

**2016 TOWN WARRANT
TOWN OF CHESTERFIELD
STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE**

Proceedings of the Annual Town Meeting of the voters of the Town of Chesterfield, New Hampshire, called at the Chesterfield School in said town on Tuesday, March 12, 2016.

Moderator Rebecca Todd called the Town Meeting/Town Elections to order on March 8, 2016 at 10:00 in the forenoon at the Town Hall and declared the polls open for voting by ballot for Town Officials and to amend Zoning Ordinances.

Polls were closed at 7:00 pm and counting of ballots commenced. Town Meeting resumed on Saturday March 12, 2016 at the Chesterfield School.

Moderator Todd called the meeting to order at 11:23 a.m.

Police Chief Duane Chickering led the meeting in the salute to the flag.

Selectboard Chairman Jon McKeon recognized Cornelia "Neil" Jenness as the recipient of the 2016 Annual Report dedication. He also highlighted the retirement of two long-time town employees, Bart Bevis of the Highway Department, and Chet Greenwood, Code Enforcement.

ARTICLE 3: Bayard Tracy, chairman of the Budget Committee, spoke regarding the process of budgeting and said that both his committee and the Selectmen understand their responsibilities and try to get the most value for taxpayers' money. He stated that with this budget there were few disagreements.

ARTICLE 4: Bayard Tracy made a motion, seconded by Gary Winn, to see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Three Million Thirty Four Thousand and Three Hundred and Eighty Five Dollars (\$3,034,385) for the following purposes, or act in any way related thereto.

(Recommended by the Budget Committee) (Recommended by the Selectmen)

1. Executive	140,257
2. Elections, Registrations, Vital Stats	58,575
3. Financial Administration	69,345
4. Legal Expense	25,000
5. Personnel Administration	438,200
6. Planning Board	13,400
7. Board of Adjustment	5,950
8. General Government Buildings	33,300
9. Cemeteries	41,999
10. General Insurance	38,000
11. Regional Association (SWRPC)	4,000
12. Economic Development Committee	2,400
13. Police	478,608
14. Police Reimbursable Detail	25,000
15. Ambulance	93,800
16. Code Enforcement	30,000
17. Office of Emergency Management	33,180
18. Forest Fires	6,000
19. Highway/Town Road Maintenance	810,815
20. Street Lighting	16,000
21. Solid Waste	203,064
22. Health Officer	1,525
23. Animal Control	1,650
24. Other Health (Hepatitis B Shots)	300

25. General Assistance	25,000
26. Parks and Recreation	118,538
27. Library	143,029
28. Patriotic Purposes	300
29. Conservation Commission	3,250
30. Debt Service	<u>173,900</u>
TOTAL	3,034,385

Dan Cotter made a motion, seconded by Bayard Tracy, to amend line item 27, Library, decreasing the amount by \$9,000. Dan explained that the lower amount was the result of a full time employee going to part time, thus no longer being eligible for benefits. The amendment passed on a voice vote. Ken Walton, seconded by Jay Fee, offered the following amendment:

MOTION THAT Line 27 in Warrant Article No.4 pertaining to the Library be amended to see if the Town will raise and appropriate the sum of One Hundred and Thirty Nine Thousand and Nine Hundred and Twenty-Eight Dollars (\$139,928) for the Library, wherein the additional funding of Five Thousand Eight Hundred and Ninety-Nine Dollars (\$5,899) would be for the provision of longevity pay to three employees of the Library in recognition of their tenure and dedicated service to the Town as follow:

Library Director Jane Anderson (40 years 11%)	\$3388.00
Assistant Director Claudette Russell (30 years 11%)	\$2232.00
Library Assistant Patricia Porter (17 years)	\$204.80
Additional Town FICA, Medicare & Retirement	\$74.20

Ken Walton suggested that this was only fair because town employees had gotten a longevity increase in 2014. Selectman Dan Cotter responded that the reason for the town longevity policy was that town employees are on a 5 step scale, meaning that someone who worked 15 years for the town, for example, would not see a pay increase (other than cost of living) for 10 years. By contrast, library employees have had yearly increases: 5.4%, 8.7%, 10%....with the 2014 increase at 16%. Jon McKeon stated that the Selectmen have looked at library pay rates in comparable towns in our region and that Chesterfield pays 12% more than other libraries. Kirsti Sandy suggested our library offers more programs, another said many children go to the library after school!. Discussion ensued. Bayard Tracy called the question, seconded by Jon McKeon. The motion to call the question passed on a voice vote. The motion to add longevity pay to the library passed on a vote by paper ballot. The library line item is now \$139,928.

