

Town of Alton
Budget Committee Meeting
January 5, 2011

Minutes approved January 17, 2011

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:04 p.m.

II. Roll Call

Present: Stephen Miller, Chairman
Marc DeCoff, Vice-Chairman
Virgil MacDonald, Member
Barbara Howard, Member (arrived at 6:40 p.m.)
Doug Kirkpatrick, Member
Patricia Fuller, Alton Selectmen Representative

Others Present: Russ Bailey, Town Administrator

III. Pledge of Allegiance

IV. Approval of Agenda

MOTION by M. DeCoff to accept the agenda as presented. D. Kirkpatrick Second. No discussion. Vote unanimous.

MOTION passed.

V. Approval of Last Meeting's Minutes

a. December 14, 2010

MOTION by S. Miller to approve at the next regular meeting. Second by M. DeCoff. Discussion on making addition to minutes in terms of individual names of member votes. Discussion to have the complete record. V. MacDonald asking why waiting on two additional members. Noted recording secretary could not hear individual votes on recorder and video tape was not available. Discussion on whether this is excessive and tedious. S. Miller would like to see this consistent and be included in minutes from this meeting on. Krista Argiropolis has details of member votes as well as Deb Brown from personal notes they took at the meeting. V. MacDonald concern that it should be from official video or tape. P. Fuller acknowledged that she was not at this meeting but feels that this meeting should not be singled out. S. Miller stated this is not being singled out and would like this for all meetings forward.

P. Fuller - called for the vote.

Opposed - 4.

In Favor - 1.

MOTION failed.

More discussion on the minutes of December 14, 2010.

For example it was noted on Page 4 discussion of motion that listed one opposed which was S. Miller and other motion the opposed was not listed. Discussion that this can be changed in the minutes. Minutes should be consistent.

Another motion on Page 5, 12 lines down from top a motion by S. Miller corrected to reflect who was in favor and who opposed as listed by 3-4 previous motions. Discussion if this is not on the tape clearly and Chairman would like to review the video. Discussion that a policy needs to be established and move forward from here.

MOTION by S. Miller that from next meeting forward (January 6, 2011) that all votes will be itemized as to who voted for and who voted against. Second by V. MacDonald. No discussion. All in favor.

MOTION passed 5-0.

R. Bailey added that please make sure you are clear visibly and vocally on how you vote.

MOTION by M. DeCoff to accept the minutes of December 14, 2010 as presented. Second by V. MacDonald. No discussion.

Abstain -P. Fuller and D. Kirkpatrick.

In Favor - M. DeCoff, V. MacDonald, S. Miller.

MOTION passed 3-2.

VI. Public Input

Peter Keen, Alton resident.

Question about the last meeting, Alton Central School budget, the 2600 section. In the 2600 section he would like clarification and justification on items on funds being asked for. Question on fence and why is this continued to be hit and why is \$3,000 being spent on this item. Feels there should be corrective action for losses.

Noted by V. MacDonald the fence is over 20 years ago. Damaged as cars hitting as they pull in.

P Keen would like to see more documentation for these requests.

S. Miller noted school board rep is not here or school district rep so they do not have any answers and will be done at the next meeting.

P. Keen also noted \$2,000 request for paint – what is being painted – feel excessive. 350 rusty chairs – how are these being handled. Noted by Chair Miller this items has been removed from budget. P. Keen still concerned they are still going to be discarded and how they have been stored. Another issue with the curbing in front of school damaged for about 2 years and would like to know who paid for this town or school. P. Fuller responded that this curbing is made of soft material and very easily damaged. P. Keen feels the buses or plowers are liable and should pay if they are damaging this. P. Keen would like these things discussed on how they are being managed. Appropriation for \$9,000 for boiler repairs – concern for high cost. Feels these are all hidden costs that the tax payers are being charged for. Feels these need to be managed professionally by the buildings and grounds. Would like this looked into and would like a some level of oversight from the Buildings and Grounds to inform the taxpayers with some explanation.

S. Miller stated that he would present his five items to the School Board.

No further public input.

Public input closed.

VII Old Business

a. Operating budget - Two items under the operating budget that have been added by the Selectmen. R. Bailey reported 4312-021 overtime on the highway. \$2,000 for Marc Divito. Addition of \$2,000 for him to work in the Highway Dept. Substitute driver – less expensive that private contractor.

