

TOWN OF LISBON, NEW HAMPSHIRE

2020

TOWN MEETING WARRANT

**To the inhabitants of the Town of Lisbon in the
County of Grafton in the State of New Hampshire
Qualified to vote in town affairs.**

**You are hereby notified and warned to meet at
Lisbon Regional School in said Town of Lisbon,
New Hampshire on Tuesday the Tenth day of
March 2020 at ten o' clock in the forenoon at which
time the polls shall open and not close earlier than
seven o' clock in the evening to act upon the
following subjects. All Articles except Article 1 and 3
are to be considered at seven o' clock in the
evening at the Annual Town Meeting.**

Date: March 10, 2020

Time: 10 AM POLLS OPEN; 7:00 PM TOWN MEETING

Location: LISBON REGIONAL SCHOOL

Article 01 Elect

To choose all necessary Town Officers for the ensuing year.

**Scott Champagne – Selectman (Three Year)
Town Clerk – Audrey Champagne (One Year)
Tax Collector – Audrey Champagne (One Year)
Lindsey Champagne – Supervisor of Checklist (Six Year)
Katie Choate – Treasurer (Two Year)
Donald H. Clark – Trustee of Trust Funds (Three Year)
Sandra Roberts – Library Trustee (Three Year)
Juliet Born – Library Trustee (Three Year)
Erika Kwiatkowski – Library Trustee (One year)**

Article 02 Hear Reports

To hear reports of agents and special committees heretofore chosen and pass any vote related thereto.

The Moderator notified the public that the meeting is being recorded. He explained that all reports are in the Town report and asked if anybody had any questions.

Article 03

Zoning

To see if the Town will vote to adopt Amendment No. 1 as proposed by the Planning Board for the town zoning ordinance as follows:

Amendment No. 1 would provide for uniformity of lot sizes within Districts A, B, C and D by taking the minimum lot size, frontage and setback currently applied to residential uses and applying the same requirements to all uses (Table 5.8). In the Industrial District, the minimum lot size for residential uses would be 80,000.00 sq. ft; all other uses in the Industrial District would remain 200,000.00 sq. ft.

To see if the Town will vote to adopt Amendment No. 2 as proposed by the Planning Board for the town zoning ordinance as follows:

Amendment No. 2 would add a definition for “Animal Husbandry” to Article I and provide stricter controls on commercial animal husbandry. Commercial animal husbandry would be prohibited in the village center (Districts B & C) and would require a Special Exception from the ZBA in the remainder of town (Districts A, D, and I) (Article V). Special Exception criteria for animal husbandry would be added to Section 8.3.

To see if the Town will vote to adopt Amendment No. 3 as proposed by the Planning Board for the town zoning ordinance as follows:

Amendment No. 3 would create a Shoreland Protection Overlay District to protect a 25-foot vegetated buffer along all perennial streams. In this 25-foot buffer only water-dependent structures; roads, driveways and utilities; and limited removal of vegetation would be allowed. New sections would be added to Section 3.2 Overlay Districts and to Article IV Overlay District Regulations; and several new definitions would be added to Article I.

To see if the Town will vote to adopt Amendment No. 4 as proposed by the Planning Board for the town zoning ordinance as follows:

Amendment No. 4 would create a Wetlands Conservation Overlay District to protect wetlands contiguous to perennial streams and a 25-foot buffer. In these wetlands and their buffers uses consistent with wetland protection would be allowed, some activities would be prohibited, and certain specific uses would be allowed with a Conditional Use Permit from the Planning Board. New sections would be added to Section 3.2 and Article IV; and several new definitions would be added to Article I.

To see if the Town will vote to adopt Amendment No. 5 as proposed by the Planning Board for the town zoning ordinance as follows:

Amendment No. 5 would strengthen the existing Flood Hazard Area Overlay District and incorporate mapped Erosion Hazard Areas. Land use would be managed to protect the functions of the floodplain and to protect public safety, property, and water quality. Section 3.2.2 would be expanded; Section 4.1 would be reworded to include only the Pearl Lake Conservation District; and Section 4.2 would be replaced in its entirety.

