

Loudon New Hampshire Town Meeting Minutes Held on March, 18th, 2023

Moderator Rodney Phillips Opened the Second session of Town meeting at 9:01AM, Saturday, March, 18th, 2023. There were 180 Registered voters in attendance. Moderator Phillips recognized Boy Scout Troop 247 to present the colors and lead everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Moderator Phillips recognized Loudon's board of Selectmen. Chairman Roger Maxfield, Selectman John Storrs and Selectman Jeff Miller. Assistant Moderator, Janice Morin. Town Clerk, Ashley Simonds, Deputy Town Clerk, Theresa Chudoba. Supervisors of The Checklist: Francine Clave, Lucy Gordon and Andrew Parrella. Ballot Clerks: Pat Chagnon, Dennis Jakubowski and Dena Leonard. Police Chief, Kris Burgess, Sargent Dana Flanders. Road Agent, Russ Pearl and Fire Chief Tom Blanchette.

Moderator Phillips reads results from the First part of Town meeting, held on Tuesday, March 8th, 2023. 444 voters cast ballots:

Selectman for a 3-year term, Jeffrey Miller prevailed with 197 votes. Tax Collector 3-year term, Meghan O'Hare with 390 votes. Library trustee a 3-year term, Elizabeth Moser with 363 votes. Library Trustee for a 1-year term, Juliana Lawler with 362 votes. Treasurer for a 3-year term, Kathy Pitman with 90 Write ins. Planning Board for a 3-year term, Jeffrey Green with 206 votes and Danielle Bosco with 201 votes. Zoning board 3-year term, Charlie Aznive with 315 votes and Todd Phelps with 287 votes. Trustee of the Trust Funds 3-year term, Terese Basterache with 13 write-in votes.

Moderator Phillips continues to read results as follows: Amendment 23-01 Passed with 242 votes. Amendment 23-02 passes with 262 votes. Amendment 23-03 passes with 252 votes. Amendment 23-04 passes with 262 votes. Amendment 23-05 passes 287 votes. Amendment 23-06 passes with 269 votes. Amendment 23-07 passes with 247 votes. Amendment 23-08 fails with 258 votes.

Article 3 – to purchase a loader

To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$175,000 for the purchase of a loader, with \$133,000 to be withdrawn from the Highway Equipment Expendable Trust Fund, and \$42,000 from the State Clean Diesel grant. The Selectmen recommend this article. (Majority vote required). No tax impact.

Chairman Maxfield makes a motion to move Article #3 and move its adoption as printed. Seconded by: Selectman Miller.

Chairman Maxfield states that they put a grant in towards this loader of \$42,000. It is a needed item. Road agent Pearl states back in July, NHDES contacted him about the grant program. This grant is a "spin-off" from the fine they gave to Volkswagen from the misuse of diesel cars.

He has two vehicles that he needed to replace in the future that fell into this category. One being a 2001 caterpillar with over 15,960 hours and needs to be repaired. This grant gives them \$42,000 towards it. He has gotten 4 bids so far that vary in price. (From \$170,000-\$200,000.) He has one that he is currently looking at.

Jeff Leonard of 122 Lower Ridge Road, asks the Selectmen why they originally did not recommend this article for a warrant article in the first budget hearing, then decided to recommend this article after the second? He also reminds them that the loader, ambulance and Police Cruiser were also not originally recommended on the first warrant article in the public meeting and now they are. Could they explain?

Chairman Maxfield doesn't recall not recommending it in the first round.

Road Agent Pearl stated that it was the Dump truck they didn't recommend the first time around.

No further discussion.

ARTICLE 3 PASSED AS READ.

Moderator Phillips reads Article 4 as follows.

Article 4 – To purchase a dump truck

To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$215,000 for the purchase of a dump truck with plow and sander, with \$52,358 from a State Clean Diesel grant, \$111,000 to be withdrawn from the Highway Department Capital Reserve Fund, further to name the selectmen as agents to expend from said fund and the balance of \$51,642 to be raised by taxes. The Selectmen recommend this article. (Majority vote required). Estimated tax impact \$ 0.07

Selectman Miller moves Article #4 and move its adoption as printed. Seconded by: Selectman Storrs.

Selectman Miller asks Road Agent Pearl to speak on Article 4..

Road Agent Pearl states that he would like to replace the 2003 International dump truck. It is 20 years old with 99,497 miles on it.

Jeff Leonard of 122 Lower Ridge Road, repeats the question as to why the selectmen didn't recommend this article at the first budget hearing but now, they do?

Chairman Maxfield states, in addition to the one they purchased last year, this truck will help update the fleet. They also reconsidered after hearing about the grant they received of \$52,358 to help cover some of the costs. They thought it was wise to use this grant to cut the costs by 25%.

Selectman Miller adds stating he also agrees and that these grants are written in the beginning of the year and to get the process going the BOS authorizes to put the applications in. They found out just before budget time and he personally wasn't in favor of that even though the tax impact is only \$.07. At the time they started budgeting, they increased the Operating Budget as well, which he felt was more important because the town is service based. If we don't have employees, we don't have equipment to operate with. After discussion with department heads, he was in agreement to put it in the warrant and put it on the floor for the taxpayers to decide.

Jeff Leonard of 122 Lower Ridge Road asks Selectman Storrs if he is for or against it?

Selectman Storrs states he is in favor.

No further discussion.

ARTICLE 4 PASSES AS READ

Article 5 – To reclaim & pave Loudon Ridge Road

To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$175,000 for the purpose of reclaiming, paving and adding shoulder gravel to approximately 2590' of Loudon Ridge Road between houses #373 and #461. To authorize the withdrawal of \$125,000 from the Roadway Improvement Capital Reserve Fund created for that purpose. The balance of \$50,000 to come from Highway Block Grant money. The Selectmen recommend this article. (Majority vote required). There is no tax impact.

Selectman Storrs makes a motion to move Article #5 and move its adoption as printed. Seconded by: Chairman Maxfield

Chairman Maxfield states over the past few years, they paved two different sections of Ridge Road and this article will connect the two sections going over Sabattus heights and connect the two sections they paved previously. Chairman Maxfield suggested Road Agent Pearl to discuss Article 5.

Road Agent Pearl states that the Ridge is extremely long and it's going to connect what they did going up to the first section with the steep portion-going in front of Pearl farm and connecting to the other end by the old school house. This will take care of a lot of the sections that need to be done on the East side. They can start on the 106 side soon. Agent Pearl states that he is trying to get to all the roads in town.

Dwayne Gilman of Kenny Road, questioned the fact that there is no tax impact on this article. However, we still have to put money back into this account today and that has a tax impact. He wants to make residents aware that this costs us in the long run.

Selectman Miller adds that the Capital Reserve Funds are savings accounts that we will be replenishing.

Dwayne Gilman states that we will have to replenish them over the next few years and today we are going to choose roads to repair. Later we are putting money back in that does have a tax impact. Selectman Maxfield states that's how capital reserve works, they take money out of savings and add back to it.