4312-207 for \$150 to under-spray police cars for rust protection. New number will be \$44,202.00.

Adding \$2,150 to bottom line totaling \$1,019,916. R. Bailey has \$1,014,699. S. Miller corrected with documents that R. Bailey distributed and bottom line totaling \$1,016,849.

MOTION by S. Miller to accept for highway an amendment of \$1,016,849.

Second by P. Fuller. No discussion.

In favor - M. DeCoff, S. Miller, V. MacDonald, D. Kirkpatrick, P. Fuller.

MOTION passed 5-0.

b. Current expenses

MOTION by S. Miller to change the bottom line and add \$2,150 totaling \$6,170,676 for the Operating Budget. Second by M. DeCoff. No Discussion.

In favor - M. DeCoff, S. Miller, V. MacDonald, D. Kirkpatrick, P. Fuller.

MOTION passed 5-0.

c. S. Miller checked to see if \$100,000 they did not add to federal funds for SAU and what would the legal and economic ramifications and spoke to Barrett Christiano at the New Hampshire

School Board Association. He is the house attorney there. He referred to RSA 198:20b, Section III(b) *"A school board may establish the amount of unanticipated funds required for notice under this subparagraph, provided such amount is less than \$5,000. For unanticipated funds in an amount less than \$5,000, the school board shall post notice of the funds in the agenda and shall include notice in the minutes of the school board meeting in which such funds are discussed. The acceptance of unanticipated funds under this subparagraph shall be made in public session of any regular school board meeting"*. S. Miller noted it does not matter whether a dollar amount of \$1, \$100,000 or \$50,000. No legal ramifications of putting a specific numbers in there, whether or not you know what the anticipating funds are coming forward. If you do not know what the anticipated you can put in any amount, but if it is over \$5,000 you must have a special meeting. Noted this is for the grants.

Barbara Howard arrived at 6:40 p.m.

A copy of document from what S. Miller read will be copied distributed to members at the end of the meeting.

S. Miller also checked with Jim Sessler regarding this issue and said he did not have expertise in the school area and so he called the New Hampshire School Board Association.

No other old business noted.

Old business closed.

V. MacDonald asked R. Bailey Town what was the town surplus? R. Bailey answered it had starting at a base around \$150,000.

VIII New Business

A. Warrant Articles Direct any questions to R. Bailey on hand out – none. R. Bailey noted they are working from Draft warrant dated 1/5/11. Money articles are to be approved by the Budget Committee. Zoning Articles are being finalized. Last two are non-financial. Selectmen Board still working one and may be one or two money articles still to come. Open meeting on the 13th will have several articles and on the 17th there may be one additional article. S. Miller noted on the 13th they will have Q&A. Question on posting specific articles. Suggested to do Q&A at the beginning of the meeting or earlier (i.e. 5:30 p.m.)

S. Miller suggested to keep it as is and discuss articles first thing. Can a copy of articles be distributed to members before meeting? Russ will distribute on the 11th. P. Fuller noted one article is about town property being sold and Budget Committee will be informed at the 17th meeting.

V. MacDonald asked R. Bailey about Article 13 as to where these funds coming from? (\$40,000). S. Miller noted these will be discussed individually and will be read for the record.

Article 10: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000)** to be added to the Sidewalk Capital reserve as previously established. The work would include the sidewalk in front of the Town Hall. [Appropriation recommended by the Selectmen (5-0)].

Discussion on Article 10:

P. Fuller noted the sidewalks have been voted on by the Selectmen. Selectmen feel they need to be improved. Estimate for concrete approx. 3-4 thousand. S. Miller asked if \$15,000 enough for the front. Discussion that there would be more sidewalk when completed. They have been neglected. Selectmen committed to see this project to go forward this year.

MOTION by M. DeCoff to accept Article 10 as read. Second by V. MacDonald.
In Favor - M. DeCoff, S. Miller, V. MacDonald, B. Howard, D. Kirkpatrick, and P. Fuller.
MOTION passed 6-0.