Darlene Smith questioned why the Parks and Rec spending for the last year was higher than budgeted. Mary White asked what was new since we started paying for a full time director. Neither the director of Parks and Recreation nor the Commission members were at Town Meeting to answer questions.

The budget as amended is \$3,031,284 and passed on a voice vote.

ARTICLE 5: A voice vote was in the affirmative on a motion made by Susan Newcomer, seconded by Bayard Tracy to see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Two Hundred and Twenty Two Thousand Two Hundred Ninety Two Dollars (\$222,292) for the purpose of resurfacing Town roads, or act in any way related thereto. This is a special warrant article per RSA 32:10 I (d).
(Recommended by the Selectmen) (Recommended by the Budget Committee)

ARTICLE 6: A voice vote was in the affirmative on a motion made by Dan Cotter, seconded from the floor, to see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Eighty Seven Thousand Dollars (\$87,000) to be added to the already established Highway Heavy Equipment Capital Reserve Fund, or act in any way related thereto.
(Recommended by the Selectmen) (Recommended by the Budget Committee)

ARTICLE 7: A voice vote was in the affirmative on a motion made by Elaine Levlocke, seconded by Dan Cotter to see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Twenty Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000) to be added to the already established Roadways Construction/Reconstruction Capital Reserve Fund, or act in any way related thereto.
(Recommended by the Selectmen) (Recommended by the Budget Committee)

ARTICLE 8: Dan Cotter made a motion, seconded by Gary Winn, to see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Twenty Thousand Dollars (\$20,000) to replace the Road Agent Pickup truck. This is a special warrant article per RSA 32:10 I (d).

(Recommended by the Selectmen) (Recommended by the Budget Committee)

Dan Cotter explained that the current vehicle has 215,000 miles on it and is in need of approximately \$15,000 in repairs so a new vehicle is a better choice. The article passed on a voice vote.

ARTICLE 9: A voice vote was in the affirmative on a motion made by Jon McKeon, seconded from the floor, to see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Thirty Thousand Dollars (\$30,000) to be added to the already established Revaluation Capital Reserve Fund, or act in any way related thereto.

(Recommended by the Selectmen) (Recommended by the Budget Committee)

ARTICLE 10: Jon McKeon made a motion, seconded by Neil Jenness, to see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000) for Town Hall Annex Engineering Study and authorize the withdrawal of up to Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000) from the Town Hall Annex Renovations Capital Reserve Fund for that purpose, or act in any way related thereto. This is a special warrant article per RSA 32:10 I (d).

(Recommended by the Selectmen) (Recommended by the Budget Committee)

Jon McKeon gave a lengthy explanation of the various proposals on offer and their costs, ranging from a complete rebuild of the annex for approximately half a million dollars, to a partial reconstruction done in stages and costing far less. Discussion ensued regarding who uses the kitchen, how much rental of the Town Hall brings in (less than \$2000 per year), whether a commercial kitchen is desirable. The article passed on a voice vote.

ARTICLE 11: Jon McKeon made a motion, seconded by Susan Newcomer, to see if the Town will vote to establish a Town Buildings Maintenance Capital Reserve Fund under the provisions of RSA 35:1 for the maintenance and upkeep of Town owned Buildings, Sidewalks & Parking Lots and to raise and appropriate the sum of Forty Thousand Dollars (\$40,000) to be placed in this fund.

