STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE  
TOWN OF TILTON  
TOWN MEETING MINUTES

Before the 2010 Business meeting, was called to order, Selectmen Pat Consentino addressed the assembly and presented a certificate to Tom Gallant for his many hours of service and dedication within our community and our district.

Senator Kathleen Sgambati presented Kenneth Randall with a citation from Governor John Lynch in recognition of Ken’s long career of community service. She presented him with a second citation from the New Hampshire Senate in recognition of Ken’s retirement as Town Moderator and School District Moderator. Selectman Katherine Dawson presented Ken with a water color of Tilton Town Hall thanking him for his many years of service to the Town of Tilton. Selectman Normand Boudreau presented Ken with a certificate for all his years of service on town committees. Ken Randall commended his wife Bonnie for standing by his side and supporting him during his years of public service.

Moderator Randall called the meeting to order at 8:21 a.m., he then led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance. He went over the room and how it was assembled. He introduced his Assistant Town Moderator, Chuck Mitchell, Town Clerk/Tax Collector, Cindy Reinartz, and asked Chairman of the Board of Selectmen Katherine Dawson to introduce the Board - Pat Consentino, Vice Chair, Sandra Plessner, Norm Boudreau and Dave Wadleigh. She also introduced the Town Finance Officer Tim Pearson. Moderator Randall introduced the Budget Committee Chair Toni Belair and asked her to introduce the Budget Committee - Katina Lemay, John Scanlon, Bob Szot, and Lynn Fox. Moderator Randall went over Moderator’s rules for the meeting. He went over the rules of voice votes, standing votes and ballot votes. The Town Clerk Tax Collector, Cindy Reinartz was introduced and asked to read the results of the town elections

The Election Results were read as follows: The 2010 Town Election, which was held at the Winnisquam Regional Middle School, was called to order by Moderator Kenneth Randall on March 9, 2010 at 8:00 a.m. Moderator Randall stated that he would forego reading of the Articles unless otherwise requested. He also announced that the business meeting would be held on Saturday, March 13, 2010 at 8:00 a.m. at the Winnisquam Regional High School. Moderator Randall led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance. The ballot box was inspected by both Kent Finemore and Kenneth Randall with the purpose of ensuring that it was empty and the voting machine was zeroed. The absentee ballots were processed at 1:00 as posted, 15 in total. The polls were declared open.

Moderator Randall called for a motion from the floor to close the polls. Mr. James Shepherd made that motion, subject to the rights of those currently voting within the statutorily allowed timeframe. Motion was seconded by Mr. Normand Boudreau and passed. Polls were declared closed at 7:00 p.m.

The total number of ballots cast was 366, the total number of registered voters at the close of the polls was 2,665.

**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 Dawson 289
For Budget Committee – 3 years – vote for 1
Lynn Fox (write in) 14

For Treasurer – 1 year – vote for 1
Sandra J. Hyslop 310
For Supervisor of the Checklist – 6 years – vote for 1
Bernard W. Chapman 320

For Moderator – 2 year – vote for 1
Charles E. Mitchell 305
For Supervisor of the Checklist – 2 years – vote for 1
SallyJo Baranowski 301

For Sewer Commissioner– 3 years–vote for 1
Jason A. Wright 180
For Trustee of the Trust Funds – 2 years – vote for 1
Toni Belair (write in) 5 (accepted position)
Arthur N. DeMass, Jr. 131

For Library Trustee – 3 years – vote for 1
Christine D’Amore 302
Scott Davis (write in) 24 (accepted position)
Article 2. Zoning Articles

Question - Are you in favor of adding a new Article XV – Tilton Groundwater Protection Ordinance?

Yes 150  No 68

CONTINUATION OF TOWN MEETING

Moderator Ken Randall suspended reading the Articles, but will read each one as it is placed on the floor for discussion. Any amendments to an Article must be in writing, signed and presented to the Town Clerk.

