



## **Emerald Lake Village District**

Office: 147 West Main Street, Hillsborough, NH

Mail: PO Box 2217, Hillsborough, NH 03244

Tel: 603-464-3128

Fax: 603-464-4132

DRAFT

DRAFT

### **ELVD ANNUAL MEETING**

Saturday, June 6, 2020 @ 12:30 PM

Location: online meeting via GO TO Meetings

Please join our meeting from your computer, tablet or smartphone.

<https://www.gotomeet.me/ELVD>

You can also dial in using your phone.

United States: +1 (872) 240-3212

Access Code: 446-011-853

New to GoToMeeting? Get the app now and be ready when your first meeting starts:

<https://global.gotomeeting.com/install/446011853>

In the event you are not able to hear during the meeting, please contact the Board by sending an email to [info@ELVDNH.com](mailto:info@ELVDNH.com) or by calling 603-831-4130.

Meeting was called to order at 12:30 pm by Assistant Moderator Jon Daley (appointed by Mark Rodier). Jon has served as Selectman for Hillsboro and Moderator for the Hillsboro-Deering School District.

- Checklist review

\* Under revised Governor Emergency order #12, Pursuant to Executive order 2020-04 - temporary modifications of public access to meetings under RSA 91-A and emergency order #23: this public body is authorized to meet electronically and there are no physical locations to observe. Moderator Daley has confirmed we are utilizing GoToMeeting. All participants have the ability to speak and to listen whether by phone or computer. All votes taken during this meeting will be done by roll call.

### **Attendees in Person:**

Brett Taber, *Chairman (office)*

Sara Auger, *Commissioner (office)*

Deb Kardaseski, *District Administrator (remote)*

Shawna Kilcoyne, *Treasurer (remote)*

Rick Rose, *Clerk (office)*

Mark Rodier, *Moderator*

### **Other Remote Attendees:**

David Mazotas, David Lee, Lisa Whitten, David & Tricia Stefanelli, Jim Czifrik, Justin Richardson (District's Attorney), Kevin & Lisa Gorman, Laurie & Keith Huber, Jennifer Raiche, Jim Riddle, Chris Reed, Diane Cunningham, Donna Lovejoy, Joanne Staples, John Segedy, Melissa Taber, Richard Morency, Susan & Doug Ireland, Martha Caron, Mary Ellen Duffy Tanamly, Greg & Lu Klos, Rhayna Teich, Edward Ley, Carolyn & Carl Renken, Greg Smith (from Wright-Pierce), Warren Flack and Janice & Peter Howe.

Moderator Rules for District Annual Meeting:

~ We asked that district residents adopt these rules. Due to Covid-19 concerns, the Commissioners worked with legal counsel and NH Municipal Association and the NH Secretary of State to come up with procedures that ensured all residents could both participate in the discussions/vote for each warrant article and each vote counted correctly and no one would lose their right to vote even if their internet connection failed. The meeting was broken up into 2 sessions. The first session was June 6th running simultaneously from the ELVD office and utilized GoTo Meeting. During the first portion of the meeting, residents could discuss and were able to ask questions on each warrant article. Moderator Daley asked the meeting to approve the final wording of each warrant article to be put on an unofficial paper ballot prepared by the Clerk. After the June 6th meeting, residents will only be voting on the final wording of each warrant article. The voting of these warrant articles took place June 7th from 1-3 pm at the ELVD office. Sample ballots were placed on the website and the FB page. Voter registration was not permitted.

The purpose of the second session was for each resident to vote on the final wording (and included any amendments) of each warrant article on a paper ballot prepared by the Clerk. After the completion of voting, the online meeting resumed in the same fashion as the June 6th meeting using the same sign on and was at 4:00pm on June 7th where Moderator Daley read the results of each warrant article. In the event of a motion to reconsider any unofficial ballot that had been approved, an adjourned session of the meeting under RSA 40:10 there would be a period of 7 days to complete the reconsideration in another meeting.

~Moderator Daley moved to approve the proposed rules for discussion on voting of the warrant articles set forth above and to limit reconsideration on said proposed rules provided by RSA 40:10. Commissioner Taber approved, Commissioner Auger seconded the motion, Moderator Daley asked if there were any discussions on these rules. All participants were unmuted and

Moderator Daley asked those wishing to speak state their full name and address. Any non-district member needed to ask permission to speak as this was a public meeting and all welcomed to join. All questions and comments were asked to be directed to Moderator Daley. The moderator asked all participants to be respectful and refrain from using profanity. All members were then muted (to avoid background noise and eliminate interruptions) and could only speak once recognized by the moderator.

