

**Annual Town Meeting Minutes  
March 13 and 14, 2018**

At the annual Town Meeting of the Town of Holderness held on March 13 and 14, 2018 the following business was transacted.

At 10:00 a.m. on Tuesday, March 13, 2018, at the Holderness Town Hall, Moderator Daniel Rossner declared the polls opened.

At 7:00 p.m., Moderator Rossner declared the polls closed and the ballots were counted.

At 7:05 p.m., on Wednesday, March 14, 2018 at Holderness Central School, the Meeting resumed following the Holderness Central School District Meeting. Moderator Rossner asked the veterans at the meeting to lead the Pledge of Allegiance and asked for a moment of silence for those residents who passed away in 2017. Moderator Rossner asked for a motion to dispense with the reading of the Warrant in its entirety. Moved by Fran Taylor and seconded by Bonnie Hunt. The Moderator announced the results of Article 1, the ballot votes for Town Officers. The Moderator declared Article 2 (To see if the town will vote to allow the operation of Keno games within the Town.) was defeated. Moderator Rossner announced the Pemi-Baker District results. The Moderator declared Article 2 (the Zoning Ordinance Amendments) had all passed.

**Article 1:** To choose all Town Officers by official ballot:

**Selectman for 3 Years: (Vote for One)**

Woodie Laverack 168

**Trustee of Trust Funds for 3 Years: (Vote for One)**

Bonnie M. Hunt 171

**Supervisor of the Checklist for 6 Years: (Vote for One)**

Alicia Abbott 172

**Library Trustee for 3 Years: (Vote for Two)**

Victor K. Currier 158

Ted Vansant 151

Write in

Albert Saul 1

Betty Ferguson 1

**Fire Ward for 3 Years: (Vote for One)**

Randall Eastman 172

Write in

Stanley Graton 1

**Article 2: By Petition** – To see if the Town will vote to allow the operation of Keno games within the Town.

**Yes 52**

**No 112**

**Article 3: 2018 Proposed Zoning Ordinance Changes:** To see how the Town will vote by official ballot on the proposed amendments, as recommended by the Planning Board, to the Town Zoning Ordinance as follows:

**Amendment 1:** Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 1 as proposed by the Planning Board for the Holderness Zoning Ordinance as follows:

**Update the Definition of Expansion for Structures to read: “For structures, any increase in height, width, length, or usable living space, above or below ground. This includes, but is not limited to, porches, decks, roof overhangs, patios, dormers and basements/cellars?”**

**Yes 130                      No 41**

**Amendment 2:** Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 2 as proposed by the Planning Board for the Holderness Zoning Ordinance as follows:

**Update the Definition of Living Space to read: “This includes any area measured in square feet, or any space measured in cubic feet, that is enclosed space used for indoor living or storage. This includes dormers and lofts, and any open space regardless of ceiling height. This does not include crawl spaces and screened-in porches (porches not enclosed with windows)?”**

**Yes 136                      No 38**

**Amendment 3:**

Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 3 as proposed by the Planning Board for the Holderness Zoning Ordinance as follows:

**Update Section 700.2 which deals with Nonconforming Structures to read as follows:**

**“700.2:** Structures: Any structure existing at the time of the original passage of this Ordinance, March 1985, or which has been legally constructed since, but is now non-conforming to the requirements of this Ordinance shall have the right to continue indefinitely.

**700.2.1:** Nonconforming buildings or structures may be repaired, improved, or expanded, provided:

**700.2.1.1:** No alteration shall increase the nonconformity according to the requirements of this Ordinance, including use regulations, and all dimensional and area requirements.

**700.2.1.2:** Specifically, for an existing setback nonconformity, any reconstruction must be completed within the existing footprint and no expansion of any kind shall occur within that part of the structure that is in the setback.

**700.2.1.3:** For the purpose of snow load management adding a pitched roof or increasing the slope of an existing roof will not be considered an expansion provided it does not increase any living or storage space.

**700.2.1.4:** A nonconforming structure which has been destroyed or partially destroyed, or has been purposely demolished, may be reconstructed as long as the pre-existing nonconformity is not increased. Provisions of Section 700.2.1.1, 700.2.1.2 and 700.2.1.3 apply.

Reconstruction must be completed within two years of the destruction or demolition date. If the reconstruction is not completed (fully enclosed) within two years of the destruction or demolition date any new structure must be built conforming to the standards in this ordinance?"

