

## REPORT OF BRENTWOOD TOWN MEETING

MARCH 15, 2025

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 15, 2025, at 9:00am the following business was conducted:

Moderator Melissa Hanlon opened the meeting at 9:08am and led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance.

There are 3503 registered voters in Brentwood, of which, 432 registered voters (12%) attended Town Meeting.

Moderator Melissa Hanlon 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.

Town Clerk Daphne Woss and Selectboard Member Jonathan Morgan gave flowers and expressed gratitude to Andria Hansen, Town Administrator, Jillian Benedix, Administrator Assistant, Letty Bedard, Selectboard Member, and Jennifer Jones, Selectboard Chair, for their exceptional service during the recent town transition. Jennifer Jones also received accolades for her years on the Selectboard. All received a standing ovation.

The Moderator read the results of Tuesday's election and those elected came to the front and were sworn in by the Town Clerk, Daphne Woss.

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 Letty Bedard and duly seconded by Jim Michaud to move Article #11 forward. Motion passed by show of voting cards.

**Article #11.** Motion made by Ward Byrne and duly seconded by Ched Miller, **to see if the Town shall adopt the provisions of RSA 32:5-b, and implement a tax cap whereby the governing body (or budget committee) shall not submit a recommended budget that increases the amount to be raised by local taxes (this year's base), that is higher than the prior year's actual amount of local taxes raised (last year's base), adjusted for inflation using the inflation index CPI-U for the Boston-Cambridge-Newton**

**MA-NH area published by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics and the change in population, in accordance with RSA 32:5-b I-b? (3/5 Majority Vote Required)**

Motion made by Jim Hajjar and duly seconded by Jim Berlo to amend Article #11 to: **Shall we adopt the provisions of RSA 32:5-b 1-a, and implement a tax cap whereby the governing body (or budget committee) shall not submit a recommended budget that increases the amount to be raised by local taxes, based on the prior fiscal year's actual amount of local taxes raised, by more than four percent (4%)**

Motion made by Ward Byrne and duly seconded by Ched Miller to open debate on amendment. Motion to open debate passed by show of voting cards. Motion made by Ched Miller and duly seconded by Laura Hajjar to close debate on amendment. Motion to close debate passed by show of voting cards. Motion to amend Article #11 passed by show of voting cards. Motion made by Laura Hajjar and duly seconded by Jim Berlo to open debate on Article #11, as amended. Motion to open debate passed by show of voting cards. Motion made by Laura Hajjar and duly seconded by Jim Berlo to close debate on Article #11, as amended. Motion to close debate passed by show of voting cards. Ballot voting began at 10:43am and ended at 11:43am. **Article #11, as amended, passed by ballot vote (YES 259 (61%) NO 164)** Motion made by Andrew Artimovich and duly seconded by Jennifer Jones to restrict reconsideration of Article #11, as amended. Motion to restrict reconsideration passed by show of voting cards.

**Article #1.** Motion made by Jennifer Jones and duly seconded by Andrew Artimovich, **to see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Six Million, Eight Hundred Twenty-Seven Thousand, Forty-Three Dollars (\$6,827,043) 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 Andrew Artimovich to amend Article #1 to: **see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Six Million, Seven Hundred Seventy-One Thousand, Nine Hundred Sixty-Eight Dollars (\$6,771,968) 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 Andrew Artimovich to open debate on amendment. Motion to open debate passed by show of voting cards. Motion made by Daphne Woss and duly seconded by Heather Haggett to close debate on amendment. Motion to close debate passed by show of voting cards. Motion to amend Article #1 passed by show of voting cards. Motion made by Jennifer Jones and duly seconded by Andrew Artimovich to open debate on Article #1, as amended. Motion to open debate passed by show of voting cards. Motion made by Heather Haggett and duly seconded by Daphne Woss to close debate on Article #1, as amended. Motion to close debate passed by show of voting cards. **Article #1, as amended, passed by show of voting cards.** Motion made by Letty Bedard and duly seconded by Andrew Artimovich to restrict reconsideration of Article #1, as amended. Motion to restrict reconsideration passed by show of voting cards.

