

**North Conway Water Precinct**

**Annual Meeting**

Wednesday, March 30, 2022

Voting from 4:00PM - 7:00PM

Business Portion of the Meeting 7:00PM

North Conway Water Precinct  
Wastewater Treatment Facility  
104 Sawmill Lane  
North Conway, NH

**Commissioners**

John Santuccio (Board Chair)

Suzanne Nelson

Robert F. Porter

**Superintendent**

Jason Gagnon

**Fire Department Chief**

Patrick L. Preece

**Treasurer**

Robert T. Anderson

**Clerk**

Gary Chandler

**Moderator**

Donald Ekberg

Moderator Don Ekberg opened the Annual Meeting at 4:00PM.

**Article 01 Election of Officers**

To choose all necessary officers.

Commissioner	3 year term
Treasurer	1 year term
Moderator	1 year term
Clerk	1 year term

**Motion of Commissioner Nelson and seconded by Commissioner Porter to put Article 01 Election of Officers on the floor.**

**Don Ekberg: Motion carries.**

Don Ekberg: If anybody hasn't voted, now is the time. For Article 1. The North Conway Water Precinct Annual Meeting is now in session. Um. The first thing we are going to do is the Pledge of Allegiance. Would Mr. Anderson or anybody lead us in the Pledge of Allegiance, please?

Room: I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation, under God, indivisible, with Liberty and Justice for all.

Don Ekberg: Thank you. Uh. Just some, uh, housekeeping rules. The usual, uh, the usual information about the electronic devices, please. Um, when, um if and when you wish to address the, uh, the meeting, uh, please use the mic and give your name. Uh, only voters are allowed to speak unless there is a motion from the voters to allow, uh, non-voters to speak, which has to be voted on by the, uh, voters. Robert's rules is kind of in effect, although it's flexible. Well, all the other Moderators in this room tell me that's the way it's supposed to happen. Um, there are, uh, I assume everybody has a packet of what the uh, what the Articles are. Articles 2 through 6 are "bonded articles" and I have received a, uh, request from five registered voters to have ballot, uh, votes on those 5 articles. So, what I anticipate doing is, um, we will take them up in order and discuss them in order 2-6 but, uh, at the close of the discussion on those five articles, then we will vote on those 5 Articles, and everybody will be given a yellow sheet with A through whatever it is, and so it, number 2 will be A, 3 will be B, etc. So, um, the reason for that is because the statue requires that the voting be left open for an hour, so rather than take an hour on Article 2 and an hour on Article 3, do the math, so we'll take one total hour, but discuss them all in order and then vote, use the hour to do the voting and the boxes. Is everybody clear on that? Is there any questions on that?

Don Ekberg: Ok, uh, I will... yes?

Karen Umberger: You mentioned that, if you're a non-Precinct resident and you want to speak, are we going to do that each time or do we want a motion to allow non-voters to speak?

Don Ekberg: Well, I don't think there's any set way of doing it. If you, if you want, if somebody, a voter, wants to make a motion to allow a, uh, non-voters to speak on all the Articles, I suppose that motion would be in order, or if you want to make a motion on any specific article, I suppose that would also be in order. However anybody wishes to do it. I should have said probably that this doesn't apply to the presenters. I think that's a fair statement, that the presenters who are going to present to address the Articles, are not, this rule would not apply to, this would be for people who are not presenters who are not voters. But, if you want to make uh... either way, I, uh, whatever you uh, you feel like, make a motion

Karen Umberger: Well as long as, I was concerned about presenters in particular, because they're non-Precinct residents...

Don: Well I think a Presenter's a different category than a person actually speaking, uh would you agree with that?

Steve Bennett: You could make a general motion to allow non-voters...

**Karen Umberger: I'll just make the motion to allow non-Precinct residents to speak...**

Don Ekberg: Well, as I, as I understand there will be, I think a motion will address this, Karen. I understand there's going to be

a motion made to allow non-residents to speak, but what I'm told is, it's Jason, Steve Bennett the Lawyer and Hannah who are not voters but, that motion could if somebody were to make it...

Karen Umberger: I'm making it.

Don Ekberg: ...could include all the rest of them.

Karen Umberger: I'm making that motion.

Don Ekberg: Your motion is what? Specifically?

Karen Umberger: The motion is to allow non-Precinct residents to speak.

Don Ekberg: Anybody?

Karen Umberger: Thank you.

Don Ekberg: Is that your motion? Any non-resident? Not the presenters and not the ones listed? Anybody else?

Karen Umberger: Everybody.

Don Ekberg: Ok. Is there...

Karen Umberger: Anybody. Non-Precinct Residents.

**Don Ekberg: Is there a second to that motion?**

**Jim Umberger: Second.**

Don Ekberg: Is there any discussion on that motion? Yes, sir?

Tim Anderson: Tim Anderson. So, what you're saying, Karen is the non-residents are going to participate in this meeting just as though they are voters? But they can't vote?

Don Ekberg: Well, they can't...

Tim Anderson: ... or is this going to be on pacific articles?

Karen Umberger: That's what I'm trying to figure out.

Don Ekberg: The motion as I understand it, is to allow anybody who is not a voter to speak! Period. Could be anybody and everybody. That's the motion. That's the motion. Anybody else wish to... yes, Sir?

Gary Chandler: Gary Chandler. I guess I have no problem with certain people speaking, that have, ok? But I don't think we need to have non-voters debating, ok, every article as they so choose throughout the evening. I, you know what I mean? I think the difference between having somebody speak to have something to say but to have full debate back and forth as if they were a voter and a taxpayer here, I think I have a little bit of a problem with that.

Don Ekberg: Anybody else who hasn't spoken yet wish to speak on this? Ok.

Karen Umberger: That's why I asked if we were going to do it by Article, or if we were just going to have it once because, I was, the lawyer said that the presenters needed to have, did you not? The Presenters needed to have a vote on this in order to present.

Steve Bennett: Everybody who is a non-resident who is participating in the meeting really should be covered by a motion, or a group motion to allow them to speak. If there's concerns about people just going on and on, well then Article by Article you can do that motion.

Karen Umberger: I don't have a problem, whatever it is, however we want to do it...

Don Ekberg: Well he, you you you have a motion on the floor...

Karen Umberger: Yes, I know!

Don Ekberg: ... to allow all non-voters to speak. That's your motion as I understand it. And it's been seconded. Yes, Sir?

William Hounsell: Mr. Moderator, I would like to amend the motion.

Robert Porter: Who are you? You're supposed to say, I know who you are! But you're supposed to state your name, Bill!

William Hounsell: Thank you, Bob.

Don Ekberg: What's your amendment?

**William Hounsell: My amendment is to uh, amend the motion to allow the presenters uh, to speak uh, throughout the meeting and that the uh non-voters would be allowed to speak uh case by case.**

**Karen Umberger: I'll second that.**

Don Ekberg: Are you withdrawing uh you second that one?

Karen Umberger: He amended my motion.

Don Ekberg: Keep in mind, the Presenters, however that's defined could... alright. **So that amendment is moved and seconded. Are people ready for the vote on the amendment? Any more discussion... All in favor of the amendment, say aye.**

*Room filled with responding ayes.*

Don Ekberg: Ok. All in favor of the original motion as amended say aye.

*Room filled with responding ayes.*

Don Ekberg: Any negative votes? Motion carries. So, Presenters, non-voting presenters will speak. Well that was uhh...

Don Ekberg: So, we will now move to um, move to um discuss the articles. So I will move to Article 2 which is Long Term Borrowing - Wastewater Sludge Dryer. To see if the voters of the North Conway Water Precinct will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$10,000,000 for design and construction of a sludge dewatering system at the Precinct's wastewater facility; and to authorize the Commissioners to issue up to \$10,000,000 of bonds or notes in accordance with the provisions of the Municipal Finance Acts and, as applicable, the State Water Pollution Control Revolving Fund Loan program, and to negotiate such bonds or notes and to determine the dates, maturities, interest rates, and other details of such bonds or notes; and to further authorize the Commissioners to apply for, accept on behalf of the Precinct, and expend federal, state, or private grants or loans, or other aid that may become available to offset the net cost of this Project. This Project shall only move forward if a minimum of 50% of the Project cost is offset by principal forgiveness and/or grant funds. Simple majority vote required. Recommended by the Board of Commissioners 3 – 0 – 0. This will be a ballot one so uh, I'm opening it up for discussion. Yes, sir?

Chris Meyer: Chris Meyer. Conway, North Conway, Intervale, Kearsarge. **I would make a motion to wave the Moderator reading every article. Just provide us a summary cause we all have it written in the book.**

Don Ekberg: Psh...Hahaha ok! Is there a second to that?

*Second from the crowd.*

Don Ekberg: All in favor?

*Room filled with responding ayes.*

Don Ekberg: Opposed? Super! That's my... um... Jason? I think I took that out of order. There should have been a motion on Article 2 to put it on the floor.

### **Article 02 Long-Term Borrowing Wastewater Sludge Dryer**

To see if the voters of the North Conway Water Precinct will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$10,000,000 (gross budget) for design and construction of a sludge dewatering system at the Precinct's wastewater treatment facility (the "Project"); and to authorize the Commissioners to issue up to \$10,000,000 of bonds or notes in accordance with the provisions of the Municipal Finance Act (RSA Ch. 33) and, as applicable, the State Water Pollution Control Revolving Fund Loan program, and to negotiate such bonds or notes and to determine the dates, maturities, interest rates, and other details of such bonds or notes; and to further authorize the Commissioners to apply for, accept on behalf of the Precinct, and expend federal, state, or private grants or loans, or other aid that may become available to offset the net cost of this Project. This Project shall only move forward if a minimum of 50% of the Project cost is offset by principal forgiveness and/or grant funds. Simple majority vote required.

[Recommended by the Board of Commissioners 3 – 0 – 0]

**Suzanne Nelson: I move to place Article 2 Long-Term Borrowing Wastewater Sludge Dryer on the floor.**

**Robert Porter: Second!**

**Don Ekberg: Alright, all in favor?**

*Room filled with responding ayes.*

Don Ekberg: Ok. Now we'll have the discussion. Anybody wish to be hear on Article 2?

Kristine Cluff: I would assume, I'm Kris Cluff, and I'm addressing this to the Superintendent: Have we applied for the grants already, and what grants are we getting to offset this article?

Jason Gagnon: So, um, I'll answer your question quickly, um, sorry, and um that is no. We have not applied to the State yet. Uh, the reason, and I'll start from the beginning with this one. So, what we're seeing right now, and especially with Articles 2 and 3, is really a generational funding opportunity from the federal level. What we've been told by the State folks is that we're looking at a minimum of 50% grant or principal forgiveness for all of these projects. The key to being uh, to being able to get that grant funding is to be first in line. And that's really what we're trying to do. So, the Precinct has always worked hard for when that funding is available, to take advantage of it. And, because we've done that, we've been able to do, in many cases, twice the dollar value of work than we've actually paid for because we're getting those 50%, 60% grants from the Federal level. Uh, this hasn't happened since 2008, last time it happened. That was when, uh the Great Recession hit and there was the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, ARRA as everybody called it then.

That's what built the solar panels, that's what built the Geothermal system that's heating this room right now. It did a lot of projects for the Precinct that we wouldn't have been able to afford otherwise. So, with Articles 2 and to some extent 3, we're trying to take advantage of that generational funding opportunity and trying to look a little bit farther into the future than we normally do, knowing that it may be 10 or 15 years before we have another funding opportunity like this. So, coming back to Article 2, um, to lay a little bit of the groundwork for how this project in particular came about; since the wastewater treatment plant has been in existence, we've had an agreement with the Town of Conway. We take all of their landfill leachate and dispose of and treat it here, and in exchange, they take all of our wastewater sludge and bury it at the landfill. As North Conway has continued to grow, we're now producing more sludge than the Town Landfill can handle. So for the first time in 25 years, this year, we're going to have to pay to dispose of some of our sludge. That's the first issue. The second issue that uh, you may or may not have heard about is the issue of PFAS. PFAS is Perfloralalko Substances, I think is how that goes...PFAS. And it is the chemical de jour in the regulatory world. Um, and it's what PFAS is doing is it's really changing the water and wastewater landscape um more really than any other chemical has I would say in the last 20-30 years. How that impacts our Wastewater Sludge is that most wastewater sludge in New Hampshire and really in the U.S. is what they call beneficial reuse, is how it's disposed of. So it's composted, it's mixed, it's used as fertilizer. Well, the Sludge also contains PFAS. And so, Our neighbors next door in the State of Maine, um just recently banned all land application of bio solids, including septage, sludge uh, any of those things. Because there's so much concern over the health effects of these PFAS samples. What that means is that the market for where you can dispose of these solids is rapidly shrinking. New Hampshire has taken a more measured approach so far with the bio-solids. They were very aggressive on the drinking side of things but they've been more measured, I would say, with how they're approaching the Wastewater side of things. So for now, in New Hampshire you can still apply wastewater bio-solids, uh which means that the price of disposing of wastewater bio solids has not jumped as much as it has in other places where the only treatment... disposal options left are either a landfill; landfills don't want it, honestly, or incineration. So we find ourselves in this really strange spot, where we're kind of right on the cusp of drastic changes in the wastewater bio-solids disposal landscape. And what a wastewater sludge dryer does, if you want to think about what wastewater sludge is, I should have brought in a sample so everybody could see... it's kind of like playdough but it's all brown. Um, it's, when you think about it, the wastewater solids that we produce come out at 20% solids, which means that 80% of our sludge is water. It's not a big deal when you're disposing of it for free, but you pay by the ton to dispose of it. So, we're paying to dispose of water. If we can find a way to get rid of that water, then our disposal cost goes down. And that's what the sludge dryer project aims to do. Um, I've said this to a bunch of you in the crowd already but I want to say it for the record. We're still not there on this project as far as development, to make it economical to do. We're not there. We haven't figured out exactly what we need to do to make this project economical for the Precinct. But, the reason we're bringing it forward now is because we're reading the tea leaves. We see what's coming in the future with this PFAS and this the sludge disposal and all these things and within the next 5-10 years every wastewater treatment plant is

going to be scrambling, trying to figure out, How do we get this sludge dryer project going? And then, then when there's that much demand for these things, supply is going to be constrained, prices are going to go through the roof for sludge dryers, and this generational funding opportunity is probably not going to be there. So what we're really trying to do with this one is to be pro-active, get our place in line for this Federal funding and then continue working from a design and development standpoint, figure out how do we make this project economical? How do we take our sludge, incorporate this dryer and have less net cost to the Precinct than having to truck it all and throw it away in a landfill, if they'll even still take it. So, that's kind of where we are with this one. Uh, I wish I could give you a lot more specifics about what the process is. I wish I had a nice design to show what it was going to look like but we're just not there yet. Some of the big challenges are um, you know most of the drying technologies use heat so they're thermal dryers. Well, to get heat you have to have an energy source, whether it's electricity or fuel oil. Most of the installations where the current ones are successfully Operating are natural gas. We don't have that option up here so we have to be creative. We have to look at other ways to provide that energy input. And those are things that we're working on, but we're not there yet. So, I guess the last thing I would say is that in the bond, in the language it says that we're not going to move forward without a minimum of 50% grant. But on top of that, we're not going to move forward unless we show that this project results in a positive cashflow for the Precinct. If the cost of the dryer and the operation of the dryer and all those things is physically less than cost of just trucking it and throwing it away. We will stay with that low cost option as long as we can. But we want to have the flexibility to be able to be first in line for the funding, and be first in line for the actual equipment before everybody is trying to do the same thing.