Article 3. (Passage of this warrant article shall override the 10% limitation imposed on this appropriation due to the non-recommendation of the budget committee – RSA 32:18-a). To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of $560,000 to acquire property consisting of approximately 3 +/- acres of land located at Sanborn Road (Route 132) and Birch Pond Drive, and to authorize the issuance of $540,000 (purchase price) of bonds or notes in accordance with the Municipal Finance Act (RSA 33), and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to issue and negotiate such bonds or notes and to determine the rate of interest thereon; with the balance of $20,000 to be raised through taxation for the purposes of subdivision, legal fees and closing costs. The purpose of acquiring this land is for locating a Life Safety complex to house a Town of Tilton Police Department Station and potentially the Tilton-Northfield Fire Department. This is a special warrant article and is not included in the operating budget. The Selectmen recommend this appropriation. The Budget Committee does not recommend this appropriation. (2/3 ballot vote required.)

Selectmen Consentino made a motion to table Article 3, seconded by Jerry Davis. Motion to table passed. Article 3 has been tabled.

Article 4. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of $3,771,600 for the purpose of design and construction of a Tilton Police Department Station, and to authorize issuance of $3,771,600 of bonds or notes in accordance with the Municipal Finance Act (RSA 33), and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to issue and negotiate such bonds or notes and to determine the rate of interest thereon. The amount of funds to be raised by issuance of bonds or notes shall be offset by any grants, donations, or other funds obtained. The schematic design and cost estimates presented at the Town Meeting shall be deemed informational only, and the final design of the Police Station shall be determined by the Selectmen after consultation with the Life Safety Building Committee (if its continuing existence is approved by the 2010 Annual Meeting) after notice and public hearing. At this time, design and construction under this Article is limited to the Police Station and does not include specific fire protection aspects of a Life Safety complex. This is a special warrant article and is not included in the operating budget. The Selectmen do not recommend this appropriation. The Budget Committee does not recommend this appropriation. (2/3 ballot vote required.)

Pat Consentino made a motion to table Article 4, seconded by Vicy Virgin. Motion to table passed. Article 4 was tabled.

Article 5. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of $285,300 for the purpose of reconstructing the Pine Street Bridge and to authorize the issuance of $210,300 of bonds or notes in accordance with the Municipal Finance Act (RSA 33), and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to issue and negotiate such bonds or notes and to determine the rate of interest thereon, and further to authorize the withdrawal of $75,000 from the Pine Street Capital Reserve Fund. This is a special warrant article and is not included in the operating budget. The Selectmen recommend this appropriation. The Budget Committee recommends this appropriation. (2/3 ballot vote required.)

Selectmen David Wadleigh made a motion to move Article 5 to the floor for discussion, seconded by Vicy Virgin.
Selectman Wadleigh stated that 2018 is the next time that money would be available for the construction of a 10’ bridge. The bridge does create safety issues with fire trucks and police vehicles having only one access. There are several options for repair. Senator Kathy Sgambati was recognized and stated that she lives on Pine Street and mentioned the hazards as it is now. People are using the bridge on her personal property which creates a liability issue. Currently, vehicles come around a curve and are faced with a block wall. The fire hydrant is on the other side of the bridge. She urges approval of this Article. Scott Davis feels that this should be paid within the year with money coming back from the State. Selectman Consentino stated that there is no guarantee that we will get these funds this year. Davis feels that the $75,000 in savings and $25,000 in the budget for this year should cover a good part of the costs. Bonded money would be more expensive when we already have $100,000 designated for this project. Selectman Wadleigh feels the bridge could be done for less than $285,000 as stated in the Article. Discussion continued.

Vincent Kondrotas asked to call the question, seconded by Jerry Davis. Motion to end debate was approved. Assembly was asked to vote – 9:00 a.m. was the start time – polls need to stay open for one hour.

At 10:05 Moderator Randall read the results from the vote with 102 voters and a 2/3 vote required – 68 = 2/3 vote. Yes votes 71, No votes 31.

Article 5 passed as presented.

Article 7. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to sell, lease, or otherwise convey, the property previously acquired by the Town located at 61 Business Park Drive in Tilton, such sale, lease, or conveyance to be on such terms and conditions as are determined by the Selectmen to be in the Town’s best interest. (Majority vote required.)

Selectman Consentino moved Article 7 to the floor, seconded by Jerry Davis.

