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2023 ANNUAL REPORT

IN LOVING MEMORY



ROBERT F. PORTER
DEDICATED FRIEND AND PUBLIC SERVANT
1933 - 2023

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PRECINCT OFFICERS

"The greatest threat to our planet is the belief that someone else will save it." - Robert Swan

COMMISSIONERS

SUZANNE NELSON (2024)

DEBORAH FAUVER (2024)

*Appointed to fill
vacancy left by Bob Porter

JAMES UMBERGER (2026)

TREASURER

ROBERT T. ANDERSON

CLERK

GARY R. CHANDLER

MODERATOR

DONALD EKBERG

SUPERINTENDENT

JASON GAGNON

FIRE CHIEF

CHAD MCCARTHY

AUDITOR

PLODZIK & SANDERSON, P.A.



Article 01 Election of Officers

To choose all necessary officers.

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

Article 02 Artist Falls Road / Skimobile Road Water Main

To see if the voters of the North Conway Water Precinct will vote to raise and appropriate the additional sum of \$230,000 (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 \$230,000 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. The cost of this article is expected to be offset by \$150,800 from a New Hampshire Drinking Water Groundwater Trust Fund Grant. Simple majority vote required.

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

Article 03 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 \$1,685,836 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 \$347,058 and Sewer Funds in the amount of \$566,332 and the remainder to be raised by general taxation.

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

Article 04 Operating Budget - General Fund

To see if the voters of the North Conway Water Precinct will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$115,076 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 05 Operating Budget - Water Department

To see if the voters of the North Conway Water Precinct will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,440,650 for the operating budget of the water department for the ensuing year to be funded by water usage fees and revenues with no amount to be raised through general taxation.

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



2024
WARRANT

Article 06 Operating Budget - Sewer Department

To see if the voters of the North Conway Water Precinct will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$2,084,905 for the operating budget of the sewer department for the ensuing year to be funded by sewer usage fees and revenues with no amount to be raised through general taxation.

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

Article 07 Operating Budget - Fire Department

To see if the voters of the North Conway Water Precinct will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,022,179 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]

Article 08 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 \$834,923 to be added to the following Capital Reserve Funds previously established. \$42,914 to come from Water fund balance, \$100,000 to come from water usage fees and revenues, \$212,431 to come from Sewer fund balance, \$105,578 to come from sewer usage fees and revenues, \$124,000 from general fund balance and \$250,000 to come from general taxation.

Capital Reserve Fund	Amount	Revenue Source
Fire Equipment	\$225,000	Taxation
	\$54,000	Sale of Rescue 1
Fire Emergency	\$70,000	Fund Balance
Uncompensated Absences	\$25,000	Water Revenues
	\$25,000	Sewer Revenues
	\$25,000	Taxation
Water Infrastructure	\$42,914	Water Fund Balance
Water Vehicle	\$75,000	Water Revenues
Sewer Infrastructure	\$166,767	Sewer Fund Balance
Sewer Vehicle	\$80,578	Sewer Revenues
Energy Upgrades	\$45,664	Sewer Fund Balance

(Recommended by the Board of Commissioners 3-0-0)

Article 09 Pickup Truck Replacement

To see if the voters of the North Conway Water Precinct will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$75,000 for replacement of a Water / Wastewater pickup truck with appurtenances. Funding for this article will come from the Sewer Vehicle Capital Reserve (\$37,500) and the Water Vehicle Capital Reserve (\$37,500), with no amount to be raised by taxation.

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



Article 10 Appropriation to 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]

Article 11 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]

Article 12 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 2024.

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

Article 13 Borrowing Against Credit of 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.

Article 14 Act Upon any other Business

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



Article P1 Petitioned Article: Village at Kearsarge Sewer

To see if the voters of the North Conway Water Precinct will vote to appropriate up to \$443,000 from the Sewer Capital Reserve Fund and/or Sewer Infrastructure Capital Reserve Fund toward actual project costs incurred by the Village at Kearsarge Condominium Association for the purposes of designing and constructing a sewer pump station, sewer force main, and gravity sewer to serve Building 3, 4 and 9 of the Village at Kearsarge Condominium Association and for the North Conway Water Precinct to take ownership and maintenance responsibility of the sewer pump station and gravity sewer collector line and manholes extending the previous Birch Bend project to serving Buildings 3, 4, and 9 provided that: 1) satisfactory permanent easements are provided to the Precinct for said infrastructure; 2) design and costs of said infrastructure are reviewed and approved by Precinct engineer; 3) said infrastructure is installed in compliance with all Precinct specifications including, but not limited to, construction testing, engineering, and inspection requirements; and 4) the Village at Kearsarge Condominium Association is solely responsible to design, solicit bids for, and construct and manage the construction of said infrastructure to the Precinct's specifications and requirements. The North Conway Water Precinct shall not be obligated to assume ownership and maintenance responsibility of the project's infrastructure or to make payments to the Village at Kearsarge Condominium Association for project costs until all conditions above have been satisfied and the completed infrastructure has been accepted by the Precinct.

This is a petitioned article.

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



2024 ESTIMATED TAX RATE

WARRANT ARTICLE # AND DESCRIPTION	APPROPRIATIONS	OFFSETTING REVENUE	RAISE THROUGH TAXATION	GROSS RATE PER \$1,000 VALUATION	
				BARTLETT	CONWAY
Operating Budgets					
Operating Budget - Commissioners Fund	115,076	-	115,076	0.09	0.08
Operating Budget - Water Department	1,440,650	1,440,650	-	-	-
Operating Budget - Sewer Department	2,084,905	2,084,905	-	-	-
Operating Budget - Fire Department	1,022,179	376,486	645,693	0.48	0.47
Special Articles					
Long Term Debt Service Payments	1,685,836	913,390	772,447	0.58	0.56
Appropriation to Capital Reserve Funds	822,294	572,294	250,000	0.19	0.18
Water / Sewer Pickup Truck Replacement	75,000	75,000	-	-	-
Artist Falls / Skimobile Road Watermain	230,000	230,000	-	-	-
Individual Warrant Articles					
Appropriation to Pope Memorial Library	10,000	-	10,000	0.01	0.01
Appropriation to Schouler Park Skating Rink	6,750	-	6,750	0.01	0.00
Non-Monetary Articles					
Election of Officers	-	-	-	-	-
Ratify Auditor	-	-	-	-	-
Borrowing Against Credit of Precinct	-	-	-	-	-
Act upon any other Business	-	-	-	-	-
Petitioned Article					
Village at Kearsarge Sewer	443,000	443,000	-	-	-
TOTAL	7,492,689	5,692,724	1,799,966	1.35	1.31

**PROPERTY VALUATION
ASSUMPTIONS:**

2023 Conway Valuation	1,236,715,070.00
2023 Bartlett Valuation	129,353,210.00

2023 TREASURER'S REPORT

Bank Account Summary

Commissioners (Northway)

Balance on Hand January 1, 2023	1,782,316.24
Revenues	
Taxes	1,753,872.00
NH State Grants	353,138.11
Sewer Capital Contribution	353,399.00
Sale of Rescue 1	54,000.00
Interest	1,035.71
Refunds	1,243.50
Disbursements	
2023 LTD Payments	(1,704,747.63)
Transfers to Fire	(688,763.13)
Accounts Payable	(349,958.78)
Pope Memorial Library	(10,000.00)
Schouler Park Skating Rink	(6,750.00)
Balance on Hand December 31, 2023	1,538,785.02

Fire Department (Northway)

Balance on Hand January 1, 2023	29,741.17
Revenues	
2022 Misc Receivables	42,188.73
2023 TOC Non-Precinct	281,020.00
Hales Location Non-Precinct	73,092.96
Fire Fees	48,991.95
Transfers from Commissioners	688,763.13
Interest	171.03
Disbursements	
Accounts Payable	(787,503.07)
Capital Reserve Contributions	(250,000.00)
Balance on Hand December 31, 2023	126,465.90

Payroll (Northway)

Balance on Hand January 1, 2023	30,913.32
Revenues	
Department Transfers	1,502,156.86
Interest	66.18
Misc (Refunds, Year End)	17,414.05
Disbursements	
Accounts Payable	(1,502,223.04)
Balance on Hand December 31, 2023	48,327.37

Sewer Department (Northway)

Balance on Hand January 1, 2023	2,975,609.72
Revenues	
Sewer Utility Billing	1,286,912.33
Service Billing (Septage, Service, Buy Ins)	1,137,473.43
SAG Funds	56,430.00
REC Sale Funds	33,035.00
2023 Vehicle Sales	5,577.50
CWSRF (Saco River Erosion)	82,158.39
ARPA Federal (Oxidation Ditch)	212,105.74
Sewer CRF (Sludge Dryer + Aeration Prelim)	55,988.92
Interest	5,348.13
Disbursements	
Accounts Payable	(2,084,372.99)
Sewer Capital Contribution	(353,399.00)
2023 Article 9: Appropriation to CRF	(250,027.00)
Misc (Refunds, Year End Prepaid, UB Transfers)	(88,335.63)
Balance on Hand December 31, 2023	<u>3,074,504.54</u>

Sewer (Citizens)

Balance on Hand January 1, 2023	15,101.02
Revenues	
Interest	1.55
Return	624.00
Balance on Hand December 31, 2023	<u>15,726.57</u>

CVFD/NCWP Interconnect (Northway)

Balance on Hand January 1, 2023	419,275.85
Revenues	
Interest	629.35
Balance on Hand December 31, 2023	<u>419,905.20</u>

Water Department (Northway)

Balance on Hand January 1, 2023	1,153,416.76
Revenues	
Water Utility Billing	1,218,014.25
Service Billing (Spinkler, Bulk Water, Buy Ins, etc.)	367,560.20
Capital Reserve Funds	55,717.35
MTBE Funding	6,026.56
2023 Vehicle Sales	5,577.50
Misc (Donations, Refunds, Scrap Sales)	102,418.69
Interest	1,571.30
Disbursements	
Accounts Payable	(1,683,275.01)
Capital Reserve Contributions	(143,584.00)
Misc (UB Transfers, Refunds)	(10,461.80)
Balance on Hand December 31, 2023	<u>1,072,981.80</u>

Online Billing (Northway)

Balance on Hand January 1, 2023	2,528.03
Revenues	
Utility Billing Payments	382,638.06
Interest	5.83
Disbursements	
Utility Billing Transfers	(376,586.03)
Invoice Cloud Online Biller Fees	(1,021.80)
Balance on Hand December 31, 2023	<u>7,564.09</u>

Retainage (Northway)

Balance on Hand January 1, 2023	111,084.79
Revenues	
Interest	\$ 166.75
Balance on Hand December 31, 2023	<u>111,251.54</u>

Capital Reserve Account Balances**Rate Stabilization Capital Reserve** (TD Bank)

Balance on Hand January 1, 2023	188,993.67
Revenues	
Interest	5,616.80
Balance on Hand December 31, 2023	<u>194,610.47</u>

Fire Equipment Capital Reserve (TD Bank)

Balance on Hand January 1, 2023	391,553.97
Revenues	
Article 9 2023	225,000.00
Interest	13,215.10
Balance on Hand December 31, 2023	<u>629,769.07</u>

Fire Emergency Capital Reserve (TD Bank)

Balance on Hand January 1, 2023	36,162.83
Revenues	
Interest	1,074.74
Balance on Hand December 31, 2023	<u>37,237.57</u>

Sewer Capital Reserve (TD Bank)

Balance on Hand January 1, 2023	234,673.39
Revenues	
Interest	6,974.38
Balance on Hand December 31, 2023	<u>241,647.77</u>

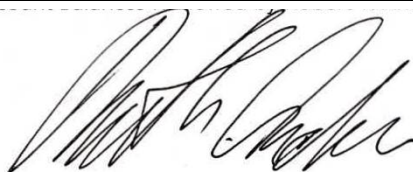
Sewer Infrastructure Capital Reserve (TD Bank)		
Balance on Hand January 1, 2023		997,447.16
Revenues		
Article 9 2023		134,668.00
Interest		29,243.96
Disbursements		
Sludge Dryer + Aeration Preliminary Expenses		(55,988.92)
Balance on Hand December 31, 2023		<u>1,105,370.20</u>
Sewer Vehicle/Equipment Capital Reserve (TD Bank)		
Balance on Hand January 1, 2023		274,631.43
Revenues		
Article 9 2023		75,000.00
Interest		8,688.03
Balance on Hand December 31, 2023		<u>358,319.46</u>
Water Capital Reserve (TD Bank)		
Balance on Hand January 1, 2023		103,455.51
Revenues		
Interest		3,092.13
Balance on Hand December 31, 2023		<u>106,547.64</u>
Water Vehicle/Equipment Capital Reserve (TD Bank)		
Balance on Hand January 1, 2023		213,005.90
Revenues		
Article 9 2023		75,000.00
Interest		6,856.54
Balance on Hand December 21, 2023		<u>294,862.44</u>
Water Infrastructure Capital Reserve (TD Bank)		
Balance on Hand January 1, 2023		150,246.03
Revenues		
Article 9 2023		43,584.00
Interest		3,433.12
Disbursements		
Conceptual Design for Artist Falls / Skimobile Rd + Well 3/6 Chem Storage Feasibility Study		(55,717.35)
Balance on Hand December 31, 2023		<u>141,545.80</u>
Energy Upgrade Capital Reserve (TD Bank)		
Balance on Hand January 1, 2023		44,350.44
Revenues		
Article 9 2023		40,359.00
Interest		1,601.19
Balance on Hand December 31, 2023		<u>86,310.63</u>

Uncompensated Absences Capital Reserve (TD Bank)

Balance on Hand January 1, 2023	499,503.23
Revenues	
Article 9 2023	75,000.00
Interest	15,380.30
Balance on Hand December 31, 2023	<u>589,883.53</u>

2023 Bank Account Summary Balance

Total Balance on Hand January 1, 2023	9,654,010.46
Total Revenues	10,950,321.33
Total Disbursements	(10,402,715.18)
Total Balance on Hand December 31, 2023	10,201,616.61



Account Balances Reviewed by Robert T. Anderson, Treasurer



BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS 2023 REPORT

The Board of Commissioners has gone through a significant transition with the passing of Robert Porter and the retirement of John Santuccio. They were open to new ideas and evaluated the path forward, always voting for what was best for the Precinct. We say goodbye and thank you for the many years of dedicated service. Our new commissioners, Jim Umberger and Deborah Fauver, bring to the table an enormous amount of experience and knowledge that will benefit the Precinct as we continuously move forward adopting best practices and projects that will benefit the Precinct as well as the community.

The Fire Department continues to provide outstanding service to the community and its visitors. However, the continued increase in the number of calls requires a serious look at scheduling and the availability of responders. Two full time employees and 37 volunteers responded to 1,586 calls in 2023. That is the highest number of calls ever. In order to maintain a high quality response, we are asking the voters to support us in the hiring of a third full time firefighter.

The scope of the Precinct has changed drastically from its inception. For so many years it was about building infrastructure, both horizontal and vertical. With that mostly complete, the day to day tasks focus more heavily on maintenance, meeting regulatory demands, improving functions, and preserving water quality. The purchase of roughly 100 acres directly above our aquifer is not something that generally falls within our scope of consciousness. However, it was quickly recognized as a prudent move to safeguard our water in perpetuity. We thank our voters for their support and recognition of the value of the property. The Saco River Erosion Project, which will shift the course of the Saco River away from our treatment plant, is not only crucial to the preservation of water quality but to the protection of major assets. Anticipating future possibilities and being proactive is a significant focus of our employees and management teams.

The changes that are occurring at the Precinct have increased the load on the management team and necessitated the hiring of an additional employee. We are so fortunate that Alexis Wagoner has chosen to join us as the Executive Assistant. She comes highly qualified and motivated to increase her knowledge and range of skills. Our human assets play a major role in the overall quality of the Precinct.

We are so proud to have been chosen, from more than 150 New England wastewater treatment plants, as the recipient of the Wastewater Utility Management Award. This award is presented by the New England Water Environment Association. It is a testimony to the quality of our vision, employees, and the support of our voters. Safety, fiscal responsibility, and environmental stewardship will continue to lead us in our journey to serve our community at the highest level.

Respectfully,

Suzanne Nelson, Chair
Jim Umberger, Assistant Chair
Deborah Fauver, Commissioner

2024 PROPOSED COMMISSIONERS BUDGET

	W/A #	2023 Budget	2023 To Date	2024 Proposed	% Change
EXPENSES					
ADMINISTRATION					
Legal General		\$ 20,000.00	\$ 20,067.36	\$ 20,000.00	0.0%
Legal Union		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	-
Contracts		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	-
Dues / Subscriptions		\$ 1,050.00	\$ -	\$ 1,050.00	0.0%
Community Activities		\$ 2,100.00	\$ 738.93	\$ 4,900.00	133.3%
Annual Meeting		\$ 4,000.00	\$ 1,790.15	\$ 4,500.00	12.5%
Accounting / Auditing		\$ 52,450.00	\$ 46,827.50	\$ 51,700.00	-1.4%
Advertising		\$ 800.00	\$ 3,199.00	\$ 800.00	0.0%
Bank Charges		\$ 320.00	\$ 123.75	\$ 320.00	0.0%
Consulting Services		\$ 17,500.00	\$ 13,856.50	\$ 17,500.00	0.0%
Technology Services & Equipment		\$ 3,120.00	\$ 3,018.97	\$ 3,416.00	9.5%
Supplies		\$ 800.00	\$ 154.00	\$ 800.00	0.0%
Postage		\$ -	\$ 53.08	\$ 150.00	-
Insurance		\$ 108.00	\$ 112.98	\$ 108.00	0.0%
Administrative Subtotal		\$ 102,248.00	\$ 89,942.22	\$ 105,244.00	2.9%
PERSONNEL					
Elected Officials		\$ 7,500.00	\$ 7,700.00	\$ 7,500.00	0.0%
Other		\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,800.00	\$ 1,500.00	0.0%
FICA		\$ 559.00	\$ 589.00	\$ 559.00	0.0%
Medicare		\$ 131.00	\$ 137.77	\$ 131.00	0.0%
Workers Compensation		\$ 292.00	\$ 423.43	\$ 292.00	0.0%
Personnel Subtotal		\$ 9,982.00	\$ 10,650.20	\$ 9,982.00	0.0%
COMMISSIONERS OPERATING BUDGET	# 04	\$ 112,230.00	\$ 100,592.42	\$ 115,226.00	2.7%



2024 PROPOSED COMMISSIONERS BUDGET

	W/A #	2023 Budget	2023 To Date	2024 Proposed	% Change
LONG-TERM DEBT					
Long-Term Debt - Fire (Tax Funded)	# 03	\$ 402,178.00	\$ 402,178.00	\$ 400,958.00	-0.3%
Long-Term Debt - Sewer (Tax Funded)	# 03	\$ 742,638.00	\$ 742,638.00	\$ 732,507.00	-1.4%
Long-Term Debt - Water (Tax Funded)	# 03	\$ 373,898.00	\$ 373,898.00	\$ 367,073.00	-1.8%
TOTAL LONG-TERM DEBT EXPENDITURES		\$ 1,518,714.00	\$ 1,518,714.00	\$ 1,500,538.00	-1.2%
SPECIAL ARTICLES					
North Conway Public Library	# 10	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 10,000.00	0.0%
Schouler Park Skating Rink	# 11	\$ 6,750.00	\$ 6,750.00	\$ 6,750.00	0.0%
TOTAL SPECIAL ARTICLES		\$ 16,750.00	\$ 16,750.00	\$ 16,750.00	0.0%
TOTAL TAX-FUNDED EXPENDITURES		\$ 1,647,694.00	\$ 1,636,056.42	\$ 1,632,514.00	-0.9%
NON TAX-FUNDED EXPENSES					
None Anticipated		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	-
TOTAL NON TAX-FUNDED EXPENSES		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	-
TOTAL COMMISSIONERS EXPENSES		\$ 1,647,694.00	\$ 1,636,056.42	\$ 1,632,514.00	-0.9%
REVENUES					
NON-TAX REVENUES					
Sewer Capital Contribution		\$ 353,399.00	\$ 353,399.00	\$ 381,034.00	7.8%
Grants - Water SAG		\$ 14,871.70	\$ 14,871.70	\$ 14,932.50	0.4%
Grants - Wastewater SAG		\$ 287,239.50	\$ 287,239.50	\$ 332,125.00	15.6%
Non-Tax Revenue Subtotal		\$ 655,510.20	\$ 655,510.20	\$ 728,091.50	11.1%
TAX REVENUES					
Tax Levy - Conway		\$ 830,136.00	\$ 876,943.10		
Tax Levy - Bartlett		\$ 162,049.00	\$ 91,146.35		
Tax Revenue Subtotal		\$ 992,185.00	\$ 968,089.45	\$ 904,422.50	-8.8%
TOTAL COMMISSIONERS REVENUES		\$ 1,647,695.20	\$ 1,623,599.65	\$ 1,632,514.00	-0.9%
COMMISSIONERS FUND BALANCE CHANGE		\$ 1.20	\$ (12,456.77)	\$ -	

2024 LONG TERM DEBT

Note	Description	Issue Year	Retirement Year	Issue Ammount	Balance on 12/31/2023	2024 Principal	2024 Interest	2024 Admin Fee	2024 Total	Purpose	Funding Source
#15 NHMBB		2012	2030	954,800.00	353,000.00	53,000.00	11,944.00		64,944.00	SEWER	Tax Levy
#16 NHMBB	N/S Rd & Rt 16	2012	2031	1,890,400.00	771,000.00	98,000.00	27,716.00		125,716.00	WATER	Tax Levy
#18 NHMBB	Contract #5	2012	2034	1,469,950.00	705,000.00	66,000.00	26,797.50		44,542.80	SEWER	Tax Levy
									48,254.70	WATER	Tax Levy
#19 NHMBB	Contract #5B	2012	2036	657,600.00	342,000.00	27,000.00	13,816.00		19,591.68	SEWER	Tax Levy
									21,224.32	WATER	Tax Levy
#23 NHMBB	Contract #6	2012	2037	1,760,750.00	1,920,000.00	62,000.00	51,931.00		113,931.00	SEWER	Tax Levy
#29 SRF	Well #6 Est.	2013	2032	2,011,098.60	1,065,572.64	89,990.02	7,672.12	21,311.45	118,973.59	WATER	Tax Levy
#27 NHMBB	Alternative Energy	2021	2031	583,000.00	495,000.00	50,000.00	22,470.00		72,470.00	SEWER	Tax Levy
#28 NHMBB	Contract #7	2021	2039	2,518,000.00	2,345,000.00	105,000.00	78,567.50		183,567.50	SEWER	Tax Levy
#31 NHMBB	Hurri/Skyline	2021	2036	1,549,000.00	1,475,000.00	95,000.00	52,312.5		147,312.50	SEWER	Tax Levy
#32 NHMBB	Aeration Project	2021	2037	950,000.00	850,000.00	55,000.00	31,147.50		86,147.50	SEWER	Tax Levy
#33 NHMBB	Dewatering Project	2021	2038	2,185,000.00	1,980,000.00	115,000.00	70,297.50		185,297.50	SEWER	Sewer Budget
#34 NHMBB	Fire Station	2021	2040	5,772,000	5,395,000	225,000.00	175,957.50		400,957.50	FIRE	Tax Levy
DGWTF	Well #2	2023	2042	790,000	760,069	30,406.18	22,498.05		52,904.23	WATER	Tax Levy
TOTALS				23,091,598.60	18,456,641.80	1,071,396.20	593,127.17	21,311.45	1,685,834.82		

NHMBB: New Hampshire Municipal Bond Bank

SRF: State Revolving Fund (NHDES)

DGWTF: Drinking Ground Water Trust Fund

2023 SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Thank You to Voters & Precinct Staff

North Conway Water Precinct received the New England Water Environment's Utility Management Award for 2023. This award recognizes the Precinct as one of the top wastewater utilities in New England. The Precinct continues to be a leader in New Hampshire, and indeed all New England, when it comes to investment, maintenance, and renewal of its water and wastewater systems and this award recognizes that. Voters should be proud of what the Precinct has accomplished over the past 30 years and continues to accomplish today. Our world class system is a model for other communities and our operators take great pride in maintaining the investments you've made over the years to extend the lifetime of our assets and return maximum value to those the Precinct serves. Thank you all for the continued support and for trust you place in us.



