

MINUTES FOR ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

Town of New Gloucester May 7, 2018

The Town meeting was called to order at 7:04 p.m., by the Town Clerk, Carrie Castonguay.

The Clerk led the Town Meeting attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Linda Chase, Board of Selectmen Chairman, introduced Carrie Castonguay, new Town Manager of New Gloucester, to the audience.

Article 1. To choose a Moderator to preside at said meeting.

Nomination of: Donald Libby

Nomination by: George Colby

Seconded by: James Fitch

No other nominations were made.

Motion to close nominations: Jean Couturier

Seconded by: George Colby

Those in favor of closing nominations: All

Opposed: None

Nomination of Donald Libby carried.

3 votes were cast for Donald Libby.

Donald Libby was elected Moderator.

The Clerk administered the Oath of Office to the Moderator.

The Moderator said he is using the Maine Moderator's Manual Guide to Town Meetings, Sixth Edition 2005 and could he have a motion to accept it.

George Colby moved and George Carman seconded a motion for the Moderator to use the Maine Moderator's Manual Guide to Town Meetings, Sixth Edition 2005. The vote carried unanimously.

The Moderator asked for a motion to allow non-resident staff to speak which includes the Town Manager, Town Planner, Librarian, Parks & Recreation Director, Public Works Director and Finance Director.

George Colby moved and Jean Couturier seconded a motion to allow non-resident Staff to speak which includes Town Manager Town Planner, Librarian, Parks & Recreation Director, Public Works Director and Finance Director. The vote carried unanimously.

The Moderator explained procedures and guidelines for the Town Meeting.

OPERATIONS:

Article 2. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$397,279 from taxation and other sources for the ensuing year for the following:

Article 2		Selectmen	Budget Committee
101	Selectmen	\$ 16,550	\$ 16,550
102	Administration	\$299,954	\$299,954
105	Elections	\$ 6,175	\$ 6,175
106	Assessing	\$ 38,100	\$ 38,100
108	Legal	\$ 19,000	\$ 19,000
130	Unbudgeted Expenses	\$ 15,000	\$ 15,000
138	Fuel Overrun Allowance	\$ 2,500	\$ 2,500
		\$397,279	\$397,279

The Budget Committee & Select Board recommend passage as presented.

Motion: George Colby moved that Article 2 have passage at \$397,279

Second: James Fitch

Discussion: Penny Hilton commented on this article

Motion: Penny Hilton moved to reduce Article 2 to \$381,079, which reduces 101 Selectmen by \$5,200 (stipends) and 108 Legal by \$11,000

Second: Roger Levasseur

Discussion: Penny Hilton, Roger Levasseur, George Colby, Steven Libby, Stephen Hathorne, Carrie Castonguay, and Michael Brakey commented on the amendment

Vote: The Amendment fails

Vote: It was voted that Article 2 have passage at \$397,279

Article 3. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$53,735 from taxation and other sources for the ensuing year for the following:

Article 3		Selectmen	Budget Committee
103	General Assistance	\$13,000	\$13,000
131	Health Officer	\$ 500	\$ 500
132	Animal Control	\$16,360	\$16,360
135	Cemeteries	\$23,000	\$23,000
137	Interagency Requests	\$ 875	\$ 875
		\$53,735	\$53,735

The Budget Committee & Select Board recommend passage as presented.

Motion: George Colby moved that Article 3 have passage at \$53,735

Second: George Carman

Discussion: None

Vote: It was voted that Article 3 have passage at \$53,735

Article 4. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$428,939 from taxation and other sources for the ensuing year for the following:

Article 4		Selectmen	Budget Committee
110	Emergency Medical Services	\$181,150	\$181,150
111	Fire Department	\$197,869	\$197,869
112	Emergency Management	\$ 2,500	\$ 2,500
114	Street Lights	\$ 7,850	\$ 7,850
115	Public Safety Dispatch	\$ 39,570	\$ 39,570
		\$428,939	\$428,939

The Budget Committee & Select Board recommend passage as presented.

