



|                                      |        |        |
|--------------------------------------|--------|--------|
| Insurance - Town                     | 18,000 | 18,000 |
| Library                              | 1,417  | 1,500  |
| Machinery Maintenance                | 35,000 | 35,000 |
| MA Division of Employment Security   | 1,800  | 206    |
| Police                               | 1      | 1      |
| Printing & Supplies                  | 8,000  | 8,000  |
| Schools incl bus                     | 48,089 | 36,000 |
| So. Berk. Volunteer Ambulance Squad  | 1,500  | 2,000  |
| Town Buildings- Maintenance & Repair | 5,000  | 5,000  |
| Town Counsel                         | 5,000  | 5,000  |
| Town Highway w/ extra stone          | 45,000 | 45,000 |
| Town Officers' Expense               | 5,075  | 5,000  |
| Constable pay, election year         | 925    | 925    |
| Mileage reimbursement                | 200    | 200    |
| BOH Admin                            | 3,790  | 3,864  |
| Town Secretary                       | 25,846 | 20,000 |
| Tree Warden                          | 18,000 | 18,000 |
| Utilities                            | 10,000 | 10,000 |
| Veterans' Services                   | 953    | 971    |
| Winter Maintenance                   | 65,000 | 65,000 |

**Total**                      **\$569,298**                      **\$560,271**

Jim moved the Article. Judy Whitbeck seconded. All voted in favor. No one opposed.  
**The Article passed unanimously.**

**Article 3:** To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the following sums of money to fix salaries of the Elected Town Officers:

|               | <u>FY 2019</u> | <u>FY 2020</u>  |
|---------------|----------------|-----------------|
| Treasurer     | 16,462         | 16,791          |
| Tax Collector | 3,745          | 3,870           |
| SB Chair      | 1,825          | 1,862           |
| SB Member     | 1,368          | 1,395           |
| SB Member     | 1,368          | 1,395           |
| Assessor      | 1,501          | 1,531           |
| Assessor      | 1,501          | 1,531           |
| Assessor      | 1,501          | 1,531           |
| Town Clerk    | 2,500          | 2,500           |
| Constable     | 393            | 401             |
| Moderator     | <u>0</u>       | <u>0</u>        |
| <b>Total</b>  | <b>32,164</b>  | <b>\$32,807</b> |

This article requires a two thirds majority vote.

Ellie moved the Article. Keith Torrico seconded. All voted in favor. No one opposed. **The Article passed unanimously.**

**Article 4:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$27,500.00 in Waste Management fees, to cover all costs associated with waste disposal and recycling.

Jim moved the Article. Ellie seconded. Ellie explained how current garbage is sent to Springfield, MRF, but indicated costs are expected to rise with new contracts and there have been increases in garbage. She told how there are problems with dumping on Wednesdays and urged anyone using the transfer station on Wednesdays to follow the rules. She said that the DEP website, Recyclopedia, will explain what to do with various objects that need recycling. She told townspeople that they can bring certain items to Egremont for a fee and she would be trying to make that process easier. She urged people to use less, to ask how to dispose of things, to rinse their recycling to avoid attracting rodents and to return their deposit bottles and cans themselves.

All voted in favor of the Article. No one opposed. **The Article passed unanimously.**

**Article 5:** To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board to appoint any committee or committees and give them or any Town Officer an authority or indemnity and to transact any other business that may legally come before said meeting.

Jim moved the Article. Ellie seconded. Andy Traines asked what this was for. Jim explained it simply allowed the Selectboard to act for the Town during the year to get things done. Brian Tobin noted the Board had appointed a committee this past year, for example, to explore their desire to move the school house to the center of Town.

All voted in favor of the Article. No one opposed. **The Article passed unanimously.**

**Article 6:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$13,000.00 for inspection services. (This is a revolving fund to cover expenses for inspections until payment is received for those services by third parties.)

Jim moved the Article. Cory seconded. All voted in favor of the Article. No one opposed. **The Article passed unanimously.**

**Article 7:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$5,000 for a Reserve fund, as provided in Chapter 40, Section 6 of the Massachusetts General Laws.

Jim moved the Article. Ellie seconded. All voted in favor of the Article. No one opposed. **The Article passed unanimously.**

**Article 8:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$96,000.00 to cover all costs associated with the Mount Washington Broadband Network. (to be reimbursed in fees collected)

Brian Tobin moved the Article. Jim seconded. Jim stated that Broadband has done really well and \$42000 was being put in a Broadband Stabilization account as a result. Brian Tobin said Broadband is healthy, with a surplus in funds and there was a recent issue with an outage, but that would be discussed and not happen again. He apologized for the outage.

All voted in favor of the Article. No one opposed. **The Article passed unanimously.**

**Article 9:** To see if the Town will vote to create a Broadband Stabilization Fund and transfer to that fund \$42,186.00 from free cash (income, less expenses for fiscal 2018 Broadband). This article requires a two-thirds majority vote.

Jim moved the Article. Ellie seconded. Tom clarified that this sum came from 2016 and 2017 as well as 2018 and constituted a variety of left over funds from the original Broadband rollout. He said eventually we wouldn't need Article 8 when we have sufficient funds in a stabilization for this.

