

**CHAPTER
SIX
ELECTIONS &
TOWN
MEETINGS**

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

**Presidential Primary
March 1, 2016**

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 - 600 Democrat; 600 Republican; 124 Green-Rainbow; and 100 United Independent
 Absent Voter Ballots - 8 Democrat; 8 Republican; 0 Green-Rainbow; and 0 United Independent
- Precinct 2:** Regular Ballots - 600 Democrat; 550 Republican; 125 Green-Rainbow; and 100 United Independent
 Absent Voter Ballots - 6 Democrat; 6 Republican; 0 Green-Rainbow; and 0 United Independent
- Precinct 3:** Regular Ballots - 698 Democrat; 601 Republican; 125 Green-Rainbow; and 100 United Independent
 Absent Voter Ballots - 16 Democrat; 10 Republican; 0 Green-Rainbow; and 0 United Independent

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: 896 on the ballot box and 3 in the side pocket.
Precinct 2: 784 on the ballot box and 1 in the side pocket
Precinct 3: 857 on the ballot box and 3 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 : 501 Democrat; 389 Republican; 4 Green-Rainbow; and 2 United Independent
- Precinct 2:** On the ballot clerk's list and on the list at the ballot box : 420 Democrat; 346 Republican; 6 Green-Rainbow; and 12 United Independent
- Precinct 3:** On the ballot clerk's list and on the list at the ballot box : 491 Democrat; 361 Republican; 1 Green-Rainbow; and 4 United Independent

NUMBER OF BALLOTS CAST

- Precinct 1:** Number of Ballots Cast: 501 Democrat ; 389 Republican; 4 Green-Rainbow; and 2 United Independent
 Spoiled Ballots: 3 Democrat; 3 Republican; 0 Green-Rainbow; and 0 United Independent
 Provisional Ballots: 3 Democrat; 3 Republican; 0 Green-Rainbow; and 0 United Independent
 Unused Ballots: 100 Democrat; 211 Republican; 120 Green-Rainbow; and 97 United Independent

Precinct 2: Number of Ballots Cast: 420 Democrat ; 346 Republican; 6 Green-Rainbow; and 12 United Independent
Spoiled Ballots: 6 Democrat; 2 Republican; 0 Green-Rainbow; and 1 United Independent
Provisional Ballots: 3 Democrat; 3 Republican; 0 Green-Rainbow; and 0 United Independent
Unused Ballots: 177 Democrat; 207 Republican; 119 Green-Rainbow; and 87 United Independent

Precinct 3: Number of Ballots Cast: 491 Democrat ; 361 Republican; 1 Green-Rainbow; and 4 United Independent
Spoiled Ballots: 2 Democrat; 0 Republican; 0 Green-Rainbow; and 0 United Independent
Provisional Ballots: 1 Democrat; 4 Republican; 0 Green-Rainbow; and 0 United Independent
Unused Ballots: 218 Democrat; 246 Republican; 124 Green-Rainbow; and 94 United Independent

ELECTION OFFICERS

Precinct 1: Warden (U) Patricia Kaczmarczyk; Clerk (U) Allen Hodgdon; Inspectors: (U) Nancy Daub; (U) Lillian Bachelder; (U) Bonnie Hodgdon; (U) James Lake; (U) Dawn Maroni; (U) Daid Small; (U) Chris Casella

Precinct 2: Warden (U) Ann Shea; Clerk (U) Madeleine Andrews; Inspectors: (U) Betty Anne Smith; (U) Catherine Foster; (U) Jean White; (U) Margaret Feldman; (U) Muriel Holden; (U) Bonnie Stewart; (U) Kent Hager

Precinct 3: Warden (U) Ben Feldman; Clerk (U) Carol Bachelder; Inspectors: (U) Gloria Stoddard; (D) Linda Lozier; (U) Claire Butler; (U) Diane Gurney; (U) Christine Miranda; (U) Joan Starrett; (D) Diane Page.

Greeters: Cathy Muzzy and Lillian Bachelder.

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:

DEMOCRATIC

	P1	P2	P3	Totals
Presidential Preference				
Blanks	0	0	1	1
Bernie Sanders	339	296	311	946
Martin O'Malley	2	2	0	4
Hillary Clinton	155	122	175	452
Roque "Rocky" De La Fuente	0	0	0	0
No Preference	3	1	3	7
All Others	2	1	1	4
	501	422	491	1414
State Committee Man				
Blanks	132	84	103	319
William R. Shemeth, III	365	338	385	1088
All Others	4	0	3	7
	501	422	491	1414
State Committee Woman				
Blanks	135	80	104	319
Laura L. Jette	363	342	384	1089
All Others	3	0	3	6
	501	422	491	1414
Town Committee				
Blanks	14950	12626	14884	42460
Mitchell R. Grosky	328	283	297	908
John R. Greene	315	253	282	850
Wanda L. Davis	266	220	239	725
Christine Musante	271	233	247	751
John L. Musante	260	220	231	711
James W. Meehan, Jr.	294	244	255	793
Scott A. MacPhee	268	214	217	699
Margaret L. Young	304	240	276	820
Joseph F. Maga	275	234	252	761
Robert Osborne			2	
Margot Parrot			2	
Jean Michaud			1	
All Others	4	3	0	12
	17535	14770	17185	49490

