

**CHAPTER
SIX
ELECTIONS &
TOWN
MEETINGS**

**Report of the Election Officers
& Town Clerk**

**STATE PRIMARY
SEPTEMBER 9, 2014**

In each precinct polling place, the polls were opened at 7:00 a.m. and the ballot box in each precinct registered 0.

Ballots received in each of the polling places were as follows:

- Precinct 1:** Regular Ballots - 501 Democrat and 552 Republican
Absent Voter Ballots - 7 Democrat and 11 Republican
- Precinct 2:** Regular Ballots - 501 Democrat and 506 Republican
Absent Voter Ballots - 1 Democrat and 14 Republican
- Precinct 3:** Regular Ballots - 496 Democrat and 493 Republican
Absent Voter Ballots - 2 Democrat and 3 Republican

The polls in each precinct were closed at 8:00 p.m. and after all the ballots, including absent voter ballots, were cast, the ballot boxes registered as follows:

- Precinct 1: 580 on the ballot box and 0 in the side pocket.
Precinct 2: 416 on the ballot box and 0 in the side pocket
Precinct 3: 453 on the ballot box and 1 in the side pocket

The number of names checked on the voting list was as follows:

- Precinct 1:** On the ballot clerk's list and on the list at the ballot box : 197 Democrat;
383 Republican
- Precinct 2:** On the ballot clerk's list and on the list at the ballot box : 130 Democrat; 286
Republican
- Precinct 3:** On the ballot clerk's list and on the list at the ballot box : 175 Democrat; 279
Republican

NUMBER OF BALLOTS CAST

- Precinct 1:** Number of Ballots Cast: 197 Democrat ; 383 Republican
Spoiled Ballots: 2 Democrat; 3 Republican
Provisional Ballots: 1 Democrat; 4 Republican
Unused Ballots: 307 Democrat; 174 Republican
- Precinct 2:** Number of Ballots Cast: 130 Democrat ; 286 Republican
Spoiled Ballots: 2 Democrat; 6 Republican
Provisional Ballots: 0 Democrat; 2 Republican
Unused Ballots: 370 Democrat; 226 Republican
- Precinct 3:** Number of Ballots Cast: 175 Democrat ; 279 Republican
Spoiled Ballots: 1 Democrat; 2 Republican
Provisional Ballots: 2 Democrat; 1 Republican

Unused Ballots: 320 Democrat; 214 Republican

ELECTION OFFICERS

Precinct 1: Warden (U) Patricia Kaczmarczyk; Clerk; (U) Allen Hodgdon; Inspectors: (U) Joyce Sinclair; (U) Nancy Daub; (U) Lillian Bachelder; (R) James Lake; (U) Bonnie Hodgdon; (U) Marilyn Farnum; (D) Roberta Casella

Precinct 2: Warden (U) Ann Shea; Clerk (U) Madeleine Andrews; Inspectors: (U) Betty Anne Smith; (U) Jean White; (U) Cathy Foster; (U) Margaret Feldman; (U) Marsha Smith; (U) Shirley Hyre

Precinct 3: Warden (U) Ben Feldman; Clerk (U) Carol Forand; Inspectors: (R) Diane Frost; (U) Christine Miranda; (D) Linda Lozier; (U) Gloria Stoddard; (D) Muriel Holden; (U) Claire Butler; (U) Dawn Maroni; (U) Mary Ann Linton; (U) Richard Lozier

Greeters: Cathy Muzzy and Matthew Karan

In each precinct, all of the election officers were sworn in by the warden.

The votes were canvassed, counted, recorded and declared by law as required, and were as follows:

DEMOCRAT	1	2	3	TOTALS
TOTAL DEMOCRATS	198	130	174	502
SENATOR IN CONGRESS				
BLANKS	39	17	37	93
EDWARD J. MARKEY	157	112	135	404
ALL OTHERS	2	1	2	5
TOTALS	198	130	174	502
GOVERNOR				
BLANKS	4	0	2	6
DONALD M. BERWICK	43	29	37	109
MARTHA COAKLEY	91	54	69	214
STEVEN GROSSMAN	59	47	66	172
ALL OTHERS	1	0	0	1
TOTALS	198	130	174	502
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR				
BLANKS	18	12	18	48
LELAND CHEUNG	47	22	37	106
STEPHEN J. KERRIGAN	114	80	107	301
MICHAEL E. LAKE	19	16	11	46
ALL OTHERS	0	0	1	1
TOTALS	198	130	174	502
ATTORNEY GENERAL				
BLANKS	10	1	8	19
MAURA HEALEY	130	83	119	332

WARREN E. TOLMAN	57	46	47	150
ALL OTHERS	1	0	0	1
TOTALS	198	130	174	502
SECRETARY OF STATE				
BLANKS	36	16	28	80
WILLIAM FRANCIS GALVIN	162	114	146	422
ALL OTHERS	0	0	0	0
TOTALS	198	130	174	502
TREASURER				
BLANKS	22	10	17	49
THOMAS P. CONROY	49	30	40	119
BARRY R. FINEGOLD	77	47	58	182
DEBORAH B. GOLDBERG	48	42	59	149
ALL OTHERS	2	1	0	3
TOTALS	198	130	174	502
AUDITOR				
BLANKS	39	23	36	98
SUZANNE M. BUMP	157	107	138	402
ALL OTHERS	2	0	0	2
TOTALS	198	130	174	502
REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS				
BLANKS	33	16	31	80
JAMES P. MCGOVERN	165	114	142	421
ALL OTHERS	0	0	1	1
TOTALS	198	130	174	502
COUNCILLOR				
	1	2	3	TOTALS
BLANKS	165	107	150	422
ALL OTHERS	33	23	24	80
TOTALS	198	130	174	502
SENATOR IN GENERAL COURT				
BLANKS	33	16	26	75
ANNE M. GOBI	164	114	148	426
ALL OTHERS	1	0	0	1
TOTALS	198	130	174	502
REPRESENTATIVE IN GENERAL COURT				
BLANKS	48	31	40	119
DENISE ANDREWS	133	93	125	351
ALL OTHERS	17	6	9	32
TOTALS	198	130	174	502
DISTRICT ATTORNEY				
BLANKS	40	21	37	98
DAVID E. SULLIVAN	157	109	137	403
ALL OTHERS	1	0	0	1
TOTALS	198	130	174	502
REGISTER OF PROBATE				
BLANKS	41	24	38	103

STEPHEN G. ABRAHAM	155	106	135	396
ALL OTHERS	2	0	1	3
TOTALS	198	130	174	502
REPUBLICAN				
	1	2	3	TOTALS
TOTAL REPUBLICAN	384	286	279	949
SENATOR IN CONGRESS				
BLANKS	127	76	81	284
BRIAN J. HERR	255	209	195	659
ALL OTHERS	2	1	3	6
TOTALS	384	286	279	949
GOVERNOR				
BLANKS	38	14	22	74
CHARLES D. BAKER	243	189	173	605
MARK R. FISHER	101	81	84	266
ALL OTHERS	2	2	0	4
TOTALS	384	286	279	949
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR				
BLANKS	106	69	79	254
KARYN E. POLITO	278	217	200	695
ALL OTHERS	0	0	0	0
TOTALS	384	286	279	949
ATTORNEY GENERAL				
BLANKS	123	73	83	279
JOHN B. MILLER	260	213	196	669
ALL OTHERS	1	0	0	1
TOTALS	384	286	279	949
SECRETARY OF STATE				
	1	2	3	TOTALS
BLANKS	133	78	85	296
DAVID D'ARCANGELO	251	208	193	652
ALL OTHERS	0	0	1	1
TOTALS	384	286	279	949
TREASURER				
BLANKS	133	79	83	295
MICHAEL JAMES HEFFERNAN	251	206	196	653
ALL OTHERS	0	1	0	1
TOTALS	384	286	279	949
AUDITOR				
BLANKS	139	83	92	314
PATRICIA S. SAINT AUBIN	245	201	184	630
ALL OTHERS	0	2	3	5
TOTALS	384	286	279	949
REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS				
BLANKS	338	250	240	828
ALL OTHERS	46	36	39	121
TOTALS	384	286	279	949

COUNCILLOR					
BLANKS	144	89	98	331	
JENNIE L. CAISSIE	240	196	180	616	
ALL OTHERS	0	1	1	2	
TOTALS	384	286	279	949	
SENATOR IN GENERAL COURT					
BLANKS	52	34	35	121	
JAMES P. EHRHARD	107	78	98	283	
MICHAEL J. VALANZOLA	225	173	146	544	
ALL OTHERS	0	1	0	1	
TOTALS	384	286	279	949	
REPRESENTATIVE IN GENERAL COURT					
BLANKS	4	2	1	7	
KAREN R. ANDERSON	53	72	76	201	
SUSANNAH M. WHIPPS LEE	326	212	202	740	
ALL OTHERS	1	0	0	1	
TOTALS	384	286	279	949	
DISTRICT ATTORNEY					
BLANKS	344	265	255	864	
ALL OTHERS	40	21	24	85	
TOTALS	384	286	279	949	
REGISTER OF PROBATE					
BLANKS	139	81	94	314	
STEPHANIE K. FATTMAN	245	204	184	633	
ALL OTHERS	0	1	1	2	
TOTALS	384	286	279	949	

We have canvassed the returns of votes cast in Precincts 1, 2, and 3, Town of Athol, and the Special Town Election this date, and declare the foregoing to be so.

