

TOWN MEETING MINUTES
March 13, 2012
Plainfield, New Hampshire

The annual meeting for the Town of Plainfield was held at the Plainfield Elementary School on Bonner Road on March 13, 2012. Moderator Paul Franklin opened the meeting at 8:00 am with the reading of Article I. Michelle Marsh made a motion to dispense with the reading of the warrant, seconded by Robin Marsh. The warrant will be read on Saturday, March 17, 2012.

Total Number on Checklist: 1439
Total Number of Ballots Cast: 214
Percentage of Voting: 15%

ARTICLE 1. To choose by ballot: One Select board member for three years, one Trustee of the Trust Funds for three years, two Library Trustees for three years, one Cemetery Trustee for three years, one Supervisor of the Checklist for six years and any other necessary town officers.

Select board Member for three years:

Robert Taylor had 199 votes.

Write In: Beverly Widger had 2 votes.

Robert Taylor was declared elected.

Trustee of the Trust Funds for three years:

Donald Garfield had 207 votes.

Donald Garfield was declared elected.

Two Library Trustees for three years:

Hillary Sundell had 181 votes.

Kimberly Moss had 164 votes.

Write In: Dennis Girouard had 4 votes.

Hillary Sundell and **Kimberly Moss** were declared elected.

Supervisor of the Checklist for six years:

Harold Jones had 205 votes.

Harold Jones was declared elected.

Cemetery Trustee for three years:

James L. Taylor had 208 votes.

James L. Taylor was declared elected.

On Saturday, March 17, 2012 Moderator Paul Franklin re-opened the meeting at the Plainfield Elementary School at 10:00am. The meeting began with words of inspiration given by Rev. Harold “Dewey” Jones followed by a salute to the flag and the singing of My Country Tis of Thee.

Moderator Franklin asked for a moment of silence in memory of Howard Zea who served more than 58 years in combined services for the Town of Plainfield.

Selectmen Robert Taylor awarded the 2012 Stephen H. Taylor Community Service Award to Nancy Norwalk. Nancy’s service spans more than 40 years and includes 35 years as librarian at Phillip Read Memorial Library, serving on the town hall committee for both building renovations, Maxfield Parish Stage Set Committee, co editing Plainfacts and the Plainfield history book. Nancy also volunteered her time and service to the local 4-H groups, 4th of July Parade, Town genealogy, Historical Society, Plainfield Elementary School and most recently to the towns very successful 250th Anniversary celebration. Thank You Nancy! A standing ovation was received.

Moderator Franklin introduced the town officials and explained the rules of the meeting. Stephen Taylor made a motion to dispense with the reading of the entire warrant and proceed to Article 2. His motion was seconded and passed unanimously by a voice vote.

ARTICLE 2.

Stephen Halleran offered the following resolution and moved its adoption:

Resolved that the town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$1,938,093** to defray town charges for the 2012 fiscal year. Judy Belyea seconded the motion.

1. Executive	\$178,210
2. Election/Registration/Vital Statistics	5,130
3. Financial Administration	64,500
4. Revaluation of Property	8,000
5. Legal Expenses	5,100
6. Personnel Administration	5,700
7. Planning and Zoning	1,200
8. General Government Buildings	5,025
9. Cemeteries	28,000
10. Insurance	35,700
11. Regional Associations	5,100
12. Police Department	332,478
13. Ambulance Service	28,500
14. Fire Departments -Plainfield	45,000
-Meriden	40,000
15. Building Inspection	7,400
16. Emergency Management	250
17. Hydrant & Forest Fire Expense	4,100
18. Dispatching for Fire, Police & Ambulance	20,000
19. Highway Administration	23,800
20. Highways and Streets	601,800
21. Road Projects	103,163
22. Street Lights	8,500
23. Solid Waste Collection	143,500
24. Solid Waste Disposal	49,810
25. Health Agencies	21,195
26. Animal Control	500

27. Welfare	5,250
28. Recreation Commission	17,300
29. Library Department	111,149
30. Patriotic	1,000
31. Conservation Commission	500
32. Principal Long-term debt	25,000
33. Interest Long-term debt	6,233
Total:	\$ 1,938,093

Moderator Franklin recognized Town Administrator Stephen Halleran who took a moment to thank Jerry Doolittle for his 20 years of helping create our annual town report. Jerry and Martha sold Doolittle Print and Serve this year and Jerry has retired but not before creating one final cover for our annual report. Thank You Jerry! A round of applause followed.

