

TOWN OF HEBRON

WARRANT

STATE OF MAINE

COUNTY OF OXFORD

Minutes

Town Meeting was opened by Town Clerk Brianne M. Bailey at 10:00 AM – all stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

ELECTIONS

Article 1: To choose a moderator to preside at said meeting.
Motion for Vern Maxfield for Moderator. Seconded. Written ballot was unanimously for Vern Maxfield. Mr. Maxfield was sworn in.

Joan Clough was presented with a plaque in honor of her 46 ½ years of service to the Town of Hebron.

Richard C. Deans was presented with a flag that has flown over the State House for his 36 years of service.

The flag flown at the Hebron Town Office was also retired in both Richard C. Deans and Joan Clough’s honor for their years of service.

Article 2: To choose all necessary town officers:
Selectman, Assessor, Overseer of the Poor (3 Year Term)
Motion for Butch Asselin. Seconded. Motion for Gino Valeriani. Seconded. Each spoke to their qualification for the position. Written ballots were submitted. Total ballots cast: 49 – one ballot did not qualify.
Asselin, Butch 13
Valeriani, Gino 35
Gino Valeriani was declared elected.

Article 3: Moody Library Trustee (3 Year Term)
Motion for Sandra Bruno. Seconded. Show of hands were unanimously for Sandra. Sandra Bruno was declared elected.

MSAD/RSU 17 School District Director (3 Year Term)
Motion for Amanda Fearon. Seconded. Show of hands were unanimously for Amanda. Amanda Fearon was declared elected.

Road Commissioner (3 Year Term)
The Board of Selectmen were nominated. Seconded. Show of hands were unanimously in favor of them The Board of Selectmen were declared elected.

Article 4: To choose two budget committee members (3 Year Term)
Fred Greenwood and Bruce Conant were nominated. Seconded. Show of hands were unanimously in favor of Fred and Bruce. Fred Greenwood and Bruce Conant were declared elected.

Article 5: To authorize the Selectmen to appoint members of the Town to any position that is not elected.
Moved as written and seconded
Motion clearly passed.

2021 BUSINESS

Article 6: To see if the Town will vote to accept the Town Report as written, subject to correction of errors when any are found.
Moved as written and seconded. Motion clearly passed.

Article 7: To see if the Town will vote to cover the 2021 overdraft of \$424.92
The overdraft consists of the following:

Public Works	\$385.34
Debt Service	\$15.57
Ballfield	\$24.01
Total	\$424.92

Moved as written and seconded.

Discussion:
A community member asked if the budget was more/less/or the same as the previous year.
Richard C. Deans responded that the budget increased by approximately \$80,000. This was in large part, but not entirely, due to staff and office hour changes, new software packages for the office, projected fuel price increases, and projected price increases for other supplies due to global supply chain issues.
Several community members also wanted to know why it appeared that the overdraft should be higher than listed when looking at individual articles.
The Selectmen and a Budget Committee Member explained that there were reallocations of budget lines this year. In addition, while some items appear overdrawn other items were under drawn. These tended to balance each other out within departments. Thus, it appears that the overdraft should have been higher when looking at each account, but over draft for the total budget was only the \$424.92.
Motion clearly passed.

Article 8: To see if the Town will vote to appropriate such anticipated revenues as vehicle excise taxes, state revenue sharing, supplemental taxes, license fees, and such other miscellaneous revenues to be received in the calendar year 2022, to reduce the taxes committed.
Moved as written and seconded. Motion clearly passed.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT

Article 9: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the Selectmen’s salaries.

Raised last year:	\$30,000.00
Request:	\$32,295.00
Budget Committee recommends:	\$32,295.00

Moved at the \$32,295.00 amount and seconded.

Discussion:
Elizabeth Olsen explained that this was not a salary increase for the Selectmen. The increase reflects the employer tax withholdings. Previously all withholdings for all employees were grouped together under a separate article. This year they are divided out in separate articles by department.
Clearly passed.

Article 10: To authorize the Selectmen to set salaries for all other Town Officers.
Moved as written and seconded. Clearly passed.

Article 11: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for Workers' Compensation Insurance.

Raised last year: \$11,000.00

Spent: \$8,402.41

Request: \$11,066.00

Budget Committee recommends: \$11,066.00

Moved at the \$11,066.00 amount and seconded. Clearly passed.

Article 12: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the Town Office Expense account.

Raised: \$143,955.00

Spent: \$185,109.00

Request: \$224,203.99

Budget Committee recommends: \$224,203.99

Moved at the \$224,203.99 amount and seconded.

Discussion:

A community member asked if it was necessary to have the town office open for 40 hours a week.

Curtis Smith spoke to the difficulties finding employment at the 30 hour a week position. They were able to fill a 40-hour position and felt the Town Office should be open 40 hours if the employment is for 40 hours. He also spoke to the need to make this adjustment because the Town had to rely on the Town of Oxford during the past year when the Town Office was closed due to lack of staff.

