

REPORT OF BRENTWOOD TOWN MEETING

MARCH 16, 2024

At a legal meeting of the inhabitants of the Town of Brentwood, in the County of Rockingham, State of New Hampshire, qualified to vote in Town Affairs, held at Swasey Central School on Saturday March 16, 2024 at 9:00am the following business was conducted:

Moderator Richard Chamberlain opened the meeting at 9:10am and led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance.

There are 3399 registered voters in Brentwood, of which, 334 registered voters (10%) attended Town Meeting.

The Town Report was dedicated to Richard "Dick" K. Chamberlain who would be moderating his last town meeting, after serving 45 years, as Town Moderator. Dick received a standing ovation. Selectboard Chair, Jennifer Jones, presented Dick with a gift and thanked him for his service.

The Moderator read the results of Tuesday's election and all who were elected came to the front and were sworn in by the Moderator.

Moderator Richard Chamberlain introduced the Selectboard, Supervisors of the Checklist, Town Clerk, Assistant Moderator, Police Chief, Fire Chief, State Representative, Library Director, Road Agent, Legal Counsel, Town Administrator, and the Budget Committee Chair, who then introduced the Budget Committee members.

A motion was made by Andrew Artimovich and duly seconded by Jonathan Morgan to use the Moderator's Rules for the meeting. Motion passed by show of voting cards.

A motion was made by Andrew Artimovich and duly seconded by Jonathan Morgan to waive the reading of the warrant. Motion passed by show of voting cards.

Moderator Richard Chamberlain passed a gifted gavel to the newly elected Moderator Melissa Hanlon who would moderate the rest of the meeting.

Article #1. Motion made by Andrew Artimovich and duly seconded by Jonathan Morgan, to see if the Town shall adopt the provisions of RSA 40:13 (Known as SB2) to allow official ballot voting on all issues before the Town of Brentwood on the second Tuesday in March. (3/5 Majority Vote Required)
Motion made by Debra Whalen and duly seconded by Patricia Kaselauskas to open debate. After discussion, a motion was made by Liz Faria and duly seconded by James Berlo to close debate. Motion to close debate passed by show of voting cards. Ballot voting began at 10:23am and ended at 11:23am.
Article #1 failed by ballot vote. (YES 173 (52%) NO 153) Motion made by Jonathan Morgan and duly seconded by Andrew Artimovich to restrict reconsideration of Article #1. Motion to restrict reconsideration passed by show of voting cards.

Article #2. Motion made by Andrew Artimovich and duly seconded by Jonathan Morgan, to see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Six Million, Two Hundred Ninety-Eight Thousand, Seven Hundred Sixty-Two Dollars (\$6,298,762) for general municipal operations. This article does not include appropriations in special or individual articles addressed separately. (Majority Vote Required)

Motion made by Jennifer Jones and duly seconded by Jonathan Morgan to open debate. An amendment was made by James Berlo and duly seconded by Eric Wallace to amend Article #2 to \$5,500,000. Motion made by Eric Turer and duly seconded by Robert Span to close debate on amendment. Motion to close debate on amendment passed by show of voting cards. **Article #2, as amended, failed by show of voting cards.** Motion made by Gabrielle Kelly and duly seconded by Jonathan Morgan to close debate on Article #2, as written. Motion to close debate on Article #2, as written, passed by show of voting cards. **Article #2, as written, passed by show of voting cards.** Motion made by Daphne Woss and duly seconded by Andrew Artimovich to restrict reconsideration of Article #2. Motion to restrict reconsideration passed by show of voting cards.

Motion made by Susan Mitchell, who provided a signed list of at least 5 registered voters, to move Article #12 forward.

Article #12. Motion made by Jim Hajjar and duly seconded by Melissa Litchfield, to see if the Town of Brentwood will vote to raise and appropriate a lump-sum payment of SEVENTEEN THOUSAND TWO HUNDRED AND FIFTY DOLLARS (\$17,250) to provide funding to Brentwood Newsletter, Inc. for printing, postage, and distribution costs of 11 issues of the Brentwood Newsletter from April 2024 to March 2025. If approved by the legislative body at Town Meeting, payment shall be disbursed to the Brentwood Newsletter, Inc. no later than March 29, 2024. (Majority Vote Required)

Motion made by Jim Hajjar and duly seconded by Doug Finan to amend Article #12 to read: "to see if the Town of Brentwood will vote to raise and appropriate a lump-sum payment of SEVENTEEN THOUSAND TWO HUNDRED AND FIFTY DOLLARS (\$17,250) to provide funding to Brentwood Newsletter, Inc. for printing, postage, and distribution costs of 11 issues of the Brentwood Newsletter from April 2024 to March 2025. If approved by the legislative body at Town Meeting, payment shall be disbursed to the Brentwood Newsletter, Inc. *quarterly upon publication and delivery of said newsletters*".