REPUBLICAN

	P1	P2	P3	Totals
Presidential Preference				
Blanks	2	1	2	5
Jim Gilmore	0	1	0	1
Donald J. Trump	177	169	176	522
Ted Cruz	44	41	40	125
George Pataki	0	0	0	0
Ben Carson	19	16	18	53
Mike Huckabee	0	0	2	2
Rand Paul	3	3	5	11
Carly Fiorina	2	2	0	4
Rick Santorum	0	0	1	1
Chris Christie	2	1	3	6
Marco Rubio	73	60	49	182
Jeb Bush	4	2	5	11
John R. Kasich	52	48	55	155
No Preference	9	3	4	16
All Others	2	0	3	5
	389	347	363	1099
State Committee Man				
Blanks	62	58	65	185
William J. Gillmeister	146	128	137	411
Reed V. Hillman	180	160	161	501
All Others	1	1	0	2
	389	347	363	1099
State Committee Woman				
Blanks	71	70	76	217
Ronna K. Prunier	136	128	120	384
Lindsay A. Valanzola	181	147	167	495
All Others	1	2	0	3
	389	347	736	1099
Town Committee				
Blanks	12310	10950	11545	34805
Susannah M. Whipps Lee	311	280	270	861
Elizabeth C. Whipps	185	169	159	513
Steven L. Lewis	165	144	141	450
Kimberly D. Stewart	165	150	146	461
Jeffrey T. Stewart	157	138	139	434
Melissa Ann Eaton	162	157	151	470
Daniel J. Eaton	159	156	150	465

Emily Johnson		1		
All Others	1	0	4	6
	13615	12145	12705	38465

GREEN RAINBOW

	P1	P2	P3	Totals
Presidential Preference				
Blanks	0	0	0	0
Sedinam Kinamo Christin Moyowasifza				
Curry	1	0	0	1
Jill Stein	0	3	0	3
William P. Kreml	0	0	0	0
Kent Mesplay	0	0	0	0
Darryl Cherney	1	2	0	3
No Preference	1	1	0	2
All Others	1	0	1	2
	4	6	1	11

State Committee Man

Blanks	2	4	1	7
All Others	2	2	0	4
	4	6	1	11

State Committee Woman

Blanks	2	4	1	7
All Others	2	2	0	4
	4	6	1	11

Town Committee

Blanks	39	50	10	99
Jameson Cycz		1		
Cameron Cycz		1		
All Others	1	8	0	11
	40	60	10	110

UNITED INDEPENDENT

	P1	P2	P3	Totals
Presidential Preference				
Blanks	1	2	2	5
No Preference	1	3	0	4
All Others	0	7	2	9
	2	12	4	18

State Committee Man

Blanks	0	7	2	9
All Others	2	5	2	9
	2	12	4	18

State Committee Woman

Blanks	1	9	2	12
All Others	1	3	2	6
	2	12	4	18

Town Committee

Blanks	20	119	40	179
All Others	0	1	0	1
	20	120	40	180

Total # Democrats Voted	1414
Total # Republicans Voted	1099
Total # Green Rainbow	11
Total # United Independent Party	18
Total Voted	2,542
Total # of Registered Voters	6,372
40% Turnout	

We have canvassed the returns of votes cast in Precincts 1, 2, and 3, Town of Athol, and the State Primary 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 February 10, 2016 was as follows. viz.-

Precinct	Registered Voters
1	2283
2	2074
3	<u>2015</u>
Total	6372

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

**ANNUAL TOWN ELECTION
APRIL 4, 2016**

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:** 600 Regular Ballots and 3 Absent Voter Ballots
- Precinct 2:** 601 Regular Ballots and 10 Absent Voter Ballots
- Precinct 3:** 602 Regular Ballots and 7 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:** 29 on the ballot box and 0 in the side pocket.
- Precinct 2:** 43 on the ballot box and 0 in the side pocket
- Precinct 3:** 29 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 : 29
- Precinct 2:** On the ballot clerk's list and on the list at the ballot box : 43
- Precinct 3:** On the ballot clerk's list and on the list at the ballot box : 29

NUMBER OF BALLOTS CAST

- Precinct 1:** Number of Ballots Cast, 29; Spoiled Ballots, 0; Provisional Ballots, 0; Unused Ballots, 574
- Precinct 2:** Number of Ballots Cast, 43; Spoiled Ballots, 0; Provisional Ballots, 0; Unused Ballots, 568
- Precinct 3:** Number of Ballots Cast, 29; Spoiled Ballots, 1; Provisional Ballots, 0; Unused Ballots, 579

ELECTION OFFICERS

Precinct 1: Warden (U) Patricia Kaczmarczyk; Clerk; (U) Allen Hodgdon; Inspectors: (U) Nancy Daub; (U) Chris Casella; (R) James Lake; (U) Bonnie Hodgdon;

Precinct 2: Warden (U) Ann Shea; Clerk (U) Madeleine Andrews; Inspectors: (U) Betty Anne Smith; (U) Jean White; (U) Cathy Foster; (U) Mary Ann Linton; (U) Joan Starrett; (U) Kent Hager

Precinct 3: Warden (U) Ben Feldman; Clerk (U) Dawn Maroni; Inspectors: (U) Gloria Stoddard; (U) Claire Butler; (D) Linda Lozier; (U) Carol Bachelder

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	3	0	0	3		
LAWRENCE P. MCLAUGHLIN	26	43	29	98		
ALL OTHERS	0	0	0	0		
TOTALS	29	43	29	101		
SELECTMAN - 3 YEARS						
BLANKS	12	16	13	41		
STEPHEN R. RAYMOND	24	38	23	85		
WILLIAM J. CALDWELL	22	31	22	75		
KENNETH DUFFY	0	1	0	1		
ALL OTHERS	0	0	0	0		
TOTALS	58	86	58	202		
					TOTALS	
SCHOOL COMMITTEE FROM ATHOL - 3 YEARS					ROYALSTON	ATHOL AND ROYALSTON
BLANKS	31	22	23	76	143	219
DALE H. LOUGEE	19	37	20	76	88	164
JOSEPH F. MAGA	18	32	24	74	95	169
AMBER M. PARKER	19	38	20	77	94	171
ALL OTHERS	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTALS	87	129	87	303	420	723
SCHOOL COMMITTEE FROM ROYALSTON - 3 YEARS						
BLANKS	11	9	8	28	26	54
CHARLES H. PRETTI	18	34	21	73	114	187
ALL OTHERS	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTALS	29	43	29	101	140	241
LIBRARY TRUSTEE						
BLANKS	14	7	9	30		
SHARON A. BRIGHENTI	20	37	25	82		
MARGARET E. FELDMAN	24	42	24	90		
ALL OTHERS	0	0	0	0		
TOTALS	58	86	58	202		
HOUSING AUTHORITY						
BLANKS	3	1	1	5		
CATHY A. MUZZY	26	41	28	95		
ALL OTHERS	0	1	0	1		
TOTALS	29	43	29	101		
CONSTABLE						
BLANKS	8	6	5	19		
KEVIN J. MATERAS	21	35	24	80		
ALL OTHERS	0	2	0	2		
TOTALS	29	43	29	101		
Total # of registered voters						
	6,437					
Turnout						
	1.6%					