~Each article was displayed on the screen and was read aloud. Open discussion was permitted to discuss the article and allowed residents to speak and ask questions and deliberate on each article. Each person was allowed to speak once and if they chose to speak again had to wait until all had their chance. Any amendments needed to be recognized by the Moderator and that person would have the floor to speak. Any corrections were typed in by Treasurer Kilcoyne after being clarified by the Moderator and shown on the screen for all to see. Amendments were considered one at a time and amendments to amendments were not permitted. Moderator Daley asked if there were any objections on the second session for the voting on the warrant articles. No objections were heard.

Justin Richardson (district attorney) spoke regarding making a motion to adopt the proposed procedures. A roll vote was taken to approve the motion for the proposed warrant articles for discussion and to limit any reconsideration on any article. Any reconsideration would have caused a second meeting.

Roll call vote was as follows: Brett Taber, yes, Sara Auger, yes, Rick Rose, yes, Carl and Carolyn Renken, both yes, Chris Reed, yes, David Lee, yes, Debbie Kardaseski, yes, Diane Cunningham, yes, Donna Lovejoy, yes, Doug & Susan Ireland, both yes, Peter & Janice Howe, both yes, Greg Klos, yes, Jennifer Raich, yes, Joanne Staples, yes, Kevin Gorman, yes, Lisa Whitten, yes, Laurie & Keith Huber, yes and abstained, Lucille Klos, yes, Mark Rodier, yes, Martha Caron, yes, Mary Ellen Duffy Tanamly, yes, Melissa Taber, yes, Rhayna Teich, yes, Richard & Claudette Morency, both yes, Tricia Stefanelli, yes, Warren Fleck, yes, Shawna Kilcoyne, yes and David Mazotas, yes.

Chris Reed had a question about the amendments and what we were actually doing? Moderator Daley explained that discussion of the amendments was to basically finalize their wording. Asking questions was important if the wording or dollar amount (where applicable) wasn't clear enough. Chris also asked if "chat" could be used for voting? The moderator stated that the use of that was fine.

**Article One: (this is the final amended article, discussion points, if any, follow the new description)** Votes for the 3 year term for Commissioner was Brett Taber with 43. Votes for the 2 year term for Commissioner was Sara Auger with 41. Votes for the 1 year term for Commissioner was Mark Martin with 27. Votes for the 1 year term for Treasurer was Shawna Kilcoyne with 45 and votes for District Clerk was Richard Rose with 45. Position for Moderator consisted of write-ins to include Mark Rodier with 8 votes, Keith Huber with 1 vote, Peter Howe with 2 votes, Kim Grondin with 1 vote, David Lee with 2 votes, Doug Ireland with 1 vote, Randy Welch with 1 vote and Diane Cunningham with 1 vote.

**Article Two: (this is the final amended article, discussion points, if any, follow the new description)** To hear the reports of the billers district officers, agents, auditors, committees or other officers appointed or to take any other action in relation thereto. Commissioner Taber accepted the motion. Commissioner Auger seconded the motion.

**Article Three: (this is the original article)** To see if the Village District will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$357,000 for the purpose of replacing the Red Fox Crossing culvert, and to authorize the issuance of not more than \$220,000 of bonds or notes in accordance with the provisions of the Municipal Finance Act (RSA 33) and to authorize the municipal officials to issue and negotiate such bonds or notes and to determine the rate of interest thereon. The remaining sum of \$137,000 would be withdrawn from the ELVD Roads & Bridges Capital Reserve Fund (550). *(2/3 vote is required)*

**(this is the final amended article, discussion points, if any, follow the new description)** To see if the Village District will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$357,000 for the purposes of a project to replace the Red Fox Crossing culvert and bridge, and to authorize the issuance of not more than \$220,000 of bonds or notes in accordance with the provisions of the Municipal Finance Act (RSA 33) and to authorize the municipal officials to issue and negotiate such bonds or notes and to determine the rate of interest thereon. The remaining sum of \$137,000 would be withdrawn from the ELVD Roads & Bridges Capital Reserve Fund (550). *(2/3 vote is required)*

**Commissioner Taber made the motion to proceed. Commissioner Auger seconded the motion. Chris Reed made the motion to amend the article. He proposed that wording needed to be added to clarify that it should state it's to replace the**