Motion made by Melissa Litchfield, who provided a signed list of at least 5 registered voters, to vote on Article #12, as amended, by ballot vote.

Motion made by Kaley Dvorak and duly seconded by Andrew Artimovich to close debate on amendment. Motion to close debate passed by show of voting cards. **Article #12, as amended, passed by ballot vote. YES 131 NO 110** A motion was made by Elizabeth Faria and duly seconded by Andrew

Artimovich to restrict reconsideration of Article #12. Motion to restrict reconsideration passed by show of voting cards.

Motion made by Matthew Lipinski, who provided a signed list of at least 5 registered voters, to move Article #10 forward.

Article #10. Motion made by Andrew Artimovich and duly seconded by Russ Kelly, to see if the Town will vote to adopt the Brentwood Community Power Electric Aggregation Plan, which authorizes the Selectboard to develop and implement Brentwood Community Power as described therein (pursuant to RSA 53-E:7). The program would provide a new default electric supply and new renewable energy supply options for customers in Brentwood with the aim to reduce electric supply rates as well as provide renewable energy supply options, if desired. There is no cost to the Town budget, and no obligation to participate. Customers can opt-out at any time and return to utility default service. (Majority Vote Required)

Motion made by Matthew Lipinski and duly seconded by Jonathan Morgan to allow Standard Power Representative to speak. Motion passed by show of voting cards. Motion made by Kaley Dvorak and duly seconded by Andrew Artimovich to close debate. Motion to close debate passed by show of voting cards. **Article #10 passed by show of voting cards.** Motion made by Jennifer Jones and duly seconded by Jonathan Morgan to restrict reconsideration of Article #10. Motion to restrict reconsideration passed by show of voting cards.

Motion made by Ward Byrne, who provided a signed list of at least 5 registered voters, to move Article #11 forward.

Article #11. Motion made by Debra Whalen and duly seconded by Garen Daley, Submitted by Petition, The following citizens request the town of Brentwood to install several speed tables along Pickpocket Rd, one of which will be in front of, or located close to 207 Pickpocket Rd. This is an effort to curtail tractor trailer traffic, speeding cars, and motorcycles. Signs for no thru trucks are completely ineffective. The weight of the trucks is breaking the pavement down, and will cause further maintenance and expense to the town. (Majority Vote Required)

Motion made by Ward Byrne and duly seconded by Julie Velevis to close debate. Motion to close debate passed by show of voting cards. **Article #11 failed by show of voting cards.** Motion made by Anne Demarco and duly seconded by Elizabeth Faria to restrict reconsideration of Article #11. Motion to restrict reconsideration passed by show of voting cards.

Motion made by James Goodwin, who provided a signed list of at least 5 registered voters, to move Article #13 forward.

Motion made by James Goodwin, who provided a signed list of at least 5 registered voters, to vote on Article #13 by ballot vote.

Article #13. Motion made by James Goodwin and duly seconded by James Berlo, Submitted by Petition, To the Town/City of (Please enter Town/City) Brentwood, New Hampshire. We, the undersigned duly registered voters in the Town/City of (Please enter Town/City) Brentwood, New Hampshire, hereby petition and apply for the insertion of the following petition warrant article: "Shall the following provisions pertaining to elections be adopted? All voting shall be by paper ballot and all ballots shall be hand counted only, rather than by use of optical scanning or any other types of programmable

electronic counting devices." This shall constitute a return to hand counting ballots and the immediate discontinuance of all electronic voting machines and electronic devices authorized for use by trial in RSA 656:40. Shall this article be passed, it shall be enacted by the town of (Please enter Town/City) Brentwood immediately. (Majority Vote Required)

Motion made by Paul Kleinman and duly seconded by Jonathan Morgan to close debate. Motion to close debate passed by show of voting cards. **Article #13 failed by ballot vote YES 53 No 131** Motion made by Jonathan Morgan and duly seconded by Andrew Artimovich to restrict reconsideration of Article #13. Motion to restrict reconsideration passed by show of voting cards.

