

**TOWN OF SUTTON, STATE OF
NEW HAMPSHIRE
TOWN MEETING MINUTES, MARCH 13, 2019**

On March 12, 2019, the Sutton Town Moderator, Derek Lick, opened the doors at 8:00 a.m. and announced to the public that the voting polls were open.

Moderator Lick closed the polls at 7:00 p.m. There were 1545 already registered voters. 223 ballots were cast, which included 9 absentee ballots and 4 same day newly registered voters to choose all necessary Town Officers for the ensuing year as well as voting on the Zoning Board of Adjustment Amendment and the KRSD ballot articles.

Article 1: To choose all necessary Town Officers for the year ensuing.

Selectman – 3 Year Term (vote for 1)

- William Curless – 164
- Bruce Kozikowski – 31
- Harold Rowe, Jr. – 1
- James Luca – 1
- Ron Menning – 1
- Terie Grant – 1
- Mark Kowski – 1
- Wally Baker, Jr. – 1
- Bob DeFelice – 1

Moderator – 2 Year Term (vote for 1)

- Derek Lick – 207
- Greg Gill – 1

Trustees of the Trust Funds – 3 Year Term (vote for 1)

- Bob DeFelice – 187
- Marney Thompson – 1
- Ron Menney – 1
- Wally Baker – 1

Trustees, Sutton Free Library – 2 Year Term (vote for 1)

- Diane M, Lander – 206
- Jannette Couch – 1

Trustees, Sutton Free Library – 3 Year Term (vote for 2)

- Nancy Brook-Heckel – 188
- Jennifer Call – 193
- Suk Day – 1
- Jack Dyer – 1

Budget Committee – 1 Year Term (vote for 1)

- Suzanne Esposito – 196

Pete Thompson – 1
David Hurst – 1

Budget Committee – 2 Year Term (vote for 1)

Samantha Gordon – 172
Pete Thompson – 1
Ken Day – 1
David Hurst – 1

Budget Committee – 3 Year Term (vote for 2)

Mark Peterson – 179
Carroll Pete Thompson – 180
Peter Blakeman – 1
Darcy Bates – 1
Jack Dyer – 1

Overseer of Public Welfare – 1 Year Term (vote for 1)

Alison D. Jones – 207
Jack Dyer – 1

Cemetery Commission – 3 Year Term (vote for 1)

Randy Fleury – 207
Becky Blakeman – 1
Will O'Connell - 1

Article 2: Are you in favor of Amendment 1 to the Sutton Zoning Ordinance as proposed by the Board of Selectmen? To amend Article XI-STEEP SLOPE OVERLAY DISTRICT to read that: "a conditional use permit shall not be required, provided that the current applicable setback requirements are satisfied, for any lot that was:

- a) lawfully laid out by plan or deed duly and recorded in the Merrimack County Registry of Deed on or by March 8, 1966; or
- b) shown on an approved subdivision plan recorded in the Merrimack County Registry of Deed; or
- c) containing a legal, pre-existing driveway that has continually been in use since construction, provided that the lot where the driveway is located conforms to the area and frontage requirements of the zoning ordinance applicable at the time of the driveway's construction, unless the driveway location is proposed to change in which case this subparagraph (c) shall not be applicable." **This amendment is Recommended by the Planning Board.**

Yes Votes – 172

No Votes – 29

School Ballot Results Are:

Question 1 To see if the School District will vote to raise and appropriate the **Municipal Budget Committee's recommended amount of \$43,278,985** for the support of schools, for the payment of salaries for the school district officials and agents, and for the payment for the statutory obligations of the District. The **School Board** recommends **\$43,278,985**. This article does not include appropriations voted in other warrant articles. This warrant article asks the

voters to raise and appropriate for the support of schools, the salaries of School District Officials and Agents, and for the statutory obligations of said District, and to authorize the application against said appropriation of such sums as are estimated to be received from the State sources, together with other income, the School Board to certify to the Selectmen of each of the Towns of Bradford, New London, Newbury, Springfield, Sutton, Warner, and Wilmot, the amount to be raised by taxation by said towns. **(School Board Recommends 7-0) (MBC Recommends 8-0)**

