

2024 ANNUAL TOWN MEETING DELIBERATIVE SESSION MINUTES

TOWN OF PITTSFIELD February 3, 2024

Town Moderator Carole Dodge was unable to attend the First Session of the 2024 Town Meeting. Assistant Town Moderator Jackson Marston called the First Session of the 2024 Town Meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, February 3, 2024 in the Pittsfield Middle High School Media Center, across the lobby from the Gymnasium. Assistant Moderator Marston welcomed those in attendance and led the *Pledge of Allegiance*. He then explained he would read each warrant article and then would open the floor for discussion and the option to amend. He asked the Body if it was acceptable if he read only the article number and title or would they prefer he read aloud the articles in their entirety. The Body agreed he could just read the number and title. He stated that no final votes would be taken today, but would happen by ballot on Election Day Tuesday, March 12, 2024.

To the inhabitants of the Town of Pittsfield in the County of Merrimack, in said State, qualified to vote in Town affairs:

You are hereby notified to meet for the first session of the annual meeting, to be held in the Pittsfield Middle High School Gymnasium at 23 Oneida Street in said Pittsfield on Saturday, February 3, 2024, at 10:00 a.m. This first (deliberative) session, for the transaction of all business other than voting by official ballot, shall consist of explanation, discussion, and debate of each warrant article as allowed by law. In the event of inclement weather, the snow date for the first session will be Monday, February 5, 2024, at 7:00 p.m. at the same location.

You are also notified to meet for the second session of the annual meeting, to be held in the Pittsfield Middle High School Gymnasium at 23 Oneida Street in said Pittsfield on Tuesday, March 12, 2024, to vote on the 2024 annual town meeting warrant articles by official ballot. The polls will open at 7:00 a.m. and will close at 7:00 p.m.

Article 1:

To choose by ballot the following officers:

- one Cemetery Trustee for a three (3) year term
- one Library Trustee for a three (3) year term
- one Moderator for a two (2) year term
- two Planning Board members for a three (3) year term
- two Board of Selectmen members for a three (3) year term
- one Supervisor of the Checklist for a six (6) year term
- one Town Clerk/Tax Collector for a three (3) year term
- one Trustee of the Trust Funds for a three (3) year term
- two Zoning Board of Adjustment members for a three (3) year term

Mark Riel asked if the filing period had ended and if there were candidates for each position. Town Clerk/Tax Collector Erica Anthony confirmed the period had ended on Friday, February 2nd, and all but the position for Trustee of Trust funds had candidates.

2024 ANNUAL TOWN MEETING DELIBERATIVE SESSION MINUTES

Article 2 – proposed Pittsfield Zoning Ordinance Amendment No. 1 - Floodplain Management

Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 1, as proposed by the Planning Board, to amend the Pittsfield Zoning Ordinance Article 17. Floodplain Management, as necessary to comply with the requirements of the National Flood Insurance Program?

(Recommended by the Planning Board 5-0-0)

(Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 5-0-0)

Article 2 was read by Assistant Moderator Marston.

Selectman Gerard LeDuc made the motion to accept Article 2 as read. Seconded by Selectman James Allard.

There being no discussion, Article 2 shall appear on the ballot as presented.

Article 3 – Municipal Operating Budget

Shall the town raise and appropriate as an operating budget, not including the 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 **\$5,740,068**?

Should this article be defeated, the default budget shall be **\$5,174,784** which is the same as last year, with certain adjustments required by previous action of the town or by law; or the governing body may hold one special meeting, in accordance with RSA 40:13, X and XVI, to take up the issue of a revised operating budget only.

Estimated tax impact is \$9.04 per thousand dollars of assessed value.

The 2023 municipal operating budget's estimated tax impact was \$8.48 per thousand dollars of assessed value.

(majority vote required)

(Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 5-0-0)

Article 3 was read by Assistant Moderator Marston.

Selectman Gerard LeDuc made the motion to accept Article 3 as read. Seconded by Selectman James Allard.