(Recommended by the Selectmen) (Recommended by the Budget Committee)

Jon McKeon explained the purpose of this capital reserve fund is to have a long term plan for the upkeep and maintenance of buildings, etc. and to avoid managing by crisis. This CRF would cover **all** buildings in the town. Historically the town has spent on average \$47,500 per year on buildings. Town Meeting will still vote on what gets paid for. The article passed on a voice vote.

ARTICLE 12: Jon McKeon made a motion, seconded by Bayard Tracy, to see if the town will vote to establish a Town Buildings Maintenance Expendable Trust Fund per RSA 31:19-a, for the maintenance and upkeep of Town Buildings and to raise and appropriate Thirty Five Thousand Dollars (\$35,000) to put in the fund, with this amount to come from the unreserved fund balance; and further to name the Board of Selectmen as agents to expend from the fund.

(Recommended by the Selectmen) (Recommended by the Budget Committee)

Jon McKeon said this fund would give the Selectmen the ability to address problems as they occurred. The feeling is that no more than \$35,000 would be in the fund each year. The motion passed on a voice vote.

ARTICLE 13: Jon McKeon made a motion, seconded by Fred Rowley, to see if the Town will vote to discontinue the Town Office Building Maintenance Capital Reserve Fund created in 2012. Said funds, with accumulated interest to date of withdrawal, are to be transferred to the town's general fund. This warrant article is contingent on the passage of Warrant Article 12.

Jon McKeon noted that Articles 11, 12, 13 and 18 all go together. The article passed on a voice vote.

ARTICLE 14: A voice vote was in the affirmative on a motion made by Brad Roscoe, seconded by Fred Rowley, to see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum Twenty Three Thousand Dollars (\$23,000) to be added to the already established Police Cruiser Capital Reserve Fund, or act in any way related thereto.

(Recommended by the Selectmen) (Recommended by the Budget Committee)

ARTICLE 15: A voice vote was in the affirmative on a motion made by Brad Roscoe, seconded by Fred Rowley, to see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Eight Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$8,500) to be added to the already established Police Department Equipment Capital Reserve Fund, or act in any way related thereto.

(Recommended by the Selectmen) (Recommended by the Budget Committee)

ARTICLE 16: A voice vote was in the affirmative on a motion made by Brad Roscoe, seconded by Elaine Levlocke, to see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Four Thousand Dollars (\$4,000) for the replacement of a Light Bar for a Police Department Cruiser and authorize the withdrawal of up to Four Thousand Dollars (\$4,000) from the Police Department Equipment Capital Reserve Fund for that purpose, or act in any way related thereto. This is a special warrant article per RSA 32:10 I (d).

(Recommended by the Selectmen) (Recommended by the Budget Committee)

ARTICLE 17: Brad Roscoe made a motion, seconded by Susan Newcomer, to see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Four Thousand Eight Hundred Dollars (\$4,800) for a Mobile Dual Band Digital Radio at the Police Department and authorize the withdrawal of up to Four Thousand Eight Hundred Dollars (\$4,800) from the Police Department Equipment Capital Reserve Fund for that purpose, or act in any way related thereto. This is a special warrant article per RSA 32:10 I (d).

(Recommended by the Selectmen) (Recommended by the Budget Committee)

Chief Chickering, in response to a question, said that the current Motorola radios used by the police department are no longer made and are unrepairable. The article passed on a voice vote.

Jon McKeon made a motion, seconded by Susan Newcomer, to pass over Article 18. The motion passed on a voice vote.

ARTICLE 18: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000) to the already established Chesterfield Library Building Maintenance Expendable Trust Fund, or act in any way related thereto. If Article 12 passes, this Article will be passed over.

(Recommended by the Selectmen) (Recommended by the Budget Committee)

Steve Laskowski made a motion to consider Articles 19, 20, and 21 together. The motion passed on a voice vote. Kristin McKeon asked why the town should vote on appropriations for Parks and Recreation when no one from the Commission shows up to Town Meeting. The three Articles passed on a voice vote.

ARTICLE 19: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000) to be added to the already established Parks and Rec Pickup Truck Expendable Trust Fund, or act in any way related thereto.