In accordance with the requirements of General Laws, chapter 51, section 61, as amended, we certify that the number of registered voters in each voting precinct in the Town of Athol at the close of registration on August 20, 2014 was as follows. viz.-

Precinct	Registered Voters
1	2096
2	1820
3	<u>1846</u>
Total	5762

Nancy E. Burnham
 Hugh A. Horrigan
 Gerard Lozier
REGISTRARS OF VOTERS

**STATE ELECTION
NOVEMBER 4, 2014**

In each precinct polling place, the polls were opened at 7:00 a.m. and the ballot box in each precinct registered 0.

Ballots received in each of the polling places were as follows:

Precinct 1: 1,997 Regular Ballots and 49 Absent Voter Ballots
Precinct 2: 2,002 Regular Ballots and 24 Absent Voter Ballots
Precinct 3: 2,003 Regular Ballots and 56 Absent Voter Ballots

The polls in each precinct were closed at 8:00 p.m. and after all the ballots, including absent voter ballots, were cast, the ballot boxes registered as follows:

Precinct 1: 1,243 on the ballot box and 0 in the side pocket.
Precinct 2: 1,027 on the ballot box and 0 in the side pocket
Precinct 3: 1,099 on the ballot box and 0 in the side pocket

The number of names checked on the voting list was as follows:

Precinct 1: On the ballot clerk's list and on the list at the ballot box : 1,243
Precinct 2: On the ballot clerk's list and on the list at the ballot box : 1,027
Precinct 3: On the ballot clerk's list and on the list at the ballot box : 1,100

NUMBER OF BALLOTS CAST

Precinct 1: Number of Ballots Cast, 1,243; Spoiled Ballots, 27; Provisional Ballots, 6; Unused Ballots, 775
Precinct 2: Number of Ballots Cast, 1,027; Spoiled Ballots, 15; Provisional Ballots, 5; Unused Ballots, 979
Precinct 3: Number of Ballots Cast, 1,099; Spoiled Ballots, 30; Provisional Ballots, 7; Unused Ballots, 922

ELECTION OFFICERS

Precinct 1: Warden (U) Patricia Kaczmarczyk; Deputy Warden; (U) Allen Hodgdon; Clerk (R) Alice Woessner; Inspectors: (U) Joyce Sinclair; (U) Nancy Daub; (U) Lillian Bachelder; (R) James Lake; (U) Bonnie Hodgdon; (U) Marilyn Farnum; (U) Margaret Robinson; (D) David Small; (U) Diane Page

Precinct 2: Warden (U) Ann Shea; Deputy Warden (U) Madeleine Andrews; Clerk (D) Muriel Holden; Inspectors: (U) Betty Anne Smith; (U) Jean White; (U) Cathy Foster; (U) Margaret Feldman; (U) Marsha Smith; (U) Shirley Hyre

Precinct 3: Warden (U) Ben Feldman; Deputy Warden (U) Carol Forand; Clerk (U) Dawn Maroni; Inspectors: (R) Diane Frost; (U) Christine Miranda; (D) Linda Lozier; (U) Gloria Stoddard; (U) Claire Butler; (U) Mary Ann Linton; (U) Richard Lozier; (U) Bonnie Stewart

Greeters: Cathy Muzzy, Kathy Harrow, Stephen Raymond, Beau Guimond and Matthew Drazek.

In each precinct, all of the election officers were sworn in by the warden.

The votes were canvassed, counted, recorded and declared by law as required, and were as follows:

	1	2	3	TOTALS
TOTALS	1245	1029	1099	3373
SENATOR IN CONGRESS				
BLANKS	66	35	46	147
EDWARD J. MARKEY	597	476	586	1659
BRIAN J. HERR	581	516	464	1561
WRITE-INS	1	2	3	6
TOTALS	1245	1029	1099	3373
GOVERNOR/LT. GOVERNOR				
BLANKS	27	15	21	63
BAKER AND POLITO	693	607	584	1884
COAKLEY AND KERRIGAN	430	325	411	1166
FALCHUK AND JENNINGS	64	50	47	161
LIVELY AND SAUNDERS	22	24	24	70
MCCORMICK AND POST	9	8	12	29
WRITE-INS	0	0	0	0
TOTALS	1245	1029	1099	3373
ATTORNEY GENERAL				
BLANKS	59	44	57	160
MAURA HEALEY	594	448	569	1611
JOHN B. MILLER	591	537	471	1599
WRITE-INS	1	0	2	3
TOTALS	1245	1029	1099	3373
SECRETARY OF STATE				
BLANKS	59	45	51	155
WILLIAM FRANCIS GALVIN	688	528	640	1856
DAVID D'ARCANGELO	443	409	371	1223
DANIEL L. FACTOR	54	47	36	137
WRITE-INS	1	0	1	2
TOTALS	1245	1029	1099	3373
TREASURER				
BLANKS	80	60	69	209
DEBORAH B. GOLDBERG	512	404	513	1429
MICHAEL J. HEFFERNAN	601	516	467	1584
IAN T. JACKSON	52	49	50	151
WRITE-INS	0	0	0	0
TOTALS	1245	1029	1099	3373
AUDITOR				
BLANKS	95	76	79	250
SUZANNE M. BUMP	580	458	552	1590

PATRICIA S. SAINT AUBIN	513	449	424	1386
MK MERELICE	57	46	43	146
WRITE-INS	0	0	1	1
TOTALS	1245	1029	1099	3373
REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS				
BLANKS	377	295	285	957
JAMES P. MCGOVERN	850	712	788	2350
WRITE-INS	18	22	26	66
TOTALS	1245	1029	1099	3373
COUNCILLOR				
	1	2	3	TOTALS
BLANKS	356	277	312	945
JENNIE L. CAISSIE	877	745	775	2397
WRITE-INS	12	7	12	31
TOTALS	1245	1029	1099	3373
SENATOR IN GENERAL COURT				
BLANKS	48	41	50	139
ANNE M. GOBI	555	438	554	1547
MICHAEL J. VALANZOLA	641	549	493	1683
WRITE-INS	1	1	2	4
TOTALS	1245	1029	1099	3373
REPRESENTATIVE IN GENERAL COURT				
BLANKS	22	23	28	73
DENISE ANDREWS	367	313	398	1078
SUSANNAH M. WHIPPS LEE	853	688	671	2212
WRITE-INS	3	5	2	10
TOTALS	1245	1029	1099	3373
DISTRICT ATTORNEY				
BLANKS	384	312	312	1008
DAVID E. SULLIVAN	844	699	769	2312
WRITE-INS	17	18	18	53
TOTALS	1245	1029	1099	3373
REGISTER OF PROBATE				
BLANKS	94	70	81	245
STEPHEN G. ABRAHAM	511	401	514	1426
STEPHANIE K. FATTMAN	638	556	503	1697
WRITE-INS	2	2	1	5
TOTALS	1245	1029	1099	3373
QUESTION 1 - GAS TAX				
BLANKS	44	24	34	102
YES	784	657	625	2066
NO	417	348	440	1205
TOTALS	1245	1029	1099	3373
QUESTION 2 - BOTTLE BILL				
BLANKS	14	12	15	41
YES	255	212	215	682
NO	976	805	869	2650

TOTALS	1245	1029	1099	3373
QUESTION 3 - CASINOS				
BLANKS	21	17	28	66
YES	317	242	292	851
NO	907	770	779	2456
TOTALS	1245	1029	1099	3373
QUESTION 4 - SICK TIME				
BLANKS	32	24	32	88
YES	623	557	592	1772
NO	590	448	475	1513
TOTALS	1245	1029	1099	3373
QUESTION 5 - TAX MARIJUANA				
	1	2	3	TOTALS
BLANKS	108	85	101	294
YES	806	641	692	2139
NO	331	303	306	940
TOTALS	1245	1029	1099	3373

We have canvassed the returns of votes cast in Precincts 1, 2, and 3, Town of Athol, and the Special Town Election this date, and declare the foregoing to be so.