Lee Corson asked what made up the difference between the proposed budget amount and the default budget amount. Town Administrator Cara Marston explained the proposed budget amount included increases in insurance costs, non-union wage adjustments and equipment maintenance. Mr. Corson asked why equipment maintenance was included in this figure when equipment is addressed in several of the following articles. Town Administrator Marston explained that the equipment costs in the proposed budget are to maintain existing equipment, and the capital reserve articles are funds for savings accounts for future equipment purchases.

2024 ANNUAL TOWN MEETING DELIBERATIVE SESSION MINUTES

There being no further discussion, Article 3 shall appear on the ballot as presented.

Article 4 – cost items for the AFT-NH Local #6214 bargaining unit

To see if the town will vote to approve the cost items included in the collective bargaining agreement reached between the Board of Selectmen and the Pittsfield Town Employees AFT-NH Local #6214, which calls for the following increases in salaries and benefits at the current staffing levels:

Budget Year	Estimated Increase
2024	\$ 63,697
2025	\$ 56,009
2026	\$ 38,898

and further, to raise and appropriate **\$63,697** for the current fiscal year, such sum representing the additional costs attributable to the increase in salaries and benefits required by the new agreement over those that would be paid at current staffing levels.

Estimated tax impact is approximately \$0.18 per thousand dollars of assessed value.
(majority vote required)

(Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 5-0-0)

(Recommended by the Budget Committee 11-0-0)

Article 4 was read by Assistant Moderator Marston.

Selectman Gerard LeDuc made the motion to accept Article 4 as read. Seconded by Selectman James Allard.

There being no discussion, Article 4 shall appear on the ballot as presented.

Article 5 – ability to call a special meeting for cost items

Shall the town of Pittsfield, if article 4 is defeated, authorize the governing body to call one special meeting, at its option, to address article 4's cost items only?
(majority vote required)

Article 5 was read by Assistant Moderator Marston.

Selectman Gerard LeDuc made the motion to accept Article 5 as read. Seconded by Selectman James Allard.

There being no discussion, Article 5 shall appear on the ballot as presented.

2024 ANNUAL TOWN MEETING DELIBERATIVE SESSION MINUTES

Article 6 – cost items for the Teamsters Local #633 bargaining unit

To see if the town will vote to approve the cost items included in the collective bargaining agreement reached between the Board of Selectmen and the International Brotherhood of Teamsters Local Union #633, which calls for the following increases in salaries and benefits at the current staffing levels:

Budget Year	Estimated Increase
2024	\$ 65,650
2025	\$ 37,317
2026	\$ 42,534

and further, to raise and appropriate **\$65,650** for the current fiscal year, such sum representing the additional costs attributable to the increase in salaries and benefits required by the new agreement over those that would be paid at current staffing levels.

Estimated tax impact is approximately \$0.18 per thousand dollars of assessed value.
(majority vote required)

(Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 5-0-0)
(Recommended by the Budget Committee 11-0-0)

Article 6 was read by Assistant Moderator Marston.

Selectman Gerard LeDuc made the motion to accept Article 6 as read. Seconded by Selectman James Allard.

There being no discussion, Article 6 shall appear on the ballot as presented.

Article 7 – ability to call a special meeting for cost items

Shall the town of Pittsfield, if article 6 is defeated, authorize the governing body to call one special meeting, at its option, to address article 6's cost items only?
(majority vote required)

Article 7 was read by Assistant Moderator Marston.

Selectman Gerard LeDuc made the motion to accept Article 7 as read. Seconded by Selectman James Allard.

There being no discussion, Article 7 shall appear on the ballot as presented.

Article 8 - Municipal Sidewalks improvement

To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$25,000** for the purpose of improvements to our municipal sidewalks and to authorize the withdrawal of **\$25,000** to come from the Municipal Sidewalks Improvement Capital Reserve Fund created for that purpose. The balance collected in 2023 was \$29,895, which will be transferred to the Municipal Sidewalks Improvement

2024 ANNUAL TOWN MEETING DELIBERATIVE SESSION MINUTES

Capital Reserve Fund in fiscal year 2024. The balance of the Municipal Sidewalks Improvement Capital Reserve Fund was \$27,209.41 on December 31, 2023.