**Article #2.** Motion made by Andrew Artimovich and duly seconded by Jennifer Jones, **to see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of One Hundred and Seventy Thousand Dollars (\$170,000) to be added to the following existing capital reserve funds:**

**CRF Information Systems Hardware: \$30,000**

**CRF Revaluation: \$35,000**

**CRF Maintenance of Town Buildings: \$25,000**

**CRF Fire Vehicles: \$50,000**

**CRF Public Safety Radios: \$30,000 (Majority Vote Required)**

Motion by Michelle Siudut and duly seconded by Jim Berlo to amend Article #2 to: **see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Eighty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$85,000) to be added to the following existing capital reserve funds:**

**CRF Information Systems Hardware: \$0**

**CRF Revaluation: \$35,000**

**CRF Maintenance of Town Buildings: \$0**

**CRF Fire Vehicles: \$50,000**

**CRF Public Safety Radios: \$0**

**(Majority Vote Required)**

Motion made by Michelle Siudut and duly seconded by Jim Berlo to open debate on amendment.

Motion to open debate passed by show of voting cards.

***Point of Order Called:** Motion made by Ched Miller and duly seconded by Jim Hajjar to overturn the decision by the Moderator to not allow a second vote on the motion to restrict reconsideration on Article #1, as amended. After much discussion, Town Legal Counsel advised that if the vote to overturn the Moderator's decision passed, the vote to restrict reconsideration could be revisited after the town reconvened 7 days from the date of Town Meeting and the new meeting was properly noticed. This being done in fairness to the residents that had left after the vote to restrict reconsideration had passed. A YES vote would overturn the Moderator's decision, a NO vote would uphold the Moderator's decision. **FAILED by show of voting cards (YES 93 NO 168).** Motion to restrict reconsideration on Article #1, as amended, stands.*

Motion made by Michael Esters and duly seconded by Kris Magnusson to close debate on amendment.

Motion to close debate on amendment passed by show of voting cards. Motion to amend Article #2 passed by show of voting cards.

Motion made by Letty Bedard and duly seconded by Paul Kleinman to amend Article #2, as amended, to: **see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of One Hundred and Seventy Thousand Dollars (\$170,000) to be added to the following existing capital reserve funds: Eighty-Five Thousand dollars (\$85,000) to come from new taxes and Eighty-Five Thousand dollars (\$85,000) to come from unreserved fund balance.**

**CRF Information Systems Hardware: \$30,000**

**CRF Revaluation: \$35,000**

**CRF Maintenance of Town Buildings: \$25,000**

**CRF Fire Vehicles: \$50,000**

**CRF Public Safety Radios: \$30,000**

**(Majority Vote Required)**

Amendment withdrawn by Petitioner (Letty Bedard).

Motion made by Michael Esters and duly seconded by Ched Miller to close debate on Article #2, as originally amended. Motion to close debate passed by show of voting cards. **Article #2, as amended, passed by show of voting cards.** Motion made by Andrew Artimovich and duly seconded by Jim

Michaud to restrict reconsideration of Article #2, as amended. Motion to restrict reconsideration passed by show of voting cards.

**Article #3.** Motion made by Letty Bedard 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 Multi-Purpose Municipal Building Capital Reserve Fund.**

**(Majority Vote Required)**

Motion made by Jim Berlo and duly seconded by Ched Miller to amend Article #3 to: **Zero dollars (\$0.00)**. Motion made by Jim Berlo and duly seconded by Ched Miller to open debate on amendment. Motion to open debate on amendment passed by show of voting cards. Motion made by Michael Esters and duly seconded by Jim Michaud to close debate on amendment. Motion to close debate on amendment passed by show of voting cards. Amendment on Article #3 failed by show of voting cards. Motion made by Michael Esters and duly seconded by Jim Michaud to close debate on Article #3, as written. Motion to close debate passed by show of voting cards. **Article #3, as written, passed by show of voting cards.** Motion made by Andrew Artimovich and duly seconded by Jim Michaud to restrict reconsideration of Article #3. Motion to restrict reconsideration passed by show of voting cards.