**Yes 141                      No 30**

**Holderness Central School District  
Election Results**

School Board Member for 3 Years: (Vote for Two)

Megan Birch	50
Carolyn Mello	81
Meridith Mitchell	75
Joanne Pearce	68

School District Moderator for 3 Years: (Vote for One)

Write in

Scott King	1
Malcolm Taylor	7
Martha Richards	5
Stanley Graton	1
Ross Deachman	4
Dan Rossner	2
Sam Laverack	1
Joanne Pearce	1
Walter Johnson	1
Phil Gammons	1
Jonathan Stewart	1
Lisette Silvestri	1
Megan Birch	1
Bonnie Hunt	1
Randy Eastman	1
Peter Francesco	1
Dr. Joe Casey	1
Betsy Whitmore	1

**Article 4:** To see if the Town will vote to accept the reports of all Town Officers and Committees.

Moved by Nancy Ruhm and seconded by Carl Lehner. No discussion.

A voice vote was taken and the Article **PASSED**.

**Article 5:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the Budget Committee's recommended sum of Two Million Three Hundred Fifty-Four Thousand Four Hundred and Fifty-Five Dollars (\$2,354,455) for general municipal operations. Said sum does not include special or individual articles elsewhere within this warrant.

Moved by Anne Hunnewell and seconded by Martha Richards. No discussion.

A voice vote was taken and the Article **PASSED**.

**Article 6:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Four Hundred and Three Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$403,500) to be placed in the following Capital Reserve Funds:

WHITE OAK POND DAM	\$2,500
FIRE/RESCUE VEHICLES	\$40,000
ROAD RECONSTRUCTION	\$150,000
LIBRARY BUILDING	\$5,000
MUNICIPAL BUILDINGS	\$30,000
REVALUATION	\$35,000
FIRE EQUIPMENT	\$5,000
PUBLIC WORKS VEHICLES	\$46,000
CONSERVATION	\$5,000
POLICE CRUISER	\$26,000
TRANSFER STATION EQUIPMENT	\$2,000
EMPLOYEE HEALTH INSURANCE	\$5,000
TOWN OFFICE INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY	\$10,000
LIBRARY INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY	\$10,000
MASTER PLAN	\$5,000
EMPLOYEE POST BENEFIT EXPENDABLE TRUST	\$15,000
NEW CABLE TV SERVICE EXPANSION	<u>\$12,000</u>
TOTAL	\$403,500

Moved by Fran Taylor and seconded by Martha Richards. No discussion.

A voice vote was taken and the Article **PASSED**.

**Article 7:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Three Hundred Nineteen Thousand One Hundred and Forty-Five Dollars (\$319,145) for the following Capital projects and to fund this appropriation by authorizing the Select Board to withdraw the sums indicated from Capital Reserve Funds and Revolving Funds as noted:

Road Reconstruction: \$150,000 (from the Road Reconstruction Capital Reserve Fund)

Fire Department Forestry Vehicle: \$36,445: (from the Fire Department Fire/Rescue Vehicles Capital Reserve)

Revaluation (5-year State Mandated Revaluation): \$73,000 (from Revaluation Capital Reserve Fund)

Two new Computer Workstations for the Town Office. One Computer Workstation and one server for the Police Department: \$12,700 (from Town Information Technology Capital Reserve Fund)

Police Interceptor Sedan for Police Department: \$47,000 (\$30,000 from the Police Cruiser Capital Reserve Fund and \$17,000 from the Police Department Revolving Fund)

Moved by Bonnie Hunt and seconded by Carl Lehner.

Nancy Ruhm asked what is the Police Interceptor Sedan? Police Chief Jake Patridge stated it is the same as their current vehicles; a Ford Taurus, 4 door sedan.

Martha Richards questioned when the money is set aside for road reconstruction is it planned which of the roads are in need of road reconstruction? Select Board member, Jill White stated that during the budget process the Highway Agent, Kevin Coburn gives a detailed list of the roads in need of reconstruction. Mrs. White states the following 2018/2019 road reconstruction projects will be on Mt. Prospect Road, Currier Field Road and the Cul-de sac from Mt. Prospect Road and miscellaneous gravel /culvert projects on Mt. Prospect Road.

Betsy Whitmore asked what is the revaluation for \$ 73,000? Select Board member, Jill White explained that \$ 48,000 is the town's yearly contract for assessing and the \$ 25,000 is the additional funding for the 2018 revaluation which requires additional work.

A voice vote was taken and the Article **PASSED**.