ARTICLE 5 PASSED AS READ

Article 6 – to reclaim & pave Clough Hill Road

To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$370,000 for the

purpose of reclaiming, paving, replacing culverts and adding shoulder gravel to approximately 6170' of Clough Hill Road, from Route 129 to Pleasant Street Ext. (Youngs Hill Rd.) with said funds to be raised by taxes. The Selectmen recommend this article. (Majority vote required). Estimated tax impact is \$0.51

Chairman Maxfield makes a motion to move Article #6 and move its adoption as printed. Seconded by: Selectman Miller.

Chairman Maxfield states the location of the road and how it is deteriorating. Chairman asks Road Agent Pearl to discuss Article 6.

Road Agent Pearl discusses the length of the road and the need of repairs. They need to phase this out due to the length. This is the second phase of Clough Hill.

Jeff Leonard of 122 Lower Ridge Road, opposes the article due to nine house lots that are in the area. He believes we should hold off until the houses are built over the next few years to help reduce damage to the road. He recommends the town look into easements and proper drainage as well to help reduce damage. Another option could be to include it into a contractor's agreement.

Road Agent Pearl states he has been in contact with the Planning board and engineers for that reason. He states they need to bring the road up more to help with the driveways or the town will be spending money on redoing the driveways. Road Agent Pearl believes now is the time.

Elgie Goodwin, of 175 Coaster Road, thanks Road Agent Pearl for his explanation. Mr. Goodwin asks what the impact fee would be and the total cost of revenue. Selectman Miller states that they voted to get rid of the impact fees and increased Building Permit fees (including electrical, gas and all other permits) 80% of that income goes towards the Highway maintenance Fund. Funds are coming in.

Terese Bastarache of 7337 Oak Hill Road, States that taxes will be going up \$10.00. Property values are going up. People are struggling to make ends meet right now. She stated that she needs to be as fiscally responsible for the budget now, when so many are struggling. Mrs. Bastarache encourages people when voting, to consider those who have to work three jobs to pay bills and take care of their families.

Todd Phelps of 1102 Route 129, thanks Road Agent Pearl and his crew for their hard work. Mr. Phelps stated he drove on the road this morning and agrees that it is in rough shape however, he feels Mr. Leonard has a point and we should hold off for now until the new developments are complete. Should we do a smaller section right now that isn't affected by the construction of new housing? Road Agent Pearl answers that he feels the road is too low and will cause issues in the future for the new driveways constructed on the new road. Mr. Phelps expresses his concern for putting new roads up just to be torn apart.

Jeff Leonard of 122 Lower Ridge Road, would like clarification on the term "Too Low" and what standard height of a road should be. Road Agent Pearl answered that there is a section of the road that is

extremely low and needs to be raised up, a crown needs to be put in. When they reclaim the road, they grind up the asphalt and put 6 inches of stone to bring it up and add four inches of new pavement.

Pete Pitman of 173 Lovejoy Road, understands the complications of not putting driveways in correctly. He had a similar issue and he agrees with Russ that we should do this correct to prevent more hassle in the future.

Moderator Phillips takes the vote to the floor. A hand count was done by the Supervisors of the Checklist and Assistant Moderator Janice Morin as requested by the Moderator.

YES 91 NO 66

ARTICLE 6 PASSED AS READ

Article 7 – To reclaim & pave Currier Road

To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$145,000 for the purpose of reclaiming, paving, replacing a culvert and adding shoulder gravel to approximately 2640' of Currier Road from Route 106 to the bridge with said funds to be raised by taxes. The Selectmen recommend this article. (Majority vote required). Estimated tax impact is \$0.20

Selectman Miller made a motion to move Article #7 and move its adoption as printed. Seconded by: Selectman Storrs

Selectman Miller described the part of the road as from Route 106 down to the bridge on Currier Road. He states that the road is in bad shape and is continuing to deteriorate. They want to bring it up to a good standard and have it done right this time around so it lasts twenty years.

Road Agent Pearl states the location being from Route 106 to the Bridge on Currier Road. It is a total of 2640 ft. It has taken a toll over the years, especially during winter. Road Agent Pearl thanked his crewman for their hard work with the challenging winters and apologies to the residents for any damage to their properties. They will fix them. The past Winter with the ground not freezing made it difficult for them all.

Elgie Goodwin, of 175 Coaster Road states in years past, Fillmore Trucks and other "Road" trucks that have come out of the haul pit and would like to know what impact that had on the road that they could use? Or are they trucks that are registered to use that road? Chairman Maxfield explains that currier road is a public road. They could tell them not to use it for hauling but Chairman Maxfield himself, stated he does not see them using the road as often now. He isn't sure they cross over the bridge portion.

Michele York of 7150 Currier Road, also stated that since Benevento took over, they no longer use that road.

Patrick Golden of 968 Loudon Ridge Road wants to ask the voters of Loudon to slow down on voting. We are up to \$.58. He is in favor of having good roads but we have bigger articles coming ahead.

Jeff Leonard of 122 Lower Ridge Road would like to know if this \$145,000 incorporates all the wetland permits and fees that go along with that to replace the culvert? Road Agent Pearl states that there is one culvert on the road and he does not need a permit to change that culvert.

Moderator Phillips reads results to Article 7. Yes 81 No 80

Moderator Phillips recognizes a Point of Order request.

Jeff Leonard of 122 Lower Ridge Road asks for a recount for Article 7. And asked if it was possible to get secret ballot results. Moderator explained that he could not because he would have to request it prior to calling for the vote.

Peter Pitman of 173 Lovejoy Road, asked the Selectmen if they could explain why, on Article 7, in the book it says that the Selectmen recommend this article but he saw two of them vote against it. Could they explain?

Selectman Miller explains that like he said before this is the purest level of democracy here. When he recommended it, he recommended they bring it to the floor for the townspeople. The board of selectmen recommend these articles and the budget to the townspeople and the townspeople will vote on what they wish for the board to spend their tax money on.

Terese Bastarache, 7337 Oak Hill Road, calls for a point of order. She would like to make sure that the police officers present are Loudon Residents. They are holding up their green cards and voting. Moderator Phillips explains to Mrs. Bastarache that the only way they could get a green card to vote, would be to show their residency here in Loudon with the Ballot clerks. Mr. Phillips states he would not question any voter with a card here, he will not start by asking them.

Recount results are as follows:

Yes 83 No 78

ARTICLE 7 PASSED AS READ

Peter Pitman of 173 Lovejoy Road makes a motion to restrict any reconsideration for articles 3,4,5,6,7. Motion seconded by Sherri Kluesener of 136 Pittsfield Road. Motion Passed.

Article 8 - Replace guardrails – Lower Ridge Rd. Bridge

To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$95,000 for the purpose of replacing the existing guardrail system on the Lower Ridge Road Concrete Bridge. To authorize the withdrawal of \$95,000 from the Bridge Capital Reserve Fund created for that purpose. The Selectmen recommend this article.