Selectman Consentino introduced the Life Safety Committee, who gave a presentation. Part of that presentation is as follows; at the 2009 town meeting, this committee was established to determine the best site for a life safety building with a Police building to be built there now and Fire building possibly at a later date. The committee was asked to report back to the Town the following year. The best location was determined to be within ½ mile radius of Route 93 and visible from Route 3. 61 Business Park Drive has poor access, is not visible, has poor response time, and would add response time for the Fire District. There is only one way in and out of this location and would require approximately $2.5M for build outs. Fire suppression would need to hook in to town water or create a pond. An access road to Route 3 would have to be created and this would have an environmental impact. The actual costs would be much higher. The dissolution of the Fire District would add more weight to ensuring this structure is put in the right location. The Committee supports Article 7 and would like the Committee to continue to search for land. Pat Clark thanked the Life Safety Committee for the work they have put in.

Clark wanted to know if other sites were looked at, other than the J.Jill site and how many other sites were viable. Ben LaBelle Chair said they evaluated over twenty sites. When looking at those that were within the ½ mile radius, only ten of these sites were kept on the list. There are other sites that can be considered at this time. Clark asked if it is their intent to look at keeping the same design in the hopes to keep the costs down, LaBelle replied yes the design that they have is adaptable and can be rearranged to fit other sites. Clark asked why this needs to be a Life Safety Building rather than just looking at a Police Department. LaBelle said they would rather buy one piece of land that could be used for both purposes rather than having to buy two pieces of land to include fire services.

A long discussion ensued

Dave Fox made a motion to table this Article, seconded by Toni Belair. Vote results, 33 votes to table, and 43 votes not to table. Motion to table defeated. Scott Davis would like to amend this Article to remove anything other than selling the property (AMENDMENT 1) “To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to sell the property previously acquired by the Town located at 61 Business Park Drive in Tilton, the sale will be at a price equal to or greater than the amount listed in the 2009 Town report listed under schedule of town property on page 83.”

Selectman Consentino asked if this would be for the land or the land and the building as 61 Business Park Drive has two separate line items, land and building. Davis asked what is currently for sale for $1.2M. Selectman Consentino said it is the building only, not the land. The piece of land is valued at $57,000. Davis said his amendment is to give a
bottom line to what the Selectman can sell the property for. As a citizen, he would like to see a bottom line number for what this property can be sold for. Selectman Boudreau had a point of order. He asked if this amendment had been seconded. Pat Clark seconded the amendment. Selectman Dawson stated that she is against this amendment. She does not know why the Town can not lease the property, getting a good price for the lease. If they buy a piece of property, and the Fire District puts up a building there, we would have to lease this to them. Scott Davis asked what the heat and maintenance are on the building. Selectman Boudreau says the heat is currently being paid by Metropolitan Medical Response Systems (MMRS), who is using this space for storage. Davis asked what the liability is in case of a fire caused by this equipment being stored in the building, and how much would the heat be if no one else was paying for it. Pearson said it would be about $12,000.

Vote 49 yes, 31 no – Amendment passes.

Moderator Randall said that time being 10:05am, last call to vote on Article 5. Polls closed. Votes tallied (see results under Article 5).

CONTINUED DISCUSSION ON ARTICLE 7: John Scanlon wants to know if this Article now stops us from storing vehicles there and can no longer have money coming in to help with the heat. Selectman Dawson says that this Article would require us to remove the vehicles and no longer have MMRS use this space or lease it. John Scanlon made a motion to table the amended Article, seconded by Lynn Fox. Vote to table was taken – tie vote, yes 43 / no 43 - Vote defeated.

Dennis Manning asked about the lease with MMRS. Selectman Consentino said the contract with them is for heat and electric. Consentino said if the amendment passed, the vehicles could no longer be stored there. The amendment would take away the Selectman’s ability to lease this space to them. Manning asked again if it was an actual lease. Consentino said it is a contract, not a lease. Vince Paratore asked if we could further amend the amendment to allow the current tenant to lease the property. Moderator Randall said yes, it can be amended. Pat Clark presented an addition to the amendment, seconded by Vince Kondrotas. (AMENDMENT 1) “Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to sell the property previously acquired by the Town located at 61 Business Park Drive in Tilton, the sale will be at a price equal to or greater than the amount listed in the 2009 Town report listed under schedule of town property on page 83. The 61 Business Park Drive can be rented only to the current tenants as tenants at will and they would need to provide insurance for fire and liability.”