We have canvassed the returns of votes cast in Precincts 1, 2, and 3, Town of Athol, and the Annual 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 15, 2016 was as follows. viz.-

Precinct	Registered Voters
1	2294
2	2112
3	<u>2031</u>
Total	6437

Nancy E. Burnham

Hugh A. Horrigan

Gerard Lozier

REGISTRARS OF VOTERS

**FALL TOWN MEETING
OCTOBER 19, 2015**

The 2015 Fall Town Meeting was held on October 19, 2015 in Memorial Hall. Voters entering the meeting were checked in on the list of registered voters and there were 85 present when the Moderator called the meeting to order at 7:13 p.m. The number of voters checked as being present was as follows: Precinct 1, 48; Precinct 2, 12; and Precinct 3, 26. Total present: 86.

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

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

Gratia M. Fisher – She worked in the Athol-Royalston Regional School District for 35 years, first as a 4th grade teacher and later as a reading specialist, retiring in 1989.

Sara A. Whitney – She was employed as a teacher in the Athol-Royalston Regional School District from September 1962 – June 1977.

Roberta P. Muglia – She taught Athol Education classes at Athol High School and was an Election Worker for the Town of Athol. She was active at the Athol Senior Center.

The following is a true record of the votes taken at the October 19, 2015 Fall Town Meeting.

Article 1 On the Motion of Kenneth Duffy, it was **VOTED:** That the Town amend Chapter V Streets, Sidewalks, Public Places and Utilities, Section 40 Water Use Restriction of the Town Bylaws.

Exceptions to nonessential outdoor water uses are:

- irrigation of public parks and recreation fields outside the hours of 9 AM to 5 PM and;
- irrigation of lawns, gardens, flowers and ornamental plants by means of a hand-held hose outside the hours of 9 AM to 5 PM and;
- irrigation outside the hours of 9 AM to 5 PM with harvested and stored storm water runoff.

and replacing it with the following:

Exceptions to nonessential outdoor water uses are:

- irrigation of public parks and recreation fields by automatic sprinklers outside the hours of 9 AM to 5 PM and;
- irrigation of gardens, flowers and ornamental plants by means of a hand-held hose or drip irrigation systems outside the hours of 9 AM to 5 PM and;
- irrigation outside the hours of 9 AM to 5 PM with harvested and stored storm water runoff and;
- irrigation of lawns by hand-held hose only outside the hours of 9 AM to 5 PM.

Passed by a majority vote.

Article 2 On the Motion of Ben J. Feldman, it was **VOTED:** That the Town amend Section IV of the Personnel By-Laws:

Section IV: Compensation Schedule

<u>POSITION</u>	<u>MINIMUM</u>	<u>MAXIMUM</u>
Hourly Paid Employees		
Dispatchers, Part Time	9.73	13.33

and replacing it with;

Section IV: Compensation Schedule

<u>POSITION</u>	<u>MINIMUM</u>	<u>MAXIMUM</u>
Hourly Paid Employees		
Dispatchers, Part Time	9.73	15.00

Passed by a majority vote.

Article 3 On the Motion of Paul W. Nelson, it was **DEFEATED:** That the Town amend the Athol Zoning Bylaws Article IV, Section 4.1, Definitions; and to further vote to amend the Athol Zoning Bylaws Article II, Section 2.3, Use Regulation Schedule, by adding, under the category of RESIDENTIAL USES, the sub-category Yard Sale as written in the warrant:

Yard Sale: Any display of used goods for sale on property currently used as a residence. The person or persons conducting the sale shall be residents of that immediate neighborhood. Yard Sales shall be allowed in all zoning districts except Central Commercial provided they are conducted in compliance with the following:

- A permit has been issued through the Board of Selectmen’s office.
- There shall be no more than five (5) Yard Sales on one residential address in any given calendar year.
- Yard Sales shall be conducted only between the hours of 8 a.m. and 5 p.m.
- Yard Sales may only be conducted on Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays but not more than two consecutive days.
- All items for sale must originate from the home or homes of the sellers conducting the yard sale.
- In no event will Yard Sales offer for sale firearms, animals, alcoholic beverages or any items prohibited by law.
- Any signage used in connection with a Yard Sale must be removed within 48 hours of the Yard Sale’s conclusion.

- Those responsible for conducting yard sales must control the conduct of all persons involved so as to avoid unreasonable noise or causing a neighborhood nuisance.
- Care must be taken to avoid traffic and/or parking congestion, which would cause neighborhood problems. All applicable traffic laws must be observed.
- All items must be removed from display upon conclusion of the yard sale.
- Any person violating any of the provisions of this By-Law may be fined not more than \$100.00 for each offense. Each day that such violation continues shall constitute a separate offense.
- Recognized charitable, religious, and benevolent organizations shall be exempt from the provisions of this chapter.