(Majority vote required). There is no tax impact.

Selectman Storrs makes a motion to move Article #8 and move its adoption as printed. Seconded by: Chairman Maxfield.

Chairman Maxfield explains this past year they did some repairs on Lower Ridge Road where Lower ridge and McKenzie Road meet. The bridge they are talking about is the next bridge up with cement railings. Chairman Maxfield suggest Road Agent Pearl speaks on Article 8.

Road Agent Pearl explains this particular bridge is about midway through Lower Ridge Road. It was built in the 1950's and is all concrete. The structure is in good shape but it needs maintenance. The real issue is the rail system. He would like to cut them off and replace them with similar ones they did last year.

Jeff Leonard of 122 Lower Ridge Road, points out that the article states no tax impact however, in the Annual Report on page 10, the Capital Reserve funds of \$150,000 will be voted on today to be put back into that bridge and capital reserve fund. So, in all actuality, it does affect the tax rate. All the articles here do have a tax impact and we have to put money back in them.

Lisa Laughlin of 185 Old Shaker Road asks will this extend the life of the bridge in the long run? She would also like to point out we are all voting on these today the Road Agent brings them to the people. Road Agent Pearl states that it brings it up to compliance with the state. The state does an inspection every year and this bridge's rail system is the only issue it has.

Melissa Tucker of 581 Route 129, would like to be reminded of what the tax rate was for the current year? Selectman Miller states \$18.55. Mrs. Tucker would like to know that if we were to vote in all of these, what would our new tax rate be? Selectman Miller explains that we won't know that until November. We have to take our revenues and paperwork and send it into DRA and they determine how much money we take and put it against our lean. Mrs. Tucker confirms, then we are not increasing our taxes by \$10.00? Selectmen Miller confirms that is correct.

Chairman Maxfield would like to point out on page 26 the revenue is over \$2.5 million. Mrs. Tucker states last year everything was passed and they saw a minimal tax increase. Selectman Miller agrees and also adds it was minimal even after a whole revaluation was done. Chairman Maxfield continues to explain the funds.

Alicha Kingsbury of 298 Bear Hill Road, to that point on top of what we vote for here today, the unknown is the county and state portion. As well as the 46-million-dollar school budget that was just approved.

Patrick Golden 968 Loudon Ridge Road, understands and would like to confirm we are on time limit if we want a good deal? Road Agent Pearl states Mike Bean, the gentleman who gave him a good deal is retiring this year so Road Agent Pearl wanted to utilize him and bring another bridge to him. He brings these articles to the townspeople to decide. Road Agent Pearl would like people to stop and look at the bridges and the numbers from the bridge reports that they get from the state. The town is held liable.

Earl Tuson 5 Pittsfield Road, would like to know if there are any plans on replacing the bridge in the next ten years or so. Road Agent Pearl states that if this passes it will extend the life of the bridge.

Chairman Maxfield also agrees that the town is liable and we need to bring it to compliance. The rails are deteriorating. Chairman Maxfield also states there is a plaque that was on the bridge when it was established in the 1930's.

Thomas Moore 274 Bumfagon Road, if this Article passes will the new railings help widen the bridge? Road Agent Pearl states that it may reduce them. He has had a few people come out and look at it, and it will narrow it up a little bit.

Jeff Leonard of 122 Lower Ridge Road, is the bridge on any Historical registry? Chairman Maxfield states he is not aware that it is. Mr. Leonard is just concerned with the new construction; he would like to keep the historical look of the bridge.

Brady Leonard of 55 Storrs Drive would like to make a motion to move the motion. Motion passed.

ARTICLE 8 PASSED AS READ

Article 9 – To replace Loudon Ridge Rd. bridge

To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$375,000 for the purpose of replacing the existing Loudon Ridge Road bridge. \$183, 611 from the one-time bridge payment, to authorize the withdrawal of \$69,000 from the Bridge Capital Reserve Fund created for that purpose, and \$122,389 to be raised by taxes. The Selectmen recommend this article. (Majority vote required). Estimated tax impact is \$0.17

Chairman Maxfield makes a motion to move Article #9 and move its adoption as printed. Seconded by: Selectman Miller.

Selectman Maxfield states this Bridge is located on Loudon Ridge. It is One half mile towards the Loudon Church and a half mile towards 129. This is the second bridge recommended in priority due to deterioration.

Road Agent Pearl states that this bridge as it stands now is 26 ft long and 20ft wide. It is going to be replaced with the identical set up as they did in lower ridge road. Mike Bean, the same gentleman he mentioned prior, would be helping again with these. Mike has experience with over 250 bridges. Road Agent Pear also has spoken to five other towns about Mike and the Road Agents in the following towns encourage him to have him work on our bridges before he retires.

Jeff Leonard 122 Lower Ridge Road, would like to take articles 9, 10, 11, 17, 18, 19 and 20 and 21 to be held by secret ballot. Moderator Phillips states that you can't make it a motion, you must submit a piece of paper for each one individually prior to when he calls the vote.

Earl Tuson of 5 Pittsfield Road, would like to know if the \$185,000 in federal funds? Selectman Miller states that it is part of the infrastructure bill where monies were brought into the state and this came from the state to the town. Earl Tuson confirms that half of this is federal money? Selectman Miller states yes.

Lisa Laughlin of 185 Old Shaker would like to know if there is any way to deny a secret ballot? Moderator explains that there is not.

Moderator Phillips reads the motion signed by the following five registered voters, to appropriate article 9 to be held by secret ballot: Jeff Leonard, John Decato, Kevin Cullinane, Tim Landry and Marc Griffin.

Cynthia Rogers, 200 Greenview Drive, calls for a point of order to have Moderator Phillips refresh their memory, if a paper ballot that is not a two thirds of majority vote, does not require the one-hour time limit? Moderator Phillips states she is correct and they will move on as soon as everyone has voted.

Article 9 was voted on by secret ballot. Results are as follows:

Yes 120 no 55

ARTICLE 9 PASSED AS READ

Article 10 – to purchase a police cruiser

To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$60,000 for the purpose of purchasing a police cruiser, with \$29,500 to be withdrawn from the Police Cruiser Capital Reserve Fund, \$9,875 from an insurance settlement and the balance of \$20,625 to be raised by taxes. The Selectmen recommend this article. (Majority vote required.) Estimated tax impact is \$0.03

Selectman Miller makes a motion to move Article #10 and move its adoption as printed. Seconded by: Selectman Storrs

Police Chief Kris Burgess explains that this isn't a year they would typically ask for a new vehicle but one of his cruisers was damaged in the storm over Christmas break. A tree came down on it and the insurance company totaled it. The Police Department is respectfully asking for the townspeople's vote to replace that vehicle. They will use money from Primex and the Capital Reserve fund and the rest to be raised by taxes.