To see if the Town will vote to adopt Amendment No. 6 as proposed by the Planning Board for the town zoning ordinance as follows:

Amendment No. 6 would provide the option of housing clustered on a single lot in the for of an Open Space Planned Residential Development (OSPRD) to expand housing choices and protect open space. OSPRD would be added to the Table of District Uses as new section 5.2.6, a Conditional Use in Districts A, B, C, and D requiring Planning Board approval. A new section would be added to Article VII; Article VII would be renamed accordingly.

To see if the Town will vote to adopt Amendment No. 7 as proposed by the Planning Board for the town zoning ordinance as follows:

Amendment No. 7 would make several changes to the Table of District Uses in Article V. In District A, Contractor Yard would be added as a Permitted use. In District C, Restaurants and Indoor Commercial Recreation Facilities would be added as Special Exceptions. In District D, Public and Private camping areas, Open storage of lumber, building materials and timber and Planing Mills, Sawmills, and Lumber Treatment would be changed from Special Exceptions to Permitted, Contractor Yards would be added as a use allowed by Special Exception; and Manufacturing, Research and Testing Labs would be prohibited. In District I, Indoor Commercial Recreation Facilities would be added as a Permitted use; and Restaurants, Personal Service Establishments, Service Stations, and Above Ground Fuel Storage would be allowed as Special Exceptions.

The Moderator read the Article and explained that this was on the ballot.

Yes 89 NO 46 Article Passed

Article 04 Retaining Wall

To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$95,000 (gross budget) for the purpose of resurfacing/capping the retaining wall located off Water Street in front of the Town Hall, and to authorize the issuance of not more that \$95,000 of bonds or notes in accordance with the provisions of the Municipal Finance Act (RSA 33) and to authorize the municipal officials to issue and negotiate such bonds or notes and to determine the rate of interest thereon; and to further raise and appropriate the sum of \$23,000 for the first years payment of principal and interest on said bond or note. The Board of Selectmen recommends this Article. (2/3 ballot vote required)

Moved by Scott Champagne, seconded by Arthur Boutin. Scott champagne explained that the Dam operators will be capping the Dam within the next year. He advised that this would be an ideal time to resurface the retaining wall at the same time. The wall is structurally good, but cracking. They have received two estimates, \$130,000.00 and \$90,000.00. The tax impact if this article were to pass would be .20

John Northrop Jr. asked if the Dam company will take care of the Dam costs? S. Champagne advised yes.

Barry Lucas- The town is not responsible for the Dam, just the retaining wall? S. Champagne, yes. Would the Town use a local contractor? S. Champagne, yes.

Tom White-There is a lot of history surrounding the town and the Dam. He believes that there is a requirement that water always needs to be running over the Dam. Has the Selectboard looked at this? Are they aware of this? S. Champagne, the Selectboard will investigate this.

Greg Jesseman – Suggests that the Selectboard speak to NH Fish and Game as well as DES to see how a lack of water going over the Dam may affect the river. Will there be an engineering study? S. Champagne and the Dam company have discussed engineering. The Dam company has engineers on staff.

John Northrop made a motion to move the question, seconded by Nina Brown

YES 42 NO 23 Article failed

Article 05

One-ton pickup truck

To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$79,000 (gross budget) for the purpose of a one-ton pickup truck with stainless, steel body, sander and plow for the Highway Department, and to authorize the issuance of not more than \$79,000 of bonds or notes in accordance with the provisions of the Municipal Finance Act (RSA 33) and to authorize the municipal officials to issue and negotiate such bonds or notes and to determine the rate of interest thereon; and to further raise and appropriate \$30,000 for the first years payment of principal and interest on said bonds or notes. The Board of Selectmen recommends this Article. (2/3 ballot vote required)

Moved by Scott Champagne, seconded by Arthur Boutin S. Champagne advised that there would be a .26 tax impact if this Article were to pass and then introduced Charlie Hampson to explain the Article. This truck would replace a 2012 one-ton Ford. The 2012 Ford has a tender frame. The new truck would be used for side roads.

Barry Lucas- What color? C. Hampson, white.

