People in any other neighborhood in Town having to push their children into the woods for safety from traffic would be taken seriously. The lives of the residents, and everyone in Town, will be made better if the safety issues in the Village can be addressed in the short-term.

Brendan Farrell, 84 Boston Post Road, stated that he and his family moved from Boston because Amherst seemed like a safe place for children. He does not feel safe walking with his 7-year-old in the Village. He asked who will want to move to the Village if it is no longer family friendly.

Rand Peck, 92 Boston Post Road, stated that the Village is not just a neighborhood, but the most densely packed neighborhood in Town. He noted that it is sometimes almost impossible for him to back out of his driveway due to traffic. There are large construction trucks which come through the Village and use their jake brakes, which sounds like automatic weapon fire. There are several towns in Massachusetts with signage that discourages jake brake use.

Kate Kennedy, 1 Sunset Road, stated that she believes many of the roads in the Village are at their busiest during school pickup and drop-off times. It frightens her to watch kids run down the sidewalks, right next to traffic going upwards of 40 mph. She stated that she believes 133 enforcement is important, especially during those times of days. She stated that she believes this issue should be considered from the children's point of view as well. She does not allow 134 135

her children to bike alone through the Village, due to safety concerns.

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137 Kelly Mullin, 48 Christian Hill Road, stated that she was previously jealous that she did not 138 live in the Village itself, but now is thankful to be outside of it, due to traffic and safety concerns. She stated that she likes to run down into the Village for exercise, but this has felt 139 increasingly unsafe in recent years. The increased traffic from the proposed Jacobson project 140 141 into the Village is a large concern. She asked the Board of Selectmen to stay in contact with 142 the Planning Board on this item.

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Jim Hendrix, 44 Christian Hill Road, asked that Mobycon review the data compiled by developers for the proposed developments near the Village. He stated that some of this data has stated that there will not be "statistically significant impacts" to the Village intersections from these developments. He asked how this could be possible with the number of homes proposed to be built. He stated that Sally Long, previous long-time crossing guard, speaks of this intersection as being a complete failure already.

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Chairman Lyon noted that Mobycon will be reviewing data from NRPC, who he believes to be an objective collector. Mobycon will also hear input from all residents.

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Martha Chabinsky, 89 Boston Post Road, stated that she believes the increase in traffic volume and speeds is extremely significant. She stated that she believes the Village streets are being used as cut throughs. The vibration from large trucks is a concern, specifically for antique homes. She stated that no one seems to be doing anything about the increase traffic speeds. This will destroy the feel of the Village. She stated that she knows several residents of the Village who are considering moving due to this issue. She stated that she believes enforcement through ticketing, and not flashing speedometer signs, is needed. She stated that she has almost been hit twice while walking in crosswalks around the Village. This should not be happening.

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Jean Hogan, 1 Beldens Mill Lane, stated that she walks 2-3 times per day through the Village. Sometimes on her walks, she sees no cars at all. She stated that she can understand the concern regarding the noise and safety on a road such as Boston Post Road, but she does not consider the other streets in the Village to be unsafe. She stated that, during school times, she believes the police duty crossing guard process to be a well-oiled machine. She stated that she still finds the Village peaceful.

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Barbara William, 9 Foundry Street, stated that she sometimes has a hard time backing out of her driveway, which is across from Clark School. She noted that she sometimes sits for between 8-10 minutes at the Foundry Street/Boston Post Road intersection. She stated that construction crews often come through the Village at outrageous speeds. She stated that she believes the Village will have a very different feel if all of the proposed development projects near it are approved. She stated that she believes the speed and volume of traffic with the children that walk along the sidewalks is an accident waiting to happen. She stated that a collapse of the Village will be the ruin of Amherst.

John Harding, 369 Boston Post Road, stated that, while he does not live in the Village itself, the speed limit on Boston Post Road near him is 30mph, and people often drive by his house at between 40-50mph. Speed is not just an issue in the Village, but throughout Town. He noted that he is seeing damage to his antique house from the vibration and traffic.

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Chairman Lyon stated that these issues cannot be resolved tonight. The Board is interested in taking these concerns to the Highway Safety Committee and the Police Chief. He noted that some items, such as lowering speed limits, extending speed limit zones, and 'no thru trucking' signage, all have restrictions. For example, the Board can only set the speed limit to 25mph at the lowest. He stated that the Board is committed to helping regarding these concerns as best it can.

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Doug Chabinsky stated that he will keep in contact with the Board on this item, as he does not intend to let it drop. He asked when there will be follow-up from the Board. Chairman Lyon stated that he hopes to have input from the other sources before the end of April, for a follow-up conversation with residents.

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Kyle Coffey stated that, while he understands the timeline involved, he would like to see short-term suggestions sooner rather than later. There is a huge sense of urgency in terms of safety.