Lisa Laughlin of 185 Old Shaker Road, would like to know if the town has replacement insurance to cover the vehicles that are critical to town operations? Selectman Miller states he wishes they had an

answer and that he will check with the Town Administrator to see what Primex can offer. Mrs. Laughlin suggested the town look into it for the future as it could possibly save money.

Craig Clough of 149 Goshen Drive, calls for a point of order, if we could make a motion to move strictly to the vote without having to go to a secret ballot? Moderator Phillips explains that if someone calls for a secret ballot before the vote, they have a right to do that.

Article 10 was requested for a secret ballot by the following registered voters: Alichia Kingsbury, Jonathan Leonard, Jeff Leonard, Marc Griffin and Amy Griffin.

Yes 142 No 29

ARTICLE 10 PASSED AS READ

Article 11 – To purchase an ambulance

To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$290,000 for the purpose of purchasing an ambulance with equipment, and to authorize the withdrawal of \$190,000 from the Ambulance/Rescue Capital Reserve Fund created for that purpose. The balance of \$100,000 to be raised by taxes. This special warrant article will be a non-lapsing appropriation per RSA 32:7, VI and will not lapse until the purchase of the ambulance is completed or by June 30, 2028 whichever is sooner. The Selectmen recommend this article. (Majority vote required). Estimated tax impact is \$0.14

Selectman Storrs made a motion to take Article #11 and move its adoption as printed. Seconded by: Chairman Maxfield.

Chairman Maxfield states that it will take a few years to build an ambulance and get it in place. He then asks Fire Chief Tom Blanchette to speak on Article 11.

Chief Blanchette explains the process of the Capital Improvement Plan that meets every month. Chief Blanchette encourages residents to go through the process to be more involved prior to town meetings as what they discuss in the CIP meetings is what they bring to the floor.

They would like to replace the 2014 international ambulance with 130,000 miles on it and over 7800 hours on it as well. It may have another two years left. It has multiple issues such as heating and air conditioning. Chief Blanchette also advises taking the chance while they are lower in price currently.

Lisa Laughlin 185 Old Shaker Road, would like to know if they can “lock in” the price for the new ambulance? Chief Blanchette answers yes. They are hoping too. Lisa Laughlin agrees. Mrs. Laughlin is in favor of Article 11.

Tom Moore of 274 Bumfagon road, would like to know if the cost in repairs is less than buying a new ambulance? Chief Blanchette states that he did spend a lot of money last year on this vehicle, the issues are with the tubing and condensers mounted underneath. There is salt and corrosion on the bottom.

Jeff Leonard of 122 Lower Ridge Road, would like to refer back to page 37 in the Annual report where Chief Blanchette stated he was not going to ask the town for another vehicle this year. Chief Blanchette states that standing in front of the townspeople is the last place he wanted to be but this is a dire need. It is not easy to buy a new vehicle.

Kelly Clark 1629 106 North, is an EMT for the Fire Department and mentions they are not talking about just a regular daily day-to-day vehicle, they are talking about life saving equipment. You call 9-1-1 and want an ambulance there. This provides that service. If an ambulance breaks down, they only have one that they can put in use. If not, they rely on mutual aid services.

Article 11 was requested by secret ballot by the Five registered voters: Alisha Kingsbury, Jeff Leonard, Marc Griffin, Amy Griffin and Teres Bastarache.

Yes 133 No 41

ARTICLE 11 PASSED AS READ

Moderator Phillips recognizes Selectman Maxfield to present 2 awards to the following people: Leanne Blanchette in recognition for her service to the Town of Loudon as Trustee of the Trust Funds. Melanie Kiley in recognition for her outstanding dedication of 36 years as Town Treasurer. Her dedication and service to the Town over the years is greatly appreciated.

Lisa Laughlin 185 Old Shaker Road, would like to move to restrict any consideration for Articles 8,9 and 10. Seconded by a Loudon resident. Motion Passes.

Article 12 – Change of polling hours in town

Polling hours in the town of Loudon are now 8:00 am to 7:00 pm. Shall we place a question on the state election ballot to change polling hours so that polls shall open at 7:00 am and close at 7:00 pm for all regular state elections beginning the First Tuesday after the First Monday in November 2024?"

Chairman Maxfield makes a motion to take Article #12 and move its adoption as printed. Seconded by: Selectman Miller.

Chairman Maxfield speaks to his motion stating that it takes the legislative body to make this change. It has been recommended that they change the hours as they did with Town elections. The selectmen do have the ability to change town but not state.

Jeff Leonard 122 Lower Ridge Road, would like to take his request for a secret ballot for Article 12 off the table.

Alvin See of 64 Plateau Ridge questions the wording of the Article and the timing? Moderator Phillips states that he thought the Governing body had to vote on it first then submit it to the Secretary of The State. Chairman Maxfield explains the Department of Revenue Administration reviewed it along with the town attorney. Chairman Maxfield feels certain that it is correct and this is the language the State wanted them to use to present this Article.

Andrew Parrella 105 Lesmerises Road, states they have an election in January coming up, will this be affected? Moderator Phillips, states they will get back to them and keep communication open.

ARTICLE 12 PASSED AS READ

Article 13 – to appoint a town treasurer

To see if the town will vote to authorize the selectmen to appoint a town treasurer in accordance with RSA 41:26-e, rather than electing a treasurer. (Majority vote required).

Selectman Miller makes a motion to move that we take Article #13 and move its adoption as printed. Seconded by: Selectman Storrs.

Selectman Miller states that no one put their name on the ballot this year however, Kathy Pitman did step in as a write-in. They feel this will help down the line if they run into the same issue. It is also recommended since this is an elected position now, to be able to appoint someone who has a financial background would be ideal.

Peter Pitman 173 Lovejoy Road, states he is not in favor of article 13. He believes it should be an elected position as the Selectboard also changes frequently. Chairman Maxfield explains they would check qualifications if they were to make this an appointed position.

Jeff Leonard 122 Lower Ridge Road asks, if this would be a full-time position? Selectman Miller states no. It will be a compensated position. If this passes, Loudon's newly elected treasurer, Kathy Pitman will remain Treasurer for the next Three years to finish her term, then the position would be appointed and the position for treasurer will be removed from the ballot. Mr. Leonard asks if the board has anyone in mind? Selectman Miller states They do not have anyone in mind.

Ken Chalifour of 7388 School Street, would like to amend the wording to Article A13. "To see if the town will vote to authorize the selectmen to appoint a town treasurer, if a person is not elected."

Selectman Miller states that it has to be either an elected position or an appointment. Mr. Chalifour would like to resend the amendment.

Alvin See of 64 Plateau Ridge, clarifies that the selectboard has provisions for filling a vacancy.

Michelle York of 7150 Currier Road would like to have the former Town Treasurer of 36 years, Melanie Kiley, speak on this Article and give her input.

Melanie Kiley of 129, stated she believes in the power of the people's vote. She would vote to elect.