YES 55 NO 9 Article Passed

Article 06

Forestry Truck

To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$37,000 (gross budget) for the purpose of purchasing a Fire Department "forestry truck", and to authorize the issuance of not more than \$37,000 of bonds or notes in accordance with the provisions of the Municipal Finance Act (RSA 33) and to authorize the municipal officials to issue and negotiate such bonds or notes and to determine the rate of interest thereon; and further to raise and appropriate \$14,000 for the first years payment of principal and interest on said bond or note. The Board of Selectmen recommends this Article. (2/3 ballot vote required)

Moved by Arthur Boutin, seconded by Scott Champagne

S. Champagne advised that this vehicle would be financed for three years and would impact the tax rate by .12. He then introduced Fire Chief, Greg Hartwell to explain the Article. Chief Hartwell explained that this truck would replace a 1981

Forestry Diesel Truck. The current Forestry truck is using more Anti-Freeze than Diesel. The equipment from the old truck would be transferred from the old truck to the new. The truck would be used as a Forestry truck and a Utility truck.

YES 50 NO 11 Article Passed

Article 07 Operating Budget

To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$2,162,443 for general municipal operations. This article does not include appropriations contained in special or individual articles addressed separately. The Board of Selectmen recommend this Article. (Majority vote required)

General Administration	\$91,923.00
TAX COLLECTION, ELECTION, REG & VITALS	\$87,975.00
FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATION	\$68,740.00
REVALUATION OF PROPERTY	\$53,500.00
LEGAL EXPENSE	\$10,000.00
PLANNING & ZONING	\$6,180.00
GENERAL GOVERNMENT BUILDINGS	\$60,200.00
CEMETRIES	\$17,650.00
INSURANCE OTHERWISE NOT ALLOCATED	\$58,500.00
ADVERTISING & REGIONAL ASSOCIATIONS	\$3,300.00
POLICE DEPARTMENT	\$346,240.00
FIRE DEPARTMENT	\$93,485.00
LIFE SQUAD	\$51,480.00
BUILDING INSPECTION/CODE ENFORCEMENT	\$17,000.00
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT	\$5,000.00
PUBLIC SERVICE-DISPATCH & COMM	\$46,400.00
HIGHWAY & STREETS	\$542,140.00
STREET LIGHTING	\$14,000.00
SOLID WASTE DISPOSAL	\$232,090.00
WELFARE	\$17,400.00
PARKS & RECREATION	\$17,000.00
PUBLIC LIBRARY	\$60,722.00
PATROTIC PURPOSES	\$1,000.00
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT	\$10,000.00
LONG TERM BONDS & NOTES	\$109,668.00
INTEREST ON LONG TERM NOTES	\$35,250.00
INTEREST ON TAX ANTICIPATION NOTE	\$5,000.00
ROAD IMPROVEMENTS	\$100,000.00
HEALTH ADMIN	\$600.00
TOTAL OF \$2,162,443.00	

The Moderator explained that he would go through the Budget by line items.

Tom Demers – Why has the General Administration line item increased? S. Champagne advised that the Selectboard have budgeted \$750.00 per month for a working Selectman. This individual will work on grants and be the contact for the day to day town issues that may arise. The town has recently received a Grant to assist with the costs of finding a new water source for the town. The other increase is due to The Town Administrative Assistant receiving a pay increase. She will be taking on more responsibilities having to do with Water/Sewer.

Tommy Demers – If the Grant for a new water source goes through than when would a new source be found. S. Champagne explained the process and stated that the town is working with Horizons.

Tom White – What is the difference between the Road Improvement line item and the Highway and Streets line item. S. Champagne stated that the Road Improvement line covers paving and the Highway and Streets line item covers general care. What streets are being considered for paving this summer? C. Hampson states, Bath Road, Depot Street, Witcher and Armstrong.

John Northrop Jr. – Do you expect that it will take a whole lot of hours to administer the Grant? S. Champagne, yes and the time required of the Selectman has increased over the past couple of years because the town does not have a Town Administrator.

John Northrop Jr. - Fair salary for work done correct? S. Champagne, yes.

Juliete Born – I am new to the town. What is the venue for citizens to see detailed budget? S. Champagne advised that the detailed budget is always available at the Budget Hearings. There were two this year. One in January and one in February.

Barry Lucas – Solid Waste disposal. Does the cost of the trash bags cover the cost of disposal? S. Champagne, no, it does not. The cost increase in this line item is due to the increased trucking cost.

Tom Demers – What paving companies does the town use? C. Hampson, Black Top and Pike.