A. \$43,278,985 for the proposed Operating Budget recommended by the School Board

B. \$43,278,985 for the proposed Operating Budget recommended by the Municipal Budget Committee

A – 123 votes

B – 61 votes

Question 2 To see if the School District will vote to approve the cost item included in the Collective Bargaining Agreement reached between the Kearsarge Regional School Board and the Kearsarge Regional Educators Association which calls for the following increases in salaries and benefits:

<i>Year</i>	<i>Estimated Increase</i>
2019-20	\$423,178
2020-21	\$412,254
2021-22	\$393,850

And further to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$423,178** for the 2019-20 fiscal year, such sum representing the additional costs attributable to the increase in salaries and benefits required by the new agreement over those that would be paid at current staff levels. **(School Board Recommends 7-0) (MBC Recommends 8-0)**

Yes – 141

No – 73

Question 3 To see if the School District will vote to raise and appropriate up to **\$15,000** to be placed in the Special Education Expendable Trust Fund, established in 2008 within the provisions of RSA 198:20-c for the purpose of emergency funding of unforeseen Special Education costs incurred by the District, with such amount to be funded **from unassigned fund balance (surplus funds) remaining** on hand as of June 30, 2019. **(School Board Recommends 7-0) (MBC Recommends 8-0)**

Yes - 161

No - 56

Question 4 To see if the School District will vote to raise and appropriate up to **\$50,000** to be placed in the School Buildings Maintenance Expendable Trust Fund for the purpose of repair, unanticipated utility costs, and maintaining the school buildings and equipment, with such amount to be funded **from unassigned fund balance (surplus funds) remaining** on hand as of June 30, 2019. **(School Board Recommends 7-0) (MBC Recommends 8-0)**

Yes - 158

No – 56

For Moderator for 1 Year: *(Vote for One)*
Brackett L. Scheffy – 197

For School Board Member for 3 Years: *(Vote for One)*

Emilio Cancio-Bello – 192

(Write Ins) – Robert DeFelice – 1

James Luca – 1

Greg Gill – 1

Bruce Kozikowski – 1

Other - 1

For Municipal Budget Committee for 3 Years: *(Vote for One)*

Robert DeFelice – 186

(Write Ins) – Kevin Rowe – 1

James Luca – 1

Dave Angeli – 1

Christopher Geraghty – 1

Bud Nelson – 1

Ron Meening - 1

Moderator Lick opened the 2019 Town Meeting on March 13, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. The meeting began with the pledge of allegiance followed by a moment of silence for all Sutton residents who passed away in 2018, those serving in our military and our first responders.

Moderator Lick announced a housekeeping matter. There was an error on page 165 of the town report. The town births were omitted. There will be a supplement in next years report to include this years births.

Moderator Lick announced that there were two recognitions tonight. Bill Wiley, holder of the Boston Post Cane turned 96 today. Happy Birthday was sung to this WWII veteran.

Sergeant Valerie Crone was recognized by the Selectboard. Selectman Robert Wright presented her with a gift for professionalism, grace under fire and able to handle the reigns.

Moderator Lick announced the election results beginning with the Town Election. He then asked those that were elected and in attendance to come forward to be sworn in. Selectman Robert Wright administered the oath of office. Moderator Lick then thanked all who ran and willing to put in their time and those who volunteer.

Moderator Lick pointed out that the Rules of Procedure is included in the town report this year on pages 17 – 19.

A motion to dispense with the reading of all of the warrant articles was asked for Moderator Lick.

Bob Wright moved to dispense with the reading of all the articles.

Bud Nelson seconded the motion.

The motion passed by voice vote.

Moderator Lick asked for a motion to move Article 3 as written.

Article 3: To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the Budget Committee recommended sum of \$2,354,295 for general municipal operations. This article does not include appropriations contained in special or individual articles addressed separately. The Board of Selectmen recommend \$2,356,335 (Majority vote required):

Bob DeFelice moved to pass Article 4 as written.

Bob Wright seconded the motion.

Bill Curless made a motion to amend Article 3, the Financial Administration line from the Budget Committee's recommendation of \$68,415 to the Selectman's recommendation of \$70,455.

Dane Headley seconded the motion.