Red Fox Crossing culvert and the bridge. David Lee seconded Chris' motion. Joanne Staples stated she thought the wording needed to be further elaborated (thought it was too vague) in regards to what kind of work is going to be done. Commissioner Taber responded that adding the word project would allow enough latitude to complete the project and being too specific would be detrimental. Attorney Richardson then emphasized that all wording was important because it defines the purpose. Chris Reed withdrew his first motion to make an additional change. David Lee again seconded that motion. No other comments were made in regard to changing the wording. Moderator Daley recognized Commissioner Taber to speak, he thanked the residents for their input to hopefully finalize the plans on finalizing the new bridge. The \$357K that the warrant article asked for in total was the lowest bid price of acceptable bids. We had 4 accepted bids that were within the guidelines that ranged from this bid up to just under \$910K. The NHDES Wetlands permit has been completed. The permit for the Shoreland Impact has been submitted and is expected to be returned by the end of June and the Army Corps of Engineers has completed their permit. The first 2 permits are good for 5 years and the Army one will expire August 2022 in the event that efforts for this year's bond and warrant article failed. Accura Construction from New Ipswich was the company that won the bid. The commissioners reviewed the best ways to utilize the Capital Reserve Funds (to minimize the actual amount needed for a loan) within the efforts that residents made to add more money to the CRF. So, end result was us looking for a bond/loan for \$220K over a 10-year period and payable in \$25K increments. No expenses in the tax rate will occur in 2020 and the first payment will be in 2021. Legal expenses (about 4K) to handle the bond needed to be looked at either by adding it to the loan amount, withdrawing from the CRF or to modify the General Operating budget. Next year the tax rate impact could be an extra .32 cents per thousand for each year. If we were not able to complete all legal requirements and votes by June 20th then we would not be eligible for the July bond sale, however, we could still be eligible to participate in a bond anticipation note. We could also utilize local banks and private funding. Longer term loans would result in a higher interest rate. If this project is approved, then the lake would have to be drawn down earlier in the year because the lake needs to be lower for construction to begin and be completed by November 1, 2020. Joanne Staples questioned whether or not the lowest bid was going to be the best constructed bridge? Commissioner Taber's response was that the feedback we received from the engineers that all the bids were supported by the given specs and drawings. There was one contractor who provided an alternate approach but did not conform to the specs provided. The bridge culvert would be a box (prefab concrete slab) type culvert similar to the Gould Pond, Bog and the outlet of the lake at the dam area. It will have a natural bed bottom and the top will not be paved. Keith Huber asked if the interest rate (currently 1-1.5%) was to be higher, what would the tax impact be? Since this is an unknown at the time, the tax rate impact would also be unknown, as well. Our intent is to seek out the best rate. The interest would be locked in once the loan is finalized. Mary Ellen Duffy Tanamly asked how many months would the bridge take to complete? Commissioner Taber's response was once voted, the procedural defects meeting and financing is complete, the bridge would take approximately 3 months to complete. If the article fails, the project would be held off until Fall 2021 or until funding can be procured. David Lee asked when the 10 year note is complete, would the taxes (.32 cents per thousand) go back down? Commissioner Taber's response was that it would be removed from the books as it'd no longer be part of the tax rate. Susan Ireland asked if grants were researched? Commissioner Taber's response was that the board did reach out to the State to the Bridge Aid Fund and the feedback we received was that they were no longer doing that program due to an immense backlog. Only future (8-10 years) projects would be considered. Commissioner Taber asked the meeting about how they wished to proceed with the payment to the bond counsel. Martha Caron asked if the payment could be taken from existing funds? Admin Kardaseski added that there is an article to put \$55K into the Roads and Bridges CRF. Chris Reeds' preference would be that the legal expense would come from that CRF. Attorney Richardson made the suggestion that if the Commissioners are able to expend on the Road and Bridges fund then they could pay out from that CRF and they are agents to expend. No further discussion ensued, Moderator Daley stated this article would be moved to be voted upon tomorrow.