Shane Labonte of 429 of 129, states his concern and believes that making this appointment is going towards "Nepotism." He believes we should keep it elected that the people want to be elected and by appointment if Kathy wants to step down, then the selectman can appoint someone until the next election.

ARTICLE 13 FAILED AS READ.

Craig Clough of 149 Goshen Drive, would like to make a motion to restrict reconsideration for Articles 11, 12 and 13. Seconded by Lisa Laughlin.

Article 14 -Optional Veterans' Credit

Shall the Town of Loudon readopt the OPTIONAL VETERANS' TAX CREDIT in accordance with RSA 72:28, II, for an annual tax credit on residential property of \$500.? (Majority vote required)

Selectman Storrs makes a motion to take Article #14 and move its adoption as printed. Seconded by: Chairman Maxfield

Chairman Maxfield states the purpose of this article is the State Legislative recently amended two state laws, which the town previously adopted at prior town meetings. We need to readopt Articles 14 and 15. To conform with the amended state laws of House Bill 16:67. The deadline is April 1st, 2023. If they don't meet the deadline this credit will be in void.

Bill Taranovich of 80 Wellington, a veteran who is thankful for his credit he receives, questions the term "Honorably discharged" and who qualifies under the term? Chairman Maxfield states they have to be on active duty, or honorably discharged. Those who are on Active duty can now qualify for this exemption. They will be reevaluated after they are discharged.

Tom Moore of 274 Bumfagon Road questions if the veterans will have to reapply every year if they are on Active-Duty status? In addition, Mr. Moore, questions 'how would we know'? Chairman Maxfield agrees it will be hard to manage. He has spoken to an attorney to get more clarity on this however, this is all he can say at the time.

Shane Labonte 429 of 129, states he has worked for over five years helping military personnel to transition out of the service into their own way of living. Mr. LaBonte states the five ways a Veteran is discharged. Mr. Labonte adds, it is the individual's responsibility to provide the DD 2 14 documentation to the town to receive the credit. It is not on the Selectboard to do the research.

Cynthia Rogers of 200 Greenview Drive, states that there is nothing prohibiting them to ask for yearly proof from veterans as an active-duty person. And feels there is no need to debate this article and would like to make a motion to move the question. Seconded by a Loudon resident. Motion passes.

ARTICLE 14 PASSED AS READ.

Article 15 – to readopt All Veterans' Credit

Shall the Town of Loudon readopt the 'ALL-VETERANS' TAX CREDIT in accordance with RSA 72:28-b, for an annual tax credit on residential property which shall be equal the same amount as the standard or optional veterans' tax credit voted by the Town under RSA 72:28? (Majority vote required)

Chairman Maxfield makes a motion to take Article #15 and move its adoption as printed.
Seconded by: Selectman Miller.

Chairman Maxfield states that similar to Article 14, The state law has identical language as the one before. This ALL Veterans credit the town passed last year, was for ALL veterans that had served at least 90 continuous days of service, were eligible. The total amount they authorized was \$7500 in that category. This information is found on page 56 in the 2022 Town Annual report.

ARTICLE 15 PASSED AS READ

Article 16 – To sell Map 20, Lot 70

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to take all steps necessary to effectuate the conveyance of all portions of the parcel of land identified as Map 20, Lot 70, upon such terms and conditions the Selectmen deem in the best interest of the Town?

Selectman Miller Makes a motion to take Article #16 and move its adoption as printed. Seconded by: Selectman Storrs.

Selectman Miller describes the location of Map 20 lot 70. It is the parcel at the South End of South Village Road just before the corner and Whales Bridge Road. The property that's been town owned for many years, divides the state-owned property that comes to South Village Road and route 106. It is a "sliver" of property of .09 acres and abuts Gary Minery's property. This land has no use for the town. In addition, Chairman Maxfield explained it is 20ft wide and 210 feet long. It is not buildable. It will not give authority for the selectman to sell other property, it's this one specifically.

Tom Moore of 274 Bumfagon road would like to know if they have asked the abutted land owner if he would like to inherit it. Selectman Miller states he has shown interest. They would have to check with the legal counsel if they could put it out for bid. He isn't sure if anyone would be interested.

Jeff Leonard, 122 Lower Ridge Road questions the wording on the Article and would like clarification on the term "Conveyance.": Are they selling the property or giving it to someone? Chairman Maxfield states

if they gave it away, he feels they would be criticized. Selectman Miller states that they went to the DRA for all of these Articles, who have to initial off on the proper wording.

Earl Tuson of 5 Pittsfield Road, questions Map 20 Lot 70. The Selectman had stated this was not a buildable lot, however, if applicants applied for setbacks and variances, you could develop on this lot. Chairman Maxfield states he "Stood Corrected."

Craig Clough of 149 Goshen Drive, Defines the legal definition of the word "Conveyance".

ARTICLE 16 PASSES

Article 17 – To purchase ballot counting machines

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$70,000 for the purpose of purchasing ballot counting devices. This special warrant article will be a non-lapsing appropriation per RSA 32:7, VI and will not lapse until the article purchase is completed or by June 30, 2028, whichever is sooner. The Selectmen recommend this appropriation. (Majority vote required). Estimated tax impact is \$0.10

Selectman Storrs makes a motion to take Article #17 and move its adoption as printed. Seconded by: Chairman Maxfield.

Selectman Miller reads a letter from the members of the Ballot commission.

Moderator Phillips states that the current ballot counting devices will be replaced and no ballot marking devices are planned to be used. Selectman Miller states they will be replacing the two ballot devices the town has. He is unknown of the costs at this time they had to come up with a figure. It could be more or less than the number given. The new counting devices are similar with plenty of different vendors to choose from.

Jeff Leonard of 122 Lower Ridge Road, recalls at the budget hearing, there was mention that these were individual voting machines for each station? Moderator Phillips explains the Ballot Law Commission does not recommend it. Moderator Phillips stated he mentioned that prior to speaking with Bud Fitch and other surrounding towns.

Mr. Leonard asks if the new counting devices will be hooked up to the internet? Moderator Phillips states, "No. By law, they cannot be hooked up to the internet or Bluetooth."

Alvin See of 64 Plateau Rudge, would recommend that the town only purchase one, since we only have used one and we don't use the backup machine. Mr. See goes into Detail about the ADA compliant tablet that is used as well during elections.

Terese Bastarache of 7337 Oak Hill Road, questions the fact, there has been information given to them that stating there is nothing wrong with the machines the town currently uses, so why are we spending more money to replace them during inflation?

Moderator Phillips explains if the town chooses not to appropriate the money, and the legislative body votes on this, our machines will no longer be supported and we would go back to hand counting. His understanding is the State will not support the AccuVote machine that is produced by LHS.

Mrs. Bastarache would like to know if the new device would be supported by LHS as well as Dominion? Moderator Phillips states LHS does sell numerous brands not just the AccuVote and Dominion. Mrs. Bastarache states in the meetings he has had with the Secretary of State there is a lot of National Litigation going on with LHS and Dominion for the memory card coding and data source. She would hate for the town to spend money on this and find out LHS Machines are not constitutionally approved.