In accordance with the requirements of General Laws, chapter 51, section 61, as amended, we certify that the number of registered voters in each voting precinct in the Town of Athol at the close of registration on October 15, 2014 was as follows. viz.-

Precinct	Registered Voters
1	2286
2	2000
3	<u>2059</u>
Total	6345

Nancy E. Burnham
Hugh A. Horrigan
Gerard Lozier
REGISTRARS OF VOTERS

**ANNUAL TOWN ELECTION
APRIL 6, 2015**

In each precinct polling place, the polls were opened at 10:00 a.m. and the ballot box in each precinct registered 0.

Ballots received in each of the polling places were as follows:

- Precinct 1:** 597 Regular Ballots and 8 Absent Voter Ballots
- Precinct 2:** 599 Regular Ballots and 3 Absent Voter Ballots
- Precinct 3:** 599 Regular Ballots and 6 Absent Voter Ballots

The polls in each precinct were closed at 8:00 p.m. and after all the ballots, including absent voter ballots, were cast, the ballot boxes registered as follows:

- Precinct 1:** 170 on the ballot box and 0 in the side pocket.
- Precinct 2:** 110 on the ballot box and 0 in the side pocket
- Precinct 3:** 137 on the ballot box and 0 in the side pocket

The number of names checked on the voting list was as follows:

- Precinct 1:** On the ballot clerk's list and on the list at the ballot box : 170
- Precinct 2:** On the ballot clerk's list and on the list at the ballot box : 110
- Precinct 3:** On the ballot clerk's list and on the list at the ballot box : 137

NUMBER OF BALLOTS CAST

- Precinct 1:** Number of Ballots Cast, 170; Spoiled Ballots, 2; Provisional Ballots, 0; Unused Ballots, 433
- Precinct 2:** Number of Ballots Cast, 110; Spoiled Ballots, 3; Provisional Ballots, 0; Unused Ballots, 489
- Precinct 3:** Number of Ballots Cast, 137; Spoiled Ballots, 2; Provisional Ballots, 0; Unused Ballots, 420

ELECTION OFFICERS

Precinct 1: Warden (U) Patricia Kaczmarczyk; Clerk; (U) Allen Hodgdon; Inspectors: (U) Nancy Daub; (U) Lillian Bachelder; (R) James Lake; (U) Bonnie Hodgdon; (U) Mary Ann Linton; (D) Richard Lozier

Precinct 2: Warden (U) Ann Shea; Clerk (U) Madeleine Andrews; Inspectors: (U) Betty Anne Smith; (U) Jean White; (U) Cathy Foster; (U) Margaret Feldman; (U) Marsha Smith; (U) Shirley Hyre

Precinct 3: Warden (U) Ben Feldman; Clerk (R) Marion Euvrard; Inspectors: (R) Diane Frost; (D) Muriel Holden; (D) Linda Lozier; (U) Gloria Stoddard; (U) Claire Butler; (U) Carol Forand

In each precinct, all of the election officers were sworn in by the warden.

The votes were canvassed, counted, recorded and declared by law as required, and were as follows:

OFFICE/CANDIDATE					
TOTALS	1	2	3	TOTALS	
MODERATOR					
BLANKS	19	11	11	41	
LAWRENCE P. MCLAUGHLIN	150	99	125	374	
JOAN GROSS	0	0	1	1	
ALL OTHERS	1	0	0	1	
TOTALS	170	110	137	417	
SELECTMAN - 3 YEARS					
BLANKS	49	26	43	118	
LEE E. CHAUVETTE	115	84	89	288	
JOSEPH HAWKINS	1	0	0	1	
PHIL KING	1	0	0	1	
JASON LERAY	1	0	2	3	
CHARLES KERRIGAN	1	0	0	1	
WILLIAM CALDWELL	1	0	0	1	
DAVID SMALL	1	0	0	1	
KEITH CHACE	0	0	2	2	
ALL OTHERS	0	0	1	1	
TOTALS	170	110	137	417	
SELECTMAN - 1 YEAR					
BLANKS	42	25	37	104	
MITCHELL R. GROSKY	113	74	95	282	
SUSANNAH LEE	3	0	0	3	
PHIL KING	1	0	0	1	
PAULA ROBINSON	1	0	0	1	
EDWARD STONE	2	2	0	4	
JASON LERAY	1	0	0	1	
KENNETH DUFFY	2	1	0	3	
THOMAS LOZIER	1	0	0	1	
WILLIAM CALDWELL	1	2	0	3	
JOHN COSTA	1	0	0	1	
KATHLEEN PUTNAM	0	1	0	1	
H THOMAS COLO	0	1	1	2	
JAMES SMITH	0	4	0	4	
REBECCA LERAY	0	0	2	2	
ALL OTHERS	2	0	2	4	
TOTALS	170	110	137	417	
SCHOOL COMMITTEE FROM ATHOL - 3 YEARS					
BLANKS	103	79	85	267	
JOAO M. BAPTISTA	101	59	74	234	

DEBORAH B. KUZMESKAS	135	81	113	329
SHELLY SMALL	1	0	0	1
KENNETH VAIDULAS	0	1	0	1
TAMARA CAPUTO	0	0	1	1
KEITH CHACE	0	0	1	1
ALL OTHERS	0	0	0	0
TOTALS	340	220	274	834
SCHOOL COMMITTEE FROM ROYALSTON - 3 YEARS				
BLANKS	8	7	9	24
ANGELICA FAVREAU	35	21	23	79
ROBERTA BOBBI NEWMAN	44	30	38	112
CARLA B. RABINOWITZ	83	52	67	202
ALL OTHERS	0	0	0	0
TOTALS	170	110	137	417
SCHOOL COMMITTEE FROM ROYALSTON - 1 YEAR				
BLANKS	55	32	37	124
CHARLES H. PRETTI	114	78	99	291
JEFFREY COOKE	0	0	1	1
ALL OTHERS	1	0	0	0
TOTALS	170	110	137	417
LIBRARY TRUSTEE				
BLANKS	106	73	87	266
FRANCIS W. FOSTER	108	69	90	267
CHRISTINE A. MIRANDA	126	77	97	300
ALL OTHERS	0	1	0	1
TOTALS	340	220	274	834
HOUSING AUTHORITY				
BLANKS	45	27	38	110
EDWARD C. SAWIN	124	83	99	306
ALL OTHERS	1	0	0	1
TOTALS	170	110	137	417
CONSTABLE				
BLANKS	10	8	8	26
KENNETH A. VAIDULAS	114	79	105	298
KEVIN J. MATERAS	46	23	24	93
ALL OTHERS	0	0	0	0
TOTALS	170	110	137	417
QUESTION 1 - CHARTER AMENDMENT - TOWN MANAGER RESIDENCY				
BLANKS	4	8	12	24
YES	134	75	109	318
NO	32	27	16	75
TOTALS	170	110	137	417
QUESTION 2 - NON BINDING BOARD OF HEALTH				
BLANKS	7	14	11	32
YES	90	53	79	222
NO	73	43	47	163
TOTALS	170	110	137	417

Total # of registered voters		6,047					
Turnout		7%					

We have canvassed the returns of votes cast in Precincts 1, 2, and 3, Town of Athol, and the Special Town Election this date, and declare the foregoing to be so.