**Article Four: (this is the final amended article, discussion points, if any, follow the new description)** To see if the Village District will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$350,000 for the purpose of researching and obtaining a new water source and water infrastructure upgrades, and to authorize the issuance of not more than \$275,000 of bonds or notes in accordance with

the provisions of the Municipal Finance Act (RSA 33) and to authorize the municipal officials to issue and negotiate such bonds or notes and to determine the rate of interest thereon. The remaining sum of \$75,000 would be withdrawn from the ELVD Water Capital Reserve Fund (913). *(2/3 ballot vote required.)*

**Commissioner Taber made the motion to proceed. Commissioner Auger seconded the motion. Commissioner Auger spoke stating that it is important that we find a new water source/s and having the appropriate water source capacity especially going into the Summer months, as this seems to be the districts' most challenging time and has been for many years. There are a couple of things we could do with this money, if approved. We could explore to find a new well and to complete the Phase 2 well assessment and test for well drilling that Wright-Pierce had suggested which includes installing pressure transducers, doing a well video for pump assessment and sand and gravel exploration. We could also assess doing our street/s that need the most work (currently Deerpoint Drive) due to frequent leaks.**

**Mary Ellen Duffy Tanamly's question was whether this money was to research what new water source or infrastructure we might or need/need or to actually research and then pay for obtaining that source? Commissioner Auger's response was that the intent is to research and fund a project. Commissioner Taber added this is part of a larger program (almost a 5-10 year one) for improving the water system infrastructure. We currently have 8 bedrock wells. As of this meeting we only have 6 active wells and part of that is consumption, usage rates and historical leak rates. One of the wells dried up in March. Wright-Pierce (through the Asset Management Program) identified that the district already owns 2 pieces of property that could be viable for additional source water. In order to support the district, we need wells that can pump 20-40 gallons per minute with the suggestion for a gravel pack well/s on the Eastman Park and Mary Rowe areas. Martha Caron asked if we are going to have a written long term plan for recommended long term annual expenses to include increasing water revenues to meet the cost and becoming more proactive and not reactive? Greg Smith's response (from Wright-Pierce) was that our system has quite a lot of leaks (which is our biggest source of water loss) and is similar to other systems in the State. He stated that we are in a unique situation in that our bedrock wells are being over pumped significantly and results in the need for transducers, which is also a DES requirement. Finding additional water is much less expensive than replacing large portions of water main where a significant expense would occur. Water lines will need to be replaced regardless of what the district's plans for water are in the future. Costs increase with wells if we demand that they pump more than 40 gallons per minute. Sand and gravel wells are more sustainable, predictable and easier to maintain than bedrock wells and could result in a higher water quality. Martha Caron made a statement that the original engineering of our water system hasn't been adequate enough to deal with the way the district has grown over the years and has since then sustained neglect and she again suggested a written plan for the future of our water. Joanne Staples questioned if we're ever going to connect to the Town of Hillsboro? Treasurer Kilcoyne's response pointed to the May 28th Asset Management program presentation and stated that this is a summary of the work and data that Wright-Pierce compiled over the last 6 months and the \$350K is needed as a result of this program entailing what would be needed financially in the coming years to improve our system. This detailed presentation is available on the website. Mary Ellen Duffy Tanamly had a question about the aforementioned water quality statement and asked for more of an explanation specifically regarding the arsenic levels. Greg Smith's response was that typically bedrock wells rely on much older water and deeper water and pick up more minerals and usually have poorer water quality. Sand and gravel water is much younger water and therefore usually better quality. Admin Kardaseski mentioned that she's aware that many residents are hoping to connect to the Town, but in doing this would require a two-thirds vote and doesn't believe this will happen and if it would ever happen, it would not happen quickly. We need to be able to rely on our own sources and this board has done a tremendous amount of work to get a plan in place and this will not be a cheap endeavor due to the fact this system is over 50 years old and wasn't installed properly. Commissioner Taber responded with more details of the board's intent for this year. Ultimately, source water exploration costs and installation of a new water source as well as the installation of our second required zone meter for Hemlock and Hummingbird and to also install piping that was never done to connect the two. Any new infrastructure installed will be 4" piping to provide volume and easier repairs. The Asset Management (mentions financial impacts and future opportunities for a 10 year plan) plan is step one in this direction. Every or every other year, the board will be seeking any funding (loans and/or grants) we are eligible to receive**