Don Ekberg: Yes, Sir?

Gary Chandler: Jason just curious; as an interim period here, ok? We know we have a ratio problem with the landfill. It's on a mass basis, ok? How do you in the meantime manage in the interim and get solids reduction from the plant so you can maintain that arrangement that works pretty good right now, K? Looking quickly at the budget, there's a disposal cost to truck it, the new truck to truck it but I look at the increase in septage ok? Last year it's like 34%, if I did my math right, probably didn't...

Jason Gagnon: Yup.

Gary Chandler: Alright and I'm guessing that's a 34% increase in solids at least from a dollar standpoint so you know, how could we get into solids reduction so we can at least you know survive and not have to spend a lot of money, while this is playing out because I think we've got two problems going here at once and we're kind of knee jerk reacting to not being able to take it to the landfill. Can we, and I'm just going to ask the question, which is the big one in the room, can we reduce the amount of septage coming in to bring the level of solids down, I know it's a revenue strain, but look at what's going out opposed to what's coming in, it doesn't pencil out to me. And you can correct me.

Jason Gagnon: Yeh. So we uh, we did some rough calculations and we figured out that the amount of sludge we are producing that's due to septage is about 32% so 32% of our sludge is due to septage and then the other, you know, 68% is just due to the increase in wastewater flows that we've seen here. Um, 20 you know, this past summer, we've seen the highest flows we've seen in 25 years. So, that trend is not going to go away, um especially when we've got, what four hotels coming online here in the next couple of years? Uh, so... so that's the first part. You know? Septage is definitely a part of it, but it's not the major part. Um, the second part is we looked at, what Gary was eluding to was back before we did our Dewatering upgrades, uh, that's the Dewatering, the screw presses that we have now, the mechanical dewatering which takes it from about 1% solids to 20% solids so it will sit in a dumpster without sloshing around and we can haul it away. In 2018, I think we got 1.5 million gallons of septage at \$.12 per gallon is what we were charging. This past year we got 5.8 million gallons at \$.09. so, we took those numbers and and Gary you know, you're exactly right, the first thing is alright if we've got a problem, let's see if the best answer is just to stop taking septage? So, when we ran the numbers um, for that you know, if we take 5.8 million gallons at \$.09, that's \$522,000 in revenue for the Precinct. And then say you take away the \$150,000 that we have in the sewer budget this year for sludge disposal, so that's sort of a net revenue of \$372,000. If we went back up to \$.12 we think we would be somewhere in the neighborhood of 2.5 million gallons of septage we would probably get. That's a net revenue of 300,000 gallons, uh \$300,000 for the Precinct. So it's \$72,000 less revenue to the Precinct, so the preliminary numbers, we are making more money and taking pressure off of rates by taking that extra septage, even with the extra sludge disposal costs.

Don Ekberg: Oh, before you speak, is there anybody who hasn't spoken yet on this who wishes to? Ok. Thank you.

Tim Anderson: I see where you get the numbers, Jason, but you're also forgetting the part that we're paying Conway too out of that...

Jason Gagnon: Right... so...

Tim Anderson: ...so how much is that? 30%?

Jason Gagnon: Right, so if we were, if uh, at the 2.5 million at \$.12 estimate, you know they're going to get 30% of that \$300,000...

Tim Anderson: That's 90 grand...

Jason Gagnon: Yup... and then at the, at the uh, 5.8 million gallons at \$.09, you know they're going to get 30% of that 372, but they're also paying 30% of that 150... because that's a wastewater treatment cost.

Tim Anderson: ... still less than 370.

Jason Gagnon: So, right but I, I guess you look at it from a what's coming into the Precinct, and either way it's 30% going in or out either way to Conway Village.

Tim Anderson: Correct. Ok. Now. I've got another question...

Don Ekberg: Ok.

Tim Anderson: so with all this septage we're bringing in, what's it doing to the carousels out there and what's it doing to the train?

Jason Gagnon: So, that was part of the reason why in past we had it at \$.12 because we were trying to physically limit septage because we could not handle it in the treatment process. When we did the upgrades out here, uh, we got one, a new receiving unit, which screens out all that stuff but two we also got a holding tank out of it so now we have about 80,000 gallons of storage, where the septage is aerated and uh stored and we can feed it into the process on our terms, rather than having to feed it as the trucks come in and it's actually been really beneficial because we have such high loads during the day and then they drop off to nothing at night. So, we feed the septage at night and it creates kind of a steady state condition at the wastewater plant, which is what the bacteria like. The bacteria that are doing the work. They don't like change. They like for things to be steady and constant so it's actually been a big help.

Tim Anderson: So what are we going to do here to not have to haul the stuff to Berlin or Ashland or wherever we're going, and take it all to the treatme... all to the dump.

Jason Gagnon: If we could dewater it or dry it, they could take all of it. It's it's really a volume and consistency issue.

Tim Anderson: I understand that but we're not going to be drying and doing the consistency tomorrow...

Jason Gagnon: No...

Tim Anderson: I'm talking about this summer...

Jason Gagnon: Uh, this summer? Nothing really... short of shutting off septage all together.

Tim Anderson: So no septage, we're still going to, that...we're taking in that much more stuff that you can't take any septage to meet the numbers that the Town wants?

Jason Gagnon: I think it would be pretty difficult. Like I said, only about 30% of our sludge comes from septage. Based on, again these are calculations, right? That our engineers give us so... take them for what they're worth but that's what, that's how they calculated it. So if we got rid of all of our septage, that would get rid of 30% of our sludge, which is technically still more than the town told us they can take when they came to budget hearing.

Don Ekberg: Yes, Sir? No. Excuse me. Excuse me. Mr. Hounsell had it.

William Hounsell: William Hounsell. Thank you, Mr. Moderator. Um. The other ingredient in how we get the um, grants that come in from the state through the State Aid Grant Program is 10 Towns, uh we have agreements with for 5, 5 years. 2% of Principal payment interest on the bonds to do what we built. So um, I guess we could drop them after 5 years but that's uh, that's big revenue as far as paying our bonds and this symbiotic relationship with those other towns have great value. But the big thing to think about on this article, is when I started working with Gary, um, we created a procedure where we pass bonds for a project, and that those bonds, the first thing that we did after the bonds passed was to do the engineering. Preliminary and engineering that showed us all of the questions people are going to have on their mind right now. Um, and get the answers. That's really important, so if this passes, we can take some money out of on our own and go forward with the engineering to answer these questions. *Clears throat.* The other thing I would tell you is that uh, working with the State and all

of the different Commissions that have created to give grants from the State and Federal level, um, their big, uh, buzzword is 'skin in the game'. And by skin in the game, they mean what is a municipality doing with their money? How much are they putting forward with their efforts before they come to us? Now the engineering that we've always done is the additional skin in the game. And further than that, it also shows us costs and ways to alter the projects, that we can think about, and primarily though, other than allowing us to pay to get that information, it positions us with the new congressional money coming into the state. In all ways. And hopefully... Jason and I have worked on this together for a while and we're both hoping that we can build upon the 50%. Um, but nothing can happen here less than 50% and I have a hunch that the process, by the time it takes us to get to where we're going, we'll have to come back to ask for more... because of inflation. But by then, we'll have more answers on potential grant eligibility and we'll have the engineering information back and it must be.

Jason Gagnon: I hope you're wrong about that more money, Bill. Um, but just to follow up on your point about the septage agreements; that is correct. We do have 3 and a half years remaining with our septage agreements with 10 towns. So, DES requires towns to have an agreement with a wastewater treatment facility for septage disposal. Because we had those agreements, we got an additional \$324,000 in grants on the Dewatering and Septage Receiving upgrade.

William Hounsell: Mr. Moderator, If it costs more, I hope we can get more grants.

Don Ekberg: Thank you. I believe this man in the green shirt was next.

Wayne Sylvanowicz: Um, Wayne Sylvanowicz. I can't hear him talking.

Jason Gagnon: You want me to turn the fan down a little bit?

*Crowd enthusiastically agrees.*

Don Ekberg: ... freezing. It's cold in here.

Jason Gagnon: We figured there's going to be a tons of body heat in here so we kind of...

Don Ekberg: ... a lot of hot air...

Wayne Sylvanowicz: The question I have is that you brought up the, the issue of a number of hotels being erected, there's a lot of people proposing housing projects etc. uh, and as I listen to you, it sounds like our infrastructure is not in position to support all of this development? So, what is the coordination between the folks that are planning and approving all these projects for housing and hotels, with you folks in terms of having the infrastructure in place to support all this new development?

Jason Gagnon: So, the good news or the bad news, depending on your position on the development, is that our infrastructure that exists now can handle all of it. So, when the plant was built, and Gary knows this, it was sized to handle the full Mount Washington Valley Region. Uh, we're still at half capacity out there right now. So, as far as treatment and collection, we have the capacity to handle all of that stuff. And we have the capacity to handle all of the sludge, it's just that the guy at the end taking it doesn't have the capacity to take it.

Don Ekberg: Thank you. Anybody else? Anybody who hasn't spoken? Hasn't.

Gary Chandler: One more time?

Don Ekberg: Yeh! Sure!

Gary Chandler: I'm going to change hats here for a minute and just caution the Commissioners and Jason, Ok? That these expenses in a couple of these articles are pretty heavy duty. As everybody knows, most of you know, I'm the superintendent of the Lower Bartlett Water Precinct, and the Lower Bartlett Water Precinct will be voting a bond article for \$40.9 million to look at and to effect wastewater collection to advance to this plant, Ok? However, one of the heartburn issues we had looking at what the O&M cost would be projecting what's going on down here. To simplify it in layman's terms, ok? I said that we're basically getting in bed with a 25-year-old wastewater plant, that's high maintenance, and that has like some trinkets right now, ok? So, but it does have a net effect, and I'm sure you heard from Conway Village, so I just want to caution, ok? That as we move forward we're trying to make sure, this, you know, it has to be affordable and just because we've become a partner in this, it doesn't mean we can price ourselves right out of the park. Ok?

Don Ekberg: Thank you. Anybody else? Yes. Uh, who hasn't.... Mr.Hounsell...

William Hounsell: William Hounsell. I think it's important to, for us to, remind ourselves that, uh, all the voters directed us to make sure that Lower Bartlett Water Precinct was prioritized on their volume being able to come to this plant. All of their wells



are upland of ours. Uh, all that's happening up there is upland of our aquifer, can this whole wastewater plant and collections system was built to protect that aquifer. So, I think, I think the estimating engineers, that uh, predicted 300,000 gallons coming out of Lower Bartlett, uh, not their full build out but initially. We have 2.25 million gallons right now on a Permit. When Gary started, it was 1.5 million, we got that almost doubled. That added enough, Conway Village is full, 800,000 build out. They bought 400 and the contract with the Inter Municipal Agreement allows them to have 600. So, we've got between the 600 and 300, we're only at what, 3 or 400?

Jason Gagnon: What for us? No, we're more at like 6 and 700.

William Hounsell: 6 or 7? Ok, so adding those together? That's 6 and 3 and 7. That's 1.3? And we have a permit for 2.25 but by the Superintendent, if we do the modifications what does that move us up to?

Jason Gagnon: Yeh, so that's uh Article 4, I believe. Uh, but what we've become aware of is that uh, we've probably got an additional 50% capacity in each, that's yet untapped out there, above and beyond that 2.25 is so, we believe we can get north of 3 million gallons per day out of the system with modifications.

William Hounsell: So, we have plenty of capacity? And keep in mind that we're going to prioritize Lower Bartlett Water Precinct first? We've got Conway Village and we understand what they need in the long term. And the next unknown is 'what is the Town going to do? When are they going to get involved? Gary and I tried to get them involved and do a waterline up to the Courthouse and Police Station and I think probably, they're going to look at that. And maybe even back to Conway Village so, there's a lot of stuff that the Town's going to come at us with but we're the golden answer to this valley. We're the monetary answer to this valley on rates and affordability. And our model is the thing that's worked since the beginning of time. For 25 years, we've built systems that are probably good for 50 years at least. Thank you.