Scott Davis stated that in 2007 the Town authorized the Selectman the rights to rent, sell or lease property. Why would this not allow them to keep renting 61 Business Park Drive? Selectman Consentino thinks that the amended Article is specific to this one particular renter. If this renter was to move out, the Town could not rent or lease it to anyone else. Davis stated again that the Selectmen already have the authority to sell 61 Business Park Drive. Consentino said that is correct. Discussion continued - Kathy Mitchell asked to move the question, seconded by Selectman Consentino. Moderator Randall declared discussion closed. Voting on the Amendment 1 to the Amended Article 7. Nay’s have it – Amendment 1 on Article 7 failed.

A long discussion ensued - Lynn Fox made an amendment to return the Article to the original Article, seconded by Katherine Dawson. (AMENDMENT 2) “To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to sell, lease, or otherwise convey, the property previously acquired by the Town located at 61 Business Park Drive in Tilton, such sale, lease, or conveyance to be on such terms and conditions as are determined by the Selectmen to be in the Town’s best interest.” Ken Norton asked to call the question, seconded by Lynn Fox. Vote was taken to end discussion and passed. Bob Szot would like to table the Article. The Selectmen already have the authority to sell, rent and lease property, seconded by John Scanlon. Motion to table declined. With no further discussion

The vote was taken on the Amendment 2 on Article 7 and passed.

Article passed as amended.

Motion to protect the vote by Loren Noether, seconded by Pat Consentino - Vote passes protect the vote.
Article 6. To see if the Town will vote to continue the existence of the Tilton Life Safety Building Committee as established by vote at the 2009 Tilton Annual Meeting. Members in office on the date of the 2010 Annual Meeting may continue in office, and any vacancies in Committee membership shall be filled by appointment by the Moderator in the same manner as committee members are appointed. The Committee shall serve in an advisory capacity to the Board of Selectmen to assist in developing design and construction of the Tilton Police Station as authorized by the 2010 Tilton Annual Meeting. Upon completion of construction of the station, the Committee shall be deemed to have completed its service and shall be dissolved. And further to raise and appropriate the sum of $20,000 for the Committee’s expenses. This appropriation is not included in the operating budget. The Selectmen recommend this appropriation. The Budget Committee recommends appropriation. (Majority Vote Required)

Pat Consentino moved Article 6 to the floor as amended for consideration and said that this amendment would bring down the cost, seconded by Tom Gallant.

Moderator Randall read amendment submitted by Pat Consentino; To see if the Town will vote to continue the existence of the Tilton Life Safety Building Committee as established by vote at the 2009 Tilton Annual Meeting. And further to raise and appropriate the sum of $10,000 for the Committee’s expenses.

Selectman Consentino began the discussion by saying; make no bones about it we need a PD, it is a liability and deferred to committee member Ben Labelle; this committee still has a lot of work to do and has worked very hard all year. It wasn’t until just last week that the land was pulled by J.Jill. It is their intention to continue on to find a suitable site. Vincent Kondrotas stated that they only need $10,000 because there is still $10,000 left over from last year’s budget. This money would be used for land testing and other expenses that may be needed. Selectman Boudreau announced to the assembly that he just heard that the Town of Northfield has voted in favor of setting aside funds for their own fire department. Discussion continued

Dave Fox would like to call the question, seconded by Lynn Fox. Toni Belair called for a point of order; stating we are voting to end the discussion to the Amendment of Article 6, not on Article 6. Vote to end discussion on amendment passed.

The vote was taken on Article 6 and passed as amended.

Article 8. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of $2,328 to be added to the Recreational Facilities Capital Reserve Fund created in 2002; said sum to come from unreserved fund balance. (Note: said amount represents the unexpended appropriation in the Parks Commission line item from the 2009 budget.) This appropriation is not included in the operating budget. The Selectmen recommend this appropriation. The Budget Committee does not recommend this appropriation. (Majority vote required.)

