

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL TOWN MEETING
TOWN OF PEMBROKE, NH
MARCH 14, 2023**

The meeting was opened by Moderator Thomas Serafin at 11:00 a.m.

A motion was made to read and act on Articles #1 and #2 and to read and act on the remaining articles at the deliberative session on March 18, 2023 at the Pembroke Academy Auditorium.

MOVED: James Goff

SECONDED: Susanne Whitbeck

VOTE: YES

MOTION PASSED

ARTICLE #1: To choose all necessary officers for the ensuing year.

*Denotes elected

Town Clerk for one year:
vote for not more than one
James F. Goff

*185

Sewer Commisioner for three years:
vote for not more than one
no one filed
Jules "Andy" Pellerin (write-in)

*3

Treasurer for one year:
vote for not more than one
Jill McNeil

*171

Water Commissioner for five years
vote for not more than one
Bruce Kudrick

*160

Selectman for one year:
vote for not more than one
Peter Gagyí

*149

Library Trustee for three years:
vote for not more than two
Susanne Whitbeck
Kaitlin Camidge

*166

*160

Selectman for three years:
vote for not more than two
Karen Yeaton
Richard Frederickson

*130

*136

Trust Fund Trustee for three years:
vote for not more than one
Zephan Wood

*158

**4809 voters on the Pembroke Checklist
187 ballots cast
3.9% voter turnout**

Checklist Supervisor for 5 years:
vote for not more than one
Yewande Jordan
Sharon Eaton

*109

67

ARTICLE 2: AMEND ZONING ORDINANCE

Are you in favor of adopting the following amendments to the existing Zoning Ordinance of the Town of Pembroke?

Amendment #1

Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment #1, as proposed by the Planning Board, for the Pembroke Zoning Ordinance to amend §143-147, Special Use Permit Denial of Application, as follows: amend the reapplication process for Special Use Permits to provide that an applicant, after a denial, can only reapply if the new application materially differs from the previously denied application.

The purpose of Amendment #1 is to amend the reapplication process for Special Use Permits to the effect that an applicant, after a denial, can only reapply if the new application materially differs from the previously denied application.

YES 139 NO 30 Amendment #1 PASSED

Amendment #2

Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment #2, as proposed by the Planning Board, for the Pembroke Zoning Ordinance to amend §143-21, Table of Dimensional and Density Regulations, to reformat the table and its associated notes into three new tables, revised for clarity and consistency. No substantive changes are proposed to the dimensional and density regulations.

The purpose of Amendment #2 to reformat the Table of Dimensional and Density Regulations into three new easy to read tables.

YES 153 NO 16 Amendment #2 PASSED

Amendment #3

Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment #3, as proposed by the Planning Board, to amend the Pembroke Zoning Ordinance by reformatting text boxes into applicable sections of the ordinance, deleting redundancies, and updating references to State statutes? No substantive changes are proposed to the Ordinance.

The purpose of Amendment #3 to amend the Pembroke Zoning Ordinance by reformatting text and updating references to make the document more user-friendly.

YES 157 NO 14 Amendment #3 PASSED

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL TOWN MEETING
TOWN OF PEMBROKE, NH
DELIBERATIVE SESSION
MARCH 18 2023**

At 10:00 a.m. Moderator Thomas Serafin gives an introduction of the Budget Committee, Board of Selectmen and the Town Clerk. He then reads the results of the ballot vote taken on March 14, 2023.

There was a presentation made by current Fire Chief, Paul Gagnon to John Theuner, recently retired Deputy Fire Chief in honor of his many decades of service to the Town of Pembroke. John Theuner is named Town of Pembroke's 2023 Outstanding Citizen.

Moderator Serafin goes over the meeting procedures, leads everyone in attendance with the Pledge of Allegiance and then opens the meeting at 10:25 am.

There was a motion made to dispense with the reading of the full warrant and go straight to Article #3.