Don Ekberg: Anybody else? Yes...

Tim Anderson: Well I'll ask the question since nobody else has; What's this going to cost me on my tax bill?

Jason Gagnon: So, if...

Tim Anderson: And that would be on the 10,000,000 because you haven't got the grants yet...

Jason Gagnon: ...well the grants are pretty much guaranteed... That's what they've told us and we've got the Chair of the House Finance right here who can speak to that.

Tim Anderson: Just remember there were a few years, they deferred a lot of money and didn't pay...

Jason Gagnon: Yup...

Tim Anderson: ... and I'm not even sure we've got it all back in...

Jason Gagnon: So, at a 50% grant, that would be \$.42 using the 2020 valuation. That... So, that doesn't include any of this new development that's happening. Um, just Pine Hill alone, when Pine Hill gets constructed, assuming it gets constructed, will add an additional, uh, 15% to the Precinct's valuation. Based on what I've seen for construction cost estimates.

Tim Anderson: 15% of our valuation? So give me a dollar number now because I've got one and want to make sure we're on the same page.

Jason Gagnon: We can talk offline but I'm not at liberty to... I've told them I would not share any numbers publicly about that stuff so...

Don Ekberg: Thank you. Anybody, Anybody else wishes to speak on Article 2?

**Patrick Preece: Motion to move the question.**

**Don Ekberg: Motion to move seconded. Non-debatable as I understand it. All in favor?**

*Room filled with responding ayes.*

**Don Ekberg: Opposed?**

**None opposed.**

Don Ekberg: Ok. Here's what's going to happen, 2 is A on your shh... everybody got a yellow sheet? 2 is A, 3 is B, etc. so you're going to vote by ballot on 2-6, 2-6, you're voting, you can vote anytime you want but we're going to discuss all 5 in order. So, but number 2 will be A. And then when we finish the 5, you put all 5 of them in a box. Right? Right. I'm getting a

right over there.

Patrick Preece: Each boxes are labeled.

Don Ekberg: Article 3! Article 3, thanks to Chris Meyer, everyone can read. Uhh. That's an erosion. It's uhh... the river's eroding. That's my summary of Article 3. The River is eroding. Jason will speak to this. A motion! I need a motion...

### **Article 03 Long Term Borrowing - Saco River Erosion Mitigation**

To see if the voters of the North Conway Water Precinct will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$7,805,000 (gross budget) for design and construction of mitigation strategies to address meander of the Saco River toward the Precinct's wastewater treatment facility (the "Project"); and to authorize the Commissioners to issue up to \$7,805,000 of bonds or notes in accordance with the provisions of the Municipal Finance Act (RSA Ch. 33) and, as applicable, the State Water Pollution Control Revolving Fund Loan program, and to negotiate such bonds or notes and to determine the dates, maturities, interest rates, and other details of such bonds or notes; and to further authorize the Commissioners to apply for, accept on behalf of the Precinct, and expend federal, state, or private grants or loans, or other aid that may become available to offset the net cost of this Project. This Project shall only move forward if a minimum of 50% of the Project cost is offset by principal forgiveness and/or grant funds. Simple majority vote required.

[Recommended by the Commissioners 3-0-0]

**Suzanne Nelson: Oh, yeh! I can give you a motion. I move to place Article 03 Long Term Borrowing - Saco River Erosion Mitigation on the floor.**

**Robert Porter: Second!**

**Don Ekberg: Moved and seconded. All in favor?**

*Room filled with responding ayes.*

Don Ekberg: Jason, you're up again.

Jason Gagnon: It's a good thing I have a cup of tea. Um, same basic idea as Article 2. We have a generational funding opportunity and we want to be proactive about planning for the future of the Precinct. So, 10 years ago, when Tropical Storm Irene came through, the river decided it was going to swallow up our Well 2 building. 10 years from then, we're actually hoping to start up the new Well 2 building again with full Precinct funds. What we're trying to do here is get ahead of the river moving while we still have time. So in your little handouts there with uh, the different pages and stuff, the first two pages I had, our consultant Interfluve put together just has some kind of nice pictures about what's actually going on with the river. But on the second page is the key one. So since 1938, based on historical aerial photography of the region, the river has moved 600 feet towards the Wastewater Plant and it's not slowing down. It's been pretty consistent over that whole time. So, trying to learn from past mistakes with Well 2, and also trying to work with the generational funding opportunity we have right now at the federal level, we want to get ahead of that river and come up with a solution that fixes it before it becomes a real problem. Um, by doing it now, the universe of possible solutions is so much bigger than if we waited and said "Boy, there's some river, now the only thing left to do is stick a whole bunch of rocks or sheet pylon or whatever right there because we have no other choice..." So, again, we're trying to be proactive, take advantage of the federal funding, and give ourselves the options to find a solution that may be more cost effective than when the river is right there knocking on our door. Um, Karen had connected me with, um, Karen Umberger had connected me with somebody at the Homeland Security Division State of New Hampshire. The Article here says a minimum of 50% grant. When I spoke to the Homeland Security person on the phone yesterday, he told me 75% grant. So, there's a lot of uh, Federal money, whether it's through SRF, whether it's through FEMA, whether it's a combination of SRF, FEMA, and some other funding groups, uh, I feel really good that's we're going to get a very large portion of this work funded for us, and be able to do something that's going to, I mean, where would this plant go if the river swallowed it? Where would we rebuild it? Anybody who was here 25 years ago knows how much discussion went into just locating it here in the first place. There really is no other good spot of it, so I think it's really wise to take advantage of this money while we still have options and stop the problem before it becomes a problem.

Don Ekberg: Anybody wish to speak on Article 3? Seeing no hands Article 3 will be B on your yellow sheet. Article 4, this is another bond borrowing to see if you'll vote for \$2,999,000 for Upgrades to the Wastewater Treatment Facility. Is there a motion? ...is there a motion?

## Article 04 Long Term Borrowing - WWTF Upgrades

To see if the voters of the North Conway Water Precinct will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$2,990,000 (gross budget) for design and construction of aeration, mixing, and energy upgrades to the Precinct's wastewater treatment facility (the "Project") which costs are expected to be offset by \$409,300 of principal forgiveness through the State Water Pollution Control Revolving Fund Loan program and \$897,000 of federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) grant funds; and to authorize the Commissioners to issue up to \$2,990,000 of bonds or notes in accordance with the provisions of the Municipal Finance Act (RSA Ch. 33) and the State Water Pollution Control Revolving Fund Loan program, and to negotiate such bonds or notes and to determine the dates, maturities, interest rates, and other details of such bonds or notes; and to further authorize the Commissioners to apply for, accept on behalf of the Precinct, and expend federal, state, or private grants or loans or other aid that may become available to offset the net cost of this Project. Simple majority vote required.

[Recommended by the Board of Commissioners 3-0-0]

**Suzanne Nelson:** Ah, yes... I will move to um place Article 04 Long Term Borrowing - WWTF Upgrades on the floor.

**Robert Porter:** Second.

**Don Ekberg:** Moved and seconded. All in favor?

*Room filled with responding ayes.*

Don Ekberg: Ok, Jason?

Jason Gagnon: Ok. Um, first up, Tim? Yes, we have already been awarded the funding for this, including the grant and the ARPA funds. So, that is already written down in stone at DES that that funding is coming our way. So,

Don Ekberg: You hit oil so I thought you were going to stop there.

Jason Gagnon: Oh! Ha. No. No, unfortunately I have more hot air to get out. Um, just, I touched on this briefly in the sludge dryer so I won't go too deep on it but, we have two parallel treatment systems out there. Um, and that gives us our full capacity. Right now, we're only operating one, but at the peak times of the year, we're at the limit of that one ditch. However, during times of the year like this, when nobody's here, we don't have enough flow for two ditches. So, what we're running into is a situation where the plant is at that tipping point where it's not really meant to run. It either needs to be two ditches or one ditches. It can't be two sometimes and one sometimes. The good news is that we believe we can get an additional 50% capacity out of a single ditch. This project here, would upgrade the aeration system in the, in the other ditch. We did a similar thing in 2012, I believe. So, here we are 10 years later and we need to add that additional capacity again so we'll upgrade the other ditch and we'll be able to switch flow over to that, and that will give us the extra 50% capacity in a single ditch, not having to run those two ditches. We also believe there is enough money in this um, in this project to be able to replace our backup generator with a modern one. Uh, the backup generator is original to the plant; 25 years old. It's getting the head replaced on it right now. Uh, we're paying \$3,000 a month for a rental generator while that's happening. So, we're looking to get a brand new generator that not only is right sized, because the current one is too small based on our current flows, but is modern and meets all the air pollution requirements so we can actually run it without a permit and all of those fun things.

Don Ekberg: All set? Ok. Any discussion on Article 4?

Tim Anderson: Yuh. Tim Anderson. So, trying to do my math quickly... so we're only going to be down around 1.265 right?

Jason Gagnon: Yeh, so we've got 897,000 in ARPA Grants and we've got 400,000 (four hundred and something thousand) in principal forgiveness.

Tim Anderson: I think if I did my math... it would be 1.265 or something like that?

Jason Gagnon: Yeh, I don't have that number...

Tim Anderson: ... anyways,

Jason Gagnon: Yeh, we'll be right around that 1.5 million.

Tim Anderson: ...yup. So my question is, does this fall underneath the agreement, IMA agreement we have with Conway too?

Jason Gagnon: At budget hearing, Mr. Bamsey did not seem to think it did. I think that's a discussion we're going to have to have moving forward.

Tim Anderson: Thank you.

Don Ekberg: any other discussion on Article 4? Ok, Article 4 is C on your yellow sheet. Article 5 is another Bond, Long Term Borrowing. It's \$1,390,000 to design and construction of a sewer system, Country Road to... what's that say? Kiana's Way? I don't know where that is...

Jason Gagnon: It's a side road on...

Patrick Preece: Village at Kearsarge!

Don Ekberg: Where?

Jason Gagnon: It's a side street...

Robert F. Porter: Put your hearing aid in!

Jason Gagnon: It's all up in the Village at Kearsarge.

Don Ekberg: Village at Kearsarge! Ok. \$1,390,000 to put, design and construction of sewer from uh 2 roads in, uh Village, Village at Kearsarge.

#### **Article 05 Long Term Borrowing - Country Road Sewer**

To see if the voters of the North Conway Water Precinct will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,390,000 (gross budget) for design and construction of a sewer collection system extension to serve Country Road from Kiana's Way south (the "Project"); and to authorize the Commissioners to issue up to \$1,390,000 in bonds or notes in accordance with the provisions of the Municipal Finance Act (RSA Ch. 33) and, as applicable, the State Water Pollution Control Revolving Fund Loan program, and to negotiate such bonds or notes and to determine the dates, maturities, interest rates, and other details of such bonds or notes; and to further authorize the Commissioners to apply for, accept on behalf of the Precinct, and expend federal, state, or private grants or loans or other aid that may become available to offset the net cost of this Project. Simple majority vote required. [Recommended by the Board of Commissioners 3-0-0]

**Suzanne Nelson: I'll move to place Article 05 Long Term Borrowing - Country Road Sewer on the floor.**

**Robert F. Porter: Second!**

**Don Ekberg: All in favor?**

*Room filled with responding ayes.*

Don Ekberg: Mr. Gagnon.

Jason Gagnon: Alright, so, um, again I've only been here 5 years now but as I understand it, the promise that was made to all tax-payers when they agreed to fund the wastewater collection system and the wastewater treatment plant was that the Precinct would continuously work to extend sewer to the whole Precinct since everybody was paying for it. This is one of the last remaining un-sewered areas in the Precinct it's also part of a sewer priority area, as determined by CDM who was our engineer back in 2011 when they updated our master plan. Sewer Priority Area means that it, the ground water in that area, has the potential to impact our drinking water wells. So, it makes sense from a drinking water protection standpoint as well as a following through on the original promise of the wastewater plant to bring sewer. The Commissioners funded a conceptual study, uh, that HEB Engineers did, uh, and we found that we can serve the whole area most likely by gravity if we can get some specific easements, if not, then we would need a pump station, but we can serve, serve the whole thing. I want to mention at this point that in this specific article, unfortunately, and I'll take ownership of this, I should have thought of it before we even brought it forward, we did not include a gravity sewer to get up to the condos at the Village at Kearsarge. Um, but they should, they should be included in this project. Unfortunately, we can't amend the article at Annual Meeting to change the scope, that's the law. Uh, but if consensus was that this article should pass, I would also recommend that

consensus even though we can't change the article. **Consensus would be that the Commissioners would be able to then fund that extra \$200,000 to reach the condos, uh separately.** As not part of this article.

Don Ekberg: Anybody wish to address Article 5? This gentleman, right here.

Jon Zock: My name is John Zock and I'm in the Village at Kearsarge and um, one of the houses that you would serve, and one of the rules is that is a house is within 400 feet, you have to hook up. Well, if this is run one way by gravity, I'm fine with it. Right now, our septic tank is down the hill from the house towards Intervale Cross... if the detailed design goes another way, we'll have to put in an expensive pumping station and I think that's at our expense so sort of would like to rather than have this be divided, to get the detailed design and then the funding so that we knew what the impact would be for the individual residents, because that's a big expense. Our septic system works fine right now... So, maybe there are other people in the same boat. You guys are there, so... So, that's the thought in my head. If the design was to not have a pumping station I would probably vote for this, because I do approve of hooking up to public sewer for the ground water situation. And I guess another question is, has there been an issue with the ground water in that area?

Jim Umberger: Oh yeh, a lot of...

Don Ekberg: Excuse me, you want to address?