(Recommended by the Selectmen) (Recommended by the Budget Committee)

ARTICLE 20: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Five Hundred Dollars (\$500) to the already established Parks and Rec 4x4 All Terrain Vehicle Capital Reserve Fund, or act in any way related thereto.

(Recommended by the Selectmen) (Recommended by the Budget Committee)

ARTICLE 21: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Five Hundred Dollars (\$500) to be added to the already established Parks and Rec Activities Enhancements Expendable Trust Fund, or act in any way related thereto.

(Recommended by the Selectmen) (Recommended by the Budget Committee)

ARTICLE 22: A voice vote was in the affirmative on a motion made by Brad Roscoe, seconded by Elaine Levlocke, to see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Three Thousand Dollars (\$3,000) to the already established Wildland Fire Suppression Expendable Trust Fund, or act in any way related thereto.

(Recommended by the Selectmen) (Recommended by the Budget Committee)

ARTICLE 23: A voice vote was in the affirmative on a motion made by Brad Roscoe, seconded by Neil Jenness, to see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Two Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$2,500) to be added to the already established Cemetery Truck Replacement Expendable Trust Fund, or act in any way related thereto.

(Recommended by the Selectmen) (Recommended by the Budget Committee)

ARTICLE 24 Brad Roscoe made a motion, seconded by Neil Jenness, to see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Two Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$2,500) to be added to the already established Cemetery Mower Replacement Expendable Trust Fund, or act in any way related thereto.

(Recommended by the Selectmen) (Recommended by the Budget Committee)

Neil Jenness explained that the mowers cost about \$7,500 and only last 3 years so they need to keep adding to the expendable trust. She added that the old mowers are traded in. The motion passed on a voice vote.

ARTICLE 25: Donna Roscoe made a motion, seconded by Susan Newcomer, to see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Five Thousand dollars (\$5,000) to perform a study on improving the broadband capability in town along Rt-9 for future business and residential needs. This is a special warrant article per RSA 32:10 I (d).

(Recommended by the Selectmen) (**NOT** Recommended by the Budget Committee)

Brad Roscoe gave an overview regarding the need for better internet service, saying it was important for business as well as for home values. He said that Article 25 was primarily for businesses while Article 26 would take in many more homeowners. Bayard Tracy responded for the Budget Committee saying they did not support the Article because internet service is vendor driven. Susan Newcomer said she was a dissenting voice on the Budget Committee; the town needs broadband. The article passed on a voice vote.

ARTICLE 26: A voice vote was in the affirmative on a motion made by Brad Roscoe, seconded by Elaine Levlocke, to see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Five Thousand dollars (\$5,000) to perform a study on improving the broadband access to residents and businesses who have less than 10 Mbps access. This is a special warrant article per RSA 32:10 I (d).

(Recommended by the Selectmen) (**NOT** Recommended by the Budget Committee)

ARTICLE 27: A voice vote was in the affirmative on a motion made by Jon McKeon, seconded by Susan Newcomer, to see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Twenty Three Thousand Four Hundred and Ninety Two Dollars (\$23,492) to support the following, or act in any way related thereto. This is a special warrant article per RSA 32:10 I (d).

Chesterfield Senior Meals program	500
Home Health, Meals on Wheels and Age in Motion	8,550
Monadnock Family Services/Mental Health	4,505
Community Kitchen	5,000
Southwestern Community Services	1,587
The Samaritans	250
Visiting Nurse Association & Hospice	500
Groundworks Collaborative	200
Monadnock Child Advocacy Center	1,000
Big Brothers Big Sisters	400
The Gathering Place	1,000

TOTAL 23,492

(Recommended by the Selectmen) (Recommended by the Budget Committee)

Jon McKeon made a motion, seconded by Neil Jenness, that the town pass-over Article 28 pending action on article 29. The motion passed on a voice vote.