There is no estimated tax impact.
(majority vote required)

(Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 5-0-0)
(Recommended the Budget Committee 11-0-0)

Article 8 was read by Assistant Moderator Marston.

Selectman Gerard LeDuc made the motion to accept Article 8 as read. Seconded by Selectman James Allard.

There being no discussion, Article 8 shall appear on the ballot as presented.

Article 9 – public works dump truck replacement

To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$250,000** for the purchase of a dump truck for the public works department, to authorize the withdrawal of **\$176,000** to come from the Public Works Dump Highway Truck Capital Reserve Fund created for this purpose, with the balance of **\$74,000** to be funded by taxation.

The balance of the Public Works Dump Highway Truck Capital Reserve Fund was \$176,078.08 on December 31, 2023.

Estimated tax impact is \$0.21 per thousand dollars of assessed value.
(majority vote required)

(Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 5-0-0)
(Recommended the Budget Committee 11-0-0)

Article 9 was read by Assistant Moderator Marston.

Selectman Gerard LeDuc made the motion to accept Article 9 as read. Seconded by Selectman James Allard.

George Bachelder asked which dump truck was being considered. Superintendent of Public Works Noel Gourley responded a 2025 Freightliner. It is approximately \$10,000 more than other comparable dump trucks, but it can haul more and would require less trips back to the shed for refueling, so the difference in cost would be more than made up for by increased efficiency. George Bachelder asked what the new truck would haul. Superintendent Gourley responded that it would be able to plow snow and haul snow and other materials as needed. It was previously more cost effective to contract out hauling, but after doing research it was found with the significant increase in all costs, it would result in a savings to do the hauling ourselves. Noel has also found the trucks and machinery run better for longer if kept running regularly. George Bachelder thanked him for the explanation.

There being no further discussion, Article 9 shall appear on the ballot as presented.

2024 ANNUAL TOWN MEETING DELIBERATIVE SESSION MINUTES

Article 10 – public works chipper purchase

To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$50,000** for the purchase of a chipper for the public works department, to authorize the withdrawal of **\$40,000** to come from the Public

Works Light Equipment Capital Reserve Fund created for this purpose, with the balance of **\$10,000** to be funded by taxation.

The balance of the Public Works Light Equipment Capital Reserve Fund was \$40,025.11 on December 31, 2023.

Estimated tax impact is \$0.03 per thousand dollars of assessed value.
(majority vote required)

(Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 5-0-0)
(Recommended the Budget Committee 11-0-0)

Article 10 was read by Assistant Moderator Marston.

Selectman Gerard LeDuc made the motion to accept Article 10 as read. Seconded by Selectman James Allard.

There being no discussion, Article 10 shall appear on the ballot as presented.

Article 11 – police cruiser purchase

To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$63,000** for the purchase of a police cruiser, to authorize the withdrawal of **\$3,000** to come from the Police Special Detail Fund created for this purpose, and to authorize the withdrawal of **\$60,000** to come from the Police Cruiser Capital Reserve Fund also created for this purpose.

The balance of the Police Special Detail Fund was \$8,738.72 on December 31, 2023.

The balance of the Police Cruiser Capital Reserve Fund was \$60,102.89 on December 31, 2023.

There is no estimated tax impact.
(majority vote required)

(Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 5-0-0)
(Recommended the Budget Committee 11-0-0)

Article 11 was read by Assistant Moderator Marston.

Selectman Gerard LeDuc made the motion to accept Article 11 as read. Seconded by Selectman James Allard.

There being no discussion, Article 11 shall appear on the ballot as presented.

2024 ANNUAL TOWN MEETING DELIBERATIVE SESSION MINUTES

Article 12 – raising matching funds for a Fire Department grant – SCBA compressor replacement

To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$45,000** for the purchase of a SCBA compressor for the fire department, with a **grant revenue offset of \$42,500** to come from an Assistance to Firefighters Grant from the Federal Emergency Management Agency, leaving \$2,500 required as matching funds and to authorize the withdrawal of **\$2,500** from the Fire Department Small Equipment Capital Reserve Fund. The matching funds amount will be spent only if the grant is received. This article is required to be written to show the entire appropriation and offsetting grant revenue, not just the net obligation, per the gross budgeting concept for transparency.