to repair 2 to 4 roads which can range from \$500K to \$2 million dollars. A resident submitted an email prior to the meeting asking what the plan was to complete Phase 2 of Tatum & Howard's original plan? Phase 1 was replacing the main around the lake and Phase 2 was replacing 70 year old leaking and decrepit water lines. Commissioner Taber admitted he has not reviewed the Tatum & Howard plans and does not know what status they have nor what documents were provided at that point in time. The board had to act on finding source water that came from last year's well/pump failures and the extent of leaks found compounded with the need to truck in water. The new board found that only 7 out of the 8 wells were working and no means in place to measure performance of the wells and the pumps would run a normal cycle or 24/7 depending on the storage tank volume. The board challenged the water system operator (WSO) to look for several possible leaks which resulted in limited efforts for several of them and other leaks were reacted to very quickly. The Asset Management program provided us with information that in the past 5 years our well output has decreased from 200 gallons per minute to about 60 gallons per minute. All future projects (infrastructure, water source and metering) could cost in excess of \$10 million dollars. This shorter term approach was decided upon to reach the district's long term goals. A much longer term goal would be to hook up to Hillsboro or Henniker and those cost estimates provided by Wright-Pierce stated there were 6 options ranging from \$4-\$6 million dollars and is only for the initial installation cost. The volume of water the district would purchase/use in excess of 22 million gallons would cost almost \$400K based on current rates, which is more than our current operating budget. Installing the last 2 zoning meters that are part of conservation methods, NHDES may grant an extension (for 3 years) of us having to install residential meters and that cost alone can be \$600- \$1 million dollars. If we continue to be self funding, there could be a potential of the water bills increasing \$100-\$160 dollars every year. Any funding we can get can soften the need to increase resident water bills. Many agencies that provide funding will not consider funding unless we show we have full intent on improving our own infrastructure. Keith Huber asked what the current plan is for the water bills. Commissioner Taber's response was that the bills would increase to \$860 this Fall. David Lee asked if we are planning to put meters on each residence to ensure each resident is paying for exactly what they use? Commissioner Auger's response was yes, that sometime in the future DES will require each residence to have their own personal meter. Martha Caron asked if it's possible to know how much the water bill would increase before next year's annual meeting? Commissioner Taber's response was that it shouldn't be an issue and not unrealistic if over the next 3 years we address source water improvement and 3-6 of our roads and would help assist in grant funding for the meters. Tricia Stefanelli brought up that a few years back during meetings that if we had meters residents would get charged a base rate plus usage? Commissioner Taber's response was that it would be accurate as the Town has a similar billing process. But, we would still need money to cover our water operator costs and don't know what those costs would be right now. Warren Fleck's question was about spending thousands of dollars for a new well and as we're in a dry spell with hardly any rain and there isn't any guarantee that a new well wouldn't run dry and asked about meters as some residents don't bother conserving water and having outdated toilets and stated that the water ban we currently have is useless and wants to know if we can have meters regardless of the costs? Greg Smith's reply was that he agreed with Warren that drilling for new wells (the new sand and gravel wells would be better than the bedrock ones we have now) might be a difficult decision and agrees that conservation measures are a valid idea for things like older toilets and shower heads. Melissa Taber wanted to know that if we did hook up to Town water, would we be paying a fee to connect with them plus we would still need to replace all our piping? Commissioner Taber's response was yes and would cost an excess of \$10 million dollars. Moderator Daley added that the Town would be willing to add us to their water supply but would be a very high cost on our end. Carolyn Renken questioned the new zone meter to be installed. Commissioner Taber's response stated there's a missing link (100-150 feet of piping) between Hemlock/Hummingbird on the Gould Pond side. Martha Caron asked if water bills could be configured per residential occupancy instead of the current flat fee? Commissioner Taber's response was that this could be reviewed to try and make it more equitable. He also stated that if this article fails, it will look unfavorable as far NHDES (concerning fines and violations) is concerned and would inhibit any possible funding we may be able to receive in the future. David Lee asked whether or not our current bedrock wells could be turned into sand and gravel wells? Greg Smith's response was that there certainly is potential to do that and there are certain DES requirements that would have to be met. But, for now we

are trying to continue with our initial phase and forego minimal impact to residential property. No further comments were made on this article.

**Article Five: (this is the final amended article, discussion points, if any, follow the new description)** To see if the Village District will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of ONE HUNDRED EIGHTY EIGHT THOUSAND TWO HUNDRED THIRTY FOUR DOLLARS (\$188,234) for the General operating expenses of the District. This article does not include appropriations contained in special or individual warrant articles voted separately.

**Commissioner Auger made the motion to proceed. Commissioner Taber seconded the motion. Commissioner Auger stated that they tried to be conservative with the budget (for general & water) this year and the increase was less than 1%.**

**Commissioner Taber added that this article is basically flat from the previous year. This year the State taxes increased, the county taxes increased, the Town went up about 5% and the school board went up. The District, with all the warrant articles, is decreasing by 12-15% from last year. The District did add an Administrative position which didn't change the budget. Insurance rates increased about 50-100%. The District was also able to carry over funds that were not previously used. No comments were made on this article.**

**Article Six: (this is the final amended article, discussion points, if any, follow the new description)** To see if the Village District will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of THREE HUNDRED SIXTY SIX THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED SIXTY ONE DOLLARS (\$366,861) for the purpose of operating the Water Department during 2020, including debt services. Said funds to be offset by income to the Water Department. This article does not include appropriations contained in special or individual warrant articles voted separately.