ARTICLE 28: We are requesting that the Town of Chesterfield appropriate funds to either demolish or repair the abandoned temporary police headquarters in Spofford Village. The existing building is an eyesore, a potential safety hazard and detraction from the quaintness of Spofford Village. Furthermore, we would like this issue to be voted on by the townspeople in March, 2016 at the annual meeting. Thank you for your consideration.

[Inserted by Petition]

ARTICLE 29: Jon McKeon made a motion, seconded by Bayard Tracy, to see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum Fourteen Thousand Dollars (\$14,000) to Deconstruct the town-owned building located at 400 Route 9A in Spofford Village in response to the petitioned warrant article number 28, or act in any way related thereto. This is a special warrant article per RSA 32:10 I (d).

(Recommended by the Selectmen) **(NOT Recommended by the Budget Committee)**

Jon McKeon explained that the building is falling in on itself and becoming a hazard. Neil Jenness said it is the last building left of an industrial site in the Village. The motion passed on a voice vote.

ARTICLE 30: Richard Diesl made a motion, seconded by Bayard Tracy, to see if the Town will vote to discontinue Bennett Road, so-called, as a highway in the Town of Chesterfield, New Hampshire.

[Inserted by Petition]

Attorney Bragden, representing Richard Diesl, offered that everyone on the road has a deeded right of way and that 4 out of 5 residents want it to be a private drive. He said that legally there is not much difference between a class 6 road and a private road. Joe Warhall who resides at the end of Bennett Road went over its history and problems and is against the article. Discussion ensued regarding the effect on property values, the towns role in private landowner disputes and what making the road private would do to the Warhalls. The motion failed on a paper ballot vote.

Dan Cotter made a motion, seconded by Steve Laskowski, to limit reconsideration. The motion passed on a voice vote.

ARTICLE 31: Brad Roscoe made a motion, seconded from the floor, to see if the Town will vote to adopt the following Ordinance to provide easy identification of residential and commercial locations for emergency services:

Many emergency services to Chesterfield, NH are contracted to organizations outside of Chesterfield and that their personnel are not intimately familiar with all locations in town. Therefore, in order to provide easy identification of residential and commercial locations to these emergency services, the Town of Chesterfield, NH enacts the following Building Number Display Ordinance.

1) All residential and commercial lots with one or more structures shall have approved address numbers (assigned by the Town of Chesterfield) placed in a position that is plainly legible and visible from the street or road fronting the property. The number shall be placed in such a position as to be plainly visible to all road traffic coming to the premise from both directions. All numbers shall be Arabic numbers with a

minimum stroke width of 0.5 inches and have contrasting colors with their background. Either the number or the background shall be reflective. The owner of each lot is ultimately responsible for the posting.

2) All buildings within 50 feet of the street or road, shall display upon the front of each dwelling the distinctive street number assigned to that premise. These numbers shall be no less than four inches in height.

3) If a building is more than 50 feet from the street, is not clearly visible from the road, or if the owner prefers this option, the owner shall place or display adjacent to the road on which the property fronts,

a sign with the distinctive street number assigned to that premise attached to a fence, mail box, or post. These numbers shall be no less than three inches in height. The sign must be placed at a height to assure it does not become obscured by winter snows or snowplowing.

Violations and Penalties:

Failure to display house numbers by October 1, 2016 shall be considered a violation of this ordinance and shall subject such violator the penalties hereinafter provided. In the case of new construction, a letter of certificate of occupancy will not be issued prior to the adherence of this ordinance.

Any person who violates any provision of this Ordinance is responsible for a municipal civil infraction of \$50 for the first occurrence. If the condition is not corrected in the next 3 months, an additional municipal civil infraction of \$100 will be made. Every subsequent 3 months of non-conformance will be an additional municipal civil infraction of \$200.

If, after meeting the requirements of this Ordinance, the house numbers are removed, destroyed, or otherwise no longer visible by no fault of the owner, then the owner will be given 3 months to meet the requirements of this Ordinance before she/he is found to be in violation of it.

Bayard Tracy asked if these need to be reflective like highway signs. Neil Jenness felt people shouldn't be told what to do. Tim Butterworth asked if it would be required on all buildings or dwellings?