Selectman Curless explained the Town Clerk's wages are currently \$32,000/year. The Budget Committee recommended a COL raise to bring the salary to \$32,960/year. The Select Board has moved to change the salary to \$35,000/year.

Moderator Lick confirmed the motion on the floor is to amend Article 3, the Financial Administration line from \$68,415 to \$70,455.

With no further discussion, the moderator called the question. **The amendment of Article 3 to the Financial Administration line passed by voice vote.**

A motion was made by Bob DeFelice to amend Article 3, the Highway Department's Budget, to increase the Sand and Salt line by \$12,000.

Bill Curless seconded the motion.

Bob DeFelice explained that it has been a rough couple of seasons and the Road Agent requested additional funds into the line item. Any of the unused additional funds would fall back into the general fund at the end of the year.

Moderator Lick confirmed the motion on the floor was to amend Article 3, the Highway Department's Budget from \$626,718 to \$638,718.

Charlie Forsberg suggested the Budget Committee take a harder look at the highway department and their practices and policies on sanding.

With no further discussion, Moderator Lick called the question to amend Article 3, the Highway Departments Budget from \$626,718 to \$638,718. **The amendment of Article 3 to the Highway Department Budget passed by voice vote.**

Moderator Lick asked for a motion to move Article 3 as amended.

Moved by Bob DeFelice

Seconded by Dane Headley

Charlie Forsberg noted the possible 20% increase in taxes for the next year and urged the voters and tax payers of the town to start saying no.

With no further discussion, Moderator Lick called the question. **Article 3 as amended passed by voice vote.**

Moderator Lick informed the voters that the next 4 or 5 Articles relate to Capital Reserve accounts and some changes to these accounts, some reshuffling and cleaning up of funds.

Moderator Lick asked for a motion to accept Article 4 as written.

Article 4: To see if the town will vote to change the purpose of the Fire Department Addition Capital Reserve Fund established in 2007 for the purpose of erecting an addition to the existing fire station to the Fire Station/Safety Facility Addition, Renovation or Construction Capital Reserve Fund for the purpose of either constructing an addition to the existing fire station or constructing a new or renovated facility for housing the fire department and other safety services, including but not limited to land purchase, building construction, site work, engineering, architectural fees, permitting, inspection, furniture, commissioning and other expenses to occupy the facility. **Recommended by the Budget Committee. Recommended by the Board of Selectmen. (2/3 vote required).**

Bob DeFelice moved to pass Article 4 as written.

Ricia McMahon seconded the motion.

Charlie Forsberg questioned who has the authority to expend this fund. It was not stated in the Article and needs to be clarified.

Bob DeFelice and Elly Phillips both confirmed that the authority to expend the fund would need to be approved and voted on at Town Meeting.

With no further discussion the Moderator called the question. **Article 4 passed by voice vote.**

Moderator Lick asked for a motion to accept Article 5 as written.

Article 5: To see if the Town will vote to change the purpose of the Pillsbury Memorial Hall Non-Capital Reserve Fund established in 2011 from the purpose of replacement of the heating system to the Municipal Government Building and related Infrastructure Expendable Non-Capital Reserve Fund and further to name the Board of Selectmen as agents to expend these funds.

Bob DeFelice moved to pass Article 4 as written.

Bill Curless seconded the motion.

The Moderator called the question. **Article 5 passed by voice vote.**

Moderator Lick requested a motion to accept Article 6 as written.

Article 6: To see if the Town will vote to change the purpose of the Revaluation Capital Reserve Fund established in 1986 to the Revaluation, Tax Mapping and Overlay Mapping Non-Capital Reserve Fund for the purpose of performing property revaluations and updating tax maps and overlay mapping and further to appoint the Board of Selectmen as agents to expend from this fund. **Recommended by the Budget Committee. Recommended by the Board of Selectmen. (2/3 vote required).**

Bob DeFelice moved to pass Article 6 as written.

Bob Wright seconded the motion.

Charlie Forsberg questioned if the town does a revaluation every 5 years. This was confirmed by Bob DeFelice. Charlie further asked if any other money is spent in the interim to prepare for the revaluations.

