

**TOWN MEETING MINUTES**  
**March 9, 2021**  
Plainfield, New Hampshire

The annual meeting for the Town of Plainfield began at the Plainfield Elementary School on Bonner Road on Tuesday, March 9, 2021. Moderator Paul Franklin opened the meeting at 8:00 am with the reading of Article 1 and the posting certifications. Stephen Halleran made a motion to dispense with the reading of the entire warrant, seconded by Rob Taylor. A unanimous voice vote in the affirmative followed and the Polls were declared opened.

**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 five years, One Supervisor of the Checklist for six years and any other necessary town officers.

**Number on Checklist: 1793 Same Day Registrants: 9**  
**Number of Regular Ballots Cast: 425 Number of Absentee Ballots Cast: 154**  
**Percentage of Voting: 33%**

**Select board Member for three years:**

Amy S. Lappin	431
Dennis Girouard	145

**Amy S. Lappin** was declared elected.

**Trustee of the Trust Funds for three years:**

Donald E. Garfield	516
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**Donald E. Garfield** was declared elected.

**Two Library Trustee for three years:**

Adrienne Cedeno	400
Jeanne Woodward-Poor	460

**Adrienne Cedeno** and **Jeanne Woodward-Poor** were declared elected.

**Cemetery Trustee for three years:**

James L. Taylor	530
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**James L. Taylor** was declared elected.

**One Supervisor of the Checklist for five years:**

Fern Wilder	507
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**Fern Wilder** was declared elected.

**One Supervisor of the Checklist for six years:**

Beverly Widger 506

**Beverly Widger** was declared elected.

The Moderator closed the polls at 7pm. Rob Taylor made a motion to recess the Town Meeting, seconded by Brad Atwater and a unanimous voice vote was in the affirmative. The moderator announced the results at 8:00 pm. Due to COVID gathering restrictions, the deliberative portion of Town Meeting warned for Saturday, March 13, 2021 will instead be held on Saturday June 5, 2021, details will follow.

Jeanne Woodward-Poor and Adrienne Cedeno were sworn into office on 3/11/2021  
Amy Lappin, Fern Wilder and Donald Garfield were sworn into office on 3/12/2021  
James Taylor was sworn into office on 3/18/2021  
Beverly Widger was sworn into office on 3/19/2021

All officials were sworn in by Town Clerk, Michelle Marsh at the Town Office.

On Saturday, June 5, 2021 at 2pm, moderator Paul Franklin re-opened the Town meeting at the Plainfield Elementary School under the big tent located at 92 Bonner Road. The meeting began with a salute to the flag. Moderator Franklin introduced the panel of elected officials and turned the microphone over to the Select board to present the Stephen H. Taylor Community service awards for both 2020 and 2021. Amy Lappin awarded the 2020 honors to the late Nancy Liston for her dedicated service as a library trustee. Her family accepted the award on her behalf.

Eric Brann then presented the award for 2021 to Stephanie Schell for her amazing service to the town that began in 2013 and was really challenged this past year when we were faced with COVID 19. She went above and beyond to keep our community running safely and did it all with a smile and great enthusiasm. Both recipients received standing ovations.

Select board member Ron Eberhardt then honored Robert Taylor for his 20 year service as a member of the select board. He was presented with an engraved antique pocket watch and a standing ovation.

Steve Halleran made a motion to dispense with the reading of the entire warrant and proceed to Article 2. His motion was seconded by James Bonney and passed unanimously by a voice vote.

**ARTICLE 2.** The moderator recognized Jeanne Woodward-Poor who offered the following resolution and moved its adoption: (note the updated numbers in bold) That the town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$1,160,000** for the replacement of the Meriden Library building and to authorize the withdrawal of \$55,000 from the Town's ADA Capital Reserve Fund, \$17,761 from the Town's Meriden Library Replacement Fund and accept **\$1,087,239** in donations raised on behalf of the Meriden Library by private sources (Meriden Library Building Fund **\$190,538** and the Meriden Library Foundation created in 2018 **\$896,701**). No dollars (\$0.00) will be raised by taxation to fund this article. This special warrant article will be a non-lapsing appropriation per RSA 32:7, VI and will not lapse until the replacement of the Meriden Library building is completed or December 2026 whichever is sooner. This appropriation, less corresponding anticipated revenues, equates to \$0.00 of the town's projected tax rate. The subsequent approval of this motion with the phrase "replacement of the Meriden Library building" will authorize the

Selectboard and Library Trustees to sell or demolish the existing Meriden Library building located at 22 Bean Road.

The motion was seconded by Jennifer Lenz.

Jennifer Lenz gave an oral presentation, describing the new building and costs to operate. The floor was open to questions. Comments were made and questions were asked and answered.

A vote by paper ballot was taken.