Chief Duane Chickering asked for town support of the article.

Bayard Tracy offered an amendment, seconded by James Corliss, to strike the next to the last sentence in paragraph in paragraph 1. regarding reflectiveness. The amendment passed on a voice vote.

Ken Walton offered an amendment, seconded by Jay VanStechelman, to change the fine structure from 50/100/200 dollars to 25/50/100 dollars. The amendment passed on a voice vote.

The vote on Article 31 as amended was by a show of hands and the article passed.

ARTICLE 32: A voice vote was in the affirmative on a motion made by Brad Roscoe, seconded by Jon McKeon, to see if the Town will vote to allow the Board of Selectmen to dispose of municipal assets by sealed bid, or by other means as deemed appropriate, or act in any way related thereto. The article passed on a voice vote.

ARTICLE 33: To transact any other business that may legally come before this meeting.

Jeff Scott offered a resolution saying that the Town of Chesterfield stands in support of our neighboring towns in fighting the Kinder-Morgan pipeline. Brad Roscoe spoke against, saying a pipeline—and natural gas—is the most environmentally sound alternative. Discussion ensued.. The resolution passed on a show of hands.

The Bake Sale students were thanked for their tasty efforts

Moderator Pro Tem Gary Winn declared the meeting adjourned at 3:08 p.m.

The results of ballots cast under Article 1 are as follows:

SELECTMAN (1)
NORMAN VANCOR 189

TREASURER (1)
EDWARD CHEEVER 203

TAX COLLECTOR (1)
ELIZABETH BENJAMIN 196

SUPERVISOR OF CHECKLIST (1)
EDWARD CHEEVER 202

MODERATOR (1)
REBECCA TODD 104
MICHAEL BENTLEY 103

BUDGET COMMITTEE (3)
DANIEL COTTER 199
DOUGLAS FOSTER* 16
DAVE SMITH* 2

LIBRARY TRUSTEE (3)
DAVID SMITH 196
KIRSTI SANDY* 26
JILL DUMONT* 25

TRUSTEE OF TRUST FUNDS (1)
CHRISTINE PRAH 189

CEMETERY COMMISSION (2)
PATRICIA PORTER 193
CORNELIA JENNESS 189

* Asterisk indicates a write-in candidate.

The results of ballots cast under Article 2 are as follows:

1.) Are you in favor of adoption of Amendment #1 as proposed by the Planning Board for the Town Zoning Ordinances, as follows:

To add a new Section 401.2 H, to read:

401.2 H

In addition to the cumulative business signage, a single open flag no larger than three feet by five feet may be used with no cumulative effect on total signage allowed.

(Recommended by the Planning Board)

YES 182 NO 31

2.) Are you in favor of adoption of Amendment #2 as proposed by the Planning Board for the Town Zoning Ordinances, as follows:

207.4 –Current Language:

Shared driveways are allowed for maximum of two conforming lots. Such access and maintenance agreements shall be deeded to both lots. Shared driveways may cross side setbacks.

Proposed language follows with new wording in italics:

207.4

A shared driveway is allowed for a maximum of two conforming lots. *Shared driveway must cross front setback of first conforming lot and shall cross the side setback to reach the second conforming lot.* Such access and maintenance agreements shall be deeded on both lots.
(Recommended by the Planning Board)

YES 147 **NO 59**

3.) Are you in favor of adoption of Amendment #3 as proposed by the Planning Board for the Town Zoning Ordinances, as follows:

207.4 C—Current Language:

A. Front Yard: Driveways may cross the front yard spaces established by the front setback requirements.

Proposed language follows with new wording in italics:

207.4 C

A. Front Yard: Driveways *shall commence from the front setback of a lot and shall* cross the front yard spaces established by the front setback requirements.

(Recommended by the Planning Board)

YES 116 **NO 42**

Chesterfield has 2767 registered voters.

216 citizens, <8% of eligible voters, cast ballots for town officers and on zoning questions.

114 citizens, slightly more than 4% of voters, made all the spending decisions for the town.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Girs
Town Clerk