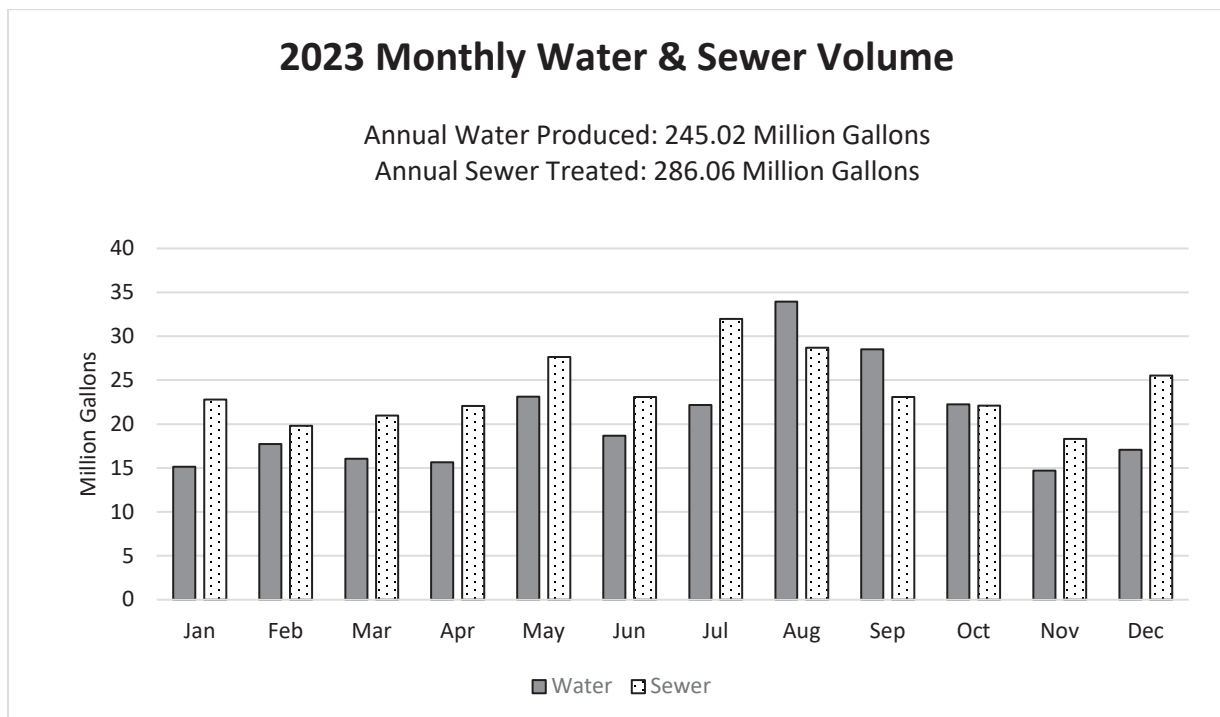
DENNIS AIKENS - STEVE ANDERSON - JASON GAGNON - MICKEY MCDONALD - AARON BERNIER

General Overview

2023 was defined by steady, but at times slow, progress on previously approved projects. It was also one of the wettest years on record, resulting in decreased water usage (and revenues) and Conway Village Fire District contributing nearly 40% of the flow at the wastewater plant.

In the office, we welcomed Alexis Wagoner to our team. Alexis has been a great asset to the Precinct so far, with her previous municipal administration experience and water/wastewater experience allowing her to step right in and take on a heavy load from day one. The extra hands in the office have been incredibly helpful, allowing us to make important progress in key areas including efficient turnaround of financial audits, steady progress on compliance with US EPA's new lead & copper rule, building a solid foundation for implementation of asset management software, and bringing the Precinct into compliance with updated financial policies. I want to acknowledge and thank Jen, Hannah, and Alexis for their hard work over this past year and their dedication to the Precinct.

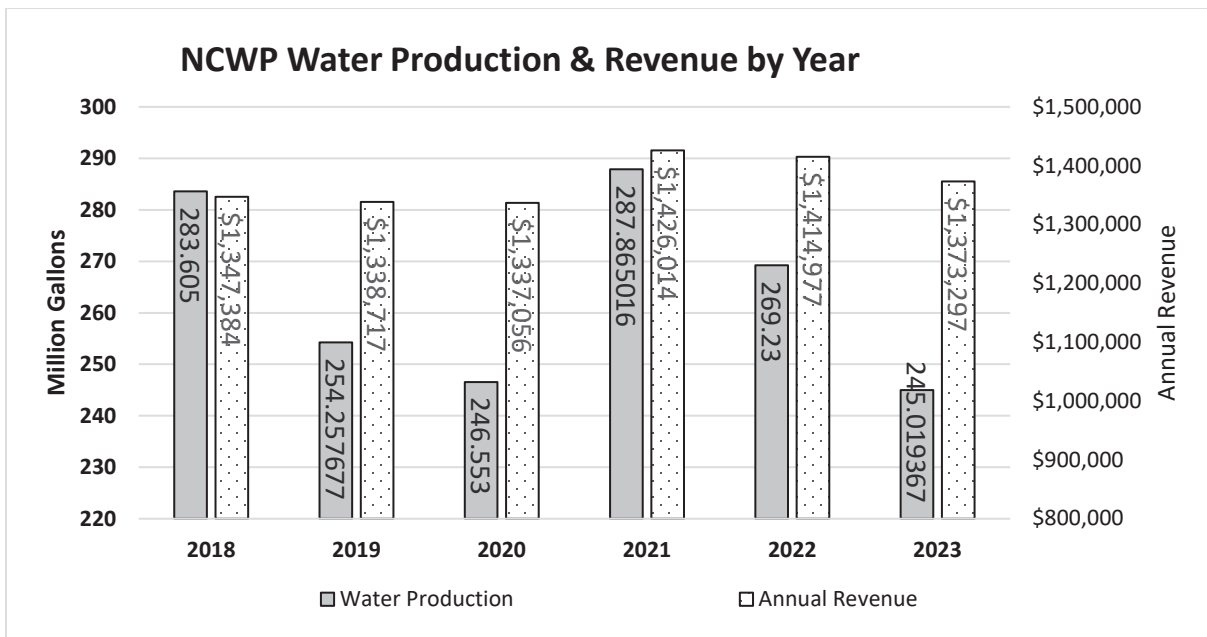
Below is a snapshot of water and sewer flows throughout the year within the Precinct.



Water System Highlights

In 2023, we welcomed Gregg Richardson to our water team. Gregg comes to the Precinct with a diverse background in mechanical processes and maintenance and has hit the ground running learning the ins and outs of our water system. We're very happy to have him as part of our team.

Water system revenue was down 2.95% over 2022, although very close to the 5-year average. Actual water production was down 9% from 2022 and down 8.7% from the 5-year average. The largest driver of these decreases was the weather, with a very wet year contributing to much less water use.



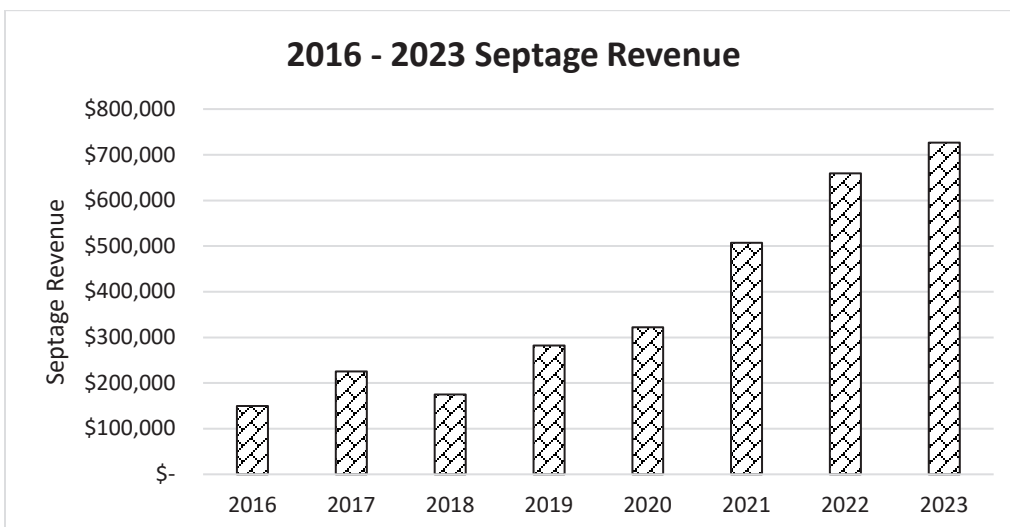
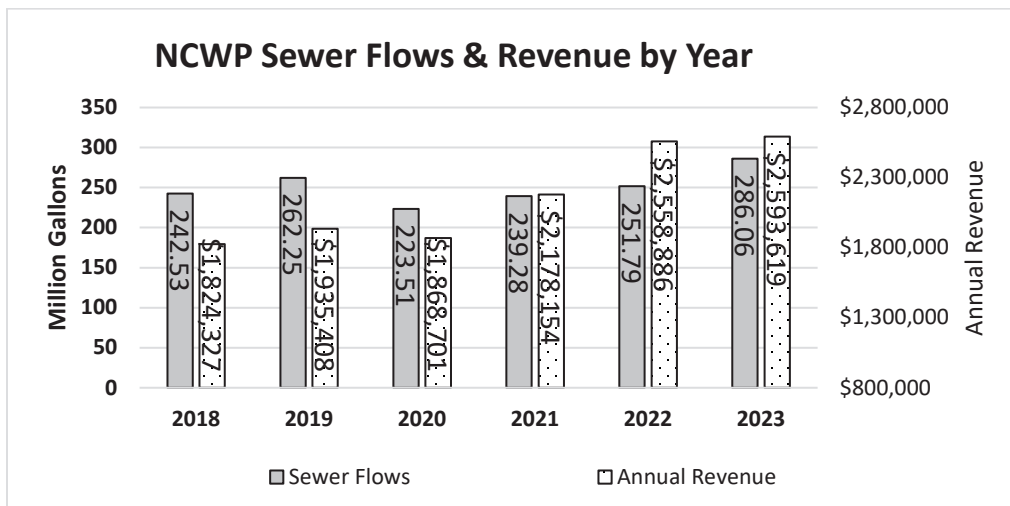
Perhaps the biggest win for the water system in 2023 was the purchase of the Hill property in Intervale. Precinct voters unanimously approved the purchase of this 97-acre property with the goal of protecting the groundwater aquifer near two of our drinking water wells. The Precinct was also able to work with a developer on Skimobile Road to secure an easement and install water main in a more favorable location for the northern end of the water main to be installed between Skimobile Road and Artist Falls Road.

2023 saw major renewal work at two of the Precinct’s drinking water supply wells. After a power spike damaged the variable frequency drive for Well 3, the decision was made to install the replacement drive at the main control building rather than in the existing underground bunker where the well is located. Investigation into check valve issues at Well 4 found that the pump and motor were at the end of their useful life. While the well was out of service, the decision was made to clean the well and replace the pump and motor at the same time. The cleaning resulted in an increased well pumping capacity, and replacement of the pump and motor provides long term reliability for the Precinct’s highest capacity well.

With a bit of a lull in water construction projects in 2023, our crew used the time to take a deep dive into proactive system maintenance. Some specific projects that they were an important part of supporting included flushing of the southern half of our water distribution system, replacement of meter pits at Northbrook Condos, and cleaning up of the Hill property after purchase. Staff also made solid progress toward implementing the new Asset Management software and getting started on EPA’s new lead and copper requirements.

Wastewater System Highlights

Sewer revenues were up 1.36% over 2022 and up 17.1% over the 5-year average. Septage revenues continued to buoy overall sewer revenues with an increase of 10.2% over 2022. Sewer flows were also up 13.6% over 2022 and 17.3% over the 5-year average. This increase in flow was largely due to the extremely wet year adding significant inflow/infiltration to the WWTF influent flows. This was evidenced by Conway Village contributing nearly 40% of all wastewater flows in 2023, including four months when their flows approached half the total flow at the WWTF – including a few days when they contributed nearly 70% of the total flow at the WWTF.



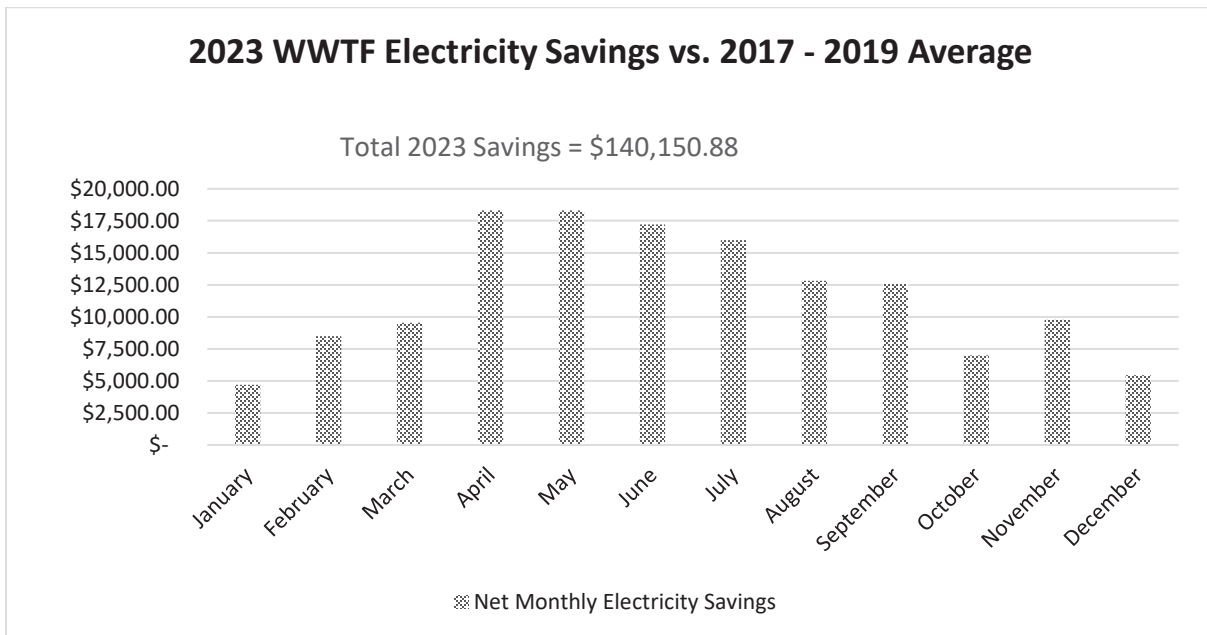
Our staff continued to place their focus on preventive maintenance and renewal work in 2023 to support sustained excellence of operation and to maximize the life expectancy of our treatment facility. Specific projects completed this year included replacement of

pumps at both the Valley View and Walmart sewer pump stations; working with contractors on replacement of the fire alarm system (original to the plant) and a full flush and repairs of the sprinkler system; in-house demolition of the old odor control system room which will result in significant savings on otherwise code-related upgrades that would have been required in the upcoming Aeration Upgrade project; and replacement of an air dryer on the WWTF compressed air system. Additionally, WWTF staff have been heavily involved in working with the design engineering team for the upcoming Aeration Upgrade project slated to go to bid in 2024.

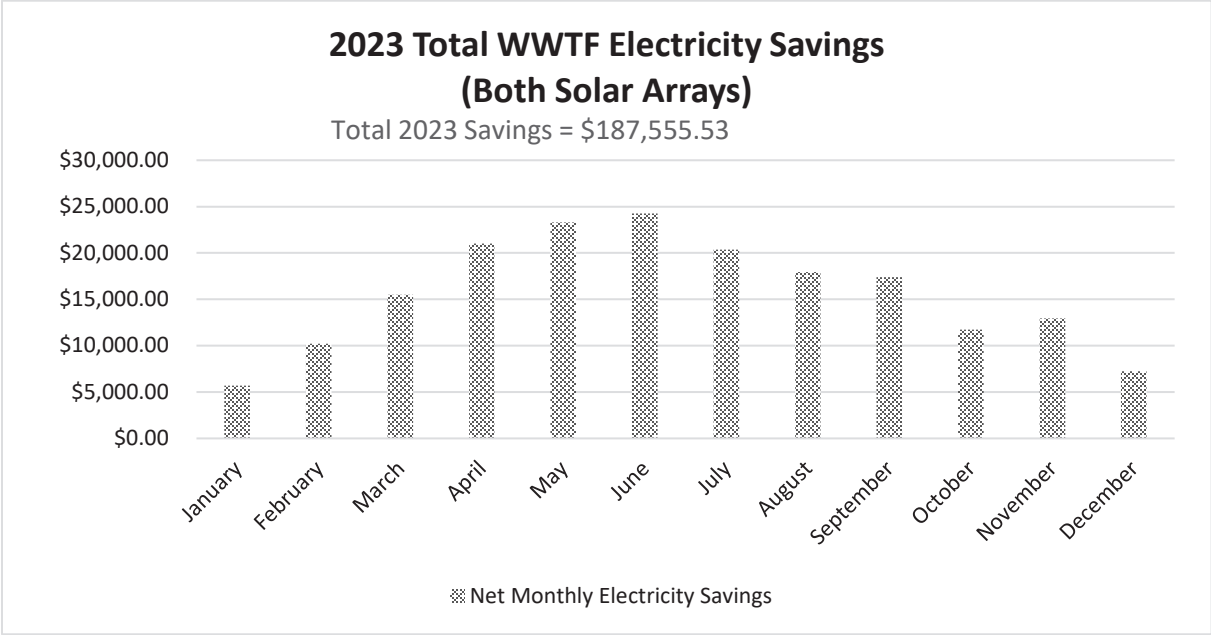
Operationally, our operators have continued their good work managing treatment performance. In 2023, or WWTF removed:

- 1,550,587 lbs of BOD (99.3% removal)
- 1,200,051 lbs of suspended solids (99.0% removal)
- 74,791 lbs of ammonia (99.2% removal)
- 22,232 lbs of phosphorus (96.5% removal).

Solar array performance was challenged in 2023 by what was a very cloudy, rainy year. Even so, estimated savings from the new solar array were \$140,150.88 as compared to the baseline of 2017 – 2019 electricity use.



When considering both the new and old solar arrays, the total annual electricity savings at the WWTF is estimated at \$187,555.53.



Project Updates

Saco River Erosion Mitigation

The goal of this project remains to protect the WWTF as the Saco River continues to erode its banks and move toward the WWTF infrastructure. Our project approach from the start has been to make protection of the WWTF infrastructure our top priority while also recognizing the important role the river plays in our community from an ecological and recreational perspective. The Precinct was awarded significant funding toward design of the Saco River Erosion Mitigation project in 2023. The team has been hard at work advancing the preliminary designs presented in the preliminary phase and during a public hearing in December consensus was to pursue the large-scale river remeander (constructing a new river channel) option in order to provide the greatest long-term security to the WWTF.

Aeration Upgrade

The goal of this project is to add additional aeration capacity within a single carousel at the WWTF to support steadily increasing seasonal loading of BOD and ammonia. Our approach has been to design a retrofit on one of our two existing carousels that will allow a single carousel to handle both the high- and low-loading times of the year caused by the seasonal variation of tourism- and precipitation-driven loadings. Final design work neared completion in 2023, with Precinct staff being a big part of the process. The project is scheduled to go to bid in 2024, with construction possibly beginning in the summer or early fall.

Sludge Dryer

The goal of this project is to investigate the feasibility of adding sludge drying technology to the WWTF treatment process. Our approach is centered around the cost-benefit analysis of drying and disposing of WWTF sludge. This project has been on a slight hold as our engineers and staff have focused on getting the Aeration Upgrade project ready for bid. I anticipate that 2024 will see significant work on this project.

Country Road Sewer

The goal of this project is to extend sewer collection infrastructure into the Country Road residential area. Design work continued through 2023. It is anticipated that this design will be wrapped up and the project bid in 2024.

Water Pressure Zones Connection

The goal of this project is to construct a new water main connection between the two zones of the Precinct's water distribution system for the purpose of resiliency and redundancy. Design work has continued through 2023. The Precinct was able to work with a developer on Skimobile Road to secure an easement for a more favorable location at the northern end of the project. We anticipate that easements will be secured in early 2024 and that the project will go out to bid in late spring.