	Residence A	Residence B	Residence C	Central Commercial	Neighborhood Commercial	General Commercial	Industrial Commercial
2.3 Use Regulation Schedule	RA	RB	RC	CA	CB	G	I
RESIDENTIAL USES							
Yard Sale	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y

Required a 2/3rd's vote. The vote was 38 yes and 30 no. Required 2/3rd's vote was 46. Motion fails.

Article 4 On the Motion of Gary H. Deyo, it was **VOTED:** That the Town amend the Athol Zoning Bylaws Article II, Section 2.3, Use Regulation Schedule, by deleting, under the category of COMMERCIAL USES, the sub-category Animal Kennel or Hospital as printed in the warrant above.

	Residence A	Residence B	Residence C	Central Commercial	Neighborhood Commercial	General Commercial	Industrial Commercial
2.3 Use Regulation Schedule	RA	RB	RC	CA	CB	G	I

COMMERCIAL USES

Animal Kennel or Hospital	N	N	SP	N	SP	SP	SP
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And replacing it with the following:

	Residence A	Residence B	Residence C	Central Commercial	Neighborhood Commercial	General Commercial	Industrial Commercial
2.3 Use Regulation Schedule	RA	RB	RC	CA	CB	G	I

COMMERCIAL USES

Animal Kennel 14	N	N	SP	N	SP	SP	SP
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Footnote 14 shall contain the following language:

Includes Commercial boarding or training kennel, Commercial breeder kennel, Domestic charitable corporation kennel, Kennel, Personal kennel, Shelter, and Veterinary kennel as defined by Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 140, Section 136A.

Required a 2/3rd's vote. The vote was unanimous – 68 yes and 0 no.

Article 5: On the Motion of Cynthia Hahn Caldwell, it was **VOTED:** That the Town transfer from the collector / treasurer debt service budget the sum of \$25,527.00 to supplement the FY16 general budget as detailed below:

Professional Services	0100-199-5312	7,500.00
Assessors	0100-141-5116	7,546.00
Building Dept.	0100-241-5116	6,990.00
Wiring Insp.	0100-245-5111	3,491.00

Passed by a majority vote.

Article 6: On the Motion of Kenneth Duffy, it was **VOTED:** That the Town transfer from the collector / treasurer debt service budget the sum of \$15,000 to be used for the purpose of demolishing and removing dangerous, vacant and abandoned buildings. *Passed by a majority vote.*

- Article 7:** On the Motion of Ben J. Feldman, it was **VOTED:** That the Town amend Article 11 from the June 9, 2014 Annual Town Meeting and Article 11 from the June 8, 2015 Annual Town Meeting and repurpose the combined sum of \$40,000 voted for UV Lights for sewer clarifier repair at the Waste Water Treatment Plant. *Passed by a majority vote.*
- Article 8:** On the Motion of Paul W. Nelson, it was **VOTED:** That the Town transfer from the collector / treasurer debt service budget the sum of \$209,958 to be used to decrease the FY15 snow and ice budget deficit. *Passed by a majority vote.*
- Article 9:** On the Motion of Gary H. Deyo, it was **VOTED:** That the Town transfer from the collector / treasurer debt service budget the sum of \$19,500 to purchase a multi-purpose tractor for the Department of Public Works, Cemetery Park & Tree division. *Passed by a majority vote.*
- Article 10:** On the Motion of Cynthia Hahn Caldwell, it was **VOTED:** That the Town transfer the sum of \$5,600 from Article 6 as voted at the March 2, 2015 Special Town Meeting for the Town Hall – Exterior Stairs repair account to the Stabilization Account. *Required a 2/3rd's vote. The vote was unanimous – 70 yes and 0 no.*

Meeting dissolved at 8:04 p.m.

Attest:

Nancy E. Burnham, CMC/CMMC
Town Clerk

SPECIAL TOWN MEETING DECEMBER 7, 2015

The 2015 Special Town Meeting was held on December 7, 2015 in Memorial Hall. Voters entering the meeting were checked in on the list of registered voters and there were 91 present when the Moderator called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m. The number of voters checked as being present was as follows: Precinct 1, 42; Precinct 2, 19; and Precinct 3, 30. Total present: 91.

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

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

Marilyn E. Earley – She worked as the cafeteria director for the Athol-Royalston Regional School District for 25 years retiring in 1981.

Joseph M. Wojtkowski, Jr. – He was a member of the Athol Contributory Retirement System for many years.

Norma F. Young – She worked in the Special Needs department at Athol High School.

The following is a true record of the votes taken at the December 7, 2015 Special Town Meeting.

Article 1 On the Motion of Kenneth Duffy, it was **VOTED:** That the Town transfer from the stabilization fund \$100,000 to fund the initial payment of a \$275,000.00 settlement agreement with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency relative to the environmental cleanup completed at the former Rod & Gun Club. *Required a 2/3rd's vote. The vote was 84 yes and 0 no.*

Article 2 On the Motion of Ben Feldman, it was **VOTED:** That the Town transfer the use of the name, "Planning Board", the powers and duties of the planning board, established by Article 60 of the February 16, 1931 Annual Town Meeting, to the Board of Planning and Community Development as authorized by Chapter 9-1-3 of the Athol Town Charter, effective January 1, 2016. *Passed by a majority vote.*

Meeting dissolved at 7:30 p.m.

Attest:

Nancy E. Burnham, CMC/CMMC
Town Clerk

**SPECIAL TOWN MEETING
JUNE 13, 2016
CERTIFICATION**

The 2016 Special Town Meeting was held on June 13, 2016 in Memorial Hall. Voters entering the meeting were checked in on the list of registered voters and there were 91 present when the Moderator called the meeting to order at 6:44 p.m. The number of voters checked as being present was as follows: Precinct 1, 37; Precinct 2, 32; and Precinct 3, 22. Total present: 91.

Town Clerk, Nancy Burnham, read the return of service from Constable Kevin Materas.