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Selectman Grella noted that, in Portsmouth, no jake brakes are allowed to be used. A quick solution could be to place signs for this item on the outskirts of the Village. Trucks should not need to use these brakes if they are traveling at the appropriate speeds into the Village. He suggested rumble strips in some areas of the Village, similar to those in Wilton, to slow traffic.

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Kyle Coffey noted that rumble strips would need to be placed strategically. Placing them on some streets will simply make drivers seek other roads to drive faster on to get around them. He noted that existing stop signs do not work some of the time, so he is skeptical that 'no jake brake' signs will work well without proper enforcement.

Use of Town Common Application, Determined Martial Arts

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6. Scheduled Appointments

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A MOTION was made by Selectman D'Angelo and SECONDED by Selectman Grella to approve the request to use the Town Common on April 8th from 11:30am-3:30pm by Determine Martial Arts.

Voting: 5-0-0; motion carried unanimously. 219

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7. Administration

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7.1. Administrative Updates

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Town Administrator Shankle stated that he is still waiting to hear from the State on the PFAS report. Once received, the Board will have additional decisions to make.

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Town Administrator Shankle stated that he has received some complaints regarding political signs that do not clearly identify who placed the sign. He asked that people be sure their signs

comply with RSA 664:14. He has spoken to Town Counsel about this item, as there are various penalties involved.

7.2 Impact Fee Update

Town Administrator Shankle stated that a service agreement has been prepared for BCM Planning and the Town for this item. The update will cost approximately \$3,750-\$5,000.

Selectman Stoughton requested that the update consider whether or not, and when, projects roll off the list for impact fees. Also, to consider which new projects will be appropriate for inclusion on the list.

A MOTION was made by Selectman Grella and SECONDED by Selectman Stoughton to waive the purchasing policy to waive the requirement for informal competitive bidding and contract with BCM Planning to do the annual update of the Impact Fee schedule for an amount not exceeding \$5,000 and to authorize the Town Administrator to sign the service agreement.

Voting: 5-0-0; motion carried unanimously.

8. Staff Reports

8.1. Mont Vernon Road. CE & Construction Bids/Approvals

DPW Director Slosek stated that a virtual bid opening, managed by Hoyle Tanner, occurred on February 23rd for the Mont Vernon Rd. bridge construction, planned to commence in May 2023. Three bids were received for this project. The low bidder was Neil H. Daniels, Inc., at \$747,135.00. This bid was lower than Hoyle Tanner's estimate for this project, at \$762,167.50. Hoyle Tanner prepared a bid summary and analysis. This summary concludes with a recommendation to award this work to Daniels. Hoyle Tanner sent this information to NH DOT for approval/concurrence. Upon acceptance from NH DOT, Board approval will be needed to enter into this agreement. He stated that he is seeking Board approval on the condition that formal approval from NH DOT is received, to award the bridge construction work to Neil H. Daniels, Inc. in the amount of \$747,135.00.

In addition to bridge construction, NH State law requires a different engineering firm to conduct construction engineering services (CE) than the preliminary design engineer. Engineering firms were solicited through the required RFQ process. Two firms submitted qualifications. After internal review, GPI was selected based on qualifications. The GPI figure was reasonable and similar to estimates provided by Hoyle Tanner. Board approval is also needed to award the CE work for this project to GPI. NH DOT has stated that they approve the GPI scope and fee.

All fees in this report are subject to the State Aid Bridge (SAB) program of which the Town is responsible for 20%. The remaining 80% is paid for by the Town and reimbursed by NH DOT.

A MOTION was made by Selectman Grella and SECONDED by Selectman Stoughton to award the Mont Vernon Rd. bridge construction work to Neil H. Daniels for the amount of \$747,135.00. Further, move to approve the qualifications-based selection of GPI and their corresponding fee of \$118,364.76. Lastly, move to approve Hoyle Tanner's construction

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engineering fee of \$21,992 as the engineer of record during the construction phase. All awards are contingent upon formal approval from NH DOT, upon which all related documents and agreements may be signed by the Town Administrator as per prior authorization from this Board.

Voting: 5-0-0; motion carried unanimously.

8.2. Spring Road Culvert Repair Bids

Eric Slosek explained that bids were received for the Spring Rd. culvert repair project. The same three vendors that bid on the Mont Vernon Rd. bridge construction project bid on this as well. The low bid was also Neil H. Daniels, Inc. at \$153,000. This is considerably higher than the \$82,000 estimate from Hoyle Tanner for this work. Several areas have been identified to reduce costs, one of which is to close the road during this project. The request is for the Board to have Hoyle Tanner contact all three bidders to allow them to revise their bids.

A MOTION was made by Selectman D'Angelo and SECONDED by Selectman Stoughton to allow Hoyle Tanner to contact all three bidders and give them the opportunity to revise their bids.