Motion: George Colby moved that Article 4 have passage at \$428,939

Second: George Carman

Discussion: Tim Joy, Roger Levasseur, Richard Maguire, and Steven Libby commented on this article

Vote: It was voted that Article 4 have passage at \$428,939

Article 5. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$969,985 from taxation and other sources for the ensuing year for the following:

Article 5		Selectmen	Budget Committee
116	Public Works	\$730,877	\$730,877
120	Solid Waste	\$239,108	\$239,108
		\$969,985	\$969,985

The Budget Committee & Select Board recommend passage as presented.

Motion: George Colby moved that Article 5 have passage at \$969,985

Second: George Carman

Discussion: Roger Levasseur and Carrie Castonguay commented on this article

Vote: It was voted that Article 5 have passage at \$969,985

Article 6. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$235,834 from taxation and other sources for the ensuing year for the following:

Article 6		Selectmen	Budget Committee
104	Buildings & Grounds	\$ 63,930	\$ 63,930
113	Cable TV	\$ 13,500	\$ 13,500
123	Library	\$ 99,100	\$ 99,100
133	Parks & Recreation	\$ 59,304	\$ 59,304
		\$ 235,834	\$ 235,834

The Budget Committee & Select Board recommend passage as presented.

Motion: George Colby moved that Article 6 have passage at \$235,834

Second: Cleo Werner

Discussion: Roger Levasseur, Carrie Castonguay and Joseph Davis commented on this article

Motion: Joseph Davis moved to reduce Article 6 to \$235,614, which reduces 133 Parks & Recreation by \$220 (Gate)

Second: George Carman

Discussion: Harvey Price, Roger Levasseur, Carrie Castonguay, Steven Libby, Ted Shane and Joseph Davis commented on the amendment

Vote: The Amendment fails

Vote: It was voted that Article 6 have passage at \$235,834

Article 7. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$132,717 from taxation and other sources for the ensuing year for the following:

Article 7		Selectmen	Budget Committee
107	Code Enforcement	\$ 64,210	\$ 64,210
122	Planning	\$ 67,887	\$ 67,887
124	Environmental Resources	\$ 500	\$ 500
126	Water Resources	\$ 120	\$ 120
		\$132,717	\$132,717

The Budget Committee & Select Board recommend passage as presented.

Motion: George Colby moved that Article 7 have passage at \$132,717

Second: Cleo Werner

Discussion: None

Vote: It was voted that Article 7 have passage at \$132,717

Article 8. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$966,050 from taxation and other sources for the ensuing year for the following:

Article 8		Selectmen	Budget Committee
109	Insurance	\$435,850	\$435,850
125	Social Security/Retirement	\$174,200	\$174,200
139	Debt Service	\$356,000	\$356,000
		\$966,050	\$966,050

The Budget Committee & Select Board recommend passage as presented.

Motion: George Colby moved that Article 8 have passage at \$966,050
Second: Cleo Werner
Discussion: Tim Joy commented on this article
Motion: Tim Joy moved to take \$323,000 for 139 Debt Service from Other Sources (Undesignated Fund Balance) instead of taxation
Second: Kathleen Potter
Discussion: Tim Joy and Steven Libby commented on the amendment
Vote: The amendment fails
Vote: It was voted that Article 8 have passage at \$966,050

Article 9. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$247,000 from taxation for the ensuing year for the following:

144	TIF District	\$235,000 (Estimated; determined when tax rate calculated.)
145	Tax Abatements	<u>12,000</u>
	TOTAL	\$247,000

The Select Board recommend passage as presented.

Motion: George Colby moved that Article 9 have passage at \$247,000
Second: George Carman
Discussion: Debra Smith, Steven Libby and George Colby commented on this article
Vote: It was voted that Article 9 have passage at \$247,000

Article 10. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the funds received from the State for snowmobile registrations to the Royal River Snowmobile Club for the maintenance of their network of snowmobile trails and other club activities. This article shall remain in effect until changed by a town meeting vote.

The Select Board recommend passage as presented.