Ayes have it, Article passed

Article 08 Wastewater Budget

To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$237,070 for the operation and maintenance of the Lisbon Wastewater Department operations. Funds to be raised from user fees and no amount to come from taxation. The Board of Selectmen recommends this Article. (Majority vote required)

Moved by Scott Champagne, seconded by Arthur Boutin

Ayes have it, Article passed

Article 09 Water Department Budget

To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$195,750 for the operation of the Lisbon Water Department. Funds are to be raised from user fees, no funds from taxation. The Board of Selectmen recommends this Article. (Majority vote required)

**Moved by Scott Champagne, seconded by Arthur Boutin
Barry Lucas – How many users? S. Champagne 320**

Ayes have it, Article passed

Article 10 Fund Capital Reserve Accounts

To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$52,000 to be added to the following Capital Reserve Funds previously established:

Highway Equipment	\$10,000
Fire Equipment and Building	\$5,000
Police Equipment	\$5,000
Life Squad	\$5,000
Transfer Station Equipment	\$5,000
Master Plan Update	\$7,000
Town Bridge Maintenance/Replacement	\$15,000

**Moved by Scott Champagne, seconded by Arthur Boutin
S. Champagne – money to put into Capital Reserve Funds for future equipment purchases.**

Tom Simpson: Are there balances in these accounts? S. Champagne, yes, the balances are listed in the book.

Tom Demers – Any other red listed bridges besides Plains Road? S. Champagne, no new ones have been listed.

Ayes have it, Article passed

Article 11 Spatial Recompilation

To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$22,700 for the purpose of spatial recompilation of parcels in the Town of Lisbon. Work to be completed by Cartographic Associates Inc. dba CAI Technologies. The Board of Selectmen recommends this Article. (Majority vote required)

**Moved by Scott Champagne, seconded by Arthur Boutin
S. Champagne, the money raised by this article will be used to match up our printed tax maps with what show online. If this article passes there will be a tax increase of .19**

Ayes have it, Article passed

Article 12 Community Service Agencies

To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$13,600 for the purpose of funding for the following Community Service Agencies. The Board of Selectmen recommends this Article.

North Country Home Health/ Hospice	\$2,000
Burch House	\$500
Tri County Community Action/Energy	\$3,000
Grafton County Seniors	\$2,000
Lisbon Main Street Program	\$3,000
Tri-County Transit	\$500
Waypoint	\$300
CASA	\$300
Homeless Intervention Prevention	\$500
Ammonoosuc Community Health	\$1,000
Bridges-Vet Home	\$500
TOTAL	\$13,600

Arthur Boutin

Rosalind Paige – What is Way Point, CASA? Way Point and CASA work with the Courts on behalf of children and families.

Donna Northrop – Does the Bridges Vet Home assist Veterans in our town? S. Champagne, yes

Ayes have it, Article passed

Article 13 Roller

To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$20,000 for the purpose of purchasing a used roller for use by the Highway Department for Town, Water and Sewer projects and authorize the withdrawal of \$2,000 from the Highway Department Expendable Trust Fund created for that purpose. The balance of \$18,000 is to come from the water department (\$10,000) and wastewater department (\$8,000) funds. The Board of Selectmen recommends this Article. (Majority vote required)

Moved by Scott Champagne, seconded by Arthur Boutin

S. Champagne – our Highway Dept. does all the maintenance on the Water/Sewer lines. This item would be used for the maintenance of the Water/Sewer lines as well as the roads. Tom White – Would the roller be used 90% of the time for Water/Sewer and 10% on roads?

S. McKinley – This piece of equipment would be important for the in-town roads as well as the out of town roads.

Barry Lucas – over the years the Town Highway has done a lot of Water/Sewer work without compensations? C. Hampson, yes.

Ayes have it, Article passed

Article 14 Discontinue SRF

To see if the town will vote to discontinue the 2012 Lisbon Life Squad Revolving Equipment Account 25/75, said funds, with accumulated interest to date of withdrawal, to be transferred to the town's General Fund. Passing of this article is contingent upon the passage of article #15 and article #16. The Board of Selectmen recommends this Article. (Majority vote required)

**Moved by Scott Champagne, seconded by Arthur Boutin
S. Champagne advised that this article and the next two are all connected.**

Ayes have it, Article passed

Article 15 Discontinue SRF

To see if the town will vote to discontinue the 2014 Lisbon Life Squad Revolving Transfers Account 50/50, said funds, with accumulated interest to date of withdrawal, to be transferred to the town's General Fund. Passing of this article is contingent upon the passage of article #14 and article #16. The Board of Selectmen recommends this Article. (Majority vote required)