Motion made by Melissa Litchfield, who provided a signed list of at least 5 registered voters, to move Article #14 forward.

Motion made by Melissa Litchfield, who provided a signed list of at least 5 registered voters, to vote on Article #14 by ballot vote.

Article #14. Motion made by Melissa Litchfield and duly seconded by Karen Veinotte, Submitted by Petition, The vote of the legally-convened legislative body at the annual Brentwood, NH Town Meeting SHALL be adhered to and faithfully executed by the Selectboard.

Motion made by Gabrielle Kelly and duly seconded by Andrew Artimovich to close debate. Motion made to close debate passed by show of voting cards. **Article #14 failed by ballot vote YES 69 NO 82** Motion made by Jonathan Morgan and duly seconded by Andrew Artimovich to restrict reconsideration of Article #14. Motion to restrict reconsideration passed by show of voting cards.

Article #3. Motion made by Andrew Artimovich and duly seconded by Jonathan Morgan, To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of One Hundred Eighty Thousand Dollars (\$180,000) to be added to the following existing capital reserve funds:

CRF Information Systems Hardware: \$30,000
CRF Revaluation: \$25,000
CRF Maintenance of Town Buildings: \$50,000
CRF Fire Vehicles: \$50,000
CRF Maintenance of Town Owned Bridges: \$25,000
(Majority Vote Required)

Motion made by Jonathan Morgan and duly seconded by Andrew Artimovich to close debate. Motion to close debate passed by show of voting cards. **Article #3 passed by show of voting cards.** Motion made by Jonathan Morgan and duly seconded by Andrew Artimovich to restrict reconsideration of Article #3. Motion to restrict reconsideration passed by voting cards.

Article #4. Motion made by Jonathan Morgan and duly seconded by Andrew Artimovich, to see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000) to be added to the existing Police Facility Capital Reserve Fund. (Majority Vote Required)

An amendment request was made by James Berlo and duly seconded by Eric Wallace to table Article #4. Moderator Hanlon advised Mr. Berlo that per Moderator's Rules, only the Petitioner could table the article but a vote could be made to overrule the Moderator's Rules. Motion made by James Berlo and

duly seconded by Eric Wallace to overrule the Moderator's Rules. The request to overrule the Moderator's Rules failed by show of voting cards.

An amendment was made by James Berlo and duly seconded by Eric Wallace to amend Article #4 to \$1.00. Motion made by James Berlo and duly seconded by Eric Wallace to close debate on amendment. Motion to close debate passed by show of voting cards. **Article #4, as amended, failed by show of voting cards.** Motion made by Gabrielle Kelly and duly seconded by Jonathan Morgan to close debate on Article #4, as written. Motion to close debate passed by show of voting cards. **Article #4, as written, passed by show of voting cards.** Motion made by Andrew Artimovich and duly seconded by Jonathan Morgan to restrict reconsideration of Article #4. Motion to restrict reconsideration passed by show of voting cards.

Article #5. Motion made by Jonathan Morgan and duly seconded by Andrew Artimovich, to see if the Town will vote to change the purpose of the existing Police Facility Capital Reserve Fund to the Multi-Purpose Municipal Building Capital Reserve Fund under the provisions of RSA 35:1 for the design and construction of a new municipal facility. Further, to name the Selectboard as agents to expend from said fund. (2/3 Majority Vote Required)

Motion made by Andrew Artimovich and duly seconded by James Berlo to close debate. Motion to close debate passed by show of voting cards. **Article #5 passed by hand count YES 91 (68%) NO 41** Motion made by Andrew Artimovich and duly seconded by Jonathan Morgan to restrict reconsideration of Article #5. Motion to restrict reconsideration passed by show of voting cards.