**Yes: 216      No: 40**

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

**ARTICLE 3.** The Moderator recognized Stephen Halleran who offered the following resolution and moved its adoption: That the town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$2,466,662** to defray town charges for the 2021 fiscal year. The Select Board proposes the following budget:

<b>1. Executive</b>	<b>\$228,086</b>
<b>2. Election/Registration/Vital Statistics</b>	<b>17,430</b>
<b>3. Financial Administration</b>	<b>88,100</b>
<b>4. Revaluation of Property</b>	<b>16,000</b>
<b>5. Legal Expenses</b>	<b>5,000</b>
<b>6. Personnel Administration</b>	<b>17,000</b>
<b>7. Planning and Zoning</b>	<b>2,200</b>
<b>8. General Government Buildings</b>	<b>17,025</b>
<b>9. Cemeteries</b>	<b>27,600</b>
<b>10. Insurance</b>	<b>68,430</b>
<b>11. Regional Associations</b>	<b>6,100</b>
<b>12. Police</b>	<b>413,709</b>
<b>13. Ambulance Service</b>	<b>38,000</b>
<b>14. Fire</b>	<b>67,500</b>
<b>15. Building Inspection</b>	<b>15,400</b>
<b>16. Emergency Management</b>	<b>250</b>
<b>17. Hydrant &amp; Forest Fire Expense</b>	<b>4,100</b>
<b>18. Dispatching for Fire, Police &amp; Ambulance</b>	<b>50,000</b>
<b>19. Highway Administration</b>	<b>23,750</b>
<b>20. Highways and Streets</b>	<b>734,145</b>
<b>21. Road Projects</b>	<b>114,412</b>
<b>22. Street Lights</b>	<b>10,000</b>
<b>23. Solid Waste Collection</b>	<b>216,000</b>
<b>24. Solid Waste Disposal</b>	<b>63,310</b>
<b>25. Health Agencies</b>	<b>8,910</b>
<b>26. Animal Control</b>	<b>500</b>
<b>27. Welfare</b>	<b>25,500</b>
<b>28. Recreation Commission</b>	<b>20,971</b>
<b>29. Library</b>	<b>165,174</b>
<b>30. Patriotic</b>	<b>1,500</b>
<b>31. Conservation Commission</b>	<b>500</b>
<b>32. Principal Long-term debt</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>33. Interest Long-term debt</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$2,466,662</b>

The motion was seconded by Eric Brann.

Steve Halleran gave an abbreviated explanation of the increases in the budget. The floor was then open to debate and discussion.

A vote by paper ballot was taken.

**Yes: 181      No: 9**

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

**ARTICLE 4.** The Moderator recognized Eric Brann, who offered the following resolution and moved its adoption: That the town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$257,500** to be placed in existing town capital reserve and general trust funds, pursuant to RSA 35:1 and RSA 31:19-a as follows: (Note changes in **bold**)

RSA 35:1 funds:

\$15,000	Town Facilities Maintenance Fund created in 2015.
<b>\$20,000</b>	Revaluation Fund created in 1993.
\$75,000	Highway Equipment Fund created in 1987.
\$55,000	Transportation Improvement Fund created in 2006.
\$50,000	Fire Department Equipment Fund created in 2017
<b>\$15,000</b>	Bridge Capital Reserve Fund created 1994.
\$5,000	ADA Access Fund created in 2003.
\$5,000	Police Equipment Fund created in 2011.
\$5,000	Gravel Pit Reclamation Fund created in 2012.

RSA 31:19a funds:

\$10,000	Town Hall Repair Fund established in 1996.
\$2,500	Library Building Repair Fund established in 1992.

The Select Board is named agent to expend for the bridge fund, the town hall repair fund, the library building repair fund, the revaluation fund, the transportation improvement fund, the police equipment fund, the facilities maintenance fund, fire department equipment fund and the highway equipment fund.

The motion was seconded by Steve Halleran.

A vote by paper ballot was taken.

**Yes: 125      No: 4**

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

**ARTICLE 5.** The Moderator recognized, Cherrie Torrey who offered the following resolution and moved its adoption: That the town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of eight thousand five hundred dollars (\$8,500) to help support the home health, maternal and child health, and hospice care provided in patients' homes and in community settings by **Visiting Nurse and Hospice of VT and NH** (by petition).

The motion was seconded by Steve Halleran.

The floor was open for discussion. Clint Swift offered the following amendment: That the town vote to reduce the original amount of \$8,500.00 down to \$4,500.00. The amendment was seconded by Bonnie Swift. The floor was open to debate and discussion on the amendment.

A voice vote was taken but it was too close to call so it went to a paper ballot vote.

**No: 55      Yes: 48**

**It was a vote in the negative, the amended resolution failed and so declared.**

The floor was once again open for debate and discussion on the **original** article.

A vote by paper ballot was taken.

**Yes: 57      No: 37**

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

**ARTICLE 6.** The Moderator recognized Ron Eberhardt, who offered the following resolution and moved its adoption. That the town direct the select board to appoint 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.

The motion was seconded by Eric Brann.

A voice vote was taken.

**The "Ayes" were unanimous.**

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

**ARTICLE 7.** The Moderator recognized Amy Lappin, who 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 select board and other officers of the town in the prudential affairs of the town.

The motion was seconded by Steve Halleran.

A voice vote was taken.

**The "Ayes" were unanimous.**

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

**ARTICLE 8.** Moderator Franklin recognized Steve Halleran, who offered the following motion and moved its adoption: That the town vote to accept the reports of town officers as they appear in the 2020 annual report, subject to any corrections. A certified copy to be kept by the Town Clerk.

The motion was seconded by Michelle Marsh.

A voice vote was taken.

**The "Ayes" were unanimous.**

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

Michelle Marsh moved to adjourn the meeting, it was seconded by Steve Halleran and a unanimous voice vote in the affirmative followed. Moderator Franklin declared the meeting closed at 4:20 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Michelle Marsh  
Town Clerk