2024 PROPOSED WATER BUDGET

	W/A #	2023 Budget	2023 To Date	2024 Proposed	% Change
ADMINISTRATION					
Legal		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	-
Random Drug Testing		\$ 751.00	\$ 512.00	\$ 863.00	14.9%
Training		\$ 8,425.00	\$ 3,599.63	\$ 4,500.00	-46.6%
Consulting Services		\$ 10,000.00	\$ 5,595.69	\$ 15,000.00	50.0%
Technology Services		\$ 8,006.00	\$ 14,278.38	\$ 6,470.00	-19.2%
Lease Agreements / Contracts		\$ 5,725.00	\$ 2,482.45	\$ 3,725.00	-34.9%
Uniforms		\$ 9,700.00	\$ 8,346.03	\$ 10,280.00	6.0%
Dues / Subscriptions / License Fees		\$ 2,435.00	\$ 2,303.95	\$ 2,110.00	-13.3%
Office Supplies		\$ 4,500.00	\$ 5,983.78	\$ 4,500.00	0.0%
Postage		\$ 4,000.00	\$ 3,691.21	\$ 4,000.00	0.0%
Miscellaneous		\$ 750.00	\$ 1,639.49	\$ 300.00	-60.0%
Subtotal		\$ 54,292.00	\$ 48,432.61	\$ 51,748.00	-4.7%
INSURANCE					
Workers Compensation		\$ 13,178.00	\$ 20,136.30	\$ 21,643.00	64.2%
Property, Liability, & Fleet		\$ 14,882.00	\$ 21,148.97	\$ 25,031.00	68.2%
Health - Full Time Employees		\$ 154,837.00	\$ 120,816.76	\$ 203,796.00	31.6%
Health - Retirees		\$ 43,337.00	\$ 34,514.36	\$ 48,465.00	11.8%
Life / Disability		\$ 1,912.00	\$ 1,581.85	\$ 1,912.00	0.0%
Subtotal		\$ 228,146.00	\$ 198,198.24	\$ 300,847.00	31.9%
PERSONNEL					
General Wages		\$ 296,694.00	\$ 297,978.61	\$ 336,802.00	13.5%
Administrative Wages		\$ 74,725.00	\$ 74,615.30	\$ 95,378.00	27.6%
Overtime Wages		\$ 40,248.00	\$ 37,262.98	\$ 44,835.00	11.4%
Retirees Buyouts		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	-
FICA		\$ 25,865.00	\$ 25,193.22	\$ 30,048.00	16.2%
Medicare		\$ 6,049.00	\$ 5,891.66	\$ 7,028.00	16.2%
NH Retirement		\$ 57,549.00	\$ 54,408.35	\$ 65,572.00	13.9%
Unemployment		\$ 171.00	\$ 135.78	\$ 214.00	25.1%
Retention Pay		\$ 10,979.00	\$ 7,999.99	\$ 13,100.00	19.3%
Subtotal		\$ 512,280.00	\$ 503,485.89	\$ 592,977.00	15.8%

2024 PROPOSED WATER BUDGET

	W/A #	2023 Budget	2023 To Date	2024 Proposed	% Change
BUILDINGS					
Telephone		\$ 4,044.00	\$ 3,259.50	\$ 4,044.00	0.0%
Communications		\$ 7,745.00	\$ 6,319.35	\$ 6,965.00	-10.1%
Electricity		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	-
Heat		\$ 4,500.00	\$ 2,387.22	\$ 2,500.00	-44.4%
Supplies/Repairs/Maintenance		\$ 22,500.00	\$ 14,775.11	\$ 22,500.00	0.0%
New Equipment		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	-
Subtotal		\$ 38,789.00	\$ 26,741.18	\$ 36,009.00	-7.2%
EQUIPMENT					
Equipment Rental		\$ 2,500.00	\$ -	\$ 2,500.00	0.0%
Gasoline		\$ 14,000.00	\$ 9,878.84	\$ 14,000.00	0.0%
Diesel		\$ 12,000.00	\$ 5,228.57	\$ 10,000.00	-16.7%
Repairs/Maintenance		\$ 35,000.00	\$ 38,319.09	\$ 25,000.00	-28.6%
New Equipment		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	-
Subtotal		\$ 63,500.00	\$ 53,426.50	\$ 51,500.00	-18.9%
WATER TREATMENT					
Permit Compliance		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	-
Electricity		\$ 161,000.00	\$ 119,030.13	\$ 150,000.00	-6.8%
Supplies		\$ 1,500.00	\$ -	\$ 1,500.00	0.0%
Repairs / Maintenance		\$ 57,500.00	\$ 166,724.28	\$ 57,140.00	-0.6%
Generator Fuel		\$ 1,375.00	\$ -	\$ 1,375.00	0.0%
Chemicals		\$ 78,625.00	\$ 38,579.98	\$ 78,625.00	0.0%
New Equipment		\$ 18,000.00	\$ 2,542.00	\$ -	-100.0%
Subtotal		\$ 318,000.00	\$ 326,876.39	\$ 288,640.00	-9.2%
WATER DISTRIBUTION					
Compliance Samples		\$ 7,000.00	\$ 9,162.18	\$ 8,400.00	20.0%
Electricity		\$ 5,200.00	\$ 5,476.00	\$ 5,700.00	9.6%
Supplies		\$ 86,200.00	\$ 136,416.37	\$ 86,200.00	0.0%
Repairs / Maintenance		\$ 12,000.00	\$ 2,450.16	\$ 12,000.00	0.0%
Storage Tank Inspection		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	-
Generator Fuel		\$ 275.00	\$ -	\$ 275.00	0.0%
New Equipment		\$ -	\$ 5,609.45	\$ -	-
Subtotal		\$ 110,675.00	\$ 159,114.16	\$ 112,575.00	1.7%

2024 PROPOSED WATER BUDGET

	W/A #	2023 Budget	2023 To Date	2024 Proposed	% Change
METERS					
Repairs/Maintenance		\$ 6,354.00	\$ 4,416.66	\$ 6,354.00	0.0%
Subtotal		\$ 6,354.00	\$ 4,416.66	\$ 6,354.00	0.0%
WATER OPERATIONAL BUDGET SUBTOTAL	# 05	\$ 1,332,036.00	\$ 1,320,691.63	\$ 1,440,650.00	8.2%
CAPITAL RESERVE CONTRIBUTIONS					
Water Capital Reserve		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	-
Water Vehicle Capital Reserve	# 08	\$ 75,000.00	\$ 75,000.00	\$ 75,000.00	0.0%
Water Infrastructure Capital Reserve	# 08	\$ 43,584.00	\$ 43,584.00	\$ 42,914.00	-1.5%
Uncompensated Absences	# 08	\$ 25,000.00	\$ 25,000.00	\$ 25,000.00	0.0%
Subtotal		\$ 143,584.00	\$ 143,584.00	\$ 142,914.00	-0.5%
NEW & EXPANDED SCOPE PROJECTS					
Water & Sewer Truck Replacement	# 09	\$ 75,000.00	\$ 74,868.93	\$ 37,500.00	
Water Building Energy Efficiency Projects		\$ 530,000.00	\$ -	\$ -	
Subtotal		\$ 605,000.00	\$ 74,868.93	\$ 37,500.00	-
TOTAL WATER DEPARTMENT EXPENDITURES		\$ 2,080,620.00	\$ 1,539,144.56	\$ 1,621,064.00	-22.1%



2024 PROPOSED WATER BUDGET

	W/A #	2023 Budget	2023 To Date	2024 Proposed	% Change
REVENUES (CURRENT YEAR PROJECTED)					
Water Billing		\$ 1,211,400.00	\$ 1,170,777.79	\$ 1,171,500.00	-3.3%
Service Billing		\$ 60,000.00	\$ 75,162.54	\$ 70,000.00	16.7%
Fire Sprinkler Fees		\$ 35,000.00	\$ 39,581.25	\$ 40,000.00	14.3%
Backflow Testing Fees		\$ 28,000.00	\$ 31,150.00	\$ 31,000.00	10.7%
Bulk Water Sales		\$ 50,200.00	\$ 43,824.56	\$ 45,200.00	-10.0%
Other Billing		\$ 20,000.00	\$ 12,801.33	\$ 20,000.00	0.0%
Buy-In Fees		\$ 15,000.00	\$ 42,914.35	\$ 46,000.00	206.7%
Grant Revenue - NHDES Energy Eff.		\$ 200,000.00	\$ -	\$ -	-100.0%
Federal Direct Payment - Energy Eff.		\$ 159,000.00	\$ -	\$ -	-100.0%
Grant Revenue - NHDES Asset Mgt.		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	-
Water Capital Reserve Offset		\$ 100,000.00	\$ -	\$ -	-100.0%
Energy Upgrades Capital Reserve Offset		\$ 67,000.00	\$ -	\$ -	-
Vehicle Capital Reserve Offset		\$ 75,000.00	\$ 74,868.93	\$ 37,500.00	
Rate Stabilization Capital Reserve Offset		\$ 40,000.00	\$ -	\$ 40,000.00	
MtBE Fund Reimbursement		\$ 6,000.00	\$ 6,026.56	\$ 6,000.00	0.0%
Fire Department Offset		\$ 4,000.00	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 4,000.00	0.0%
Reimbursement: N-S Road Water Main		\$ -	\$ 146,587.83	\$ -	-
TOTAL WATER DEPARTMENT REVENUES		\$ 2,070,600.00	\$ 1,647,695.14	\$ 1,511,200.00	-27.0%
FUND BALANCE CHANGE (2023 PROJECTED)		\$ (10,020.00)	\$ 108,550.58	\$ (109,864.00)	

Projected Operational Fund Balance Change

(Excludes Buy-in Fees): \$ (112,950.00)



2024 PROPOSED SEWER BUDGET

	W/A #	2023 Budget	2023 Actual	2024 Proposed	% Change
ADMINISTRATION					
Legal		\$ -	\$ 10,233.00	\$ 10,000.00	-
Random Drug Testing		\$ 1,070.00	\$ 577.00	\$ 1,235.00	15.4%
Training		\$ 8,000.00	\$ 2,085.00	\$ 8,000.00	0.0%
Consulting Services		\$ 15,000.00	\$ -	\$ 15,000.00	0.0%
Technology Services		\$ -	\$ 22.00	\$ -	-
Lease Agreements / Contracts		\$ 13,443.00	\$ 47,812.94	\$ 10,388.00	-22.7%
Uniforms		\$ 8,755.00	\$ 7,277.67	\$ 7,750.00	-11.5%
Dues / Subscriptions / License Fees		\$ 1,440.00	\$ 1,203.00	\$ 1,138.00	-21.0%
Office Supplies		\$ 4,000.00	\$ 4,462.51	\$ 4,000.00	0.0%
Postage		\$ 4,250.00	\$ 3,826.73	\$ 4,250.00	0.0%
Miscellaneous		\$ 450.00	\$ 336.47	\$ 450.00	0.0%
Subtotal		\$ 56,408.00	\$ 77,836.32	\$ 62,211.00	10.3%
INSURANCE					
Workers Compensation		\$ 13,895.00	\$ 18,440.20	\$ 23,259.00	67.4%
Property, Liability & Fleet		\$ 28,182.00	\$ 32,534.27	\$ 40,934.00	45.2%
Health - Full Time Employees		\$ 160,790.00	\$ 117,893.40	\$ 189,470.00	17.8%
Health - Retireees		\$ 28,339.00	\$ 27,756.52	\$ 44,826.00	58.2%
Life / Disability		\$ 2,203.00	\$ 1,807.25	\$ 2,350.00	6.7%
Subtotal		\$ 233,409.00	\$ 198,431.64	\$ 300,839.00	28.9%
PERSONNEL					
General Wages		\$ 343,679.00	\$ 364,964.17	\$ 377,138.00	9.7%
Administrative Wages		\$ 74,725.00	\$ 74,618.97	\$ 95,378.00	27.6%
Overtime Wages		\$ 31,320.00	\$ 26,646.28	\$ 31,960.00	2.0%
Retireees Buyouts		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	-
FICA		\$ 28,350.00	\$ 28,701.02	\$ 31,793.00	12.1%
Medicare		\$ 6,631.00	\$ 6,712.63	\$ 7,436.00	12.1%
NH Retirement		\$ 63,078.00	\$ 62,084.49	\$ 69,380.00	10.0%
Unemployment		\$ 171.00	\$ 124.35	\$ 230.00	34.5%
Retention Pay		\$ 9,005.00	\$ 9,375.01	\$ 13,784.00	53.1%
Subtotal		\$ 556,959.00	\$ 573,226.92	\$ 627,099.00	12.6%
BUILDINGS					
Telephone		\$ 6,855.00	\$ 3,907.43	\$ 6,855.00	0.0%
Communications		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	-
Electricity		\$ 60,000.00	\$ 69,836.84	\$ 70,000.00	16.7%
Heat		\$ 60,000.00	\$ 43,439.48	\$ 52,000.00	-13.3%
Lawn Fertilizer		\$ 3,500.00	\$ -	\$ 3,500.00	0.0%
Subtotal		\$ 130,355.00	\$ 117,183.75	\$ 132,355.00	1.5%

2024 PROPOSED SEWER BUDGET

	W/A #	2023 Budget	2023 Actual	2024 Proposed	% Change
EQUIPMENT					
Equipment Rental		\$ 1,000.00	\$ -	\$ 1,000.00	0.0%
Gasoline		\$ 2,500.00	\$ 2,032.72	\$ 2,500.00	0.0%
Diesel		\$ 2,500.00	\$ 1,761.35	\$ 2,500.00	0.0%
Repairs / Maintenance		\$ 22,500.00	\$ 12,829.88	\$ 13,000.00	-42.2%
New Equipment		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	-
Subtotal		\$ 28,500.00	\$ 16,623.95	\$ 19,000.00	-33.3%
WASTEWATER TREATMENT					
Compliance Testing		\$ 9,100.00	\$ 5,282.80	\$ 11,750.00	29.1%
Plant Maintenance Contracts		\$ 39,995.00	\$ 351.00	\$ 45,448.75	13.6%
Plant Supplies / Hardware		\$ 35,000.00	\$ 47,398.95	\$ 35,000.00	0.0%
Lab Chemicals / Supplies		\$ 10,000.00	\$ 5,293.56	\$ 10,000.00	0.0%
Plant Repairs / Maintenance		\$ 143,650.00	\$ 164,724.55	\$ 149,350.00	4.0%
Plant Generator Fuel		\$ 1,250.00	\$ -	\$ 1,250.00	0.0%
Wastewater Treatment Chemicals		\$ 70,500.00	\$ 45,540.00	\$ 65,000.00	-7.8%
Sludge Disposal		\$ 130,226.00	\$ 130,750.58	\$ 131,133.00	0.7%
New Equipment		\$ 87,000.00	\$ 164,222.29	\$ -	-100.0%
Subtotal		\$ 526,721.00	\$ 563,563.73	\$ 448,931.75	-14.8%
WASTEWATER COLLECTIONS					
Pump Station Communications		\$ 19,000.00	\$ 3,262.80	\$ 1,000.00	-94.7%
Pump Station Electricity		\$ 28,450.00	\$ 29,546.00	\$ 30,000.00	5.4%
Pump Station Supplies		\$ 2,000.00	\$ -	\$ 2,000.00	0.0%
Collection System Supplies		\$ 4,000.00	\$ -	\$ 4,000.00	0.0%
Pump Station Repairs / Maintenance		\$ 10,550.00	\$ 25,906.67	\$ 10,465.00	-0.8%
Collection System Repairs / Maintenance		\$ 18,020.00	\$ 13,130.00	\$ 22,520.00	25.0%
Pump Station Generator Fuel		\$ 800.00	\$ 193.82	\$ 800.00	0.0%
Pump Station Chemicals		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	-
Pump Station New Equipment		\$ -	\$ 7,201.50	\$ 39,500.00	-
Subtotal		\$ 82,820.00	\$ 79,240.79	\$ 110,285.00	33.2%
METERS					
Meter Repairs / Maintenance		\$ 3,150.00	\$ 1,110.12	\$ 3,150.00	0.0%
Subtotal		\$ 3,150.00	\$ 1,110.12	\$ 3,150.00	0.0%
SEWER DEBT CAPITAL CONTRIBUTION					
Capital Contribution		\$ 353,399.00	\$ 353,399.00	\$ 381,034.00	7.8%
SEWER OPERATIONAL BUDGET SUBTOTAL	# 06	\$ 1,971,721.00	\$ 1,980,616.22	\$ 2,084,904.75	5.7%
CFVD SEPTAGE REVENUE SHARE					
CVFD Septage Share		\$ 195,000.00	\$ 282,485.14	\$ 217,500.00	11.5%

2024 PROPOSED SEWER BUDGET

	W/A #	2023 Budget	2023 Actual	2024 Proposed	% Change
LONG TERM DEBT (SEWER FEES FUNDED)					
Principal		\$ 110,000.00	\$ 110,000.00	\$ 115,000.00	4.5%
Interest		\$ 76,035.00	\$ 76,035.00	\$ 70,298.00	-7.5%
Subtotal	# 03	\$ 186,035.00	\$ 186,035.00	\$ 185,298.00	-0.4%
CAPITAL RESERVE CONTRIBUTIONS					
Sewer Vehicle Capital Reserve	# 08	\$ 75,000.00	\$ 75,000.00	\$ 80,577.50	7.4%
Sewer Inf. Capital Reserve (Buy-In Fees)	# 08	\$ 134,668.00	\$ 134,668.00	\$ 166,767.00	23.8%
Energy Upgrades Capital Reserve	# 08	\$ 40,359.00	\$ 40,359.00	\$ 33,035.00	-18.1%
Uncompensated Absences	# 08	\$ 25,000.00	\$ 25,000.00	\$ 25,000.00	0.0%
Subtotal		\$ 275,027.00	\$ 275,027.00	\$ 305,379.50	11.0%
NEW & EXPANDED SCOPE PROJECTS					
Water & Sewer Pickup Truck Replacement	# 09	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 37,500.00	
Subtotal		\$ -	\$ -	\$ 37,500.00	-
SEWER NON-OPERATIONAL SUBTOTAL		\$ 656,062.00	\$ 743,547.14	\$ 745,677.50	13.7%
TOTAL SEWER DEPARTMENT EXPENDITURES		\$ 2,627,783.00	\$ 2,724,163.36	\$ 2,830,582.25	7.7%
REVENUES (CURRENT YEAR PROJECTED)					
Sewer Billing		\$ 1,337,000.00	\$ 1,254,824.28	\$ 1,305,200.00	-2.4%
Septage Billing		\$ 650,000.00	\$ 726,358.45	\$ 725,000.00	11.5%
Other billing		\$ 15,000.00	\$ 27,056.87	\$ 15,000.00	0.0%
CVFD Contribution		\$ 462,594.00	\$ 539,715.15	\$ 403,521.00	-12.8%
SAG Funds		\$ 56,430.00	\$ 56,430.00	\$ 55,567.00	-1.5%
Sewer Buy-in Fees		\$ 75,000.00	\$ 166,767.25	\$ 150,000.00	100.0%
REC Sale Funds		\$ 45,000.00	\$ 45,664.00	\$ 45,000.00	0.0%
TOTAL SEWER DEPARTMENT REVENUES		\$ 2,641,024.00	\$ 2,816,816.00	\$ 2,699,288.00	2.2%
FUND BALANCE CHANGE (2023 PROJECTED)		\$ 13,241.00	\$ 92,652.63	\$ (131,294.25)	

Projected Operational Fund Balance Change

(Excludes Buy-in Fees): \$ (114,527.25)



THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE



When I am called to duty, God, wherever flames may rage, give me strength to save a life, whatever be its age. Help me embrace a little child before it is too late, or save an older person from the horror of that fate. Enable me to be alert, and hear the weakest shout, quickly and efficiently to put the fire out. I want to fill my calling, to give the best in me, to guard my friend and neighbor, and protect his property. And if according to your will I must answer death's call, bless with your protecting hand, my family one and all.

Firefighter Dale Hamilton

02/13/1936 – 02/04/2024



North Conway Fire Department

70 Norcross Circle - PO Box 218 - North Conway, NH - 03860

(603) 356-5327 - Fax: (603) 356-2424 - email:

chief@northconwayfire.com

Chief: Chad McCarthy

The North Conway Fire Department answered 1,586 requests for assistance during the year 2023. 926 of these were rescue related calls (medical emergencies, auto accidents, etc.) and 660 were fire related calls (simple debris fires, structure fires, etc.). The fire department saw an increase of 231 calls from the previous year. The average number of calls that the fire department responds to is 4.34 per day. As the call demand goes up, so does the fire department's workload daily. This puts additional stress on the call firefighters and EMT's trying to balance family and work commitments, this is getting harder and harder for them to balance their dedication to the fire department in answering emergency calls.

I would like to thank the members for their dedication to the fire department in answering emergency calls and performing community service. The current call force has 36 active members and 3 full-time staff.

The Fire Department issued 209 burn permits for outside burning. *Reminder, it is a state law to get a burn permit for any outside open flame fire.*

The continued growth, development and redevelopment of North Conway has added a substantial increase to the workload of the fire department (answering emergency calls, performing life safety inspections, doing plans review daily, etc.). The increased workload and changing patterns of employment and recreation by our call firefighters and EMT's presents additional challenges for staffing coverage.

In the past, many of our call firefighters and EMT's worked in stores and businesses within the Precinct and were readily available during workdays. Currently, very few of our firefighters are employed at such jobs and many are employed in other services which take them out of our immediate response area during their working hours. The result of all this is that the number of firefighters and EMT's responding to calls during working hours and on the weekends is getting smaller, during a time when the workload is growing.



In order to partially counteract this trend, I would like the support of employing a third full-time firefighter/EMT to assist with calls, inspections and daily tasks. I would like the support of you, the taxpayers, to add another full-time Firefighter/EMT position starting July of 2024. This new position will cost the taxpayers \$68,909.00 in salary and benefits for 2024 and about \$60,216.00 in salary and benefits for 2025. We hope to have your support on voting the fire department warrant articles.

Warrant articles proposed for this year for the Fire Department:

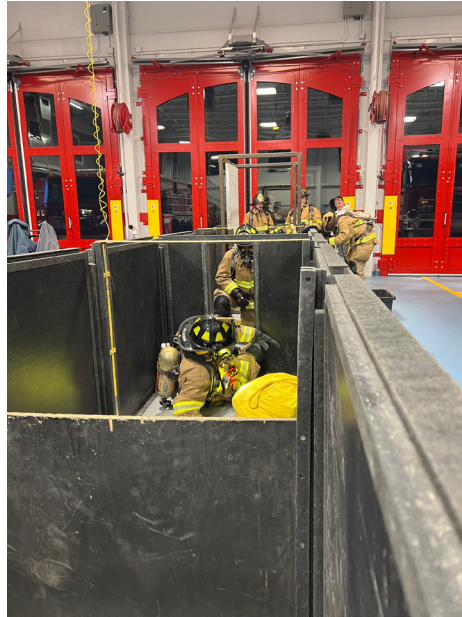
1. Article 07 (Operating Budget) - \$1,022,179.00

- a. The biggest increases to the operating budget for the fire department are; salaried wages, New Hampshire Retirement Services contributions, workers compensation insurance, health insurance, and with the support of you the taxpayers, the addition of another full-time Firefighter/EMT position.

2. Article 08 (Appropriation to Capital Reserve) - \$304,000.00

- a. This appropriation is to add \$304,000 to the Fire Department's Capital Reserve Funds.
 - i. The Fire Department will add \$25,000 (from taxation) to the Uncompensated Absences Capital Reserve.
 - ii. The Fire Department will add \$225,000.00 (from taxation) and \$54,000.00 (from the sale of Rescue 1) to the Fire Department Emergency Capital Reserve. This fund is used to buy and replace our fire departments apparatus and vehicles. This is very important for us to fund this account to maintain our truck replacement schedule that is planned for the next thirty years. This fund also eliminates having to borrow money and pay interest for the purchases of the fire departments apparatus.