Article 11: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000)** to be added to the Police Department Building Improvement Capital Reserve Fund as previously established. This sum (\$50,000.00) to come from fund balance and no amount to be raised from taxation. [Appropriation recommended by the Selectmen (5-0)].

Discussion on Article 11.

Discussion on \$1.9 million dollar bond issue. P. Fuller stated that issue is off the table. D. Kirkpatrick stated that the wording misleading "No amount to be raised from taxation." P. Fuller noted no new taxation. P. Fuller added that DRA said they have to list this way. Russ will check on addition of the word "new" to be added ask DRA and add a little bit of our own language. S. Miller also asked about words "fund balance" to be changed to "surplus." R. Bailey will check into this from DRA. S. Miller asked what is maximum surplus our town can have? Answer from R. Bailey (around 3 mil). We are in the 50% range. S. Miller also asked why did the selection vote not to contribute any money from surplus for to alleviate the future tax rate? Answer by P. Fuller that it would have taken too much surplus.

MOTION by V. MacDonald to accept Article 11 as read. Second by M. DeCoff. No discussion.
In Favor - M. DeCoff, S. Miller, V. MacDonald, B. Howard, D. Kirkpatrick, and P. Fuller.
MOTION passed 6-0.

Article 12: To see if the Town will vote to establish a Capital Reserve Fund under the provisions of RSA 35:1 for the purpose Town Hall Building Improvements to the town hall and to raise and appropriate **Forty Five Thousand Dollars (\$45,000)** to be placed into the fund. This sum (\$45,000) to come from fund balance and no amount to be raised from taxation. Also to vote to

appoint the Selectmen as agents to expend from the Town Hall Building Improvement Fund. [Appropriation recommended by the Selectmen (5-0)].

Discussion on Article 12.

P. Fuller noted it will be used to improve vestibule, ventilation, windows, asbestos issues. Boiler? – spent \$6,000 getting it through inspection. Zones and old feed systems are the problem. Brick needs to be sealed. Insulation of the building. What will be done this year? R. Bailey will recommend the vestibule, ventilation system in main hall and possibly the windows or sealing of brick. Final recommendations from the board.

MOTION by B. Howard to accept Article 12 as read. Second by D. Kirkpatrick. No discussion. In Favor - M. DeCoff, S. Miller, V. MacDonald, B. Howard, D. Kirkpatrick, and P. Fuller. MOTION passed 6-0.

Article 13: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **Forty Thousand Dollars (\$40,000)** to be added to the Landfill Closure Capital Reserve Fund, as previously established. These funds are being used to deal with the contamination at the landfill and to meet the state regulatory requirements. [Appropriation recommended by the Selectmen (5-0)].

Discussion on Article 13.

R. Bailey noted this fund is down to zero this year. Put in \$28,000 this year. Looking at a couple more wells. Besides the VOCs there is arsenic and manganese.

MOTION by D. Kirkpatrick to accept Article 13 as read. Second by M. DeCoff. Discussion. B. Howard asked if this is mandated by DED. R. Bailey informed it was required because there is contamination leaking from the landfill. No further discussion. In Favor - M. DeCoff, S. Miller, V. MacDonald, B. Howard, D. Kirkpatrick, and P. Fuller. Motion Passed 6-0.

Article 14: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **Twenty Thousand Dollars (\$20,000)** to be placed in the Benefit Pay Expendable Trust Fund, as previously established. Said fund are recommended by the Town Auditors to be used to pay for benefits accrued by Town employees and redeemed when they leave employment with the Town of Alton, in accordance with the Town Personnel Policy. [Appropriation recommended by the Selectmen (5-0)].

Discussion Article 14.

R. Bailey informed there is \$17,000 in this account. Stated it is hard to estimate unless you know if senior employees are going to retire. Used about 17,000 last year. There is a cap. Discussion on how this is figured. R. Bailey stated there is a cap after 1000 hours. Buy back is 50% upon leaving or retirement. M. DeCoff noted why this is not done yearly under the current rate

instead of end of service and accruing these days and being paid at the end under their top rate of pay. R. Bailey stated there is a cap at 10 years.

MOTION by V. MacDonald to accept Article 14 as read. Second by P. Fuller. No discussion.

In Favor - S. Miller, V. MacDonald, B. Howard, D. Kirkpatrick, P. Fuller.