Selectman Dawson moved Article 8 to the floor for discussion, seconded by Selectman Consentino.

Selectman Dawson said that this amount of money is what was unspent from last year’s budget and they would like to carry it over. This is for future recommended recreation projects like a ball field, town beach, etc. Toni Belair said that the reason the Budget Committee did not recommend this Article is because there is already over $40,000 in this fund and there is not a specific project for this money to be spent on. The Town’s unreserved balance is in need of more money. This would be a better use of this money.

With no more discussion, The Moderator read Article 8 as moved the vote was taken and Article 8 was defeated.

Article 9. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of $28,854 to purchase a police cruiser; said amount includes the cost of emergency lights, controls, and prisoner barrier partition and police vehicle markings. This appropriation is not included in the operating budget. The Selectmen recommend this appropriation. The Budget Committee recommends this appropriation. (Majority vote required.)

Selectman Boudreau moved Article 9 to the floor for consideration, seconded by Selectman Consentino.
Selectman Boudreau says that in 2008, the Selectman authorized the purchase of two cruisers every other year. Due to a special offer, instead they leased three cruisers for the price of two. The Board of Selectmen felt it would be better to purchase one cruiser each year. This new vehicle would be a 2010 Crown Victoria costing $28,854, fully dressed. Jerry Davis asked what happens to the old cruisers. Boudreau stated that the oldest cruiser would be taken out of service and removed from our inventory. Scott Davis asked why in 2008 they authorized the purchase of 1 cruiser, not two. Boudreau said they got a special price for three cruisers for the price of two. There is currently one more payment on them. Davis wants to know if it is their intent to remove old cruisers from the Town’s inventory. Boudreau says, as one goes in, one goes out.

Vote was taken and Article 9 passed as presented.

Article 10. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of $12,464 to install lighting and energy improvements in the Town Hall and Public Works Garage as recommended in the energy audit report. The energy audit was conducted for the Town at no cost. This appropriation is not included in the operating budget. The Selectmen recommend this appropriation. The Budget Committee recommends this appropriation. (Majority vote required.)

Selectman Boudreau moved Article 10 to the floor, seconded by Jerry Davis.

N. Boudreau says Light Tech did a free energy walk through of the Town Hall and Highway Department. The focus was on highest return on your dollar in the shortest period of time – which equates to electrical use and lighting. They did not include the Police Department because the intent is for the building to be sold. Total amount of work to be done is $12,464 with an estimated rebate amount of $3,280 for a net expense $9,184. An estimated 3.5% return on our money spent.

Jerry Davis asked to move the question, seconded by Senator Sgambati. Vote to end discussion – passed.

Vote was taken and Article 10 passed as presented.

Article 11. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to accept on behalf of the Town, gifts, legacies and devises made to the Town in trust for any public purpose, as permitted by RSA 31:19. This authority shall remain in effect until rescinded. (Majority Vote required). (Note: The purpose of this warrant article is to allow the Selectmen to accept donations from the Winnipesaukee River Trail Association, Inc. to cover trail maintenance expenses. The Selectmen shall be named as agents of the fund).

Moved to the floor by Selectman Plessner, seconded by Selectman Boudreau.

Selectman Plessner said Rail Trails are giving the Town money to pay for this and they would like to set up a trust fund so this money gets used only for this purpose and not be mingled with the Town’s money. The Town has many trust funds currently, this would be an additional trust added to these. Ken Norton is a volunteer with the Winnipesaukee River Trail. He said this money is to maintain the trail.

With no further discussion - The vote was taken and Article 11 passed as presented.

Article 12. To see if the Town will vote to discontinue the “Hall Memorial Library Expendable Trust Fund” that was created for the purpose of the Library Building Fund in 1992. This fund is being discontinued because it is no longer needed and there is no money in the fund. (2/3 vote required).

Selectman Dawson moved Article 12 to the floor, seconded by Jerry Davis.

Selectman Dawson said this is a housekeeping measure. The funds have already been used.