The fire department is always looking for new members to join the fire department. If you are interested or have any questions and would like an application, feel free to stop by the fire station to pick one up. I would like to thank the North Conway Fire Fighters Association for their continued support to the fire department.



In closing, I would like to express my thanks to the members, their families, and precinct staff for their support, dedication, and hard work over the past year. My thanks to the Board of Commissioners for their continuing support and leadership of the fire department. The fire department would also like to thank the voters of the North Conway Water Precinct; we appreciate your continued support of the North Conway Fire Department; we could not do our jobs without you.

Respectfully,

Chad E. McCarthy, Fire Chief

2023 PROPOSED FIRE & RESCUE BUDGET

	W/A #	2023 Budget	2023 To Date	2024 Proposed	% Change
EXPENSES					
ADMINISTRATION					
Legal		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	-
Bank Charges		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	-
Random Drug Testing		\$ 300.00	\$ -	\$ 300.00	0.0%
Immunization / Testing		\$ 750.00	\$ -	\$ 750.00	0.0%
Consulting Services		\$ 5,000.00	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 5,000.00	0.0%
Hiring Costs		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	-
Technology Services		\$ 2,000.00	\$ 1,879.90	\$ 2,000.00	0.0%
Lease Agreements		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	-
Dues/Subscriptions		\$ 800.00	\$ 175.00	\$ 800.00	0.0%
Bad Debt		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	-
Office Supplies		\$ 2,200.00	\$ 1,809.09	\$ 2,200.00	0.0%
Postage		\$ 400.00	\$ 373.56	\$ 400.00	0.0%
Administration Subtotal		\$ 11,450.00	\$ 5,737.55	\$ 11,450.00	0.0%
PERSONNEL					
General Wages		\$ 169,483.00	\$ 182,084.74	\$ 208,033.00	22.7%
Administrative Wages		\$ 43,680.00	\$ 44,207.67	\$ 46,300.80	6.0%
Call Fire Wages		\$ 98,245.00	\$ 82,741.52	\$ 98,245.00	0.0%
Part Time FF/EMT		\$ 29,312.00	\$ 26,486.23	\$ 30,464.00	3.9%
Call Coverage		\$ 23,900.00	\$ 21,118.02	\$ 18,700.00	-21.8%
Training		\$ 42,500.00	\$ 33,804.91	\$ 42,500.00	0.0%
Overtime Wages		\$ 9,225.00	\$ 8,998.50	\$ 16,733.00	81.4%
Retirees Buyouts		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	-
Social Security		\$ 15,176.48	\$ 11,919.37	\$ 14,415.26	-5.0%
Medicare		\$ 6,037.00	\$ 5,557.85	\$ 6,754.73	11.9%
NH Retirement		\$ 61,729.99	\$ 64,518.70	\$ 76,408.27	23.8%
Unemployment		\$ 107.00	\$ 106.74	\$ 194.00	81.3%
Merit Pay		\$ 5,000.00	\$ 6,875.00	\$ 3,000.00	-40.0%
Sicktime Buyout		\$ 1,716.54	\$ 1,700.00	\$ -	-100.0%
Retention bonus		\$ -	\$ -	\$ 7,325.00	-
Water Dept. Offset		\$ 4,000.00	\$ -	\$ 4,000.00	0.0%
Personnel Subtotal		\$ 510,112.01	\$ 490,119.25	\$ 573,073.06	12.3%
INSURANCE					
Workers Compensation		\$ 15,829.00	\$ 15,828.63	\$ 19,571.00	23.6%
Property / Fleet Liability		\$ 27,536.92	\$ 27,536.92	\$ 36,002.50	30.7%
General Liability		\$ 4,299.00	\$ 4,299.00	\$ 5,085.00	18.3%
NH Fire Association		\$ 940.00	\$ 924.00	\$ 940.00	0.0%
Blanket Accident		\$ 9,424.00	\$ 9,440.00	\$ 9,524.00	1.1%
Health Insurance - Full Time Employees		\$ 62,337.00	\$ 64,298.25	\$ 107,119.80	71.8%
Health Insurance - Retirees		\$ 21,384.00	\$ 21,759.56	\$ 25,422.24	18.9%
Life / Disability		\$ 915.00	\$ 849.51	\$ 1,292.00	41.2%
Subtotal Insurance		\$ 142,664.92	\$ 144,935.87	\$ 204,956.54	43.7%

2023 PROPOSED FIRE & RESCUE BUDGET

	W/A #	2023 Budget	2023 To Date	2024 Proposed	% Change
BUILDINGS					
Telephone		\$ 9,329.00	\$ 9,165.54	\$ 9,329.00	0.0%
Electricity		\$ 24,600.00	\$ 18,446.00	\$ 20,604.00	-16.2%
Heat		\$ 15,200.00	\$ 9,450.68	\$ 9,759.50	-35.8%
Maintenance Contracts		\$ 19,466.00	\$ 19,318.32	\$ 19,466.00	0.0%
Station Supplies		\$ 3,900.00	\$ 3,481.97	\$ 3,900.00	0.0%
Repairs / Maintenance		\$ 22,500.00	\$ 20,259.11	\$ 22,500.00	0.0%
Buildings Subtotal		\$ 94,995.00	\$ 80,121.62	\$ 85,558.50	-10%
FIRE & RESCUE					
Uniforms		\$ 4,000.00	\$ 1,155.66	\$ 5,000.00	25.0%
Protective Clothing		\$ 14,640.00	\$ 14,415.46	\$ 14,640.00	0.0%
Firefighting Supplies		\$ 7,000.00	\$ 6,271.35	\$ 6,500.00	-7.1%
Rescue Supplies		\$ 4,100.00	\$ 3,183.81	\$ 4,100.00	0.0%
Compliance Testing		\$ 12,300.00	\$ 9,279.34	\$ 12,300.00	0.0%
Equipment Rental			\$ -	\$ -	-
Gasoline / Diesel		\$ 16,600.00	\$ 11,247.62	\$ 13,600.00	-18.1%
Apparatus Repairs / Maintenance		\$ 25,000.00	\$ 27,185.18	\$ 30,000.00	20.0%
Communication Supplies		\$ 1,000.00	\$ 184.20	\$ 1,000.00	0.0%
Communication Repairs / Maintenance		\$ 2,000.00	\$ 59.25	\$ 2,000.00	0.0%
Firefighting New Equipment		\$ 7,000.00	\$ 5,880.00	\$ 7,000.00	0.0%
Rescue New Equipment		\$ 3,000.00	\$ 586.58	\$ 3,000.00	0.0%
Communication New Equipment		\$ 4,500.00	\$ 4,156.20	\$ 4,500.00	0.0%
Technology Equipment		\$ 48,500.00	\$ 47,188.61	\$ 43,500.00	-10.3%
Fire & Rescue Subtotal		\$ 149,640.00	\$ 130,793.26	\$ 147,140.00	-2%
OPERATIONS SUBTOTAL	# 07	\$ 903,861.93	\$ 851,707.55	\$ 1,022,178.10	13%
CAPITAL RESERVE CONTRIBUTIONS					
Fire Equipment Capital Reserve	# 08	\$ 225,000.00	\$ 225,000.00	\$ 279,000.00	24.0%
Fire Emergency Capital Reserve	# 08	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 70,000.00	-
Other Post-Employment Benefits (OPEB)	# 08	\$ 25,000.00	\$ 25,000.00	\$ 25,000.00	0.0%
Capital Reserve Subtotal		\$ 250,000.00	\$ 250,000.00	\$ 374,000.00	50%
CAPITAL ITEMS SUBTOTAL		\$ 250,000.00	\$ 250,000.00	\$ 374,000.00	49.6%
TOTAL FIRE & RESCUE EXPENDITURES		\$ 1,153,861.93	\$ 1,101,707.55	\$ 1,396,178.10	21.0%

2023 PROPOSED FIRE & RESCUE BUDGET

	W/A #	2023 Budget	2023 To Date	2024 Proposed	% Change
REVENUES					
NON-TAX REVENUES					
Town of Conway - Out of Precinct		\$ 281,020.00	\$ 281,020.00	\$ 275,675.00	-1.9%
Hale's Location		\$ 72,717.45	\$ 73,092.96	\$ 80,181.36	10.3%
Fees		\$ 14,630.00	\$ 48,991.95	\$ 20,630.00	41.0%
Transfers From Capital Reserve		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	-
Fund Balance Contribution		\$ -	\$ -	\$ 70,000.00	-
Non-Tax Revenue Subtotal		\$ 368,367.45	\$ 403,104.91	\$ 446,486.36	21.2%
TAX REVENUES					
Tax Levy - Conway		\$ 657,203.66	\$ 716,068.90		-100.0%
Tax Levy - Bartlett		\$ 128,290.82	\$ 74,425.65		-100.0%
Tax Revenue Subtotal		\$ 785,494.48	\$ 790,494.55	\$ 949,691.74	20.9%
TOTAL FIRE & RESCUE REVENUES		\$ 1,153,861.93	\$ 1,193,599.46	\$ 1,396,178.10	21.0%
FIRE & RESCUE FUND BALANCE CHANGE		\$ -	\$ 91,891.91	\$ -	



NORTH CONWAY FIRE DEPARTMENT 2023 CALLS

FIRE CALLS:

Fire Other (Mutual Aide)	37
Structure	2
Cooking	1
Chimney	0
Mobile Home	0
Vehicle	2
Woods/Brush /Grass	1
Rubbish/Dumpster	1
Over Heat/Rupture/Explosion/Excessive Heat, but NO FIRE	7
TOTAL FIRE CALLS	51

RESCUE CALLS:

Rescue NCFD (R-1)	508
Emergency Medical Service (EMS) Assist by (R-1)	341
Motor Vehicle with injuries	19
Motor Vehicle without injuries	45
Search for Person	3
Extrication	0
High Angle	0
Water Rescues	10
TOTAL RESCUE CALLS	926

HAZARDOUS CONDITIONS:

Hazardous Conditions Other	1
Combustible/Flammable gas/liquid condition	4
Carbon Monoxide (CO)	10
Electrical Wiring/Equipment/Motor	4
Power line Down/Arching Power Line Equipment	18
Building Collapse	0
Vehicle Accident Clean Up	0
TOTAL HAZARDOUS CONDITIONS	37

SERVICE CALLS:

Service Other	51
Person in Distress (Lift Assist) Other	104
Water or Steam Leaks	12
Smoke/Odor problems	42
Assist Public/Police/Other Agency	11
Unauthorized Burning	7
Cover Assignment/Stand By/Move Up	8
TOTAL SERVICE CALLS	235

GOOD INTENT CALLS:

Good Intent Calls Other	0
Canceled en route	0
False Alarm/False	0
Malicious or Maschiviuos	3
System Malfunction	118
Unintentional Detector/Sprinkler/Pull Box/Other Activation	206
Severe Weather/Flood Assesment/Special Incident	10
TOTAL GOOD INTENT CALLS	337

Total Fire Department Calls

1586



PLODZIK & SANDERSON

Professional Association/Certified Public Accountants

193 North Main Street • Concord • New Hampshire • 03301-5063 • 603-225-6996 • FAX 603-224-1380

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Members of the Board of Commissioners
North Conway Water Precinct
Conway, New Hampshire

Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements

Opinions

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities, business-type activities, and each major fund of the North Conway Water Precinct as of and for the year ended December 31, 2022, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Precinct's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities, business-type activities, and each major fund of the North Conway Water Precinct, as of December 31, 2022, and the respective changes in financial position and where applicable, cash flows thereof, and the respective budgetary comparison for the general fund for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Basis for Opinions

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are required to be independent of the North Conway Water Precinct and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audit. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinions.

Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements

The North Conway Water Precinct's management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, and for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is required to evaluate whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the North Conway Water Precinct's ability to continue as a going concern for twelve months beyond the financial statement date, including any currently known information that may raise substantial doubt shortly thereafter.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinions. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Misstatements are considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, they would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user based on the financial statements.

In performing an audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards, we:

- Exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the North Conway Water Precinct's internal control. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluate the overall presentation of the financial statements.
- Conclude whether, in our judgment, there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the North Conway Water Precinct's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit, significant audit findings, and certain internal control–related matters that we identified during the audit.

Change in Accounting Principle

As discussed in Note 2-C to the financial statements, in fiscal year 2022 the Precinct adopted new accounting guidance, Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement No. 87, *Leases*. Our opinions are not modified with respect to this matter.

Required Supplementary Information – Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that the following be presented to supplement the basic financial statements:

- Schedule of the Precinct's Proportionate Share of Net Pension Liability,
- Schedule of Precinct Contributions – Pensions,
- Schedule of the Precinct's Proportionate Share of the Net Other Postemployment Benefits Liability,
- Schedule of Precinct Contributions – Other Postemployment Benefits,
- Schedule of Changes in the Precinct's Total Other Postemployment Benefits Liability and Related Ratios, and
- Notes to the Required Supplementary Information

Such information is the responsibility of management and, although not a part of the basic financial statements, is required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board, who considers it to be an essential part of financial reporting for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic, or historical context. We have applied certain limited procedures to the required supplementary information in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, which consisted of inquiries of management about the methods of preparing the information and comparing the information for consistency with management's responses to our inquiries, the basic financial statements, and other knowledge we obtained during our audit of the basic financial statements. We do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the information because the limited procedures do not provide us with sufficient evidence to express an opinion or provide any assurance.

Management's Discussion and Analysis – Management has omitted a Management's Discussion and Analysis that accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require to be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such missing information, although not a part of the basic financial statements, is required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board who considers it to be an essential part of financial reporting for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic, or historical context. Our opinion on the basic financial statements is not affected by the missing information.

Supplementary Information – Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming opinions on the financial statements that collectively comprise the North Conway Water Precinct's basic financial statements. The accompanying individual fund schedules are presented for purposes of additional analysis and are not a required part of the basic financial statements.

The individual fund schedules are the responsibility of management and were derived from and relate directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements. Such information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and

reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements or to the basic financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. In our opinion, the individual fund schedules are fairly stated, in all material respects, in relation to the basic financial statements as a whole.

Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated _____ on our consideration of the North Conway Water Precinct’s internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not provide an opinion on internal controls over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the North Conway Water Precinct’s internal control over financial reporting an compliance.

, 2023
Concord, New Hampshire

PLODZIK AND SANDERSON
Professional Association



North Conway Water Precinct

Annual Meeting

Wednesday, March 29, 2023

Voting from 4:00PM – 7:00PM

Business Portion of the Meeting 7:00PM – 8:51PM

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 Chief

Chad McCarthy

Treasurer

Robert T. Anderson

Clerk

Gary Chandler

Appointed Moderator

Chris Meier, filling in for Donald Ekberg

Moderator Chris Meier opened the Official Ballot Voting session at 4:00 PM.

Motion of Suzanne Nelson and seconded by Robert F. Porter to put Article 1 on the floor.

Article 01 Election of Officers

To choose all necessary officers.

Commissioner	3 year term	James Umberger (18)
Treasurer	1 year term	Robert T. Anderson (29)
Moderator	1 year term	Donald Ekberg (28)
Clerk	1 year term	Gary Chandler (31)

Commissioner Nelson: Before we get started, Moderator Ekberg is not available this evening so I would like to make a motion to approve Chris Meier as temporary Moderator.

Chris Meier: I, Chris Meier, do solemnly and sincerely swear and affirm that I will faithfully and impartially discharge and perform all duties incumbent upon me as Moderator of the North Conway Water Precinct, according to the best of my abilities, agreeably to the rules and regulations of this constitution and the laws of the state of New Hampshire. So help me God.

Suzanne Nelson: ...and again thank you for doing this.

Robert T. Anderson: Is that going to be permanent now?

Suzanne Nelson: No, he's temporary.

Chris Meier: Can everybody join me in the pledge of allegiance?

Crowd: 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 by liberty and justice for all.

Chris Meier: So, I don't have too many housekeeping rules. Uh, generally it's just, be nice to each other. We're here to debate issues and not debate s or make personal attacks. Uh, so if I warn you about making a personal attack, you get one warning the second you're gone. Uh, so let's keep to the issues. Uh, let's, uh, keep it cordial. Uh, we may have disagreements over issues, but we don't have disagreements of overall us being neighbors, so let's act that way. Uh, any rule that I make, um, including that one, I suppose, uh, you can overrule as a legislative body. Uh, it needs a motion a second, and then a vote to overrule me. Uh, it's a majority vote. So, uh, if you'd like to do that, certainly go ahead. Uh, I remind everybody, uh, when you are speaking, I need your name for the record. I need your address for the record, and then you can go on and speak. Uh, I will try to let everybody speak once. Uh, if you want to speak again to an issue, uh, I use my discretion to allow you to speak again after somebody else has spoken, and that is about it. Uh, if you want a secret ballot on a question, I need a, uh, I need a petition of five, uh, registered voters. I have secret ballot petitions on 4 and 5 already, so if you're interested in the secret ballot on any of the other questions, uh, take care of that in advance and bring the petition up to me. With that, we'll get started.

The first order of business is I need a motion to allow the Precinct Supervisor Jason Gagnon and the Precinct Attorney, uh, Steve Bennett, uh, and Precinct Business Administrator, Hannah Andersen to speak.

Suzanne Nelson: And the, uh, Fire Chief, Chad McCarthy.

Chris Meier: Oh and the Fire Chief, Chad McCarthy...

Suzanne Nelson: Okay. I will make that motion.

Robert F. Porter: And I'll second it.

Chris Meier: Thank you. Any discussion? Seeing no discussion, I'll take a vote. All in favor, say aye.

Crowd: Aye.

Chris Meier: Any opposed? Motion passes.

Chris Meier: Okay. And at this point, I'd like to call Jason up to the Chairman for some other business.

Jason Gagnon: So, as you all know, we have somebody with us tonight for their last official meeting, uh, serving the Precinct. Um, Believe it or not, it's been 50 years that John Santuccio in some form has been serving the Precinct since 1973. He first joined the Fire Department, and here we are 50 years later in 2023, and he, he's wrapping up one of his many terms as Commissioner. So a lot of you out here have been with John a lot longer than I have, and I know we all have very fond memories, not just of what John's done for the Precinct, but also of him as a person. So, to keep it simple;

In honor of 50 years of public service, to present the, uh, antique water pump. We've come a long way since we were bringing water out of the ground in one of these things. And that's in big part thanks to the efforts of John. So, here you go, John. Thank you.

The room stood for a round of applause for John.

Chris Meier: Thank you, Jason. Uh, one thing I don't think I did is let's, why don't we do introductions? I know most people know everybody at the head table and, and the table over here, but, uh, Jason, can you start and let's go that way and introduce yourself to everybody just in case we have new folks.

Jason Gagnon: Sure. I'm Jason Gagnon. I'm superintendent.

Robert F. Porter: I'm Bob Porter.

John Santuccio: John Santuccio.

Suzanne Nelson: Suzanne Nelson; Commissioner.

Chad McCarthy: Chad McCarthy; Fire Chief.

Hannah Andersen: Hannah Andersen; Business Administrator.

Steve Bennett: Steve Bennett; Precinct Attorney.

Chris Meier: Thank you. Uh, so next item of business. So we've already taken care of Article 1. That was the voting, uh, which, uh, everybody took care of from 4 to 7. Um, on the other Articles, um, I generally entertain, will entertain a motion to waive reading of the Article. So you don't have to listen to me, uh, read all the Articles. You have all the, everybody should have a warrant in front of them. If you don't, there's one, there's warrants up at the front table there. Uh, you can, you can read the warrant rather than having me read it.

Chris Meier: So I will entertain a motion to waive me reading all the Articles.

Karen Umberger: So moved.

Robert F. Porter: Second.

Chris Meier: Any discussion? Seeing none. Any... All in favor?

Crowd: Aye.

Chris Meier: All opposed? Awesome.

Chris Meier: Uh, so we will start with Article 2, Long Term Debt Service payments. Any discussion on this Article? Uh, let's actually, we need, uh, to have it placed on the floor. Yeah,

Suzanne Nelson: I will, um, make a motion to place Article 2 on the warrant.

Robert Porter: Second.

Article 02 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 \$ 1,704,748 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 \$354,508 and Sewer Funds in the amount of \$539,434 and the remainder to be raised by general taxation.

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

Chris Meier: Okay. Any discussion on placing it on the warrant? Uh, okay. So it, it's on the floor. It's on the floor. It's on the floor. So, uh, that opens it up for comments. Um, Jason, do you want to take a couple minutes to explain this, uh, Article?

Jason Gagnon: Sure. This is our standard warrant article that includes all of our long-term debt payments. Uh, we are obligated to make these payments. This really is just a formality that acknowledges that we're obligated to do so and we'll actually make those payments.

Chris Meier: Any other thoughts, comments, motions, amendments, uh, on Article 2. Okay, so this is on the passage of Article 2. I need a, uh, all in favor of passing Article 2.

Crowd: Aye.

Chris Meier: All opposed?

Chris Meier: Aye's have it. Article 2 passes.

Chris Meier: So let's move on to Article 3. This is the operating budget, uh, General Fund. Uh, I need a motion to place this on the floor.

Suzanne Nelson: I will make a motion to place Article 3 on the warrant on the floor.

Robert F Porter: Second.

Article 03 Operating Budget - General Fund

To see if the voters of the North Conway Water Precinct will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$112,230 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]

Chris Meier: Okay. Uh, that opens it up for discussion on the floor. Jason, do you want to address this operating budget?

Jason Gagnon: Sure. As with all the operating budgets tonight, uh, we've gone into great detail on them during budget hearings, so I won't go through all those things again. Um, if you, you're welcome, if anybody has any specific questions, we're happy to an I'm happy to answer them.

Chris Meier: Questions, comments, amendments? Seeing none, uh, we'll take a vote on Article 3. All in favor of Article 3 as written?

Crowd: Aye.

Chris Meier: All opposed? The ayes have it. Article 3 passes.

Okay. Article 4 again, I have a, uh, petition with 5 signatures. Uh, make this a secret ballot. Uh, this is operating budget for the Water Department. Uh, let's have a,

Suzanne Nelson: I'll make a motion to place Article 4 on the floor.

Robert F. Porter: Second.

Article 04 Operating Budget - Water Department

To see if the voters of the North Conway Water Precinct will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,332,036 for the operating budget of the water department for the ensuing year to be funded by water usage fees and revenues with no amount to be raised through general taxation.

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

Chris Meier: Okay. Uh, Jason, do you want to address this Article?

Jason Gagnon: Yep. Like, like with the Commissioners, we've, uh, discussed it in full at the budget hearing. There is one new piece of information that we have since budget hearing. We have received a \$40,000 grant from New Hampshire DES related to lead service line inventory and planning. And that \$40,000 will be used to actually pay the payroll salaries of our staff who would be doing the lead service line work anyway. Uh, so that's not in the budget. The grant paperwork is still going through, but that money is coming in. So where we had originally intended to include \$40,000 of revenue from the rate stabilization capital reserve offset, I'm not recommending that we take that out. I want to keep it there just in case, but we shouldn't have to use it because now we have that \$40,000 coming from DES that will offset payroll,

Chris Meier: Yes, sir?

