

Town of Effingham
Annual Town Meeting Minutes
March 12, 2016

The following are the results from the Town Election, which was held on Tuesday, March 8, 2016. The checklist listed 1022 registered voters. 354 ballots were cast, including 29 absentee ballots.

Article 1.

| | | |
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| Selectman, three year term: | Leonard Espie | 189 |
| | Timothy Eldridge | 158 |
| Moderator, write-in: | Susan Slack | 89 |
| Trustee of Trust Funds, three year term: | Carol Pfister | 290 |
| Trustee of the Library, one year term: | Anita Spencer | 196 |
| Trustee of the Library, three year term: | Johanna Vienneau | 320 |
| Trustee of the Library, write-in: | Dennis Vienneau | * |
| Planning Board, 2-three year terms: | Joanna Bull | 171 |
| | Gary Jewell | 218 |
| | Timothy Murphy | 140 |
| Budget Committee, 2-three year terms: | Paul Bartoswicz | 182 |
| | Mellisa Seamans | 151 |
| | William Piekut | 146 |
| | Linda Edwards | 126 |
| Zoning Board of Adjustment, three year term: | Thomas Hart | 270 |
| Zoning Board of Adjustment, write-in: | Timothy Murphy | * |
| Supervisor of the Checklist, six year term: | Carol Pfister | 299 |

*Write-in votes

Article 2.

Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment 2016-1 as proposed by the Planning Board for the Town Zoning Ordinance as follows: Change Article 7, Section 708 Lot Density to read: “For non-conforming lots of one acre or less, the total area of all existing and proposed structures shall be limited to 20% of the gross lot area. “Total Area of all Structures” in this section shall mean that part of the structures which cover the ground under it (footprint), including all deck, porch and roof overhangs that extend more than 2 feet. All other requirements of this ordinance shall be met.”?

The Planning Board is in favor of this article.

YES 208 NO 127

Article 3.

Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment 2016-2 as proposed by the Planning Board for the Town Zoning Ordinance as follows: Amend Article 10, Section 1006 Campgrounds to include the following: “(f) Campsites

- i. A minimum of 600 sq. ft. shall be provided for each tent site and a minimum of 1,000 square feet shall be provided for each recreational vehicle and trailer campsite, with or without connection to an approved sewage disposal system (RSA 216-I: 3).
- ii. RV and trailer campsites are allowed a total of 640 sq. ft. per site, inclusive of the RV or trailer and all other structures, not to be permanent in nature and to have no permanent footings or foundations.
- iii. Two (2) parking spaces per campsite at 160 sq. ft. each (8 ft. x 20 ft.) are required either within the campsite or two (2) parking spaces specifically designated for said campsite are provided elsewhere.
- iv. Single story camping cabins as per RSA 216-I:1 VII-a are allowed a total of 640 sq. ft. per site, inclusive of the camping cabin and all other structures, not to be permanent in nature and to have no permanent footings or foundations.
- v. No tent, tent trailer, travel trailer, motorized camper, pick-up camper, single story cabin or pick-up coach shall be used as permanent year-round residence.”?

The Planning Board is in favor of this article.

YES 216 NO 123

Article 4.

Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment 2016-3 as proposed by the Planning Board for the Town Zoning Ordinance as follows: Amend Article 11, Section 1102.2 Enforcement and Penalty to read: “Section 1102.2 Enforcement and Penalty - Any person who violates this Ordinance may be fined in accordance with RSA 676:17,I. No action may be brought under this provision unless the alleged offender has had at least seven (7) days’ notice by certified mail that a violation exists.”?

The Planning Board is in favor of this article.

YES 227 NO 107

Article 5.

Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment 2016-4 as proposed by the Planning Board for the Town Zoning Ordinance as follows: Article 15, Section 1502 Historic Districts, “Pursuant to NH RSA 674:46, the Town of Effingham hereby establishes the Center Effingham Historic District and the Lord’s Hill Historic District, which are bounded as in Appendix A.”? (This is a housekeeping item.)