Elizabeth Olsen added that the increase in the amount requested was also partially due to reallocating the liability insurance to this account.

Clearly Passed.

Article 13: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the audit of the Town books.

Raised last year: \$6,720.00

Spent: \$6,720.00

Request: \$7,000.00

Budget Committee recommends: \$7,000.00

Moved at the \$7,000.00 amount and seconded. Clearly passed.

Article 14: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for dues to the Androscoggin Valley Council of Governments (AVCOG).

Raised last year: \$1,935.47

Spent: \$1,935.47

Request: \$2,000.00

Budget Committee recommends: \$2,000.00

Moved at the \$2,000.00 amount and seconded. Clearly passed.

Article 15: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the Planning Board.

Raised last year: \$800.00

Spent: \$503.01

Request: \$800.00

Budget Committee recommends: \$800.00

Moved at the \$800.00 amount and seconded. Clearly passed.

Article 16: To see if the Town will vote to appropriate up to 6,000 to pay tax abatements and applicable interest.

Spent:	\$0
Request:	\$6,000.00

*Moved at the \$6,000.00 amount and seconded.
Clearly passed.*

PUBLIC WORKS

Article 17: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the care and maintenance of Town equipment.

Raised last year:	\$30,000.00
Spent:	\$40,065.05
Request:	\$35,000.00
Budget Committee recommends:	\$35,000.00

Moved at the \$35,000.00 amount and seconded. Clearly passed.

Article 18: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the care and maintenance of winter roads.

Raised last year:	\$143,200.00
Spent:	\$132,764.80
Request:	\$172,835.00
Budget Committee recommends:	\$172,835.00

Moved at the \$172,835.00 amount and seconded.

Discussion:

Several community members wanted to know if the increase was only due to employer tax withholdings and insurance costs.

Elizabeth Olsen explained that it also included projected increases on prices due to recent price trends – especially for fuel, salt, and sand.

Richard C. Deans responded to another community members question that they had spent \$75,314.58 so far in 2022 in this account.

Clearly passed.

Article 19: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the care and maintenance of summer roads.

Raised last year:	\$84,100.00
Spent:	\$77,936.65
Request:	\$124,771.00
Budget Committee recommends:	\$124,771.00

Moved at the \$124,771.00 amount and seconded. Clearly passed.

Article 20: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, and to see if the Town will authorize the allocation of available block grant funds, for the Paving Account.

Raised last year:	\$150,000.00
Block grant funds applied	\$92,214.78
Spent:	\$242,214.78
Request:	\$150,000.00
and the allocation of the block grant funds	
Budget committee recommends:	\$150,000.00
and the allocation of the block grant funds	

*Motion at the \$150,000 amount and to include the allocation of block grant funds.
Seconded.*

Discussion:

Richard C. Deans responded to a community member that the 119 end of Station Road, the Mineral Drive cul-de-sac, and possibly the Old County Road off 119 and the Oxford

Road off 119 were projected to be repaved contingent upon the price of liquid asphalt. Community members asked that in the future we consider rebuilding instead of just repaving some of the roads. It was so noted.

Motion clearly passed.

Article 21: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the Town Garage account.

Raised last year:	\$14,500.00
Spent:	\$16,173.72
Request:	\$11,000.00
Budget Committee recommends:	\$11,000.00

Moved at the \$11,000.00 amount and seconded. Clearly passed.

Article 22: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the care of Town Cemeteries not cared for by others.

Raised last year:	\$1,000.00
Spent:	255.28
Request:	\$1,000.00
Budget Committee recommends:	\$1,000.00

Moved at the \$1,000.00 amount and seconded.

Clearly passed.

Article 23: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the maintenance of the Packard Field.

Raised last year:	\$500.00
Spent:	\$524.01
Request:	\$500.00
Budget Committee recommends:	\$500.00

Moved at the \$500.00 amount and seconded.

Clearly passed.

Article 24: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the Highway Truck reserve account for the future purchase of plow trucks.

Raised last year:	\$0
Request	\$30,000.00
Budget Committee No recommendation:	\$0

Moved at the \$0 amount and seconded.

Discussion:

It was asked why the Budget Committee recommended \$0.

James Trundy responded that the committee was unable to reach a unanimous agreement. Many members felt the desire to set aside funds for this purpose, but they couldn't agree on a figure. As a result, they couldn't recommend more than the \$0.

Richard C. Deans expected the need for a new truck would be within five years and could range from \$100,000 to \$180,000 as a rough estimate.

Motion to amend the motion to \$20,000 and seconded. Amendment to the motion clearly passed.

Motion clearly passed at the \$20,000 amount.

Article 25: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the care of the Transfer Station.