Robert T. Anderson: Tim Anderson, 235 Sunset. Where do we have lead pipes left?

Jason Gagnon: That's what the work we have to do is, is to identify it, at first. So regardless of, uh, what you have in the ground, EPA, the new Lead and Copper Rules say that you have to create an inventory. So you have to have certain information on every single service that we have in the entire Precinct. Both the stuff that the Precinct owns in the right of way, and the services that are on private property that go into the buildings. So, as you can imagine, it's a pretty significant undertaking to go through and collect and aggregate all that data in the format that DES and EPA need.

Chris Meier: Yes, sir?

Robert T. Anderson: Who's going to do the work?

Jason Gagnon: So we're going to have our staff, uh, on the water side, do it...

Robert T. Anderson: Out back?

Jason Gagnon: Out back. Those are the guys, uh, well, it's, it's really going to be a little bit of everybody. It's going to be a team effort. So we've got guys out back who will be working through the existing tie cards and as-builts and record drawings and things like that, that we have. Um, we may have some administrative time with actually putting the stuff together in the, in the format that EPA wants or that DES wants. They don't even know have a format yet for that stuff. So it's kind of a little bit of a moving target. Uh, but basically it'll all be water related, so it'll offset water salaries for whomever is doing that work, whether it be in the field, in the maps or in the office.

Chris Meier: Okay. Anyone, anyone else? Any further discussion?

Karen Umberger: Karen Umberger; 136 Birch Bend, Kearsarge. Uh, so the 40,000 that you're taking from the Rate Stabilization, reserve offset here, that will not be spent, is what you're telling us with this grant?

Jason Gagnon: What? Yeah. So it shouldn't be spent, right? You can take it out of the budget if you want, but if you leave it in it's, it's there. So the intent of having that 40,000 in there all the time was to cover us in case we needed it. So as we go through the year, if we can figure out how to save some money, or maybe we don't have things break like we budget for and we have some of that extra money, then we would not tap into that rate stabilization fund unless we needed it to sort of break even in the operating budget at the end of the year,

Karen Umberger: If I may?

Chris Meier: Yes.

Karen Umberger: So you're not, you're not planning to use this 40,000 for the lead pipe stock?

Jason Gagnon: The rate stabilization? No.

Karen Umberger: Thank you.

Chris Meier: Yes?

Kristine Cluff: I'm Kristine Cluff, 136 Seavey Street. Jason, if the \$40,000 is in Rate Stabilization, there's no Special Article, uh, no Special Warrant Article for it, you just put it in the budget as an offset?

Jason Gagnon: Yes. So Commissioners are agents to expend, right?

Kristine Cluff: Of course.

Jason Gagnon: So by putting it in there, if we ended up having to spend our full budget, full operating budget, you know, worst case scenario happens everywhere, and we spend that full amount, then we would technically have overspent our revenue by, you know, \$36,000 or whatever it is. So that's where that \$40,000 then would be used to repay the fund to make it so that it breaks even at the end of the year.

Kristine Cluff: The other part of that is the \$40,000 is being used as a payroll offset. That's what you just said, right? It's a payroll offset. So how are you going, because it's not a line item budget, you're going to use those funds in other categories or other line items if necessary.

Jason Gagnon: So it's two separate 40,000's, the 40,000 from the rate stabilization fund was what was in there originally, right?

Kristine Cluff: Right.

Jason Gagnon: That's our, that's our quote unquote revenue to offset expenses. The 40,000 from DES is a separate grant.

Kristine Cluff: Right.

Jason Gagnon: And so that 40,000 can be used to fund our workers' activities toward lead service line inventory and planning.

Kristine Cluff: Okay. So, the 40,000 out of rate stabilization is not necessarily payroll?

Jason Gagnon: No, it's, it's gross budgets net I guess net budget.

Kristine Cluff: Net Budget. Yep. Okay. Thank you.

Robert T. Anderson: 235... So if, in fact on your, uh, line item of administration, if you didn't have that 23% in there, you probably wouldn't need 40,000. I had it figured out that you're going to give \$22,000 to hire this person under water and 22,000 on the sewer, roughly \$42,000.

Jason Gagnon: Yeah. So what Tim's referring to is we have a, a proposed additional position both in the water and the sewer budget. And what this additional position is, is it's a, it's another part-time administrative staff, office staff. So the total amount that I have budgeted is, is based on 30 hours a week, which at that point would qualify for health insurance benefits. So I budgeted 30 hours a week for about 3 quarters of the year, and then 3 quarters of the year of the worst case scenario for health insurance, which would be a family plan. And that comes out to \$27,123 that I have budgeted in water for this year, for that part-time administrative position. Again, that's, that's a worst case estimate. If they take the full family healthcare plan and work 30 hours a week, I do think that's going to result in about \$4,500 in reduced overtime costs. So the net comes out somewhere around 22,600. Um, I forgot the second half of your question. I'm sorry,

Tim Anderson: I didn't have a second...

Jason Gagnon: Okay. So I, I had to answer. Okay. Oh, I remember what it was. Would we need the \$40,000 if we didn't have that in there? And the short answer is there's still a little bit of, um, overage even without that in there. I'm just scrolling down and my stuff here to see what that would be. That's, it's about a wash with that. Yep.

Tim Anderson: If you didn't have...excuse me. If you didn't have that position in there, it would be a wash?

Jason Gagnon: Yeah, we're ex we're expected to be, uh, about \$10,000 in the red right at the projected budget. So that's where that \$40,000 of safety net for the, for the, um, Rate Stabilization funds come from.

Robert T. Anderson: Well, this is my 46th year coming here and talking, and this is the first time I've ever heard of this place ever being in the red. You just said that. I'll make note.

Jason Gagnon: Yeah. So, I said the projected budget is in the red.

Robert T. Anderson: Right..

Jason Gagnon: Yep.

Robert T. Anderson: Mr. Moderator, I'd like to make an amendment to Article 4.

Chris Meier: Okay.

Robert T. Anderson: I'd like to change that number from 1,332,036 to 1,310,036.

Chris Meier: Can you state the number, the number again please?

Robert T. Anderson: 1,310,036

Chris Meier: Okay. So the motion on the floor is to amend Article 4 to reduce it, uh, by

Robert T. Anderson: 22,0000

Chris Meier: ... \$22,000 to \$1,310,036. Do I have a second for that motion?

Jeff Currier: Second.

Chris Meier: Okay, if you're seconding, can you state your name for the record too?

Jeff Currier: Jeff Currier.

Chris Meier: Ok, um, discussion on the amendment. Yes, Kris?

Kristine Cluff: Kris Cluff 136 Seavey Street. At the deliberative portion of the meeting, we discussed the possibility of, of making that 40 hours in the additional, the small amount of money. Did you give any more consideration to that or not? Or did you consider maybe reducing it to 20 hours?

Jason Gagnon: Yeah, so at the budget hearing we talked about where we came up with that 30 hour and healthcare position. So as everybody knows, the labor market is fairly tight right now, and, uh, the reason why we came out with that, that part-time figure, right? We, we were looking at 20 to 30 hours because we thought that that would fit, uh, maybe an underserved demographic in the community for say, working parents, parents who wanted to work during the hours when their kids were in school, uh, because maybe they didn't have childcare outside of those hours or couldn't afford childcare outside of those hours, but would be able to give those hours to the Precinct within that timeframe. Um, that's really where that 20 to 30 hour or the 30 hour cap came from. The 30 hour cap came from, it's hard to attract quality employees, right? We advertise for a position out in the water department and we got 1 application. So we thought that if we could bump it up to that 30 hours and offer that health insurance, that might be the thing that actually allows us to attract a quality candidate and bring them in. So we could certainly, I know for a fact we could fill 40 hours, but..

Kristine Cluff: Yeah, just didn't seem like for \$210 extra, you wouldn't go for the extra 10 hours.

Jason Gagnon: And if we found somebody who wanted to work full-time and was an excellent candidate, I think that's something we'd have to consider.

Kristine Cluff: The ad is out. Um, we've seen it publicly. Have we had any response to the ad?

Jason Gagnon: We've had 4, 4 responses so far. Yep. Each of them are differently qualified, but I think all of them have the potential to be a good candidate.

Chris Meier: Further discussion on the amendment. Anyone? Yes, sir.

William Hounsell: William Hounsell 112 Thompson Road. I personally would, will vote against this amendment because I think if our Superintendent, um, put this before the Commissioners and the Commissioners said that they agreed that it was needed, uh, that I know the burden that's put on the Superintendent to accomplish what we've asked him to accomplish, it's going to get greater and greater. There will be more inter municipal agreements that we'll have to work

with. And, uh, so I'm going to back the Commissioners on this and give them the staff and create the team that he needs.

Chris Meier: Thank you. Further discussion on the amendment?

Karen Umberger: Yes, could you read the dollar figure again? I'm sorry...

Chris Meier: The, the, the dollar figure of the amendment is reducing the budget by \$22,000 to \$1,310,036. Further discussion? Yes, Mr...

Jim Umberger: Jim Umberger, 136 Birch Bend. And over the years that I've been involved in the Precinct, I've never, we've never tried to micromanage. When somebody says they need something, we give 'em the opportunity to get it. The Fire Department says they need extra amount hours, we give it to 'em, to me, this is up to the Commissioners. Put it in the budget, let them make the decision on whether they need it or not. It's not up to us to micromanage that opinion.

Chris Meier: Thank you. Mr. Anderson?

Robert T. Anderson: Go ahead, Bill.

Chris Meier: Go ahead.

William Hounsell: William Hounsell. Uh, I just wanted to, to mention too that we started this thing off. Uh, the challenge was could we build a plant? And, um, Gary and I stood before you and we said we won't do it until we get all pieces in place. And one of the pieces we waited two years for was an economic development administration grant. And that was based on the capacity of this plant's ability to go out to the industrial zone on East Conway Road. That grant came through and we built the plant. We've talked many times about everybody being in this together. It's a Valley wide capacity plan. And I congratulate the voters and the Commissioners who all these years who have built it for that regional capacity. There's only 400 people with 60 to 100 voting every year, built \$75 million worth of regional capacity. And that I, I congratulate everybody.

But we also said, as we bring in more revenue on the sewer side, the water's always gonna be a challenge. We may have to raise the water rates, but maybe we'll look at lowering the wastewater rates at the same time so the household rate will hold even. And then finally, Gary and I stood before you at the beginning of all this and said, raising ourselves up to 3 times the state average on our rates, because you get an extra 10% grant from the State of New Hampshire, the State Aid Grant Program, 10% of principal interest payments, and all these bonds that you're looking at has reduced our costs a lot. So I I just say we've been a team, we have wonderful Commissioners, superintendents presented to them that we need staff and we ought to give it to them.

Robert T. Anderson: My only caveat to Bill, like I said, when I stood here first, I've been coming since 77, this is the first year the Commission or the Superintendent, whether it was Fudd, Gary, Dave, and now Jason, I commend them on their work. 75 million is a lot of money. Okay. But now we're in the red. Okay. He just told me we're in the red. So there's only one way to get out of the red, that's reduce cost, correct?

Jason Gagnon: Correct.

William Hounsell: Or raise rates?

Robert T. Anderson: That's coming next! Believe me; you'll be here this summer when they do that. Uh, so I'm just trying to save a little bit of money right now so that maybe before we get done this year, he won't be coming back in the fall and looking for a hundred thousand dollars out of the Rate Stabilization so we stay in the black.

Chris Meier: Yep. Jason

Jason Gagnon: Sir. Yeah, so I, um, the budget is in the red because I build it really conservatively. I, I could have, I projected our revenues to be lower than they were last year. And I do that on purpose because I don't want to be caught, uh, caught behind the eight ball with conditions like Covid that are out of our control that impact our revenues, right? And we saw that happen in, in '19, or sorry, in '20 and '21, where revenues dropped and we, we had to really tighten our belts to make sure that we stayed within those revenues. So that's one of the reasons why the budget is 'in the red'. Um, I also budget conservatively because we always need to have that cushion, um, in case unexpected stuff happens. Um, for example, and you guys, if you look at the, at the books in the water treatment chemicals, we've got 78,000 budgeted in that line. I, I expect to spend about 48,000 of that, but I've got a second delivery of chemicals

budgeted in there because we may need it. I don't think we're going to need it, but there have been some years where we didn't think we were going to need it and we did. For example, when the shortage happened because it got cold in Texas for 2 weeks and everything froze and all the production plants went down. So you can, that's why I kind of build some of that buffer in there. So, so yes, the, the budget is in the red on paper. I know that we're going to come in, I don't know, I'm pretty confident that we're going to come in in the black, but I have that caveat in there with that rate, stabilization cushion, so that if we need it, if Texas freezes up again and we can't get caustic and it triples in price like it did in 2020 or 2019 or whenever that was then that we have that cushion in there. So I just wanted to provide that caveat on what in the red means.

Chris Meier: Are we ready to take a vote?

William Hounsell: Just one question. Sure. Do you intend to do a rate study?

Jason Gagnon: So we are currently doing a rate study. It is a hundred percent grant funded by DES. And we have a national company who that's what they specialize in. They do rate studies for utilities, and we should have some results from that, some preliminary results and recommendations in, in the next couple weeks to months.

William Hounsell: And in that rate study, would, would we be looking at the, the, the rate for the sewer and the wastewater? So would we both looking at an integrated approach?

Jason Gagnon: No, we would be, looking, well, we'll be looking at each of them individually, and then as the voters and the Commissioners look at those recommendations, you and they will make decisions on where we go with that stuff.

William Hounsell: and so that's the tool we need to use to adjust our budgets for...

Jason Gagnon: Right.

William Hounsell: Okay... thank you. Thank you!

Chris Meier: Okay. You ready for a vote on the amendment? So this is the amendment to reduce Article 4 from 1,332,036 by \$22,000 to 1,310,036. Now, I don't have a petition for a secret ballot on this question, so we're going to do it live.

Chris Meier: Uh, all in favor of the amendment to Article 4, say aye.

Crowd: Aye

Chris Meier: All opposed?

Crowd: Aye.

Chris Meier: Can we do a hands, I I think the nays have it, but All all in favor, please raise your hand. Aye. All opposed, please hear, raise your hand. Nay. The nays have it. So the, the amendment to Article 4 fails.

Do we have further discussion amendment, uh, questions on Article 4 as written? Seeing none, we'll proceed to boating. So this is a secret ballot. We're going to use 'A' for this question. So tear off your 'A'. So the ballot box is in the back. There's one there and one here. You can use the either ballot box. This is the, the vote is Article 4 as written.

Chris Meier: Okay. Article 5. Uh, I need a motion to place Article 5.

Suzanne Nelson: I will, uh, move to place Article 5 on the floor.

Chris Meier: Thank you.

Robert F Porter: Second!

Article 05 Operating Budget - Sewer Department

To see if the voters of the North Conway Water Precinct will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,975,721 for the operating budget of the sewer department for the ensuing year to be funded by sewer usage fees and revenues with no amount to be raised through general taxation. [Recommended by the Board of Commissioners 3-0-0]

Chris Meier: Thank you. Article 5 is on the floor. Jason, would you like to take a minute to explain Article 5?

Jason Gagnon: Sure. So this, uh, Article 5 is the Sewer Operating Budget. And as with the others, we went through everything pretty much in detail Budget Hearing. With this one nothing has changed since then. So if you have any specific questions, I'm happy to answer them.

Chris Meier: All right. Questions, amendments or comments on Article 5? Tim? Yep, come on.

Robert T. Anderson: The, the only comment I'm going to make on Article 5, which has to do with the sewer as going through the book on page 11, um, we closed out a Sewer Capital Improvement account in the amount of 1,425,166.20. And talked Jason about this yesterday. We went and took that money and put it in the general checkbook. I would like the body to put that money in our Sewer Infrastructure Capital Improvement account so that when we go to do sewer projects, um, we could use that money instead of it sitting in the checkbook. Thank you.

Karen Umberger: Would you go through, go through that again, Tim?

Robert T. Anderson: What's that, Karen?

Karen Umberger: Would you go through that again?

Robert T. Anderson: Okay. Page 11.

Karen Umberger: Yeah, I got that.

Robert T. Anderson: Second one down. Sewer Capital Improvements: they decided to close that account out, says right there. Account closing proceeds to sewer. And if you go to the sewer, um, balance sheet, I'm not sure what page it's on that they put that in the sewer account. So now sewer account has like 2 million in change in that 2,900,000 something I'd like this money to go into Sewer Capital Improvement Account.

Jason Gagnon: Capital Reserve?

Robert T. Anderson: Capital Reserves, excuse me. Yeah. So that it's used for Sewer Capital Improvement. That's what it's for. Instead of in the checkbook.

Chris Meier: Jason. Yes.

Jason Gagnon: So, so just to address uh, Tim's comment real quick. So historically we've always had two checking accounts within one fund. So both for water and for sewer, we had a water, regular water account and then a water capital improvements account. Both were regular checking accounts, neither were capital reserve accounts, but for, for whatever reason, we had, and maybe Kris can shed some light on why we had two separate accounts, but we had two separate accounts both in the water fund and in the sewer fund. And they were just separate checking accounts. Probably used for different purposes within the operating expenses.

Kristine Cluff: Different revenue source.

Jason Gagnon: Yep. Okay. Um, but as we've been working with our accountants to try and streamline some of our bank accounts, there are a lot of places out there who do everything out of, they have one bank account and all the accounting is handled in the financial software as to what belongs in what fund and so on and so forth. We're not ready to go to that extreme, but what we have done is we've tried to consolidate, so that's why the sewer capital improvements checking account got closed out and put into the sewer checking account because really they are used today for the same purpose. So it didn't make sense to have two separate checking accounts. So I think what Tim's asking, and uh, sorry to put words in your mouth, if they're not right, I'm sure you'll correct me, but I think what Tim is saying is that the, the balance that we have in that sewer checking account is high enough that we should take some of that money out of the checking account and put it into Capital Reserve to be used for infrastructure projects specifically.

Robert T. Anderson: Correct.

Karen Umberger: Where do I see those numbers in the sewer...

Robert T. Anderson: It's on page 10.

Karen Umberger: I got it.

Jason Gagnon: Yeah. So it is not a budget item. It's, it's nothing to do with that. It literally is just closing one bank account and adding that balance to the other bank account that's for the same similar purpose.

Kristine Cluff: I just have a quick question, Jason.

Jason Gagnon: Yep.

Chris Meier: Yes.

Kristine Cluff: Um, who authorized the closing of the account?

Jason Gagnon: Yep.

Did the board take a vote and did the Treasurer sign off or was he aware that you were doing this?

Jason Gagnon: Um, we have...

Hannah Andersen: There was a vote in 2020.

Jason Gagnon: Okay. So there was a vote by the Commissioners in 2020.

Kristine Cluff: In 2020?

Hannah Andersen: It's just taken a long time to get there.

Kristine Cluff: 3 years?

Jason Gagnon: Yep.

Kristine Cluff: Wow. Okay. And Tim you signed off on these?

Robert T. Anderson: I can't remember that.

Kristine Cluff: You would've... at 1.9 million I'd imagine there was paperwork...

Chris Meier: Jim?

Kristine Cluff: Yep, that was it.

Jim Umberger: Jim Umberger, 136 Birch Bend. This does not have any impact on the Capital Reserve Funds for Sewer?

Jason Gagnon: No. Nope!

Jim Umberger: Okay. That's my concern.

Jason Gagnon: No, the Capital Reserve Funds are separate. This is, this was 2 operating fund checkbooks that we had that we just consolidated into, into one account at the bank.

Kristine Cluff: Jason, you're going to put this in the Sewer Capital, uh, Infrastructure, Capital Reserve.

Jason Gagnon: That's what Tim has asked.

Kristine Cluff: My question to you is, is that revenue source for that account is buy-in fees. So do we need to do something special at this meeting to make that revenue source different?

Jason Gagnon: I think, I think, again, Tim correct me if I'm wrong, we have two capital reserve accounts for water and two capital reserve accounts for sewer. Yes. Both of them have the same use purpose, but they have different revenue streams, like, like Kris was saying. So this money would technically have to go into the regular sewer capital reserve because it's the buy-in fees that go into the infrastructure, but they both serve the same purpose.

Kristine Cluff: Right.

Robert T. Anderson: I get that.

Kristine Cluff: So we can make an exception here. Put it directly in the infrastructure you want.

Robert T. Anderson: So I'm only bringing this up cause we're talking about sewer right now. I'm not interested in changing the bottom line of the sewer or any of that thing. All I'm interested in doing is moving this 1,425 in the capital reserve. So it's used for sewer capital improvements. That's all I'm interested. I just get a little concerned when we got \$2,975,609 in the checkbook. I got 609.72 in mine.

Jim Umberger: Good for us!

Tim Anderson: You're right. If I get done here tonight, it probably won't be.

Jason Gagnon: So, so this is one of those things that um, we've talked about it in the past where we don't have an, an existing set of financial policies and every utility and every government really every municipal government has a different set of financial policies that, that provide guidelines to the Commissioners and to the staff for how much money you should have in different places. And it goes into a justification for why you should have that much money in different places. So our sewer checkbooks and our water checkbooks and our Commissioner's checkbooks, those are used for cash flow throughout the year. I don't know what the right level is to have in that cash, in that checking account. I do know that we have large bond payments that come out at certain times of the year. So when you look at ending year balances, they may not be representative of what happens throughout the year.

Those things may go way down and then come way back up as we get different revenue sources and streams. I know that's the case with the Commissioner's checking account. So I think it's important for us as a Precinct, and really this is something that we've been talking about for 4 or 5 years, is developing those policies, but getting somebody involved who again, like with our rate study knows this stuff and knows what they're doing and can make intelligent financial recommendations about what is an appropriate fund balance to have in your sewer fund. Should it be 1 million? Is that good enough? Should it be 2 million? The short answer is I don't know what that recommendation is because that, that's not my background. I do know that it, sorry, I know I'm long-winded. I do know that at certain times of the year that that balance is significantly lower than what it shows at the end of the year. So we do need to have some cushion in there and I, I don't have a good answer for what that cushion should actually be until we look into it farther and come up with a good policy.

Robert T. Anderson: To move this along. Could I just make a suggestion then to the Commission and you, Jason and I guess Hannah you're involved in, it could say the 1st of August you give us an answer on what we can move over and what we don't have to move over and maybe by then we can have an answer on what that bottom number should be Precinct wide.

Jason Gagnon: Yeah, I think we can definitely move in that, that direction and start taking those steps and come up with a recommendation. I'd love to give you a date on it, but I haven't even reached out to people who do that stuff yet. So I don't know.