Opposed - M. DeCoff.

MOTION passed 5-1

Article 15: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **Thirty Five Thousand Dollars (\$35,000)** to be added to the Building and Site Improvement Capital Reserve for the Transfer Station which also included the EPA storm water management implementation requirements. [Appropriation recommended by the Selectmen (5-0)].

Discussion on Article 15. R. Bailey stated there is currently \$29,000. Between this and the recycling account they can handle the concrete. Drainage basin is in.

MOTION by V. MacDonald to accept Article 15 as read. Second by M. DeCoff. No discussion.

In Favor - M. DeCoff, S. Miller, V. MacDonald, B. Howard, D. Kirkpatrick, and P. Fuller.

MOTION passed 6-0.

Article 16: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **Twelve Thousand Dollars (\$12,000)** to be added to the Recreation/Grounds Maintenance Capital Reserve Fund, as previously established. The purpose of this Capital Reserve Fund is to fund maintenance equipment for the grounds, and parks and sidewalk snow removal. [Appropriation recommended by the Selectmen (5-0)].

Discussion on Article 16. This is year-round maintenance equipment. Currently there is no more than \$3,000. V. MacDonald asked if last storm was there difference in time for clearing with new plow. R. Bailey did not know. S. Miller would like to see this at \$10,000 instead of \$12,000. Usually the Rec department comes in under \$2,500 budget. V. MacDonald stated they need to save up for any repairs or replacement on the tractor.

MOTION by M. DeCoff to accept Article 16 as read. Second by V. MacDonald. No Discussion.

In Favor - M. DeCoff, S. Miller, V. MacDonald, B. Howard, D. Kirkpatrick, and P. Fuller.

MOTION passed 6-0

Article 17: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **Twenty Thousand Dollars (\$20,000)** for the purpose of improving the West Side Restrooms by making handicap accessible to current ADA standards and by siding the exterior. [Appropriation recommended by the Selectmen (5-0)].

Discussion on Article 17. Discussion of stone on the front and siding on the sides. Damage on front of building from plows.

MOTION by M. DeCoff to accept Article 17 as read. Second by B. Howard. No discussion. In Favor - M. DeCoff, S. Miller, V. MacDonald, B. Howard, D. Kirkpatrick, and P. Fuller. MOTION passed 6-0.

Article 18: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000)** to be added to the Milfoil Capital Reserve fund. [Appropriation recommended by the Selectmen (5-0)].

Discussion of Article.

Milfoil was treated this year. Steve Parker noted change and there was a section around the well that was not treated. You can spread chemical and eventually you will have to pull.

MOTION by M. DeCoff to accept Article 18 as read. Second by V. MacDonald. No discussion. In Favor - M. DeCoff, S. Miller, V. MacDonald, B. Howard, D. Kirkpatrick, and P. Fuller. MOTION passed 6-0.

Article 19: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **Thirty Thousand Dollars (\$30,000)** to be added to Senior Center Pearson Road Capital Reserve Fund. [Appropriation recommended by the Selectmen (5-0)].

Discussion of Article 19.

V. MacDonald inquired about buying the Gilman home and not putting money into this old building (Pearson Center). After repairs and renovations have been done they will be close the purchase price of this property. Mr. MacDonald would rather see this go into a building that is larger and room to grow into. P. Fuller stated that the meeting on the 17th of January he will see why they are not pursuing the Gilman Home property.

MOTION by D. Kirkpatrick to accept Article 19 as read. Second by M. DeCoff. No discussion. In Favor - M. DeCoff, S. Miller, V. MacDonald, B. Howard, D. Kirkpatrick, and P. Fuller. MOTION passed 6-0

Article 21: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **One Hundred Twenty Nine Thousand Nine Hundred Seventy Nine Dollars (\$129,979)** and to authorize the withdrawal of the \$129,979 from the Ambulance Operation Fund as previously established under RSA 31:95c for the purpose of funding the ambulance personnel wages, ambulance supplies & equipment, training, and vehicle fuel/maintenance. This appropriation is covered by the revenue from the ambulance insurance payments and there will be no funds raised from general taxation. [Appropriation recommended by the Selectmen (5-0).]

