

## TOWN MEETING MARCH 9, 1993

The Meeting was called to order by Moderator Catherine Schwenk. The Town Clerk was asked to read the Warrant through Article 1. Mrs. Schwenk reviewed the procedure. Polls were declared open at 11:07 A.M. Checklist total was 691. Polls were closed at 7:06 P.M. after 129 had voted. There were no absentee ballots.

Results are as follows:

Selectman for 3 years:	Anne Richards	119
Town Clerk for 3 years:	Charlotte N. Hastings	122
Tax Collector for 3 years:	Charlotte N. Hastings	122
Treasurer for 3 years:	Deborah S. Downey	125
Auditor for 1 year:	Patricia A. Greene	123
Library Trustee for 3 years:	Cheryl Davieau	121
Trustee of Cemeteries for 3 years:	David Morrison	125
Trustee of Trust Funds for 3 years:	James W. Losee	124

The Meeting was reopened at 8:00 P.M. There were 119 registered voters present. Mrs. Schwenk again reviewed the procedure. Note was made of the fire and emergency exits. Thanks were given to Sally and Ken Wilson for setting up the polls and the room for the meeting. Mrs. Schwenk expressed her appreciation to the Town Clerk and other election officials.

Colors were presented by Nathan Archambault and Jessie Knisley from Troop #264. Invocation was given by Rev. Bonnie C. Evans and Mrs. Schwenk lead us in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Note was made that the Town Reports were not available a full 7 days before the Town Meeting. Mrs. Schwenk read RSA 40: that pertains to this matter. She explained the two options we had. There were no objections to holding the Town Meeting as scheduled. Reading of the Warrant was waived.

Note was made of errors in the Town Report and the following changes were made.

Page 12. Library, under actual expenses: supplies 200, telephone 364., travel 150, books 1730. The total actual figure was corrected to read 18,787.

Page 15. Under Total Town Expenses: Actual total should read 596,408 and the variance should read 19,739.

Page 15. Under Total All Expenses: Actual 1992 total should read 1,662,416 and the variance should read 19,739.

Page 19. Report of the Trust Funds. Under Income: A new column heading "Receipts". For the Ephraim & Martha Hildreth Fund, the amount of 521,93 should be added.

Page 21. Town Clerk's Report: Total cash should read 82,697.50 and Cash Remitted to Treasurer should read 82,647.50.

Page 27. Library financial report: Under expenditures: telephone should be 364.06.

Article 2. The Town voted to authorize the Selectmen and the Town Treasurer to borrow money in anticipation of tax receipts.

Article 3. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate by taxation, or borrowing, or otherwise the sum of Five Hundred Seventy-Eight Thousand and Six Dollars (\$578,006) for the operation and expenses of the Town for the year ensuing, or take any other action relative thereto.

Mrs. Schwenk went over the line items and a few were brought up for discussion. Mrs. Richards explained the addition of a salary for the Fire Chief. This is a new salary. Some questioned our health insurance coverage. Are we getting the best at that price? Selectmen said they were pleased with the NHMA Health Insurance.

Article 3. The Town voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$578,006 for the operation and expenses of the Town for the year ensuing.

Article 4. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Seventy Five Thousand Dollars (\$75,000) to purchase a Loader for the Highway Department and authorize the withdrawal of Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000) from the Highway Equipment Reserve Fund created for that purpose. Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000) of the balance of Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000) is to come from general taxation. The remainder of the balance, Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000), is to come from borrowing, or take any other action relative thereto.

Road Agent Curt Dunn, described the alternatives to this need. Discussion was held in regards to spending at least \$16,000 for repairs and then not knowing, if more problems would turn up. The loader is a 1978 and has just over 10,000 hours. This model is no longer being made and parts are hard to get. Mention was made of different models, the possibility of leasing, the total cost of leasing and more on the condition of the old loader. A motion was made and seconded to advance Article 16 before the vote on Article 4. The motion failed to pass. The polls were declared open at 8:47 and were closed at 9:00.

A motion was made, seconded, and we voted to table Articles 5 and 6 until after the vote is announced for Article 4.

Article 7. The Town voted to authorize the Selectmen to withdraw up to \$5,000 from the Cemetery Land Purchase Fund for the purpose of laying out gravel roads in the new cemetery, also for mapping out new lots and seeding.