Elly Phillips confirmed that the town will expend from the operating budget to prepare for recertification, which includes, analysis of exemptions, credits and current use as required by the DRA. This includes a mass mailing to all participants. But, the actual revaluation, which is taking place in 2020, will come from the capital reserve.

Charlie Forsberg questioned, do we need a Capital Reserve Fund for the usual expenses each year of the analysis. Why can't it just be put as an expense item within the budget, so it can be acted upon individually?

Elly Phillips explained that the actual revaluation is a major amount of money. The town is looking into another approach, statistical revaluations, which will cut costs of revals. The town is trying to bundle this into one article and not raise the cost to the town. The town is not asking for more money.

With no further discussion, the moderator called the question. **Article 6 passed with the 2/3 vote requirement by voice vote.**

Moderator Lick asked for a motion to accept Article 7 as written.

Article 7: To see if the Town will vote to change the purpose of the Septage Lagoon Decommission Capital Reserve Fund to the Septage Lagoon Maintenance, Repair and Modification Fund for the purpose of maintaining, repairing and modifying/expanding the septage lagoons and further to appoint the Board of Selectmen as agents to expend these funds. **Recommended by the Budget Committee. Recommended by the Board of Selectmen. (2/3 vote required).**

Bob DeFelice moved to pass Article 7 as written.

Bill Curless seconded the motion.

Moderator Lick called the question. **Article 7 passed with the 2/3 vote requirement by voice vote.**

Moderator Lick announced that Article 5 required a 2/3 vote, but was not reflected in the town report. He wanted to note for the record, that **Article 5 passed with the required 2/3 vote.**

Moderator Lick indicated that there is a request to Passover Article 8.

Article 8: To see if the Town will vote to discontinue the Highway Pickup Truck Capital Reserve Fund established in 1998, said funds with accumulated interest to the date of withdrawal are to be transferred to the general fund (approximately \$38,070.70). The replacement for the pickup will be an F550 truck, or equivalent, and will be funded through the Highway Equipment (Plow/Dump) Truck Fund. **Recommended by the Budget Committee. Recommended by the Board of Selectmen.**

Bob DeFelice moved to pass on Article 8.

Bob Wright seconded the motion.

Bob DeFelice explained that the town will have a new Road Agent and they did not want to hold him to this Article as he may have a different idea.

Bud Nelson asked if the Article can be brought up later at the end of the meeting?

Moderator Lick explained that yes it can be.

With no further discussion, Moderator Lick asked for a vote to pass over Article 8. **Article 8 has been passed over by voice vote.**

Moderator Lick asked for a motion to pass Article 9 as written.

Article 9: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$725,750 to be added to various capital reserve funds as follows:

Blacktop Roads	\$120,000
Gravel Roads	30,000
Computers Admin	9,000
Welfare Direct Assistance	5,000
Septage Lagoons	5,000
Library Modifications	10,000
Highway Heavy Equipment	27,000
Police Cruisers	21,000
Police Department Computer Equipment	3,500
Cemetery Fence and Tombstone	5,000
Conservation Land	1,000
Highway Equipment "Plow/Dump Trucks"	120,000
Highway Bridges	50,000
Solid Waste Facility	5,000
Forest Fire Equipment	250
Fire Equipment Replacement	75,000
Property Revaluation	25,000
Cemetery Land	5,000
Pillsbury Memorial Hall Facility	1,000
Fire Department Addition	180,000
Highway Grader	26,000
Records Preservation	2,000

Recommended by the Budget Committee. Recommended by the Board of Selectmen.

Bob DeFelice moved to pass Article 9 as written.

Dane Headley seconded the motion.

Walter Baker made a motion to amend Article 9. To increase the appropriation for Conservation Land Fund by \$6,000.00 for a total of \$7,000.00. No additional money will be necessary from taxation. If passed, they look to pass over Article 13, thus eliminating the proposed Non-Capital Reserve Fund of \$6,000.00.

Richia McMahon seconded the motion.

Moderator Lick called the question on the motion to amend Article 9, Conservation Land line from \$1,000.00 to \$7,000.00. **The motion to amend Article 9 passed by voice vote.**

With no further discussion, Moderator Lick called the question on Article 9 as amended. **Article 9 as amended passed by voice vote.**

Moderator Lick asked for a motion to pass Article 10 as written.