Ken Chalifour 7338 School St, would like the definition to "non-lapsing appropriation". Chairman Maxfield states that it remains in effect until they spend the money. Mr. Chalifour would like to confirm this is a onetime appropriation. Moderator Phillips confirms that this money would stick around until it is spent one time or by June 30th 2028 date comes around.

Cynthia Rogers of 200 Greenview drive, would like clarification stating this \$70,000 is an arbitrary number? Selectman Miller states that was the number given to them. Mrs. Rogers confirms this for two machines? Selectman Miller states "Yes."

Earl Tuson of 5 Pittsfield Road, would like to know the cost of Hand Counting ballots? Moderator Phillips states he isn't sure, he knows they pay a single amount per person, hourly. It would take additional counters but isn't sure of the cost at the time. He had four teams during the Presidential election.

Terese Bastarache of 7337 Oak Hill Road, volunteered to hand count during the primary election, it took the group a few hours. She thought the method was simple and enjoyed the process. She has no doubt they could get enough people to count. She was paid \$40.00 for her time and she would be glad to donate those funds back to the town or scouts.

Cynthia Rogers of 200 Greenview Drive would like to make a motion to amend Article 17 to *"To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$10,000 for the purpose of purchasing ballot counting devices"*. Seconded by Patrick Golden of 978 Loudon Ridge Road.

AMENDMENT TO ARTICLE 17 PASSES.

Todd Phelps of 1102 Route 129, states Moderator Phillips stated earlier that one machine cost \$8,500. Moderator Phillips states that is correct. Mr. Phelps states that the cost of two would be double that. Moderator Phillips states yes. Chairman Maxfield comments if they will need two, they have a contingency fund they would pull from if required.

Ken Chalifour of 7388 School Street, asks what would be required if they are willing to hand count? Also, how many votes did they have in the last Presidential election?

Supervisor of the Checklist, Andrew Parrella states 2800 voters. Mr. Chalifour feels they could gather enough volunteers and enough people to save money.

Jeff Leonard of 122 Lower Ridge Road, questions Chairman Maxfield's statement earlier, if we do not have the money to pay for a machine then Chairman Maxfield is already planning to appropriate the funds from the Contingency fund to cover these costs.

Chairman Maxfield states that he meant if they are required by law to have two, and don't have the money we would have to find it somewhere but agrees that they could go to hand counting and save money. Chairman Maxfield also states the Selectman are involved in the hand counting process as well.

Dennis Jakubowski of 158 Bumfagon Road makes a motion to move the question. Seconded by Peter Pitman of 173 Lovejoy Road. Motion Passes.

Moderator Phillips goes back to the motion Amended on Article 17 - All those in favor of Passing the motion as amended. Motion Carries.

ARTICLE 17 WITH AMENDMENT PASSED AS READ

Article 18 – To raise and appropriate for established CRF
To see if the Town of Loudon will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,033,000 to be placed in previously established Capital Reserve Funds.
Highway Department Capital Reserve Fund \$125,000
Fire Department Apparatus Capital Reserve Fund \$125,000
Bridge Construction Capital Reserve Fund \$150,000
Roadway Improvements Capital Reserve Fund \$350,000
Ambulance/Rescue Equipment Capital Reserve Fund \$63,000
Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus Capital Reserve Fund \$15,000
Police Cruiser Capital Reserve Fund \$30,000
Alternative Energy Capital Reserve Fund \$30,000
Town Garage Capital Reserve Fund \$100,000
Safety Complex Upgrade Capital Reserve Fund \$20,000
Town History Museum Capital Reserve Fund \$25,000
The Selectmen recommend this article.
(Majority vote required).
Estimated tax impact is \$1.43

Chairman Maxfield makes a motion to take Article #18 and move its adoption as printed
Seconded by: Selectman Miller.

Chairman Maxfield speaks to his motion stating these are the standard capital reserve funds, established in previous years by the legislative body and they fund them every year.

Michael Moffett of 144 Greenview Drive, thanks residents for their attendance and Town employees for their service. Mr. Moffett made a motion to amend Article 18 and reduce Capital Reserve line items by 25%. (Seconded by Marc Griffin of 7193 Shaker Road.)

Michael Moffett of 144 Greenview Drive, speaks on his motion and takes notice of the town report ten years ago and what the numbers were back then; He believes the spending that is happening in this town over the years are well intentioned but above inflation. The Race track isn't what it used to be and isn't bringing in revenue. Mr. Moffett states though it states "No tax impact" on the warrant articles, we are putting money back in these Capital Reserve Funds.

Sherri Kluesener of 136 Pittsfield Road, states that if we reduce them now, the next time we need an ambulance or a police cruiser, we will have to pay the difference. She is not for reducing the line items.

George Saunderson of 615 Lovejoy Road also disagrees with reducing the Capital Reserve Fund. CRF's have worked well for the town and also states that Former Selectman Raymond Cummings worked hard to establish these funds.

Chairman Maxfield states these figures were brought to them by a group of people who spent hours in the CIP. They spend hours discussing what should be replaced and that is what these accounts are for so they don't have to raise additional money to buy vehicles. He commends Mr. Moffett for coming up with this but believes we will pay for it down the road. Plan ahead and have the funds available to replace items.

Jeff Leonard of 122 Lower Ridge Road, States the reason the town does not have funds to replace items is because we keep buying vehicles and equipment every year. The town's Capital Reserve Funds cannot accumulate money if we keep spending. Mr. Leonard suggests to stop buying new vehicles and let the Capital reserve Funds grow.

Terese Bastarache of 7337 Oak Hill Road, agrees with Jeff Leonard, she has lived in Loudon for over twenty years and sees how the town spends money and then it comes back on the townspeople to replenish these funds.

Selectman Miller reminds people they present these Articles to the legislative body to vote on. Their expenditure has happened over the legislative body voting those items in, not the Board of selectmen or Department heads.

Regina Fiske of 368 Lovejoy Road, speaks against this article even though some of the line items have doubled since last year. She feels it is unfair to cut those items that have decreased over the years by 25%.

Chairman Maxfield states that things have changed over the years and has served with former Selectman, Raymond Cummings. At one time they did not have an ambulance service. The cost of everything has gone up with inflation and they are trying to keep costs down. The revenue is slightly half of what the townspeople will see in Article 20.

Patrick Golden of 968 Loudon Ridge Road, is in favor of reducing the line items by 25%. He feels the departments have got what they need. He feels this will help "buy some time." to build these funds back up.

Peter Pitman of 173 Lovejoy Road would like to move the question on the amendment, seconded by Cheryl Chartier of 880 Loudon Ridge Road.

Moderator Phillips makes a motion to vote on amendment.

AMENDMENT FAILS

Moderator Phillips reads Article 18 as written.

