

Allenstown Town Deliberative Minutes  
1/30/21  
St John's Parish Hall

*The Moderator, Judy Silva, called the meeting to order at 9:08 am after recessing the School portion of the meeting. There were 46 participants in attendance. Judy began the meeting by introducing the board members and town employees attending the meeting, including herself, the BOS members, budget committee members and town personnel participating. Judy then requested that a motion be made to allow nonresidents to be allowed to speak in the meeting. Dennis Fowler so motioned and Sandy McKenney seconded. Judy then went over the acoustics of the building and requested that those wishing to speak please stand with a mask on. A mic would be brought to them by Armand Verville. Judy then explained the basic purpose and rules of the Deliberative Session. She pointed out that zoning articles could not be amended as the time for that had already passed. She also stated that any proposed amendments could be requested in writing for clarity's sake. She also reminded everyone that the meeting was being visually and sound recorded as well as broadcast on Facebook and Zoom and that all participants should be on their best behavior.*

*Judy then proceeded to read Town Warrant **Article 4** as follows:*

**Town Operating Budget**

Shall the Town of Allenstown raise and appropriate as an operating budget, not including appropriations by special warrant articles and other appropriations voted separately, the amounts set forth on the budget posted with the warrant or as amended by vote of the first session, for the purposes set forth therein, totaling \$4,342,740. Should this article be defeated, the default budget shall be \$4,195,980 which is the same as last year, with certain adjustments required by previous action of the Town of Allenstown or by law; or the governing body may hold one special meeting, in accordance with RSA 40:13, X and XVI, to take up the issue of a revised operating budget only. (Majority vote required)

TAX IMPACT OF PROPOSED BUDGET = \$9.91

TAX IMPACT OF DEFAULT BUDGET = \$9.42

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen

Recommended by the Budget Committee

*A motion was made to move to discussion by Carol Angowski, Budget Committee Member and seconded by Sandy McKenney, Selectman. Derik Goodine, Town Administrator, then gave a brief explanation of the budget creation and concerns. Derik explained that unassigned fund balance will be used to offset budget costs but could not be reflected in case the default budget is passed.*

*Judy asked if there was any further discussion.*

*Sandy McKenney thanked all the committee members and departments for their hard work in creating the budget.*

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*Kathleen Pelletier*

*Dean Hopps, resident, asked about the special meeting mentioned in the warrant article. Judy Silva clarified that it would essentially be a "second deliberative" for the purposes of the budget. Sandy McKenney advised that it has never happened during her time in service to the community.*

*Hearing no further discussion, Judy stated the warrant article will be moved to the ballot as written.*

*Judy then read Warrant Article 5 as follows:*

**Sewer Operating Budget**

Shall the Town of Allenstown raise and appropriate as an operating budget for the Allenstown Sewer Commission, not including appropriations by special warrant articles and other appropriations voted separately, the amounts set forth on the budget posted with the warrant or as amended by vote of the first session, for the purposes set forth therein, totaling \$2,300,422. Should this article be defeated, the default budget shall be \$2,314,738, which is the same as last year, with certain adjustments required by previous action of the Town of Allenstown or by law; or the governing body may hold one special meeting, in accordance with RSA 40:13, X and XVI, to take up the issue of a revised operating budget only. (Majority vote required)

TAX IMPACT OF WARRANT ARTICLE 05 = \$0.00

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen

Recommended by the Budget Committee

*Armand Verville, Chairman of the Allenstown Old Meeting House Committee, motioned to open the article for discussion and Sandy McKenney seconded.*

*Hearing no discussion, Judy Silva deemed the warrant article will be moved to the ballot as written.*

*Judy next read Warrant Article 6:*

**To Discontinue the Capital Reserve Equipment Fund**

To see if the town will vote to discontinue the Capital Reserve Equipment Fund Capital Reserve Fund created in 1995. Said funds, with accumulated interest to date of withdrawal, are to be transferred to the municipality's general fund. (Majority vote required)

TAX IMPACT OF WARRANT ARTICLE 06 = \$0.00

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen

Recommended by the Budget Committee

*Scott McDonald, Selectman, motioned to open the article for discussion and Sandy McKenney seconded.*