The following is a true record of the votes taken at the June 13, 2016 Special Town Meeting.

In accordance with M.G. L. chapter 39, section 15, Moderator Lawrence McLaughlin asked for a vote not to take a count and record the vote if a two-thirds vote of a town meeting is required by statute; and provided, further, that if the vote is unanimous, a count need not be taken, and the clerk shall record the vote as unanimous. The vote was unanimous.

Article 1 On the Motion of Kenneth Duffy, it was **VOTED:** That the Town amend Article 19 of the June 8, 2016 Annual Town Meeting by increasing the DPW Transfer/Recycling Center's operational expenses from \$383,642 to \$405,754,

and to further increase the DPW Transfer/Recycling Center's departmental receipts from \$383,642 to \$405,754. *Passed by a majority vote.*

Article 2 **No Motion, No Action** taken on "To see if the Town will vote to transfer from available funds the sum of \$17,550 for the fiscal year 2016 second semester tuition assessment for two Athol students to attend Franklin County Technical School in accordance with MGL Chapter 74, *or act in relation thereto*".

Article 3 On the Motion of Ben Feldman, it was **VOTED:** That the Town transfer \$31,935 from accident recovery account to the Stabilization Fund. *Required a 2/rd's vote. The vote was unanimous.*

Meeting dissolved at 6:58 p.m.

Attest:

Nancy E. Burnham, CMC/CMMC
Town Clerk

**ANNUAL TOWN MEETING
JUNE 13, 2016
CERTIFICATION**

The 2016 Special Town Meeting was held on June 13, 2016 in Memorial Hall. Voters entering the meeting were checked in on the list of registered voters and there were 91 present when the Moderator called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. The number of voters checked as being present was as follows: Precinct 1, 37; Precinct 2, 32; and Precinct 3, 22. Total present: 91.

Town Clerk, Nancy Burnham, read the return of service from Constable Kevin Materas.

The following is a true record of the votes taken at the June 13, 2016 Annual Town Meeting.

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

Donald W. Hager – He was a police officer for the Town of Athol from 1954 until his retirement in 1986.

Anne O'Brien – She was a member of the Council on Aging from 1997 – 2010.

Pauline Whipps – She was involved in many local organizations including the Athol Historical Society, Athol Hospital Auxiliary, Athol Women's Club, and the Salvation Army.

Esther W. Shepardson – She taught Earth Science at Athol High School for many years.

Dr. Wayne E. Miller – He was a member of the Board of Selectmen from 2003- 2012.

The Board of Selectmen handed out the Annual Margaret Grazis Award:
Employee of the Year – Donna Lajoie, Athol High School

In accordance with M.G. L. chapter 39, section 15, Moderator Lawrence McLaughlin asked for a vote not to take a count and record the vote if a two-thirds vote of a town meeting is required by statute; and provided, further, that if the vote is unanimous, a count need not be taken, and the clerk shall record the vote as unanimous. The vote was unanimous.

Article 1 On the Motion of Paul Nelson, it was **VOTED:** That the Town choose all necessary Town Officers not already elected. *Passed by a majority vote.*

Article 2 On the Motion of Kenneth Duffy, it was **VOTED:** That the Town review and act upon the reports of Town Offices and to receive the reports of any committee. *Passed by a majority vote. Mr. Duffy presented a report from the Finance & Warrant Advisory Committee.*

Article 3 On the Motion of Gary Deyo, it was **VOTED:** That the Town accept all donations and gifts received and turned into the treasury during fiscal year 2017. *Passed by a majority vote.*

Article 4 On the Motion of Ben Feldman, it was **VOTED:** That the Town accept all cemetery and other funds received and provided to the treasury during fiscal year 2017. *Passed by a majority vote.*

Article 5 On the Motion of Kenneth Duffy, it was **VOTED:** That the Town authorize the treasurer to enter into a compensating balance agreement or agreements for fiscal year 2017 pursuant to Chapter 44, Section 53F of the Massachusetts General Laws. *Passed by a majority vote.*

Article 6 On the Motion of Gary Deyo, 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 2017, for which no additional appropriation by the Town is required. *Passed by a majority vote.*

Article 7 On the Motion of Lee Chauvette, it was **VOTED:** That the Town appropriate \$14,615,746 to fund the fiscal year 2017 budget to be funded as follows: \$14,518,246 from taxation; transfer \$75,000 from free cash; transfer \$5,000 from Cemetery Trust Fund; transfer \$17,000 from parking meter receipt account; and transfer \$500 from Cemetery Lot Sales.

Division/Department	FY15	FY16	FY17	% DIF
Finance				
Accountant	113,721	118,513	120,966	2.07%
Assessor	116,581	110,509	116,191	5.14%
FWAC	75,000	85,750	80,250	-6.41%
Capital Planning Committee	1,020	1,120	1,120	0.00%

Collector/Treasurer	4,021,004	2,610,538	2,811,141	7.68%
Debt Exclusions		1,645,208	2,344,029	42.48%
Subtotal	4,327,326	4,571,638	5,473,697	19.73%
Public Safety				
Dept of Inspectional Services	107,485	133,268	142,516	6.94%
Fire Department	1,680,935	1,688,696	1,739,634	3.02%
Health Department	108,968	108,702	110,924	2.04%
Police Department	1,700,033	1,667,671	1,685,138	1.05%
Animal Control (regional)		77,305	78,698	0.00%
Sealer of Weights and Measures	7,485			
Wire Inspector	29,147			
Subtotal	3,634,053	3,675,642	3,756,910	2.21%
Public Services				
Board of Selectmen	622,020	613,546	521,915	-14.93%
Council on Aging	110,616	118,125	102,538	-13.20%
Conservation Commission	8,300	8,750	13,800	57.71%
Contributory Retirement	1,573,182	1,591,102	1,718,246	7.99%
Elections & Registration	23,100	21,294	31,744	49.07%
Library	464,545	482,844	498,451	3.23%
Parking	10,175	10,475	10,375	-0.95%
Planning Board	1,500			
Planner / CDBG	85,913	90,802	99,467	9.54%
Professional Services	157,633	161,793	297,022	83.58%
Recreation	29,300	27,115	19,565	-27.84%
Beaches	24,985	31,400	34,160	8.79%
Town Buildings	124,816	131,941	121,227	-8.12%
Town Clerk	124,502	129,765	140,644	8.38%
Town Manager	106,750	120,465	124,983	3.75%
Veterans Services	210,000	214,336	211,140	-1.49%
Zoning Board of Appeals	2,050	2,050	2,400	17.07%
Subtotal	3,679,387	3,755,803	3,947,677	5.11%
Public Works	1,357,565	1,405,262	1,437,462	2.29%
TOTAL GENERAL GOV'T	12,998,331	13,408,345	14,615,746	9.00%