Jason Gagnon: So, the reason why the wastewater plant was built in the first place was because the United States Geological Survey (USGS) came in and let everybody know, by the way all of these septic systems are in danger of contaminating your drinking water supply. That was the initial motivation for this. So, as CDM did their groundwater monitoring as they updated our master plan, those sewer priority areas were the areas where those septic systems had the greatest risk of impacting the drinking water wells.

Jon Zock: Um, I talked to you last week about this offline and I still would rather see, know what the impact is going to be. If there is a pumping station I need to pay for, that's big money and it's no sooner than the powers out and there's all kinds of things, impacts on me.

Jason Gagnon: So the...

Jon Zock: the other ones are going to be gravity fed.

Jason Gagnon: So, if I, let me see if, you have a copy of this in your handout but I just want to step over and point at it real quick. Um, and I'm sorry it's small but it's as big as I could print out here. \*Motioning to Map of Conceptual Country Road Sewer\* This is Country Road. Down here, this is the cul-de-sac at the end. These are the Condos up here. This line right here is the sewer line that got put in in... 2 years ago now? These three condos can hit this sewer line by gravity. These two here are within 400 feet of the sewer line and technically required to connect but their leach fields are down here, which is lower than the pipes up there. So, that's a, what Mr. Zook is talking about. He would need to pump to get from down here to up here. Now we go over to the Country Road portion, this is literally just red line drawn showing where the Sewer Mains could go so don't hurt any engineers for this because it was not their doing. The article contemplates these red lines as gravity sewer lines, leading out to Intervale Crossroad either over here, or over here. Regardless of which way we get out to Intervale Crossroad, everything in here would be gravity. If we had to bring everything out this way, there could be a pump station down here but it would be a Precinct owned pump station, not an individual pump station. This blue line, that is impossible to see now that I look at it in full size, right here, this is that additional scope that we cannot amend the article to include but would be a gravity line to go up and pick up those remaining condos so that none of the condos would have to have pump stations. They would all be able to flow by gravity to the rest of this new gravity line. So, regard... if this is approved, what is built, regardless of what the Precinct has to do with it's own pump station, none of the condos would have to have a pump station. If it's not approved, the way the Precinct relations are right now, these condos are within 400 feet and are required to connect and therefore, they would be responsible for their own pump station.

Jon Zock: Well, see, we're right down hill from this whole thing. We're right over here \*motions to lower section of the map\*...

Jason Gagnon: Yep...

Jon Zook: We've got quite a slope, and our septic system works great and it's very low so we need to pump to get up to this one here. But if you decided you could run it here, we could do gravity, so whether... I hate to say but voting for it depends on the bond...

Jason Gagnon: Yep. Yep. You're house really is, that, the only one who could potentially have it depending on where you are. Yep. So you're right about that...

Don Ekberg: Thank you, sir. Anybody, anybody else wish to speak on this article? Mr. Umberger...

Jim Umberger: Hi, my name is Jim Umberger and I'm from the Village at Kearsarge. I urge that we support this article because if we don't then that other thing with the money isn't going to happen either. And then we deal with the additional \$200,000.

Collective: 'What other thing?'

Jason Gagnon: I believe he means the additional line up to serve the condos.

Jim Umberger: So, the important thing it to pass this warrant article and then we deal with the \$200,000 to do that additional line, because if we don't pass this, that's not going to happen either.

Jason Gagnon: Yeh. So what what I would recommend in this case is that if the group wanted to provide just a consensus vote, obviously it's not binding. We're not voting on changing the scope but just so the Commission and all the, everybody here is aware that if this passes, we believe that other section should be added, then that's written down in the minutes for eternity and we know that's what we promised to do.

John Zock: the other section being the condos?

Jason Gagnon: Yep.

Jim Umberger: ...and I think Jason mentioned this earlier, that this is a sewer priority area. So, we need to get it done. I urge you to support this warrant article.

Tim anderson: I'm in favor of doing it, I had no problem with putting the other line in but I do have a little problem with the money end of it because you want to bond the whole amount. But if you go over and look on page 13 of our Capital Reserve accounts, on Sewer infrastructure, I believe we could use that \$818,000 for this and I urge that we do! These accounts just keep growing and growing and we keep bonding money and not using it. So, I would like to amend that article to read...

Jason Gagnon: May I make a comment on that real quick before you make that amendment? Um, so my recommendation for that additional piece would be that \$200,000 was the budget number that the engineers gave us, that? Absolutely Capital Reserve. Good use for that. Those Capital Reserve Funds that Tim's referring to, those are buy in fees. That's new development reimbursing tax-payers for the money that they've already spent to build the system. So what better use for that than to build sewer for the people who've already paid for everybody else's sewer but don't have it yet? The only thing that I would caution about using all of the Capital Reserve Funds is that as we start to, um, assuming that some of these other articles pass, and we have to go into design and use our own money to fund those designs before we get reimbursed from the state when it actually goes to construction, that's a good source for those design funds. So that they provide us, that buffer really, to be able to do the design ahead of time, get that stuff shovel ready, and and really keep our place in in line. So...

Tim Anderson: Well, have we been doing that because I look back through the books over the years and these things keep growing but I don't ever see them ever going down?

Jason: So this year we used Capital Reserve for this conceptual design for the Village at Kearsarge. We're using it for the conceptual design of the Sludge Dryer article that we've already done. We're using it for a little extra funding on the Saco Erosion Study, the part that was not covered by the State. We've used it on the Conceptual design for the Aeration upgrade, so we are using it in small amounts. I think, if these articles get approved, the amounts are going to be bigger for design than what we've been using it for recently.

Don Ekberg: Wait a minute. Wait a minute. Anybody else? You've spoken already and I don't think Karen has yet. Go ahead.

Karen Umberger: Oh! I just wanted to say that the um, the sewer in our area, where I live was paid for out of the Capital Reserve. So, I mean we are using it for projects. And...

Tim Anderson: Well, we should use it this year...

Karen Umberger: Well...

Don Ekberg: Keep it easy, Folks Folks Folks... Um, yes, sir?

John Zock: If we could make the... I don't know whether we can counter amend this thing, we can't at this meeting obviously, but I'd like to see next time, there's always the next meeting, next year to vote on this stuff. I mean these meetings are held every year. So, I think that unless we can put an amendment in there that says that no individual will have to pay an exorbitant amount ... bearing an amendment like that and vote on it next year...

Jim Umberger: No. No way out.

John Zock: So, that's my suggestion. I'll say I've got to vote against this for the fact that we will be the only ones negatively affected by it.

Don Ekberg: Thank you. Anybody else wish to speak on this?

Jason Gagnon: Just to respond to that, real quick, um, there are cases where it's unavoidable and you have one house or two houses that just, you know gravity only works in one direction, and that's the way it works. But in this case, I think we've got some options and my goal is to not have any pump stations out there, and again, I can't promise it, but that's my goal.

Don Ekberg: Anybody? Mr. Hounsell.

William Hounsell: I recall David Bernier taking a great deal of time educating me on situations like this, that under the project, we would pay for the pump for the house that was below. He talked about solid pumps, you remember that?

John Santuccio: Yeh, yeh...

William Hounsell: So, it did set a precedent and I think our Superintendent with the direction of the Commissioners can solve that problem as a part of the project cost. I don't think we should hold up the accomplishment of the entire project for it but, I think it could be handled for a reasonable cost out of the project.

Don Ekberg: thank you. Anybody else? Yes, sir.

Wayne Sylvanowicz: The other issue is that a number of the septic systems are getting pretty old and they're about ready to go and we'll have to put a new septic system in. So, to continue to delay this is going to be an extra cost for a lot of people.

Don Ekberg: Anybody who hasn't spoken yet? Yes?

Tim Anderson: So how much do you recommend we reduce that by to take it out of the Sewer Infrastructure Capital Reserve?

Jason Gagnon: Um, now you're asking me to do finance on the fly which I'm not good at but,

Tim Anderson: Oh, I can help you!

Jason Gagnon: I think if we had between \$400-500,000 in the Capital Reserves that we could draw on for design stuff, knowing what we've got for development coming down the road, and the buy-in fees that are likely associated that we will be receiving from that, um, I would say that if we had 400,000 left in that Infrastructure Capital Reserve fund, I'd be ok with that.

**Tim Anderson: Well I'd like to make a motion to change the number on Article 5 to \$1 million even, and we'll use 390,000 out of Sewer Capital Reserve.**

Jason Gagnon: Can we do that?

Steven Bennett: Yes, you can do it.

Don Ekberg: There's a motion to reduce the number from \$1,390,000 to \$1,000,000 even, is that your motion?

Tim Anderson: Correct.

**Don Ekberg: There is a second.**

Karen Umberger: ... that's not the whole motion...

Tim Anderson: ...and to take 390,000 out of the sewer infrastructure Capital Reserve.

Don Ekberg: The motion is to reduce the number... the motion is to reduce the number of 1,390,000 down to 1,000,000 even and to take 390,000 from where?

Robert Porter: Capital Reserve

Jason Gagnon: Sewer Infrastructure Capital Reserve.

Don Ekberg: Is there a second? There's a second to that motion. Can we have order please? That's your motion?

Patrick Preece: No. It's not reducing.

Tim Anderson: We're not reducing...

Don Ekberg: You're just, you're taking a million, you're taking 390,000 from somewhere else, I get it. Ok.

Tim Anderson: It's coming out of... right here, Sewer Infrastructure Capital Reserve. 390,000

Don Ekberg: Your motion has been made and seconded, is there discussion on the amendment? There's a second. Is there discussion on that amendment?

Jason Gagnon: Uh. The only thing that I want to mention is that, um, we, the, the talk about the line for the condos is an additional 200,000 that we were talking about taking out of Capital Reserve. So, that brings it to 590,000 total out of, out of Capital Reserve, so...

Don Ekberg: Well, I I I, it, it, it, the 200,000 is not in either the motion or the amendment as I understand.

Jason Gagnon: So, if we were to take that 390,000 from Tim's motion plus the 200,000 for the condo line, that leaves us with 228,000 left in there.

Suzanne Nelson: That's not enough.

Don Ekberg: Well, there is no motion or amendment or any other procedure addressing the 200,000...

Jason Gagnon: No but it, but, we...

Don Ekberg: You're switching the 1,390 from 1,000,000 to one place and 390 another place. That's my understanding of the amendment. Yeh, ok. Yes, Sir?

Jim Umberger: Is the motion on the floor?

Don Ekberg: The amendment's on the floor.

Jim Umberger: I, uh, urge you to vote against the amendment because I don't think that we at this point can say that money is going to be there. Get the budget approved, the Commissioners will put up the other 200,000 later. That would solve that problem. This is to get, go out and get money. That's what this article is for. You've got to get the money first. So I would urge you to not vote the amendment.

Don Ekberg: Anybody who wishes to be heard on the amendment? Yes, sir?

William Hounsell: William Hounsell. Uh. Just uh, just a clarification: Sir, so we have \$818,462 now and we want to say, take \$200,000 out of it for the Condos that isn't in this bond. So that leaves us 618,000? And if we take the 390,000 out of that it only leaves us a couple hundred thousand? Um, I, I urge us to vote against this amendment because uh, that doesn't leave us enough in the Capital Reserve.

Don Ekberg: Anybody else wish to be heard on the amendment? That hasn't spoken yet! Ok?

Tim Anderson: How much do we need in there?

Jason Gagnon: My, my thought was that 400,000 is the right buffer with the amount of, of um design that we may have to do. Again, I don't, maybe none of the articles...

Tim Anderson: You don't know what design is going to cost!

Jason: Well, maybe the articles, none of them pass tonight! Right? Then we won't have to do any design! Whaha, I don't know! Just knowing what's on the Warrant, that's a number I feel comfortable with for that design.

Tim Anderson: So, what do you got for money coming in from buy-in fees?

Jason Gagnon: Depends when the projects are finished and turned on. So you can't proj... you can project that cash flow but you can't guarantee it.

Tim Anderson: ... you can't guarantee anything. So, what's your projection?

Jason Gagnon: Uh, I don't know what's going to finish in this year.

Robert Porter: Can I move the question?

Don Ekberg: No. I have one more speaker who hasn't spoken yet.

Darlene Spence: I'm Darlene Spence, from the Village at Kearsarge. And um, we're kind of here in numbers for this vote tonight, but I want to say that I hope that you agree that you keep the 200,000 in the budget for this. We'd be the only ones left out without the sewer but not that we really want you to pay the fees, it's just that it's never going to be done unless it's



done now I guess and that's all I wanted to say. I would appreciate it if you were to remove this amendment. Thank you.

Jason Gagnon: Um, can I respond to Mr. Anderson's question before because I just did the math. So, if we wanted to leave 208, uh sorry, 400,000 in that capital reserve, knowing that we intend to set 200,000 aside for the condo portion, that leaves 218,000 that we could allocate to this project right now. And that would be 218,000 for this project, 200,000 for the project to the condos that not related to this but is... and that leave us with that 400,000 in the, in the Infrastructure Capital Reserve.

Don Ekberg: Yes, Sir... No, No, No Kris

Robert F. Porter: C'mon... I move the question. This has gone long enough.

Don Ekberg: Well, I have a point of inquiry of the attorney... if the uh... just a minute please... if the bonded articles are by ballot, wouldn't the amendment to it also be by ballot? So, you need to consider, if that is true then this amendment, you have to vote on the amendment ballot, and then you've got to vote on the original motion by ballot. Just something to think about. The answer is what?

Steve Bennett: I'm not really sure right now. I'm trying to think about it.

Don Ekberg: Ok, well while you're thinking about it, we'll have another round of people who haven't spoken but uh,

Gary Chandler: I'll be quick.

Don Ekberg: Thank you.