All voted in favor of the Article. No one opposed. **The Article passed unanimously.**

**Article 10:** To see if the Town will vote to transfer the sum of \$12,864.00 from free cash to the Stabilization Fund. (repayment of sum used for Broadband loan)

Jim moved the Article. Ellie seconded. Brian Tobin pointed out that the Town borrowed \$450,000 for broadband and Tom Furcht pointed out that this was the interest on that loan that the Town paid and is now being reimbursed. The loan was not needed for Broadband construction ultimately.

All voted in favor of the Article. No one opposed. **The Article passed unanimously.**

**Article 11:** To see if the Town will vote to transfer the sum of \$90,000.00 from free cash to purchase a new 5500 Truck.

Jim moved the Article. Ellie seconded. Cord Kenyon asked what a 5500 was. Jim responded it is a medium size truck-the Town has a large truck and small truck as well. Jim explained the Town's process of setting money aside each year for equipment replacement.

All voted in favor of the Article. No one opposed. **The Article passed unanimously.**

**Article 12:** To see if the Town will vote to transfer \$45,000.00 from Equipment Replacement Stabilization Fund to also be used to purchase the 5500 Truck referenced in the preceding Article. This article requires a two thirds majority vote.

Jim moved the Article. Ellie seconded. Someone asked whether this was on top of the \$90000 from previous Article. Jim responded, the answer was yes. He again reiterated the Town's process of having a regular replacement schedule and funding for new equipment. He said this truck will cost about \$135000. Jim explained the current truck would be sold. Amy Boehmcke asked how much the old truck will get on sale. Tom Furcht wasn't sure how much we would get on sale, but perhaps \$35000 for the current truck. Ava asked whether the replacement plan was optional or done no matter what. Tom Furcht said the equipment replacement schedule is flexible based on circumstances. Gail added that \$90000 is put in the equipment replacement account each year. Vicki added that the equipment replacement plan has been great so that the Town has funds to purchase its equipment outright. It was noted some years there are no purchases at all. The next two years there are no further purchases anticipated. There was surprise at the cost of the truck. Bill Short asked whether anyone had explored leasing a vehicle. Jim responded he believes that usually costs more. Tom explained that the replacement schedule and contribution to that fund was calculated using cost divided by number of years of life to arrive at how much we contribute each year. He explained it was better having newer equipment rather than time spent in the shop or on the road to the shop and spending on repairs. Brian Tobin mentioned there have been problems with the Freightliner (the large truck), but hopefully those have been resolved.

All voted in favor of the Article. No one opposed. **The Article passed unanimously.**

**Article 13:** To see if the Town will vote to transfer the sum of \$51,278.00 from free cash to the Highway Dept. Facilities Stabilization Fund.

Jim moved the Article. Ellie seconded. Jim explained the need for a new highway garage and indicated that is an upcoming project the Selectboard will be working on and that the Town we will need significant funds for that.

All voted in favor of the Article. No one opposed. **The Article passed unanimously.**

**Article 14:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$92,175.00 to fund the Highway Dept. Facilities Stabilization Fund.

Jim moved the Article. Ellie seconded. All voted in favor of the Article. No one opposed. **The Article passed unanimously.**

**Article 15:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$143,454.00 to fund the Highway Construction Stabilization Fund.

Jim moved the Article. Ellie seconded. Jim explained these funds go to fix the roads together with about \$60000 to \$70000 a year in Chapter 90 money, but paving costs about \$1000000 a mile, so the money doesn't go far. Tom Garrett asked whether the Town has to match the state funds. Jim said no.

All voted in favor of the Article. No one opposed. **The Article passed unanimously.**

**Article 16:** To see if the Town will vote to declare that the Town of Mount Washington believes that health insurance costs for Towns, its employees and others have become untenable; that the Town supports a properly and efficiently designed state single payer system; and the Town calls upon the state legislature to adopt a proper and efficient state single payer healthcare system in Massachusetts at its earliest possible convenience, a system which will hopefully use the state administration already in place for MassHealth and a system into which all residents and entities contribute fairly.

Jim moved the Article. Ellie seconded. Gail said this is something the Town has passed the last couple of years. She said that a family plan of health insurance with the Town is almost \$2000 a month and for people that work for the Town and pay 50%, this takes a substantial amount of their pay. She said rates continue to go up and there are more out of pocket expenses. She said she doesn't know how working people do it. There are many insurance companies and insurance groups all doing the same thing that MassHealth is doing, and she feels it would be better for all if there was one system, eliminating all the middle men. She mentioned that insurance CEOs are making millions and donating millions to politicians to maintain the status quo. She said a UMass economist has determined this would be better. She said the cost is terrible for Towns and School Districts. Susie Tomich asked whether an account could be setup by an employee to supplement insurance. Ellie indicated that could be done.

All voted in favor of the Article. No one opposed. **The Article passed unanimously.**

The Moderator asked for a motion to adjourn. Jim moved that motion. Ellie seconded, all voted in favor. The meeting was adjourned at about 8:17 p.m.

Respectfully,

Gail Garrett