STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE  
TOWN OF TILTON  
TOWN MEETING MINUTES

Moderator Charles Mitchell welcomed everyone to the town meeting, which was called to order at 8:12. He stated that this was actually a continuation of the March 12th meeting, which was postponed until this day. The Moderator asked the assembly to rise for the Pledge of Allegiance, and when done asked all veterans in attendance to please remain standing. While standing, Moderator Mitchell recognized Selectman Patricia Consentino, who announced that first and foremost she wanted to thank those veterans for their service and sacrifice in defense of our freedom, and read the following:

WHEREAS, on March 30 2013 it will be 40 years to the day that the United States armed forces completed the withdrawal of combat troops from Vietnam, and 
WHEREAS, the New Hampshire Legislature enacted Senate Bill 398 proclaiming March 30, 2013 as WELCOME HOME VIETNAM VETERANS' DAY to acknowledge and commemorate the military service of NH men and women who served during this conflict, and
WHEREAS, plans are under way for a statewide welcome home ceremony to be held at the NH Veterans Cemetery in Boscawen on March 30th at 11 AM,
NOW THEREFORE, be it resolved that the citizens of Tilton do hereby recognize and honor Tilton Vietnam and Vietnam-era veterans (1961-1973) as well as all Tilton veterans of foreign wars and those that served during peace time. Given under our hands and seals this 16th day March, in the year of our Lord Two Thousand and Thirteen. Signed by the Tilton Board of Selectmen.

The entire assembly stood and applauded.

Moderator Charles Mitchell introduced himself, the Town Clerk Tax Collector, his three appointed Assistant Moderators, and Patricia Consentino, Chair of the Board of Selectmen who then introduced the Board of Selectmen along with the Finance Director and Town Administrator. Jon Scanlon, Chair of the Budget Committee, then introduced the Budget Committee Members. After all introductions were made, the Town Clerk was called upon to give the results of the Town Election and they were read as follows:

The 2013 Town Election, which was held at the Winnisquam Regional Middle School, was called to order by Moderator Charles Mitchell on March 12, 2013 at 8:00 a.m. The ballot box was inspected by Assistant Moderator Center Sanders and Linda Burns, with the purpose of ensuring that it was empty and the voting machine was zeroed. Moderator Mitchell led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance. Moderator Mitchell called for a motion to declare the polls open. It was so moved by Selectman Sandra Plessner, seconded by Selectman Joe Jesseman. Absentee ballots were processed at 1:00 as posted, 10 in total. At 7 p.m., Moderator Mitchell called for a motion from the floor to close the polls. Sandy Plessner moved to close the polls and recess Town Meeting until March 16th, seconded by Linda Burns. Moderator Mitchell declared the polls closed. 343 Ballots were cast

Article 1. To choose all necessary town officers for the ensuing year as presented on the ballot prepared for the same.

For Selectman – 3 years – vote for 1
Katherine D. Dawson 267

For Treasurer – 3 year – vote for 1
Sandra Hyslop 288

For Budget Committee – 1 year – vote for 1
Stanley Brown 282

For Budget Committee – 2 years – vote for 1
Jon T. Bossey 274

For Budget Committee – 3 years – vote for 1
Wayne Brock 273

For Trustee of the Trust Funds – 3 years vote for 1
Write in: Kathleen Mitchell (accepted position)

For Library Trustee – 3 years vote for 1
Kathleen Mitchell 301

For Sewer Commission – 3 years vote for 1
Jason Wright 168
Robert R. Hoey 118
ZONING ARTICLES
(WARRANT ARTICLE 2)
To see if the Town will vote to adopt changes to the Tilton Zoning Ordinance proposed by the Tilton Planning Board as follows:

1. "Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 1 as proposed by the Planning Board to ADD Article 3.5 Parking Regulation which states how many parking spaces are required and the minimum size of the parking spaces?" (A complete text of the proposed ordinance is printed in the Annual Town Report.)
   Yes 179   No 125

2. "Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 2 as proposed by the Planning Board to ADD Article 4.3 Setbacks which adds a description of "Setbacks" to give clarity and purpose to what is and what is not permitted in the setback area?" (A complete text of the proposed ordinance is printed in the Annual Town Report.)
   Yes 188   No 113