Kristine Cluff: I know that Coos County... Cohos Advisors, can help you with that cause Tammy did that for us once before. So maybe, Maggie could help you. My question is, with this money that's in your sewer checking account and your water checking account and what we vote to move to Capital Reserve tonight, when do you make those capital reserve payments? Because you have to make them before December 15th by statute.

Jason Gagnon: Yep. What time of year do we usually do our Capital Reserve Transfers?

Hannah Andersen: Uh, last year I think it was June?

Kristine Cluff: I just want to make sure that you, you gotta leave yourself enough money to pay your capital reserve, whatever we vote to go into Capital Reserve. And they have to be paid by the 15th of December.

Jason Gagnon: One of the things that's a little unique about the Precinct and the way that we've always operated is as we do these projects, we have always had the cash reserves to be able to pay the contractor out of our own reserves and then get reimbursed at the end. By doing that, we avoid paying all that construction period interest back to DES. So there is, there's some savings and having that money available for cash flow versus having to get the disbursement from DES right away and then pay extra interest on it throughout the construction life of the project.

Kristine Cluff: But even if you move the money to your capital reserve account, the Board of Commissioners are agents to expend. So if you came in and said, I need \$50,000 to pay this bill, they're going to give it to you.

Jason Gagnon: Sure. It's just a process where then it's not in the bank, you have to go through the town trustees...

Kristine Cluff: There's a nice paper trail there.

Karen Umberger: Karen Umberger... So Tim, are you changing your motion to read or to say that...

Robert T. Anderson: I didn't make a motion.

Karen: Oh, you...

Chris Meier: There is no motion on the floor. It's just a suggestion.

Karen Umberger: So the request was that by August you come back and left the Precinct know what...

Robert T. Anderson: That was a suggestion, Karen. That's all.

Karen Umberger: Well, I, I don't disagree with what, uh, Tim is saying that we need to get a handle on this. I agree that 3 million in the checking account, not earning interest, not good.

William Hounsell: William Hounsell, 112 Thompson Rd. Does that Capital Reserve Account make interest?

Jason Gagnon: They all make interest. They all make about the same amount. Yeah. Uh, which is not a whole lot... We can invest in certain things. We could go to the Public Deposit Investment Pool, which has generally good results but has had some mixed results lately where they have not performed as advertised. So there's, there's risk everywhere.

William Hounsell: So, we're saving interest by self, self-funding. Some of the payments that we can make out of that.

Jason Gagnon: Yeah, the construction period interest on a DES loan might be 1.75% or something like that. And, and don't quote me on that number, but that might be what it is. And the amount of interest we're earning in the bank might be 0.5% or 0.75%.

William Hounsell: So you're saying we're saving on interest...

Jason Gagnon: If you're paying for projects. If you're not paying for projects, obviously you're losing that .5%.

William Hounsell: Well I would just say that I think our Treasurer has done a good job researching that and leading us into more inquisitiveness about it.

Chris Meier: Further comment? Yes.

Robert T. Anderson: They're properly adding up... we've got about \$33,000 in interest this year.

Chris Meier: Okay. Other comments, amendments on Article 5. Seeing none, I will call the vote on Article 5. Again, this is a secret ballot by petition. So we are going to tear off our 'B's. B as in Bravo. Ballot box is in the same place.

Chris Meier: Uh, various positions that we voted on, uh, Jim Umberger has uh, prevailed for Commissioner with 18 votes. Don Ekberg has prevailed for Moderator with 28 votes. Uh, Robert Anderson has prevailed for Treasurer with 29 votes and Gary Chandler, uh, has won the Clerk spot with 31 votes.

Chris Meier: Uh, on Article 4, which was ballot question A, uh, that Article 4 passed 20 votes in the affirmative and 8 votes in the negative.

Chris Meier: Has everybody voted on Article 5? The B ballot? If you haven't voted, raise your hand seeing nobody. I am closing the balloting on uh, Article 5 and we will move to Article 6.

Chris Meier: Uh, can I have a motion to please Article 6 on the floor.

Suzanne Nelson: Yes, I will move to place Article 6 on the floor.

Robert F. Porter: Second!

Article 06 Operating Budget - Fire Department

To see if the voters of the North Conway Water Precinct will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$903,862 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]

Chris Meier: Okay, Article 6 is on the floor. Uh, Chief do you want to take that?

Chad McCarthy: Yes; thank you. Uh, Like Jason, uh, said earlier throughout the budget process and the budget here, we did talk about this fire department budget and, and I'll be happy to answer any questions.

Sol Rosman: Sol Rosman, 142 Intervale Crossroad. Do you have any idea roughly, um, what the member response has been for day calls and night calls?

Chad McCarthy: Uh, depending on the call, I would say during the day, obviously myself and the Assistant Chief and probably 2 or 3 others during the day, depending on the call, it's a major call building fire, everybody knows we get a good response on the building fire. But a normal medical aid call, like today we had a medical aid call. It was just myself and the Assistant Chief

Sol Rosman: And 2 of those days a week, the Assistant Chief is not there. He works Saturday and Sunday?

Chad McCarthy: Yes.

Sol Rosman: And at night? Both fire and medical...

Chad McCarthy: At night, Uh I would say anywhere from 3 to 5 maybe depending on the call. Uh, I know last month we had a couple of calls, uh, we didn't have anybody come.

Sol Rosman: Um, pretty consistent over the years that the call volume's gone up.

Chad McCarthy: Yes.

Sol Rosman: And it's only been a full-time Chief and Assistant Chief since, uh,

Chad McCarthy: For 50 years. 45 years. Something like that.

Robert T. Anderson: 53 Years.

Chad McCarthy: 53 years.

Sol Rosman: Um, I'd like to make a motion?

Chris Meier: Go ahead.

Sol Rosman: To add 140,000 into the Fire Department's operating budget, um, for the purpose of hiring a full-time firefighter, which would bring that total, um, operating budget up to \$1,000,043 860, I'm sorry, 1,043,862.

Chris Meier: Okay. I've got a motion on the table to raise Article 6 from 9 0 3 8 6 2 by \$140,000 to 1 0 4 3 8 6 2. Do I have a second?

Jeff Currier: Jeff Currier.

Chris Meier: Thank you. Alright, uh, discussion on the amendment. Kris, yes.

Kristine Cluff: Um, my question is, obviously we all know that Conway Village Fire District voted to dissolve last night in 2025. That means that we are going to lose in this year's budget \$190,000 worth of revenue on the out of Precinct that is going to have to go into that next, that 2025 budget. So that would be another \$190,000 at some point is going to get added to this 140,000. And I'm not against it, I just want to make sure you guys all know that if the town of Conway is going to have a fire department, they're not going to pay us up here to the non Precinct would not make sense. So I want you all to know that with the addition of this, we are looking at losing our outer Precinct reside.

Chris Meier: Mr. Rosman?

Sol Rosman: I think, do we realistically think that the Upper West Side road areas that they're going to send Conway from Conway Village and not send North Conway? Um, I mean could it happen? Absolutely, yes. Do I think that the people that live in those areas are going to have twice the response time? I don't think they're going to be happy about it. So, you know, our call volumes going up and we've been running 2 people for 53 years back when there was probably less than 200 calls a year to over 1,350 calls. And that's a huge demand on the fire department and it's a huge demand when you're not getting as good as a response during the day or at night, um, that you used to. And people have jobs, people in this economy have to work and support themselves and their employers don't let them leave. So, you know what, where I think we've come after all these years, um, I I think that it's time to, to bring someone on to, to help. I mean, when, when the Assistant Chief is out doing an inspection, you know, he can't always just leave. I mean people come from, you know, out of state that own property and they need to be inspected and the last thing they want to do is have their time wasted. You know, I mean there are some obligations on that end.

Chris Meier: Let's go with 1, 2, 3...

Robert F. Porter: Bob Porter. I have commented for years that we needed a full-time person in the department, if not one more than one.

Chris Meier: Karen?

Karen Umberger: Could you give me a breakdown of this hundred 40,000? How much is salary? How much is benefits?.... Not you...

Chad McCarthy: Oh, sorry! I'm sorry.

Karen Umberger: I mean, you know, you gotta, I gotta understand, uh, the 140,000

Sol Rosman: Yep.

Karen Umberger: Is 100,000 for the pay and 40,000 for benefits?

Sol Rosman: Benefits or I can't give a specific breakdown because there's obviously the pay that would have to be determined. However, in my mind, I know roughly what other fire departments, you know, are paying people. Um, and that's dependent upon their certifications when they come into the job. But there's pay that has to go to the state retirement, there's pay that has to go to worker's comp. They have to plan for the worst as far as, you know, a family plan versus a single person plan. Um, and then you've got the pay, I have spoken with the Chief and asked, you know, roughly what he thinks it would cost. Um, knowing a lot more about what he believes the pay should be, you know, within a margin and what the, the other associated costs are. Um, so I mean, I, I can't,

Karen Umberger: So bottom line is, you don't know.

Sol Rosman: I don't know specifically.

Karen Umberger: That's all I wanted to know.

Chris Meier: I got one in the back.

Nick Preece: Good. Yeah. Um, I think it's a good idea moving forward to kind of take a step in the right direction. Adding people, as you mentioned before is, you know, if the Chief or assistant fire Chief are out doing place of assembly permits or certificate of occupancy inspections. Um, but with the current growth and development of this community and Water Precinct, especially at the Pine Hill development and everything else going in with the hotels, you know, there are times where I was sat at home on my day off at work. I've heard the page go off 3 times at night for a fire alarm before people sign on. Um, I know that he's proposing adding a rotating stipend shift at night for the officers, so we have coverage at nighttime, but I think it's a good conversation to get started in terms of adding full-time coverage. Cause almost every other community or town of this size population call volume has about 3 to 4 firefighters on shift 24 hours a day, not including the Fire Chief or Assistant Chief. So if it comes down to cost or revenues, there are other ways to get around that. If it's a startup fee, you can look into a few months safer grant, which pays for the salaries and benefits for the first 3 years with no impact on us. Um, and another really good revenue stream as well is a fire based ambulance service. Cuz then you can fill out every call you go on for rescue as compared to now or every time he's on a medical call, you guys are eating that cost. And a private ambulance service is collecting 3 grand a pop just something to keep, keep in mind for years coming down the road...

Chris Meier: Can you add your name and address?

Nick Preece: Oh, sorry. Nick Preece. 49 White Horse Road.

Chris Meier: Kris, I had your hand up...

Kristine Cluff: My only, my I would you consider amending your motion to say firefighter emt? I would hate to see...

Chad McCarthy: It would be.

Kristine Cluff: Is that what you would want?

Chad McCarthy: It would be.

Kristine Cluff: Alright. So, okay. That answers my question.

Chris Meier: Yeah. And just for clarification, the the money goes to the budget, what you're, you can't line item budgets so it would, the money would go to him and it, it's an advisory as to how to use it. But...

Sol Rosman: So my intent was for people to understand why, why I was asking for that one.

Chris Meier: Understood. Jason, did you want to go? Good. Ok. Jim?

Jim Umberger: Jim Umberger, 136 Birch Bend. I'd like to have the Chief tell me what you think of this motion.

Chad McCarthy: What do I think?

Jim Umberger: Is it something you should have brought forward or...

Chad McCarthy: My plan. And I did talk to the Board once or twice about it, about bringing it forward for this year. Um, and I didn't because it was up already. The budget was up already. Uh, we are making it right now. We're struggling but we are making it. Um, and I was going to bring it forth next year, but you know...

Jim Umberger: follow up?

Chris Meier: Yes, sir.

Jim Umberger: We need to clearly understand everyone here that this is tax increase.

Chad McCarthy: Yes.

Jim Umberger: This is not revenue. This is tax. It's going to go on people's tax bill.

Chris Meier: Tim?

Robert T. Anderson: I'll take a little bit of exception please saying we're struggling. Okay. I look at the numbers every week.

Chad McCarthy: Yep.

Robert T. Anderson: Um, we are getting more people showing up at calls than we have in the last few years.

Chad McCarthy: Yes. When I say struggling, I mean daytime hours, working hours.

Robert T. Anderson: You're getting the same as you always had and you are getting a couple extras. I see 'em. So am I opposed to you putting a third person on? I'm not sure. I think maybe, um, what Mr. Preece said, if we looked into the SAFER grants, I don't know how long they'll take you but.... Um, I know you have proposed, I don't know if it's gone to the commission yet about raising the rates on your...

Chad McCarthy: The fee rates?

Robert T. Anderson: Your fee rates. Yes. Um, I don't know where that's gone. Um, I know we have been looking into, uh, billing insurance companies for revenue. You never know how much you're going to get.

Chad McCarthy: Right.

Tim Anderson: If you decide you want, if the Commission decides and the Chief decides they want to put an ambulance in the place, uh, that's going to be a huge outlay of money to start with, um, I'm not quite sure whether revenue versus the expense comes in. Thank you.

Suzanne Nelson: Um, as you mentioned before, this would just be an increase in the budget and it would be, you know, up to us to figure out how to do it. I do wanna say that this is a conversation that has, has already started here. We're all well aware of the growth of the Precinct. The, um, increase in the number of calls is significant. We know that we have to move in that direction. There are a lot of different options. It's not something that we should be deciding at an Annual Meeting, but it's something that the Commissioners, um, have started working on and will continue and, you know, we are going to have to do something. We don't have that. We need more time to figure that out and to research it.

Chris Meier: Yes, Mr. Hounsell.

William Hounsell: Bill Hounsell, 112 Thompson Road. I, I want to respond to the, uh, part about the Conway Village, the dissolution, the town taking it over. Keep in mind, I just want everybody to be thinking a little differently about this. Uh, keep in mind that everything that town does is going to require an inter municipal agreement with us. Cause we have the, the capacity to serve the town. We're going to have to do it in a fair and equitable manner to all of the people in the town. And we're all in this together. Now, when we look at that, we, uh, we, we have to remind ourselves that if

we're doing an inter municipal agreement for water, for sewer that flows through Conway Village's pipes, or whether it's with an inter municipal agreement with the town to go up 3 0 2 to the courthouse of police station outdoor potential industrial zone on East Conway Road, affordable housing, it's in the benefit of all the taxpayers in the town Conway to, to, uh, decide whether they want to pass the bonds to do that or not.

But the, in the municipal agreements to do that is going to require that they also are fair and equitable to us on the, on the fire. You can't be fair and equitable on one side, and say we're not going to be on the other. So when they become a town fire, we're going to have to sit down and work out an inter municipal agreement between a sub-governmental entity of the State, that's us and the town of Conway, and I'm, I'm consent, I'm convinced we can do it. We did it between Conway Village and we'll revisit it now and we'll uh, we'll look at the differences, points of view of each side and come up with a fair and equitable understanding of each person's per perspective. For the benefit of everybody in the, in this valley, we're going to be looking at the same sort of, inter municipal agreement in Lower Bartlett.

So I don't think we, we need to think antagonistically about Conway taking something away from us or not. It all is going to be linked together and we're going to treat each other very fair and very equitable. Uh, we've done a magnificent job here, you voters, and led by the Commissioners and great Superintendents. We've created a regional capacity plant for the valley. And the hopes of what this master plan is going to look at now is where... what's the vision going to take us where we can is all going to depend on water. You can't do anything. You can't have dense, dense, uh, housing, affordable housing or anything without waste water. And so we're right in the center of it all and fair and keep that in your mind. Nobody's antagonistic to anybody when you look at it from that point of view.

Kristine Cluff: I don't think it would be antagonistic. It's just, it is something that we need to keep in the back of our minds that we are going to need an IMA or we're not going to have an IMA. It's an either or and it's something that we're going to have to look at in the future. So it still has to be in our minds that this may cost us money or it may not, but it's also going to be in the Chief's mind that he's got to think about that in his next budget season. That's all that we're trying to do here is to make everybody aware this could happen. Not saying it's going to happen, just saying that might, and I don't think anybody wants to be agonistic, uh, to an IMA you know, Jason's done very well working with IMA's in inter municipal agreement. So that's, we just need to look forward...

Sol Rosman: Uh, alluding to what Nick was saying about, you know, the growth. I mean as we continue to grow, we're going to bring in some additional taxation money. I mean, we're going to bring in water and sewer revenue, which I understand is separate, but those places are still going to get taxed on the fire department's rate. Which, I mean there's gotta be, I don't know if it'd be a hundred percent off offset or not, but I mean there's gotta be some offset as we continue to grow. Um, and, and you know, I mean I'll back Nick a hundred percent. There are a lot of other towns this size that are providing way more service, um, than we are. I mean you look at Berlin, they still have 4 on a shift, 24 hours a day and the plant's been closed for years. So, I mean, I'm not saying we need to compete with that. I'm just trying to make it realistic.

William Hounsell: I was just talking about how we should think about the ability for IMA in regards to the uh, the money. I vote right. Put it in. But I rely on what the Commissioners have said. They need a little more time. Uh, I think we should absolutely give the department whatever they need. We always have. As much as you've given us what we need on water and wastewater, I think we need to continue thinking that way and then access every grant that the Chief can find and maybe increase some rates. But that's what they need time to figure out. I don't think you'll have any problem with negotiating what you need.

Chris Meier: Okay. You ready for a vote on the amendment? So this is the amendment to Article 6 to increase the amount of Article 6 from 903,862 by 140,000 to 1 0 4 or 1,043,862. All in favor of the amendment? Pardon?

Robert T. Anderson: I have 1 question on that...

Chris Meier: Yes.

Robert T. Anderson: ... so the 140,000 is still on the bottom line budget?

Chris Meier: Correct.

Robert T. Anderson: So even if we vote in the 140,000, that does not necessarily mean the Commission is going to give the Chief permission to hire a person between now and December 31st.

Chris Meier: Correct.

William Hounsell: Do the Commissioners want us to vote for the 140,000 now?

Jim Umberger: That's not a fair question.

Suzanne Nelson: No it's not.

William Hounsell: No that's not fair. We'll have to use our own discretion.

Robert T. Andersen: You're on your own, Bill!

Chris Meier: Okay, any other points of order before we vote? Nope. Seeing none. All in favor? Please raise your hand and say aye.

Crowd: Aye.

Chris Meier: All opposed, please raise your hand and say nay.

Crowd: Nay.

Chris Meier: That's close. So I'm going to do it again and count them. So all in favor? Raise your hand and say aye. And keep 'em up so we can count 'em. Are you up, Miss. Seavey? Okay. All opposed, raise your hand and say nay and keep em up. I've got 8 in favor and 10 opposed. Uh, the amendment fails. So we are back to Article 6 as written.

Suzanne Nelson: We will be looking into this though, we will be looking into this.

Chris Meier: So Article 6 as written. Do I have any other comments, questions, or amendments to Article 6 as written? Yes sir.

Nick Preece: Nick Preece, 149 Whitehorse Road. Uh, would it be worth looking into in this year's budget, adding 5 grand as a just in case safety net for grant writer. So if 9, 10 months down the road you guys have your conversations about staffing, we can possibly hire a grant writer to look into a SAFER grant? Or is that something that you might want to push off another year?

Chris Meier: Was that question to anybody in particular? Do you want, do you want somebody to answer that?

Nick Preece: Yeh, I was just wondering if the Commissioners had a comment...

Robert F. Porter: On, I would bring it up when we get into the budget so we can add it to it if we want to.

Suzanne Nelson: We're in the budget.

Robert F. Porter: Oh, no I know but I'm talking about the dollar value. Alright. Never mind. I'm off base, it's getting late. So I don't have a problem adding 5 grand so we can study it.

Karen Umberger: No that's not what you...

Robert F. Porter: Pardon?

Suzanne Nelson: He's asking for, to hire...

Robert F. Porter: Put 5 grand in the budget so we can hire a grant writer...

Jim Umberger: You can't specify what it's going to be for.

Chris Meier: Yeah, it would just, it would just raise the bottom line with the suggestion that you might consider it to use it for the budget.

Nick Preece: So another comment on the FEMA grants for fire departments. I don't know how FEMA grants work with other municipalities, but at least for the fire department, uh, if you are awarded a grant, FEMA will reimburse the grant writer as well. Um, so that's another thing to look at too. So if you'd have to raise the money for it, but if we were to do a grant, look into it for next year and when it would be reimbursed as well.

Chris Meier: I think probably if we want to discuss that, you should make the amendment and then we can discuss the amendment.

Nick Preece: Sure.

Chris Meier: So you're making an amendment to increase Article 6 by \$5,000?

Nick Preece: Yes.

Chris Meier: For the, for the purpose of hiring a grant writer?

Nick Preece: Yes.

Robert T. Anderson: Second.

Chris Meier: Okay. Anderson second. Any discussion on that Motion to increase Article 6 by \$5,000?

Suzanne Nelson: Yeah, I, I think, um, we go ahead and we look at this and we decide which direction to take and we get to the point where we're ready to hire someone to write grants for \$5,000 with a bottom line budget. I think we can probably come up with that amount of money in the budget that we have and go ahead and do that. I don't, I don't know that you have to add in to the bottom line budget, but you know, that's, you're, you know, you're coming up with some great ideas, Nick, and, you know, we'll be, we'll be looking into stuff.

Chris Meier: Okay. Further comment questions on the amendment. Seeing none, I will call the question on the amendment. So this is to raise, uh, raise the amount in Article 6 by \$5,000. Uh, all in favor, please raise your hand and say aye.

Crowd: Aye. Aye. Aye.

Chris Meier: All opposed, please raise your hand and say nay.

Crowd: Nay.

Chris Meier: So that one, the ayes have it, uh, so the Article 6 is raised by \$5,000. Uh, so the new number on Article 6 is 908,862. Any further comments, questions, amendments on Article 6 as now amended?

Karen Umberger: It's 9...

Chris Meier: It's now 908,862

Karen Umberger: I can't math...

Chris Meier: That was quick math, but yeah, I think I got it right. Uh, all right. So, uh, seeing no further comments, questions, uh, or amendments, I'm going to call the question on Article 6.

Chris Meier: So, all in favor of Article 6 as amended to 908,862. Please raise your hand.

Crowd: Aye.

Chris Meier: All opposed, please raise your hand and say, nay.

Crowd: Nay.

Chris Meier: Article 6 passes as amended. 908,862.

Chris Meier: Let's move on to Article 7. So I need a motion to place Article 7 on the floor.

Suzanne Nelson: I move to place Article 7 on the floor.

Chris Meier: You have a second?

Robert F. Porter: I'll take it.

Article 07 Appropriation - Collective Bargaining Agreement

To see if the voters of the North Conway Water Precinct

will vote to approve the cost items included in the collective bargaining agreement reached between the North Conway Water Precinct and Local 1984 SEA/SEIU Water Precinct Employees which calls for the following increases in salaries and benefits at the current staffing level:

2023 NEW COST \$36,457

WATER	SEWER
\$12,626	\$23,831

ADDITIONAL YEARS:

2024	2025	2026	2027
\$21,731	\$22,491	\$23,279	\$24,093

And to further raise and appropriate the sum of \$36,457 for the 2023 fiscal year, such sum representing the additional costs attributable to the increase in salaries and benefits required by the new agreement over those that would have been paid at the current staffing levels. This Article will be offset by \$12,626 from water fees/revenues and \$23,831 from sewer fees/revenues with no additional tax impact.