Raised last year:	\$88,050.00
Spent:	\$84,969.87
Request:	\$98,527.00
Budget Committee recommends:	\$98,572.00

Moved at the \$98,572.00 amount and seconded.

Discussion:

A community member expressed the desire to see the Transfer Station made more presentable. It was so noted.

Clearly passed.

Motion to take up Article 49 out of sequence. Motion was seconded. 6 yes and 3 no. Motion passed.

PUBLIC SAFETY

Article 26: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for public fire protection (hydrant rental).

Raised last year: \$13,179.54

Spent: \$13,179.35

Request: \$13,179.52

Budget Committee recommends: \$13,179.52

Moved at the \$13,179.52 amount and seconded. Clearly passed.

Motion to take up Article 45 out of sequence. Motion was seconded. Clearly Passed.

Article 27: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the support of the Municipal Fire Department.

Raised last year: \$50,000.00

Spent: \$51,165.10

Request: \$52,424.00

Budget Committee recommends: \$52,424.00

Motion to set the amount to \$55,424.00. Seconded. Clearly passed.

Article 28: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate to the Fire Truck reserve account for the future purchase of a fire truck.

Raised last year: \$10,000.00

Allocated: \$10,000.00

Request: \$10,000.00

Budget Committee recommends: \$10,000.00

Moved at the \$10,000.00 amount and seconded. Clearly passed.

Article 29: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the Emergency Management Director.

Raised last year: \$1,420.00

Spent: \$1,420.00

Request: \$1,420.00

Budget Committee recommends: \$1,420.00

Moved at the \$1,420.00 amount and seconded. Clearly passed.

Article 30: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for Constable duties.

Raised last year: \$140.00

Spent: \$140.00

Request: \$140.00

Budget Committee recommends: \$140.00

Moved at the \$140.00 amount and seconded. Clearly passed.

Article 31: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for Animal Control.

Raised last year:	\$2,500.00
Spent:	\$1,477.02
Request:	\$2,500.00
Budget Committee recommends:	\$2,500.00

Moved at the \$2,500.00 amount and seconded. Clearly passed.

Motion to move articles 32-42 at the recommended amounts. Motion was seconded. Motion to amend the motion to increase the amount on article 42 to \$700. Seconded. The amendment clearly passed. The motion to move articles 32-42 at the recommended amounts, with the exception of article 42 in the amount of \$700, clearly passed.

ASSISTANCE/SOCIAL SERVICES

Article 32: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for General Assistance.

<i>Budget committee recommends:</i>	\$1,500.00
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Article 33: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate to help support the Androscoggin Home Care and Hospice.

<i>Budget Committee recommends:</i>	\$889.00
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Article 34: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate to help support the Tri-County Mental Health Services.

<i>Budget Committee recommends:</i>	\$950.00
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Article 35: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate to help support Safe Voices.

<i>Budget Committee recommends:</i>	\$500.00
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Article 36: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate to help support Sexual Assault Prevention & Response Services.

<i>Budget Committee recommends:</i>	\$350.00
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Article 37: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate to help support Community Concepts Inc.

<i>Budget Committee recommends:</i>	\$2,525.00
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Article 38: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate to help support Seniors Plus.

<i>Budget Committee recommends:</i>	\$1,500.00
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Article 39: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate to help support the American Red Cross.

<i>Budget Committee recommends:</i>	\$575.00
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Article 40: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate to help support Lifeflight.

<i>Budget Committee recommends:</i>	\$700.00
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Article 41: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate to help support Maine Public.

Budget Committee recommends: \$100.00

Article 42: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate to help support The Cancer Resource Center of Western Maine.

Budget Committee recommends: \$600.00

Motion to Amend this article to \$700. Seconded.

LONG-TERM ACCOUNTS

Article 43: To see if the Town will vote to allocate funds received from the sale of land and/or forest products to the Capital Reserve account.

Moved as written and seconded. Clearly passed.

Article 44: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate to be added along with the interest to the Revaluation Reserve account.

Raised last year: \$5,000.00

Allocated: \$5,000.00

Request: \$5,000.00

Budget Committee recommends: \$5,000.00

Moved at the \$5,000.00 amount and seconded.

Discussion:

A community member asked when the next revaluation was scheduled for.

Richard C. Deans explained that their current assessing agent is recommending they book for 2024 or 2025.

It was also noted that the current assessing agent only does external assessments.

Several community members agreed it may be a good idea to consider whether it would be in the best interest of the Town to use an agent that would also perform an internal assessment.

Clearly passed.

MISCELLANEOUS

Article 45: To see if the Town will authorize up to \$52,000 be taken from the Fire Truck Reserve account for the purchase of a new Pick-up Truck for the Fire Department.

Moved at as written and seconded.