*Carl Scheaffer, School Board member in the audience, asked if there should be a vote to accept the motions being made for discussion. Judy said she thought that there should be. Judy asked the audience to vote accordingly by voice. They continued to do so throughout the remainder of*

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*the Town and the School meetings. The ayes have it. There was no further discussion and Judy deemed that the article would be moved forward as written.*

*Judy moved on to warrant article 7:*

**To Discontinue General Expendable Trust**

To see if the town will vote to discontinue the General Expendable Trust Capital Reserve Fund created in 2008. Said funds, with accumulated interest to date of withdrawal, are to be transferred to the municipality's general fund. (Majority vote required)

TAX IMPACT OF WARRANT ARTICLE 07 = \$0.00

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen

Recommended by the Budget Committee

*Claudette Verville, member of Allenstown Old Meeting House Committee motioned to open the article for discussion. Sandy McKenney seconded the motion. The ayes had it.*

*Dennis Fowler, resident, asked why all these trust funds are no longer necessary. Debbie Bender, the Finance Administrator, informed all present that the funds were set up some years ago for very specific and limited purposes which had, in most cases, already been fulfilled. She said that most of the balances were quite small.*

*No further discussion ensued and Judy moved the article to the ballot as written.*

*Warrant article 8 was then read aloud by Judy:*

**To Discontinue Old Allenstown Meet House CRF**

To see if the town will vote to discontinue the Old Allenstown Meeting House Capital Reserve Fund created in 2004. Said funds, with accumulated interest to date of withdrawal, are to be transferred to the municipality's general fund. (Majority vote required)

TAX IMPACT OF WARRANT ARTICLE 08 = \$0.00

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen

Recommended by the Budget Committee

*Armand Verville motioned to open the warrant article for discussion. Sandy McKenney seconded. The ayes had it.*

*Dean Hopps asked if there was money currently being added to this fund on a yearly basis. Debbie Bender answered that there was not. Armand Verville stated that the fund was created some years ago to refurbish the Old Allenstown Meeting House, however, the Old Allenstown Meeting House Committee did fund raisers, applied for grants and solicited donations so that the fund was never utilized. It was started with a \$1 and Armand believes the current amount to be \$1.33 due to interest accrued. Armand said the fund was no longer needed.*

*Judy closed the discussion and moved the article to the ballot as written.*

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*Article 9 was then read to the audience by Judy:*

**To Discontinue Police Safety Equipment CRF**

To see if the town will vote to discontinue the Police Safety Equipment Capital Reserve Fund created in 1998. Said funds, with accumulated interest to date of withdrawal, are to be transferred to the municipality's general fund. (Majority vote required)

TAX IMPACT OF WARRANT ARTICLE 09 = \$0.00

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen

Recommended by the Budget Committee

*Carol Angowski motioned to open the article for discussion and Sandy McKenney seconded. The ayes had it. No discussion was initiated and Judy declared the article moved to the ballot as written.*

*Judy proceeded with warrant article 10. She read:*

**To Discontinue Recycling CRF**

To see if the town will vote to discontinue the Recycling Capital Reserve Fund created in 1991. Said funds, with accumulated interest to date of withdrawal, are to be transferred to the municipality's general fund. (Majority vote required)

TAX IMPACT OF WARRANT ARTICLE 10 = \$0.00

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen

Recommended by the Budget Committee

*Carol Angowski motioned to open the article for discussion and Dennis Fowler seconded. The ayes had it. No discussion was initiated and Judy declared the article moved to the ballot as written.*

*Warrant Article 11 was then read:*

**To Discontinue Tax Map CRF**

To see if the town will vote to discontinue the Tax Map Capital Reserve Fund created in 1998. Said funds, with accumulated interest to date of withdrawal, are to be transferred to the municipality's general fund. (Majority vote required)

TAX IMPACT OF WARRANT ARTICLE 11 = \$0.00

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen

Recommended by the Budget Committee

*Carol Angowski motioned to open for discussion and Sandy McKenney seconded. The ayes had it. Carol Angowski then asked if anyone from the planning board could speak about the necessary tax map updates and procedures. Debbie Bender answered that this fund was most likely created for the old paper versions of the town maps. Derik Goodine then explained that*