Chris Meier: Okay. Uh, Article 7 is on the floor. Uh, this is an appropriation for the collective bargaining agreement. Uh, Commissioner Nelson, do you want, are you taking this one? Have some comments?

Suzanne Nelson: Well, we went, went through, um, bargaining with the union and we came up, um, with what everyone seemed to think was fair. And these are, these are the numbers that were, you know, that we have and we're asking you to approve the numbers. Um, certainly the people working here are doing a fantastic job and deserve these increases.

Chris Meier: Okay. Any comments on this?

Sol Rosman: Yes.

Chris Meier: What is the first name please?

Sol Rosman: Sorry. Sol Rosman. Um, what's the percent increase they are getting for a raise?

Suzanne Nelson: Well, it's a 5 year contract.

Sol Rosman: Yep.

Suzanne Nelson: And we, um, we kind of back loaded it so that the first year is higher because of what's happened to inflation.

Sol Rosman: Yep.

Suzanne Nelson: I don't wanna give them the wrong numbers... Do you know?

Jason Gagnon: So, so the baseline for the contract is 5% this year. We also did, uh, a reevaluation of the positions and the position descriptions.

Sol Rosman: Yep.

Jason Gagnon: Because when the union was originally formed, it was based off of highway worker positions, which are not good comps for what we're actually doing here. So now we have water operators and, and wastewater operators so we can better comp between other similar facilities. So what we found in that was that there were a couple people who needed a bump that were higher than 5% in order to get them in that right range for the correct comp. For example, we had a laborer and heavy equipment operator here. That's not what they do. Right. And, but they were being compared to laborers and heavy equipment operators at other places and other highway departments. What we do here is obviously much more skilled technical labor. So some people got a little bit higher than that 5% to bump them up into that, where they should be for their actual job duties. But the baseline was 5%.

Sol Rosman: and then how does that carry over through the following 4 years?

Jason Gagnon: For the following 4 years? It's 3.5 percent each year.

Chris Meier: Further comments, questions on Article 7? Seeing none, I'm going to call Article 7 to a vote. Uh, all in favor, please raise your hand and say Aye.

Crowd: Aye. Aye.

Chris Meier: All opposed, please raise your hand and say nay. The ayes have it. Article 7 passes as written.

Chris Meier: Uh, before we move on to Article 8, I have the, uh, results of Article 5, which was ballot box B. Article 5 passes by a vote of 21. Yes. Votes to 2 no votes in 1 blank Article 5 passes.

Chris Meier: Uh, now we move on to Article 8. This is, uh, special meeting for defeated CBA. Uh, I need a motion to place Article 8 on floor.

Suzanne Nelson: I move to place Article 8 on the floor.

Robert F. Porter: Second.

Article 08 Special Meeting for Defeated CBA

To see if the voters of the North Conway Water Precinct, if Article 7: Appropriation – Collective Bargaining Agreement is defeated, authorize the governing body to call 1 special meeting, at its option, to address Article 7 cost items only. (Majority vote required)

(Recommended by the Board of Commissioners 3-0-0)

Chris Meier: Thank you. Article 8's on the floor. Jason, do you want to take this?

Jason Gagnon: Sure. This is essentially moot because Article 7 has passed, but I'll defer to our attorney if we still need to vote on this or not?

Steve Bennett: Since you've passed the Collective Bargaining Agreement, there's no need for a vote, unless this is reconsidered...

Kristine Cluff: I make a motion that we pass over Article 8.

Sol Rosman: Second.

Chris Meier: Ok. Motion and a second. Uh, motion is to pass over Article 8. All in favor?

Crowd: Aye.

Chris Meier: All opposed? Motion passes. We are passing over Article 8.

Hannah Andersen: Who was the second?

Chris Meier: Who was the Second?

Jason Gagnon: Sol.

Chris Meier: Uh, so we're on Article 9. I need a motion to add, uh, place Article 9 on the floor.

Suzanne Nelson: I move to place Article 9 on the floor.

Robert F. Porter: Second.

Article 09 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 \$668,611 to be added to the following Capital Reserve Funds previously established. \$43,584 to come from Water fund

balance, \$100,000 to come from water usage fees and revenues, \$175,027 to come from Sewer fund balance, \$100,000 to come from sewer usage fees and revenues, and \$250,000 to come from general taxation.

Capital Reserve Fund	Amount	Revenue Source
Fire Equipment	\$225,000	Taxation
Uncompensated Absences	\$25,000	Water Revenues
	\$25,000	Sewer Revenues
	\$25,000	Taxation
Water Infrastructure	\$43,584	Water Fund Balance
Water Vehicle	\$75,000	Water Revenues
Sewer Infrastructure	\$134,668	Sewer Fund Balance
Sewer Vehicle	\$75,000	Sewer Revenues
Green Energy	\$40,359	Sewer Fund Balance

(Recommended by the Board of Commissioners 3-0-0)

Chris Meier: Appropriation to Capital reserve funds is on the floor. Uh, Jason, did you have comments on this?

Jason Gagnon: So again, we've gone over this one in budget hearing, it's the same things we do every year. If anybody has any specific questions, happy to answer them.

Chris Meier: Kris.

Kristine Cluff: 1 quick question on when you're taking money from fund balance Okay. And putting it in, like for example, this year on the fire department vehicle equipment, it said the Article passed at \$205,000, but on the fire department budget you only moved \$200,000. Is that because the other \$5,000 came from fund balance or did do you not move it?

Jason Gagnon: No. So I think it was the, and correct me if I'm wrong, but I think that Warrent Article was \$200,000 raised by taxation with the \$5,000 supposed to come from the sale of the old vehicle. And I think that's where...

Kristine Cluff: At some point, can you revisit that?

Jason Gagnon: Yep.

Kristine Cluff: For me, um, 2021's Chief's report said under his Chief's report, under number one, \$205,000 was going to go to the fire vehicle. Item number 6 said \$4,000 for the sale of R 2. I just wanna make sure we didn't short that Article.

Jason Gagnon: Okay.

Kristine Cluff: \$4,000 and that 5,000 came from fund. So, okay, we're looking for \$9,000 here.

Jason Gagnon: We'll check into that.

Kristine: Just to make, I mean if he needs 4,000 moved, it's just as good in that account.

Jason Gagnon: That's a great point. Thank you.

Chris Meier: Tim.

Robert T. Anderson: Tim, again. I just want to bring up one point under the fire equipment line 225. Okay. We brought that up from 205 to 225 this year. Uh, myself and the Chief had several conversations about that number over the time. We've gone back and revisited our schedule plan that goes out now to 44 or 46. I think we went 22 years. Okay. And I can tell you right now at 225, we are at least 150,000 a year short to be able to buy that truck in 44 based on the current, uh, percentages of increases. So that's another part he and the 3 are going to have to visit next year. If you want to continue to fund fire trucks without bonding or borrowing money, I'll be long gone by time 44 gets here.

Jim Umberger: Are you sure?

Chris Meier: Okay. Further comments on Article 9. Seeing none, I am going to call Article 9 for a vote. All in favor, please raise your hand and say Aye.

Crowd: Aye.

Chris Meier: All opposed, please raise your hand. Hand and say nay. The eyes have it. Article 9 passes as written.

Chris Meier: Article 10, uh, I need a motion.

Suzanne Nelson: I will move to place Article 10 on the floor.

Robert F. Porter: Second.

Article 10 Water Energy Efficiency Upgrades

To see if the voters of the North Conway Water Precinct will vote to rescind the approval of Article 13 "Water Energy Efficiency Upgrades" on the 2022 Warrant and authorize the sum of \$530,000 for the purpose of Energy Efficiency Upgrades through the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services Sustainability Grant Program, to be offset by a \$200,000 grant from the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services, anticipated Federal Direct Payment of \$120,000, and \$40,000 from Green Energy capital reserve funds, with the remainder to come from water enterprise funds. This Article also 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 \$200,000 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, 2028, or until the project is completed, whichever comes first.

(Recommended by the Board of Commissioners 3-0-0)

Chris Meier: Thank you. Article 10's on the floor. Jason?

Jason Gagnon: Okay, so this is a little bit of a confusing Article. So I want to actually explain this one. Last year we had a sustainability grant through New Hampshire DES that looked at energy efficiency improvements at our water facilities. It included a small rooftop solar array on the Well 2 control building plus some HVAC upgrades at facilities across the water system. Shortly after we approved that, the feds released the Inflation Reduction Act. It included for the first time ever significant incentives for municipalities to do solar projects. So in the past, if you were a private developer, you were eligible for a 30% tax credit. We don't pay taxes, we can't get credits. Through the Inflation Reduction Act. Now municipalities can receive that tax credit as a direct payment. Now it's not just 30%, there's 30%, there's 20% based on one thing, there's 10% based on another, there's 30% based on another item. Uh, as long as your contractor can hit these certain criteria... you're familiar with those types of criteria in SRF loans where you might have to use Buy American, right? If you hit a certain comp percentage of American components, then you get a higher level brand or something like that. Same deal with this inflation reduction act. So there's a potential that we can get 60 to 70% direct payment from the feds in addition to the quote unquote guaranteed \$200,000 in grant from DES. So out of the 530,000 that's in the Article now, we may pay very little of that out of pocket. Most of it, most of it should be Grant. Now I say should because the treasury hasn't finished releasing their guidance and there's always, they love to throw curve balls, but they've been working very closely with DES on this, on their guidance stuff. And we feel very, very strongly that there's that minimum 60 to 70% grant all in on this project.

So we put this out to RFP. We got a proposal, uh, that was submitted for the, by the same company that did the solar array out back. They were the, the winning proposal. We got that in late February. Since that time, the solar panels themselves that they quoted have already sold out. These incentives are really motivating people across the country to invest in these projects. So we're trying really hard to get ahead of that demand, which is why we're trying to rescind the Article from last year and approve this new Article so that we can sign that contract with Revision Energy and get going asap. Now because those solar panels have sold out already that they quoted us, they have to use a different panel. So they have asked if we would be willing to raise the price by \$15,500 to cover the difference in the, the new panels that they have to get. The result is the array's going to be a little bit bigger. So we are getting a little bit more

for that extra \$15,000. But once we approve that, we sign that contract, then the price is locked in. The reason they have the ability to do the, to ask for a price increase now is because we haven't signed a contract yet because it hasn't been approved.

Jason Gagnon: So I guess if, if somebody was willing, it would be great if we could a, make a motion to add that 15,500 to the Article.

William Hounsell: So moved.

Chris Meier: Second?

Suzanne Nelson: Second.

Chris Meier: Okay. So the, the amendment is to amend the amount on the second line of Article 10 from 530,000 to 545,000. Discussion on the amendment?

John Santuccio: Sue did.

Jason Gagnon: He was asking for discussion, if there was any.

Chris Meier: Discussion on the Amendment... Did you have, you've got something.

Suzanne Nelson: I don't.

Chris Meier: Okay. All right.

John Santuccio: Sue seconded the amendment.

Suzanne Nelson: I see. No, I did. Yeah, that's not what he's asking.

Chris Meier: Oh, got it. Sorry. I'll speak up. Uh, any, no discussion on the amendment.

Chris Meier: So, all in favor of the amendment. To increase the amount in Article 10 from 530 to 545 please raise your hand and say aye.

Crowd: Aye.

Chris Meier: All opposed, please raise your hand and say, nay. Article 10 is amended to increase the amount line to 545. Okay, so further discussion on Article 10 as amended?

Robert T. Anderson: I got a couple questions, Jason.

Jason Gagnon: Yep...

Robert T. Anderson: I, um, had some conversation in the last couple weeks, not about this place but solar in general and these panels, as I was told, degrade over time. They degrade and not bring in as much power because they're dirty. Are we cleaning ours?

Jason Gagnon: We are not cleaning them going out there and physically cleaning them. So when they do their projections for their 40 year lifespan, that's, that's what they base their projections on is a 40 year lifespan. And I, I forget what the percentage is, but they, they figured that they degrade a certain percent over that 40 years. They factor in all of those things into their projections for what you're getting for power.

Robert T. Anderson: So you really don't know what you're getting for power out of each panel. This is another discussion we had...

Jason Gagnon: Out of each panel. I don't, I think for some specific inverters have the ability to measure what each panel is putting out. But other inverter systems we that...

Robert T. Anderson: ...we don't have that on these systems.

Jason Gagnon: No, no. And in general, on on the large systems, you don't because it's expensive to do an inverter for every panel.

Robert T. Anderson: Okay. So maybe we ought think about cleaning them. We might get an extra... might be able to pay for that extra person!

Chris Meier: Good.

Jason Gagnon: We, we did go out there this year and take the, the skid steer and move the snow away from the bottom of them so the snow would fall off and we wouldn't get short changed from the snow.

Chris Meier: All right. Uh, time to move the time to call the question Article 10. Um, so this is Article 10 as amended to 545. Uh, all in favor, please raise your hand and say aye.

Crowd: Aye.

Chris Meier: All opposed, please raise your hand and say nay... Ayes have it. Article 10, uh, passes as amended to 545,000.

Chris Meier: Uh, Article 11, a motion?

Suzanne Nelson: I move to place Article 11 on the floor.

Robert F. Porter: Second!

Article 11 Wastewater Pickup Truck Replacement

To see if the voters of the North Conway Water Precinct will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$75,000 for replacement of the Wastewater pickup truck with plow. 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]

Chris Meier: Thank you. Article 11 is on the floor. Uh, Jason, you have thoughts on this one?

Jason Gagnon: Yeah, so for Article 11, it's just a standard vehicle replacement. Uh, we've held off in the last couple years because the vehicle availability and pricing has been insane as anybody who's bought a vehicle knows. But we just can't wait forever. We gotta replace these vehicles. Otherwise we're going to keep getting behind. So this year we're doing a new one ton pickup truck at the wastewater plant with a, with a plow.

Chris Meier: Any further comments, questions on Article 11? Seeing none, I will, uh, call, uh, Article 11 for a vote. All in favor? Raise your hand and say aye.

Crowd: Aye.

Chris Meier: All opposed? Okay, Article 11 passes.

Chris Meier: Article 12, Water Pickup Truck Replacement. I'll take a motion to place that on the floor.

Suzanne Nelson: I move to place Article 12 on the floor.

Robert F. Porter: Second!

Article 12 Water Pickup Truck Replacement

To see if the voters of the North Conway Water Precinct will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$75,000 for replacement of a Water pickup truck with plow and utility body. Funding for this Article will come from the Water Vehicle Capital Reserve, with no amount to be raised by taxation.

(Recommended by the Board of Commissioners 3-0-0)

Chris Meier: Okay, Article 12 is on the floor. Jason, you have comments on this one?

Jason Gagnon: Same thing I just said, except for the water department.

Chris Meier: Okay. Anybody else have comments on Article 12 or questions or amendments? Seeing none, I will call the question on Article 12. All in favor? Raise your hand and say aye.

Crowd: Aye.

Chris Meier: All opposed? Article 12 passes.

Chris Meier: Article 13 Appropriation to the Pope Memorial Library. Uh, I'll take a motion to place on the floor.

Suzanne Nelson: Move to place Article 13 on the floor.

Robert Porter: Second.

Article 13 Appropriation to 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]

Chris Meier: Okay. Uh, Article 13 is on the floor. Uh, Sue you want to, did you want to speak to this one? You're listed here.

Suzanne Nelson: Um, Okay.

Chris Meier: You're listed here.

Suzanne Nelson: This is, this isn't, this is something we have every year. It's the same amount. We don't have anybody here from the Pope Library, um, to speak for it. Um, it's your decision.

Chris Meier: Okay. Okay. Anybody want to speak on Article 13?

Karen Umberger: It's important that we do this as part of our community service.

William Hounsell: I agree.

Chris Meier: Okay. Anybody else have comments, questions, concerns, amendments? Seeing none, uh, I will call the question on Article 13. Uh, all in favor? Raise your hand and say, aye.

Crowd: Aye.

Chris Meier: All opposed? Article 13 passes is written.

Chris Meier: Article 14 appropriation to Schouler Park skating rink. Take a motion to place that on the floor.

Suzanne Nelson: I'll move to place Article 14 on the floor.

Robert F. Porter: Second.

Article 14 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]

Chris Meier: Okay. Article 14 is on the floor. Thoughts on that? Yes.

Robert T. Anderson: Yeah. Uh, I would ask the Commissioners to ask the town for a breakdown on cost on that statement, please. Um, I know personally it was only open 3 days this year, so, you know, yeah. You take \$6,700, divided by 3... Pretty expensive. And we provide free water to make ice, which I know they didn't get the ice until February.

Chris Meier: Okay, further comments, questions, amendments? Seeing none, I will place Article 14. Uh, uh, call Article 14 for vote. Uh, all in favor? Raise your hand and say Aye.

Crowd: Aye.

Chris Meier: All opposed?

Crowd: Aye.

Chris Meier: The ayes have it. Article 14 passes.

Chris Meier: Article 15, this is a cell tower lease. I'll take a motion to place this on the floor.

Suzanne Nelson: Uh, make a motion to place Article 15 on the floor.

Robert F. Porter: Second.

Article 15 Cell Tower Lease

To see if the Precinct will authorize its Board of Commissioners to negotiate a lease of property with a private entity on such terms and conditions as it deems to be in the best interest of the Precinct for the purpose of installing, constructing, maintaining, repairing, modifying and operating a commercial telecommunications facility on Precinct property located at either the Hurricane Tank parcel (Town Lot 204-6) or the Pine Hill Tank parcel (Town Lot 251-159) with the understanding that the Board of Commissioners may decline to enter into an agreement if it deems the terms and conditions not to be in the best interest of the Precinct.

(Recommended by the Commissioners 3-0-0)

Chris Meier: Okay, it's on the floor. Jason do you have comments on this one?

Jason Gagnon: Sure. So this is, uh, one of those quests that we have to try and bring in additional revenue to the Precinct. Other water departments do it with, uh, cell facilities on their water towers, which are often at the highest points or higher points in town. What this Article does is it authorizes the Commissioners to start talking to people about the potential of a cell tower lease. And if they find the favor, the conditions of that lease to be favorable to enter into a lease, we still have to go. We as the Precinct, still have to go through the Town Planning Board review process. I think it's the zoning board of adjustment that specifically deals with the special exception for cell towers. The two sites that we're looking at that are listed in this Article. So these are the only two sites we would consider would be our water tanks, Pine Hill Tank or Hurricane Tank.

Chris Meier: Thoughts, comments, amendments on this Article? Yes, Mr. Hounsell?

William Hounsell: I think maybe the cell tower, um, might be an issue that they would be talking about, um, on the master plan update. Um, so I'm pleased to hear it's going to the town and go through the planning board. It'll be integrated into the vision of what the town wants. Uh, I know there's great concern about the environmental...keeping things intact environmentally! So I look forward to that. Hearing that discussion.

Chris Meier: Kris?

Kristine Cluff: Jason, are we any further ahead in negotiations? We talked about it at that deliberative and you still haven't made any decisions.

Jason Gagnon: We, we have not moved ahead in any negotiations. So what we've done is we've, we had one cell tower developer reach out to us and send us a, a model lease, but no discussions if it had about what the rent would be or what the specific tower would be or anything. We wanted voter approval before we even went down that road.

Chris Meier: Anything further? Seeing nothing? Uh, I'll call Article 15 for a vote. All in favor? Raise your hand and say aye.

Crowd: Aye.

Chris Meier: All opposed? The ayes have it. Article 15 passes is written.

Chris Meier: Uh, Article 16, I'll entertain a vote to your motion to place that on the floor.

Suzanne Nelson: I will move to place Article 16 on the floor.

Robert Porter: Second.

Article 16 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 2023.

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

Chris Meier: Okay. Uh, does anyone have any comm... yes?

Kristine Cluff: If you look in this book, it says that the 2021 audit is in draft. We do not have a 21 audit yet and we don't have a 22 audit.

Jason Gagnon: Right. That, that's one of the things that we're hoping to be able to move ahead on by adding that extra office staff. So we were behind, uh,

Kristine Cluff: 1 year last year.

Jason Gagnon: Yeah. In combination because of our inability to, to get stuff out on time. And then it was compounded by our old auditor's inability to then move forward very quickly at all. So we've, we've fixed the auditor issue and we are making significant progress in getting our stuff together faster too. So our goal is within the next year or 2 to be able to have that draft audit letter for the previous year in our annual report.

Kristine Cluff: Right. And we always used to, it just the last couple years is we, we always had a final draft letter for the previous year. This is...

Jason Gagnon: For 21, yeh.

Kris Cluff: Right, so you're saying you're going to, you're saying to me then at the end of this year we will have 21 audit done?

Hannah Anderson: At the end of this year? Yeah.

Kristine Cluff: Is it done now?

Hannah Andersen: The, I mean everything is,

Kristine Cluff: it's still a draft though?

Hannah Andersen: Yeah, it's drafted. But they were working on a coup... Maggie and our accountant and the auditors were working on something a couple weeks ago, but they haven't needed anything from us in 4 months.

Jason Gagnon: Yep.

Kristine Cluff: Maybe a call?

Jason Gagnon: Yep.

William Hounsell: A lifetime ago when I was Selectman, Plodzick and Sanderson was the Town Auditor. I was really pleased to see that they're our auditors now.

Robert T. Anderson: Bill, there' nobody there that was there when you were there, Bud.

Chris Meier: Further comments on Article 16. See none. I'm going to call, call Article 16 for a vote. All in favor is your hand and say Aye.

Crowd: Aye.

Chris Meier: All opposed? Ayes have it Article 16 passes.

Chris Meier: Article 17. Borrowing Against Credit of Precinct. I'll take a motion to place that on the floor.

Suzanne Nelson: I will move to place Article 17 on the floor.

Robert F. Porter: Second.

Article 17 Borrowing Against Credit of 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.

Chris Meier: Uh, Article 17 is on the floor. Any comments on Article 17? Questions? Amendments? Seeing none, I will call the vote on Article 17. Uh, all in favor? Raise your hand and say Aye.

Crowd: Aye.

Chris Meier: All opposed. Article 17 passes.

Chris Meier: Uh, Article 18 act upon any other business. I'll entertain a motion to place Article 18 on the floor.

Suzanne Nelson: I will move to place Article 18 on the floor.

Robert F. Porter: Second.

Article 18 Act Upon any other Business

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

Chris Meier: Got it. Does anybody have any further business, Jason?