Stephen Halleran reflected on the past year. Reporting on various projects including Brook Road, Our new Zero sort recycling program and the upgraded technology in the Police Department. He also looked back at the winter when we actually got snow and used an unexpected large amount of fuel. When Irene presented herself, she caused some delay in the Brook Road project but that work will be completed this year with the remaining grant monies.

Steve reported that the town had a Wage and Salary study conducted which hadn't been done since 1993. He also stated that the town will undergo a property revaluation in 2013 following the every five year requirement.

Steve thanked all the departments for their hard work above and beyond after Irene hit and also gave a thank you to Al Grindle for his continued good work and efforts with the town welfare program as well as the monthly senior luncheons.

Questions were asked and answered.

A vote by paper ballot was taken.

Yes 123 No 11

It was a vote in the affirmative, the resolution was adopted and so declared.

ARTICLE 3.

Selectwoman Judy Belyea offered the following motion and moved its adoption:

Resolved that the town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$152,500** to be placed in existing town capital reserve and general trust funds, pursuant to RSA 35:1 and RSA 31:19-a as follows:

RSA 35:1 funds:

\$30,000	Revaluation Fund created in 1993.
\$50,000	Highway Vehicles Fund created in 1987.
\$55,000	Transportation Improvement Fund created in 2006.
\$5,000	ADA Access Fund created in 2003
\$5,000	Police Equipment Fund created in 2011

RSA 31:19a funds:

\$5,000	Town Hall Repair Fund established in 1996.
\$2,500	Library Building Repair Fund established in 1992.

Thomas Williams, Jr. seconded the motion.

A vote by paper ballot was taken.

Yes 113 No 14

It was a vote in the affirmative, the resolution was adopted and so declared.

ARTICLE 4:

Selectman Thomas Williams, Jr. offered the following motion and moved its adoption:

Resolved, that the town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$155,000** for the purchase of a new dump truck with plow equipment to be used by the highway department, and to authorize the selectmen to withdraw up to the sum of \$155,000 from the Highway Vehicle Capital Reserve Fund created in 1987 pursuant to RSA 35:1 and to further authorize the selectmen to sell or trade the town's existing 1995 dump truck. Robert Taylor seconded the motion.

Selectman Williams explained that the motion was read with a figure of \$9,500.00 more than the original article to allow for a truck that has a built in sander which they feel would last longer.

Discussion followed.

A vote by paper ballot was taken.

Yes 120 No 11

It was a vote in the affirmative, the resolution was adopted and so declared.

ARTICLE 5:

Selectman Robert Taylor offered the following resolution and moved its adoption:

That the town vote to ratify a five year lease negotiated by the Board of Selectmen of property located at 67 Ferry Hill Road (also known as tax map 258 lot 11) and to further raise and appropriate the sum of **\$12,000** for this purpose. Judy Belyea seconded the motion.

Selectman Taylor spoke to the motion on the floor explaining how the property came up for sale and the reasons why the purchase makes a lot of sense. He pointed out that at the end of the five year lease, the land would be ours and that the deed has already been written and is being held by the attorney.

A vote by paper ballot was taken.

Yes 126 No 7

It was a vote in the affirmative, the resolution was adopted and so declared.

ARTICLE 6:

Selectwoman Judy Belyea offered the following resolution and moved its adoption:

That the town, pursuant to RSA 35:1, vote to establish a gravel pit reclamation capital reserve fund for the purpose of the future closing of the town's existing gravel pit on Ferry Hill Road and appropriate the sum of **\$5,000** for this purpose. Thomas Williams, Jr. seconded the motion.