Article 8. The Town voted to authorize the Selectmen to withdraw up to \$1,000 from the Cemetery Land Purchase Fund for the purpose of making an entrance ramp off Route 123 to gain access to Town owned land behind Pleasant View Cemetery.

Article 4. The Town voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$75,000 to purchase a loader for the Highway Department and authorized the withdrawal of \$25,000 from the Highway Equipment Capital Reserve Fund created for that purpose. \$25,000 of the balance of \$50,000 is to come from general taxation. The remainder of the balance, \$25,000 is to come from borrowing. This was by ballot vote. 117 voted. 98 yes, 19 no.

Article 5. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Sixteen Thousand (\$16,000) to repair the H60E Loader to make it a primary piece of equipment, or take any other action relative thereto.

A motion was made, seconded and we voted to postpone this article indefinitely.

Article 6. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Twenty Thousand Dollars (\$20,000) to be added to the Highway Capital Equipment Fund, or take any other action relative thereto.

A motion was made, seconded and we voted to postpone this article indefinitely.

Article 9. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Two Thousand Dollars (\$2,000) to be added to the Library Capital Reserve Fund, or take any other action relative thereto.

Mrs. Schwenk announced that a ballot vote had been requested on this article.

Mrs. Steinberg made a motion and it was seconded that Article 9 be voted on by a voice vote, or in the event that the moderator is unsure of the result, by a standing vote. This motion passed.

Mrs. Schwenk was asked to explain the policy in regards to a ballot vote. She said that she followed the policy of our former Moderator, Marie McCaffery. She keeps track of the requests and if, at least 5 are received, that article is done by ballot. She asked if anyone present wanted a ballot vote on Article 9. One person stood up. It was felt that anyone making such a request should be willing to stand up at Town Meeting.

Article 9. The Town voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$2,000 to be added to the Library Capital Reserve Fund.

Article 10. To see if the Town will authorize the Board of Selectmen to withdraw the amount of Three Thousand Dollars (\$3,000) from the Ellen Augusta Worcester Wilson Trust Fund for the restoration of the exterior of "Tom's House" on the Mason Common, or take any other action relative thereto. By petition.

Mrs. Preston spoke on this project and answered questions pertaining to the request and the history of the building. Mr. Schwenk expressed concern about taking the interest from the Trust Fund. Mr. Craig requested reconsideration of Article 3, to cover the \$3,000. He withdrew, when told that it was not necessary, if we did vote to raise the money by taxation.

A motion was made, seconded, to raise the \$3,000 by taxation. The motion failed.

Article 10. The Town voted to authorize the Selectmen to withdraw the amount of \$3,000 from the Ellen Augusta Worcester Wilson Trust Fund for the restoration of the exterior of "Tom's House" on the Mason Common.

Article 11. To see if the Town will authorize the Selectmen to withdraw the amount of Three Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$3,500) from the Ellen Augusta Worcester Wilson Trust Fund for the removal of the maple tree and repair of the Town Hall Parking lot, and the construction of a Handicap ramp and entrance to the Town Hall to comply with the Americans With Disabilities Act and per RSA 658:9-a, or take any other action relative thereto.

Mr. Blum made a motion to raise the \$3,500 by taxation instead of taking it from that trust fund. Comments were made as to the need of said ramp etc. Mrs. Schmidt was asked to give her opinions as a handicapped person. It was mentioned that the Library is already handicapped accessible.

The motion to raise the 3,500 by taxation was passed.

Article 11. The Town voted to raise and appropriate the amount of \$3,500 for the removal of the maple tree and repair of the Town Hall parking lot, and the construction of a Handicap ramp and entrance to the Town Hall to comply with the Americans With Disabilities Act per RSA 658:9-2.

Article 12. The Town voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$2,450 for the installation of Fire Exit Lights, Emergency Lights and Door Locks in the Mann House and the Town Hall to comply with the NH State Fire Code adopted pursuant to RSA: 153:5 and applicable state laws.