Jason Gagnon: Sorry. Uh, we, DES has lots of money and, uh, they're short on staff. So you may have heard us talking about a project that we're working on to look at the impacts of landfill leachate and PFAS which is disposed of here. They actually have a large pot of money that they, that we've been working on them with that they managed to set aside specifically for us to look at this issue. Unfortunately, they didn't get their paperwork out to us in time to get a Warrant Article on our books. So the way that Clean Water SRF works is they do 100% principle forgiveness loans. They can't call it a grant because grants come with different federal strings. So they do a hundred percent principle forgiveness loan. What that means is we have to get authority to borrow at our annual meeting or a special meeting. I talked to our attorney and he advised me against adding an Article of this hour to the existing warrant. What that means is we'll have to do a special meeting. DES told me that they need to get this processed before the end of the fiscal year this year, which means we'll be doing a special meeting. I guess my recommendation would be not in 2 weeks when the next regular commission meeting is because we have notice requirements, but in 4 weeks I wanted to ask people if it's okay to do a special meeting like that following the regular commission meeting in the middle of the day. Will we have anybody who can make it here to vote and approve it? Should we do it at night?

Chris Meier: Does anyone want to speak to that?

Kristine Cluff: I think that you probably should change your next commission or your full week to night meeting. Night meeting and have it at 7 o'clock, not 6 o'clock when people are getting outta work.

Jason Gagnon: Yep.

Kristine Cluff: It's going to be a 10 minute... but under this Article right... that's on the floor right now, you can't raise and appropriate any money.

Jason Gagnon: No.

Kristine Cluff: So you've got to have a Special Meeting.

Jason Gagnon: Yep. So if the... really just looking for consensus, if that works, then that, that's what we'll do.

Kristine Cluff: Is 4 weeks enough time for your posting?

Jason Gagnon: Yes. We... 16 days to post, right?

Kristine Cluff: You have 16 days to post a Warrant?

Jason Gagnon: Yep.

Karen Umberger: Are you sure that DES is going to have it done in a month?

Jason Gagnon: Yes. I, I spoke with them on the phone yesterday... 2 days ago about it. Yep. We just have to get our, we have to get that authority to borrow. They're going to have all that application stuff to us, but it's really that authority to borrow. That's the key point that we need the meeting for.

William Hounsell: That's worth a Special Meeting.

Jason Gagnon: Yeah. Right. It's a hundred percent free money. This is 100% money returned to the Precinct.

Chris Meier: Does anybody else have further business? Jason?

Jason Gagnon: Sorry, I'm that guy tonight. Um, so Tim had brought up a good point about the Village at Kearsarge Sewer project and, um, the Precinct paying for individual pump stations. I was directed to do some research into what happened in the past and in the past, we haven't paid for individual Precinct, uh, individual pump stations in the project, though we do most likely have the capacity to buy these pumps for the people. So this is a, this is something that would change precedent. And I think it's important that the community, the, the voters weigh in. Now, this is not a, a special Article or a, or a anything like that. But I think it's important that we have a public hearing on it so that, so that the Commissioners can get the input of the, of the voters and the taxpayers and the rate payers so that they can make an informed decision on do we want to change precedent and buy pump stations for this project? Or do we want to stick with the old precedent and not do it? And and that's, I think, important that you guys are able to provide that input and provide that guidance for us on this project. So that, I just wanted everybody to know that that's where we're moving forward. That's the, the idea to move forward with that concept on that project.

Chris Meier: So you'll hold a hearing?

Jason Gagnon: to hold a public hearing. Right. It's, it's not a special meeting like this. There's no vote. It's really just a public hearing to receive public input on how the Commissioner should move forward within the budget that's already been approved for the project.

William Hounsell: I look forward to that discussion. Because David and I, uh, had projects where we might have to buy several pumps. Uh, and, uh, we, we would even talk to the people about how the pumps were and how much they would cost. And we were looking at buying in the budget. Uh, the Kearsarge Village, uh, design layout is unique. And so I look forward to the hearing so we can explain it, because...

Jason Gagnon: That's a great discussion for that hearing.

William Hounsell: A lot of, a lot of, yeah. A lot of the, uh, design was for the protection of the wellhead area and to stay away from the brook. And as a result of the change of design, 10 people have their thoughts. I take, there's money in the, uh, in the budget to do it. And I think we, I look forward to, uh, a fair and equitable discussion of why we should purchase those pumps.

Chris Meier: Okay.

William Hounsell: ... on that particular design we have.

Chris Meier: Any other items of new business?

Jason Gagnon: I'm done.

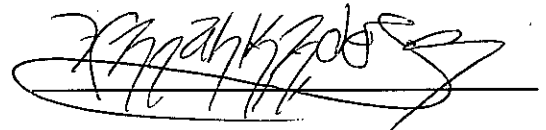
Karen Umberger: You're done? I know that, uh, John received his, uh, pump there earlier tonight, but, uh, I think that all of us are very pleased with what John has done for us over the years. And I just want to close the meeting with a nice round of applause.

*The room joined in a round of applause for John Santuccio's 50 years of selfless service
to the North Conway Water Precinct and the North Conway Fire Department.*

John Santuccio: Motion to adjourn.

Kristine Cluff: Second.

Minutes recorded by:



Hannah K. Andersen, Recording Secretary

I, Gary R. Chandler, certify these minutes as the 2023
Annual Meeting Minutes of March 29, 2023.



Gary R. Chandler, Clerk

North Conway Water Precinct

**THANK YOU FOR 50 YEARS OF DEDICATED SERVICE TO
THE NORTH CONWAY WATER PRECINCT, JOHN!**



MIKE SANTUCCIO - KRISTEN SANTUCCIO - TODD MACDONALD - LORI MACDONALD
JOHN SANTUCCIO - JULIE CUMMINGS - KEVIN SANTUCCIO

2023 Special Meeting

Wednesday, May 3, 2023, at 7:00P.M.
North Conway Water Precinct Office
104 Sawmill Lane North Conway, NH

Present:

Commissioner Suzanne Nelson
Commissioner James Umberger
Superintendent Jason Gagnon
Fire Chief Chad McCarthy
Moderator Donald Ekberg

Treasurer Robert T. Anderson
Nicholas Preece
William Hounsell
Recording Secretary Hannah Andersen.

Donald Ekberg: It's seven o'clock. I'm Don Ekberg, the moderator. I will call this special meeting together. Um, I think we'll pass on the formality we usually have for the full meeting cause there's only one agenda item. Does everybody have a copy of it? It saves me from reading it.

Suzanne Nelson: Don ... where we've got the camera and it's gonna be so short. Why don't you read it?

Donald Ekberg: Okay. I'll read it. You want me to read it? I'll read it. The new business. This is a, uh, the item, uh, on the floor. Uh, I guess I need a motion to get it on the floor. Is there a motion to put this on the floor?

Suzanne Nelson: Well, would you like me to read the new business? The purpose?

Donald Ekberg: Okay, you can do that.

Suzanne Nelson: Ok, I can do that. So, um, the purpose of this Special Meeting is to discuss the funding available from New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services, um, relative to pre-treatment of the Mount Washington Valley Solid Waste District Landfill Leachate. Um, New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services funding will be provided through the Clean Water State Revolving Fund Loan Program with 100% of the loan principle forgiven. The sole order of business at the Special Meeting shall be granting authority to borrow from this funding.

Donald Ekberg: Okay, thank you. Um, the article is attached and I guess everybody had a copy. **Is there a motion to put this on the floor?**

James Umberger: So moved.

Donald Ekberg: **Is there a second?**

Suzanne Nelson: Second.

Donald Ekberg: I'll read the article:

SP Article 01: Long Term Borrowing – Landfill Leachate Pre-Treatment Study

To see if the voters of the North Conway Water Precinct will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$600,000 (gross budget) for preliminary study and design of a pre-treatment system for landfill leachate (the "Project"); and to authorize the Commissioners to issue up to \$600,000 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 is anticipated to receive 100% principal forgiveness through the New Hampshire Clean Water State Revolving Fund and shall have no tax impact.

Donald Ekberg: So is there any, uh, any body who wishes to speak on this article.

Jason Gagnon: Do you want me to describe it a little bit for...

Suzanne Nelson: Yeah, for the people watching, would be great.

Jason Gagnon: Of course. So the Water Precinct has historically taken all of the landfill leachate from the Town of Conway's Landfill, leachate is the water that oozes out of the bottom of the dump after it rains, in exchange for them taking a portion of our wastewater sludge. Recently with all the new emphasis on PFAS, which are fluorinated chemicals, we've been proactive down here at the Wastewater Plant trying to figure out where our PFAS is coming from because we're at risk of violating our permit by discharging too much PFAS out the end of the Plant. Again, we're not making PFAS; it just comes to us and we have to deal with it. What we found is that landfill leachate is a significant source of PFAS and we've been working with DES behind the scenes to figure out how we can address this issue.

So this project here looks at the beginning of that project, selecting a consultant who has experience with these types of things, specifically PFAS treatment and landfill leachate, bringing them in here to do an evaluation of what we have at the wastewater plant, what they have up at the landfill, and then identifying the best technology to implement to treat that PFAS and remove it. It's anticipated that this phase will, will be followed by a second phase, which DES has also indicated they have funding for us, or to actually build and construct this thing. So this first one is really that initial design study. What, what are we gonna do and how are we gonna do it? And then the next phase will be, okay, now let's actually go ahead and put this thing in place and build it.

Moderator Ekberg: Thank you. Uh. Anybody wish to speak on this? Mr. Anderson.

Robert T. Anderson: Want me to stand up, Mr. Moderator?

Donald Ekberg: You can do anything you want. Identify yourself for the record.

Robert T. Anderson: Uh, Tim Anderson, North Conway. They're gonna give us \$600,000 to do this project. When's it gonna start? When's it gonna end?

Jason Gagnon: So we have the request for qualifications out right now. Uh, we've actually gotten some big names internationally in PFAS who've come down and, and met with little old North Conway about this project. A lot of people are pretty excited about it. The RFQ responses are due back, uh, June 2nd I believe, or third, whatever that, whichever is Friday. Uh, after that, we will select a consultant. So I imagine that things will probably get rolling late summer and they'll do their study through the fall. And depending on how quickly things wrap up, we could have a project ready for Annual Meeting next year. Uh, or it could be after that. I really don't know because I've never been involved in a, a PFAS project of this scale.

Robert T. Anderson: Yes. I'm, I'm only concerned about the money side. So they're gonna pay the 600,000.

Jason Gagnon: Yup...

Robert T. Anderson: Yep. And we're not gonna take a RFQ over 600?

Jason Gagnon: No. So the way the RFQ works is we, we have to select the most qualified consultant and then we negotiate a scope and fee. If that fee is more than \$600,000, then we can't do it. Okay. We, we negotiate the scope down or we then move to the next most qualified firm and try and negotiate a fee that's within budget with them.

Robert T. Anderson: Okay. I got that. So, because we can only spend 600,000.

Jason Gagnon: Correct.

Robert T. Anderson: So, the next question is, is I'm not quite sure why we're bonding it. If when the project's done, they just won't pay for it.

Jason Gagnon: So DES has two wings. They have their Drinking Water wing and they have their Clean Water, which is what they call the wastewater wing. The drinking water wing is, they're fine with giving out grants. They do grants all the time for whatever reason, the clean water side doesn't like to do grants. They do 100% principle forgiveness loans. And I think that has to do with how their paperwork and strings are handled on the back end on their side. They just, it's just what they, the way they do it. There was some discussion about maybe they would move to a grant for this and they said, no, we're gonna stick with the a hundred percent principle forgiveness loan, which is why we have to have this special meeting. Cuz if it was a grant, we wouldn't have to...

Robert T. Anderson: So we're back to the same question. When are they gonna pay?

Jason Gagnon: They pay when it's done. Um, we get, well actually, they, they pay whenever we submit a disbursement request. So what will happen is we'll enter into a contract with this consultant. They will do work, they'll send us bills, we will pay them out of our fund balance that we have. If we choose, we can submit a disbursement request to DES. Well, they'll then reimburse us for that, but anything that we request before the end of the project, we pay construction period interest on. Which, you know, depending on what that is, it could be a couple thousand dollars over the course of whatever. That's one of the advantages of us having a very healthy fund balance is that we don't have to pay that construction period interest because we have that cushion.

Robert T. Anderson: So in the RFQ, we have a start date and stop date?

Jason Gagnon: Not yet, because we don't even have a, a scope negotiated.

Robert T. Anderson: It will be...

Jason Gagnon: I think that the loan has to be expended within, I think it's like two or three years, uh, is what the, the start and the stop date of the funding availability is. Um, but we, we won't have an official start and stop date with the consultant until we negotiate that scope and figure out exactly...

Robert T. Anderson: Well, that's what I mean...

Jason Gagnon: Yeh. Yep.

Robert T. Anderson: So, you're not anticipating any interest at all then?

Jason Gagnon: No, I'm hoping we don't. Nope. I also think that \$600,000 is, is, uh, very conservative and I think we'll be able to come in under that depending on how many different types of treatment they decide to, to pilot, which is where they bring in a small unit and see how it actually works in place.

Robert T. Anderson: Yep. So, so my final question. If the commission decides to bond this...

Jason Gagnon: Yep.

Robert T. Anderson: ... and we take a bond out for whatever the interest is.

Jason Gagnon: Yep.

Robert T. Anderson: ...and however, at that point you decide to pay it, this does come under the treatment plant, right?

Jason Gagnon: Yes.

Robert T. Anderson: So that falls under the IMA?

Jason Gagnon: Under the IMA, yes.

Robert T. Anderson: Okay.

Jason Gagnon: Yep.

Robert T. Anderson: Thank you.

Jason Gagnon: Yep.

Donald Ekberg: Any other comments or questions on... Yes, Mr. Hounsell?

William Hounsell: Um, on the design, what this says, preliminary study and design, what are they designing?

Jason Gagnon: Well, nobody knows yet. So the first part is, is, uh, really it's gonna be a characterization of what the landfill leachate has in it...

William Hounsell: Right

Jason Gagnon: ... so they can figure out what they're trying to treat.

William Hounsell: Right.

Jason Gagnon: And then they have to figure out what we have here for receiving facilities.

William Hounsell: Right.

Jason Gagnon: And figure out whether it makes sense to put whatever they use to treat down here, or it makes sense to put it up at the landfill or

William Hounsell: So it's a design vision?

Jason Gagnon: It... yeah. This is preliminary engineering, so we're not gonna,

William Hounsell: The next stage would be the actual design if we

Jason Gagnon: Correct.

William Hounsell: If we go along with that.

Jason Gagnon: Correct. Yep. So this will get us to the point where we know what we want to do and we know how much it's gonna cost.

William Hounsell: Right...

Jason Gagnon: The next phase will be to actually design it and build it.

William Hounsell: Yep.

Donald Ekberg: Yes?

William Hounsell: I, I would like to say that we're on the frontier of this issue. And, uh, I congratulate the Commissioners and all for, for leading the way. Across the state, PFAS is a big, big issue. And this supports this, this must be coming through the state revolved loan thing. So wastewater coming through that comes from EPA is a loan program. So the only way they can pivot to communities is through a loan, but then they can figure it at hundred percent. Now on this particular loan, if we go further, then that puts us in the position of getting SRF loan with some grant forgiveness maybe. And the 30% State Aid Grant with that we are always fighting for. So this, there's a lot of grant potential for this, but we are on the frontier of it because it's, uh, pushing the envelope on science. And the Town has a big involvement in this because if we can't take their leachate, the burden's put back onto the Town Tax Payers to come up with a solution. And the other thing I would like to, to mention is that we're all in this together. Every system that's a private system has to get pumped and it comes here. So, so everybody, whether they're on this system or not on this system in the valley, uh, should be very interested in how we handle

a trash valley line and how we handle the, uh, septage either in our private systems or, or this, this facility. And I congratulate you for keeping focus on the fact that this facility could be the answer to the whole Valley's problems and the regional solution and to that extent, leading frontier with DES. Thank you.

Donald Ekberg: Thank you. Anybody else wish to speak on this issue? Are you ready for the vote? All in favor of this article signified by saying aye.

Crowd: Aye.

Donald Ekberg: Opposed? The ayes have it.

Donald Ekberg: The article has passed. Is there any further business of this meeting?

James Umberger: Motion to adjourn.

Donald Ekberg: Second?

Suzanne Nelson: Second!

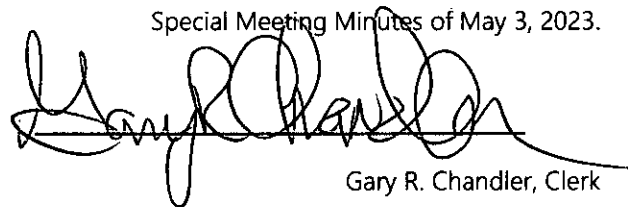
Donald Ekberg: Adjourned.

Minutes recorded by:



Hannah K. Andersen, Recording Secretary

I, Gary R. Chandler, certify these minutes as the
Special Meeting Minutes of May 3, 2023.



Gary R. Chandler, Clerk
North Conway Water Precinct

2023 Special Meeting

Wednesday, July 5, 2023, at 7:00P.M.
North Conway Water Precinct Office
104 Sawmill Lane North Conway, NH

Present:

Commissioner Suzanne Nelson
Commissioner James Umberger
Commissioner Deborah Fauver
Superintendent Jason Gagnon

Fire Chief Chad McCarthy
Moderator Donald Ekberg
Recording Secretary Hannah Andersen.

Moderator Don Ekberg called the meeting to order at 7:00PM.

Commissioner Suzanne Nelson introduced Deborah Fauver as NCWP's newly appointed Commissioner..

Moderator Don Ekberg led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Article SP2: Purchase of Property for Groundwater Protection

To see if the voters of the North Conway Water Precinct will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$240,000 (gross budget) for purchase of 96 +/- acres within the Precinct's groundwater protection zone to permanently protect the Precinct's drinking water supply from potentially adverse impacts from private activity on this property. This land purchase will be funded from sewer operating budget and shall be offset by \$240,000 in cash from the CVFD Interconnect fund and shall have no tax impact. Simple majority vote required.

Motion of James Umberger and seconded by Suzanne to put Article SP2 on the floor.

Jason Gagnon: Thank you all for coming out tonight. It's so nice to see so many people here to discuss groundwater protection. The Precinct is very fortunate to have an incredible groundwater aquifer that produces what I think is some of the best drinking water on earth. We are the largest, we are the largest non-disinfectant system in the state of New Hampshire. That means that we're the biggest system that exists in the state that doesn't have to add chlorine. So, we get to drink drinking water, not pool water. In any event, we learned, uh, Peter Donohue is actually here; he informed me about this property being for sale and inquired if we were interested. So, thank you, Peter. In your packet is a map, and you can see that the southern border of this property that we're hoping to purchase is only about 1,750 feet from the Precinct's highest producing well. It's not only the Precinct's highest producing well, it's the highest producing gravel pack well in the State of New Hampshire. So, it's an incredible opportunity to be able to permanently control and protect land that directly influences a major well, that is critical for the Precinct today and for the foreseeable future. The way that we're going to fund this, it's a little interesting how they word it, but we have to word it how the State asks us to word it. So, it's being added to the sewer operating budget, which we have already approved, but that's then being offset by cash that we have in the bank. Uh, that was collected when Conway Village

Fire District connected their sewer system. So, the whole reason our sewer system was built in the first place was to protect our drinking water. So, this is a great use that really brings that money full circle. It's money that was brought into the Precinct from sewer that can now be put back to protecting our drinking water. So, this is a great use that really brings that money full circle. It's money that was brought into the Precinct from sewer that can now be put back into protecting our drinking water. And that's really it, in a nutshell. If anybody has any specific questions, I'm happy to answer them. I guess the only other thing I'll say is \$240,000 is more than we were hoping to pay for the property, but we did have another offer, I have a copy of it here, a bonafide offer from someone out of North Carolina who had offered \$225,000 for it. So, \$240,000 was the price we had to pay in order to secure the property.

Donald Ekberg: Would anybody like to speak on the subject? And if you do, I guess... is there a mic you need to find somewhere?

Jason Gagnon: Uh, we don't have a mic, but we could probably turn one of these around.

Donald Ekberg: Okay. Uh, but when you speak, if you could introduce yourself, please. Is there anybody that wishes to speak on this issue?

Bill Hounsell: My name is Bill Hounsell, for the record. I just want to thank you all for coming here. This is a marvelous turnout, and I was very worried that it would be a low turnout, and some would be against this. So, because you're turned on, I want us, I want to go on the record as saying, you folks, you voters have paid \$75 million worth of investment for this infrastructure. And I want to remind you that we did it initially because nitrates were headed to our drinking water, that wonderful aquifer. And so, this is a step forward in the same direction you've let us in and supported. From 1988 until now, uh, this is a, a step forward for the valley. This, this little district, uh of new voters, uh sometimes 120 or 60 show up to vote have done the most amazing job. And I wanted to, uh, congratulate you all and say how wonderful this is for us that are working to make things happen; to know that we have the taxpayer, uh support of this district. Any Thank you very much.

Suzanne Nelson: Can I just say something? Um, you can all hear me, right? Okay. Um, we have, we pride ourselves on being proactive rather than waiting for an issue to develop. Somebody bought it and is using it and using chemicals or whatever for farming. We are taking the step to prevent that. And we like to think that, you know, that's part of our mission. Nobody can see the future. Nobody can predict everything that's going to happen, but by doing this, we're taking a step in the right direction to prevent some negative things from happening. And I would also love to thank you all for showing up and, I mean especially on a beautiful night that hasn't existed all summer. So, thank you very much.

Donald Ekberg: Anybody else wish to speak on this issue, either for or against? Ok. Are you ready for a vote on the question?

Room filled with resounding yes.

Donald Ekberg: The question is uh, to approve the article as read; all those in favor say "Aye" ...

Room filled with resounding ayes.

Donald Ekberg: *Opposed? The ayes have it.* With nothing else official on the agenda, does anybody have any other ideas? Is there a motion to adjourn?

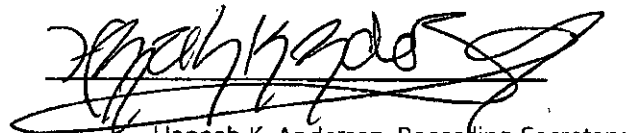
James Umberger: So moved.

Donald Ekberg: Is there a second?

Deborah Fauver: Second!

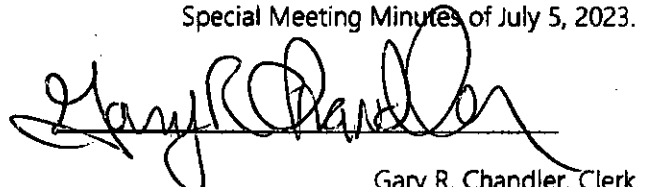
Donald Ekberg: Meeting adjourned.

Minutes recorded by:



Hannah K. Andersen, Recording Secretary

I, Gary R. Chandler, certify these minutes as the
Special Meeting Minutes of July 5, 2023.



Gary R. Chandler, Clerk
North Conway Water Precinct

We take great pride not only in providing a reliable supply of clean, safe, and great tasting drinking water to all of our customers but also in protecting the natural resources of the aquifer from which it comes.