Article 18 is requested by secret Ballot by the following registered voters: Marc Griffin, Amy Griffin, Kathy Crossman, Joel Crossman, and Terese Bastarache.

Yes 111 No 51

ARTICLE 18 PASSED AS READ

Rick Bilodeau of 22 Hollow Route Road, would like to make a motion to restrict Article 18. Seconded by Lisa Laughlin of Old Shaker Road.

Article 19 – To raise and appropriate for established ETF

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$142,000 to be placed in previously established Expendable Trust Funds.

Recreation Facility Maintenance Expendable Trust Fund \$2,000

Conservation Commission Land Expendable Trust Fund \$50,000

Transfer Station Maintenance Expendable Trust Fund \$30,000

Highway Equipment Expendable Trust Fund \$50,000

Cemetery Maintenance Expendable Trust Fund \$10,000

The Selectmen recommend this article.

(Majority vote required).

Estimated tax impact is \$.20

Selectman Miller makes a motion to take Article #19 and move its adoption as printed. Seconded by: Selectman Storrs.

Selectman Miller speaks to his motion stating that the ETFs have remained the same other than the Conservation expendable trust fund. It was increased to \$50,000.

Jeff Leonard of 122 Lower Ridge Road, would like to know what the difference is between the Highway Equipment expendable trust fund and the highway department Capital reserve Fund? Can they use money out of the highway department capital reserved fund to transfer into the highway expendable trust fund?

Selectman Miller replies to Mr. Leonard and states what the difference is: The Expandable Trust can be taken out during the course of the year, whereas the Capital Reserve can be voted on by the governing body to replace items.

Mr. Leonard Would like to know if they know how much money is currently in these funds. Selectman Maxfield States:

The Rec field, \$19,426.94. The Conservation Commission, \$95,115.78. The Landfill maintenance is \$44,690.95. Transfer station maintenance \$56,323.11. Highway Equipment \$308,797.23. Cemetery Fund \$30,470.19.

Jeff Leonard of 122 Lower Ridge Road confirms that the only one that went up was the Conservation fund? Selectman miller states yes. Mr. Leonard would like to know why they need to raise it to \$50,000? Selectman Miller defers to The Conservation Commission Member, Julie Robinson.

Julie Robinson of 51 Lovejoy Road, states in order for them to be competitive in purchasing conservation easements or outright land. They have to bank the money to do that. She gives the example of The Pearl Farm. They recently had to put it into conservation through the CRS Grant project. It cost \$800,000 in total. All they had to expend out of it, due to their grant, was \$90,000. She encourages them to keep saving money so they can continue to be competitive in the grant process.

Mr. Leonard follows up with a question asking if they are going to be purchasing land to put in conservation, shouldn't that be voted on by the legislative body? Mrs. Robinson states that it has to go to the Meeting in a warrant article and has to be two thirds majority and they have done it every time.

Terese Bastarache of 7337 Oak Hill Road, as a newly elected Trustee of the Trust Fund Member, she will be watching these very closely. Mrs. Bastarache would like to remind everyone there is already a budget that has money for each of these departments. This is similar to a savings account to make sure they have money to cover costs. She feels we do not need to buy more land.

Julie Robinson, 51 Lovejoy Road states most of the money came from grants.

Earl Tuson of 5 Pittsfield Road, confirms that L chip is state money.

Article 19 was requested by secret ballot by the five following voters: Jonathan Leonard, Shawn Mulkey, Kathy Crossman, Elgie E. Goodwin, Terri Leonard.

Yes 98 No 52

ARTICLE 19 PASSED AS READ

Rick Bilodeau of 22 Hollow Route Road, makes a motion to restrict reconsideration for Article 18. Seconded by Peter Pitman. Motion passes.

Article 20 - For general municipal operations

To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$5,737,891 for general municipal operations. This article does not include appropriations contained in special or individual articles addressed separately. (Majority vote required). Estimated tax impact is \$7.96

Selectman Storrs makes a motion to take Article #20 and move its adoption as printed. Seconded by: Chairman Maxfield.

Chairman Maxfield speaks to his motion stating this year their main focus was on employee retention. The town of Loudon lost a total of Seven employees to other towns who pay more and have better benefits. Bringing salaries up this year was a priority. He praised the town employees.

Terese Bastarache of 7337 Oak Hill Road, would like to put in an amendment for Article 20 to reduce it across the board by 10% for the best interest of those who are struggling paying property taxes. She would challenge the town and their officials to operate on the budget with a 10% decrease of \$5,164,101.90. Considering the fact that property taxes went up. Seconded by Jeff Leonard of 122 Lower Ridge Road.

Moderator Phillips states we are now discussing the amendment.

Earl Tuson 5 Pittsfield Road, would like to speak on the definitions of the terms "Amendment" and "Amended Article." Mr. Tuson states that an Amendment is a term used to describe before the vote. Moderator Phillips states that is correct and that they are currently voting on an "Amendment Article"

Rick Bilodeau of 22 Hollow Route Road, speaks against this article. He states all department heads are present. The town employees work hard and come up with a proposal they believe the town can handle. The town is losing another police Officer within the next few weeks, if we don't have employees, we can't operate the town.

Selectman Miller agrees with Mr. Bilodeau and states that the department heads and selectmen get together frequently to talk about budgets. Everyone understands the cost of everything is increasing. The budget is service oriented and it is to provide those services to the town. If we cut the budget, he is afraid they will lose more people. Selectman Miller states that it is competitive and other towns offer more to hire our employees or trainees.

Regina Fiske of 368 Lovejoy Road, is not in favor of this Amendment. In 2022 the amount of tax impact was \$7.77 per thousand. This year, it's \$7.96 per thousand, when in fact, with all the increases that have gone on, it is a minimal amount.

Terese Bastarache of 7337 Oak Hill Road, states the revenue is coming in on the reassessment of the properties there is more than enough operating revenue coming in to not have to raise it up on property owners. Mrs. Bastarache suggested that employees who go through training that the town pays for, should sign a contract that the employee must stay with the town after completion for a certain amount of time.

Jeff Leonard of 122 Lower Ridge Road, how much the departments returned out of their budgets from last year? Chairman Maxfield states they don't have that figure but that money does go back in the general fund. Mr. Leonard would like to know if the Selectmen have an estimated amount? The selectmen state no.

Mr. Leonard questions the difference in this years and last year's budget and the left-over funds. Chairman Maxfield states it goes back into the unreserved balance and they use that funds to reduce taxes. Last year they used over \$800,000.00 to lower taxes. This year he feels the town is "healthy" in that aspect.

Selectman Miller Suggests that Mr. Leonard can go back into the fiscal year ending in 2022, to see what the expenditures were out of budget.

Earl Tuson of 5 Pittsfield Road, gives an example of the Police Department's budget, in the fiscal year of 2021- 2022. Explaining that all the numbers are in the Annual Report if anyone wants to do the math.

Peter Pitman of 173 Lovejoy Road, makes a motion to move the question. Seconded by Cynthia Rogers. Motion Passed.