The balance of the Fire Department Small Equipment Capital Reserve Fund was \$4,053.97 on December 31, 2023.

There is no estimated tax impact.
(majority vote required)

(Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 5-0-0)
(Recommended the Budget Committee 11-0-0)

Article 12 was read by Assistant Moderator Marston.

Selectman Gerard LeDuc made the motion to accept Article 12 as read. Seconded by Selectman James Allard.

There being no discussion, Article 12 shall appear on the ballot as presented.

Article 13 – raising matching funds for a Fire Department grant – tanker replacement

To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$450,000** for the purchase of a tanker truck for the fire department, with a **grant revenue offset of \$400,000** to come from an Assistance to Firefighters Grant from the Federal Emergency Management Agency, leaving \$50,000 required as matching funds and to authorize the withdrawal of **\$50,000** from the Fire Department Tanker Capital Reserve Fund. The matching funds amount will be spent only if the grant is received. This article is required to be written to show the entire appropriation and offsetting grant revenue, not just the net obligation, per the gross budgeting concept for transparency.

The balance of the Fire Department Tanker Capital Reserve Fund was \$138,704.28 on December 31, 2023.

There is no estimated tax impact.
(majority vote required)

(Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 5-0-0)
(Recommended the Budget Committee 11-0-0)

Article 13 was read by Assistant Moderator Marston.

Selectman Gerard LeDuc made the motion to accept Article 13 as read. Seconded by Selectman James Allard.

2024 ANNUAL TOWN MEETING DELIBERATIVE SESSION MINUTES

There being no discussion, Article 13 shall appear on the ballot as presented.

Article 14 – add to the Police Cruiser Capital Reserve Fund

To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$55,000** to be added to the Police Cruiser Capital Reserve Fund previously established. The balance of the Police Cruiser Capital Reserve Fund was \$60,102.89 on December 31, 2023.

Estimated tax impact is \$0.15 per thousand dollars of assessed value.

(majority vote required)

The Capital Improvements Plan's target equipment replacement year is 2025 if 2024 Article 11 passes.

(Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 5-0-0)

(Recommended the Budget Committee 11-0-0)

Article 14 was read by Assistant Moderator Marston.

Selectman Gerard LeDuc made the motion to accept Article 14 as read. Seconded by Selectman James Allard.

There being no discussion, Article 14 shall appear on the ballot as presented.

Article 15 – add to the Fire Department Fire & Rescue Apparatus Capital Reserve Fund

To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$25,000** to be added to the Fire Department Fire & Rescue Apparatus Capital Reserve Fund previously established. The balance of the Fire Department Fire & Rescue Apparatus Capital Reserve Fund was \$10,208.26 on December 31, 2023.

Estimated tax impact is \$0.07 per thousand dollars of assessed value.

(majority vote required)

The Capital Improvements Plan's target equipment replacement year is 2027.

(Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 5-0-0)

(Recommended the Budget Committee 11-0-0)

Article 15 was read by Assistant Moderator Marston.

Selectman Gerard LeDuc made the motion to accept Article 15 as read. Seconded by Selectman James Allard.

There being no discussion, Article 15 shall appear on the ballot as presented.

2024 ANNUAL TOWN MEETING DELIBERATIVE SESSION MINUTES

Article 16 – add to the Fire Department Small Equipment Capital Reserve Fund

To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$10,000** to be added to the Fire Department Small Equipment Capital Reserve Fund previously established. The balance of the Fire Department Small Equipment Capital Reserve Fund was \$4,053.97 on December 31, 2023.

Estimated tax impact is \$0.03 per thousand dollars of assessed value.

(majority vote required)

The Capital Improvements Plan's target equipment replacement year is dependent on grant awards.

(Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 5-0-0)

(Recommended the Budget Committee 11-0-0)

Article 16 was read by Assistant Moderator Marston.

Selectman Gerard LeDuc made the motion to accept Article 16 as read. Seconded by Selectman James Allard.

There being no discussion, Article 16 shall appear on the ballot as presented.