**Article #4.** Motion made by Paul Kleinman and duly seconded by Andrew Artimovich, **to see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of up to One Hundred and Ninety Thousand Dollars (\$190,000) to purchase a front-end loader. (Majority Vote Required)**

Motion made by Paul Kleinman and duly seconded by Andrew Artimovich to amend Article #4 to: **see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of up to One Hundred and Sixty-Five Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$165,500) to purchase a front-end loader, from the unreserved fund balance. No amount to be raised from taxation. (Majority Vote Required)**

Motion made by Paul Kleinman and duly seconded by Andrew Artimovich to open debate on amendment. Motion to open debate on amendment passed by show of voting cards. Motion made by Jim Michaud and duly seconded by Jim Hajjar to close debate on amendment. Motion to close debate on amendment passed by show of voting cards. Motion to amend Article #4 passed by show of voting cards. Motion made by Michael Esters and duly seconded by Andrew Artimovich to close debate on Article #4, as amended. Motion to close debate passed by show of voting cards. **Article #4, as amended, passed by show of voting cards.** Motion made by Andrew Artimovich and duly seconded by Jonathan Morgan to restrict reconsideration on Article #4, as amended. Motion to restrict reconsideration passed by show of voting cards.

**Article #5.** Motion made by Paul Kleinman and duly seconded by Andrew Artimovich, **to see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of One Hundred and Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$150,000) to be added to the existing Highway Vehicles/Equipment Capital Reserve Fund. (Majority Vote Required)**

Motion made by Paul Kleinman and duly seconded by Robin Wrighton to amend Article #5 to: **see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of One Hundred and Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$150,000) to be added to the existing Highway Vehicles/Equipment Capital Reserve Fund, from the unreserved fund balance. No amount to be raised from taxation. (Majority Vote Required)**

Motion by Paul Kleinman and duly seconded by Robin Wrighton to open debate on amendment. Motion to open debate on amendment passed by show of voting cards. Motion made by Andrew Artimovich and duly seconded by Letty Bedard to close debate on amendment. Motion to close debate on amendment passed by show of voting cards. Motion to amend Article #5 passed by show of voting cards. Motion made by Jim Michaud and duly seconded by Andrew Artimovich to close debate on Article #5, as amended. Motion to close debate passed by show of voting cards. **Article #5, as amended, passed by show of voting cards.** Motion made by Letty Bedard and duly seconded by Andrew Artimovich to restrict reconsideration on Article #5, as amended. Motion to restrict reconsideration passed by show of voting cards.

**Article #6.** Motion made by Letty Bedard and duly seconded by Andrew Artimovich, **to see if the Town will vote to discontinue the Solar Capital Reserve Fund created in 2017. Said funds with accumulated**

**interest to date of withdrawal, are to be transferred to the existing Solar Revolving Fund which was created in 2024. (Majority Vote Required)**

Motion made by Letty Bedard and duly seconded by Andrew Artimovich to amend Article #6 to: **see if the Town will vote to discontinue the Solar Capital Reserve Fund created in 2017. Said funds with accumulated interest to date of withdrawal, are to be returned to the General Fund. (Majority Vote Required)**

Motion made by Letty Bedard and duly seconded by Andrew Artimovich to open debate on amendment. Motion to open debate on amendment passed by show of voting cards. Motion made by Andrew Artimovich and duly seconded by Tammy MacNeil to close debate on amendment. Motion to close debate on amendment passed by show of voting cards. Motion to amend Article #6 passed by show of voting cards. Motion made by Jim Hajjar and duly seconded by Andrew Artimovich to close debate on Article #6, as amended. Motion to close debate passed by show of voting cards. **Article #6, as amended, passed by show of voting cards.** Motion made by Letty Bedard and duly seconded by Andrew Artimovich to restrict reconsideration on Article #6, as amended. Motion to restrict reconsideration passed by show of voting cards.

**Article #7.** Motion by Letty Bedard and duly seconded by Andrew Artimovich, **to see if the Town will vote to discontinue the Library Amphitheater Capital Reserve Fund created in 2022. (Majority Vote Required)**

Motion made by Letty Bedard and duly seconded by Andrew Artimovich to open debate. Motion to open debate passed by show of voting cards. Motion made by Letty Bedard and duly seconded by Jonathan Morgan to close debate. Motion to close debate passed by show of voting cards. **Article #7 passed by show of voting cards.** Motion made by Letty Bedard and duly seconded by Jim Michaud to restrict reconsideration on Article #7. Motion to restrict reconsideration passed by show of voting cards.