Discussion of Article 21.

M. DeCoff asked why the Article states raise and appropriate? R. Bailey explained they have to

get the voter's authority to take the money from the fund and to appropriate its use. D. Kirkpatrick noted the wording again.

MOTION by D. Kirkpatrick to accept Article 21 as read. Second by B. Howard. No discussion.
In Favor - M. DeCoff, S. Miller, B. Howard, D. Kirkpatrick, and P. Fuller.
V. MacDonald absent.
MOTION passed 5-0

Article 22: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **Thirty Six Thousand Dollars (\$36,000)** for the purpose of purchasing a command/utility vehicle for the Fire Department. This will be a non-lapsing appropriation per RSA 32:7VI and will not lapse until completed or by December 31, 2011. [Appropriation recommended by the Selectmen (5-0)].

Discussion on Article 22.

Currently chief is using his personal vehicle. Looking at a 4-door pickup (second hand).

MOTION by D. Kirkpatrick to accept Article 22 as read. Second by V. MacDonald. No discussion.
In Favor - S. Miller, V. MacDonald, B. Howard, D. Kirkpatrick, and P. Fuller.
Abstain - M. DeCoff.
Motion passed 5-0-1.

Article 23: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000)** to be added to the Alton Central Fire Station Capital Reserve Fund as previously established. [Appropriation recommended by the Selectmen (5-0)].

Discussion on Article 23. R. Bailey noted repairs; asphalt repair of ceiling and other work as well. S. Miller questioned if the Selectmen worked to try to keep warrant article equal to last year and not increase it (it went from \$1.2 mil to \$1.3) P. Fuller stated they kept an eye on the total. R. Bailey noted there are 3 articles that will be covered from the fund balance that will help. Noted if repairs are not done it will cost more. R. Bailey noted we need to take care of town repairs.

MOTION by D. Kirkpatrick to accept Article 23 as read. Second by V. MacDonald. No discussion.
In Favor - S. Miller, V. MacDonald, B. Howard, D. Kirkpatrick, and P. Fuller.
Abstain - M. DeCoff.
Motion passed 5-0-1

Article 24: To see if the Town will vote to amend the retirement policy for the fire department personnel by increasing the amount of annual retirement pay by **Two Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$250.00)** for retiree. [Selectmen (5-0) and by the Budget Committee (5-0-1)]. (A majority vote is required)

Discussion of Article 24.

R. Bailey noted wording will have to be changed. They voted to raise the amount by \$250 per retiree. (i.e. Private gets \$500 and would go to \$750, a Captain would go from \$700 to \$950, a Chief would go from \$1,000 to \$1,250 all upon retirement. This is not compensation but at thank for services. Can this be tabled until the wording is changed. This policy can only be changed by a town meeting. Move to table article.

Article 25: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **Twenty Thousand Dollars (\$20,000)** to be added to the Bridge Replacement Capital Reserve Fund as previously established. [Appropriation recommended by the Selectmen (5-0)].

Discussion of Article 25.

Bridge replacement- state will pay 80% when it is replaced. (Reed Road Bridge). V. MacDonald noted there is a commercial business on that road and feels they should help cover this cost due to their heavy trucks. Balance is currently \$140,000 spent \$97,000 so far. R. Bailey noted they need the amount of \$20,00 to get on the list.

MOTION by V. MacDonald to accept Article 25 as read. Second by B. Howard. No discussion. In Favor - M. DeCoff, S. Miller, V. MacDonald, B. Howard, D. Kirkpatrick, and P. Fuller. MOTION passed 6-0.

Article 26: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **Fifty Thousand Dollard (\$50,000)** to be added to the Highway Equipment Capital Reserve. This sum (\$50,000) to come from fund balance and no amount to be raised by taxation. [Appropriation recommended by the Selectmen (5-0)].

Discussion for Article 26.

R. Bailey noting currently \$16,000. Used on the one the one-ton and back-hoe.

MOTION by M. DeCoff to accept Article 26 as read. Second by B. Howard. No discussion. In Favor - M. DeCoff, S. Miller, V. MacDonald, B. Howard, D. Kirkpatrick, and P. Fuller. MOTION passed 6-0.