Article 17 – add to the Fire Department Pumper Capital Reserve Fund

To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$115,000** to be added to the Fire Department Pumper Capital Reserve Fund previously established. The balance of the Fire Department Pumper Capital Reserve Fund was \$235,583.19 on December 31, 2023.

Estimated tax impact is approximately \$0.32 per thousand dollars of assessed value.

(majority vote required)

The Capital Improvements Plan's target equipment replacement year is 2030.

(Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 5-0-0)

(Recommended the Budget Committee 11-0-0)

Article 17 was read by Assistant Moderator Marston.

Selectman Gerard LeDuc made the motion to accept Article 17 as read. Seconded by Selectman James Allard.

There being no discussion, Article 17 shall appear on the ballot as presented.

Article 18 – add to the Fire Department Tanker Capital Reserve Fund

To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$15,000** to be added to the Fire Department Tanker Capital Reserve Fund previously established. The balance of the Fire Department Tanker Capital Reserve Fund was \$138,704.28 on December 31, 2023.

Estimated tax impact is approximately \$0.04 per thousand dollars of assessed value.

2024 ANNUAL TOWN MEETING DELIBERATIVE SESSION MINUTES

(majority vote required)

The Capital Improvements Plan's target equipment replacement year is dependent on grant awards.

(Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 5-0-0)

(Recommended the Budget Committee 11-0-0)

Article 18 was read by Assistant Moderator Marston.

Selectman Gerard LeDuc made the motion to accept Article 18 as read. Seconded by Selectman James Allard.

There being no discussion, Article 18 shall appear on the ballot as presented.

Article 19 – add to the Fire Department Forestry Truck Capital Reserve Fund

To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$8,000** to be added to the Fire Department Forestry Truck Capital Reserve Fund previously established. The balance of the Fire Department Forestry Truck Capital Reserve Fund was \$37,127.58 on December 31, 2023.

Estimated tax impact is approximately \$0.02 per thousand dollars of assessed value.

(majority vote required)

The Capital Improvements Plan's target equipment replacement year is 2038.

(Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 5-0-0)

(Recommended the Budget Committee 11-0-0)

Article 19 was read by Assistant Moderator Marston.

Selectman Gerard LeDuc made the motion to accept Article 19 as read. Seconded by Selectman James Allard.

There being no discussion, Article 19 shall appear on the ballot as presented.

Article 20 – add to the Dump Truck Capital Reserve Fund

To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$105,000** to be added to the Dump Truck Capital Reserve Fund previously established. The proposed addition to this Capital Reserve Fund is to support the replacement of **four dump trucks, in different staggered years**. The balance of the Public Works Dump Truck Capital Reserve Fund was \$176,078.08 on December 31, 2023.

Estimated tax impact is \$0.29 per thousand dollars of assessed value.

(majority vote required)

The Capital Improvements Plan's target equipment replacement year is 2027 if 2024 Article 9 passes.

(Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 5-0-0)

(Recommended the Budget Committee 11-0-0)

2024 ANNUAL TOWN MEETING DELIBERATIVE SESSION MINUTES

Article 20 was read by Assistant Moderator Marston.

Selectman Gerard LeDuc made the motion to accept Article 20 as read. Seconded by Selectman James Allard.

There being no discussion, Article 20 shall appear on the ballot as presented.

Article 21 – add to the Loader Capital Reserve Fund

To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$15,000** to be added to the Loader Capital Reserve Fund previously established. The balance of the Public Works Loader Capital Reserve Fund was \$95,981.52 on December 31, 2023.

Estimated tax impact is \$0.04 per thousand dollars of assessed value.

(majority vote required)

The Capital Improvements Plan's target equipment replacement year is 2032.

(Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 5-0-0)

(Recommended the Budget Committee 11-0-0)

Article 21 was read by Assistant Moderator Marston.

Selectman Gerard LeDuc made the motion to accept Article 21 as read. Seconded by Selectman James Allard.

There being no discussion, Article 21 shall appear on the ballot as presented.

Article 22 – add to the Grader Capital Reserve Fund

To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$30,000** to be added to the Grader Capital Reserve Fund previously established. The balance of the Public Works Grader Capital Reserve Fund was \$236,446.68 on December 31, 2023.