MOVED: Brian Seaworth

SECONDED: Erik Paulsen

VOTE: YES

MOTION PASSED

ARTICLE 3 – To see if the Town will vote to rescind the remaining balance of \$536,000 **from the following** bond authorization which was previously approved as Article 3 at the March 14, 2011 Town Meeting or take any action relative thereto. (3/5 ballot vote required)

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,400,000 for the Roadway Improvement and reconstruction project for the following streets; Broadway, Pine, Maple, Prospect and Pleasant, and to authorize the issuance of not more than \$1,400,000 of bonds or notes in accordance with the provisions of the Municipal Finance Act (RSA 33) and to authorize the Selectmen to issue and negotiate such bonds or notes and to determine the rate of interest thereon; (2/3 ballot vote required)

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 5-0
Recommended by the Budget Committee 10-0

MOVED: Paulette Malo

SECONDED: Sandy Goulet

After a brief discussion, the Moderator opened the polls for voting on Article #3 at 10:28am. He stated that the polls would remain open for at least one hour.

Once all registered voters in attendance who wished to vote on Article #3 had done so and the polls had been open for at least one hour, the polls were closed at 11:50 am and the

results are as follows:

YES 131 NO 5 UNDERVOTE 2 ARTICLE #3 PASSED

ARTICLE 4 - To see if the Town will vote to rescind the remaining balance of \$368,000 **from the following** unissued bond authorization which was previously approved as Article 3 at the March 15, 2014 Town Meeting or take any action relative thereto. (3/5 ballot vote required)

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,200,000 for the Roadway Improvement and reconstruction project for the following streets; Pembroke Hill, Rowe Ave, Perley Ave, Girard Ave, Chappelle Street, Elm Street and Grandview Road, and to authorize the issuance of not more than \$1,200,000 of bonds or notes in accordance with the provisions of the Municipal Finance Act (RSA 33) and to authorize the Selectmen to issue and negotiate such bonds or notes and to determine the interest thereon; (2/3 ballot vote required)

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 5-0
Recommended by the Budget Committee 10-0

MOVED: Paulette Malo SECONDED: Sandy Goulet

After a brief discussion, the Moderator opened the polls for voting on Article #4 at 10:35am. He stated that the polls would remain open for at least one hour.

Once all registered voters in attendance who wished to vote on Article #4 had done so and the polls had been open for at least one hour, the polls were closed at 11:50 am and the results are as follows:

YES 131 NO 4 UNDERVOTE 2 OVERVOTE 1 ARTICLE #4 PASSED

ARTICLE 5 – – (By Petition) Shall we adopt the provisions of RSA 40:13 (known as SB 2) to allow official ballot voting on all issues before the Town of Pembroke on the second Tuesday of March? (3/5 ballot vote required)

MOVED: Sandy Goulet SECONDED: Richard Frederickson

After much discussion both for and against, a motion was made to vote on Article #5.

MOVED: Amy Manzelli SECONDED: Paulette Malo

VOTE ON THE MOTION: YES MOTION PASSED

The Polls were open for the ballot vote at 11:20 am.

Once all registered voters in attendance who wished to vote on Article #5 had done so and the polls had been open for at least one hour, the polls were closed at 1:10 pm and the

results are as follows:

YES 15 NO 120 UNDERVOTE 1 ARTICLE #4 FAILED

ARTICLE 6 – Shall the town vote to adopt the provisions of RSA 72:28, Optional Veterans' Tax Credit? If adopted, the credit will apply to every resident of this state who is any person who is a veteran, as defined in RSA 21:50, and served not less than 90 days on active service in the armed forces of the United States in any qualifying war or armed conflict listed in this section, and continues to serve or was honorably discharged or an officer who continues to serve or was honorably separated from service; or the spouse or surviving spouse of such resident, provided that training for active duty by a member of the national guard or reserve shall be included as service under this subparagraph; (b) Every resident of this state who was terminated from the armed forces because of service-connected disability; or the surviving spouse of such resident; and (c) The surviving spouse of any resident who suffered a service-connected death. If adopted, the credit granted will be \$500, which is the amount adopted by the town in 2005.