*Kathleen Pelissier*

*the old paper maps were frequently drawn on and thus needed regular replacing while the new electronic forms have rendered this fund obsolete.*

*The article was moved to the ballot as written.*

*Judy moved on to warrant article 12, reading:*

**Discontinue Solid Waste Vehicle CRF**

To see if the town will vote to discontinue the Solid Waste Vehicle Capital Reserve Fund created in 2012. Said funds, with accumulated interest to date of withdrawal, are to be transferred to the municipality's general fund. (Majority vote required)

TAX IMPACT OF WARRANT ARTICLE 12 = \$0.00

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen

Recommended by the Budget Committee

*Dennis Fowler motioned to open for discussion. Maureen Higham, Selectman, seconded. The ayes had it. No discussion meant the article was moved to the ballot as written.*

*Judy read Article 13 next:*

**Library Capital Reserve Fund**

To see if the Town of Allenstown will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,600 to be added to the Library Capital Reserve Fund previously established. This sum to come from unassigned fund balance. No amount to be raised from taxation. (Majority Vote Required)

TAX IMPACT OF WARRANT ARTICLE 13 = \$0.00

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen

Recommended by the Budget Committee

*Melaine Boisvert moved to open this article for discussion. Matt Pitaro, Budget Committee member and Allenstown State Representative seconded the motion. The ayes took it. No discussion ensued. The article was moved to the ballot as written.*

*Judy furthered the meeting by reading the next warrant article, number 14:*

**Public Safety Facilities Capital Reserve Fund**

To see if the Town of Allenstown will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$10,000 to be added to the Public Safety Facilities Capital Reserve Fund previously established. This sum to come from unassigned fund balance. No amount to be raised from taxation. (Majority vote required)

TAX IMPACT OF WARRANT ARTICLE 14 = \$0.00

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen

Recommended by the Budget Committee

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*Claudette Verville moved to open and Carol Angowski seconded. The ayes had it. Matt Pitaro asked what the balance of the fund was. Derik Goodine answered that \$51,725.14 was in the fund. No further discussion was had. The article was moved as written.*

*Judy then read article 15:*

**Streetlight Capital Reserve Fund**

To see if the Town of Allenstown will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$6,500 to be added to the Streetlight Capital Reserve Fund previously established. This sum to come from unassigned fund balance. No amount to be raised from taxation. (Majority vote required)

TAX IMPACT OF WARRANT ARTICLE 15 = \$0.00

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen

Recommended by the Budget Committee

*Carol Angowski motioned to open for discussion. Sandy McKenney seconded. The ayes had it. Mike Frascinella, Economic Development Committee Chairman, asked how many of the Towns lights were LED. Chad Pelissier, Road Agent, answered that all of the lights are with the exception of two, one at Town Hall and one at The Highway Department. No further discussion happened and the article was moved as written.*

*Judy proceeded onto warrant article 16:*

**Highway Equipment Capital Reserve Fund**

To see if the Town of Allenstown will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$15,000 to be added to the Highway Equipment Capital Reserve Fund previously established. This sum to come from unassigned fund balance. No amount to be raised from taxation. (Majority vote required)

TAX IMPACT OF WARRANT ARTICLE 16 = \$0.00

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen

Recommended by the Budget Committee

*Carol Angowski motioned to open the article and Maureen Higham seconded the motion. The ayes had the vote. No discussion was started and the article was moved as written.*

*Judy went to article 17 next:*

**Economic Development Capital Reserve Fund**

To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$10,000 to be added to the Economic Development Capital Reserve Fund previously established. This sum to come from unassigned fund balance. No amount to be raised from taxation. (Majority vote required)