Motion: Jim Fitch moved that Article 10 have passage as presented
Second: Laura Sturgis
Discussion: None
Vote: It was voted that Article 10 have passage as read

Article 11. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$1,275 from taxation for Sabbathday Lake Testing.

The Budget Committee & Select Board recommend passage as presented.

Motion: George Colby moved that Article 11 have passage at \$1,275
Second: Cleo Werner
Discussion: Joseph Davis, Stephen Hathorne, Chris Ricardi, Steve Chandler, Tim Joy, Richard Maguire, Michael Brakey and Debra Smith commented on this article
Vote: It was voted that Article 11 have passage at \$1,275

CAPITAL PROJECTS & RESERVES:

Article 12. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$142,560 from Capital Reserve Account and Taxation (G1-386 -- \$71,280; Taxation -- \$71,280) for a Self- Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) Update Reserve Fund in the ensuing year.

SCBA Update Reserve Fund	\$71,280
Taxation	<u>71,280</u>
TOTAL	\$142,560

The Select Board recommend passage.

Motion: George Colby moved that Article 12 have passage at \$142,560
Second: George Carman
Discussion: None
Vote: It was voted that Article 12 have passage at \$142,560

Article 13. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate \$30,000 from Capital Reserve Accounts and another account (G1- 346 Library -- \$2,956; G1 - 410 Library Expansion -- \$56,147; G1 - 419 King Foundation Grant -- \$8,348) for construction of a Second Means of Egress in the ensuing year.

Library	\$2,956
Library Expansion	18,696
Stephen King Foundation Grant	<u>8,348</u>
TOTAL	\$30,000

The Select Board recommend passage.

Motion: George Colby moved that Article 13 have passage at \$30,000
Second: Cleo Werner
Discussion: None
Vote: It was voted that Article 13 have passage at \$30,000

Article 14. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate \$35,000 from Bridge Reserve Account (G1 – 405 -- \$50,918) for Bridge/Dam Engineering at Stevens Brook in the ensuing year.

The Select Board recommend passage.

Motion: George Colby moved that Article 14 have passage at \$35,000
Second: Cleo Werner
Discussion: Roger Levasseur and Carrie Castonguay commented on this article
Vote: It was voted that Article 14 have passage at \$35,000

Article 15. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate \$150,000 from Highway Equipment Capital Reserve Account (G1 – 389 -- \$250,124) for the purchase of Public Works Dump/Plow Truck in the ensuing year.

The Select Board recommend passage.

Motion: George Colby moved that Article 15 have passage at \$150,000
Second: George Carman
Discussion: None
Vote: It was voted that Article 15 have passage at \$150,000

Article 16. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate \$37,500 from Parks and Recreation Capital Projects and Taxation (G1 – 404 -- \$34,537; Taxation -- \$15,000) for Tennis Court Improvements at Rowe Station in the ensuing year.

Parks and Rec Capital Projects	\$22,500
Taxation	<u>15,000</u>
TOTAL	\$37,500

The Select Board recommend passage.

Motion: George Colby moved that Article 16 have passage at \$37,500
Second: George Carman
Discussion: None
Vote: It was voted that Article 16 have passage at \$37,500

Article 17. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$75,000 from taxation and other sources for the Bridge Capital Reserve Account (G1-405 - \$50,918) in the ensuing year.

Bridge Capital Reserve Account	\$75,000 Tax
TOTAL	\$75,000

The Select Board recommend passage.

Motion: George Colby moved that Article 17 have passage at \$75,000
Second: Jean Couturier
Discussion: None
Vote: It was voted that Article 17 have passage at \$75,000

Article 18. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$50,000 from taxation and other sources for the Public Works Capital Reserve Account (G1-389 – \$250,124) in the ensuing year.

Public Works Capital Reserve Account	\$50,000 Tax
TOTAL	\$50,000

The Select Board recommend passage.

Motion: George Colby moved that Article 18 have passage at \$50,000
Second: Kathleen Potter
Discussion: None
Vote: It was voted that Article 18 have passage at \$50,000

Article 19. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$100,000 from taxation and other sources for the Fire and Rescue Equipment Capital Reserve Account (G1-388 – \$342,324) in the ensuing year.