Moved by Scott Champagne, seconded by Arthur Boutin

Ayes have it, Article passed

Article 16 Establish

To see if the town will vote to establish a revolving fund pursuant to RSA 31:95-h for the purpose of funding the operation and maintenance of the Lisbon EMS formally known as the Lisbon Life Squad and to henceforth deposit 50% of the revenues generated from charges for ambulance service into said fund and to raise and appropriate the sum of (\$32,050) from the General Fund unreserved fund balance to be placed in this fund. The money in this fund shall be allowed to accumulate from year to year and shall not be considered part of the town's General Fund unreserved fund balance. The Selectmen shall be authorized as agents to expend and accept monies from this and to this fund. Furthermore, the town treasurer shall have custody of all monies in the fund and shall pay out the same only upon order of the governing body and no further approval is required by the legislative body to expend. Such funds may be expended only for the purpose for which the fund was created. Passage of this article is contingent upon the passage of article #14 and article #15. The Board of Selectmen recommends this Article. (Majority vote required)

Moved by Scott Champagne, seconded by Arthur Boutin

EMS Chief Dave Combs gave the details on the amounts of revenue that Lisbon EMS has brought in over the past 5 years. He explained that by putting more of the revenue back into EMS that the department should not have to come back to the town to help cover the full costs of a new truck, new monitor or new stretcher. The three most expensive pieces of equipment that the department has.

John Northrop Jr. – Who is the Governing Body? S. Champagne, the Selectboard. The Departments are required to come to the Selectboard if they would like to make any purchase over \$5000.00.

Don Butson – Is the Lisbon EMS trying to become self-sufficient? Dave Combs, no. Will the Capital Reserve accounts continue if this account is approved? S. Champagne, the Selectboard will evaluate each year.

Ayes have it, Article passed

Article 17 Combine Positions

To see if the town will vote to approve the adoption of RSA 41:45-a to create the combined office of Town Clerk-Tax Collector. If approved, the effective date of this office shall be town meeting 2021, at which time the position would be filled by election to a three (3) year term.

Moved by Arthur Boutin, seconded by Scott Champagne

Jennifer Trelfa upon her retirement realized that the town had never combined the Town Clerk/Tax Collector position. Although it has always been voted on as two separate offices it operates as one. There is only one budget. Jennifer Trelfa submitted a letter requesting that these two offices be combined and voted on as one office.

Barry Lucas- Would there be any changes in qualifications for the individual in the office if put together? S. Champagne, no.

Ayes have it, Article passed

Article 18 Non-binding inquiry of use of Town Hall

To see if the voters of Lisbon prefer to rehab and make handicap accessible the current Town Building, or explore moving Town Offices, Administrative Assistant and Town Clerk/Tax Collector to the Old Ross Funeral Home at 151 S. Main Street.

Moved by Scott Champagne, seconded by Arthur Boutin

S. Champagne explained the pros and cons to staying in the current building or moving to the Ross Funeral Home Property. The Selectboard is looking for input from the public. The Selectboard would like to have a proposal ready for next year.

John Northrop – When he was on the Selectboard they completed some studies on the current building. They determined that there is no available land for a proper ramp. An elevator may be possible from the garage, but it would be very expensive. The bathrooms are not handicap accessible.

Heather Walker – Does the Ross building belong to the town? S. Champagne, yes

Greg Jesseman – Money will either need to go to the Ross Funeral Home or stay at the Town Hall? I believe the Historical Society should be contacted to see what money might be available to pay for renovations to the Town Hall. It is the heart of the town and it would be a shame for it to no longer be used.

Steve Walker – What happens to the town building and does the Town Hall have to be handicapped accessible for the biddy programs?

Nina Brown – Should investigate both options, but the stairs are not safe.

Tom Demers – Feasibility study for both projects?

John Northrop Jr. – Create committee to look at both options? S. Champagne, we would love to see a committee formed, but it is very difficult to get volunteers.

Ayes have it, Article passed.

Article 19 Transact other business

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

J. Northrop – Like to thank the Board for all their work.

S. Champagne – Thanks to Dave Trahan for acting as our Moderator.

Ayes have it. Meeting closed at 9:09 pm.

**A True Copy, Attest
Town Clerk
Audrey Champagne**