**Commissioner Auger made the motion to proceed. Commissioner Taber seconded the motion. Commissioner Auger stated that we had already touched on the Asset Management plan and Wright-Pierce had been working on a 10 year plan to increase the water bills by 20% but we were able to make the increase less than that. She stated also that we should be able to make many improvements with this increase. We have taken on a new water operator in Aquamen Water Solutions out of Barrington. They have extensive knowledge, more equipment and technology which is something the previous water operator lacked. Chris Reed's question was is there a new component to the new water operator cost that would apply just this year and not in future years? Commissioner Taber's response was there was a challenge in maintaining/keeping WSO or seeking out another company. We were being faced with no improved performance support but had faced a 25% increase from them over the previous year. Although the new operator has a higher price for the year the challenge is that part of that cost also covers our standardized testing. They have their own excavation and water testing equipment and the ability to do leak protection so that they won't have to subcontract any of those services and we won't have to wait days or even weeks to obtain those resources and also utilize them for our infrastructure repairs. Just in their initial 2 weeks of transition they have pointed out a variety of inequities and are making repairs to the system and showing great promise to support the district. We do expect the costs to be streamlined or decreased as we move forward because of their support efforts. There was a start-up fee of \$4800 which included them getting to know our system and being able to provide a list of what we need to do to prioritize what needs to be done and set up some kind of financial plan. Admin Kardaseski added that her and Commissioner Auger met with Aquamen and were very impressed by the attitude they had regarding being proactive rather than reactive. They are enthusiastic and very well versed in what they do and have more equipment than WSO had, such as cameras that can go down into wells. They have an established local supplier they can utilize instead of having to search for parts and they plan on having basic parts on hand so something can be repaired quickly. Their phone number will be placed on the website and on FB where residents can reach out to them directly. Keith Huber wanted to know about the "emergency" nature part of WSOs contract regarding the fact that resulted in about 50% of the district to be without water and have we redefined the emergency requirements with Aquamen and the raising of the water bills by \$130? Treasurer Kilcoyne responded to this by saying that while this new contract may cost more, we are also getting more out of them (level of service) than we did with WSO. We are expecting other monthly expenses to go down as Aquamen's contract automatically provides services that the WSO contract did not. Better emergency responses are built into their contract. Their contract is available to those who wish to see it, just contact the office. No further comments were made on this article.**

**Article Seven: (this is the final amended article, discussion points, if any, follow the new description)** To see if the Village District will vote to appoint the Board of Commissioners as agents to expend from the Purchase of Meters and Related Expenses Capital Reserve Fund, previously established in 2003.

**Commissioner Taber made the motion to proceed. Commissioner Auger seconded the motion. Commissioner Taber explained that in 2003 this CRF was established and over the years funds were deposited but never followed through with for the identification of the board members as agents to expend when the time comes to purchase materials for the water meter project or even cover the cost for engineering studies and looking now to clear up this as we move forward. No further comments were made on this article.**

**Article Eight: (this is the final amended article, discussion points, if any, follow the new description)** To see if the Village District will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of THREE THOUSAND SIX HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$3,600) for the purpose of increasing the stipends of the district officials as follows:

- Chairman of the Board: \$500 per month; stipend to remain the same. \$6,000 annually.
- Commissioners (2): \$400 per month; former stipend \$300 per month. \$4,800 annually (2); formerly \$3,600 annually (2).
- Clerk: \$200 per month; stipend to remain the same. \$2,400 annually.
- Treasurer: \$200 per month; former stipend \$100 per month. \$2,400 annually; formerly \$1,200 annually.

Said changes would result in an increase of THREE THOUSAND SIX HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$3,600) to Line Item 4130.21—Stipend Payroll, in the General Operating Budget.