Gary Chandler: In a point of procedure, ok? First of all, we budget on a gross basis so by cutting the 1,390,000 to \$1,000,000 limits the entire project to \$1,000,000, ok? So I think we need to keep, and I support Tim in what he's trying to do as far as use some funding from the Sewer Capital reserve ok? But authorizing the Commissioners to spend 1,390,000, that has to stay in there. And then, of which, X amount of dollars should be coming from, but don't cut the 1,390,000, otherwise you're not appropriating the gross and the articles would be \$4,000,000.

Patrick Preece: That's what I was saying...

Don Ekberg: Excuse me, is there anybody who hasn't spoken on this? Ok, go ahead.

**Jim Umberger: I would ask Tim Anderson to withdraw his amendment?**

**Tim Anderson: I'll withdraw it.**

**Don Ekberg: Thank you. So. Uh. We're. The uh... we're talking about Article 5 as written in the um, um, the document. And is there any other discussion on Article 5? Seeing no hands, Article 5 is D on your yellow sheet.**

Jason Gagnon: Nothing stops us, should we have four hotels finish this year and be flush with cash in the Capital Reserve, nothing stops the Commissioners from offsetting the borrowing cost by, they're agents to expend so, the can allocate Capital Reserve funds to reduce the bond issuance if they want to at any time.

Don Ekberg: Ok. Now we're going to move to Article 6.

Tim Anderson: One more question on that

Don Ekberg: We're moving....

Tim Anderson: Can I get the word of the Commissioners that you'll use some of this money...

Don Ekberg: We're moving to article six, Mr. Anderson. Long term borrowing water pressure zones. It's \$1,278,000 for design and construction of a water main between Skimobile Road and Artist Falls Road. Jason. Oh, move motion, motion, motion.

### **Article 6 Long-term Borrowing Water Pressure Zones Connection**

To see if the voters of the North Conway Water Precinct will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,278,000 (gross budget) for design and construction of a water main between Skimobile Road and Artist Falls Road to provide redundant connection between the high- and low-pressure distribution zones (the "Project"); and to authorize the Commissioners to issue up to \$1,278,000 of bonds or notes in accordance with the Municipal Finance Act (RSA Ch. 33) and , as applicable, the State Water Pollution Control Revolving Loan Fund program, and to negotiate such bonds or notes and to determine the dates, maturities, interest rates, and other details of such

bonds or notes, and to participate in and accept loan and/or grant funds from the New Hampshire Drinking Water Groundwater Trust Fund; and to further authorize the Commissioners to apply for, accept on behalf of the Precinct, and expend federal, state, or private grants or loans or other aid that may become available to offset the net cost of this Project. Simple majority vote required.

[Recommended by the Board of Commissioners 3-0-0]

**Suzanne Nelson: I'll move to place. Um, Article 6 Long-term Borrowing Water Pressure Zones Connection on the floor.**

**Robert Porter: Second.**

**Don Ekberg: All in favor.**

**Room filled with responding ayes.**

Don Ekberg: Jason? Six.

Jason Gagnon: All right, moving on. This is the last of the, uh, construction articles this year. Um, and it's really kind of the culmination of a really a long period of work that, that I believe Gary started when Gary was here. Uh, we've always known that we needed a second connection between our two pressure zones. For, for those of you who don't know what that is. Precinct is kind of divided into halves. We have the north pressure zone, which is served by the hurricane tank. It's also where four out of five of our Wells are. Then we have the south pressure zone, which is served by the Pine Hill tank. We only have currently we have zero Wells on that, but in a couple weeks, Well Two, will be back online, which means that all the water for the second south pressure zone comes through a single pipe underneath route 16, over that stone arch culvert by the Muddy Moose.

If that doesn't make any Superintendent not sleep at night, I don't know what does, so the idea here is that we get a second redundant connection so that we have two connections between those pressure zones. You know, 83% of our water production is in the north end. 60% of our water use is on the south end, including Kennett high school, including our service of Pennichuck, including the, the connection with Conway Village fire district, which is the only reason they can have development on that section of 16 north of the bridge. So what this would do is it would, again, build on the work that's been done in the past. We've got the pipe infrastructure that we need on old Bartlet road and Skimobile road up by Cranmore. We've got the pipe infrastructure that we need on Artist Falls Road. This is a new pipe connection that runs between Skimobile Road at Cranmore cross country to Artist Falls Road, so that we have that second redundant connection. Um, we've done the conceptual engineering. We have, uh, agreements and principle from all parties along that whole route. They're, they're willing to have us put that water main in there. So now is really the time to strike. Um, I'm not sure that this one would get funded by SRF. So in my estimates, I've only included 25% grant because I feel that this is a very strong project for the drinking water groundwater trust fund. If approved by SRF, we would get more funding. But I, again, I want to go with the worst case scenario.

Don Ekberg: Thank you. Any, uh, discussion or comments in article six, Seeing none, what we're going to do now, what we're gonna do now is vote by ballot on two through 6. 2, 2, get you, excuse me. Could we have some order please? Two, get you A. Three gets you B. Four gets you C. Five is D and E is six on your yellow sheet. Uh, Judy, Judy, uh, we're probably gonna need at least two boxes. One on each side here we

Judy Anderson: Would still like to...

Don Ekberg: Do, pardon me?

Judy Anderson: We would still like to do all of the boxes necessary so everybody either can come and put their a in the, a box or, Brandon and I could go row by row. Done.

Don Ekberg: Could, excuse me. Could, I can't hear her, sir!

Judy Anderson: Once A is done, we'll do the same thing with B C, D, E. So we can have the room, come to the boxes like we have in the past, or Brandon and I go row by row and pass the boxes down.

Don Ekberg: You want a box for every letter?

Judy Anderson: You have to.

Don Ekberg: Oh, if you have to, you have to, okay. A box for every letter. You gonna pass the boxes or

Judy Anderson: What we like to do is the room can stand like we always do,

Don Ekberg: Everybody. I think everybody needs to stand up. I know

Kris Cluff: The Officer cannot touch that ballot box. Boxes have to remain up there and we have to go to them. Don Ekberg: Okay.

Don Ekberg: Okay. You go to the box, you go to the boxes in as orderly a fashion... fashion, A box, B box... and we will take a recess while we're doing that and we'll resume in about 10 minutes. Okay.

**Don Ekberg: Could everybody take their seats? Let's go. We're gonna start up again. The Ballots... Could we have order, please? The ballots, uh, are now in the boxes. Everybody's gone. Thank you. Uh, it's 8:35. So we're by statute required to leave it open for an hour. That leaves, uh, to 9:30, 5, 9:35. Uh, the results of the Article 1: Officers were**

**37 votes for everybody on the ballot. It was a tough race! Tough, tough race. I assume that's what that meant. You 37 sworn in, again, everybody got 37**

Judy Anderson: Yup!

Don Ekberg: Good show. Okay. So those a, those, uh, will be counted and we have to leave it open. So we can't give you the results until 9:30. We will resume the articles with number Seven. This is long term debt. The number is 1,741,000 and change for the retirement of outstanding bonds offset by revenues. Uh, is there a motion?

#### **Article 7 Long-term Debt Service Payments**

To see if the voters of the North Conway Water Precinct will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,741,489.00 for the retirement of outstanding bonds, notes, interest, and temporary loan interest for the ensuing year. This article will be offset by grant revenues estimated to be \$376,708 and Sewer Funds in the amount of \$540,628 and the remainder to be raised by general taxation.

[Recommended by the Board of Commissioners 3-0-0]

**Suzanne Nelson: I'll move to place Article 7 Long-term Debt Service Payments on the floor.**

**Robert Porter: Second,**

**Moved and seconded. All in favor.**

*Room filled with responding ayes.*

Don Ekberg: Mr. Gagnon? Thank you.

Jason Gagnon: Uh, thank you for your patience with the first six articles, I'll try and speak less on the rest of them.

Key takeaways on this one, we do have a reduction in long term debt from 2020. That's for two reasons. One, uh, we did a refinance through New Hampshire Municipal Bond Bank, saved the Precinct about a million dollars over 20 years in interest. So that's, that's huge. The second one is that we paid off note 30 last year, which is Crown Ridge and Skyline water. So even with including the new payment for, Well 2R this year, we were still able to go down. Um, so the tax rate estimated from the long-term debt stuff is estimated to go down from 2.10 to 2.1, which is nice and 9 cent reduction,

**Don Ekberg: Anybody to speak on Article 7? Seeing no hands. Are you ready for the vote? All in favor of Article 7, say aye.**

*Room filled with responding Ayes.*

**Don Ekberg: Opposed? Passes.**

#### **Article 08 - Operating Budget General Fund**

To see if the voters of the North Conway Water Precinct will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$127,618 for the General Fund (Commissioners) operating budget, not including other appropriations voted separately for the ensuing year. This is a tax funded article.

[Recommended by the Board of Commissioners 3-0-0]

Article eight is an Operating budget. It's 127,000 in change for, for what General fund. Okay. Is there a motion?

**Suzanne Nelson: Yes, I Will move to place Article 8 - Operating Budget General Fund on floor.**

**Robert F. Porter: Second.**

**Don Ekberg: Holding second and all in favor.**

*Room filled with responding Ayes.*

Don Ekberg: Next to Mr. Gagnon.

Jason Gagnon: Um, mostly unchanged for 2022 from 2021. The big difference being that 2022 is a collective bargaining year with the Precinct's employee Union. So, we've added, uh, \$22,000 into the budget this year for those negotiations.

Don Ekberg: I believe that's all broken down in the packet. People have.

Jason Gagnon: Yep.

**Don Ekberg: Yep. Okay. Any discussion on eight? Are you ready for the vote all in favor of eight, say aye.**

*Room filed with responding Ayes.*

**Don Ekberg Opposed? 8 passes.**

#### **Article 09            Operating Budget Water Department**

To see if the voters of the North Conway Water Precinct will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,394,190 for the operating budget of the water department for the ensuing year to be offset by \$120,000 in NHDES Sustainability Grant funds, and the remainder from water usage fees and revenues with no amount to be raised through general taxation.

[Recommended by the Board of Commissioners 3-0-0]

Don Ekberg: Article nine, Operating budget water. It's 1,000,394 for water budget... there's an offset of 120,000. Is there a motion?

**Suzanne Nelson: I moved to place article nine, Operating budget for the water department on the floor.**

**Robert Porter: Second.**

**Don Ekberg: Moved and seconded. All in favor?**

*Room filled with responding Ayes.*

Don Ekberg: Jason?

Jason Gagnon: Again, I'll keep it brief. Um, the actual operational budget is up about two, 2% over 2022, which is pretty good given recent inflation. Um, I've covered pretty much everything else ad nauseam at the budget hearing and at the commissioner's meeting. If anybody has any specific questions, I'm, I'm happy to answer them

**Don Ekberg: Any discussion on article nine. Are you ready for the vote? All in favor of nine?**

*Room filled with responding Ayes.*

**Don Ekberg: Opposed? Nine passes.**

#### **Article 10            Operating Budget Sewer Department**

To see if the voters of the North Conway Water Precinct will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$2,068,388 for the operating budget of the sewer department for the ensuing year to be funded from sewer usage fees and revenues with no amount to be raised through general taxation.

[Recommended by the Board of Commissioners 3-0-0]

Don Ekberg: 10 Operating Budget Sewer. 2,068,000 to the sewer for the year. Uh, is there a motion.

**Suzanne Nelson: Um, I'll move to place Article 10 Operating budget sewer department on the floor.**

**Robert Porter: Second.**

**Don Ekberg: Moved and seconded. All in favor?**

*Room filled with responding Ayes.*

Don Ekberg: Jason?

Jason Gagnon: All right. Um, just one quick note: at budget hearing, we had the, the wrong number in there for the budget it's because it was a carryover from the DRA review. So the budget number that was read at budget hearing was actually higher than the real budget. There was 2,278,959. The budget that's written here, which is 2,068,388. That is the correct number. Uh, again, everything has been covered ad nauseum at budget hearing and Commissioners meetings. So I'm happy to answer any specific questions about the sewer budget,

Don Ekberg: Any... Yes, sir...

Tim Anderson: Um, you told us two years ago, we voted on the solar array field that, when that was up and running, it was gonna generate 130,000 minimum. I see here only generated \$36,050,

Jason Gagnon: The 36,050. Is that where you're? Uh, let me just

Tim Anderson: REC Sales fund.

Jason Gagnon: Yep. So the 130,000 is, uh, is, the sum total. So there's the REC, the renewable energy credit sale funds, but then there's also the actual electricity savings. So we were paying \$145,000 in electricity at the wastewater plant in before the, the thing was built. And so as you can see this year, I've got \$65,000 and that's a very conservative estimate because last year the array came on in mid may and we only spent \$69,000. So with a full year I'm estimating, you know, it should come in around that 30 to 40,000. But again, I wanna be conservative, especially with the cost of electricity going up.

Tim Anderson: So, when we sat there and talked about spending the money out of our funds to build that and that money that was generated was gonna go to pay the bond on to the fire station... that didn't happen.

Jason Gagnon: It did happen.

Tim Anderson: It did?

Jason Gagnon: It did so in the capital contribution line, that 346,233, that is the sum of, uh, the capital contribution, which is the sewer portion of sewer debt. And it's a formula that I don't have in front of me, but was set a long time ago, plus \$130,000. So that 130,000 is in that sewer capital contribution line that goes over to the general fund to offset taxes.

Tim Anderson: Okay.

**Don Ekberg: Anybody else want to address article 10? We ready for the question? All in favor of article 10, say aye.**

*Room filled with responding Ayes.*

**Don Ekberg: Opposed? Article 10 passes.**

### **Article 11            Operating Budget Fire Department**

To see if the voters of the North Conway Water Precinct will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$689,654 for the operating budget of the fire department for the ensuing year. This is a tax funded article.

[Recommended by the Board of Commissioners 3-0-0]

Don Ekberg: 11. This is the budget of the fire department, 689,000. You get right here. Pat Preece will address this one... Oh! We need a motion.