Voting: 5-0-0; motion carried unanimously.

8.3. Spring Road Microsurfacing Bid

Eric Slosek stated that bids were recently solicited for the Spring Rd. micro-surfacing project. Only one bid was received for this project, from Indus. Indus is prequalified to bid on NH DOT micro-surfacing projects and is the only company local to Town that was identified. The bid was advertised on several electronic platforms, including the Town Website, NHMA, Construction Summary, and Dodge Data & Analytics. The bid submitted totaled \$298,788.54. This was considerably higher than anticipated. It is believed there may be a mistake with the proposal. As of the time this report was submitted, DPW had not heard back from Indus or the other vendors. The intention is to put this work back out to bid, in hopes of receiving a bid closer to what was anticipated.

Regarding the Thornton Ferry Road I bridge project, Eric Slosek explained that the steel had been received for the project and was sent to a company in Massachusetts to be galvanized. This process has taken several weeks but should soon be completed. The beams will then be sent to the site so that construction can commence.

9. Approvals

9.1 Elderly Tax Deferral

A MOTION was made by Selectman Stoughton and SECONDED by Selectman Grella to approve and sign the 2022 Elderly Tax Deferral Application for Map 5, Lot 114 in the amount of \$3,652.

Voting: 5-0-0; motion carried unanimously.

9.2. Assessing

BTLA Settlement Agreement and Abatement

320 Item A.

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- 321 The Assessor recommends accepting the settlement assessment of \$15,500,000 for 2021 and
- 322 2022 tax years as stated in the memo and grant an abatement of \$73,159.00 for 2021 and
- 323 \$69,577.00 for 2022.

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- 325 A MOTION was made by Selectman Stoughton and SECONDED by Selectman Grella to
- 326 accept the settlement and grant the abatement as stated for Map 002, Lot 066-001.
- 327 *Voting: 5-0-0; motion carried unanimously.*

328

- 329 **Item B.**
- The Assessor recommends accepting the settlement assessment of \$562,500 from \$574,900
- and grant an abatement as stated in the memo of \$264.24 for 2021 and \$262.01 for 2022 for
- 332 Map 005, Lot 171-008.

333

- 334 A MOTION was made by Selectman Stoughton and SECONDED by Selectman Grella accept
- 335 the assessor's settlement recommendation and grant the abatement for Map 005-171-008.
- *Voting: 5-0-0; motion carried unanimously.*

337338

- **Veterans Tax Credit**
- 339 **Item C.**
- The attached application has been reviewed by the Assessor and the Assessor recommends
- 341 approval.

342

- 343 A MOTION was made by Selectman Stoughton and SECONDED by Selectman Grella to
- 344 approve the Veteran Tax Credit for Map 004, Lot 034-014 commencing in Tax Year 2023.
- *Voting: 5-0-0; motion carried unanimously.*

346

- 347 **Solar Exemption**
- 348 **Item D.**
- The Assessor has reviewed the application for the solar exemption under RSA 72:62 and
- 350 recommends approval.

351

- 352 A MOTION was made by Selectman Stoughton and SECONDED by Selectman Grella to
- 353 approve the solar exemption in the amount of \$17,500 for Map 002, Lot 173-012 commencing
- 354 in tax year 2023.
- 355 *Voting: 5-0-0; motion carried unanimously.*

356

- 357 **Abatement**
- 358 **Item E.**
- A review of this account has determined an overcharge of interest on the December 2021
- property tax invoice that remained outstanding and consequently caused a lien to be placed on
- 361 the balance due in the amount of \$ 315.06. The interest charge and the offsetting payment
- have been appropriately corrected. To meet the requirements of the auditors, an abatement of
- 363 the outstanding lien is required to remove this amount from the Tax Collector's records. The
- Tax Collector has reviewed and corrected the interest charged on this property.