Article 10: To see if the Town will vote to discontinue the following capital reserve funds with said funds with accumulated interest to date of withdrawal, to be transferred to the municipality's general fund:

Highway Garage established in 1998 (approximately \$762.30)

Highway Loader established in 2001 (\$0.00)

Highway Backhoe established in 2011 (approximately \$1,213.65)

Corporation Hill established in 2015 (approximately \$100.86)

Old Fire House established in 2015 (approximately \$5,154.00)

Recommended by the Budget Committee. Recommended by the Board of Selectmen.

Bob DeFelice moved to pass Article 10 as written.

Bill Curless seconded the motion.

There was no discussion on this article and Moderator Lick called the question. **Article 10 passed by voice vote.**

Moderator Lick asked for a motion to accept Article 11 as written.

Article 11: To see if the Town will vote to discontinue the following non-capital reserve and/or expendable trust funds with accumulated interest to date of withdrawal, to be transferred to the municipality's general fund:

Highway Emergency Expendable Non-Capital Reserve Fund established in 2002 (approximately \$20,357.81)

Fire Department Building Expendable Maintenance Non-Capital Reserve Fund established in 2005 (approximately \$2,387.75)

Cemetery Expendable Maintenance Non-Capital Reserve Fund established in 2005 (approximately \$1,193.08.)

Library Building Expendable Maintenance Non-Capital Reserve Fund established in 2005 (approximately \$17,610.83)

Recommended by the Budget Committee. Recommended by the Board of Selectmen.

Bob DeFelice moved to pass Article 11 as written.

Bill Curless seconded the motion.

Shannon Storm asked what the towns plan is for multiple emergencies in multiple buildings that exceed the fund limit. Also, there was concern that aging equipment will need to be replaced.

Bob DeFelice explained that this is for emergency funds. That the town would have quick access when needed. If there is insurance or warranty coverage, the town can cover until this money is received. Also, the general fund is available if needed.

Bruce Kozikowski expressed concern if the money going into the General Fund could be spent on anything.

The response from Bob DeFelice is no. With the money going into the General Fund each year, the town will be taking money from the General Fund to offset taxes each year as the rate is being set. He further explained that it can't be touched without an act of the Selectboard having a public hearing.

Discussion turned to what happens to the money at the end of the fiscal year and if it needs to be spent.

Elly Phillips explained that it goes into the “bank account”. The town can use money to offset tax rates when they are being set. The town can’t spend what was not budgeted for.

With no further discussion, Moderator Lick called the question. **Article 11 passed by voice vote.**

Moderator Lick asked for a motion to accept Article 12 as written.

Article 12: To see if the town will vote to create a Rescue Squad Equipment Capital Reserve for the purpose of replacement of the Rescue Squad EKG and other necessary rescue squad equipment and to raise and appropriate \$14,000 to be placed in that fund and further to appoint the Board of Selectmen as agents to expend said fund. **Recommended by the Budget Committee. Recommended by the Board of Selectmen.**

Bob DeFelice moved to pass Article 12 as written.

Bob wright seconded the motion.

Moderator Lick called the question. **Article 12 passed by voice vote.**

Moderator Lick announced that there was a request to pass over Article 13.

Article 13: To see if the town will vote to create a Conservation Commission Special Projects Non-Capital reserve fund under the provisions of RSA 35:1-c for the purpose of special conservation projects such as signage, kiosks, trail bridges, and maps, and to raise and appropriate \$6,000 to be placed in that fund and further to name the Board of Selectmen as agents to expend from this fund. **Recommended by the Budget Committee. Recommended by the Board of Selectmen.**

Walter Baker made a motion to pass over Article 13.

Ricia McMahon seconded the motion.

Moderator Lick asked for a vote to pass over Article 13. **Article 13 was passed over by a voice vote.**

Moderator Lick asked for a motion to accept Article 14 as written.

Article 14: To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$45,000 for the purpose of purchasing a fully-equipped Police Cruiser Dodge Charger and to authorize the withdrawal of \$45,000 from the Police Cruiser Capital Reserve Fund established in 2015 for that purpose. No amount to be raised from general taxation. **Recommended by the Budget Committee. Recommended by the Board of Selectmen.**

Bob DeFelice moved to pass Article 14 as written.