In accordance with the requirements of General Laws, chapter 51, section 61, as amended, we certify that the number of registered voters in each voting precinct in the Town of Athol at the close of registration on March 17, 2015 was as follows. viz.-

Precinct	Registered Voters
1	2173
2	1918
3	<u>1956</u>
Total	6047

Nancy E. Burnham
 Hugh A. Horrigan
 Gerard Lozier
REGISTRARS OF VOTERS

**FALL TOWN MEETING
OCTOBER 20, 2014**

The 2014 Fall Town Meeting was held on October 20, 2014 in Memorial Hall. Voters entering the meeting were checked in on the list of registered voters and there were 95 present when the Moderator called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m. The number of voters checked as being present was as follows: Precinct 1, 47; Precinct 2, 22; and Precinct 3, 29. Total present: 98

Town Clerk, Nancy Burnham, read the return of service from Constable Randy Mitchell.

The Moderator called for a moment of silence for the following:

Mary Lou Schwab – She was the Executive Director of the American Red Cross, Athol Chapter for 18 years. She organized countless local blood drives and acted as responder to the needs of local families and individuals. She was one of the founding members of the Athol Area United Way.

David W. Maroni – He was a member of the Planning Board, Downtown Vitality Committee and Town Energy Committee

Harry W. Sanderson, Jr. – He was a heavy equipment operator for the Department of Public Works for 30 years

Kirt R. Reilly – He was the supervisor at the Waste Water Treatment Plant since 2002.

Gerald A. Brousseau – He was the Plumbing Inspector for the Town of Athol for over 30 years.

David Bruce Boutall – He was an Athol Police Officer from 1973 until his retirement in 2001.

The following is a true record of the votes taken at the October 20, 2014 Fall Town Meeting.

Article 1 On the Motion of Kenneth Duffy, it was **VOTED:** That the Town amend Chapter IV Town Buildings and Property, Section 1(b) of the Town Bylaws:

Section 1(b). The care, custody and control of the entire Memorial Building shall be with a Memorial Hall Committee consisting of three Selectmen, and four voters to be appointed by the Town Manager each year in April to serve for one year from May first. This Committee with the aide of the Town Manager shall employ necessary janitors and caretakers, and attend to the lighting, heating, care and repair of the building, and make reasonable rules and regulations not inconsistent with these bylaws for the use and occupancy of said building. All town officers and boards shall, as far as possible, be provided necessary and adequate office and vault space in the building, and in the use of the building's facilities the carrying out of the town's business shall be given first consideration.

and replacing it with the following:

Section 1(b). The care, custody and control of the entire Memorial Building shall be with a Memorial Hall Committee consisting of two Selectmen, and five voters to be appointed by the Town Manager each year in April to serve for one year from May first. This Committee, with the aid of the Town Manager, shall employ necessary custodians, and attend to the lighting, heating, care and repair of the building, and make reasonable rules and regulations not inconsistent with these bylaws for the use and occupancy of said building. All town officers and boards shall, as far as possible, be provided necessary and adequate office and vault space in the building, and in the use of the building's facilities the carrying out of the town's business shall be given first consideration. *Passed by a majority vote.*

Article 2 On the Motion of Paul W. Nelson, it was **VOTED:** That the Town amend Chapter IV Town Buildings and Property, Section 1(c) of the Town Bylaws:

The Committee shall grant the Edward H. Phillips Post No. 102, American Legion, the use of Memorial hall on Armistice Day, and the Roy L. Boyce, Post No. 650, Veterans of Foreign Wars of the U.S. and Athol Chapter No. 46, Disabled American Veterans, each the use of Memorial Hall one night each year without charge. To each of said organizations and to the Athol High School Alumni Association for the rentable portions of Memorial Building on one other date each year, without charge, provided said use shall not be for the purposes of revenue or gain.

and replacing it with the following:

The Committee shall grant the Athol Veterans Council (consisting of the American Veterans [Am Vets] Post 793, Edward H. Phillips American Legion Post No. 102, Disabled American Veterans Chapter 46, Pequoig Detachment 1168 Marine Corps League, Roy L. Boyce Post 650 Veterans of Foreign Wars, Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 340 the use of Memorial Hall and Liberty Hall on Armistice (Veterans) Day and the use of Memorial Hall on Memorial Day in the event of rain and each of the afore mentioned organizations the use of Memorial Hall one night each year without charge. To each of said organizations and to the Athol High School Alumni Association for the rentable portions of Memorial Building on one other date each year, without charge, provided said use shall not be for the purposes of revenue or gain. *Passed by a majority vote.*

Article 3 On the Motion of Gary H. Deyo, it was **VOTED:** That the Town amend Athol Zoning Bylaws Article IV – Definitions:

Animal Kennel. “Kennel”, MGL Ch. 140, Sec. 136A, one pack or collection of dogs on a single premises, whether maintained for breeding, boarding, sale, training, hunting or other purposes and including any shop where dogs are on sale, and also including every pack or collection of more than three dogs three months old or over owned or kept by a person on a single premises irrespective of the purpose for which they are maintained. Amendment effective May 4, 1987.

And replacing it with the following:

Animal Kennel. “Kennel”, MGL Ch. 140, Sec. 136A, a pack or collection of dogs on a single premise, including a commercial boarding or training kennel, commercial breeder kennel,

domestic charitable corporation kennel, personal kennel or veterinary kennel. *Required*
2/3rd's vote. *The vote was 83 yes and 0 no.*

Article 4 On the Motion of Cynthia Hahn Caldwell, it was **VOTED:** That the Town amend Athol Zoning Bylaws by adding under Article III – General Regulations, language as printed below:

3.27 Adaptive Reuse Overlay District

3.27.1 Purpose and Intent

Whereas, the Town of Athol has identified a number of non-residential buildings located within existing residential neighborhoods that may no longer be suitable for their original use, and as the town wishes to proactively address vacancies and to adapt to changing circumstances, the Adaptive Reuse Overlay District (AROD) provides specific regulations and guidelines. These regulations provide greater flexibility for future use scenarios while upholding the interests of public health, safety, and welfare through guidelines for neighborhood compatibility and other standards.

The Adaptive Reuse Overlay District will:

- a. Prevent deterioration of buildings that have become obsolete for their original purposes by allowing reuse for other economic and civic opportunities.
- b. Provide an incentive for building reuse and redevelopment through regulatory flexibility.

3.27.2 Definitions

Arts Center: An establishment geared toward exposing, generating, and making accessible art making to arts-interested individuals, or buildings that rent primarily to artists, galleries, or companies involved in art making.

Community Center: A structure where members of a community gather for group activities, meetings, social support, public information, and other purposes

Dance Studio: An educational institution in which the art of dancing is taught and rehearsed.

Municipal Building: Any building whose original title was held by the town of Athol

Music Academy: An educational institution in which all forms of music are taught and rehearsed.

3.27.3 Applicability

- a. This bylaw applies to public schools and municipal buildings, existing at the time of adoption of this bylaw, located in the Residential A, Residential B and Residential C zoning districts.

- b. If the principal building has been removed, then the AROD is nullified and the underlying zoning applies.

3.27.4 **Appropriate Uses**

In addition to the uses that are permitted by the underlying zoning, the following uses may be permitted by Special Permit for buildings defined in section 3.27.3 a:

- a. Community Centers
- b. Dance Studios
- c. Music Academies
- d. Industrial - Light
- e. Nursery or Greenhouse - With Retail Sales
- f. Parking - Business
- g. Private, for profit school
- h. Arts Centers
- i. Retail Business
- j. Restaurant - Indoor
- k. Restaurant – With Outside Service
- l. Wholesaling - Without Storage
- m. Wholesaling - With Storage

3.27.5 **Standards**

- a. The proposed use shall not exceed the total square footage or footprint of the building.
- b. Hours of Operation as defined by the Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA) to ensure compatibility with the neighborhood.
- c. The ZBA may require a traffic impact statement to demonstrate that operations shall not adversely impact the neighborhood.

3.27.6 **Permit Requirements**

Uses defined under this bylaw shall require a Special Permit by the Athol Zoning Board of Appeals. The ZBA shall define conditions to ensure the use does not adversely impact the neighborhood.

3.27.7 **Map**

The Adaptive Reuse Overlay District is shown on a map entitled “Adaptive Reuse Overlay District” dated October 20, 2014 on file in the office of the Town Clerk.