NOTE: This article is required because the legislature expanded the eligibility criteria for this credit to include individuals who have not yet been discharged from service in the armed forces. **Since there was a change at the State level, and if this article fails, there will be no credits given to those who qualify.**

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 5-0
Recommended by the Budget Committee 10-0

MOVED: Paulette Malo

SECONDED: Sandy Goulet

VOTE: YES

ARTICLE #6 ADOPTED

ARTICLE 7 – Shall the Town vote to adopt the provisions of RSA 72:28-b, All Veteran's Tax Credit? If adopted, the credit will be available to any resident who is a veteran, as defined in RSA 21:50, and served not less than 90 days on active service in the armed forces of the United States and continues to serve or was honorably discharged or an officer who continues to serve or was honorably separated from service; or the spouse or surviving spouse of such resident, provided that training for active duty or state active duty by a member of the national guard or reserve shall be included as service under this paragraph; provided however that the person is not eligible for and is not receiving a credit under RSA 72:28 or RSA 72:35. If adopted, the credit granted will be \$500, the same amount as the optional veterans' tax credit voted by the Town under RSA 72:28.

NOTE: Though this article was approved in 2022, this re-adoption is required because the legislature expanded the eligibility criteria for this credit to include individuals who have not yet been discharged from service in the armed forces. **Since there was a change at the State level, and if this article fails, there will be no credits given to those who qualify.**

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 5-0
Recommended by the Budget Committee 10-0

MOVED: Sandy Goulet

SECONDED: Brian Lemoine

VOTE: YES

ARTICLE #7 ADOPTED

ARTICLE 8 – Shall the town Vote to Modify Chapter 138, Article IV of the Pembroke Town Code, entitled Elderly Exemptions under the provisions of RSA 72:39-a for elderly exemption from property tax in Pembroke, based on assessed value, for qualified taxpayers, to be as follows: for a person 65 years of age up to 74 years, \$35,000; for a person 75 years of age up to 79 years, \$65,000; for a person 80 years of age or older \$125,000. To qualify, the person must have been a New Hampshire resident for at least 3 consecutive years, own the real estate individually or jointly, or if the real estate is owned by such person's spouse, they must have been married to each other for at least 5 consecutive years. In addition, the taxpayer must have a net income of not more than \$27,526 or, if married, a combined net income of less than \$39,406; and own net assets not in excess of \$45,000 excluding the value of the person's residence.
(Majority vote required)

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 5-0
Recommended by the Budget Committee 10-0

MOVED: Paulette Malo

SECONDED: Peter Mehegan

VOTE: YES

ARTICLE #8 ADOPTED

There was a motion made to act on Article #15.

MOVED: Matthew Petersons

SECONDED: Eugene Gauss

VOTE: YES

MOTION PASSED

ARTICLE 15 - To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$24,000 to repair the soccer roof and dugouts and to fund this appropriation by authorizing the withdrawal of a sum not to exceed \$24,000 from the Recreation Capital Reserve Fund.

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 5-0
Recommended by the Budget Committee 10-0

MOVED: Matthew Petersons

SECONDED: Eugene Gauss

VOTE: YES

ARTICLE #15 ADOPTED

ARTICLE 9 – Shall the Town vote to modify Chapter 138, Article VII of the Pembroke Town

Code, entitled Disability Exemption under the provisions of RSA 72:37-b, Exemption for the Disabled from property tax, based on assessed value for qualified taxpayers to be \$36,750. To qualify the person must have been a New Hampshire resident for at least 5 years, own the real estate individually or jointly, or if the real estate is owned by such person's spouse, they must have been married for at least 5 consecutive years. In addition the taxpayer must have a net income of not more than \$20,050 or if married, a combined net income of not more than \$30,482, and own net assets not in excess of \$45,000 excluding the value of the person's residence. (Majority vote required)

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 5-0
Recommended by the Budget Committee 10-0

MOVED: Brian Seaworth SECONDED: Gerard Fleury

VOTE: YES ARTICLE #9 ADOPTED

ARTICLE 10 – To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the Budget Committee's recommended amount of \$10,671,113 for the 2023 municipal operating budget, not including appropriations by special warrant articles and other appropriations voted separately.