Article 27: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **Thirty Thousand Dollars (\$30,000)** for the purpose of purchasing and installing a ventilation system in the highway building which is needed to properly vent the fumes due to the vehicles and painting that create a health and safety problem. This will be a non-lapsing appropriation per RSA 32:7VI and will not lapse until completed or by December 31, 2011. [Appropriation recommended by the Selectmen (5-0)].

Discussion on Article 27.

Painting and vehicle maintenance – based on a quote but if approved will go out to bid. This was not mandated but came before the safety committee.

MOTION by B. Howard to accept Article 27 as read. Second by M. DeCoff. No discussion.

In Favor - M. DeCoff, S. Miller, V. MacDonald, B. Howard, D. Kirkpatrick, and P. Fuller.

MOTION passed 6-0.

Article 28: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **Seven Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$750,000)** to be added to the Highway Reconstruction Capital Reserve Fund, as previously established. Said amount is partially offset by revenues from the Highway Block Grant Fund estimated to be \$193,735.13 is an annual appropriation that provides for the reconstruction of existing roadways. [Appropriation recommended by the Selectmen (5-0)].

Discussion on Article 28. Block grant requires they spend \$193,000 on roads. We only spend \$750,000. \$193,000 goes into the general fund and used when they set the tax rate. Paving depends on whether all the funds are used. Trask, Coffin Brook and Bay Hill will be paved and culverts corrected on Bay Hill.

MOTION by V. MacDonald to accept Article 28 as read. Second by M. MacDonald. No discussion.

In Favor - M. DeCoff, S. Miller, V. MacDonald, D. Kirkpatrick, and P. Fuller.

MOTION passed 5-0.

Barbara Howard absent.

Article 29: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **Eight Thousand Nine Hundred Ninety Six Dollars (\$8,996)** for the purpose of supporting the Community Action Program which provides supplemental food, fuel, utility, transportation, meals on wheels, weatherization assistance, Women, Infants and Children food assistance program (WIC). This will be a non-lapsing appropriation per RSA 32:7VI and will not lapse until completed or by December 31, 2011. [Appropriation recommended by the Selectmen (5-0)].

Discussion on Article 29.

S. Miller asked if every charity picked up money from last year. Russ Bailey reported yes. Russ noted monies are based on activity and Alton has a lot of activity.

MOTION by D. Kirkpatrick to accept Article 29 as read. Second by M. DeCoff. No discussion.

In Favor - M. DeCoff, S. Miller, V. MacDonald, B. Howard, D. Kirkpatrick, and P. Fuller.

MOTION passed 6-0.

Article 30: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **Eight Thousand Nine Hundred Seventy Four Dollars (\$8,974)** for the purpose of supporting the VNA Hospice which is a non-profit agency that provides health care, hospice care, and maternal child health services. This will be a non-lapsing appropriation per RSA 32:7VI and will not lapse until completed or by

December 31, 2011. [Appropriation recommended by the Selectmen (5-0)].

Discussion on Article 30.

No questions.

MOTION by M. DeCoff to accept Article 30 as read. Second by V. MacDonald. No discussion.

In Favor - M. DeCoff, S. Miller, V. MacDonald, B. Howard, D. Kirkpatrick, and P. Fuller.

MOTION passed 6-0

Article 31: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **Five Thousand One Hundred Dollars (\$5,100)** for the purpose of supporting the Community Health and Hospice, which provides nurse, homemaker and hospice services to residents. This will be a non-lapsing appropriation per RSA 32:7VI and will not lapse until completed or by December 31, 2011. [Appropriation recommended by the Selectmen (5-0)].

Discussion on Article 31.

Divided into the community – East and West Alton.

Motion by V. MacDonald to accept Article 31 as read. Second by B. Howard. No discussion.

In Favor - M. DeCoff, S. Miller, V. MacDonald, B. Howard, D. Kirkpatrick, and P. Fuller.

MOTION passed 6-0

B. Howard asked a question about community action. Noted there are 14 towns that it serves – are they all equally asked. Russ stated based on population and is different for each town.

Article 32: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **Two Thousand Three Hundred Fourteen Dollars (\$2,314)** for the purpose of supporting the American Red Cross which provides disaster relief, shelters, basic household necessities and counseling. This will be a non-lapsing appropriation per RSA 32:7VI and will not lapse until completed or by December 31, 2011. [Appropriation recommended by the Selectmen (5-0)].