3. "Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 3 as proposed by the Planning Board to ADD Article 3.6 Wetlands Delineation which gives clarity and purpose when the wetland delineation is valid?" (A complete text of the proposed ordinance is printed in the Annual Town Report.)
   Yes 214   No 90

4. "Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 4 as proposed by the Planning Board to CHANGE Article 2.1 DEFINITIONS by replacing current zoning definitions for clarification with definitions based on Town Ordinance, Administrative rules and RSA’s for the following terms: Dwelling; Dwelling, Single Family Detached; Dwelling, Two Family; Dwelling, Multi Family; Transient Lodging; Structure; Structure, Accessory?" (A complete text of the proposed ordinance is printed in the Annual Town Report.)
   Yes 194   No 106

Moderator Mitchell stated that next order of business was covering the Moderator’s Rules, which were available in the back of the room. He explained that there was one major change this year according to state statutes: if someone wishes to “protect their vote” (which basically means that you want to prevent someone from bringing an article back for reconsideration after it’s been voted on), the proper procedure is to move to “Restrict Reconsideration” on the previously passed article. If the restriction passes, then the previously passed article may not be brought back for another vote at this meeting. He also stated that if a motion to “reconsider” were to pass, it cannot be reconsidered for at least 7 calendar days and would require an additional special town meeting. Moderator Mitchell asked for a motion to accept the Moderator’s Rules as presented, it was so moved by Pat Consentino seconded by Jerry Davis – the vote was taken and passed.

**Article 3.** To see if the Town will vote to assess the Sewer Betterment Fees for those projects that are currently assessed to all property taxpayers in the Town, be assessed to only those persons whose drains enter the municipal sewers and whose land received special benefits there from, as per RSA 149:1-7. *This article was submitted by petition.*

Moderator Mitchell read Article 3, recognized Selectman Katherine Dawson who moved the article to the floor for discussion seconded by Jerry Davis. K. Dawson spoke to the article stating that she has been asked why the town changed the sewer betterments. She explained that nothing had been changed that actually in 1995 the Sewer Betterments were voted at town meeting for those to pay that were bettered by the sewer. Before that from 1899 - 1964 all the sewer projects which were on this side of town, Highland Ave, Birch Dr and Cedar St were paid by the whole town. She feels it's unfair to burden a few when the sewer benefits everyone and asked the assembly to vote what’s fair. Joe Plessner talked to Ms. Dawson’s statement; a lot of things that Ms. Dawson referred to were strictly items that had grants from the Federal Government at the time and way into the 60’s. He went on to say, what really is taking place here is a distortion of this town meeting where one group of the town has essentially taken advantage of the fact that they could bring enough people to the meeting to vote something to help pay debts that only they voted for. The only thing that this legislative body voted for was the bonding of the project and at that time we were all told that this would not be a burden to the entire town, it would only be a burden to the users. Then, it was reversed last year and that he was worried about future bonds. Frank Daley asked that back in 2009 he came to a meeting and asked why the Lochmere betterment was changed to a 60/40
rate formula if other assessments before were done a per thousand basis, and went on to explain the charges. Peter Fogg, Chair of Sewer Commission was recognized to respond to that question. He explained that the Andrews Road project 1999-2000, was assessed by lot. The Andrews Road project had about 50 residences which were very close in valuation, with 3M as the sole business there. The Commissioners negotiated with 3M and came up with fees that 3M was willing to pay and then we spread the bond out by individual lots. The Route 3 project from the Anchoage to Jay's Marina went straight evaluation. When we started looking at the Lochmere project we had residences valued from $10,000 to a million dollars, and they looked at what was a fair and equitable price to provide sewer for that wide a range of building values. It was the opinion of the Commission to do a split between evaluation and lot sizes, and if you check RSA 149:1-8 it allows the Commissioners to spread bonds out, and that we can do it by evaluation or lots or any equitable means. Helen Hanks was recognized and said that the sewer betterment as it is being discussed is not accurate. She lives in Lochmere and her septic system is 200 ft from this project, yet this was brought to the floor of the whole community to vote for a tax on a small portion of the community. Ms. Hanks wanted to know how was that fair that the town voted for this individual tax for citizens of Lochmere. Sewer is a municipal service, sewer benefits our town as previously discussed last year and this year, and our taxes went down so the effects of that change from last year were insignificant in your tax bill. She also pointed out that changes just recently in Tilton will hopefully lower our tax rate more. She said that Selectmen have been economically savvy and she did not expect that to change. Projects come before this community around the betterments of the town including roads and other projects, then we as a town need to vote on them together. We are one community. After a lengthy discussion Moderator Mitchell declared the debate over, and explained that he would have a secret ballot and went on to explain the process. Those opposed 125 those who voted in the affirmative 35. Article 3 fails and it was so declared.