Passed by a majority vote.

Article 8

On the Motion of Paul W. Nelson, it was **VOTED:** That the Town vote to appropriate \$308,528 to fund the fiscal year 2017 Capital Improvement Plan to be funded as follows: \$294,073 from free cash and \$14,455 from the fiscal year 13 Capital Improvement Plan, Library Expansion Project as recommend by the Capital Program Committee and as detailed in the chart below:

<u>Department</u>	<u>Item/Project</u>	<u>Dept Req.</u> <u>FY17</u>	<u>CPC Budgeted</u> <u>FY17</u>
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Town Clerk	Voting Machines	32,565.00	32,565.00
Town Manager	Econ. Dev. Grant Match	25,000.00	25,000.00
	Town Vehicle	25,000.00	0.00
	Subtotal	82,565.00	57,565.00
Fire - vehicles	Pick Up Truck	45,105.00	32,136.00
	Subtotal	45,105.00	32,136.00
DPW - Vehicles	SUV and 1st yr lease payments for 2 dump trucks	130,827.00	130,827.00
DPW - Buildings	DPW Garage Roof	50,000.00	0.00
DPW - Projects	Infrastructure Improvements	500,000.00	50,000.00
	Sub Total	990,827.00	180,827.00
Police - Vehicles	Cruiser Replacement	38,000.00	38,000.00
	Sub Total	38,000.00	38,000.00
	Total CPC Budget	1,156,497.00	308,528.00

Passed by a majority vote.

Article 9 On the Motion of Ben J. Feldman, it was **VOTED:** That the Town transfer from the Water Enterprise reserve account \$275,000 for the purchase of equipment and infrastructure improvements for the Water Division. *Passed by a majority vote.*

Article 10 On the Motion of Kenneth Duffy, it was **VOTED:** That the Town transfer from the Sewer Enterprise reserve account \$20,000 for the purchase of equipment and infrastructure improvements for the Sewer Division. *Passed by a majority vote.*

Article 11 On the Motion of Gary Deyo, it was **VOTED:** That the Town appropriate from free cash \$88,056.94 in principal and interest to fund the second payment of a \$275,000.00 settlement agreement with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency relative to the environmental cleanup completed at the former Rod & Gun Club. *Passed by a majority vote.*

Article 12 On the Motion of Paul Nelson, it was **VOTED:** That the Town appropriate from available funds \$51,000 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. Said appropriation is to be funded as follows: \$29,108 from the district investment financing account established with Article 12 voted at the Oct. 20, 2014 Fall Town Meeting to pay

the principal and interest charges for the Templeton Road water line project, \$10,000 from Article 22 voted at the June 10, 2013 Annual Town Meeting for the FY11 Capital Planning Budget Grant Match account for the purpose obtaining temporary easements, to accept temporary easements in lieu of compensation, and / or to use eminent domain proceedings to obtain temporary easements from abutters along Canal Street and Walnut Street to allow construction of the Cass Meadow Overlook Project located at 210 Canal Street and \$11,892 from free cash. 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. *Passed by a majority vote. The vote was unanimous.*

Article 13 On the Motion of Ben Feldman, it was **VOTED:** That the Town appropriate from taxation \$4,074,026 for the fiscal year 2017 assessment to the Athol-Royalston Regional School District. *Passed by a majority vote.*

Article 14 On the Motion of Kenneth Duffy, it was **VOTED:** That the Town appropriate from taxation \$252,544 for the fiscal year 2017 assessment to the Montachusett Regional Vocational Technical School District. *Passed by a majority vote.*

Article 15 On the Motion of Gary Deyo, it was **VOTED:** That the Town appropriate from free cash \$35,100 for the fiscal year 2017 tuition assessment for two Athol students to attend Franklin County Technical School in accordance with MGL Chapter 74. *Passed by a majority vote.*

Article 16 On the Motion of Paul Nelson, it was **VOTED:** That the Town 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

Passed by a majority vote.

Article 17 On the Motion of Ben Feldman, it was **VOTED:** That the Town appropriate from available funds \$1,182,828 to operate the Department of Public Works/Water Division Enterprise Fund for fiscal year 2017. *Passed by a majority vote.*

Water Division	Expenses
Operational Expenses	\$818,306
Debt	\$203,396
Health Insurance	\$63,326
Overhead	\$97,800
Capital	0
Total	1,182,828

and that \$1,182,828 be raised as follows:

Water Division	Revenues
Water Rates	1,092,328
Water Service	8,000
Water Interest	5,000
Water Account Charges	77,500
Total	1,182,828

Article 18 On the Motion of Kenneth Duffy, it was **VOTED:** That the Town appropriate from available funds \$1,463,973 to operate the Department of Public Works/Sewer Division Enterprise Fund. *Passed by a majority vote.*

Sewer Division	Expenses
Operational Expenses	\$911,177
Debt	367,458
Health Insurance	87,538
Overhead	97,800
Capital	0
Total	1,463,973

and that \$1,463,973 be raised as follows:

Sewer Division	Revenues
Sewer Rates	1,391,473
Sewer Service	1,000
Sewer Interest	4,000
Sewer Acct. Charge	67,500
Total	1,463,973

Article 19 On the Motion of Gary Deyo, it was **VOTED:** That the Town appropriate from available funds \$406,932 to operate the Department of Public Works /Transfer/Recycling Enterprise Fund. *Passed by a majority vote.*

Transfer Station	Expenses
Operational Expenses	347,095
Debt	38,800
Health Insurance	21,037
Overhead	0
Total	406,932

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

Transfer Station	Revenues
Departmental Receipts	405,935
Retained Earnings for Expenses	997
Total	406,932

Article 20 On the Motion of Paul Nelson, it was **VOTED:** That the Town establish and reauthorize the following revolving funds for certain Town departments under Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 44, Section 53E½ for fiscal year 2017.
Passed by a majority vote.

Revolving fund	Authorized to spend	Revenue source	Use of fund	FY2017 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

Article 21 On the Motion of Ben Feldman, it was **VOTED:** That the Town establish and reauthorize the following revolving fund for certain Town departments under

Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 44, Section 53C for fiscal year 2017.
Passed by a majority vote.

Police Detail	Police Chief	Contractors	Pay police	\$100,000
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Article 22 On the Motion of Kenneth Duffy, it was **VOTED:** That the Town transfer from the district investment financing account established with Article 12 voted at the Oct. 20, 2014 Fall Town Meeting to pay the principal and interest charges for the Templeton Road water line project \$50,892 to be used for the purpose of paying one-time costs attributable to the retirement of one employee of the Town.
Passed by a majority vote.

Article 23 On the Motion of Gary Deyo, it was **VOTED:** That the Town appropriate from Free Cash \$10,736 to the “Other Post Employment Benefits (OPED) Liability Trust Fund.
Passed by a majority vote.

Article 24 On the Motion of Paul Nelson, it was **VOTED:** That the Town appropriate from Free Cash \$7,500 to the Building Department’s budget line item, Secure Buildings, for the purposes of demolishing or securing unsafe structures and to remove debris and other materials for the health and safety of the public.
Passed by a majority vote.

Article 25 On the Motion of Ben Feldman, it was **VOTED:** That the Town reimburse the Stabilization Account 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.
Required a 2/3rd's vote. The vote was unanimous.

Article 26 On the Motion of Kenneth Duffy, it was **VOTED:** That the Town transfer from the Ambulance Reserve Fund \$11,685 for the purpose of purchasing two (2) IV Infusion Pumps to be used by the Fire Department.
Passed by a majority vote.

Article 27 On the Motion of Gary Deyo, it was **VOTED:** That the Town amend Section IV of Chapter IX of the bylaws relating to the Administration of Personnel by striking out subsection “A” that portion of the compensation schedule presently applying to the following positions and substitute the following compensation schedule to apply effective July 1, 2016:

<i>Position</i>	<i>Minimum</i>	<i>Maximum</i>
Probationary Call Firefighter Duty Pay	Minimum Wage	
Call Firefighter Duty Pay	\$14.00	
Call Lieutenant Duty Pay	\$15.00	
Call Captain Duty Pay	\$16.00	

Passed by a majority vote.

- Article 28** On the Motion of Paul Nelson, it was **VOTED:** That the Town reduce the contribution of ten (10%) percent of ambulance revenue to Receipts for Ambulance Appropriations for fiscal year 2017 to five (5%) percent of ambulance revenue, with the balance of receipts being allocated to the General Fund. *Passed by a majority vote.*
- Article 29** On the Motion of Ben Feldman, it was **VOTED:** That the Town amend its actions taken under Article 1 of the warrant at the Special Town Meeting held on January 13, 2014, so as to also permit the use of funds appropriated thereunder to pay costs of completing the paving of the driveway from the Athol Community Elementary School to Pleasant Street. The cost of said project is estimate to be \$350,000. *Required a 2/3rd's vote. The vote was unanimous.*
- Article 30** On the Motion of Kenneth Duffy, it was **VOTED:** That the Town appropriate \$540,000 from the premium paid to the Town upon the sale of bonds dated March 15, 2016 for the construction of the Riverbend Elementary School, also known as the Athol Community Elementary School which bonds are the subject of a Proposition 2½ debt exclusion, to pay costs of the project being financed by such bonds or notes and to reduce the amount authorized to be borrowed for such project, but not yet issued by the Town, by the same amount. *Passed by a majority vote.*
- Article 31** On the Motion of Gary Deyo, it was **VOTED:** That the Town authorize the Board of Selectmen to dispose of by sale or any other lawful means, for a minimum amount to be specified, the buildings and land identified as Assessor's Parcel Nos. 031-219 and 031-229, comprising the campus of the Ellen Bigelow and Riverbend elementary schools, and shown on plan entitled "Riverbend and Ellen Bigelow Schools", available for public inspection during regular business hours at the office of the Town Clerk, upon said property being declared no longer necessary for the purpose for which it was originally acquired and upon such terms and conditions as the Board of Selectmen shall determine to be in the best interests of the Town; and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to take any actions necessary to effect the purposes of this article. *Passed by a majority vote.*
- Article 32** On the Motion of Paul Nelson, it was **VOTED:** That the Town authorize the Board of Selectmen to dispose of by sale or any other lawful means, for a minimum amount to be specified, the buildings and land identified as Assessor's Parcel No. 029-224, comprising the campus of the Sanders Street Elementary School, and shown on plan entitled "Sanders Street Elementary School", available for public inspection during regular business hours at the office of the Town Clerk, upon said property being declared surplus and no longer necessary for the purpose for which it was originally acquired and upon such terms and conditions as the Board of Selectmen shall determine to be in the best interests of the Town; and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to take any actions necessary to effect the purposes of this article. *Passed by a majority vote.*

