

Town Council Special Session Minutes

Wednesday, March 9, 2022



Met immediately following the Deliberative Session in the All-Purpose Room of the James Mastricola Upper Elementary School

Chairman Tom Koenig called the meeting to order at 7:55 PM. Present at tonight's meeting were Vice Chair Finlay Rothhaus, Councilor Nancy Murphy, Councilor Andy Hunter, Councilor Nancy Harrington, Councilor Lon Woods and Councilor Barbara Healey.

Chairman Koenig called for a vote for recommendation by the Council on the following Articles:

Article 1 is to elect Town officers for the ensuing year and, therefore, no recommendation from the Council is required.

Article 2

MOTION was made by Councilor Woods and seconded by Councilor Murphy to recommend Article 2 – To raise and appropriate the sum of \$10,102,750 (gross budget) for Waste Water Treatment upgrades to the Wash Water Piping, Compost Facility, Headworks Building and New Screening Building as well as ADA improvements and other miscellaneous upgrades to the main plant.

MOTION CARRIES 7-0-0.

Article 3

MOTION was made by Councilor Hunter and seconded by Councilor Woods to recommend petitioned Article 3 – To raise and appropriate the sum of \$3,000,000 (gross budget) for drainage and road repairs to Woodland Drive area (Shady Lane, Evergreen Drive, Glenwood Lane, Deerwood Drive, Birchwood Road, Pinetree Lane, Fernwood Drive, Forest Drive, Hartwood Drive and Timber Lane) and to authorize the issuance of not more than \$3,000,000 of bonds or notes.

MOTION TO RECOMMEND FAILS 0-4-3.

Councilor Hunter, Vice Chair Rothhaus, Councilor Woods and Chairman Koenig voted in opposition.

Article 4

MOTION was made by Councilor Healey and seconded by Councilor Woods to recommend Article 4 – To raise and appropriate as an operating budget, not including appropriations by special warrant articles and other appropriations voted separately, the amounts set forth on the budget posted with the warrant or as amended by vote of the first session, for the purposes set forth therein, totaling \$36,218,840? Should this article be defeated, the default budget shall be \$34,355,572.

MOTION CARRIES 7-0-0.

Article 5

MOTION was made by Councilor Harrington and seconded by to recommend Article 5 – To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,947,250 to be added to the specific Capital Reserve/Expendable Trust Funds previously established for the purposes for which they were created and to apportion the sum among the several funds.

MOTION CARRIES 7-0-0.

Article 6

MOTION was made by Councilor Woods and seconded by Councilor Healey to recommend Article 6 - To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$500,000 to be added to the Sewer Infrastructure Capital Reserve Fund previously established with said amount to come from sewer fees and no amount to come from taxation.

MOTION CARRIES 7-0-0.

Article 7

MOTION was made by Councilor Woods and seconded by Councilor Harrington to recommend Article 7 - To approve the cost items included in a collective bargaining agreement reached between the Merrimack Town Council and the Teamsters, Local 633, which calls for the following increases in salaries and benefits at the current staffing levels and further to raise and appropriate the sum of \$49,759, such sum representing the anticipated increase in salaries and benefits over those of the appropriation at current staffing levels paid in the prior fiscal year.

MOTION CARRIES 7-0-0.

Article 8 is not a monetary item; therefore, a vote from the Town Council is not required.

MOTION was made by Councilor Woods and seconded by Councilor Murphy to adjourn the special session. **MOTION CARRIES 7-0-0.**

The session adjourned at 8:08 PM

Respectfully submitted by Becky Thompson