Town of Hartford

Annual Town Meeting Minutes

For Fiscal Year

July 1, 2018 - June 30, 2019

The meeting was held at the Town Hall beginning at 8:00 am June 11, 2018. Rebecca Downey read the greetings of Warrant for Annual Town Meeting. Rebecca Downey read Article #1 calling for the election of a Moderator.

**Article #1**: Rebecca Downey nominated Daryl Boness as moderator to preside at said meeting.

**Article #2**: To elect by secret ballot one Selectman for the term of three (3) years, and one Road Commissoiner for a term of three (2) years.

Daryl showed that the ballot box was empty.

Daryl locked the ballot box and declared the polls open.

Daryl closed the polls at 8:00 pm.

Results of the secret ballot election:

**Selectman, three year term: Expiring June of 2022**

 **Doug Crist 59**

 **Lori Swan 91**

 **Write in 4**

 **Blank 3**

**Road Commissioner, two year term: Expiring June of 2021**

 **Alan McNeil 136**

 **Write in 8**

 **Blank 10**

**School Budget vote: Article 1 Yes 105 No 48 Blank 4**

 **Article 2 Yes 98 No 53 Blank 6**

Rebecca recessed the meeting until June 15, 2019 at 9:00 am.

June 15, 2019 at 9:00 am, Hartford Town Hall, the town meeting reconvened.

Deputy Moderator, Scott Cole, took his oath of office and shared the results of the municipal election, as previously printed.

**Article 3:** To elect and/or appoint the following Town Officers for the ensuing year or to take any other action thereto:

One General Assistance Director

Board of Assessors

Five (5) Budget Committee Members

One Fire Warden (pursuant to MRSA 25, Part 6, Chapter 315, subsection 2391).

A motion was made by Lee Holman to nominate the board of selectmen as General Assistance Director. This motion was seconded by Cathy Lowe.

**Vote by show of hands: Yes**

A motion was made by Lee Holman, seconded by Cathy Lowe to nominate the board of selectmen as Board of Assessors.

**Vote by show of hands: Yes**

Nominations were made for Budget Committee and seconded for the following:

There were 10 nominations:

 Dan Maddox 15

 Doug Crist 31

 **Robert L'Heureux 40**

 **Lennie Eichman 35**

 **Doreen Maxwell** **33**

 **Christine Mumau** **33**

 Cindy McNeil 32

 **Al Borzelli** **37**

 Charmae Gammon 23

 Jenny Garrigan 20

**Vote by secret Ballot: Robert L’Heureux**

 **Lennie Eichman**

 **Doreen Maxwell**

 **Christine Mumau**

 **Al Borzelli**

Have been placed on the Budget Committee

A motion was made by Lee Holman, seconded by Cathy Lowe to nominate Clarence Hill as Fire Warden.

**Vote by show of hands: Yes**

**Article 4:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and/or appropriate a sum of money ($630,163) to be placed in the Road Account.

**Vote by show of hands: Yes**

**Article 5:** To see if the Town will vote and/or appropriate a sum of money ($226,529) for the General and Administrative Account to cover operational expenses of the Town.

Amendment approved to redirect from General Admin to Selectboard members wages $3,000, ($1,000/selectboard member). A second Amendment was to reduce General Admin by $4,600, this amendment was rejected by the body. A third Amendment was introduced to increase all salaries the same, 3.5%; this amendment was rejected by the body.

**Vote by show of hands: Yes – Move to approve $3,000 redirect within General Admin to Selectboard Member salaries, not to change the General Admin Budget of $226,529.** *\*\*Meeting minutes revised: the motion to redirect $3,000 to the Selectboard, also included a provision to take this from the town clerks salary leaving the raise for that position @$1,600\*\**

**Article 6:** To see if the town will vote to raise and/or appropriate a sum of money ($97,544)for the Sanitation Accounts.

**Vote by show of hands: Yes – passed as written**

**Article 7:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and/or appropriate a sum of money ($81,098) for the Emergency Services Accounts.

**Vote by show of hands: Yes - passed as written**

**Article 8:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and/or appropriate a sum of money ($14,250) to be placed into the Reserve Accounts.

**Vote by show of hands: Yes - passed as written**

**Article 9:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and/or appropriate a sum of money ($11,838) for the Social Services account.

**Vote by show of hands: Yes - passed as written**

**Article 10:** To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen to use Overlay for accounts exceeding appropriated amounts, including tax abatements and applicable interest. **Vote by show of hands: Yes** - **passed as written**

**Article 11:** To see if the Town will authorize the Board of Selectmen to enter into a Three-Year contract with Turner Rescue and with Buckfield Rescue to continue to provide services to the town.

