

Top of Form

Town of Atkinson

Board of Selectmen

Public Hearing

Monday, January 26, 2009

**Call to Order**

Chairman Paul Sullivan called the Open Public Hearing to order at 7:35pm on Monday, January 26, 2009, in the Atkinson Town Hall.

**Members Present:**

Chairman Paul Sullivan

Fred Childs

Bill Friel

**Mr. Childs made a motion to open the public hearing, seconded by Mr. Friel, carried unanimously.**

**2009 Town Meeting Warrant Articles**

Chairman Sullivan stated the first session of the Annual Meeting (Deliberative) is Saturday, January 31<sup>st</sup> at 10am at the Dyke Auditorium. The second session of the Annual Meeting (voting day) will be Tuesday, March 10<sup>th</sup> from 7:30am until 8:00pm at the Atkinson Community Center to vote by official ballot for the election of town officials and all warrant articles.

**Article 2009-1**

Choose all necessary Town Officers for the ensuing year.

**Articles 2009-2-6**

Zoning Articles - Selectmen do not make recommendations on Zoning Articles.

**Article 2009-7**

Multi-Year Collective Bargaining Agreement

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen

Not recommended by the Budget Committee

Chairman Sullivan expressed his thanks to Mr. Friel and Mr. Angelo for time spent working on this agreement.

**Article 2009-8**

Authorization for Special Meeting on Defeated Collective Bargaining Agreement

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen

**Article 2009-9**

Operating Budget

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen

Recommended by the Budget Committee

**Article 2009-10**

Shim and Overlay Roads

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen

Recommended by the Budget Committee

**Article 2009-11**

Fire Department Capital Reserve Fund

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen

Recommended by the Budget Committee

**Article 2009-12**

Recreation Capital Reserve Fund

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen

Not recommended by the Budget Committee

**Article 2009-13**

East Road Recreation Area

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen

Recommended by the Budget Committee

**Article 2009-14**

Mosquito Control Expendable Trust Fund

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen

Recommended by the Budget Committee

**Article 2009-15**

Cable Television Capital Reserve Fund

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen

Recommended by the Budget Committee

**Article 2009-16**

Police Station Generator

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen

Recommended by the Budget Committee

**Article 2009-17**

American Red Cross

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen

**Article 2009-18**

Modify Elderly Exemption

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen

**Article 2009-19**

Accept Deer Run Extension

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen

**Article 2009-20**

Close Digital Communications' Capital Reserve Fund

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen

**Article 2009-21**

Close Sawyer Avenue Capital Reserve Fund

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen

**Article 2009-22**

Solar Exemption

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen

**Article 2009-23**

Wind Exemption

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen

**Article 2009-24**

Library's Authority to Accept & Expend Money

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen

**Article 2009-25**

Library's Authority to Accept Gifts of Personal Property

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen

**Article 2009-26**

Petition: Rockingham Nutrition & Meals-on-Wheels

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen

Not Recommended by the Budget Committee

**Article 2009-27**

Petition: Increase Veterans' Tax Credit

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen

**Article 2009-28**

Petition: Mail Tax Cards

**Article 2009-29**

Petition: Posting Tax Information

**Article 2009-30**

Petition: Restricting Legal Fees

**Article 2009-31**

Petition: Improve Elderly Services

**Article 2009-32**

Petition: Full Time Police Chief

**Article 2009-33**

Petition: Elect the Planning Board

**Article 2009-34**

New Powers

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen

**Article 2009-35**

Town Forest

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen

Submitted to the Budget Committee

The Warrant Articles will be posted at Town Hall, the Town Clerk's Office, the Community Center, and the place of deliberative session.

**Mr. Childs made a motion to officially accept the Warrant Articles, seconded by Mr. Friel and carried unanimously.**

Ted Stewart appeared before the Board to discuss the change in his budget. Mr. Stewart stated since January 12<sup>th</sup> when he made his presentation of his budget and Warrant Articles the proposed amount has changed. He stated the plan was to pave eight roads and the new proposal deletes seven of those roads. Mr. Stewart stated as the Department Head he should have had input prior to the budget being cut. Mr. Stewart stated he was unable to get the minutes of the meeting where this change was made. Mr. Stewart stated by reducing the spending in one year it is unfair to make up those costs in the future. Mr. Friel stated that it was not the job of the Board to seek out Mr. Stewart to tell him they are cutting the budget. Additional money to be added at Deliberative Session due to the Highway Block Grant. Chairman Sullivan stated the meeting on January 20<sup>th</sup> was posted and decisions were made at that time that were unanimous, the minutes have not been approved yet. Mr. Childs stated that \$100,000 was cut and they are trying to cut down to help set tax rate in September. Mr. Childs commented that last summer Mr. Stewart stated that they were caught up on big projects, and by making cuts they could save some money and are looking out for all the residents. Mr. Friel informed Mr. Stewart that he could go to the deliberative session.

Jack Sapia appeared before the Board of Selectmen with questions as to whether copies of the Warrant Articles would be mailed. Chairman Sullivan stated they will have them at the deliberative session and will put them out at the Town Hall.

**Mr. Childs made a motion to close the Public Hearing at 8:09pm, seconded by Mr. Friel and carried unanimously.**

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Paul A. Sullivan, Chairman

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Fred J. Childs, Jr

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William G. Friel