The Planning Board is in favor of this article.

YES 252 NO 87

Article 6.

Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment 2016-5 as proposed by the Planning Board for the Town Zoning Ordinance as follows: Amend Article 15, Section 1502 Historic Districts to clarify the metes and bounds legal description for the Lord’s Hill Historic District? (This is in Appendix A.)

The Planning Board is in favor of this article.

YES 257 NO 77

Article 7.

Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment 2016-6 as proposed by the Planning Board for the Town Zoning Ordinance as follows: Amend Article 15, Section 1502 Historic Districts to clarify the metes and bounds legal description for the Center Effingham Historic District.? (This is in Appendix A.)

The Planning Board is in favor of this article.

YES 257 NO 81

At 7:00 pm, The Moderator announced that the polls were closed. Ballot clerks and counters were: Theresa Swanick, Thomas Hart, Erik Jones, David Manley, Jim Morris, Karen Payne, Cheryle Feirick, David Strauss, Gwenda English and Celine Bergeron. When we were finished counting, Moderator Pilkovsky called for a recess and announced that the meeting would reconvene on Saturday, March 12 at 9:00 am.

Article 8. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$25,680.00 to contract the services of Avitar Associates of New England, Inc. for the year 2016. This sum represents payment for the first year of a five-year level funded contract that provides for a full update of property values to market rate in 2020 as required by RSA 75:8-a, as well as general assessing services throughout each of the five years and field data verification of information appearing on property tax cards. This requires a majority vote.

The Selectmen and the Budget Committee recommend this appropriation.

The article was moved, seconded and passed as read.

Article 9. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$15,000.00 for road reconstruction. This requires a majority vote.

The Selectmen and the Budget Committee recommend this appropriation.

The article was moved, seconded and passed as read.

Article 10. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$15,000.00 for paved road resurfacing and repair. This requires a majority vote.

The Selectmen and the Budget Committee recommend this appropriation.

The article was moved, seconded and passed as read.

Article 11. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$143,830.00 for payments to the following Capital Reserve Accounts previously established:

| | | Acct balances 12/31/15 |
|--|--------------|-----------------------------------|
| Aquatic Invasive Plants | \$6,830.00 | \$8,014.06 |
| Fire Truck/Equipment | \$20,000.00 | \$244,527.04 |
| Police Cruiser/Equipment | \$15,000.00 | \$45,201.22 |
| Town Owned Bridges | \$100,000.00 | \$103,560.12 |
| Transfer Station/Recycling Center | \$2,000.00 | \$12,230.79 |

Total in above Capital Reserve accounts: \$ 413,533.23

This is a special warrant article. This requires a majority vote.

The Selectmen and the Budget Committee recommend this appropriation.

The article was moved, seconded and passed as read.

Article 12. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$30,500.00 for payments to the following Trust Fund Accounts previously established:

| | | Acct balances 12/31/15 |
|-----------------------------------|-------------|-----------------------------------|
| Police Safety Gear Exp TF | \$3,500.00 | \$1,297.09 |
| Municipal Auditing Exp TF | \$1,000.00 | \$27,009.41 |
| Municipal Buildings Exp TF | \$21,000.00 | \$13,346.09 |
| Town Hall Restoration TF | \$5,000.00 | \$40,134.03 |

Total in above Trust Fund accounts: \$81,786.62

This is a special warrant article. This requires a majority vote.

The Selectmen and the Budget Committee recommend this appropriation.

The article was moved, seconded and passed as read.

Article 13. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,000.00 from the undesignated fund balance to be added to the Fire Truck and Equipment Capital Reserve Fund previously established. The \$1,000.00 was received from the Town of Parsonsfield in 2015 for Fire Department Mutual Aid. This is a special warrant article. This requires a majority vote. The Selectmen and the Budget Committee recommend this appropriation.

The article was moved, seconded and passed as read.