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 5-0
Recommended by the Budget Committee 10-0

Budget Committee Chair Mark Lepage explains the proposed budget and the process of how the committee came up with it. He then thanks the BOS and Town Administrator, David Jodoin for all their help in the process.

MOVED: Mark Lepage SECONDED: Gerard Fleury

After much discussion on budget surplus and the increase in solid waste and recycling costs, there was a motion to vote on Article #10.

MOVED: Joseph Crowley SECONDED: Tammy Larochelle

VOTE: YES MOTION PASSED

VOTE ON ARTICLE #10: YES ARTICLE #10 ADOPTED

ARTICLE 11 - To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,112,850 to be deposited into the following Capital Reserve Funds established as indicated below: The sum to come from 2022 Fund Balance/surplus and no amount will be raised by taxation.

Town Equipment Capital Reserve Fund	\$275,000
Police Cruiser Capital Reserve Fund	\$ 60,000
Municipal Facilities Capital Reserve Fund	\$100,000
Fire Major Equipment Capital Reserve Fund	\$154,350
Fire Small Equipment Capital Reserve Fund	\$350,000

Roadway and Infrastructure Capital Reserve Fund	\$100,000
Revaluation Capital Reserve Fund	\$ 30,000
Cemetery Capital Reserve Fund	\$ 11,000
Police Small Equipment Capital Reserve Fund	\$ 10,000
Recreation Capital Reserve Fund	\$ 15,000
Town Clock Fund	\$ 7,500
	<hr/>
	\$1,112,850

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 5-0
Recommended by the Budget Committee 10-0

MOVED: Rob Farley SECONDED: Erik Paulsen

VOTE: YES ARTICLE #11 ADOPTED

ARTICLE 12 - To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$250,000 to purchase a new 6 Wheel Dump/Plow Truck with accessories and to fund this appropriation by authorizing the withdrawal of a sum not to exceed \$250,000 from the Town Equipment Capital Reserve Fund.

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 5-0
Recommended by the Budget Committee 10-0

MOVED: Sandy Goulet SECONDED: Erik Paulsen

VOTE: YES ARTICLE #12 ADOPTED

ARTICLE 13 - To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$65,000 to purchase a new Wood Chipper and accessories for Public Works and to fund this appropriation by authorizing the withdrawal of a sum not to exceed \$65,000 from the Town Equipment Capital Reserve Fund.

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 5-0
Recommended by the Budget Committee 10-0

MOVED: Paulette Malo SECONDED: Eugene Gauss

VOTE: YES ARTICLE #13 ADOPTED

ARTICLE 14 - To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$55,420 to purchase a new Police Cruiser and accessories and to fund this appropriation by authorizing the withdrawal of a sum not to exceed \$55,420 from the Police Cruiser Capital Reserve Fund.

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 5-0
Recommended by the Budget Committee 10-0

MOVED: Rob Farley

SECONDED: Erik Paulsen

There was a motion made to amend Article #14:

After the current wording, add a second sentence that says: If grants or awards of United States treasury funds are available, additional funds may be expended for this purchase in addition to the \$55,420 withdrawal authorized in this article to be withdrawn from the Police Cruiser Capital Reserve Fund, providing that no additional funds will come from moneys that are raised by town taxes.

MOVED: Jennifer Smith

SECONDED: Matt Miller

After a lengthy discussion, a motion was made to voter on the motion to amend.

