

# TOWN OF WALPOLE, NEW HAMPSHIRE

Town Meeting – March 11, 2008

The annual meeting of the Town of Walpole was called to order at 8:00 a.m. by the Moderator, Ernest Vose and polls were opened. Polls were opened in North Walpole by the acting moderator, Herbert Werden at 8 a.m.

Articles 1 to 8 were ballot questions, **voted on March 11<sup>th</sup>**.

**ARTICLE 1:** To elect the necessary Town officers for their respective terms.

**\*DECLARED ELECTED**

Selectman for Three Years  
Vote for One  
Jamie J. Teague 472\*

Zoning Board of Adjustment  
Vote for One – for One Year  
Mary Therese Lester 507\*

Treasurer for One Year  
Vote for One  
Myra Mansouri 544\*

Zoning Board of Adjustment  
For Three Years- Vote for One  
David Calhoun 510\*

Tax Collector –N. Walpole  
For One Year – Vote for One  
Teresa Kissell 514\*

Trustee of Trust Funds –  
For Three Years – Vote for One  
Daniel A. F. Schwenk 517\*

Town Moderator for Two Years  
Vote for One  
Ernest Vose 559\*

Cemetery Trustee for Three years  
Vote for One  
Constance M Adams 515\*

Supervisor of Check list for Six Years  
Vote for one  
Cynthia M. Westover 567\*

Library Trustees Trustee for Three Years  
Vote for Three  
Katherine Nerrie 509\*  
Josiah Beer 522\*  
Shirley L. Capron 509\*

Planning Board for Three Years  
Vote for Two  
David A. DeCoste 499\*  
Henry Fletcher 484\*

**ARTICLE 2.** Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment #1, as proposed by the Planning Board for the Walpole Zoning Ordinance as follows:

To amend Article VIII. Rural Agricultural District - B., Uses Permitted 2) by adding wording to allow home occupations in residences limited to the owner plus two employees and to provide adequate off street parking. Purpose is to match wording that currently allows home occupations in the Residential and Commercial Districts.  
Recommended by the Planning Board

Yes            491                      No                      106

**Article 2 passed.**

**ARTICLE 3.** Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment #2, as proposed by the Planning Board for the Walpole Zoning Ordinance as follows:

To amend Article IV - General Provisions - E. Removal of Sand and Gravel by adding wording to clarify that commercial excavations as described in the ordinance and as currently allowed in the Industrial, Rural Agricultural and Timberland Districts are to be considered an industrial manufacturing and commercial operation and shall be subject to a special exception review as outlined in Article VIII Rural Agricultural District C. Special Exceptions and may be subject to a Site Plan Review by the Planning Board.  
Recommended by the Planning Board

Yes            449                      No                      140

**Article 3 passed.**

**ARTICLE 4.** Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment #3, as proposed by the Planning Board for the Walpole Zoning Ordinance as follows:

To amend Article IV. - General Provisions: by adding new “K. Protection of Town Water Supply: 1. Proposals or developments located within the Well Source Protection Areas are subject to the provisions outlined in the Well Source Protection Ordinance as established by the Town of Walpole March 9, 2004 pursuant to NH RSA 674:21, Innovative Land Use Controls. Please also see: Town of Walpole Well Source Protection Ordinance and Maps.” Purpose is to reference the Well Source Protection Ordinance to the Zoning Ordinance to prevent it from being overlooked.  
Recommended by the Planning Board

Yes            462                      No                      130

**Article 4 passed.**

**ARTICLE 5.** Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment #4, as proposed by the Planning Board for the Walpole Zoning Ordinance as follows:

To amend Article IV. - General Provisions: by adding new "J. Telecommunications Facilities are subject to review under the provisions outlined in the Telecommunications Facilities Ordinance as established by the Town of Walpole on March 12, 2002 pursuant to NH RSA 674:15 and 21, II. Please also see: Town of Walpole Telecommunications Facilities and Ordinance." Purpose is to reference the Telecommunications Facilities and Ordinance to the Zoning Ordinance to prevent it from being overlooked.