Helen Hanks asked the right to restrict reconsideration. 2nd by George Helwig. The vote was taken on restricting reconsideration and passed.

Article 4. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Fifteen Thousand Dollars ($15,000) to be added to the Tilton-Northfield Island Park Capital Reserve Fund that was created in 2012. Majority Vote required. This appropriation is not included in the operating budget. The Selectmen and the Budget recommend this appropriation.

Moderator Mitchell read Article 4 and called on Selectman Al LaPlante who moved the motion to the floor for discussion, seconded by Jerry Davis. Mr. LaPlante explained that this is to put money away, along with the Town of Northfield, to save the island from eroding. Chuck Mitchell said if you look at the island the front and back part of the island is eroding away and that it does require cooperation and monies from both towns. In the past we have put monies up for this but Northfield has not. Bob King asked if Northfield had a warrant article this year, Katherine Dawson responded stating, yes they do but it is not recommended. Questions on the ownership were asked and it was determined that Tilton and Northfield own the island equally as per the deed. The vote was taken and Article 4 passed and it was so declared.

Article 5. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Thirty Five Thousand Dollars ($35,000) to be added to the Highway Equipment Capital Reserve Fund that was created in 2012. Majority Vote required. This appropriation is not included in the operating budget. The Selectmen and the Budget Committee recommend this appropriation.

Moderator Mitchell read Article 5 to the assembly. Selectman Sandra Plessner moved the Article to the floor for discussion, seconded by Jerry Davis. Selectman Plessner spoke to the article stating this a 12 year plan, collecting a little each year. This year the one ton had to be replaced. Being that there was no further discussion Moderator Mitchell read Article 5 vote was taken and Article 5 passed as presented.

Article 6. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Sixty Five Thousand Dollars ($65,000) to be added to the Town Roads, Streets and Bridges Reconstruction and/or Repair Capital Reserve Fund that was created in 2005. Majority Vote required. This appropriation is not included in the operating budget. The Selectmen and the Budget Committee recommend this appropriation.
Moderator Mitchell read Article 6 to the assembly. Selectman Sandra Plessner moved the Article to the floor for discussion, seconded by Linda Burns. Sandy Plessner said that this is like Article 5 that the Director of Public works is putting money aside every year for roads as he has a 10 year plan for roads to be repaired. The vote was taken and the motion passed.

**Article 7.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Five Thousand Dollars ($5,000) to be added to the Recreational Facilities Capital Reserve Fund that was created in 2002. Majority Vote required. This appropriation is not included in the operating budget. The Selectmen and the Budget Committee recommend this appropriation.

Moderator Mitchell read Article 7 then called upon Selectman Dawson, who moved the motion to the floor for discussion, seconded by Jerry Davis. Selectman Dawson asked the Moderator to recognize Bob Hardy, Chairman of the Park Commission to speak on this article. Mr. Hardy said that this fund was created to bring recreation projects to the town. After some discussion the vote was taken and Article 7 passed as presented.

**Article 8.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Twenty Thousand Dollars ($20,000) to be added to the Revaluation Capital Reserve Fund that was created in 2002. Majority Vote required. This appropriation is not included in the operating budget. The Selectmen and the Budget Committee recommend this appropriation.

Moderator Mitchell read Article 8 then called upon Selectman Consentino who moved the motion to the floor for discussion, seconded by Jerry Davis. Selectman Consentino said that this is putting money away each year to be prepared for the 2014 revaluation. The vote was taken and Article 8 passed as presented.

**Article 9.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Fifteen Hundred Dollars ($1,500) to the Lake Improvement/Maintenance Capital Reserve Fund that was created in 2007. Majority Vote required. This appropriation is not included in the operating budget. The Selectmen and the Budget Committee recommend this appropriation.