Vince Kondrotas asked to call the vote, seconded by Tom Gallant. The question was called - Standing vote needed with 2/3 vote – total votes 71 - 71 yes, 0 no – Article 12 passed unanimously.

ASIDE - Kevin LaChapelle addressed the assembly and stated that Monday night’s Fire District Meeting is a very important one and would like to encourage everyone to attend. Our lives could all change. We could very possibly be
Article 13. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the Budget Committee’s recommended sum of $5,255,230.00 for general municipal operations as posted as part of the warrant. This article does not include special or individual articles addressed. (Majority Vote Required)

Toni Belair moved Article 13 to the floor, seconded by Jerry Davis.

Belair said the Budget Committee has been working on the budget since October. With the recession in mind, they did their best to build a tight budget. Level funding requests from Town Agencies and outside agencies was much appreciated as well. The Highway Department budget is up due to the cost of waste management. The Police Department showed a 1.4% decrease due to attrition. Town savings is due to phone costs cut, payroll costs eliminated, etc. She also reminds us that the Town’s Contingency Fund is still at 50% of where it should be.

Selectman Consentino would like to make a motion to increase budget line 01-87-4415.99-920, seconded by Selectman Plessner. (AMENDMENT 1) “To increase budget line 01-87-4415.99-920 Caring Hands Assisting Tilton by $500 to give this important committee of volunteers a much needed resource to provide assistance to the elderly in town. This funding will allow us to print brochures, alert doctors and social workers, and help our friends and neighbors care for the elderly in Town.”

Consentino says this is a new Town Committee which started in September of 2009. The Committee has nineteen volunteers helping our seniors and disabled. The program includes a senior check list, medical equipment loan program, tax help, available resources, workshop – tax grants, rides to doctor and sitting with seniors. The second goal of the committee is to obtain grants to hold programs at the Town’s Grange Hall. It is their hope to be cost efficient. The $500 is for brochures for agencies, doctor’s offices, etc.

Scott Davis would like to see Consentino amend her motion to $1,000. Consentino amended her motion to $1,000, seconded by Tom Gallant. Lynn Fox called a point of order. Moderator Randall asked Consentino to withdraw her original amendment – which she did and so did Selectman Plessner.

Selectman Consentino motion to amend amendment 1 “To increase budget line 01-87-4415.99-920 Caring Hands Assisting Tilton by $1,000 to give this important committee of volunteers much needed resource to provide assistance to the elderly in town. This funding will allow us to print brochures, alert doctors and social workers, and help our friends and neighbors care for the elderly in Town.”, seconded by Senator Sgambati.

With no further discussion, Tom Gallant called the question, seconded by Lynn Fox. Vote to close discussion passed. Vote for to Amended Amendment 1 on Article 13 passed.

Selectman Consentino make a motion (AMENDMENT 2) “To amend the budget for the following purpose – to adjust the salaries to be in line with other Deputy Town Clerk Tax Collectors in the state and to recognize the fiduciary responsibility our Deputy has having to stand in for the Town Clerk Tax Collector at a moment’s notice, therefore, I propose to make the following changes, increasing the Deputy wage by $1 per hour: increase lines 01-64-4140.40.130 Deputy Town Clerk/Tax Collector salary by $2,080, 01-62-4150.63-230 Retirement Group I by $190.53, 01-62-4150.60-225 Social Security by $128.96 and line 01-62-4150.61-226 Medicare by $30.16.”

This would be an increase in the Deputy’s salary line of $1 per hour, seconded by Tom Gallant. $2,430 is the overall increase to budget. Selectman Consentino says our Deputy is the lowest paid employee in our town. And, in checking with other towns, we are well under their wages. The Budget committee would not add to the budget, so the Selectmen are bringing this as an amendment to the Town for approval. Town Clerk Tax Collector Cindy Reinartz said the Deputy’s current rate of $13.26 per hour is appalling. She feels that with all the money she touches and all the training she has had, it would be the loss of an asset if she were to resign for a better paying job. Toni Belair said the Budget Committee was presented a wage increase and they thought hard about each position and each situation. No further discussion.