Fire & Rescue Capital Reserve Account	\$100,000 Tax
TOTAL	\$100,000

The Select Board recommend passage.

Motion: George Colby moved that Article 19 have passage at \$100,000
Second: Cleo Werner
Discussion: None
Vote: It was voted that Article 19 have passage at \$100,000

Article 20. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$336,000 from taxation and other sources for the ensuing year for Municipal Paving Projects.

Paving	\$336,000 Tax
TOTAL	\$336,000

The Select Board recommend passage.

Motion: George Colby moved that Article 20 have passage at \$336,000

Second: Cleo Werner

Discussion: None

Vote: It was voted that Article 20 have passage at \$336,000

Article 21. To see if the Town will vote to accept and spend the following categories of State and Federal Revenue funds during the ensuing year:

1. Municipal Revenue Sharing
2. MDOT LRAP (Local Road Assistance Program)
3. MDOT MPI (Municipal Partnership Initiative)
4. Tree Growth Reimbursement
5. General Assistance Reimbursement
6. Veterans Exemption Reimbursement
7. Snowmobile Registration Funds
8. Public Library State Aid
9. Emergency Management Assistance/Homeland Security Grants
10. Other State Aid (*pass-through funds and property tax relief*)
11. State and Federal Grants or Other Funds (*not included in items 1 – 10 above.*)

The Select Board recommend passage.

Motion: George Colby moved that Article 21 have passage as presented

Second: George Carman

Discussion: None

Vote: It was voted that Article 21 have passage as read

Article 22. To see if the Town will vote to apply the following anticipated Revenues to reduce the tax commitment: Revenue amounts shown are estimates.

Revenue	
Building Inspection & Fees	\$ 37,000
Transfer Station Permits	\$ 2,400
Boat Excise Tax	\$ 6,700
Auto Excise Tax	\$ 1,125,000
Town Fees	\$ 17,000
Recreation Program Fees	\$ 20,000
Fines & Reimbursements	\$ 400
Clerk Fees	\$ 5,500
Rent Income	\$ 1
Copy/Fax Fees	\$ 125
Cable Franchise Fees	\$ 25,000
Library Revenue	\$ 1,400
Investment Income	\$ 12,000
Capital Project Accounts Interest	\$ 5,000
Animal Control	\$ 1,500
Transfer Station Recycling	\$ 27,000
Real Estate Tax Interest	\$ 23,000
EMS Transport	\$ 97,500
Capital Res. Funds (Contingent Art. 12-16)	\$ 308,780
Undesignated Fund	\$ 275,000
TIF (Public Works Annual Debt)	\$ 58,750
Municipal Revenue Sharing Reserve Fund	\$ 80,849
Maine PERS Reserve	\$ 30,174
Total	\$ 2,160,079

The Select Board recommend passage.

Motion: George Colby moved that Article 22 have passage at \$2,160,079

Second: Cleo Werner

Discussion: Roger Levasseur, Carrie Castonguay and Lori Anne Wilson commented on this article

Vote: It was voted that Article 22 have passage at \$2,160,079

Article 23. DISPOSITION OF FORECLOSED PROPERTY

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board to dispose of the following foreclosed properties in such manner and on such terms as the Select Board finds to be in the best interests of the Town.

MAP	LOT	LOCATION	LAND/BUILDINGS
7	1147-B	208 Weymouth Road	Land
6	39	Emmaus Road	Land
10	1	Lewiston/Bald Hill Road	Land
6	33-A1	476 Snow Hill Road	Mobile
3	14-1	52 Chief Wahoo Drive	Land/Building
21	25-A	396 Sabbathday Road	Land/Mobile
3	93-J	22 Shaw Road	Land/Mobile
18	19-A	896 Lewiston Road	Land/Building
7	34-B	46 Estes Road	Land/Building
1	17-2	106 Pond Road	Land/Building
11	21-A	114 Hatch Road	Land/Building