Estimated tax impact is \$0.08 per thousand dollars of assessed value.

(majority vote required)

The Capital Improvements Plan's target equipment replacement year is 2030.

(Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 5-0-0)

(Recommended the Budget Committee 11-0-0)

Article 22 was read by Assistant Moderator Marston.

Selectman Gerard LeDuc made the motion to accept Article 22 as read. Seconded by Selectman James Allard.

There being no discussion, Article 22 shall appear on the ballot as presented.

2024 ANNUAL TOWN MEETING DELIBERATIVE SESSION MINUTES

Article 23 – add to the Backhoe Capital Reserve Fund

To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$9,000** to be added to the Backhoe Capital Reserve Fund previously established. The balance of the Public Works Backhoe Capital Reserve Fund was \$53,018.71 on December 31, 2023.

Estimated tax impact is \$0.03 per thousand dollars of assessed value.

(majority vote required)

The Capital Improvements Plan's target equipment replacement year is 2036.

(Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 5-0-0)

(Recommended the Budget Committee 11-0-0)

Article 23 was read by Assistant Moderator Marston.

Selectman Gerard LeDuc made the motion to accept Article 23 as read. Seconded by Selectman James Allard.

There being no discussion, Article 23 shall appear on the ballot as presented.

Article 24 – add to the Sidewalk Tractor Capital Reserve Fund

To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$21,000** to be added to the Sidewalk Tractor Capital Reserve Fund previously established. The balance of the Public Works Sidewalk Tractor Capital Reserve Fund was \$77,783.19 on December 31, 2023.

Estimated tax impact is \$0.06 per thousand dollars of assessed value.

(majority vote required)

The Capital Improvements Plan's target equipment replacement year is 2029.

(Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 5-0-0)

(Recommended the Budget Committee 11-0-0)

Article 24 was read by Assistant Moderator Marston.

Selectman Gerard LeDuc made the motion to accept Article 24 as read. Seconded by Selectman James Allard.

There being no discussion, Article 24 shall appear on the ballot as presented.

Article 25 – add to the Floral Park Cemetery Fence Expendable Trust Fund

To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$500** to be added to the Floral Park Cemetery Fence Expendable Trust Fund previously established.

This sum is the amount of a \$500 Select Board Member stipend that was designated to be donated to this Trust Fund which is in the general fund's unassigned fund balance as an unspent appropriation and

2024 ANNUAL TOWN MEETING DELIBERATIVE SESSION MINUTES

no amount is to be raised by taxation. The balance of the Floral Park Cemetery Fence Expendable Trust Fund was \$4,643.83 on December 31, 2023.

There is no estimated tax impact for this warrant article.
(majority vote required)

(Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 5-0-0)
(Recommended the Budget Committee 11-0-0)

Article 25 was read by Assistant Moderator Marston.

Selectman Gerard LeDuc made the motion to accept Article 25 as read. Seconded by Selectman James Allard.

There being no discussion, Article 25 shall appear on the ballot as presented.

Article 26 – add to the Cemetery Maintenance Expendable Trust Fund

To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$10,000** to be added to the Cemetery Maintenance Expendable Trust Fund previously established. This amount is to come from the general fund's unassigned fund balance as an unspent appropriation with no amount to be raised by taxation. The balance of the Cemetery Maintenance Expendable Trust Fund was \$10,007.20 on December 31, 2023.

There is no estimated tax impact for this warrant article.
(majority vote required)

(Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 5-0-0)
(Recommended the Budget Committee 11-0-0)

Article 26 was read by Assistant Moderator Marston.

Selectman Gerard LeDuc made the motion to accept Article 26 as read. Seconded by Selectman James Allard.

There being no discussion, Article 26 shall appear on the ballot as presented.

Article 27 – add to the Property Acquisition & Redevelopment Expendable Trust Fund

To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$25,000** to be added to the Property Acquisition & Redevelopment Expendable Trust Fund previously established. This amount is to come from the sale of town property, 36 Main Street for \$25,000, which is in the general fund's 2023 unassigned fund balance as an unbudgeted revenue with no amount to be raised by taxation.