**Commissioner Taber made the motion to proceed. Melissa Taber seconded the motion. Commissioner Taber explained that this article had mixed desires/interests amongst some board members. Some requested that stipends be reduced for tax or cost savings. His intent to maintain where the board was at or even an increase was in hopes to solicit new energy, new membership or a desire to be on the board. Within the last 5 years, this district has seen 16 Commissioners come and go. Trying to keep a constant within the board has been challenging and results in frustration from the residents. Commissioner Auger also mentioned that regarding the increase to the Treasurer's stipend is the increased involvement Shawna has taken in her role as opposed to former treasurers. Joanne Staples wanted to know the yearly total for all stipends. Treasurer Kilcoyne response was \$16,500 and the reason for that is because if this article passes, the changes will go into effect July 1st. The total of all would be \$20,400 for 2021. The effect on the tax rate would be about .05 cents per thousand. Chris Reed commented that Shawna is definitely more engaged than other treasurers in past years and had no problem with her increase as well as for the increase for the commissioners. Melissa Taber stated she agreed with Chris' statement. Treasurer Kilcoyne explained that she has indeed taken a much more active role than needed and is aware that if she were to depart, the next treasurer may not do as much to earn the new stipend, should it pass. No further comments were made on this article.**

**Article Nine: (this is the final amended article, discussion points, if any, follow the new description)** To see if the Village District will vote to create a Capital Reserve Fund for the purpose of repairing and maintaining the dam at the outlet end of Gould Pond, a.k.a. Emerald Lake, with the Board of Commissioners named as Agents to Expend, and to raise and appropriate the sum of FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$5,000) to be added to the Dam Repair and Maintenance Capital Reserve Fund.

**Commissioner Auger made the motion to proceed. Commissioner Taber seconded the motion. Commissioner Taber explained that the intent of this newly proposed CRF article is that years ago the dam washed out and took out the exit bridge at Hummingbird and Emerald roads. Repairs were made in part from FEMA funds. Every 5-6 years the State of NH Bureau of Dams does a cursory inspection because we are a non-impact lake. There are usually recommendations for minor repairs/maintenance to sustain the dam. In the event that we have another catastrophic failure, they estimate that there could be an expense of \$50K-60K to replace it. This article would enable the district to deposit money each year to help curtail a huge expense should it be needed. No further comments were made on this article.**

**Article Ten: (this is the final amended article, discussion points, if any, follow the new description)** To see if the Village District will vote to create the Matching Funds for Grants Capital Reserve Fund for the purpose of funding matching funds for future grant or loan applications requiring matching funds for the water system, to raise and appropriate the sum of FIVE

THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$5,000) to be added to the fund, with said funds to come from Water Department income. Further, to name the Commissioners as Agents to Expend.

**Commissioner Auger made the motion to proceed. Commissioner Taber seconded the motion. Commissioner Taber explained this is for matching funds for matching grants. In 2019 we got an Asset Management grant that the district was able to utilize matching grant funds from the closure of the Meetinghouse beach building fund. Developing this fund will put the district in a better position to match any grants that may become available. No further comments were made on this article.**

**Article Eleven: (this is the final amended article, discussion points, if any, follow the new description)** To see if the Village District will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of FIFTY FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$55,000) to be added to the previously established Roads and Bridges Capital Reserve Fund (550).

**Commissioner Taber made the motion to proceed. Commissioner Auger seconded the motion. Commissioner Taber explained that we are paying a good percentage of the Red Fox Crossing Bridge with our CRF and in doing so that drops that fund down to a \$50K-\$60K range for any other emergencies. The loan itself, if approved, will not impact the 2020 tax rate. The board finds that putting in this amount will help sustain this fund. Last year \$100k was appropriated to this fund and supported the decrease in the tax rate for this year. No further comments were made on this article.**

**Article Twelve: (this is the final amended article, discussion points, if any, follow the new description)** To see if the Village District will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of THIRTY FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$35,000) to be added to the Water Capital Reserve Fund (913), previously established. Said funds to be offset by income to the Water Department.

**Commissioner Taber made the motion to proceed. Commissioner Auger seconded the motion. Commissioner Taber explained that because of all the other elements in the bond article this would still maintain some momentum on the CRF to aid in future projects and still support the suggestion towards the cost impact for the balance of this year. Chris Reed commented that the amounts previously shown didn't match and was corrected. No further comments were made on this article.**

**Article Thirteen: (this is the final amended article, discussion points, if any, follow the new description)** To see if the Village District will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of TWENTY NINE THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$29,500) for the purpose of purchasing, installing, and disposing of media necessary for the treatment of arsenic and fluoride at the Meetinghouse Water Treatment Plant. Said sum to be withdrawn from the Unreserved Fund Balance of the Water Department.