Motion: George Colby moved that Article 23 have passage as presented

Second: Cleo Werner

Motion: Steven Libby moved to allow Barbara Carbino (landowner) to speak on Article 23

Second: Kathleen Potter

Discussion: None

Vote: It was unanimous to allow Barbara Carbino to speak

Motion: Steven Libby moved to allow Betty Pelletier (landowner) to speak on Article 23

Second: Kathleen Potter

Discussion: None

Vote: It was unanimous to allow Betty Pelletier to speak

Discussion: Betty Pelletier, Barbara Carbino, Steven Libby, Barbara Seaver and Carrie Castonguay commented on this article

Vote: It was voted that Article 23 have passage as read

Article 24. Shall an ordinance entitled “2018 Amendments to the *Town of New Gloucester Zoning Ordinance*” be enacted?

A Planned Development section would allow additional options for projects in the RB1, RB2, RC, and UV zones provided that the projects meet certain requirements and incorporate certain elements. Under this ordinance the Planning Board would be allowed some flexibility in review of qualifying projects provided that the application meets stricter standards. No project would be required to be reviewed under this ordinance but the ability of the board to grant the allowances outlined in this section would be restricted to projects held to the standards of this ordinance. The new section would be placed within the current §5, becoming §5.1.35.

Motion: George Colby moved that Article 24 have passage as presented

Second: George Carman

Discussion: None

Vote: It was voted that Article 24 have passage as read

Article 25. Shall an ordinance entitled “2018 Amendments to the *Town of New Gloucester Zoning Ordinance*” be enacted?

Proposed Change to Official Zoning Map

This proposed amendment constitutes an expansion of the village zoning district to include the three parcels fronting on Grange Hall Rd which were not previously included in the district.

Existing Zoning Districts

Rural Residential

Village

Existing Overlay Districts

Historic Resource

Proposed Change

To be added to Village Zone



Motion: George Colby moved that Article 25 have passage as presented
Second: Cleo Werner
Discussion: Steven Libby and Scott Hastings commented on this article
Vote: It was voted that Article 25 have passage as read

Article 26. Shall an Ordinance entitled "2018 Amendments to the Town of New Gloucester Management of Tax-Liened Property Ordinance" be enacted?

This proposed amendment constitutes updates to the ordinance to not make allowances for payment plans and rental agreements per state of Maine Guidelines and Statute. It also provides for clarity in the foreclosure process.

Motion: George Colby moved that Article 26 have passage as presented
Second: George Carman
Discussion: Amy Arata, Roger Levasseur and Carrie Castonguay
Vote: Article 26 failed on a vote of 26-yes and 47-no

Article 27. AUTHORITY TO ACCEPT REVENUE IN EXCESS OF AMOUNT BUDGETED

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Clerk/Treasurer to accept revenue in excess of amounts budgeted on behalf of the town.

Motion: George Colby moved that Article 27 have passage as presented
Second: George Carman
Discussion: None
Vote: It was voted that Article 27 have passage as read

Article 28. AUTHORITY TO ACCEPT GRANTS

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board to apply for and accept, on behalf of the Town, state and federal grants and grants from nonprofit organizations for municipal purposes, including when necessary, the authority to sign the grant contract and accept the conditions that accompany grant funds, and to appropriate and expend grant funds and matching funds required for the authorized purposes.

Motion: George Colby moved that Article 28 have passage as presented
Second: George Carman
Discussion: None
Vote: It was voted that Article 28 have passage as read

Article 29. ACCEPTANCE OF GIFTS OF MONEY OR PERSONAL PROPERTY

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board to accept gifts of money or personal property to the Town and to appropriate and expend such money for such public purposes as the Board deems to be in the interest of the Town.

Motion: George Colby moved that Article 29 have passage as presented
Second: George Carman
Discussion: Doug Smith commented on this article
Vote: It was voted that Article 29 have passage as read

Article 30. ACCEPTANCE OF *CONDITIONAL* GIFTS OF MONEY AND PERSONAL PROPERTY

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board to accept conditional gifts of money to the Town and to appropriate and expend the funds for the legal purposes for which the gift was made and in accordance with any conditions imposed by the donor and to accept conditional gifts of personal property to the Town and to use the property in the legal manner specified by the donor.