**Suzanne Nelson: I'll move to put our article 11 Operating budget for the fire department on the floor.**

**Robert Porter: Second.**

**Don Ekberg: Moved and seconded, All in favor?**

*Room filled with responding Ayes.*

Don Ekberg: Pat Preece will address this article.

Pat Preece: Um, Mr. Moderator, I'd like to have Mr. Anderson start please.

Don Ekberg: Okay.

**Tim Anderson: Thank you, Pat. I'd like to make a motion on the floor to change that operation... Operating budget from 689, 654 to 744,654. The reason for that is over on Article 20 for \$55,000. We'd like to pass over that or vote it down and move that money into the Operating budget for this year for the Fire Department.**

Gary Chandler: Moderate?

Don Ekberg: Yes.

Gary Chandler: I'll second that.

Don Ekberg: Moved and seconded to amend article 11 from the number of 689,654 to 744,654 is there discussion on the amendment?

Jim Umberger: So... why, why's that being moved? I'm sorry, I didn't catch all of that.

Pat Preece: Uh, because we, we need more, uh, portable radios.

Jim Umberger: Okay.

Pat Preece: ... and, um, we'll, we'll explain that a little bit further when we get to the other article,

Jim Umberger: So you're going to increase this and do away with the other...

Pat Preece: Correct.

Jim Umberger: Okay. I'm good.

Pat Preece: Yeah. So this, this budget just reflects the new fire station on, uh, for, for 12 months, uh, additional cost or really is boil down to building maintenance, uh, fuel cost and, um, equipment that's needed: the filters and things of that nature. The, the building is built with air exchange system and negative pressure and things of that nature. And just the filters alone in the apparatus bay is about \$6,000 a year, the change to a set of filters for the, the exhaust cleaning system, things of that nature. So, and we are getting an agent, uh, apparatus. So we had increase our apparatus repair budget. Last year, we spent 44,000. We budgeted it at 17,000. So this year we're at 21, \$25,000 for that. So That's the high points.

**Don Ekberg: Any other questions or comments on article 10, 11? Excuse me. All in favor of the amendment, say, aye.**

*Room filled with responding Ayes.*

**Don Ekberg: Opposed? Passes. All in favor of the article 11 as amended say aye.**

*Room filled with responding Ayes.*

**Don Ekberg: Opposed? Article 11 passes as amended.**

### **Article 12 - Appropriation to Capital Reserve Funds**

To see if the voters of the North Conway Water Precinct will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$701,861 to be added to the following Capital Reserve Funds previously established. \$43,925 to come from Water fund balance, \$120,000 to come from water usage fees and revenues, \$207,936 to come from Sewer fund balance, \$100,000 to come from sewer usage fees and revenues, \$5,000 to come from Fire fund balance, and \$225,000 to come from general taxation.

<b>Capital Reserve Fund</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Revenue Source</b>
Fire Equipment	\$205,000	Taxation, Sale of Rescue 2

Uncompensated Absences	\$25,000	Water Revenues
	\$25,000	Sewer Revenues
	\$25,000	Taxation
Water	\$20,000	Water Revenues
Water Infrastructure	\$43,925	Water Fund Balance
Water Vehicle	\$75,000	Water Revenues
Sewer Infrastructure	\$171,886	Sewer Fund Balance
Sewer Vehicle	\$75,000	Sewer Revenues
Energy Upgrades	\$36,050	Sewer Fund Balance

Don Ekberg: 12. This is appropriation to the capital reserve funds, and it's to raise the sum of 700,000 and change to add to the capital reserve fund broken down in the materials. Is there a motion to place that on the floor?

**Suzanne Nelson: I will move to place Article 12 appropriation to capital reserve funds on the floor.**

**Robert Porter: Second.**

**Don Ekberg: Moved and seconded. Um, all in favor?**

*Room filled with responding Ayes.*

Don Ekberg: Um, is there a discussion on 12?

Tim Anderson: Yes.

Don Ekberg: Okay.

Tim Anderson: I missed this earlier. I just wanna make point out here. Uh, when this passes here in a second, we're gonna put 171,886 in sewer infrastructure capital reserve. So that number from eight eighteens going to what?

Jason Gagnon: Whatever 818 plus 171 is...

Tim Anderson: Almost 950. No, almost a million.

Jim Umberger: That's good.

Tim Anderson: Yeah.

**Don Ekberg: Any other discussion on 12? Are you ready for the question on 12? All in favor of 12, say aye.**

*Room filled with responding Ayes.*

**Don Ekberg: Opposed? 12 passes.** Oh, you didn't get to address this one, Jason.

Jason Gagnon: I didn't need to.

Don Ekberg: Good. 13 water, energy efficiency upgrades. Uh, let me see a bunch of numbers in here. 126 for some upgrade. 63, 30, etcetera. Is there a motion to place 13 on the floor?

### **Article 13 - Water Energy Efficiency Upgrades**

To see if the voters of the North Conway Water Precinct will vote to authorize the sum of \$126,000 for the purpose of Energy Efficiency Upgrades through the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services Sustainability Grant Program, to be offset by a \$63,000 grant from the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services and \$30,000 from Energy Upgrades Capital Reserve Funds, with the remainder to come from water enterprise funds. This article authorizes the Commissioners of the North Conway Water Precinct to enter into and approve a grant agreement with New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services in the amount of \$63,000 to the North Conway Water Precinct and authorizes Superintendent Jason

Gagnon to sign paperwork associated with such grant on behalf of the Precinct. This article has been designated as special and will be non-lapsing until December 31, 2027 or until the project is completed, whichever comes first.

[Recommended by the Board of Commissioners 3-0-0]

**Suzanne Nelson: I'll make a motion to place. Article 13 water energy efficiency upgrades on the floor.**

**Robert Porter: Second.**

**Don Ekberg: Moved and seconded. Any discussion on 13?**

Jason Gagnon: So this is, um, sorry

Don Ekberg: Go ahead. No, go.

Jason Gagnon: This is part of, uh, what was formally the Water Asset Management Program. DES has vastly expanded the program this year. One of the, one of the expansion parts is energy efficiency upgrades that they're funding. They're funding them at 50%, uh, match. Um, so what we're going to, what we hope to do with this specific funding is to, uh, provide air source heat pumps, basically mini splits for all of our water buildings. Uh, because most of our water buildings run on time of day rate where we get a reduced electricity cost at night, which is when we run the Wells in exchange for a higher electricity cost during the day. But we have to run our electric heat all day. So there are some significant savings to be had by installing these mini splits, especially if the state's paying for half of them. Uh, the other part of the project is to install solar panels on the, the roof of the new, well, two building, because the co-op no longer does time of day rate for new accounts.

So it makes no sense to run that one at night. We'll run it during the day when the sun shining and take that power right off the top. Um, I would ask though, after again, when we wrote this article, this was in the fall. After speaking with some folks, uh, this week about costs and how they're changing, I would like to add \$20,000 overall to the project. So the, the new project value would be 146,000 in total. That would mean that the grant increases to 73,000 from DES. It also means that the energy upgrades capital reserve contribution would increase from 30,000 to 40,000. And that we would increase the grant amount, uh, in the grant agreement from 63,000 to 73,000. This all has to go out to bid. It doesn't mean that we're gonna use the full amount. I just want to make sure that we have that cushion there so we can get as much done while DES is giving away these matching funds as we can. And I can't make that motion. So I'd be looking for somebody else to, to amend it, to add those dollar amounts.

Robert Porter: So moved.

Don Ekberg: There is a motion to amend which number now.

Jason Gagnon: So the motion would be to add \$20,000....

Don Ekberg: Excuse me, is there a second to that motion?

Suzanne Nelson: I'll second the motion.

Don Ekberg: Okay. Excuse me. Go ahead.

Jason Gagnon: Sorry. The motion would be to add \$20,000 to the overall project that would make the total project value 146,000, the N H D E S grant amount, 73,000, the energy upgrades, capital reserve contribution 40,000 and authorize the grant agreement with N H D E S in the amount of 73,000.

Don Ekberg: So the total of this is 126. Now you want to bump it up 20,000, bumping up the 63 to 70 in the 30 to 40.

Jason Gagnon: Yep. And also we need to make sure that we amend the grant agreement amount, because this is the authorization to enter into that grant agreement with DES as well.

Don Ekberg: Everybody understand the amendment? Does anybody wish to be heard on the amendment? Are you ready for the vote on the amendment? All in favor of the amendments?

*Room filled with responding Ayes.*

Don Ekberg: Opposed? Amendment carries. All in favor of article 13 as amended?

*Room filled with responding Ayes.*



Don Ekberg: Opposed? 13 carries.

#### Article 14 Water Asset Management Project

To see if the voters of the North Conway Water Precinct will vote to authorize the sum of \$120,000 for the purpose of Sustainability Grant projects through the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services Sustainability Grant Program, to be offset by a \$120,000 grant from the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services. This article authorizes the Commissioners of the North Conway Water Precinct to enter into and approve a grant agreement with New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services in the amount of \$120,000 to the North Conway Water Precinct and authorizes Superintendent Jason Gagnon to sign paperwork associated with such grant on behalf of the Precinct.

[Recommended by the Board of Commissioners 3-0-0]

Don Ekberg: 14 is water asset management project. The sum of 120 of a sustainable grant projects with an offset. So could I have a motion to put 14 on the...

**Suzanne Nelson: ...yes. I move to place Article 14 Water Asset Management Project on the floor.**

**Robert Porter: Second.**

**Don Ekberg: Moved and seconded. Mr. Gagnon?**

Jason Gagnon: We have to vote...

Don Ekberg: Well, huh? Aye. But yeah.

*Room filled with responding Ayes.*

Don Ekberg: Aye, go ahead.

Jason Gagnon: Okay. Uh, this is the other new expanded product of the water asset management from DES in the old days, it used to be a 50% grant up to 20,000 or I guess up to 40,000. So they would match 20,000. Now it's, we have 120,000 and it's a hundred percent reimbursement. So this literally is \$120,000 of free money from DES to be able to do these projects. So the, the projects that we have in here, uh, include, um, some updates to our GIS system, our hydraulic modeling, um, our, our, our, um, pressure zones, those sorts of things. There's also purchase of, purchase and implementation of, CMMS software CMMS stands for computerized maintenance, something, software management, maintenance management, software think is what it is. Uh, but basically it's asset management software that help helps you, uh, not only track your maintenance and keep, keep up to date with the maintenance of your existing assets, but also, uh, plan for, uh, future maintenance and future replacement costs and all those sorts of things for the assets.

We've invested so much money here in the Precinct, in, in our assets, whether it's the, the vertical assets like the wastewater plant or the well buildings or the horizontal assets, like the pipes and the pump stations and things like that, we need to take care of them. And this software helps us do that. Uh, on top of that, there's also 20,000. For a full water audit. Uh, it sounds scarier everybody, nobody likes the word audit, but in this case, they're basically gonna come in and look at our billing records, our production records, all those sorts of things and make recommendations for, uh, efficiencies on our part to be able to, to track that stuff and, and how to, how to basically make sure that the water we're pumping out of the ground. We know exactly where it all goes.

**Don Ekberg: Any discussion on 14, are you ready for the vote? All in favor of 14, say aye.**

*Room filled with responding Ayes.*

**Don Ekberg: Opposed? 14 carries.**

#### Article 15 Barnes Road Watermain Replacement

To see if the voters of the North Conway Water Precinct will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$96,000 for replacement of old cast iron water main on Barnes Road. Funding for this article will come from Water Capital Reserve funds, with no amount to be raised by taxation.

[Recommended by the Board of Commissioner 3-0-0]

Don Ekberg: 15 is Barnes Road water main replacement. That's \$96,000 to put cast iron water main on Barnes Road. Okay. Um, motion.

**Suzanne Nelson: Well, I'll move to place Article 15 Barnes Road Watermain Replacement on the floor.**

**Robert Porter: Second.**

**Don Ekberg: Moved and seconded. All in favor?**

*Room filled with responding Ayes.*

Don Ekberg: Um, Jason?

Jason Gagnon: Again, another project that we're trying to do to take advantage of what's happening at the moment. Uh, you've all probably heard of the market basket project as part of that, the Market Basket developer is running new water main, uh, from where McMillan Lane is down the new portion of Barnes Road out to Common Court. That leaves one section of old six-inch cast iron in between Route 16 and McMillan Lane. So, this project aims to replace that while all that work is going on before the town resurfaces the road and we have to pay for all that pavement too. Uh, so the pipe is bought. Thank goodness, because I heard from a contractor today that it's a year before you can get ductal iron pipe. So, we bought it in December, thankfully. Uh, and we have firm prices from contractors. So, this is a known cost

Don Ekberg: Discussion on 15? Yes, sir.

Tim Anderson: So, we're just going up to the new Barnes Road and they're going to continue around Barnes Road. Jason

Gagnon: Yep. We're going from 16 where the, the stub was the stub of the new pipe was stopped when they ran new main on 16.

Tim Anderson: Yep.

Jason Gagnon: To basically McMillan Lane.

Tim Anderson: Oh, just to McMillan Lane?

Jason Gagnon: Just to McMillan Lane.

Tim Anderson: And then they're going all the way up around the new Barnes Road, McMillan Lane's going away?

Jason Gagnon: Yep.

Tim Anderson: And they're doing sewer on that too.

Jason Gagnon: Yep.

Tim Anderson: Wow. All the way around Barnes Road?

Jason Gagnon: No, they're going up with sewer. They're going to the end of, um, kind of the intersection of where Barnes Road and Puddin Hill Road is, and then going up Puddin Hill one manhole.