**Commissioner Auger made the motion to proceed. Commissioner Taber seconded the motion. Commissioner Auger explained that one of the reasons she joined the board was her concern about our water quality. With research, it was found that the media that treated the water hadn't been changed out in years. She believes that this article will aid in helping improve water quality in treating arsenic and also aid in the disposal of the media (currently 60-100 cubic feet) that has been allowed to build up over time by WSO. Aquamen has offered a reasonable quote to complete this task. Mary Ellen Duffy Tanamly's question was how many months/years will this cover in terms of treating the arsenic/fluoride? Chair Taber's response was that this will allow us to establish benchmarks and get back to our baseline. He also stated the prior water operator and/or boards may have/may not have a full understanding of how the system works in regards to maintenance. This board has taken on a more active approach seeking out alternatives for spare parts, media and waste removal. However, how long media lasts is still relatively unknown. Right now the media tank for the arsenic was replaced last July and did not have additional media to replace the other tank. We are currently working with Aquamen to get this and all media changes on a more regular schedule. Readings from tests (quarterly) on the fluoride, recognized by the State as a secondary level, average about a 3.1, but have had tests come back with an over 4 (which is unacceptable for children) reading and is considered a reportable value. The board would like to see the readings be around a 2. This whole article is coming from excess funds that are in the water account and has no impact on the water rates. No further comments were made on this article.**

**Article Fourteen: (this is the final amended article, discussion points, if any, follow the new description)** Moderator Daley explained that this one is a catch all for anything else anyone wanted to speak on.

~Commissioner Taber motioned that Article 3, as amended, and all other articles, as written, to be placed on a ballot for vote and be continued to the meeting on a voting session June 7, 2020 from 1-3pm and to continue the meeting online thereafter on June 7, 2020 at 4pm for the announcement of results all as specified by the Moderator's meeting rules. Commissioner Auger seconded the motion. David Lee asked about Articles 9 & 10 and how the board came up with the amount of \$5K on each article and asked if it could be \$2.5K instead? Commissioner Taber's response was that there was no specific cost or intent and was based on the Asset Management grant of \$20K and didn't want to start with that amount and wanted to review it thereafter to establish what a normal amount may be in the future. Chris Reed commented that any of the CRFs that the district is/has established should further be treated as a savings account which would provide minimal financial impact on the residents. He would like to keep the original proposed amounts as they are written. David Lee agreed with Chris. Commissioner Taber explained that the water item would cost residents \$9.43 per year. Voting ensued on the previous motion made by Commissioner Taber. Votes were tallied up and Moderator Daley declared that the motion was passed. Keith Huber made a motion to restrict reconsideration of all warrant articles and votes taken. Moderator Daley explained that this means that sometimes people vote and then leave the meeting and this motion would disable any further voting or to reconsider changing wording (amendments) on any warrant articles. However, this motion had already been established in the beginning of the meeting as commented on by Attorney Richardson and no need for this current motion. Keith Huber withdrew his motion. Chair Taber expressed his gratitude for all those that come out today to vote and those who attended this online meeting and participated. Moderator Daley declared this session of the meeting over and to be continued tomorrow at 4pm with the voting results.

\*\*\*\*\* Moderator Daley commenced the meeting at 4pm on June, 7 2020 to read the results on the voting (57 ballots were cast) for all warrant articles (all passed) and the results are as follows: Article 3: 45 yes and 12 no, Article 4: 40 yes and 17 no, Article 5: 47 yes and 8 no, Article 6: 45 yes and 12 no, Article 7: 48 yes and 9 no, Article 8: 36 yes and 20 no, Article 9: 45 yes and 11 no, Article 10: 45 yes and 11 no, Article 11: 36 yes and 19 no, Article 12: 44 yes and 12 no, Article 13: 51 yes and 5 no. \*\*\*\*\*

Those who attended this meeting were: Chris Reed, Deb Kardaseski, Richard Morency, Heather Mazerski, Diane Cunningham, Shawna Kilcoyne, Donna Lovejoy, Greg Klos, Warren Fleck, Joanne Staples and Melissa Taber.

\*Meetings will be held Primarily online via usage of GOTO meetings as posted on the website: As Emergency orders become relaxed, meetings will resume to be held at District Office, 147 W. Main St. Hillsboro, NH unless otherwise noted.

\*The Agenda is subject to change at the Commissioner's discretion up to and during the meeting\*

Regards,

---

Rick Rose, *ELVD Clerk*

Approved by:

---

Brett Taber, *Commissioner (Chair)*

---

Sara Auger, *Commissioner*

---

Mark Martin, *Commissioner - not in attendance*

DRAFT