**Article 8:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Thirty-Four Thousand One Hundred Fifty-Seven Dollars (\$34,157) to purchase a Ford F-550, One Ton Truck with Sander Body and Plow to come from the Public Works Vehicles Capital Reserve Fund. (SB38 Funds received in 2017 will complete the \$72,000 purchase.)

Moved by Bonnie Hunt and seconded by Martha Richards. No discussion.

A voice vote was taken and the Article **PASSED**.

**Article 9:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000) to construct a shade structure (pergola) for the deck on the Library and to authorize an amount not to exceed Fifteen Thousand Dollars (\$15,000) to come from the Library Improvement Capital Reserve Fund. The balance of Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000) to come from private donations to the Library Trustees. There will be no money raised through general taxation.

Moved by Joanna Tuveson and seconded by Carl Lehner.

Library Trustee, Ted Vansant explained that the Library Trustees had the architects that designed the library addition design a pergola for the library deck that is wide open and very sunny. The pergola would provide shade and make it more enjoyable place during the summer months. The Library Trustees requested for part of the money from the Library Improvement Capital Reserve fund to pay for the pergola.

A voice vote was taken and the Article **PASSED**.

Library Trustee, Ted Vansant introduced the new Holderness Library Director, Adam DiFilippe. The voters recognized Adam DiFilippe with a round of applause. Mr. Vansant stated that Adam DiFilippe will have new programs and make the library an exciting place. Mr. Vansant asked everyone to fill out a card on the table for any suggestions or concerns they may have for the library.

**Article 10:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Thirteen Thousand Six Hundred Thirty-Two Dollars (\$13,632) to be placed in the Conservation Commission Capital Reserve Fund to be offset from the unassigned fund balance with no amount to be raised by general taxation. The funding amount reflects the proceeds received by the Town for recent forestry work done on the Pilote property.

Moved by Larry Spencer and seconded by Fran Taylor.

Moderator Rossner read a statement from the Conservation Commission as follows:

“The Holderness Conservation Commission invites townsfolks to an open house to be held on Saturday, the 17<sup>th</sup> of March from 10 until noon at the Town Forest parking lot on Beede Road. Bring your snowshoes and enjoy some of the trails on the Town Forest. Light refreshments will be available. See our new sign board for the property.”

A voice was taken and the Article **PASSED**.

**Article 11:** To see if the Town will vote to designate the property, now called the Town Forest, the Sydney Howe Forest in honor of the now deceased resident of Holderness who was one of the foremost environmentalists of the United States. This property will continue to be managed as a town forest.

Moved by Larry Spencer and seconded by Martha Richards. No discussion.

A voice vote was taken and the Article **PASSED**

**Article 12:** To see if the Town will vote to ratify the Holderness Fire Department existing form of organization per RSA 154:1-III to the following:

A Fire Chief appointed by the Governing body.  
Firefighters and EMS personnel elected by the Fire Department members at large.  
Firewards elected by the local legislative body pursuant to RSA 669:17.

Moved by Martha Richards and seconded by Bonnie Hunt. Kay Hanson asked what is changed from what is currently being done? Select Board member, Jill White stated there are no changes to the organization of the Department. The Town just needs to formally vote on what the organization is.

A voice vote was taken and the Article **PASSED**.

**Article 13:** To transact any other business that can legally come before the meeting.

Moderator Rossner recognized Select Board Member, Jill White. Ms. White recognized and thanked Eleanor Mardin, Fire Chief and Compliance Officer, and Jeanne Perkins, Library Assistant for their ten years of service and Dennis Hughes, Highway Department driver and operator for his fifteen years of service to the town. The voters recognized Eleanor Mardin, Jeanne Perkins and Dennis Hughes with a round of applause. Ms. White thanked all the employees and volunteers for their effort and commitment to make Holderness an exceptional place.

Select Board member, Shelagh Connelly announced the dedication of the 2017 Town Report to the "Friends of the Pemi" for their dedication and hard work in making the Livermore Falls a New Hampshire State Park. This project involved many groups of volunteers from all of the surrounding communities to make the Livermore Falls site a clean and safe place and a beautiful destination for families. In November 2017, the Friends of the Pemi-Livermore Falls Chapter received the Spirit of New Hampshire Volunteer service Award for their more than 1000

hours/per year in volunteer work. Ms. Connelly recognized Ken Evans for his leadership to bring together a group of committed people. She recognized the Rotary for their efforts in the project.

Bonnie Hunt moved to adjourn the meeting and seconded by Martha Richards. Moderator Rossner declared the meeting adjourned at 7:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ellen King  
Holderness  
Town Clerk