Discussion on Article 32.

No discussion.

MOTION by V. MacDonald to accept Article 32 as read. Second by P. Fuller. No discussion.

In Favor - M. DeCoff, S. Miller, V. MacDonald, B. Howard, and P. Fuller.

Opposed - D. Kirkpatrick

MOTION passed 5-1

Article 33: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000)** for the purpose of supporting the Alton Community Services which provides food pantry and assistance programs for fuel, prescriptions, utilities and housing in close

coordination with the Alton Welfare Department. This will be a non-lapsing appropriation per RSA 32:7VI and will not lapse until completed or by December 31, 2011. [Appropriation recommended by the Selectmen (5-0)].

Discussion on Article 33.

This is provide for only Alton residences.

MOTION by V. MacDonald to accept Article 33 as read. Second by M. DeCoff, No Discussion.

In Favor - M. DeCoff, S. Miller, V. MacDonald, B. Howard, D. Kirkpatrick, and P. Fuller.

MOTION passed 6-0.

Article 34: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **Four Hundred Fifty Four Dollars (\$454)** for the purpose of supporting the Medication Bridge Prescription Program which is a non for profit volunteer program that provides assistance to residents in need of prescription in coordination with the Alton Welfare Department. This will be a non-lapsing appropriation per RSA 32:7VI and will not lapse until completed or by December 31, 2011. [Appropriation recommended by the Selectmen (5-0)].

Discussion on Article 34.

Noted this amount is what was asked for.

MOTION by V. MacDonald to accept Article 34 as read. Second by D. Kirkpatrick. No discussion.

In Favor - M. DeCoff, S. Miller, V. MacDonald, B. Howard, D. Kirkpatrick, and P. Fuller.

MOTION passed 6-0.

Article 35: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **One Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$1,500)** for the purpose of supporting the New Beginnings which provides 24 hour crisis support for domestic/sexual assault victims, operates a shelter and provides counseling. This will be a non-lapsing appropriation per RSA 32:7VI and will not lapse until completed or by December 31, 2011. [Appropriation recommended by the Selectmen (5-0)].

Discussion on Article 35.

MOTION by V. MacDonald to accept Article 35 as read. Second by M. DeCoff. No discussion.

In Favor - M. DeCoff, S. Miller, V. MacDonald, B. Howard, D. Kirkpatrick, and P. Fuller.

MOTION passed 6-0.

Article 36: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **Seven Thousand Eight Hundred Twenty Six Dollars (\$7,826)** for the purpose of supporting Genesis which provides mental health care to area residents, services for children, elders, along with other emergency services. This will be a non-lapsing appropriation per RSA 32:7VI and will not lapse

**In Favor - M. DeCoff, S. Miller, V. MacDonald, B. Howard, D. Kirkpatrick, and P. Fuller.
MOTION passed 6-0.**

Article 39: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **Two Thousand Four Hundred Dollars (\$2,400)** for the purpose of supporting Appalachian Mountain Teen Project. This will be a non-lapsing appropriation per RSA 32:7VI and will not lapse until completed or by December 31, 2011. [Appropriation recommended by the Selectmen (5-0)].

Discussion on Article 39.

12 teens used program in the state. Question on how many Alton youth are being used. Discussed on the effectiveness and usefulness of this program where they go into schools and where we already have counselors in the schools. This is like an outward bound program. V. MacDonald has tried to see how many youth are in this program from Alton.

**Motion by V. MacDonald to table Article 39. Second by B. Howard.
Opposed - M. DeCoff, S. Miller, P. Fuller
In Favor - V. MacDonald, B. Howard, D. Kirkpatrick
MOTION failed 3-3.**

**MOTION by M. DeCoff to accept Article 39 as read. Second by P. Fuller
In Favor - M. DeCoff, S. Miller, B. Howard, D. Kirkpatrick, P. Fuller
Opposed - V. MacDonald
MOTION passed 5-1.**

Article 40: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **Two Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$2,500)** for the purpose of supporting Child and Family Services. This will be a non-lapsing appropriation per RSA 32:7VI and will not lapse until completed or by December 31, 2011. [Appropriation recommended by the Selectmen (5-0)].