Article #6. Motion made by Russ Kelly and duly seconded by Jonathan Morgan, to see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of One Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$150,000) to be added to the existing Highway Vehicles/Equipment Capital Reserve Fund. (Majority Vote Required)

Motion made by Elizabeth Faria and duly seconded by Andrew Artimovich to close debate. Motion to close debate passed by show of voting cards. **Article #6 passed by show of voting cards.** Motion made by Letty Bedard and duly seconded by James Berlo to restrict reconsideration of Article #6. Motion to restrict reconsideration passed by show of voting cards.

Article #7. Motion made by Andrew Artimovich and duly seconded by Jonathan Morgan, to see if the town will vote to establish a Public Safety Radio Capital Reserve Fund under the provisions of RSA 35:1 for public safety radios, installation and related equipment and to raise and appropriate the sum of Thirty Thousand Dollars (\$30,000) to be placed in said fund. Further, to name the Selectboard as agents to expend. (Majority Vote Required)

An amendment request was made by James Berlo and duly seconded by Eric Wallace to table Article #7. Moderator Hanlon advised Mr. Berlo that per Moderator's Rules, only the Petitioner could table the article but a vote could be made to overrule the Moderator's Rules. Motion made by James Berlo and duly seconded by Eric Wallace to overrule the Moderator's Rules. The request to overrule the Moderator's Rules failed by show of voting cards. Motion made by Gabrielle Kelly and duly seconded by Jonathan Morgan to close debate on Article #7. Motion to close debate passed by show of voting cards. **Article #7 passed by show of voting cards.** Motion made by Andrew Artimovich and duly seconded by Jonathan Morgan to restrict reconsideration of Article #7. Motion to restrict reconsideration passed by show of voting cards.

Article #8. Motion made by Russ Kelly and duly seconded by Jonathan Morgan, to see if the town will vote to establish a Solar Revolving Fund pursuant to RSA 31:95-h, for the purpose of maintaining and operating the town owned solar panels. All revenues received for said purpose from the sale of renewable energy credits will be deposited into the fund, and the money in the fund shall be allowed to accumulate from year to year and shall not be considered part of the town's general fund balance. The town treasurer shall have custody of all moneys in the fund and shall pay out the same only upon order of the governing body and no further approval is required by the legislative body to expend. Such funds may be expended only for the purpose for which the fund was created. (Majority Vote Required)

Motion made by Andrew Artimovich and duly seconded by Gabrielle Kelly to close debate. Motion to close debate passed by show of voting cards. **Article #8 passed by show of voting cards.** Motion made by Andrew Artimovich and duly seconded by Jonathan Morgan to restrict reconsideration of Article #8. Motion to restrict reconsideration passed by show of voting cards.

Article #9. Motion made by Jonathan Morgan and duly seconded by Andrew Artimovich, to see if the town will vote to establish an Emergency Management Equipment Revolving Fund pursuant to RSA 31:95-h, for the purpose of maintaining and operating equipment for the emergency operations center. All revenues received for said purpose from the NH Department of Safety in connection with the Seabrook Station REP Plan will be deposited into the fund, and the money in the fund shall be allowed to accumulate from year to year, and shall not be considered part of the town's general fund balance. The town treasurer shall have custody of all moneys in the fund, and shall pay out the same only upon order of the governing body and no further approval is required by the legislative body to expend. Such funds may be expended only for the purpose for which the fund was created. (Majority Vote Required)

Motion made by William Faria and duly seconded by Jim Hajjar to close debate. Motion to close debate passed by show of voting cards. **Article #9 passed by show of voting cards.** Motion made by Andrew Artimovich and duly seconded by Jonathan Morgan to restrict reconsideration of Article #9. Motion to restrict reconsideration passed by show of voting cards.

Albert Belanger asked that we adjourn in honor of Herbert Stevens, Norman Lambert, Donald Petterson, and Joseph Gancarz.

Motion made by Andrew Artimovich and duly seconded by Jonathan Morgan to adjourn.
Meeting adjourned at 2:52pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Daphne Woss
Daphne Woss
Town Clerk

State of New Hampshire, County of Rockingham
On this the 19 day of March, (yr.) 2024 before me
HEATHER HAGGETT, the undersigned officer
personally appeared Daphne Woss
known to me (or satisfactorily proven) to be the person
whose name is subscribed to the within instrument and
acknowledged that he/she executed the same for the
purposes therein contained. In witness whereof I hereunto
set my hand and official seal.

Heather Haggett