The balance of the Property Acquisition & Redevelopment Expendable Trust Fund was \$81,155.40 on December 31, 2023.

2024 ANNUAL TOWN MEETING DELIBERATIVE SESSION MINUTES

There is no estimated tax impact for this warrant article.
(majority vote required)

(Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 5-0-0)
(Recommended the Budget Committee 11-0-0)

Article 27 was read by Assistant Moderator Marston.

Selectman Gerard LeDuc made the motion to accept Article 27 as read. Seconded by Selectman James Allard.

There being no discussion, Article 27 shall appear on the ballot as presented.

Article 28 – discontinue the Drug Awareness and Education Expendable Trust Fund

To see if the town will vote to discontinue the Police Department Drug Awareness and Education Expendable Trust Fund created at town meeting warrant article 17 on March 17, 2007. Said funds, which were \$10.63 on December 31, 2023, with any accumulated interest to date of withdrawal, are to be transferred to the town's general fund.

There is no estimated tax impact for this warrant article.
(majority vote required)

(Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 5-0-0)
(Recommended the Budget Committee 11-0-0)

Article 28 was read by Assistant Moderator Marston.

Selectman Gerard LeDuc made the motion to accept Article 28 as read. Seconded by Selectman James Allard.

There being no discussion, Article 28 shall appear on the ballot as presented.

Article 29 – discontinue the Josiah Carpenter Library Expendable Trust Fund

To see if the town will vote to discontinue the Josiah Carpenter Library Building Maintenance Expendable Trust Fund created at town meeting warrant article 6 on March 13, 2010 for the explicit purpose of a project to weatherproof the front door and to install windows on the main floor, which has been completed. Said funds, which were \$0.05 on December 31, 2023, with any accumulated interest to date of withdrawal, are to be transferred to the town's general fund.

There is no estimated tax impact for this warrant article.
(majority vote required)

(Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 5-0-0)
(Recommended by the Library Trustees 3-0-0)

2024 ANNUAL TOWN MEETING DELIBERATIVE SESSION MINUTES

(Recommended the Budget Committee 11-0-0)

Article 29 was read by Assistant Moderator Marston.

Selectman Gerard LeDuc made the motion to accept Article 29 as read. Seconded by Selectman James Allard.

There being no discussion, Article 29 shall appear on the ballot as presented.

Article 30 – consideration of implementing a Community Power Program

To see if the town will vote to adopt, pursuant to NH RSA 53-E:7, the Pittsfield Community Power Electric Aggregation Plan, and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to develop and implement the Plan as described therein. The program would provide a new default electric supply and new renewable energy supply options for customers in Pittsfield. There is no impact on the Town's operating budget, and there is no obligation to participate. Customers can opt out and return to utility default service. (majority vote required)

(Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 5-0-0)

Article 30 was read by Assistant Moderator Marston.

Selectman Gerard LeDuc made the motion to accept Article 30 as read. Seconded by Selectman James Allard.

There being no discussion, Article 30 shall appear on the ballot as presented.

Assistant Town Moderator Marston asked if any one had any further questions or comments.

Selectwoman Carole Richardson thanked the Budget Committee and the Department Heads for all their work reviewing the budget and effort to keep a responsible budget.

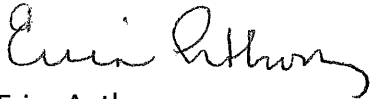
Selectman Jim Adams thanked the Union representatives on behalf of Selectman Jim Allard and himself for the cooperative effort to present a contract that benefits the employees as well as recognizing the costs to taxpayers.

2024 ANNUAL TOWN MEETING DELIBERATIVE SESSION MINUTES

Lee Corson asked what the tax impact would be if all the articles pass. Town Administrator Cara Marston responded the total town portion of the tax rate would be \$10.76, which would be an increase of \$2.79. In an effort to keep the 2023 tax rate increase down, the Select Board made the difficult decision to use more fund balance to offset the increase than they had in the past. As a result, there is not expected to be an offset for the 2024 tax rate.

There being no further business, Moderator Marston adjourned the meeting at 10:22 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Erica Anthony".

Erica Anthony
Town Clerk