3.27.8 **Severability**

The provisions of this zoning bylaw are severable. In the event that any provision of this zoning bylaw is determined to be invalid for any reason, the remaining provisions shall remain in full force and effect. *Required a 2/3rd's vote. The vote was 85 yes and 0 no.*

Article 5 **NO MOTION, NO ACTION** taken on “To see if the Town will vote to amend the Town Charter by deleting the following language:

5-1-1 The Board of Selectmen, by an affirmative vote of at least four members shall appoint a Town Manager for an indefinite term to serve at its pleasure.

and replacing it with the following:

5-1-1 The Board of Selectmen, by an affirmative vote of at least three members shall appoint a Town Manager for an indefinite term to serve at its pleasure; or act in relation thereto.”

Article 6 On the Motion of Kenneth Duffy, it was **VOTED:** That the Town amend Section 5-2-2 of the Town Charter

5-2-2 In selecting a Town Manager, the Board of Selectmen shall conduct a search for candidates, including an advertisement in a then current publication serving the municipal management profession. The Town Manager need not be a resident of the Town when appointed, but he shall take up full-time residence within eight months following his appointment. He shall not have held an elective Office of the Town of Athol within two years immediately prior to his appointment.

and replacing it with the following:

5-2-2 In selecting a Town Manager, the Board of Selectmen shall conduct a search for candidates, including an advertisement in a then current publication serving the municipal management profession. He shall not have held an elective Office of the Town of Athol within two years immediately prior to his appointment. *Required a 2/3rd's vote. The vote was 75 yes and 2 no.*

Article 7 On the Motion of Paul W. Nelson, it was **VOTED:** That the Town amend the Town Charter by adding the following language:

5-2-3 The Town Manager need not be a resident of the Town when appointed, but he shall take up full-time residence within one (1) year following his appointment. Legal residence or domicile shall be his true home or principal residence and shall be the center of his domestic, economic, social and civic life. The Town Manager shall not choose to make his home one place for the general purposes of domestic, economic, social, and civic life as defined above and in another for employment. *Required a 2/3rd's vote. The vote was 66 yes and 16 no.*

Article 8 **NO MOTION, NO ACTION** taken on “To see if the Town will vote to amend the Town Charter by deleting the following language:

5-4-1 During the first six months of his appointment, the Board of Selectmen may remove the Town Manager by an affirmative vote of at least four members.

and replacing it with the following:

5-4-1 During the first six months of his appointment, the Board of Selectmen may remove the Town Manager by an affirmative vote of at least three members; or act in relation thereto.

Article 9 **NO MOTION, NO ACTION** taken on “To see if the Town will vote to amend the Town Charter by deleting the following language:

5-4-7 Final removal of any Town Manager recruited under this Charter shall be affected by the affirmative vote of at least four members of the Board of Selectmen at a public Meeting of the Board held within seven days of such public hearing, if he has so requested one. If he has not requested a hearing, final removal may be affected by at least four affirmative votes of the Board held not earlier than fourteen days after the vote initiating the removal. The salary of the Town Manager shall continue to be paid as provided by an employment contract, if any, between the Board and the Town Manager, or in the absence of such a contract, as the Board of Selectmen shall determine, provided however that in no instance shall the amount paid after the Manager’s removal from Office exceed the equivalent of one month’s salary for each year served up to a maximum of six months.

and replacing it with the following:

5-4-7 Final removal of any Town Manager recruited under this Charter shall be effected by the affirmative vote of at least three members of the Board of Selectmen at a public Meeting of the Board held within seven days of such public hearing, if he has so requested one. If he has not requested a hearing, final removal may be effected by at least three affirmative votes of the Board held not earlier than fourteen days after the vote initiating the removal. The salary of the Town Manager shall continue to be paid as provided by an employment contract, if any, between the Board and the Town Manager, or in the absence of such a contract, as the Board of Selectmen shall determine, provided however that in no instance shall the amount paid after the Manager’s removal from Office exceed the equivalent of one month’s salary for each year served up to a maximum of six months; or act in relation thereto.”

Article 10 On the Motion of Gary H. Deyo, it was **VOTED:** That the Town authorize the Board of Selectmen to sell or dispose of surplus property by auction or other legal means the following parcels of land as shown on Athol Assessors Map 43, Lot 14 and recorded at the Worcester District Registry of Deeds as Book 2595 Page 492, Phillipston Assessors Map 37, Lot 11 and recorded at the Worcester District Registry of Deeds as Book 1836 Page 133, and Phillipston Assessors Map 37, Lot 9 and recorded at the Worcester District Registry of Deeds also as Book 1836 Page 133. *Passed by a majority vote.*

Article 11 **NO MOTION, NO ACTION** taken on “To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or appropriate from available funds a sum of money to pay interest charges for the Water Line project; or act in relation thereto. “

Article 12 On the Motion of Kenneth Duffy, it was **VOTED:** That the Town appropriate \$80,000.00 from taxation to pay principal and interest charges for the Water Line project. *Passed by a majority vote.*

Article 13 On the Motion of Cynthia Hahn Caldwell, it was **VOTED:** That the Town appropriate \$282.25 from taxation to pay for FY14 medical bills for the employment physical for a police officer. *Required a 4/5th's vote. The vote was 88 yes and 1 no.*

Article 14 On the Motion of Paul W. Nelson, it was **VOTED:** That the Town appropriate \$650.00 from taxation to pay for FY14 bill for the Board of Selectmen. *Required a 4/5th's vote. The vote as 87 yes and 0 no.*

Article 15 On the Motion of Kenneth Duffy, it was **VOTED:** That the Town amend the fiscal year 2015 Department of Public Works/Sewer Division budget, as approved in Article 20 of the June 9, 2014 Annual Town Meeting, by increasing the operational expense line as printed in the warrant.

Sewer Division	Expenses
Operational Expenses	862,287
Debt	370,545
Health Insurance	59,794
Overhead	97,800
Capital	0
Total	1,390,426

Passed by a majority vote.

Article 16 On the Motion of Gary H. Deyo, it was **VOTED:** That the Town accept MGL Chapter 32B, Section 20 authorizing the Town Treasurer to establish a separate fund to be known as the "Other Post Employment Benefits (OPEB) Liability Trust Fund." The purpose of the fund is to reduce the unfunded actuarial liability of health care and other post-employment benefits to zero over an actuarially-acceptable period of years, and to meet normal cost of all such future benefits for which the Town of Athol is obligated. And further, to appropriate from stabilization \$10,000.00 to such fund. *Required a 2/3rd's vote. The vote was 69 yes and 9 no.*

Article 17 On the Motion of Rene A. Lake, it was **VOTED:** That the Town accept the resolution as printed below:

**RESOLUTION OPPOSING THE NORTHEAST EXPANSION
OF THE TENNESEE GAS PIPELINE IN MASSACHUSETTS
AND TO CHAMPION SUSTAINABLE ENERGY**

Whereas a proposed high-pressure transmission pipeline carrying natural gas may come through Athol and/or neighboring communities in the North Quabbin Region while providing no benefit to the people of Athol; and

Whereas said pipeline goes against current Massachusetts commitments to renewable energies and efforts to combat global climate change, creating infrastructure that will promote and prolong the use of fossil fuels perhaps for another 60--100 years; and

Whereas said pipeline would destroy unknowable amounts of forest, conservation land, farmland, and environmentally sensitive areas; and

Whereas property owners who object to the presence of the pipeline on their property would be potentially subject to eminent domain powers granted to a private company by the federal government; and

Whereas a high-pressure gas pipeline, by its nature, carries the potential for leak, rupture or devastating explosion causing untold damage to property and lives; and

Whereas the cost of said gas pipeline may be funded in part by Massachusetts residents through a utility bill tariff as well as through environmental costs not required by law to be paid for by Tennessee Gas Pipeline Company, LLC ("TGP", a subsidiary of Kinder Morgan Energy Partners, L.P.), making rate payers and tax payers bear financial burdens and risks for the endeavors of a private corporation; and

Whereas we the citizens of Athol, Massachusetts choose not to participate in such encumbrances to life, vibrancy, economic stability, and general well being of our citizens or that of our neighbors who live on or near the path of the high-pressure pipeline and the associated compression stations, be it *Resolved*, that the people of Athol, Massachusetts:

1. Hereby oppose said pipeline, and any other similar pipeline carrying high volumes of natural gas under high pressure through the woods, wetlands, farmland, conservation land, and rural residential land of the North Quabbin region;
2. Call upon our Select Board to stand with us in opposition to Kinder Morgan and/or Tennessee Gas Pipeline's high pressure gas pipeline by acting to not allow it within our town borders;
3. Hereby instruct our state and federal legislators and executive branch officials to enact legislation and take such other actions as are necessary to disallow such projects that violate our commitments to life, the environment, our economic well being, and our bodily safety, and, instead, to legislate more stringent energy efficiency and further exploration of and financial assistance for renewable energy sources, said instruction to be issued on behalf of the residents of the Town of Athol by the Select Board; or act in relation thereto. *Passed by a majority vote.*

Meeting dissolved at 8:49 p.m.