Vote for Amendment 2 on Article 13 passed.
Selectman Plessner made a motion to amend the budget for the following purpose – to adjust the salaries to be in line with other Town Administrators in the state: (AMENDMENT 3) “To increase lines 01-62-4130.50.130 Town Administrator by $1,000, line 01-62-4150.63-230 Retirement Group I by $91.60, 01-62-4150.60-225 Social Security by $62.00 and line 01-62-4150.61-226 Medicare by $14.50. Total change to the budget is $1,168.00”, seconded by Jerry Davis.

Selectman Plessner feels that the Town Administrator is hard working and is currently paid less than the State average. Belair reminds the Town that wage increases go back to the first of the year, and that wage increases are in the budget for July through merit wages. Discussion continued.

David Fox made a motion to move the question, seconded by Selectman Boudreau. Vote to stop discussion passed.

Vote for Amendment 3 on Article 13 failed.

Selectman Boudreau made a motion to amend Article 13 (AMENDMENT 4) “To change line 01-96-4915.99-400 Pine St Capital Reserve on page 11 of the Tilton Proposed Budget from $25,000 to zero.” seconded by Selectman Consentino.

Mr. Boudreau said the money placed in this line was in case Article 5 did not pass. Since Article 5 passed, the Selectmen feel that this money is no longer needed. Tom David stated that he wished this amendment would have been brought forward first. Vote to stop discussion – passed.

Vote for Amendment 4 on Article 13 passed.

Selectman Boudreau made a motion to amend the budget for the following purpose – to adjust the salaries to be in line with other Town Clerk Tax Collectors in the state (AMENDMENT 5) “Increase lines 01-64-4140.30.130 Town Clerk/Tax Collector by $4,151, line 01-62-4150.63-23 Retirement Group I by $380.23, 01-62-4150.60-225 Social Security by $257.36 and line 01-62-4150.61-226 Medicare by $60.19.”

Total change to the budget of $4,849.00, seconded by Selectman Consentino.

Selectmen Boudreau said this increase is for an exemplary job by our Town Clerk/Tax Collector. He would hate to lose her over pay. Florence Atherton does not understand the order presented to the body – increase, increase, decrease, increase. The Town may have voted in favor of the Town Administrator pay increase if the decrease to the budget was presented first. Boudreau said there was no order and it was not planned that way. Vince Kondrotas asked what percent increase in salary does this represent. Finance Director Pearson stated that this is a 9% raise. Toni Belair reminded the Town that this is an elected position. She knew the salary when elected and chose to run.

Vote for Amendment 5 on Article 13 failed.

Merek Weisensee made a motion to amend the Town Administrator salary by $999. (AMENDMENT 6) “Move to raise the Tilton Town Administrator’s salary by $999.00 over the course of the 2010 budget year.” Moderator Randall wanted to be sure this would be the only change to the budget. Toni Belair and Tim Pearson both agree that the total change to the budget would be $1167 with taxes and insurance included, seconded by Selectman Plessner. Weisensee says he realizes everyone is having a hard time but he fears more about losing a valuable employee in the Town. It’s about employee retention. Katina Lemay asked Finance Director Pearson to give us the percentage change in salary this would represent. It is a 1.4% increase. Selectman Dawson says the Selectman do not recommend these raises vicariously. The amount the Town Administrator has saved the Town is far more than the suggested increases.

Vote on Amendment 6 on Article 13 failed.

Toni Belair amended the budget to $5,233,660, confirmed by Finance Director Pearson. Tim Pearson confirmed that this is for the Operating Budget only, not the special assessments.

Vote on Article 13 passed as amended.
Article 14. To enact any other business that may legally come before this meeting.

Selectman Plessner moved Article 14 to floor for discussion, seconded by Jerry Davis. Loren Noether thanked the Budget Committee for all their hard work. Sandy Plessner thanked the Town’s people for coming out and their patience. She also reminded everyone of Monday’s Fire District Meeting and encouraged attendance.

Motion to adjourn made by Pat Consentino, seconded by Toni Belair. Meeting adjourned at 12:05

Respectfully submitted:

Cynthia D. Reinartz
Town Clerk Tax Collector

A true attest copy

Cynthia D. Reinartz
Town Clerk Tax Collector