Bill Curless seconded the motion.

Moderator Lick called the question. **Article 14 passed by voice vote.**

Moderator Lick asked for a motion to accept Article 15 as written.

Article 15: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$188,000 for the purpose of purchasing a Plow/Dump truck and further to authorize the withdrawal of \$188,000 from the Heavy Equipment (Trucks) Capital Reserve Fund established in 1993 for that purpose. No amount to be raised from general taxation. **Recommended by the Budget Committee. Recommended by the Board of Selectmen.**

Bob DeFelice moved to pass Article 15 as written.

Bill Curless seconded the motion.

Charlie Forsberg asked if there is any reason the truck can't be upgraded or repaired. He inquired if there were a particular problem with the truck.

Bob DeFelice explained that they can't get parts or they are very expensive. When the town gets a new truck, the old one will be sold as parts. Road Agent Steve Bagley confirmed that Sterling, the make of the current truck, stopped making parts in 2009.

Charlie Forsberg suggested that if the truck is still operating, wait to buy a new one. Make repairs any way possible.

Steve Bagley commented that the town can't have an unsafe truck on the road.

With no further discussion, Moderator Lick called the question. **Article 15 passed by voice vote.**

Moderator Lick asked for a motion to accept Article 16 as written.

Article 16: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$70,000 for the purpose of purchasing a rescue vehicle cab and chassis and further to authorize the withdrawal of \$70,000 from the Rescue Vehicle Capital Reserve established in 2011 for that purpose. No amount to be raised from general taxation. **Recommended by the Budget Committee.**

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen.

Bob DeFelice moved to pass Article 16 as written.

Bob Wright seconded the motion.

Aaron Flewelling, from the fire department, made a motion to amend Article 16 to clarify the use of the \$70,000.00.

Article 16 shall now read: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$70,000 for the purpose of transferring and refurbishing the existing rescue vehicle body and install on a new cab and chassis to be purchased. And further, to authorize the withdrawal of \$70,000 from the Rescue Vehicle Capital Reserve Fund established in 2011 for that purpose. No amount to be raised from general taxation.

Bob DeFelice seconded the motion.

Charlie Forsberg questioned if the vehicle is to be taken out of service for modification, will the town be without service of this type of vehicle? Is there a plan in place for back-up?

Aaron Flewelling confirmed there would be a short time without service during the transfer. They will try to work with surrounding towns for mutual aid.

With no further discussion, Moderator Lick called the question on the motion to amend Article 16.

The amendment of Article 16 passed by voice vote.

With no further discussion of the amended article, Moderator Lick called the question on Article 16 as amended. **Article 16 passed as amended by voice vote.**

Moderator Lick asked for a motion to accept Article 17 as written.

Article 17: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$160,000 to purchase land and buildings at 26 Grist Mill Street, Map 05-936-155, for the purpose of municipal use and further to use \$160,000 from fund balance for this purchase. No amount to

be raised from General Taxation. **Recommended by the Budget Committee. Recommended by the Board of Selectmen.** (Majority vote required).

Bill Curless moved to pass Article 17 as written.

Bob DeFelice seconded the motion.

Bill Curless discussed the towns plan is to tear the house down and create a much needed parking lot. The purchase is subject to town approval.

Shannon Storm asked for clarification of which fund the \$160,000.00 would come from. The Article is not specific.

Bob DeFelice said it would come from the General Fund.

Stephen King inquired if the plan is to leave the building or tear it down for parking. And, how much it would cost to tear it down and put in a parking lot.

It was reiterated by Bill Curless that the plan is to tear down the house and put in a parking lot. And, he estimated the cost to be approximately \$30,000.00. It was not discussed by the Board to expend at this point or if that was exactly what was going to be done. The exact number would be presented to the town next year to be voted on.

Jack Noon informed us that the building, which was built in the 1840's most likely has some historical value. A possibility might be for the town to purchase the building but hold off tearing it down and possibly preserve the building.

Charlie Forsberg commented that if we pass on this opportunity to purchase the property, we may not get another opportunity. He also asked if the property could be resold if it was determined that the property did not meet our needs.