Attest:

Nancy E. Burnham
Town Clerk

**SPECIAL TOWN MEETING
MARCH 2, 2015**

The 2015 Special Town Meeting was held on March 2, 2015 in Memorial Hall. Voters entering the meeting were checked in on the list of registered voters and there were 66 present when the Moderator called the meeting to order at 7:08 p.m. The number of voters checked as being present was as follows: Precinct 1, 36; Precinct 2, 13; and Precinct 3, 17. Total present: 66

Town Clerk, Nancy Burnham, read the return of service from Constable Kenneth Vaidulas.

The Moderator called for a moment of silence for the following:

Dr. Howard Adams – He was the Animal Inspector for the Town of Athol for 57 years, retiring at the age of 91.

Thomas R. Bailey – He was a teacher for 30 years at Athol Junior High School teaching science, social studies and math.

John E. Bock – He was a member of the Athol Finance Committee and Capital Planning Committee. In 2007 he was awarded the Margaret Grazis Award for Citizen of the Year.

Barbara J. Coyle – She worked in the Superintendent’s office of the Athol School system.

Shirley N. Gale – She worked for the Town of Athol from 1970 to 1983 in the Town Clerk’s Office and Assessor’s Office.

Edward A. White – He worked for the Town of Athol Highway Department for 8 years.

The following is a true record of the vote taken at the March 2, 2015 Special Town Meeting.

Article 1 On the motion of Kenneth Duffy, it was **VOTED:** That the Town authorize the Board of Selectmen to file legislation to establish a special revenue fund for “Recaptured Funds from Demolition Liens or Related Grants.” *Passed by a majority vote.*

Article 2 On the motion of Ben J. Feldman, it was **VOTED:** That the Town authorize the Board of Selectmen to file legislation to establish a special revenue fund for “Recaptured Funds from Rehabilitation or Receivership Property Liens, Proceeds or Related Grants”. *Passed by a majority vote.*

Article 3 On the motion of Paul W. Nelson, it was **VOTED:** That the Town accept the provisions of MGL c. 64G, §3A to establish a room occupancy excise on hotel and motel rooms of six percent. *Passed by a majority vote.*

Article 4 On the motion of Gary H. Deyo, it was **VOTED:** That the Town accept the provisions of MGL c. 64L, §2 to establish a local option meals excise. *Passed by a majority vote.*

Article 5 On the motion of Kenneth Duffy, it was **VOTED:** That the Town amend Article 8 of the June 9, 2014 Annual Town Meeting by deleting the words "Town Hall Masonry (west side) engineering" and inserting in place thereof the words "Town Hall Exterior Stair Repairs." *Passed by a majority vote.*

Article 6 On the motion of Cynthia Hahn Caldwell, it was **VOTED:** That the Town transfer \$30,000 from the Stabilization Fund to the "TownHall Exterior Stair Repairs" project fund. *Passed by a majority vote.*

Meeting dissolved at 7:18 p.m.

Attest:

Nancy E. Burnham
Town Clerk

**ANNUAL TOWN MEETING
JUNE 8, 2015**

The 2015 Annual Town Meeting was held on June 8, 2015 in Memorial Hall. Voters entering the meeting were checked in on the list of registered voters and there were 73 present when the Moderator called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m. The number of voters checked as being present was as follows: Precinct 1, 33; Precinct 2, 25; and Precinct 3, 24. Total present: 82

Town Clerk, Nancy Burnham, read the return of service from Constable Leon Lozier.

The Moderator called for a moment of silence for the following:

William L. Bacigalupo, Jr. – He worked for the Department of Public Works, Highway Department for several years in the 1980's.

Marlene Bouchard – She was an Associate Member of the Conservation Commission from 1988-1990.

George A. Terrien – He was a firefighter for the Athol Fire Department, shift four, from 1973 to 2002, retiring as captain.

Mary A. Mazejka – She was the Assistant Town Clerk in Athol for 10 years, retiring in 1979.

Sylvia S. Bukowski – She was the Board of Health Agent for the Town of Athol from 1985-1993 and she also worked in the Building Department.

The following is a true record of the votes taken at the June 8, 2015 Annual Town Meeting.

Article 1 To see if the Town will choose all necessary Town Officers not already elected; *or act in relation thereto.*

VOTE: On the Motion of Kenneth Duffy, it was **VOTED:** That the Town choose all necessary Town Officers not already elected. *Passed by a majority vote.*

Article 2 *To see if the Town will vote to review and act upon the reports of Town Offices and to receive the reports of any committee; or act in relation thereto.*

VOTE: On the Motion of Kenneth Duffy it was **VOTED:** That Town review and act upon the reports of Town Offices and to receive the reports of any committee. *Passed by a majority vote.*

Article 3 To see if the Town will accept all donations and gifts received and turned into the treasury during fiscal year 2016; *or act in relation thereto.*

VOTE: On the Motion of Ben Feldman, it was **VOTED:** That the Town vote to accept all donations and gifts received and turned into the treasury during fiscal year 2016. *Passed by a majority vote.*

Article 4 To see if the Town will accept all cemetery and other funds received and provided to the treasury during fiscal year 2016; *or act in relation thereto.*

VOTE: On the Motion of Paul Nelson it was **VOTED:** That the Town accept all cemetery and other funds received and provided to the treasury during fiscal year 2016. *Passed by a majority vote.*

Article 5 To see if the Town will authorize the treasurer to enter into a compensating balance agreement or agreements for fiscal year 2016 pursuant to Chapter 44, Section 53F of the Massachusetts General Laws; *or act in relation thereto.*

VOTE: On the Motion of Gary Deyo, it was **VOTED:** That the Town authorize the treasurer to enter into a compensating balance agreement or agreements for fiscal year 2016 pursuant to Chapter 44, Section 53F of the Massachusetts General Laws. *Passed by a majority vote.*

Article 6 To see if the Town will authorize the Board of Selectmen and or the Town Manager to apply for, accept and expend any and all State and Federal grants for fiscal year 2016, for which no additional appropriation by the Town is required; *or act in relation thereto.*

VOTE: On the Motion of Kenneth Duffy, it was **VOTED:** That the Town authorize the Board of Selectmen and or the Town Manager to apply for, accept and expend any and all State and Federal grants for fiscal year 2016, for which no additional appropriation by the Town is required. *Passed by a majority vote.*

Article 7

To see if the Town will vote to raise such sums of money as may be necessary to defray Town charges for fiscal year 2016 and make appropriations for same; or act in relation thereto.

VOTE: On the Motion of Ben Feldman, it was **VOTED:** That the Town appropriate \$13,652,803 to fund the fiscal year 2016 budget to be funded as follows: \$13,420,303 from taxation; transfer \$100,000 from free cash; transfer \$87,000 from sale of real estate; transfer \$30,000 from Cemetery Trust Fund; transfer \$15,000 from parking meter receipt account; and transfer \$500 from Cemetery Lot Sales. *Passed by a majority vote.*

Division/Department	FY14	FY15	FY16	% DIF
Finance				
Accountant	107,215	113,721	118,513	4.21
Assessor	112,526	116,581	102,963	-11.68
FWAC	126,200	75,000	85,750	14.33
Capital Planning Committee	1,020	1,020	1,120	9.80
Collector/Treasurer	3,788,753	4,021,004	2,610,538	
Debt Exclusions			1,915,193	
Subtotal	4,135,714	4,327,326	4,834,077	11.71
Public Safety				
Building Inspector	104,409	107,485	90,166	-16.11
Fire Department	1,646,799	1,680,935	1,688,696	0.46
Health Department	104,398	108,968	108,702	-0.24
Police Department	1,674,909	1,700,033	1,667,671	-1.90
Animal Control (regional)			77,305	
Sealer of Weights and Measures	7,485	7,485	7,985	6.68
Wire Inspector	28,013	29,147	24,636	-15.48
Subtotal	3,566,013	3,634,053	3,665,161	0.86
Public Services				
Board of Selectmen	587,329	622,020	613,546	-1.36
Council on Aging	126,867	110,616	118,125	6.79
Conservation Commission	10,400	8,300	8,750	5.42
Contributory Retirement	1,373,233	1,573,182	1,591,102	1.14
Elections & Registration	14,294	23,100	21,294	-7.82
Library	454,644	464,545	482,844	3.94
Parking	10,175	10,175	10,475	2.95
Planning Board	1,800	1,500	1,800	20.00
Planner / CDBG	86,208	85,913	89,002	3.60
Professional Services	159,587	157,633	154,293	-2.12