Moderator Mitchell read Article 9 then called upon Selectman Joseph Jesserman who moved the motion to the floor for discussion, seconded by Jerry Davis. Selectman Jesserman spoke to the article. After a short discussion the vote was taken and Article 9 passed as presented.

**Article 10.** To see if the Town will vote to adopt the provisions of RSA 31:95-h for the purpose of setting up a Town of Tilton Recycling Revolving Fund, and to raise and appropriate the sum of Forty Five Thousand Dollars ($45,000) to that fund for the purpose of implementing curbside recycling on a bi-weekly basis, and to change the solid waste pick-up to a Pay-As-You-Throw (PAYT) system in accordance with the provisions of RSA 149-M:17 whereas residents have to purchase designated Town of Tilton bags to dispose of their garbage. All receipts from the sale of designated bags and any other receipts which could come from recycling will accrue to the Tilton Recycling Revolving Fund. All monies in the Tilton Recycling Revolving Fund will be applied toward the total waste management program. The Town Treasurer shall have custody over all monies in the fund and shall pay out the same only by order of the Board of Selectmen. Majority Vote required. This appropriation is not included in the operating budget. The Selectmen and the Budget Committee recommend this appropriation.

Moderator Mitchell read Article 10 then called upon Selectman Jesserman, who moved the motion to the floor for discussion, seconded by Jerry Davis. The Recycling Committee gave a brief presentation. Heather Bishop-Dumka asked where the bags would be sold. Marge Bonneville of the Recycling Committee responded that they would be sold in the smaller convenience stores up and down Route 3 and described the mill ratings and the committee's recommendation to the Selectmen the $1 and $2 bag fees. Pat Clark said he was 100% in favor and asked that if we are paying for the bins upfront it would be nice if when the three year contract and if we go with another supplier say Town of Tilton rather than the supplier so that we don't have to buy the bins again. He realizes we are not collecting any money out of the recyclables i.e., plastic, tins so it would be nice to know that the committee would look at that every time we do a contract to see what other cities and towns are doing. Marge
Bonneville responded that the committee has not signed a contract and that they are looking at different contracts for the recyclables and went on to explain that the recyclables market is a commodity and goes up and down like other commodities, so we went with a company where we don't see any revenue for the recyclable material but won't assume any expense, which will make it a lot easier for the town to budget. She assured the assembly that every time a contract is up for renewal, this would be something they will look at. In reference to the names on the bins they would have to look into that. Bob Hardy is concerned about household trash ending up on private property and the state forest. Scott Davis asked if this is seed money to get it started and if they would be coming back with a warrant article every year. Ms. Bonneville responded yes, that they would not be coming back to the town. Dave Fox said that at past town meetings proposals were presented and pulled as they were not ready, this plan will be a real savings in tipping fees, he urges the town to support. After a lengthy discussion Scott Davis asked to move the question and seconded. The assembly was instructed that to move the question requires a 2/3 vote to end debate. The vote to end debate was taken and passed. The Moderator read the Article, a voice vote was taken but the Moderator called for a standing vote as he was not convinced. A standing vote was taken; no 37, yes 70 the motion passed as presented and it was so declared. The Moderator thanked the Recycling Committee for all of their work.

**Article 11.**  To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Twenty Thousand Dollars ($20,000) for the purpose of investigating and creating a snow storage area in accordance with NHDES Best Management Practices. Majority Vote required. This appropriation is not included in the operating budget. The Selectmen recommend this appropriation. The Budget Committee does not recommend this appropriation.

Moderator Mitchell read Article 11 then called upon Selectman Consentino who moved Article 11 to the floor for discussion, seconded by Jerry Davis. Pat Consentino explained that we need place for snow storage and there was some thought to use the property next to 61 Business Park Drive which was not sold, and there are a couple of other options. She went on to say that the Selectmen didn't have the time to do due diligence before Town Meeting. She went on to say that we need to find a place before next season and that we can no longer store the snow at 61 Business Park Drive in the parking lot, as it has been sold last month. Helen Hanks offered an amendment to Article 11 "To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of twenty thousand dollars ($20,000) for the purpose of investigating and creating a snow storage area in accordance with [the Tilton Groundwater Protection Ordinance and] NH DES Best Management Practices." She thinks that it is important that this body recognizes that Tilton does have standards in regards to snow storage we have voted on them in the past and need to hold the Town accountable as well as the things that NH DES would recommend. The motion was seconded by Bob Hardy. After much discussion the vote was taken on the amendment presented. The amendment failed. Toni Belair asked why the Budget Committee did not recommend this Article. Jon Scanlon explained that it was discussed and voted on with a 4 to 2 vote not to recommend this and part of it was the wording and actually not knowing what the costs would be and if was the appropriate amount. Ms. Belair asked Mr. Scanlon if the Committee agrees with the language now. The Budget vote had not changed. After some discussion the vote was taken on the original Article 11 and failed.