**Article #8.** Motion made by Jonathan Morgan and duly seconded by Andrew Artimovich, **to see if the town will vote to establish a new full-time position in the Brentwood Recreation Department for a Program Coordinator effective May 1, 2025, for an estimated annual wage, benefit, and other related costs of \$61,854 and further to raise and appropriate the sum of \$26,226 for wages, benefits, and other related costs for the period of May 1, 2025 to December 31, 2025. (Majority vote required)**

Motion made by Jim McIntyre and duly seconded by Jonathan Morgan to amend Article #8 to: **To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Twelve Thousand, Two Hundred and Eleven Dollars (\$12,111) to expand a part-time position for 8 months in the Brentwood Recreation Department. This new position, the Program Coordinator, will run the town's youth sports and youth programs and assist the Recreation Director with facility management, town events, adult and senior programming and other departmental duties. If approved, for 2025 the position will be paid out of the unreserved fund balance and in 2026 this position will become part of the operating budget in ensuing years.**

<b>2025</b>	<b>2026</b>
<b>Salary: \$11,250</b>	<b>Salary: \$24,595</b>
<b>FICA/Medicare: \$861</b>	<b>FICA/Medicare: \$1,881</b>
<b>Total: \$12,111</b>	<b>Total: \$26,476</b>

Motion made by Jim McIntyre and duly seconded by Jonathan Morgan to open debate on amendment. Motion to open debate passed by show of voting cards. Motion made by Jonathan Morgan and duly seconded by Andrew Artimovich to close debate on amendment. Motion to close debate on

amendment passed by show of voting cards. Motion to amend Article #8 passed by show of voting cards. Motion made by Eric Turer and duly seconded by Jonathan Morgan to close debate on Article #8, as amended. Motion to close debate passed by show of voting cards. **Article #8, as amended, passed by show of voting cards.** Motion made by Daphne Woss and duly seconded by Jonathan Morgan to restrict reconsideration on Article #8, as amended. Motion to restrict reconsideration passed by show of voting cards.

**Article #9.** Motion made by Jennifer Jones and duly seconded by Andrew Artimovich, **to see if the Town will vote to establish a Master Plan Expendable Trust Fund under the provisions of RSA 31:19-a for the purpose of updating the Town's Master Plan, and to raise and appropriate the sum of Eight Thousand, Five Hundred Dollars (\$8,500) to be placed in said fund from the unreserved fund balance. Further, to name the Brentwood Planning Board as agents to expend from said fund. No amount to be raised from taxation. (Majority Vote Required)**

Motion made by Jennifer Jones and duly seconded by Andrew Artimovich to open debate. Motion to open debate passed by show of voting cards. 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 #9 passed by show of voting cards.** Motion made by Letty Bedard and duly seconded by Jonathan Morgan to restrict reconsideration on Article #9. Motion to restrict reconsideration passed by show of voting cards.

**Article #10.** Motion made by Jim Hajjar and duly seconded by Eric Turer, **to see if the legislative body of the Town of Brentwood will vote to expend Seventeen Thousand Two Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$17,250) to provide funding to the Brentwood Newsletter Inc. for printing, postage, and distribution costs of 11 issues of the Brentwood Newsletter from April 2025 to March 2026. This expenditure shall be made from the Town Communications budget line appropriation contained in the general government FY2025 budget. 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 per the provisions of the BNL Statement of Assurance approved by the Selectboard on May 21, 2024.**

Motion made by Petitioner, Jim Hajjar and duly seconded by Eric Turer, to table Article #10. Article #10 tabled by a show of voting cards. Motion made by Andrew Artimovich and duly seconded by Jim Michaud to restrict reconsideration on Article #10. Motion to restrict reconsideration passed by show of voting cards.

Motion made by Andrew Artimovich and duly seconded by Jonathan Morgan to adjourn the meeting. Meeting adjourned at 2:10pm.


Respectfully Submitted



Daphne Woss  
Brentwood Town Clerk

State of New Hampshire, County of Rockingham  
On this the 20 day of March, (yr.) 2025, before me  
Andria Hansen, 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 where in hereunto  
set my hand and official seal.

ANDRIA J. HANSEN  
NOTARY PUBLIC  
State of New Hampshire  
My Commission Expires  
May 31, 2028

  
3/20/25