**Vote by show of hands: Yes – passed as written**

**Article 12:** To see if the Town will adopt the proposed Road Construction Standards Ordinance.

**Vote by show of hands: Yes – passed as written**

**Article 13:** To see if the Town will adopt the proposed Local Food and Community Self-Governance Ordinance.

The body chose to eliminate A as an option, and move on to Option B. There was no need for Option C, it has been stricken.

**Vote by show of hands: Yes – Option B, passed as written**

**Article 14:** To see if the Town will adopt the proposed Herbicide Ordinance.

The body chose to eliminate A as an option, and move on to Option B. There was no need for Option C, it has been stricken.

**Vote by show of hands: Yes – Option B, passed as written**

**Article 15:** To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen on behalf of the Town to sell and dispose of any real estate acquired by the
Town for non-payment of taxes. Sale or sales of said properties is to be by sealed bid and advertised seven (7) days in advance by posting in two conspicuous public places and by placing an advertisement in a newspaper of general circulation and to execute Municipal Quit Claim Deeds for such property. The Board of Selectmen may, without auction or advertisement, sell to the person or persons to whom a property was taxed at the time the property was acquired by the Town or to their heirs or assigns, such property at the amount of the accrued taxes, interest, lien costs and administrative fees as determined by

State Law and the Board of Selectmen and therefore shall execute and deliver a Municipal Quit Claim Deed for such property.

**Vote by show of hands: Yes – passed as written**

**Article 16:** To see if the Town will vote to fix the following dates on which real and personal property taxes shall be due and payable: one half of the tax shall be due and payable on December 1, 2018 and one half of the tax shall be due and payable on May 1, 2019. Christine Mumau motioned to accept as written, Lori Swan seconded.

**Vote by show of hands: Yes – passed as written**

**Article 17:** To see if the Town will vote to fix an annual interest rate of the maximum allowed by State Law (currently 9%) on real and personal property taxes not paid on or before December 1, 2019 and May 1, 2020.

**Vote by show of hands: Yes – passed as written**

**Article 18:** To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Tax Collector or the Deputy Tax Collector to accept prepayments of property taxes not yet due or assessed and to fix an annual interest rate of zero percent (0%) on taxes paid prior to the due date. 9M.R.S.A. 36, Section 506, amended).

**Vote by show of hands: Yes – passed as written**

**Article 19:** To see if the Town will vote to fix an annual interest rate of three percent (3%) on excess taxes paid when tax abatements are issued by the Board of Assessors (M.R.S.A. 36. Section 506A, as amended).

**Vote by show of hands: Yes – passed as written**

**Article 20:** To see if the Town will vote to accept all revenues from Cost Sharing Projects and from State and Federal agencies. This revenue will be distributed to the appropriate accounts as intended by said agencies.

**Vote by show of hands: Yes – passed as written**

**Article 21:** To see if the Town will vote to accept the categories of funds listed below as provided by the Maine State Legislature, and appropriate and apply the total estimated amount of $168,057 against the total amount authorized to be raised by taxation (to reduce the 2018/19 Tax Commitment).

 **Fund Category Estimated Amount**

 State Municipal Revenue Sharing.................. $77,500.00

 Urban Rural Initiative Program...................... $35,000.00

 Tree Growth Reimbursement...................... $15,000.00

 Veterans Exemption Return............................ $ 1,000.00

 Snowmobile Registration Refund..................... $ 250.00

 Homestead Exemption Return..................... $83.000.00

 Total $211,750.00

**Vote by show of hands: Yes – passed as written**

**Article 22:** To see if the Town will vote to apply the local revenue amount of $222,520 against the total amount authorized to be raised by Taxation (to reduce the 2019/2020) Tax Commitment).

**Vote by show of hands: Yes – passed as written**

**Article 23:** To see if the Town will vote to increase the property tax levy limit established for Hartford by State Law in the event that the municipal budget approved under the preceding articles will result in a tax commitment that is greater than that property tax levy limit.

**Vote by show of written ballot: Yes 16 No 0**

Motion to adjourn was made by Scott Cole, Lee Holman seconded.

**Vote by show of hands: Yes**

**Adjourned 1:13 pm**

**Respectfully submitted**

**Rebecca Downey**

**Town Clerk**

APPROVED BY

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Lee Holman Date

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Cathy Lowe Date

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Lori Swan Date