TAX IMPACT OF WARRANT ARTICLE 17 = \$0.00

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen

Recommended by the Budget Committee

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Carol Angowski motioned to open for discussion. Melaine Boisvert seconded. The ayes have it. Mike Frascinella spoke to the audience about the progress that the EDC has been making over the past few years. He said that businesses are actively seeking out Allenstown as a result of the favorable tax warrant brought forth by the EDC. He said that both Brady Sullivan's mill project and Optimus Prime are projects that are well under way. Mike believes that Mega X was bought up by a new company due to the activities of the EDC. Judy pointed out Mikes position as Chairman of EDC and thanked him for all his hard work. Mike let the room know that the EDC is always looking for new members. He also stated that a developer has expressed interest in the land at the end of route 28. He also believes another manufacturing business is interested in Allenstown. Derik Goodine concurred that the towns prime location and advantageous tax breaks make Allenstown a desirable place to businesses. He thanked the EDC for their work in accomplishing this. Ron Adinolfo, resident, asked what the time period was for the 79E tax break that these businesses were receiving. Derik answered that it is good for 7 years and can only be applied for by businesses within a certain zone. The mill building was added to this zone. Ron asked if a sliding scale was used in this process. Derik stated that it is not. The property will be taxed as if no improvements were made for the entire 7 years and then be taxed on the properties full improved value at the end of the 7 years. Ron asked if the buildings improvements were included in the Towns assessment values. Derik said that they are not. Judy clarified that the taxes are based on the value of the building before improvements. Derik agreed. Mike Frasinella went on to state that Allenstown Aggregate had arranged to build a 6 unit commercial building on their lot. He said that they had informed the Planning Board that all 6 units were already scheduled to be rented upon completion. Kris Raymond, School Board member, asked what the time line is for the building project. Mike Frasinella answered that he believed it would be starting with in the next several months.

No further discussion was had. The article was moved as written.

Judy read article 18:

#### **Assessing Valuation Update Capital Reserve Fund**

To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$16,800 to be added to the Assessing Valuation Update Capital Reserve Fund previously established. This sum to come from unassigned fund balance. No amount to be raised from taxation. (Majority vote required)

TAX IMPACT OF WARRANT ARTICLE 18 = \$0.00

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen

Recommended by the Budget Committee

Carol Angowski motioned to discuss. Dennis Fowler seconded. The ayes had the vote.

Carol asked if the entire town was being assessed. Debbie Bender answered in the affirmative. The article was moved as written.

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*Judy then moved the meeting along by reading article 19:*

**Parks & Recreation Projects Capital Reserve Fund**

To see if the Town of Allenstown will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$10,000 to be added to the Parks and Recreation Projects Capital Reserve Fund previously established. This sum to come from unassigned fund balance. No amount to be raised from taxation. (Majority vote required.)

TAX IMPACT OF WARRANT ARTICLE 19 = \$0.00

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen

Recommended by the Budget Committee

*Melaine Boisvert moved to open for discussion. Claudette Verville seconded the motion and the ayes took it. As no discussion was started, the article was moved to the ballot as written.*

*Judy then read article 20 as follows:*

**Road Repair & Paving CRF**

To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$50,000 to be added to the Road Repair & Paving Capital Reserve Fund previously established. This sum to come from unassigned fund balance. No amount to be raised from taxation. (Majority vote required)

TAX IMPACT OF WARRANT ARTICLE 20 = \$0.00

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen

Recommended by the Budget Committee

*Carol Angowski moved to discuss. Melaine Boisvert seconded. Ayes had it. No discussion was initiated and the article was moved as written.*

*Judy then moved on to the final warrant article, 21:*

**Highway Garage CRF**

To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$125,000 to be added to the Highway Garage Capital Reserve Fund previously established. This sum to come from unassigned fund balance. No amount to be raised from taxation. (Majority vote required)

TAX IMPACT OF WARRANT ARTICLE 21 = \$0.00

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen

Recommended by the Budget Committee

*Melaine Boisvert moved to open for discussion, Sandy McKenney seconded. Hearing none, Judy moved the article as written to the ballot.*

*Judy asked if there were any further questions. None were brought forth and a motion to recess the meeting until 3/9/21 at 8 am was made by Dennis Fowler and seconded by Keith Klawes. The ayes had it. The meeting was recessed at 9:57am. Judy advised the crowd that a 20-*

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*Matthew Pelissier*



*minute recess would take place until the School portion of the meeting was resumed. Keith Klawes asked Judy to remind the participants that they needed to reregister with the Supervisors Of The Checklist before the school session started. Ron Adinolofa asked why this was so. Judy explained that the School deliberative and the Town deliberative are actually two separate meetings.*

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*Kathleen Peluso*