Recommended by the Planning Board

Yes 489 No 102

**Article 5 passed.**

**ARTICLE 6.** Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment #5, as proposed by the Planning Board for the Walpole Zoning Ordinance as follows:

To amend Article V. - Residential District B. Uses Permitted by adding "5. Retirement community developments are subject to review under the provisions outlined in the Retirement Community Overlay District as set forth by the Town of Walpole pursuant to NH RSA 674:21, Innovative Land Use Controls. Please also see Article IX - 1 Retirement Community Overlay District in the Town of Walpole Zoning Ordinance." Purpose is to reference the Retirement Community Overlay District to the Zoning Ordinance to prevent it from being overlooked.

Recommended by the Planning Board

Yes 474 No 113

**Article 6 passed.**

**ARTICLE 7.** Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment #6, as proposed by the Planning Board for the Well Source Protection Ordinance as follows:

To amend Section 4. Conditional Uses A. Permit Required by adding "Procedure on Application: a. The Planning Board shall act upon the application in accordance with the procedural requirements of the Site Plan Review Regulations and NH RSA 676:4, Boards Procedures on Plats." Purpose is to establish a review procedure in the Well Source Protection Ordinance.

Recommended by the Planning Board

Yes 466 No 115

**Article 7 passed.**

**ARTICLE 8:** "Shall we adopt the provisions of RSA 40:13 (known as SB2) to allow official ballot voting on all issues before the Town of Walpole on the second Tuesday of March?"

**(PETITION ARTICLE )** (3/5 vote required for passage)

Yes 242 289

**Article 8 failed – needed a 3/5 vote for passage.**

**After ballots were counted, our Moderator adjourned the meeting until Sat. March 15<sup>th</sup> at 1 p.m. at the Walpole Middle School.**

**The meeting was called to order Sat. March 15<sup>th</sup> at 1:05 p.m. at the Walpole Middle School, Hubbard Gymnasium, by our Moderator, Ernest Vose.**

**The Fall Mountain Regional High School Junior ROTC presented the colors.**

**Kari Makinen, a Girl Scout led the Pledge of Alliance. Last year she received the Girl Scouts, Gold Award, this is the equivalent of the Eagle Scout achievement for Boy Scouts.**

**Mariah Kranowski, a senior at Fall Mountain H.S. sang the Star Spangled Banner.**

**We had a moment of silence for our 24 deceased citizens.**

**Congratulations were offered to the parents of our 18 new citizens. Ernest Vose then swore in our newly elected town officials that were present.**

**Cathy Yardley, President of the Walpole Grange announced that Charles D. Miller was the Citizen of the Year and presented him a plaque. He was given a standing ovation.**

**Our Representatives, Lucy Weber and Tara Sad presented a proclamation to Charles Miller from our Governor, John H. Lynch, thanking him for his years of public service.**

**Sheldon Sawyer, our Selectman, told Mr. Miller that they were having a plaque made for the Selectmen's' office to honor his years of service to Walpole.**

**Jamie J. Teague our newly elected Selectperson was introduced.**

**Barbara O'Brien and Nancy Finlay our North Walpole Village commissioners were introduced.**

**John "Jack" Pratt our County Commissioner was introduced. The Head Table was introduced.**

**ARTICLE 9:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Three Million Two Hundred Eighty Eight Thousand Eight Hundred Sixteen Dollars (\$3,288,816) which represents the operating budget for the general government of the Town. Such sum does not include special or individual articles addressed. (Majority vote required.) (The Board of Selectmen Approves this Article)

**Article 9 passed with a voice vote.**

**A vote to restrict reconsideration passed with a voice vote.**

**ARTICLE 10:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Thirty Thousand Seven Hundred Twelve Dollars (\$30,712) for the purchase of a 2008 Chevrolet Tahoe including detailing, lettering, and interior upgrades, to be used by the Walpole Police Department, and to fund this appropriation by withdrawing Twenty Thousand Seven Hundred Twelve Dollars (\$20,712) from Capital Reserve Fund Police Vehicle and the balance of Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000) to be funded by general taxation. (The Board of Selectmen Approves this Article)