Article 13. The Town voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$13,000 for the valuation of all utility property specifically:

- A. Valuation of main transmission lines, including the 345,000 volt transmission line to Vermont and the 34,500 volt line to Greenville.
- B. Valuation of easement held interests associated with the transmission lines.
- C. Valuation of all in-street distribution facilities, including poles, transformers, wires, guys, reclosures, and any other miscellaneous properties associated with Public Service Company and New England Telephone Company.
- D. Valuation of service connections for both telephone and electricity for residential, commercial, and industrial services in the Town of Mason.

Article 14. The Town voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$418 to support the Gateway Health Center for the year 1993-1994.

Article 15. The Town voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$441.67, from surplus, such amounts received in 1992 from the sale of cemetery lots, to be added to the Cemetery Land Improvement Fund.

Article 16. The Town voted to authorize the Selectmen and the Road Agent to sell or dispose of surplus equipment from the Highway Department and with monies received to be placed in the Highway Capital Equipment Reserve Fund.

Article 17. The Town voted to authorize the Selectmen to convey any real estate acquired by the Town by tax collector's deed. Such conveyance shall be by deed following a public auction, or the property may be sold by advertised sealed bids, or the property may be retained by the Town, or may be otherwise disposed of as justice may require pursuant to RSA 80:80.

Article 18. The Town voted to authorize the Trustees of the Library to apply for, accept and expend, without further action by Town Meeting, money from the state, federal or other government unit or a private source which becomes available during the fiscal year.

Article 19. The Town voted to authorize the Selectmen to accept a deed from Elizabeth Orton Jones conveying to the Town of Mason a certain tract of land containing the Lawrence Gravesite, and property being shown as Parcel A on a plan entitled "Plan of Land -Lawrence Gravesite -to be conveyed - Elizabeth Orton Jones to - Town of Mason - Mason, New Hampshire scale 1" - 20' dated December 29, 1992, prepared by Monadnock Survey, Inc. Wilton, NH. It is understood that this vote is completely contingent and conditional upon the receipt by the Town within ninety days of this vote a good and sufficient Warranty Deed to the tract of land containing the Lawrence Gravesite as shown on said plan. The purpose of this conveyance is to preserve in perpetuity an important historical site.

Article 20. To see if the town will vote to authorize the Selectmen to convey to the Mascenic School District a certain tract of land to accomodate the existing school playground including a slide and two (2) benches, and the erection of a fence around the playground, which land is situated northwesterly of Meetinghouse Hill Road, southerly of the land of Schwenk, and southeasterly and northerly of land of the school district, or take any other action in relation thereto. By petition.

A motion was made, seconded and passed to postpone this article indefinitely. It was pointed out that the school already owned this parcel of land.

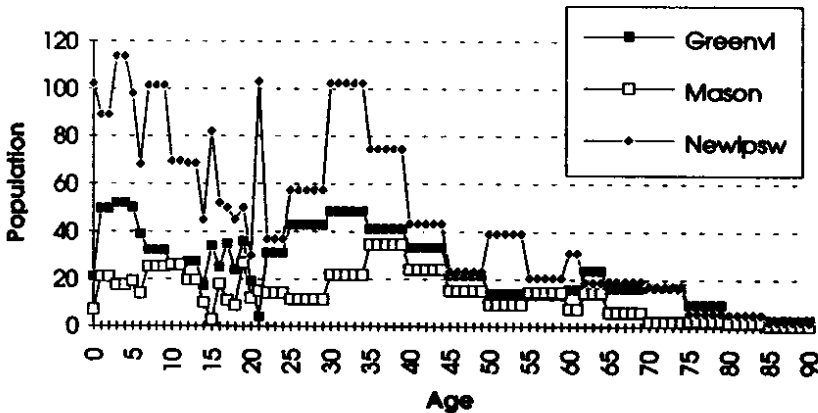
Article 21. To see if the Town will vote to withdraw from the Mascenic Regional School District in accordance with RSA 195:25, or take any other action relative thereto.

This article failed to pass. Reference was made to comments of Mr. Coffey's in a recent newspaper article regarding next years approach to the change in funding.

We adjourned at 10:43 P.M. Sine Dai

*Charlotte N. Hastings, Town Clerk*

### 1990 Census (Expanded from 16% Sample)



The Charts on this and following pages are from Federal, State and School District data; gathered and plotted by the local curmudgeons -- we know who we are.