A motion was made and seconded to restrict reconsideration of Articles 8-13. Motion passed.

Article 14. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$260,000.00 to replace the bridge on Stevens Road. And further to authorize the governing body to withdraw \$150,000.00 from the undesignated fund balance for this purpose, with the remaining \$110,000.00 to be funded through taxation. This is a special warrant article. This requires a majority vote. The Selectmen and the Budget Committee recommend this appropriation.

The article was moved and seconded.

A motion was made and seconded to amend the amount of \$260,000.00 to \$210,000.00 and amend the amount of \$110,000.00 to \$60,000.00 through taxation. The motion passed as amended.

Article 15. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,479,668.00 for the ensuing year for general operations. This requires a majority vote. The Selectmen and the Budget Committee recommend this appropriation.

| | |
|-----------------------------|------------|
| Executive | 87,233.00 |
| Election & Registration | 34,166.00 |
| Financial Administration | 42,442.00 |
| Assessing | 22,885.00 |
| Legal | 25,000.00 |
| Payroll Expenses | 55,500.00 |
| Planning & Zoning | 17,778.00 |
| Municipal Buildings | 67,000.00 |
| Cemeteries | 2,500.00 |
| Insurance Fees | 105,000.00 |
| Advertising & Regional Dues | 3,000.00 |
| Public Safety | 315,754.00 |
| Highways & Streets | 442,459.00 |
| Street Lighting | 7,000.00 |
| Solid Waste Collection | 51,746.00 |

| | |
|-----------------------------|---------------------|
| Solid Waste Disposal | 92,750.00 |
| Solid Waste Clean Up | 3,000.00 |
| Dog Officer Expenses | 500.00 |
| Health Agencies & Hospitals | 15,884.00 |
| General Assistance | 17,000.00 |
| Meals on Wheels | 4,500.00 |
| Parks & Recreation | 5,000.00 |
| Library | 56,240.00 |
| Patriotic Purposes | 600.00 |
| Conservation Commission | 3,730.00 |
| Town Forester | 1,000.00 |
| Debt Service | 1.00 |
| Total | <u>1,479,668.00</u> |

The article was moved, seconded and passed as read.

A motion was made and seconded to restrict reconsideration of Articles 14-15. Motion passed.

Article 16. To see if the Town will urge that the next President and Congress fight big money politics and restore government of, by and for the people by championing the We the People agenda: 1) Ban Super PACs and overturn Citizens United 2) Expose secret donors and require full transparency 3) Ban bribes from big-money lobbyists and government contractors 4) Establish small-donor, citizen-funded elections 5) End gerrymandering and modernize voter registration 6) Close loopholes and enforce campaign finance laws. That the New Hampshire State Legislature support concrete legislation to enact the We the People agenda. The record of the vote approving this article shall be transmitted by written notice from the selectmen to the NH congressional delegation and to Effingham’s state legislators, and to the President of the United States informing them of the instructions from their constituents within 30 days of the vote. This article is petitioned by Arthur Surette and others. This requires a majority vote.

The article was moved, seconded and passed as read.

Article 17. To see if the Town of Effingham will vote “No Confidence” in the Effingham Fire Chief Randy Burbank. If the vote is affirmative, the Town asks the Board of Selectmen to remove him from office, if he doesn’t resign, and to not allow him to drive any Town owned vehicles. The vote on this article is to be conducted by secret ballot. This requires a majority vote. This article is petitioned by Jerome Smith and others.

The Article was moved and seconded. Moderator Pilkovsky explained the procedure for requesting a ballot vote and a request for a ballot vote was handed to him. A motion was made and seconded to amend the article to read: “Full Confidence” and delete the second sentence. A discussion followed and a ballot vote was done. Amendment passed.

YES 101 NO 34

Article 18. To see if the Town will vote to accept the reports of its agents and auditors.

The article was moved, seconded and passed as read.

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

Meeting adjourned at 12:21 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

**Deanna Amaral
Town of Effingham
Town Clerk**