- Article 33** On the Motion of Ben Feldman, it was **VOTED:** That the Town discontinue a portion of Lake Ellis Road as a public way, and abandon its rights therein, said portion containing approximately 8,437 sq. ft. of land and shown as “Area to Be Discontinued” on a plan entitled “Layout Plan,” dated April 14, 2016, and available for public inspection during regular business hours at the office of the Town Clerk; and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to take any actions necessary to effect the purposes of this article. *Required a 2/3rd's vote. The vote was unanimous.*
- Article 34** On the Motion of Gary Deyo, it was **VOTED:** That the Town authorize the Board of Selectmen to acquire by purchase, gift or by eminent domain, an easement or the entire fee interest, for public street purposes, and upon such terms and conditions as the Board of Selectmen shall determine to be in the best interests of the Town, in the real property containing approximately 8,904 sq. ft. of land and shown as “New Road Layout” on a plan entitled “Layout Plan,” dated April 14, 2016, and available for public inspection during regular business hours at the office of the Town Clerk, and any associated drainage, utility or other easements; and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to take any actions necessary to effect the purposes of this article. *Required a 2/3rd's vote. The vote was unanimous.*
- Article 35** On the Motion of Paul Nelson, it was **VOTED:** That the Town authorize the Board of Selectmen to dispose of by sale a parcel of land being approximately 8,437 sq. ft. and shown as “Area to Be Discontinued” on a plan entitled “Layout Plan,” dated April 14, 2016 and available for public inspection during regular business hours at the office of the Town Clerk [said parcel being a former portion of Lake Ellis Road], upon such terms and conditions as the Board of Selectmen shall determine to be in the best interests of the Town. *Required a 2/3rd's vote. The vote was unanimous.*
- Article 36** On the Motion of Gary Deyo, it was **VOTED:** That the Town authorize the Board of Selectmen to dispose of by sale for a minimum amount to be specified, a parcel of land being approximately 9,192 sq. ft. and shown as “Outlot” on a plan entitled “Layout Plan,” dated April 14, 2016, and available for public inspection during regular business hours at the office of the Town Clerk, said property having been declared as no longer necessary for the purpose for which it was originally acquired and upon such terms and conditions as the Board of Selectmen shall determine to be in the best interests of the Town. And to authorize the Board of Selectmen to take any actions necessary to effect the purposes of this article. *Required a 2/3rd's vote. The vote was unanimous.*
- Article 37** On the Motion of Ben Feldman, it was **VOTED:** That the Town authorize the Board of Selectmen to file with the General Court a petition for Special Legislation, to authorize the Town to dispose of and acquire real property described as follows:

a. Notwithstanding MGL c. 30B or any other general or special law, the Town of Athol is authorized to convey of the real property being:

i. approximately 8,437 sq. ft. and shown as "Area to Be Discontinued" on a plan entitled "Layout Plan," dated April 14, 2016, and available for public inspection during regular business hours at the office of the Town Clerk upon such terms and conditions as the Board of Selectmen shall determine to be in the best interests of the Town;

ii. approximately 9,192 sq. ft. and shown as "Outlot" on a plan entitled "Layout Plan," dated April 14, 2016, and available for public inspection during regular business hours at the office of the Town Clerk, upon such terms and conditions as the Board of Selectmen shall determine to be in the best interests of the Town; and

b. In exchange for such conveyance, the Town of Athol is authorized to acquire the fee simple interest in a portion of land being approximately 8,904 sq. ft. and shown as New Road Layout on a plan entitled "Layout Plan," dated April 14, 2016, upon such terms and conditions as the Board of Selectmen shall determine to be in the best interests of the Town.

c. To authorize the Board of Selectmen to take any actions necessary to effect the purposes of this article. *Passed by a majority vote.*

Article 38 Citizen Request Article 1

On the Motion of Ranee LaPointe, it was **DEFEATED**: That the Town amend the Athol Zoning Bylaws Article III, Section 3.23.3 by deleting the following language:

3.23.3 The Accessory Agriculture use shall only be permitted in the Medium Single-Family Residential (RB), Rural Single Family Residential (RC) and the Industrial Commercial (I) zoning districts.

And replacing it with the following:

3.23.3 The Accessory Agriculture use shall only be permitted in the Multi-Family Residential (RA), Medium Single Family Residential (RB), Rural Single Family Residential (RC) and the Industrial Commercial (I) zoning districts.

Required a 2/3rd's vote. The vote was 27 yes and 32 no. Motion defeated.

Article 39 Citizen Request Article 2

On the Motion of Ranee LaPointe, it was **VOTED**: That the Town of Athol amend the Athol Zoning Bylaws Article III, Section 3.23.3 by deleting the following language:

3.23.3 The Accessory Agriculture use shall only be permitted in the Medium Single-Family Residential (RB), Rural Single Family Residential (RC) and the Industrial Commercial (I) zoning districts.

And replacing it with the following:

3.23.3 The Accessory Agriculture use shall only be permitted in the Medium Single Family Residential (RB), Rural Single Family Residential (RC) and the Industrial Commercial (I) zoning districts with a permit as granted by right by the Building Inspector and in Multi-Family Residential (RA) by Special Permit by the Zoning Board of Appeals in accordance with the provisions of MGL Ch40A, Sec. 9.

Required a 2/3rd's vote. The vote was 50 yes and 18 no. Motion passes.

Article 40 On the Motion of Kenneth Duffy, it was **VOTED:** That the Town vote to transfer from free cash \$14,460 from to the Stabilization Fund. *Required a 2/3rd's vote. The vote was unanimous.*

Meeting dissolved at 8:13 p.m.

Attest:

Nancy E. Burnham, CMC/CMMC
Town Clerk