**Article 10 passed with a voice vote.**

**A vote to restrict reconsideration passed with a voice vote.**

**ARTICLE 11:** To see if the Town will vote to approve the sale of a 1998 Ford Expedition used by the police department and to place any money from the sale into the Capital Reserve Fund-Police Vehicle. (The Board of Selectmen Approves this Article)

**Article 11 passed with a voice vote.**

**A vote to restrict reconsideration passed with a voice vote.**

**ARTICLE 12:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Two Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$200,000) for the purchase of a 2008 John Deere 670-D Grader with wing-ripper and scarifier, for use by the Town Highway Department. The new Grader will replace the 1987 Cat Grader, and to fund this appropriation by trading the 1987 Cat grader (trade in value of \$35,000), with the balance to be funded by Forty Five Thousand Dollars (\$45,000) from Capital Reserve - Highway Heavy Equipment, and One Hundred Twenty Thousand Dollars (\$120,000) to be raised by taxes. (The Board of Selectmen Approves this Article)

**Article 12 passed with a voice vote.**

**A vote to restrict reconsideration passed with a voice vote.**

**ARTICLE 13:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of One Hundred Seventy Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$170,500) for work to be done on the Old Keene Road Bridge #182/064. Seventy Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$70,500) to be taken out of Surplus and One Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$100,000) to be raised by taxes. This is the third of a three-year warrant article to complete the project. When the project is complete, the State will inspect, and when approved the state will reimburse the Town 80% of the total cost to replace the bridge. (Non-lapsing for 5 years) (The Board of Selectmen Approves this Article)

**Article 13 passed with a voice vote.**

**A vote to restrict reconsideration passed with a voice vote.**

**ARTICLE 14:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Twenty Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000) to reconstruct the remainder of Elm and Pleasant

Streets and replace sidewalks in conjunction with the Water and Sewer Department Project, and to pave Ash Street in North Walpole.  
(The Board of Selectmen Approves this Article)

**Article 14 passed with a voice vote.**

**A vote to restrict reconsideration passed with a voice vote.**

**ARTICLE 15:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Fifteen Thousand Dollars (\$15,000) to scrape, prime and paint the East Side of the Town Hall. (Non-Lapsing for Two Years) (The Board of Selectmen Approves this Article)

**Article 15 passed with a voice vote.**

**A vote to restrict reconsideration passed with a voice vote.**

**ARTICLE 16:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Five Thousand Nine Hundred Eighteen Dollars (\$5,918) for repairs to 26 headstones in the Old Cemetery on Main Street. Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000) to be taken out of Fund Balance and Nine Hundred Eighteen Dollars (\$918) to be raised by taxes. (Non-Lapsing for Two Years) (The Board of Selectmen Approves this Article)

**Article 16 passed with a voice vote.**

**A vote to restrict reconsideration passed with a voice vote.**

**ARTICLE 17:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000) for the Walpole Old Home Days, and to place the One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000) in the existing Old Home Day Fund. (The Board of Selectmen Approves this Article)

**Cynthia M. Westover made a motion to amend Article 17 from \$1,000.00 to \$6,700.00.**

**After discussion, we had a voice vote that was questioned. We then had a hand vote (voters held their ballot cards up).**

**The amended article 17 passed YES 130 NO 40**

**A vote to restrict reconsideration passed with a voice vote.**

**ARTICLE 18:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000) for the construction and equipping of a 10' by 12' shed with cement pad to be used for the storage and handling of used oil. This article is contingent upon receipt of a grant in the same amount from the State of New Hampshire Oil Grant fund.

**(PETITION ARTICLE) (The Board of Selectmen Approves this Article)**

**Article 18 passed with a voice vote.**

**A vote to restrict reconsideration passed with a voice vote.**

**ARTICLE 19:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000) to be deposited in the Capital Reserve Fund- Recycling/Transfer Station previously established for purchase of equipment for the Solid Waste Department.