Recreation	27,200	29,300	27,115	-7.46
Beaches	23,639	24,985	31,400	25.68
Town Buildings	125,888	124,816	131,941	5.71
Town Clerk	120,692	124,502	129,765	4.23
Town Manager	113,757	106,750	120,465	12.85
Veterans Services	158,794	210,000	214,336	2.06
Zoning Board of Appeals	2,230	2,050	2,050	0.00
Subtotal	3,396,737	3,679,387	3,748,303	1.87
Public Works	1,362,986	1,357,565	1,405,262	3.51
TOTAL GENERAL GOV'T	\$12,461,450	12,998,331	13,652,803	5.04

Article 8 To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or appropriate from available funds or transfer from Capital Program unexpended funds or by borrowing a sum of money for the fiscal year 2016 Capital Improvement Plan as recommended by the Capital Program Committee; *or act in relation thereto.*

VOTE: On the Motion of Paul Nelson, it was **VOTED:** That the Town appropriate \$68,000 from the sale of real estate to fund the fiscal year 2016 Capital Improvement Plan as detailed in the chart below: *Passed by a majority vote.*

Department	Item/Project	CPC FY16
Dept. Public Works	Infrastructure / Grant Match	30,000.00
Police Dept.	Cruiser Replacement	38,000.00
	Total Budget	68,000.00

Article 9 To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or appropriate from available funds or transfer from the Water Enterprise reserve account a sum of money for the purchase of equipment and infrastructure improvements for the Water Division; *or act in relation thereto.*

VOTE: On the Motion of Gary Deyo, it was **VOTED:** That the Town transfer \$175,000 from the Water Enterprise Reserve account for the purchase of equipment and infrastructure improvements for the Water Division. *Passed by a majority vote.*

Article 10 To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or appropriate from available funds or transfer from the Sewer Enterprise reserve account a sum of money for

the purchase of equipment and infrastructure improvements for the Sewer Division; *or act in relation thereto.*

VOTE: On the Motion of Kenneth Duffy, it was VOTED: That the Town transfer \$75,000 from the Sewer Enterprise reserve account for the purchase of equipment and infrastructure improvements for the Sewer Division. <i>Passed by a majority vote.</i>

Article 11 To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or appropriate from available funds or transfer from the Sewer Enterprise reserve account a sum of money for the purchase of ultra violet lamp replacements for the Sewer Division; *or act in relation thereto.*

VOTE: On the Motion of Ben Feldman, it was VOTED: That the Town transfer \$20,000 from the Sewer Enterprise reserve account for the purchase of ultra violet lamp replacements for the Sewer Division. <i>Passed by a majority vote.</i>
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Article 12 To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from the Ambulance Reserve for Appropriation Account a sum of money for the purpose of purchasing a replacement Ambulance and related equipment as indicated in the FY15 Capital Improvement Plan to be used by the Fire Department; *or act in relation thereto.*

VOTE: On the Motion of Paul Nelson, it was VOTED: That the Town transfer \$220,000 from the Ambulance Reserve for Appropriation Account for the purchase of an Ambulance and related equipment as indicated in the FY15 Capital Improvement Plan. <i>Passed by a majority vote.</i>

Article 13 To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or appropriate from available funds, a sum of money for the purpose of funding future Triennial Revaluations and Interim Year Value Adjustments, as required under M.G.L. Ch. 40, Section 56, Ch. 58, Sections 1, 1A & 3 and Ch. 59 Section 2A. Such funding is to cover all aspects of revaluation including, but not limited to, statistical analysis, sales analysis, video imaging, field reviews and all other tasks deemed necessary for successful completion of these state mandated requirements; *or act in relation thereto.*

No Motion, No Action

Article 14 To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or appropriate from available funds a sum of money for the fiscal year 2016 assessment to the Athol-Royalston Regional School District; *or act in relation thereto.*

VOTE: On the Motion of Gary Deyo, it was VOTED: That the Town appropriate from taxation \$3,989,026 for the fiscal year 2016
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assessment to the Athol-Royalston Regional School District.
Passed by a majority vote.

Article 15 To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or appropriate from available funds a sum of money for the fiscal year 2016 assessment to the Montachusett Regional Vocational Technical School District; *or act in relation thereto.*

VOTE: On the Motion of Kenneth Duffy, it was **VOTED:** That the Town appropriate from taxation \$262,026 for the fiscal year 2016 assessment to the Montachusett Regional Vocational Technical School District. *Passed by a majority vote.*

Article 16 To see if the Town will vote to set the salaries of several elected officers and appointed positions of the boards of the Town

Moderator	\$ 194.00
Selectmen, Chairman	\$1652.00
Selectmen, all other (4)	\$1377.00
Assessors, Chairman	\$1652.00
Assessors, all other (1)	\$1350.00
Constable	None
Board of Health, Chairman	\$1652.00
Board of Health, all other (2)	\$1377.00
Library Trustees	None
School Committee	None

;or act in relation thereto.

VOTE: On the Motion of Ben Feldman, it was **VOTED:** That the Town set the salaries of several elected officers and appointed positions of the boards of the Town of Athol as shown above and printed in the warrant. *Passed by a majority vote.*

Article 17 To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds a sum of money to operate the Department of Public Works/Water Division Enterprise Fund for fiscal year 2016; *or act in relation thereto:*

VOTE: On the Motion of Paul Nelson, it was **VOTED:** That the Town appropriate from available funds \$1,174,664 to operate the

Department of Public Works/Water Division for fiscal year 2016.
Passed by a majority vote.

Water Division	Expenses
Operational Expenses	795,466
Debt	204,133
Health Insurance	77,265
Overhead	97,800
Capital	0
Total	1,174,664

and that \$1,174,664 be raised as follows:

Water Division	Revenues
Water Rates	1,084,164
Water Service	8,000
Water Interest	5,000
Water Account Charges	77,500
Total	1,174,664

Article 18 To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds a sum of money to operate the Department of Public Works/Sewer Division Enterprise Fund for fiscal year 2016; *or act in relation thereto.*

VOTE:	On the Motion of Gary Deyo, it was VOTED: That the Town appropriate from available funds \$1,393,290 to operate the Department of Public Works/Sewer Division for fiscal year 2016. <i>Passed by a majority vote.</i>
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Sewer Division	Expenses
Operational Expenses	864,148
Debt	368,890
Health Insurance	62,452
Overhead	97,800
Capital	0
Total	1,393,290

and that \$1,393,290 be raised as follows:

Sewer Division	Revenues
Sewer Rates	1,320,790

Sewer Service	1,000
Sewer Interest	4,000
<u>Sewer Acct. Charge</u>	<u>67,500</u>
Total	1,393,290

Article 19 To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds a sum of money to operate the Department of Public Works /Transfer/Recycling Enterprise Fund for fiscal year 2016; *or act in relation thereto:*

VOTE: On the Motion of Kenneth Duffy, it was **VOTED:** That the Town appropriate from available funds \$383,642 to operate the Department of Public Works/Transfer/Recycling Enterprise Fund for fiscal year 2016. *Passed by a majority vote.*

Transfer Station	Expenses
Operational Expenses	325,337
Debt	39,850
Health Insurance	18,455
Overhead	0
Total	383,642

and that \$383,642 be raised as follows:

Transfer Station	Revenues
Departmental Receipts	377,498
<u>Retained Earnings for Expenses</u>	<u>6,144</u>
Total	383,642

Article 20 To see if the Town will vote to establish and authorize the following revolving funds for certain Town departments under Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 44, Section 53E½ for fiscal year 2016; *or act in relation thereto.*