Motion: George Colby moved that Article 30 have passage as presented

Second: George Carman

Discussion: None

Vote: It was voted that Article 30 have passage as read

Article 31. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the municipal officers to accept a gift of real property from the Royal River Conservation Trust, being all or a portion of Map 7, Lot 22-A with boundary adjustments along with restrictions such as a conservation easement that the municipal officers negotiate, and to appropriate funds for the purpose of legal review and recording.

Motion: George Colby moved that Article 31 have passage as presented

Second: George Carman

Discussion: Steve Libby and Stephen Hathorne commented on this article

Vote: Article 31 failed

Article 32. RETURNING UNEXPENDED CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUNDS TO CAPITAL RESERVE ACCOUNTS

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board to return unexpended capital improvement funds to their corresponding capital reserve accounts.

Motion: George Colby moved that Article 32 have passage as presented

Second: George Carman

Discussion: None

Vote: It was voted that Article 32 have passage as read

Article 33. ESTABLISHMENT OF INTEREST RATE FOR LATE TAX PAYMENTS To see if the Town will vote to fix a date and terms when taxes shall become due and payable, and set an interest rate of 8.00 percent per annum. The 8% interest rate is authorized under Title 36 M.R.S.A. Section 505.4, as of January 1, 2008.

Recommendation: that the first Friday of October and April, Friday, **October 5, 2018** and Friday, **April 5, 2019** be established as the dates taxes are due and payable, and that interest at the rate of eight percent (8%) per annum will be charged after such dates.

Motion: George Colby moved that Article 33 have passage as presented

Second: George Carman

Discussion: None

Vote: It was voted that Article 33 have passage as read

Article 34. ESTABLISHMENT OF INTEREST RATE FOR ABATED TAXES To see if the town will vote to set the interest rate at three percent (3%) per annum to be paid by the town on abated taxes pursuant to Title 36 M.R.S.A. Section 506-A.

Motion: George Colby moved that Article 34 have passage as presented

Second: George Carman

Discussion: None

Vote: It was voted that Article 34 have passage as read

Article 35. ACCEPTANCE OF TAX PREPAYMENTS To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Tax Collector or Treasurer to accept prepayments of taxes not yet committed, pursuant to Title 36 M.R.S.A. § 506.

Motion: George Colby moved that Article 35 have passage as presented

Second: George Carman

Discussion: None

Vote: It was voted that Article 35 have passage as read

Article 36. DISPOSITION OF SURPLUS TOWN PROPERTY AND REAL PROPERTY To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board to sell and dispose of surplus town-owned personal and real property on such terms and conditions as the Select Board finds to be in the best interests of the Town and to deposit proceeds from such sales in the corresponding capital reserve accounts or Undesignated Fund.

Motion: George Colby moved that Article 36 have passage as presented

Second: Cleo Werner

Discussion: None

Vote: It was voted that Article 36 have passage as read

Article 37. USE OF GRANT FUNDS FROM TIME WARNER CABLE PER FRANCHISE AGREEMENT WITH THE TOWN FOR "PEG ACCESS EQUIPMENT AND FACILITIES"

To see if the Town will vote to approve the appropriation of \$5,000 from the Cable Grant Account (G1-203 -- \$37,806) for the ensuing year for the following: unanticipated maintenance of cable TV production and broadcast equipment. All unused funds will be returned to Cable Grant Account (G1-203) at the end of the ensuing year.

Motion: George Colby moved that Article 37 have passage as presented

Second: Cleo Werner

Discussion: Mark Butler and Steven Libby commented on this article

Vote: It was voted that Article 37 have passage as read

ADJOURN:

George Colby moved and George Carman seconded a motion to adjourn at 9:11 p.m. The motion passed unanimously.

Attested:



Carrie Castonguay, Town Clerk