Discussion on Article 40.
No discussion.

**MOTION by D. Kirkpatrick to accept Article 40 as read. Second by V. MacDonald. No discussion.
In Favor - M. DeCoff, S. Miller, B. Howard, D. Kirkpatrick, P. Fuller.
Opposed - V. MacDonald.
MOTION passed 5-1.**

Article 41: To see if the votes will authorize the sale of a small parcel (tax map) located off Depot Road to Kim and Patterson. The piece is approximately 20 feet x 90 feet and is part of the town property obtained from the State of New Hampshire. All associated costs for the sale will be paid for by the buyer. (A majority vote is required).

until completed or by December 31, 2011. [Appropriation recommended by the Selectmen (5-0)].

Discussion Article 36.

Discussion on putting this money into the welfare. V. MacDonald noted it sends counselors twice a week to both schools. Noted being investigated by Federal government. They are not solvent. They are asking for towns to contribute 1/3 of emergency deficit. Police use their services.

MOTION by M. DeCoff to accept Article 36 as read. Second by P. Fuller. No discussion.

Opposed - S. Miller, B. Howard, D. Kirkpatrick

In Favor - M. DeCoff, V. MacDonald, P. Fuller

MOTION does not pass 3-3.

S. Miller will do personal research on these accusations – will share the facts to make their own decision.

Article 37: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **Two Thousand Dollars (\$2,000)** for the purpose of supporting Caregivers Transportation which provides free transportation to handicapped, elderly and other residents needing assistance with all these services provided by volunteers. This will be a non-lapsing appropriation per RSA 32:7VI and will not lapse until completed or by December 31, 2011. [Appropriation recommended by the Selectmen (5-0)].

Discussion on Article 37.

This is a volunteer organization and they are only reimbursed mileage. Taking care of our own people.

MOTION by B. Howard to accept Article 37 as read. Second by D. Kirkpatrick. No discussion.

In Favor - M. DeCoff, S. Miller, V. MacDonald, B. Howard, D. Kirkpatrick, and P. Fuller.

MOTION passed 6-0.

Article 38: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **Five Hundred Dollars (\$500)** for the purpose of supporting CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocate) which provides advocacy for abused and neglected children. This will be a non-lapsing appropriation per RSA 32:7VI and will not lapse until completed or by December 31, 2011. [Appropriation recommended by the Selectmen (5-0)].

Discussion on Article 38.

This is a volunteer organization.

MOTION by D. Kirkpatrick to accept Article 38 as read. Second by M. DeCoff. No discussion.

Article 42: To see if the Town will vote to increase the number of members on the Gilman Library Board of Trustees from 3 to 5 in accordance with RSA 669.16 and RSA 669.75. This change is become effective as of January 2012. The Gilman Library Board of Trustees acts as the governing board for the library as defined by RSA 202-A:2 and is strictly a volunteer service. The purpose is to ensure that a quorum is always present. (A majority vote is required).

V. MacDonald concerned that this sale of property does not interfere with railroad bed. R. Bailey noted they still have over 60 ft.

IX Public Input – None seen or heard.
Public input closed.

X Calendar
January 6th at 6 p.m. SAU
January 11th SAU 6 p.m. public hearing.
January 12 Snow date
January 13 at 6 p.m. Alton public hearing.
January 14 Snow date
January 17 6 p.m. town and school public hearing.
January 18 Snow date
Feb 5 SAU 1 p.m. at PMS SAU deliberative session
Feb 7 snow date at 7 p.m.
Feb 9 – town deliberative at 7 p.m. at PMS
Feb 10 snow date
Feb 8 school ballot vote.

XI Adjournment at 8:25 p.m.
MOTION by M. DeCoff to adjourn. Second by P. Fuller.
No discussion.
In Favor - M. DeCoff, S. Miller, V. MacDonald, B. Howard, D. Kirkpatrick, and P. Fuller.
MOTION passed 6-0.

Respectfully submitted,
Carolyn Schaeffner
Recording Secretary

Carolyn Schaeffner
Approved January 17, 2011

RECEIVED

MAY 13 2011

ALTON TOWN CLERK