Discussion:

James Trundy spoke to the need for the size of the truck given their current equipment and projected usage. He felt the size allowed for expansion. He didn't want to wish he'd gotten a bigger truck in a couple years. He was not worried about the funds coming out of the Fire Truck Reserve account as he did not see the need to purchase a new Fire Truck in the near future.

Clearly passed.

Article 46: To see if the Town will vote to transfer any of the snowmobile registration tax to the Hebron Snowmobile Club.

Motion to transfer ALL of the snowmobile registration tax to the Hebron Snowmobile Club, as all funds, not just any, have traditionally been transferred. Seconded. Clearly passed.

Article 47: To see if the Town will authorize the Selectmen to sell, swap, trade, or dispose of Town equipment.

Moved as written and seconded. Clearly passed.

Article 48: To see if the town will vote to authorize the Municipal Officers to spend an amount not to exceed $\frac{1}{4}$ of the budgeted amount in each category, except winter roads and liability insurances, during the period from January 1, 2022, to the Annual Town meeting 2023.
Moved as written and seconded. Clearly passed.

Article 49: Shall the Hebron Land Use Ordinance be amended as written.
Motion to amend the Ordinance as written. Seconded.

Discussion:

Elizabeth Olsen – Currently in-law apartments aren't permitted in the Town of Hebron.

Several community members spoke to the lack of clarity as to whether this allowed for external only or also internal accessory dwelling units. It was suggested by community members to fix the lack of clarity and bring this forward again next year. It was also requested by several members of the community to have the public hearings made more visual to the community.

Elizabeth Olsen responded that the Town already posts these public hearings in the newspaper. They will be posted on the website and Facebook page going forward, and they would look into the cost of doing a bulk mailing notice as well.

The article clearly failed.

REVENUES

Article 50: To see if the Town will vote to increase the maximum property tax levy limit, if necessary, as established for the Town by State law, to the total tax commitment required to meet the terms of the municipal budget as approved under these articles.
Note: It is not projected that the town's budget will exceed tax levy limits established by State law.
Moved as written and seconded. Clearly passed.

Article 51: To see if the Town will vote to accept categories of funds listed below, and give permission to expend same:

- a. Municipal Revenue Sharing;
- b. Local Road Assistance;
- c. State Aid to Education (including Federal pass-through funds and property tax relief);
- d. Public Library State Aid per capita;
- e. Civil Emergency Funds (Emergency Management Assistance);
- f. Snowmobile Registration Money;
- g. Tree Growth Reimbursement;
- h. General Assistance Reimbursement
- i. Veterans Exemption Reimbursement; and
- j. State Grants or Other Funds, including all funds received from the State or Federal Government that are not included in items a through i above.

Moved as written and seconded. Clearly passed.

Article 52: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen to procure a temporary loan or loans in anticipation of taxes for the purpose of paying obligations of the Town, if necessary, with such loan or loans to be paid during the year out of money raised by taxes.

Moved as written and seconded. Clearly passed.

Article 53: To see if the Town will fix a date when taxes shall be due and payable and fix a rate of interest to be charged on taxes unpaid after said date.
2022 maximum rate as set by the State: 4.00%
Recommended due date: December 15, 2022, interest to begin on
December 16, 2022.

Moved as written and seconded. Clearly passed.

Article 54: To see if the Town will vote, in accordance with 36 M.R.S. Section 506-A, to pay interest on refunds of overpaid or abated taxes at the rate of 1.00% per annum.

Moved as written and seconded. Clearly passed.

Article 55: To see if the town will vote to authorize the Selectmen, on behalf of the Town, to sell and dispose of any real estate acquired by the Town for non-payment of taxes thereon, under such terms as they deem advisable, and to cause quit-claim deeds for such property to be executed by the Town Treasurer with the exception that the Selectmen shall use the special sale process required by 36 M.R.S. § 943-C for qualifying homestead properties if not sold back to the original owner.

Moved as written and seconded. Clearly passed.

Article 56: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Treasurer, with approval of the Selectmen, to execute quit-claim deeds on behalf of the Town and/or assignments with rights of foreclosure in cases of unmatured tax mortgage liens, thus releasing the Town's rights in and upon such amount or amounts in each case as the Selectmen shall use the special sale process required by 36 M.R.S. § 943-C for qualifying homestead properties if not sold back to the original owner.

Moved as written and seconded. Clearly passed.

Article 57: To see if the Town will vote to ratify and confirm and approve the acts of the Treasurer and Selectmen hitherto performed by them in settlement of tax liens by compromising claims of the Town and accepting less than aggregate of taxes, costs, and interest

Moved as written and seconded. Clearly passed.

Motion to adjourn and seconded. Clearly passed.

Meeting adjourned March 19th, 2022 at 12:22 PM.

Signed this 22nd day of March 2022.

Brianne M. Bailey – Town Clerk