**Don Ekberg: Any other discussion on 15? You ready for the question? All in favor of 15, say aye.**

*Room filled with responding Ayes.*

**Don Ekberg: Opposed? 15 carries.**

## **Article 16          Wastewater Sludge Truck Replacement**

To see if the voters of the North Conway Water Precinct will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$235,000 for replacement of the Wastewater Sludge Roll-off Truck. Funding for this article will come from the Sewer Vehicle Capital Reserve, with no amount to be raised by taxation. [Recommended by the Board of Commissioners 3-0-0]

Don Ekberg: 16 is the wastewater sludge truck replacement. This is \$235... \$235,000 for a truck?!

Jason Gagnon: It's 1/10 size model for a truck

Suzanne Nelson: For a truck.

Don Ekberg: Okay. Motion to put this on...

**Suzanne Nelson: I will move to place Article 16 Wastewater Sludge Truck Replacement on the floor.**

**Robert Porter: Second.**

**Don Ekberg: Moved and seconded. All in favor of placing it on the floor.**

*Room filled with responding Ayes.*

**Suzanne Nelson: And I would like to propose an amendment.**

**Don Ekberg: Okay.**

**Suzanne Nelson: Um, to I move to amend the article by adding an additional \$25,000 to make the, um, the replacement amount, \$260,000. And, um, Jason can explain**

Pat Preece: I second that.

Don Ekberg: There's a second to the amendment. It's moved and amended to add another 25,000 to 235. And Jason's gonna explain all that.

Jason Gagnon: So similar to last year, when we had to add money at Annual Meeting to Rescue 2, because, uh, prices are going up on trucks. Again, when we put the Warrant Article together, that pricing I got in December, I, remembering last year, I checked in with two separate dealerships today, uh, in both recommended adding money to the article. Um, what they told me is right now, the trucks are shipping second quarter of 2023, if you order them tomorrow. So, uh, I think adding the 25,000 is, is a good thing. And, um, we'll, we'll get in line for our truck.

The reason we need the new truck, I guess I should back up to that is because our existing truck is, uh, 25 years old. It's original to the plant. It's been a great truck and it's still, serves its purpose really well driving the, you know, four miles to and from the Conway landfill, it is not suited to drive to New Hampton with, uh, large loads on it. So, uh, in the past, we had always taken municipal advantage, I guess, and, uh, freighted the thing. But lately DOT has not looked favorably on that and has spoken to us numerous times about not putting so much weight in the truck. So this new truck would be capable of hauling legally a full hopper, whether we're taking it to the town or taking it to New Hampton or wherever we have to go.

**Don Ekberg: Any discussion on 16, the amendment? You ready for the vote on the amendment, the amendment all in favor of the amendment, say, aye.**

*Room filled with responding Ayes.*

**Don Ekberg: Opposed? Amendment carries. All in favor of Article 16 as amended say aye.**

*Room filled with responding Ayes.*

**Don Ekberg: Opposed? 16 carries.**

#### **Article 17      HVAC Building Modification**

To see if the voters of the North Conway Water Precinct will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$140,000 for WWTF Administration Building modifications for repairs and maintenance to the HVAC system. Funding for this article will include \$98,000 from Sewer Fund Balance and the remainder to be Conway Village Fire District contribution per Inter-Municipal Agreement, with no amount to be raised by taxation.

[Recommended by the Board of Commissioners]

Don Ekberg: 17 is the, uh, building modification. That's, uh, \$140,000 for air conditioning, I guess. Isn't it. Um, is there a motion

**Suzanne Nelson: I'll move to place. Article 17 HVAC Building Modification on the floor.**

**Robert Porter: Second.**

**Don Ekberg: Moved and seconded. All in favor?**

*Room filled with responding Ayes.*

Don Ekberg: All right. Um, Jason,

Jason Gagnon: All right. So again, HVAC system original to the plant 25 years old when it was built. Uh, the, the first floor was, I, I wasn't here. I can only assume the first floor was built and they put the HVAC Unit in, and then they entombed it in the roof. So, we've had a couple leaks in the, uh, heating coil. It is, it is at its useful life. Um, they've been able to slide stuff out just enough to braise it and fix it temporarily. Uh, but in order to actually change those units, we have to take the roof off of the, of the, the wastewater plant out back. Kind of... if you came in the back door, it's right above that section. So, what this article looks to do is to modify the roof instead of taking it off and putting it right back on and leaving somebody else in this situation the next time, we want to modify the roof to be able to have some working room up there, uh, and be able to, to work on the HV...HVAC system, whenever we need to.

Don Ekberg: Is there any, uh, discussion on 17?

Tim Anderson: I have a question.

Don Ekberg: Yes, sir.

Pat Preece: So, it, will it improve the air quality in the offices, in the old section of the building,

Jason Gagnon: The physical modification to the roof? No, but future improvements to HVAC could and having that extra room certainly will not hurt the option for that.

**Don Ekberg: Any other questions or comments on 17? You ready for the question? All in favor of 17, say I aye.**

*Room filled with responding Ayes.*

**Opposed? 17 carries.**

#### **Article 18      Fire Rescue Tools Replacement**

To see if the voters of the North Conway Water Precinct will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$50,000 for replacement of rescue tools for the North Conway Fire Department. This is a tax funded article. [Recommended by the Board of Commissioners 3-0-0]

Don Ekberg: 18 Fire rescue tools, \$50,000 replacement of tools for the fire department. Is there a motion?

**Suzanne Nelson: I'll, uh, move to place Article 18 Fire Rescue Tools Replacement on the floor.**

**Robert Porter: Second.**

**Don Ekberg: Moved and seconded. All in favor?**

*Room filled with responding Ayes.*

Don Ekberg: Pat Preece.

Pat Preece: Yes. Mr. Moderator, this is to replace our current, uh, extrication tools that we have. Uh, current tools are over 20 years old and will not cut and spread most of the new metals of the cars today.

**Don Ekberg: Any comments, questions on 18? Seeing none, are you ready for the question? All in favor of 18 say aye.**

*Room filled with responding Ayes.*

**Don Ekberg: Opposed? 18 carries.**

#### **Article 19      Fire Chief's Car Replacement**

To see if the voters of the North Conway Water Precinct will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$60,000 for replacement of the Fire Chief's Car of the North Conway Fire Department. Funding for this article will come from the Fire Equipment Capital Reserve, with no amount to be raised by taxation.

[Recommended by the Board of Commissioners 3-0-0]

Don Ekberg: 19 fire. Oh, fire. Yeah. Fire Chiefs. \$60,000 for a new car for the fire. Chief. Is there a motion?

**Suzanne Nelson: I move to place Article 19 Fire Chief's Car Replacement on the floor.**

**Robert Porter: Second**

**Don Ekberg: Moved and seconded. All in favor?**

*Room filled with responding Ayes.*

Don Ekberg: Pat Preece will....

Pat Preece: It is what it is. It needs to be replaced.

Don Ekberg: That was pretty short, sweet 19. Any comments in 19, the chief needs a new car

Jim Umberger: Jim Umberger. So since the, uh, other truck went up, are we sure that 60 grand can cover this?

Pat Preece: We're never sure of anything.

Jim Umberger: Well then an amendment, if you're not sure?

Pat Preece: I'm good.

Jim Umberger: You're good?

Pat Preece: I'm good.

**Don Ekberg: He's good. He's good. Any other, thank you. Any other comments on 19? You ready for the question? All in favor of 19, say aye.**

*Room filled with responding Ayes.*

**Don Ekberg: Opposed?**

*One no from the audience.*

**Don Ekberg: No?! One no! All night. No.**

Pat Preece: May I make a comment to that, No?

Suzanne Nelson: No!

Don Ekberg: Not in polite company. He has to wa probably he has to wash it. That's what, uh,

## **Article 20 Fire Station Radio Replacement**

To see if the voters of the North Conway Water Precinct will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$55,000.00 for the purpose of upgrades to improve the reliability of the North Conway Fire Department radio system as required following Town of Conway communications system upgrades, and to authorize the Commissioners to accept federal, state, or local grant funds or other funding contributions to offset this amount. Funding for this article will come from unassigned fund balance with no additional tax impact. This article shall be a non-lapsing appropriation per RSA 32:7, VI and will not lapse until the project is complete or by December 31, 2027.

[Recommended by the Board of Commissioners 3-0-0]

Don Ekberg: Article 20 fire station radio replacement. \$55,000 to buy a radio. Okay. Is there a motion?

**Suzanne Nelson: So I, uh, yeah, I'll, uh, make a motion to place. Article 20 fire station radio replacement on the floor.**

**Robert Porter: Second.**

**Don Ekberg: Moved and seconded. All in favor of the motion.**

*Room filled with responding Ayes.*

Don Ekberg: Pat Preece will explain that.

Pat Preece: All right. So we will urge you guys to vote this warrant article down.

Don Ekberg: Down? Okay.

Pat Preece: When we are all said and done with my explanation. So, um, we got our proposals, uh, back from a radio vendor in all the engineering and the cost came in at a hundred and about \$140,000 to add another site, uh, to the town of Conway. So we looked at this in detail, and it's not just a North Conway Fire Department problem. It's a town wide problem with fire police together. And as well as, uh, a private EMS service that provides a service there. So, um, and by convincing the town fathers, uh, we were able to convince them to, to fund that \$139,000 out of the ARPA funding. So we won't need the, the funds to come from us, just us. So it's coming from the town of Conway now.

Don Ekberg: Any, uh, questions on, uh, article 20 import? Yes...

Kris Cluff: I have a question. Last year, we, um, approved \$55,000 for the same thing, except we didn't make it non lapsing. Correct. And now that we're not using this money and last year's article was a tax article. Did you put the \$55,000 against MS 636 to reduce taxes by that warrant article? Or did you just spend it?

Jason Gagnon: So we, I just found out about it five minutes ago. Okay.

Kris Cluff: I'm just asking, did it go back to reduced taxes? Cause that's where it has to go.

Hannah Andersen: I can check.

Don Ekberg: You. You want to check that?

Hannah Andersen: I can check.

Kris Cluff: You can check it and just let me know. That's not a big deal.

Don Ekberg: Yeah. Hannah will check it.

Pat Preece: It wasn't spent

Kris Cluff: I know it wasn't spent...

Don Ekberg: Hannah will check it and let you know.

Kris Cluff: That's Fine.

Jason Gagnon: Basically, it's sitting in fun balance right now.

Kris Cluff: Right.

**Don Ekberg: Anybody else on anybody else on article 20? Are you ready for the question? All in favor?  
All opposed?**

***Room filled with responding Ayes.***

**Don Ekberg: 20 fails.**

## **Article 21 Pine Hill Franchise Area**

To see if the voters of the North Conway Water Precinct will vote to authorize the Commission to seek a water and sewer franchise area for the portions of the Continuum Development at Pine Hill located outside the Precinct boundary, and to file with the New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission a Petition to Extend Water and Sewer Service to said areas, and that customers within said areas shall be charged the same rates, fees, and capital project assessments as customers within the Precinct boundary. Construction of new water and sewer service will be funded by the project developer.

[Recommended by the Board of Commissioners 3-0-0]

Don Ekberg: 21 Pine Hill Franchise Area. This is a vote to see if the commission will seek a franchise for the development of Pine Hill, which is a little complicated and I understand we have presenters. So, is there a motion to put this on the floor?

**Suzanne Nelson: I'll make a motion to put article 21 Pine Hill Franchise Area on the floor.**

**Robert Porter: Second.**

**Don Ekberg: Moved & seconded. All in favor of putting that on the floor.**

*Room filled with responding Ayes.*

Don Ekberg: I, I, it says Jason, but do you want the,

Jason Gagnon: Yeah, so this is a, this is a water and sewer article, um, because there's a small portion of the Pine Hill Franchise Area, or sorry, Pine Hill Continuum Development, that's outside of the Precinct boundary. And I'll, I'll show you on this one that you have it in your, your packet. Uh, thanks to Sean Bergeron for putting this together. This right here is Eastman Road.

Don Ekberg: Does everybody know where this is?

Jason Gagnon: This is Eagles Way going off of the high school. So, the development is going to basically be on both sides of Eagle's Way between Eastman Road and the high school down here, the water Precinct's boundary bisects the development. So, this portion that's in red is actually outside of the Precinct bounds in order for us to serve them with water and sewer, we need a franchise agreement through the New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission. Uh, it's a non, this is a non-monetary article. Um, the developers agreed to pay for all costs of us getting the franchise area, because it's like everything with the State. It's a process you have to go through and it's not simple, but all this does is... this article, all it does is allow the Commissioners to go out and do the necessary steps to seek that franchise area from the public utilities commission. Once we have that franchise area, it just means that then we can sell water and sewer to people in that red area and collect the same amount of money from them as we would in precinct. The reason you need that franchise area to collect the same amount of money is because we don't have tax authority outside of the Precinct. Um, Gary can attest to this in his franchise area. He has a special assessment, his franchise areas. He has, he's able to do a special assessment to collect what he would've collected in taxes from those customers outside of his political boundary. So we would do the same thing so that everybody being served by precinct water and sewer, whether inside or outside is paying the same fair share.

Don Ekberg: Do you...Do the presenter? Do you guys want say it?

Shawn Bergeron: I think Jason explained it very, very well.

Don Ekberg: You are?

Shawn Bergeron: I'm sorry, Shawn Bergeron from Bergeron Technical. Um, we've been working on designing and permitting this project now for past four or five years. Um, Jason explained it very, very well. If there's any particular questions, I'll be happy to answer them. But otherwise, as he stated, um, my client who is Continuum Healthcare of Maine, they have committed to cover all the associated costs with this. And it's very similar, I think Jason, to what you have with the, uh, Birch Hill situation, I think for water,

Jason Gagnon: No, it's actually quite a bit different from Birch hill because we sell them bulk water from within our boundary. So, they're a separate system.