Marge Bonneville made a motion to restrict reconsideration on Article 10, seconded by Heather Bishop-Dumka. The vote was taken on restricting reconsideration and passed.

**Article 12.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the Budget Committee's recommended sum of Five Million One Hundred and One Thousand Six Hundred and Seventy Four Dollars ($5,101,674) for general municipal operations as posted as part of the warrant and MS7 Form. This article does not include special or individual articles. Majority Vote required.

Moderator Mitchell read Article 12 then called upon Budget Committee Chairman Scanlon who moved the article to the floor for discussion, seconded by Jerry Davis. Mr. Scanlon explained that this year the Committee spent hundreds of hours working over the budget and although we have what appears to be a .14% increase in spending it is a little deceiving because of paying off previous debt that normally would decrease our taxes. What happened was there was an increase in spending on items such as health insurance, retirement and other things that were handed down from the state. Mr. Clark made a motion to amend Article 12 "To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of $9,500 to be added to line 01-89-4520.99-970" this is for the Tilton Northfield Recreation Council, Katherine Dawson seconded the motion. Jim Dion Executive Director of the Center spoke to
the program and explained that they have lost a lot of their rental revenue and explained what they are doing to cut expenses and raise monies. Selectman Katherine Dawson and others spoke in support of this motion. Eric Pyra, who represented the Budget Committee, explained that they were opposed to this for a variety of reasons, some of which our Welfare Director has gone to the Pines on several occasions to ask for scholarships for our youth for those families that are unable to participate, and were denied. Also, they were supposed to increase grant writing, and this year and they only received a few thousand dollars worth of grants which were specific and none to help offset some of the revenue loss and to help the Recreation Council. We have talked with them about raising their fees; their website was down so applicants could not sign up. Mr. Clark called to move the question, seconded by Ms. Dumka, non debatable and needs 2/3 vote – a voice vote was taken and passed. The Moderator reads the amendment presented by Pat Clark, the vote was taken and the amendment passed as presented by Pat Clark.

Pat Clark asked if they could restrict reconsideration, 2nd by Selectman Dawson. The vote was taken on restricting reconsideration, the motion carried.

Moderator Mitchell asked if there was any more discussion on the budget. Being none, he read the motion as amended: "To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the Budget Committee’s recommended sum of Five Million One Hundred and One Thousand Six Hundred and Seventy Four Dollars ($5,111,174) for general municipal operations as posted as part of the warrant and MS7 Form." The vote was taken and the motion passed as amended.

**Article 13. To enact any other business that may legally come before the meeting.**

Selectman Consentino wants to recognize Judy Tilton who is and has been a huge supporter of the Senior Center and the Chat Committee. This is the second year that Judy has baked all of the goodies for us at town meeting, with all of the proceeds going to the Senior Center. Pat went on to say “I want to give a good shout out to Judy Tilton and say thank you.” The assembly applauded. Kevin LaChapelle wanted this body to recognize a town department which was also recognized last year. He explained that he had a fairly close call where there was an armed robbery at a gas station downtown. His two boys were sliding at the Tilton School hill when the robbery happened. This was the first time that his boys were allowed to go on their own. He learned the next morning that this had taken place and supposedly the perpetrator had walked through that immediate area. Within a week’s time the Tilton PD had apprehended this subject. If you watch the news every morning and night this is unheard of that perpetrators are caught in events like this. The Tilton Police Department needs to be recognized once again for the work that they do on a daily basis. The assembly applauded. A motion to adjourn the meeting was moved and seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 11:21 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:  
Cynthia D. Reinartz  
Town Clerk Tax Collector

A true attest copy  
Cynthia D. Reinartz  
Town Clerk Tax Collector