366 367	A MOTION was made by Selectman Stoughton and SECONDED by Selectman Grella to approve and sign an abatement in the amount of \$315.06 for Map 005 Lot 026-001 to remove
368	the balance due on the 2021 tax lien.
369	Voting: 5-0-0; motion carried unanimously.
370	roung, e o o, monon carried unanimously.
371	Item F.
372	This abatement application is for a single-family home on a 1.3-acre site. The Assessor
373	reviewed the application and determined there were several areas needing adjustment as
374	described in the above memo. After adjustments, the assessment was reduced by \$42,800,
375	from \$492,000 to \$449,200. The Assessor recommends approval of a corresponding
376	abatement request.
377	
378	A MOTION was made by Selectman Stoughton and SECONDED by Selectman Grella to
379	approve an abatement for Tax Year 2022 for Map 006, Lot 074-009 in the amount of \$904.00
380	plus any applicable interest/fees.
381	Voting: 5-0-0; motion carried unanimously.
382	
383	9.3 Milford Rotary Raffle Permit, 100 Holes of Golf
384	
385	A MOTION was made by Selectman Stoughton and SECONDED by Selectman D'Angelo to
386	approve the permit for the sale of raffle tickets for the Milford Rotary's Annual 100 Holes of
387	Golf, sales to begin April 5 and prizes to be awarded at the event June 16, 2023.
388	Voting: 3-0-2; motion carried.
389	
390	9.4 Amherst Garden Club Raffle Permit Application
391	
392	A MOTION was made by Selectman D'Angelo and SECONDED by Selectman Pray to
393	approve the raffle permit application from the Amherst Garden Club, selling raffle tickets
394	from April 1 to May.
395	Voting:5-0-0; motion carried unanimously.
396	
397	9.5. Payroll, AP and Meeting Minutes
398	
399	Payroll
400	A MOTION was made by Selectman D'Angelo and SECONDED by Selectman Pray to
401	approve one (1) FY23 Payroll Manifest in the amount of \$234,806.72 dated February 23,
402	2023, subject to review and audit.
403	Voting: 5-0-0; motion carried unanimously.
404	
405	A MOTION was made by Selectman D'Angelo and SECONDED by Selectman Pray to
406	approve one (1) FY23 Payroll Manifest in the amount of \$256,476.31 dated March 4, 2023,
407	subject to review and audit.
408	Voting: 5-0-0; motion carried unanimously.

Accounts Payable

- 411 A MOTION was made by Selectman D'Angelo and SECONDED by Selectman Pray to
- 412 approve one (1) FY23 Accounts Payable Manifest in the amount of \$625.00 dated February
- 413 28, 2023, subject to review and audit. (Vendors)
- 414 *Voting: 5-0-0; motion carried unanimously.*

415

- 416 A MOTION was made by Selectman D'Angelo and SECONDED by Selectman Pray to
- 417 approve one (1) FY23 Accounts Payable Manifest in the amount of \$316,365.74 dated
- 418 February 28, 2023, subject to review and audit. (Vendors)
- 419 *Voting: 5-0-0; motion carried unanimously.*

420

- 421 A MOTION was made by Selectman D'Angelo and SECONDED by Selectman Pray to
- 422 approve one (1) FY23 Accounts Payable Manifest in the amount of \$2,981,010.00 dated
- 423 *March 1, 2023, subject to review and audit. (Schools)*
- 424 *Voting: 5-0-0; motion carried unanimously.*

425

- 426 A MOTION was made by Selectman D'Angelo and SECONDED by Selectman Pray to
- 427 approve one (1) FY23 Accounts Payable Manifest in the amount of \$40,306.65 dated
- 428 February 16, 2023, subject to review and audit. (NH DMV)
- 429 *Voting: 5-0-0; motion carried unanimously.*

430

- 431 A MOTION was made by Selectman D'Angelo and SECONDED by Selectman Pray to
- 432 approve one (1) FY23 Accounts Payable Manifest in the amount of \$31,619.73 dated March
- 433 8, 2023, subject to review and audit. (NH DMV)
- 434 *Voting: 5-0-0; motion carried unanimously.*

435

- 436 Minutes
- 437 A MOTION was made by Selectman Pray and SECONDED by Selectman D'Angelo to
- 438 approve the Board of Selectmen meeting minutes of February 6, 2023, as amended.
- 439 *Voting: 5-0-0; motion carried unanimously.*

440

- 441 A MOTION was made by Selectman Pray and SECONDED by Selectman D'Angelo to
- 442 approve the Board of Selectmen meeting minutes of February 21, 2023, as presented.
- 443 *Voting: 5-0-0; motion carried unanimously.*

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- 10. Action Items
- The Board reviewed its action items.

- 11. Old/New Business
- Town Administrator Shankle noted that protest petitions have been received for the seven
- 450 proposed Zoning Warrant Articles 40, 41, 43, 49, 50, 51, and 52. If the petitions are good,
- 451 the requirement for the vote to pass one of those Articles goes from 50% + 1, to 2/3. To
- determine if these protest petitions are valid, it will need to be determined if the people who
- signed them own 20% of the land that is tied to the petitions or if they are within 100' of 20%
- of the land. The State has said that unless the vote falls between 50% and 66%, it will not
- make the towns do that work. If the vote falls under 50%, it fails; if it goes over 66%, it
- passes. Unless it is between those two percentages, the Town will not have to do the extra
- 457 work.

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479	A MOTION was made by Selectman Pray and SECONDED by Selectman A	D'Angelo to exit
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481	81 Roll Call Voting: Selectman Grella – aye; Selectman D'Angelo – aye; Sele	ectman Pray – aye;
482	82 Selectman Stoughton – aye; and Chairman Lyon – aye; 5-0-0; motion carr	ried unanimously.
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494	94 Selectman Danielle Pray Date	