Moderator Phillips makes a motion to adopt the new amendment reducing the Operating budget by 10%. Amendment Fails.

Moderator Phillips reads the original motion to Article 20.

ARTICLE 20 PASSED AS READ

Peter Pitman of 173 Lovejoy Road makes a motion to restrict any reconsideration for articles 19 & 20. Seconded by Rick Bilodeau. Motion Passes.

Tom Moore of 274 Bumfagon road, makes a motion to restrict Articles 14, 15, 16, and 17. Seconded by Peter Pitman. Motion Passed.

Article 21 – Demo Ridge Petition

We the registered voters of Loudon, NH 03307 petition the town of Loudon, N.H. to include in the 2023 town warrant, a warrant article to deny the New Hampshire Motor Speedway and/or its vendors from hosting/sponsoring/and conducting the demonstration motorcycle rides on Loudon Ridge Rd. and Lower Ridge Rd. The reason for this petition is due to loud noise, heavy traffic, excessive speeding, and safety violations the residents experience on both roads. The warrant articles is to be voted on at town meeting in March of 2023 and will take effect May of 2023 and remain in effect going forward. BY PETITION

Chairman Maxfield makes a motion to take Article #21 and move its adoption as printed.
Seconded by: Selectman Miller.

Patrick Golden of 968 Loudon Ridge Road will speak in favor of this article as he is one of the Sponsors. Mr. Golden states the past eight-ten years, NASCAR held demo rides from different manufacturers. It goes North up the track- to Loudon Ridge road- by Rocky Pond- up Loudon Ridge road-to the church and down Lower Ridge Road.

Mr. Golden states when they started this program, each manufacturer had a Marshall in front and in the back of the pack to help control speed. He states they stopped the program so now people can leave as a group with no supervision. Mr. Golden believes this is a safety hazard as some are inexperienced riders and the speed of which they drive is higher than the legal limit. He is not against the track; he just wants them to realize Loudon roads are secondary roads and are not a demo ride.

Forrest Green 416 Bumfagon road, resides at the corner of Bumfagon and Lower Ridge and feels some information that Mr. Golden Mentioned before is misinformation. Mr. Green works from home and sees the motorcycles go by and always sees a person in green located at the front and rear of the group, leading and following them. He states he would be surprised to see them speeding as he sees them doing the speed limit by his home. He also states the Loudon Police do post signs and patrol the roads. He does not see how they can legally stop them if the vehicles are registered and inspected.

Marc Griffin of 7193 Shaker Road, states he doesn't disagree, but if we want to take it away from this road what is the alternative route they could take?

Patrick Golden of Loudon ridge road suggests if they are going to have the demo rides keep it on the establishment where they are being held such as the track or even the State Road. not on residential roads.

Selectman Miller states that they spoke with the town attorney on this issue and whether this passes or not, it is not enforceable. Especially if it is towards a group of people. If the Town went along with it, they could be potentially going against state laws. If people did vote in favor of this article, it could send a message to NHMA to change the route of the demo rides.

Helen Dlubac, 126 North Village Road, states family members went on these rides and some were escorted and some weren't. Her husband believes they should all be escorted rides that way it is under control.

Ken Chalifour of 738 School Street, states that he respects this petition. Living on School Street he understands how speed can raise concern, however he feels we need less government regulation not more. Mr. Chalifour states that given the information from Selectman Miller, it's not enforceable, even if it gets voted in, he would like to make a motion to table this Article. Seconded by a Loudon Resident.

Moderator Phillips makes a motion to table Article 21. Motion Passes.

ARTICLE 21 TABLED.

Article 22 – To transact any other business

To transact any other business that may legally come before said meeting.

Given under our hands and seal, this 21st day of February in the year of our Lord two thousand twenty-three.

Selectman Miller made a motion to take Article #22 and move its adoption as printed.

Seconded by: Selectman Storrs.

Jeff Leonard of 122 Lower Ridge Road, makes a motion that Audio/Visual devices in Meeting room at Town hall be used by all Selectman, Planning and Zoning Meetings held in the room. Mr. Leonard feels that this system the town voted on last year is not being utilized by all departments when they have meetings. Motion is Seconded by Terese Bastarache.

Earl Tuson of 5 Pittsfield Road, also current Chairman for the Loudon Zoning Board, states they have all audio on file available to the public. The courts have looked into how the board makes decisions and the process that goes inside. The boards take notes that could potentially be non-public if videoed.

Jeff Leonard of 122 Lower Ridge Road, states under the 91A law anything that goes on in any public meeting is public knowledge and you can make a request to view things such as: The police Chiefs texts from a certain day, any document that the Selectmen are currently writing on.

Alicha Kingsbury 293 Bear Hill Road, disagrees with Mr. Tuson believes that these meetings can in fact be online. Ms. Kingsbury states that having the meetings online are helpful to those who can't be present for meetings. She also states that a copy of the meetings is \$5.00. Live Streaming is free.

Sherri Kluesener of 136 Pittsfield Road, questions if we can vote on the motion if this is not posted a certain number days ahead of the meeting? Moderator Phillips states this would have to go before town council, he has not looked at the RSA's but some do give boards some leeway on how to run meetings. If this passes it could be unenforceable.

Peter Pitman of 173 Lovejoy Road, suggest we table this Motion until we have the answers. Seconded by Stanley Prescott II.

Jeff Leonard would like to confirm if a motion can be tabled? Moderator Phillips reads the RSA and states it has to be voted on, not tabled. Mr. Leonard states that he thought, when he took this to the floor a few years ago, this was going to be used by all departments and would like to see that being utilized.

Moderator Phillips states that that article was for the use of equipment, not the departments.

Peter Pitman of 173 Lovejoy Road made a motion to move the question, seconded by a Loudon resident. Motion to move the question passes.

Moderator Phillips reads the "Motion that Audio/Visual devices in the meeting room at the town hall be used by all Selectman, Planning and Zoning meetings held in that room."-Motion Fails.

Denis Jakubowski of 158 Bumfagon Road, as an Old Home Day Committee Member he would like to make a motion to add \$5,00 to the Old Home Day fund.

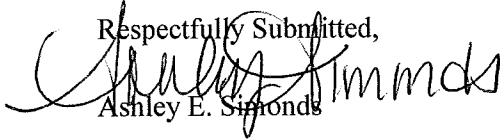
Peter Pitman calls for a point of order and states that he cannot make the motion since the budget has already been voted on. Moderator Phillips states he is correct.

Mr. Jakubowski also reminds people that this year is the 250th Old Home Day. If there is anyone who would like to volunteer can attend the meetings. There are only town members currently.

Motion to adjourn the meeting by Loudon resident and seconded by Julie Robinson.

Moderator Phillips made a motion to adjourn. The Loudon town meeting was adjourned at 1:15 P.M

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Ashley E. Simonds", written over the printed name.

Loudon N.H Town Clerk