Revolving fund	Authorized to spend	Revenue source	Use of fund	FY2016 spending limit
Plumbing Inspection	Selectmen	Plumbing Inspection fees	Pay plumbing insp. & asst. plumb. insp.	\$20,000
Recycling	Board of Health Town Manager	Grants, bulky waste, PAYT, recycling containers, compost bins	Expenses and equipment	\$20,000
Gas Inspections	Selectmen	Gas inspection fees	Pay gas insp. & asst. gas insp.	\$2,500

Waste Facility Debt	Town Manager	Sewer user fees	Pay upgrade debt	\$60,000
Trench Permit	Building Dept.	Permit Fees & Reimbursement	Enforcement	\$5,000
Vaccinations	Board of Health	Insurance Reimbursements & User Fees	Public Health Administration	\$25,000
Recreation	Recreation Commission	Registration Fees	Program Administration	\$10,000
Total Spending				\$142,500

VOTE: On the Motion of Ben Feldman, it was **VOTED:** That the Town establish and authorize revolving funds for certain Town departments under Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 44, Section 53E½ for fiscal year 2016 as printed in the warrant article above. *Passed by a majority vote.*

Article 21 To see if the Town will vote to establish and authorize the following revolving fund for certain Town departments under Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 44, Section 53C for fiscal year 2016; *or act in relation thereto.*

Police Detail	Police Chief	Contractors	Pay police	\$100,000
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VOTE: On the Motion of Paul Nelson, it was **VOTED:** That the Town establish and authorize revolving funds for certain Town departments under Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 44, Section 53C for fiscal year 2016 as printed in the warrant article above. *Passed by a majority vote.*

Article 22 To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or appropriate from available funds a sum of money to be used for the purpose of paying one-time costs attributable to the retirement of four employees of the Town; *or act in relation thereto.*

VOTE: On the Motion of Gary Deyo, it was **VOTED:** That the Town appropriate \$30,563 from free cash and \$88,239 from stabilization for the purpose of paying one-time costs attributable to the retirement of four employees of the Town. *2/3rd's vote required. The vote was 70 yes and 0 no.*

Article 23 To see if the Town will to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds a sum of money to the "Other Post Employment Benefits (OPEB) Liability Trust Fund;" *or act in relation thereto.*

VOTE: On the Motion of Kenneth Duffy, it was **VOTED:** That the Town appropriate \$10,000 from free cash for the purpose of contributing

to the "Other Post Employment Benefits (OPEB) Liability Trust Fund." *Passed by a majority vote.*

Article 24 To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or appropriate from available funds a sum of money to be used for the purpose of demolishing and removing dangerous, vacant and abandoned buildings; *or act in relation thereto.*

No Motion, No Action

Article 25 To see if the Town will vote to reimburse the Stabilization Account from money received from New England Equestrian Land Management Conservation Corporation for the construction of a road in the Equestrian Park for vehicle traffic as voted at the June 13, 2011 Annual Town Meeting; *or act in relation thereto.*

VOTE: On the Motion of Ben Feldman, it was **VOTED:** That the Town reimburse the Stabilization Account from money received from New England Equestrian Land Management Conservation Corporation for the construction of a road in the Equestrian Park for vehicle traffic as voted at the June 13, 2011 Annual Town Meeting. *2/3rd's voter required. The vote was 82 yes and 0 no.*

Article 26 To see if the town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to sell or dispose of surplus property, by auction, or other legal means the following parcels of land as defined by the Athol Assessor's records and recorded at the Worcester Registry of Deeds:

Gulf Road: Map 2, Lot 32 / Book 42548, Page 389
Gulf Road: Map 2, Lot 29 / Book 5031, Page 103
Templeton Road: Map 44, Lot 1 / Book 1836, Page 133
; or act in relation thereto.

VOTE: On the Motion of Paul Nelson, it was **VOTED:** That the Town authorize the Board of Selectmen to sell or dispose of surplus property, by auction, or other legal means the following parcels of land as defined by the Athol Assessor's records and recorded at the Worcester Registry of Deeds as printed in the warrant above. *Passed by a majority vote.*

Article 27 To see if the Town will vote to transfer a sum of money from the Ambulance Reserve Fund for the purpose of sending two firefighters / EMT's to the Paramedic Certificate Program at Greenfield Community College; *or act in relation thereto.*

VOTE: On the Motion of Gary Deyo, it was **VOTED:** That the Town appropriate \$10,000 from the Ambulance Reserve Fund for the

purpose of sending two firefighters / EMT's to the Paramedic Certificate Program. *Passed by a majority vote.*

Article 28 To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to petition the General Court of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts for special legislation relative to establishing group health insurance benefits for active employees and retirees of the town of Athol, or take any action in relation thereto.

VOTE: On the Motion of Kenneth Duffy, it was **VOTED:** That the Town authorize the Board of Selectmen to petition the General Court of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts for special legislation relative to group health insurance benefits for eligible active employees and retirees in the form set forth below, provided, however that the General Court may make clerical or editorial changes of form only to the bill unless the Board of Selectmen approves amendments to the bill before enactment by the General Court, and provided further that the Board of Selectmen is hereby authorized to approve amendments which shall be within the scope of the general public objectives of this petition: *Passed by a majority vote.*

AN ACT RELATIVE TO THE PROVISION OF GROUP HEALTH INSURANCE BENEFITS IN THE TOWN OF ATHOL.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same as follows:

Section 1. Effective July 1, 2015, and notwithstanding the provisions of Chapter 32B of the General Laws or any other general or special law to the contrary, the Town of Athol may provide the following different subsidiary or additional contribution rates to the different groups or classes of employees identified below whom are eligible under said Chapter 32B to participate in the Town's contributory group health insurance plans:

Employees hired prior to July 1, 2015:

<u>Plan Type</u>	<u>Town Contribution</u>	<u>Employee Contribution</u>
HMO plan	78 %	22 %
PPO plan	75 %	25 %

Employees hired on or after July 1, 2015:

<u>Plan Type</u>	<u>Town Contribution</u>	<u>Employee Contribution</u>
HMO plan	70 %	30 %
PPO plan	65 %	35 %

Should an employee become separated from service with the Town of Athol for any reason other than involuntary layoff and later return to the Town's employ, the employee's most recent date of hire shall be used for purposes of determining the applicable contribution rate under this section. In the event that the returning employee's separation was the result of an involuntary layoff, the employee shall contribute at the same rate that the employee was contributing at when the layoff was imposed.

Section 2(a). Effective July 1, 2015, and notwithstanding the provisions of Chapter 32B of the General Laws or any other general or special law to the contrary, the Town of Athol may provide different subsidiary or additional contribution rates to different groups or classes of retirees whom are eligible under said Chapter 32B to participate in the Town's contributory group health insurance plans. The percentage amount to be contributed by individuals who retired prior to the July 1, 2015 effective date of this Act shall be 22% for an HMO type plan and 25% for a PPO type plan. The percentage amount to be contributed toward a given type of plan by any individual whom retires on or after July 1, 2015 shall be the same percentage that the retiree was contributing toward that same type of plan as an active employee immediately prior to his or her retirement. In the event that the retiree elects to enroll in a type of plan that is different from the one that the retiree was enrolled in as an active employee immediately prior to his or her retirement, the percentage amount to be contributed by the retiree shall be equal to the percentage that the retiree would have contributed at had the retiree been enrolled in the given plan type while still serving as an active employee.

(b) A retiree, spouse or dependent insured or eligible to be insured under said Chapter 32B whom is required by section 18A of chapter 32B to transfer to a Medicare health plan offered by the Town of Athol under section 11C or section 16 of said Chapter 32B shall contribute to the premiums of said Medicare plan at 25% and the Town of Athol shall contribute the remaining 75%.

Section 3. Nothing herein shall preclude the Town of Athol from making changes to the employee/retiree groups and contribution rates identified above, subject to approval by the General Court in accordance with the Home Rule Procedures Act, Chapter 43B of the General Laws, or the Home Rule Amendment to the Massachusetts Constitution.

Section 4. This act shall take effect on and be retroactive to July 1, 2015.

Article 29 To see if the Town will vote to transfer from free cash a sum of money to the stabilization account; *or act in relation thereto.*

No Motion, No Action

Meeting dissolved at 7:50 p.m.

A True Copy, Attest:

Nancy E. Burnham
Town Clerk