Selectwoman Belyea explained we will add to the fund on a yearly basis so that when the current working pit is exhausted, we will have funds to support an effort to close it and turn it into a field.

A vote by paper ballot was taken.

Yes 121 No 10

It was a vote in the affirmative, the resolution was adopted and so declared.

ARTICLE 7:

Steve Taylor offered the following motion and moved its adoption:

That the town vote to establish the last Sunday of August as Plainfield Spirit Day to celebrate our town history and traditions; that the moderator be instructed to appoint a committee of not more than nine persons to organize 2012 Spirit Day activities; and that the sum of **\$1,000** be raised and appropriated for said purpose (by request). Stephen Halleran seconded the motion.

Steve Taylor and Margaret Drye gave a recap of and spoke to the recent success of the 250th anniversary celebration. A round of applause was given to all of the committee members. A thank you went out to Rod Wendt for the slide show that was projected at this time and during breaks throughout the town meeting. With a community full of spirit and enthusiasm it seems fitting to have a gathering each year when we can come together to celebrate the end of summer with a corn roast and fireworks display.

A vote by voice was taken.

“Aye” all “No” none

It was a vote in the affirmative, the resolution was adopted and so declared.

ARTICLE 8:

John Yacavone offered the following motion and moved its adoption:

That the town vote to increase the real estate exemption on dormitories, dining rooms, and kitchens of Kimball Union Academy above the required \$150,000 as allowed in RSA 72:23, to eighty (80) percent of the assessed value of property over which the town has statutory discretion. Jim Gray seconded the motion.

Mr. Yacavone spoke to the motion on the table by using a power point presentation. The ongoing supportive relationship between the town and school was discussed. Steve Halleran gave information as to how other towns who have private schools located in them deal with this issue. Discussion followed with thoughtful questions being asked and answered.

A vote by paper ballot was taken.

Yes 79 No 45

It was a vote in the affirmative, the resolution was adopted and so declared.

ARTICLE 9:

Selectman Thomas Williams, Jr. offered the following motion and moved its adoption:

That the town direct the selectmen to appoint, within 60 days of town meeting, a committee to continue the KUA/Plainfield study. The charge to this committee shall be to meet with representatives of the KUA administration and maintain an ongoing review of the relationship between the academy and the town, including any agreement pursuant to RSA 72:23, and to report its findings at next March's annual town meeting. Robert Taylor seconded the motion.

Selectman Williams recognized the committee members from last year.

A vote by voice was taken.

“Aye” all “No” none

It was a vote in the affirmative, the resolution was adopted and so declared.

ARTICLE 10:

Selectman Robert Taylor offered the following motion and moved its adoption:

That the town vote to instruct the moderator to appoint a finance committee (advisory only) of six Plainfield voters to advise the Selectmen and other officers of the town in the prudential affairs of the town. Stephen Halleran seconded the motion.

Selectman Taylor recognized the committee members from last year.

A vote by voice was taken.

“Aye” all “No” none

It was a vote in the affirmative, the resolution was adopted and so declared.

ARTICLE 11:

Selectwoman Judy Belyea offered the following motion and moved that it be adopted:

That the town vote to accept the reports of officers as they appear in the annual report, subject to corrections. A certified copy of the report to be placed on file with the Town Clerk. Stephen Halleran seconded the motion.

A vote by voice was taken.

“Aye” all “No” none

It was a vote in the affirmative, the resolution was adopted and so declared.

ARTICLE 12:

Moderator Franklin swore in the following officers:

Robert Taylor	Selectman
Harold Jones	Supervisor of the Checklist
Kimberly Moss	Library Trustee
Hillary Sundell	Library Trustee

Donald Garfield was sworn in at the town office on March 20, 2012.

James Taylor was sworn in at the town office on March 20, 2012.

Margaret Drye moved to close the meeting at 1:30 p.m. seconded by Kimberly Moss.

Respectfully Submitted,

Michelle Marsh

Town Clerk