**(PETITION ARTICLE)** (The Board of Selectmen Approves this Article)

**Article 19 passed with a voice vote.**

**A vote to restrict reconsideration passed with a voice vote.**

**ARTICLE 20:** To see if the Town will adopt an exemption from taxation for the full value of Solar Powered Energy System Improvements (as defined in RSA 72:61-1, authorized by RSA 72:62-2, and to be administered in accordance with the provisions of RSA 72:33-3, 34-4 and 34-a-5).

**(PETITION ARTICLE)**

**Jill Robinson presented an amendment to Article 20.**

**Amended Article 20: 25 or more legal voters in the Town of Walpole hereby petition the Board of Selectmen of said Town to place the following article on the warrant for the 2008 annual meeting: To see if the Town will adopt an exemption of \$10,000. from the assessed value, for property tax purposes, for persons owning real property which is equipped with a solar energy system as defined in RSA 72:61 and authorized by RSA 72:27-a**

**Voice vote too close to call. Hand vote was done on the amended article.**

**(Voter cards were held up for the count.)**

**YES**

**38**

**NO 76**

**Amended article 20 failed. Article 20 failed with a voice vote.**

**A vote to restrict reconsideration passed with a voice vote.**

**ARTICLE 21:** To see if the Town will adopt an exemption from taxation for the full value of Wind Powered Energy System Improvements (as defined in RSA 72:65-6, authorized by RSA 72:66-7, and to be administered in accordance with the provisions of RSA 72:33-8, 34-9, and 34-a10).

**(PETITION ARTICLE)**

**Jill Robinson presented an amendment to Article 21.**

**Amended Article 21: 25 or more voters in the Town of Walpole hereby petition the Board of Selectmen of said Town to place the following article on the warrant for the 2008 annual meeting: To see if the Town will adopt an exemption of \$10,000 from the assessed value, for property tax purposes, for persons owning real property which is equipped with a wind-powered energy system as defined in RSA 72:66 and authorized by RSA 72:27-a.**

**Amended article 21 failed with a voice vote.**

**Article 21 failed with a voice vote.**

**A vote to restrict reconsideration passed with a voice vote.**

**ARTICLE 22:** To see if the Town will vote to approve the following resolution to be forwarded to our State Representatives, our State Senator and our Governor:

Resolved: We the citizens of Walpole, NH believe in a New Hampshire that is just and fair. The property tax has become unjust and unfair. State leaders who take a pledge for no new taxes perpetuate higher and higher property taxes. We call on our State Representatives, our State Senator and our Governor to reject the "Pledge", have an open discussion covering all options, and adopt a revenue system that lowers property taxes.

**(PETITION ARTICLE)**

**Paul McGuirk spoke on this article and asked for a hand vote.**

**After some discussion and hand vote was taken (ballot cards were raised)**

<b>YES</b>	<b>98</b>	<b>NO</b>	<b>15</b>
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**Article 22 passed with a hand vote.**

**A vote to restrict reconsideration passed with a voice vote.**

**ARTICLE 23:** To transact any other business that may legally come before the meeting.

Chuck Bingaman commended the Fire and Rescue for their expert work for the Town. He also mentioned that four Fall Mountain High School students won an Academic World Quest Competition on knowledge of world affairs. Andrew Street, Jimmy Healy, Jake Chamberlain and Lindsay Sanchez-Navarro won a trip to Washington D.C. in April. They will be competing with students from 49 other schools.

Curt Congdon mentioned that the Walpole Senior's Group has a pot luck luncheon and a program/speaker every third Monday and invites anyone 50 or older to join them.

Judy Shumway needs volunteers at the recycling center.

Mel Schupack displayed a large button his wife made for him calling for volunteers at the center.

Lynne Cooke reminded us of two annual fundraisers for the Library. The Plant Sale the weekend before Mother's Day and the Book sale the weekend before Halloween.

Lil DeCoste announced that the pancake breakfast would be held at the Town Hall, Sunday beginning at 7 a.m.

Tara Sad reminded us of the Walpole Players auditions March 22 & 23 for the play to be held on the Old Home Day weekend.

The Moderator, Ernest Vose called for a motion to dissolve the meeting. It was moved and seconded. Motion passed by a voice vote at 3:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Sandra J. Smith

Town Clerk/Tax Collector