Bill Curless felt it is good to buy it and if there is historical value, there is a possibility that it can be dismantled and moved. He pointed out that any one of the buildings in the are have historical value. The town needs parking.

Katie Schnieder asked if there has been an evaluation on how this will affect property values in Sutton Mills, considering this house might be a historical building, and would it be taken into consideration. She realizes parking is a necessity, but feels it may be an eyesore to the town.

Bill Curless, speaking as a citizen, thought it would be better for the community to have off-road parking for safety reasons. It is a safety issue.

Bob DeFelice recommended putting a committee together to look at a design, or what to do with the building.

Shannon Storm wanted to know if there was discussion to use the building to create more office space.

Dane Headley spoke to the fact that they determined it would not be cost effective to convert the house to office space due to the condition of the house.

Many residents spoke against tearing down the house and asked to have other options considered. Many were concerned about the aesthetics of the village. The Selectboard took into consideration all the comments and a committee will formed to research the property and come

up with all viable options. It was brought up again that public safety is a driving force for this decision.

Heidi Thoma wanted clarification that this warrant article is just to purchase the property. And it was confirmed by Dane Headley.

Bob DeFelice added that the desired look of the parking lot would be like a park, with gravel and posts with chains.

With no further discussion, Moderator Lick called the question. He determined that Article 17 passes by voice vote. Moderator Lick asked if anyone wished to call for a hand vote. Enough residents raised their hand to request the hand vote, and he explained the process of the hand vote.

Moderator confirmed the results of the hand vote to be: Yes = 58 and No = 33. **Article 17 passed by hand vote.**

Moderator Lick asked for a motion to accept Article 18 as written.

Article 18: To see if the Town will vote to grant a Conservation Easement to the Ausbon Sargent Land Preservation Trust on 94.1 acres, more or less, owned by the Town of Sutton through its Conservation Commission, located at Sutton Tax Map/Lots 03-998-313, 04-110-318, 04-087-102, 04-070-198, off Eaton Grange Road. The purpose of the easement is to ensure that the properties will remain undeveloped and to conserve and protect forestland, wetlands and rare plant and wildlife.

Amy Highstrom moved to pass Article 18 as written.

Walter Baker seconded the motion.

Don Davis explained that this property is in South Sutton off Eaton Grange Road and Meetinghouse Hill Road. This will not cost the town any money.

Moderator Lick called the question. **Article 18 passed by voice vote.**

Moderator Lick announced that Article 19 was a petitioned Warrant Article and asked if the petitioner was present to speak about Article 19.

Article 19: We the undersigned, property owners and/or registered voters of the Town of Sutton, New Hampshire, do hereby petition the Town for Winter Maintenance of an additional 1,110.59 feet east on Kings Hill Road for the public good, enjoyment of designated conservation land and most importantly, public safety to keep the road passable for winter travel of the Class V portion of Kings Hill Road. **Not recommended by the Budget Committee. Not recommended by the Board of Selectmen.**

Marybeth Angeli moved to pass Article 19 as written.

Bob DeFelice seconded the motion.

There was considerable amount of discussion about why the town has been plowing the road in the winter and that it should not have been, about parking issues and how this can be corrected. The road is a class 5 road and therefore is only to be maintained in the summer and was never intended for winter use.

Bob Wright admitted that it was an error on the town's part that the road was being plowed and the Selectboard did not know it was being plowed in the winter. He reiterated that this is a class 5 road and summer maintained only.

Bruce Kozikowski made a motion to call the question.
Andrew Palmer seconded the motion.

The motion to call the question passed by voice vote.

Article 19 failed by voice vote.

Charlie Forsberg had a point of order. If we table this article, could it be brought up next year?

Moderator Lick said the answer is he is out of order, that we already had a call the question and we had an affirmative vote, that he is out of order and his point of order is not taken. We had a vote and Article 19 does not pass.

Moderator Lick thanked everyone for their time, effort and good comments.

Bill Curless made a motion to adjourn.
Bob DeFelice seconded the motion.

Meeting adjourned at 9:22pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol Merullo
Town Clerk/Tax Collector