Shawn Bergeron: That's okay. That's correct. I forgot that. But nevertheless, there's no cost to the Precinct. Um, and we are, we're responsible for covering all associated costs now until eternity basically on this.

Don Ekberg: Yes, sir.

Gary Chandler: Thank you. These franchisees are fairly simple, and they work fairly well. Lower Bartlett has five them, we franchise right from Jackson, some town volume franchise down the west side road. Jason knows right to the boundary of, of town of Conway and, and, uh, they're pretty simple I mean, it's an effort to go through the PUC, but, uh, they work fairly well and it's a equitable way to your billing to your franchise people. And I'm all in favor of it. We talked about this years and years ago, the pros and cons of not changing boundaries and doing franchise areas in that, in that area. And I think I spoke in favor of franchising back 20 something years ago. And I'm still in favor of it.

Don Ekberg: Any other comments on 21? Yes, sir.

William Hounsell: Thank you, Mr. Moderator. My name is William Hounsell. Um. The franchise area. Um, I'm asking this question for the Minutes, uh, Superintendent Gagnon, um, what does a public utility, uh, oversight of this, uh, entail for us and have you researched it with our attorney?

Jason Gagnon: Yes. So, uh, basically as long as we don't charge them more than we're charging our ex our, our, uh, in precinct customers, we are not regulated by the PUC. If we were, if we were to charge them more, then we would open

ourselves up to regulation. All we're seeking is permission to serve them water and sewer at the same rates. Uh, and as long as we do so there's no additional PUC, regulation and oversight.

William Hounsell: Thank you. I'm glad we got that in the Minutes, and I would, uh, urge us to go forward. And I'm very thankful that we're not changing, uh, our boundaries because of our charter. Uh, and, and the reason being that if you go to legislature to change the boundaries, you open yourself up the shenanigans of the Legislature.

Don Ekberg: Shenanigans. Yes, sir...

Tim Anderson: Just one question, Jason, we're going out into that Franchise area and are we gonna own, is the Precinct gonna own everything that goes in that franchise area?

Jason Gagnon: So, just like we would in the Precinct, uh, we will own the infrastructure within the public right of way. So, the roadways that become public roads and that sort of thing, uh, the, the private ownership will still have to maintain all the services and all that sort of stuff outside of the public right of way at a previous Commissioner's meeting, actually at a couple different Commissioners meetings, we've talked in general terms about, um, the difference between Precinct owned sewer pump stations, versus what's kind of more friendly to the developer where they like to put in individual pump stations for every single home and correct me if I'm wrong, but the consensus, the general feeling was that it's much better to have a quality pump sewer pump station to the Precinct standards that the Precinct owns and operates. We feel like that serves our customers better than those individual pump stations. So, our intention is so long as the sewer pump stations are put in to the Precinct specification, that we will then take ownership of those as well after they, they build them.

**Don Ekberg: Any other comments, questions on 21? Are you ready for the vote on 21? All in favor, say aye.**

*Room filled with responding Ayes.*

**Don Ekberg: Opposed? 21 carries.**

#### **Article 22 Appropriation to the Pope Memorial Library**

To see if the voters of the North Conway Water Precinct will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$10,000 for the purpose of supporting the programs of the Pope Memorial Library (North Conway Public Library). This is a tax funded article.

[Recommended by the Board of Commissioners 3-0-0]

Don Ekberg: 22 - Appropriation for the library. \$10,000. Is there a motion?

**Suzanne Nelson: Uh, I'll move to place Article 22 Appropriation to Memorial Library on the floor.**

**Robert Porter: Second**

**Don Ekberg: Uh, all in favor of the motion.**

*Room filled with responding Ayes.*

Don Ekberg: Uh, Jason library.

Jason Gagnon: Uh, sure, this is, uh, something that we do every year. Uh, the Commissioners and, and the voters have always been gracious to support our local public library. And it's, it's the same article we've seen for for many years.

Don Ekberg: Yes.

Sharon Wroblewski: Hi, I'm Sharon Wroblewski and I'm representing the Pope Memorial Library. I'm also within the North Conway Water Precinct. And, um, we just want you to know how thankful we are that we get this every year. We don't take it for granted and with the expansion of the library, we're able to do even more programs and put this money to even better use. So, thank you. Hopefully, you'll continue it. Thank you.

**Don Ekberg: Any other comments on 22? Are you ready for the question on 22? All in favor of 22, say aye.**

*Room filled with responding Ayes.*

**Don Ekberg: Opposed? 22 passes.**



### Article 23 Appropriation to Schouler Park Skating Rink

To see if the voters of the North Conway Water Precinct will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$6,750 for the purpose of supporting the programs of the Schouler Park Skating Rink. This is a tax funded article.

[Recommended by the Board of Commissioners 3-0-0]

Don Ekberg: 23 appropriations, the skating ring, \$6,750 there. Is there a motion for the skating rink?

**Suzanne Nelson: I'll move to place Article 23 Appropriation to Schouler Park Skating Rink on the floor.**

**Robert Porter: Second.**

**Don Ekberg: All in favor of the motion.**

*Room filled with responding Ayes.*

Don Ekberg: Uh, 23 Gag... Jason Gagnon.

Jason Gagnon: Thank you. Uh, again, every year we do this, we contribute to the, to the, uh, the town constructing the, the skating rink out there. If we could figure out how to contribute to the weather so that the skating rink would actually stay all year. I'm sure that would be even better, but, um, as it stands now, we're at the mercy of mother nature. So...

**Don Ekberg: Anybody want to comment on 23? You ready for the question? All in favor of the skating ring, say aye.**

*Room filled with responding Ayes.*

**Don Ekberg: Opposed?**

**Patrick Preece: No**

**Don Ekberg: Pardon me? Did I hear a no?**

**Patrick Preece: Yeh! No.**

**Don Ekberg: No. One no. Passes.**

### Article 24 Decontamination Area HVAC Additions to the Fire Station

To see if the voters of the North Conway Water Precinct will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$35,000 for Decontamination Area HVAC additions at the North Conway Fire Station. Funding for this article will come from unassigned fund balance with no additional tax impact. This article shall be a non-lapsing appropriation per RSA 32:7, VI and will not lapse until the project is complete or by December 31, 2027.

[Recommended by the Board of Commissioners 3-0-0]

Don Ekberg: 24 decon... Who invented that word? Decontamination. Uh, I take your word for it. It's 9:20 at night. Oh, Okay. This is uh, 35,000 for what? Reset. Um, is there an ar... is there a motion on 24?

**Suzanne Nelson: Yeah, I'll move to what article 24 Decontamination Area HVAC Additions to the Fire Station.**

**Robert Porter: Second.**

**Don Ekberg: Moved and seconded. All in favor of that motion?**

*Room filled with responding Ayes.*

Don Ekberg: Right. Jason will explain 35,000 for decontamination.

Jason Gagnon: And with that, I will turn the floor over to Chief Preece.

Don Ekberg: Oh...

Pat Preece: Thank you. Um, this is, uh, something that was missed during construction. Uh, that particularly area is on the far end of the building where the lock in decon area is, and it's not served currently with AC. And we went through the whole summer. That room was exceeded 90 degrees for most of the, the summer. And we need a way to cool that down.

Don Ekberg: Questions on article 24? Comments? You ready for the vote? All in favor, say aye.

*Room filled with responding Ayes.*

Don Ekberg: Opposed? 24 passes.

#### Article 25      Ratify Auditor

To see if the voters of the North Conway Water Precinct will ratify Plodzick & Sanderson as the Precinct auditor for the calendar year 2022.

[Recommended by the Board of Commissioners 3 – 0 – 0]

Don Ekberg: 25 is to ratify the auditor for the Precinct year of 2022.

**Suzanne Nelson: Uh, we move to place article 25 ratify auditor on the floor.**

**Robert Porter: Second.**

**Don Ekberg: Moved and seconded in favor of the AR... motion?**

*Room filled with responding Ayes.*

Don Ekberg: Uh, it's the same uh , same guy we have every year, isn't it? Jason.

Jason Gagnon: Yeah. Um, so this will be our second year with Plodzick & Sanderson. They're the auditor that also does the Town of Conway. We've been really happy with them and they're actually less money than, than our old auditor. Um, we we've been, like I said, really happy with them, so happy to move forward, even at a cost savings.

**Don Ekberg: Any comments on the auditor? Are you ready for the vote? All in favor of 25, say aye.**

*Room filled with responding Ayes.*

**Don Ekberg: Opposed? 25 Passes.**

#### Article 26      Borrowing Against the Credit of the Precinct

To see if the voters of the North Conway Water Precinct will vote to allow the Commissioners to borrow against the credit of the Precinct such sums of money as may be necessary in anticipation of taxes, bond sales, water, and sewer bills as permitted in Section 6 of the Precinct Charter.

Don Ekberg: 26 borrowing against the credit. Is there a motion?

**Suzanne Nelson. You... sure ... I will. I'll move to put Article... It's getting late too. I know...Article 26 Borrowing Against the Credit of the Precinct on the floor.**

**Robert Porter: Second.**

**Don Ekberg: In favor of that motion. Say aye.**

*Room filled with responding Ayes.*

**Don Ekberg: Any on 26? All in favor of 26 say aye.**

*Room filled with responding Ayes.*

**Don Ekberg: Opposed? 26 passes.**

#### Article 27      Act Upon any other Business

To act upon any other business which may legally come before this meeting.

Don Ekberg: 27. Is there any other business?

Tim Anderson: Oh yes, no. We're in such a hurry to spend 70 million, \$20 million. I got a number of 42 cents outta here on

two.

Jason Gagnon: Yep.

Tim Anderson: How much is three gonna cost us and four, five & six?

Jason Gagnon: So, at 50% grant on three using 2021 valuations, uh, I have 32 cents. That's at 50% grant. And like I said, uh, after talking with Homeland security, I think we're more like minimum 75%, which would be fantastic. Um, article four, after you take out the grant that we've already been awarded, looking at, um, around 13 cents. Article five is again looking at, uh, around 12 cents. Assuming no, no grant for that. And um, that's funding the full project and then article six, assuming what I think is the worst-case scenario, which is a 25% grant on that one, uh, 8 cents.

Tim Anderson: Okay.

Robert Porter: Can I make a comment?

Don Ekberg: Yes, sir.

Robert Porter: Tim got on the floor before the, we put the article on the floor.

Tim Anderson: No I didn't.

Don Ekberg: Anybody have any comments on article 27? Any other business?

Jason Gagnon: They never voted to put it on the floor.

Don Ekberg: Put what on the floor?

Jason Gagnon: The article 27. I don't know. Do you have to vote to put that on the floor? I think that was Bob's Comment. I think you do.

Don Ekberg: All right. Is there a motion to put article 27 on the floor?

**Suzanne Nelson: Yes. I will move to put article 27, act upon any other business on the floor.**

**Robert Porter: Second.**

**Don Ekberg: Moved and seconded for 27. Any other input on 27? Any other business? Yes...**

Jim Umberger: I would just like to express appreciation to the commissioners and superintendent they're forward looking for the future and uh, thank they've done a great job to put us in position to improve our Precinct.

Don Ekberg: Well, thank you. Thank you for saying that. I'm sure. Appreciate that. Anything any other now we cannot. We...

Judy Anderson: 8:26.

Don Ekberg: Yeah, we can't. We cannot formally adjourn until the hour's up, which is 9:35. So, uh,

Suzanne: Tim has 10 more minutes.

Don Ekberg: No, he, he doesn't Tim listen...

Tim Anderson: It's cutting into my drinking time.

Suzanne Nelson: It must be Tim time.

Don Ekberg: Yes...

Tim Anderson: I just, I just wanna point out that after doing my lousy math here, uh, if we take the 818,000 that's in capital, so capital contribution or whatever the hell it is, and you take out the 390, that gets you down to oh, the 818. And you add the 171 get you 989. You take the 390 that's 599 and you take the 200 out for the pipe. Geez. It least you four.

Don Ekberg: So here's where we stand. Any other business under 27. Uh, here's where we stand. We cannot formally adjourn until the hours up, which is 9:35. At 9:30 we're gonna take a little recess until 9:35. Now, now at 9:35, we'll find out the, the results of, uh, two through six. And then, uh, that'll be the end of the business unless somebody has something else. And then we'll adjourn. Yes, sir.

William Hounsell: Is it true that, uh, under any other business? Uh, we can't do anything legal anyways?

Don Ekberg: Uh, ask the legal...You can't do anything anyway. So what did I, I'm just reading what's on the paper bill. Okay. Hey works for me. There'll be a slight Reese this until 9:35.

Don Ekberg: We're gonna reconvene. We have the votes.

We have the Votes on, uh, 2, 3, 4 and five. Um, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6. Yes. On article two. The vote is 35. Yes. Eight, no one blank. So a pass article two passes. Article three, we have 38. Yes. Five, no. And one blank. Article three passes. Article four. We have 37. Yes. Four, no three blank. Article four passes. Article five. We have 33. Yes. Eight, no. And two blank. Article five passes in article six. We have 35. Yes. Two, no. And three blank. So article six passes.

Jim Umberger: Motion to Adjourn.

Suzanne Nelson: Second.

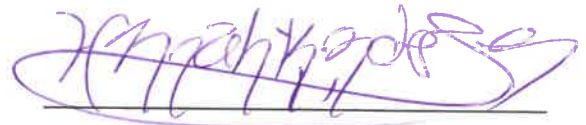
Don Ekberg: All in favor?

Room filled with responding Ayes.

Don Ekberg: Done.

Meeting Adjourned at 9:46PM.

Minutes recorded by:



Hannah K. Andersen, Recording Secretary

I, Gary R. Chandler, certify these minutes as the 2022  
Annual Meeting Minutes of March 30, 2022.



Gary R. Chandler, Clerk  
North Conway Water Precinct