MOVED: Kristin Erkkila

SECONDED: Annie Lemoine

VOTE: YES

VOTE ON AMENDMENT: NO MOTION FAILED

There was a motion made to amend Article #14:

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$65,420 to purchase a new Police cruiser and accessories and to fund this appropriation by authorizing the withdrawal of a sum not to exceed \$65,420 from the Police Cruiser Capital Reserve Fund.

MOVED: Gary Gaskell

SECONDED: Annie Lemoine

VOTE ON AMENDMENT: YES AMENDMENT TO ARTICLE #14 PASSED

VOTE ON ARTICLE #14 AS AMENDED: YES

ARTICLE #14 AS AMENDED ADOPTED

ARTICLE 16 - To see if the Town will vote to create a Capital Reserve Fund under the provisions of RSA 35:1 called Ambulance Replacement and Equipment Fund for the purpose of replacing future ambulances and equipment, and to further raise an appropriate the sum of \$5,000 to be deposited into this fund. Expenditures out of this account will require Town Meeting approval.

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 5-0
Recommended by the Budget Committee 10-0

MOVED: Erik Paulsen

SECONDED: Charles Schmidt

VOTE: YES

ARTICLE #16 ADOPTED

ARTICLE 17 To see if the Town will vote to adopt the Pembroke Community Power Plan, finalized January 10, 2023 by the Pembroke Energy Committee, and to further authorize the Select Board to develop and implement Pembroke Community Power, and to take all action in furtherance of, the Pembroke Community Power Plan, pursuant to RSA 53-E.

The Community Power Plan includes a more flexible electricity procurement mechanism than NH utilities and thus is expected to provide lower electricity rates. Additionally, the Plan will provide local involvement in electricity procurement and development of energy initiatives and offerings that are of interest to Pembroke.

The Pembroke Community Power Plan includes an Opt-out enrollment mechanism. All residential electricity customers currently on utility default electricity supply will receive a mailing at least 30 days prior to launch that they will be enrolled in the program at a specified electricity rate unless they notify CPCNH that they will Opt-out of the program. Residential customers already on a competitive electricity supply alternative will be notified how to Opt-in to the program. All residents may leave or join the Pembroke Community Power program at no cost, any time. **Additionally, the program will not launch unless the electricity rate is equal to or less than the default utility electricity rate.**

MOVED: Jennifer Smith

SECONDED: Jennifer Johnson

After a lengthy discussion, there was a motion made to vote on Article #17.

MOVED: Gary Seidner

SECONDED: Sue Seidner

VOTE ON MOTION: YES

MOTION PASSED

VOTE ON ARTICLE #17: YES ARTICLE #17 ADOPTED

ARTICLE 18 - (By Petition) To see if the Town will vote to open a section of Third Range Road as Class V which is currently subject to gates and bars a distance of no more than 300 feet beginning from the terminus of the current portion of Class V roadway that currently exists and abuts the petitioner's property at 340 Third Range Road, Map 264, Lot 66. The petitioners, Donald and Loretta Hill, wish to sub divide their current property for a single family residence and need the required frontage on a Class V roadway to do so. The Class V road status is contingent upon the Hills financing the roadway improvements and design costs to bring this section of road up to Town Class V specifications as verified by the Town.

MOVED: Donald Hill

SECONDED: Paulette Malo

VOTE: YES

ARTICLE #18 ADOPTED

ARTICLE 19 - To transact any other business that may legally come before said meeting.

There was a motion made to accept the reports of all the boards, committees and commissions as

printed in the 2022 Town Report.

MOVED: Karen Yeaton

SECONDED: Sandy Goulet

VOTE: YES

MOTION PASSED

Selectperson Karen Yeaton took a moment to thank the members of all the boards, committees and commissions along with all the volunteers for the past year.

There was a motion made to adjourn the 2023 Town Meeting.

MOVED: Thomas Serafin

SECONDED: James Parker

VOTE: YES

The Pembroke Town meeting adjourned at 2:03 pm.

After the meeting adjourned, Moderator Serafin swore in all officials that were elected on the 2023 Town Meeting ballot.

Respectfully submitted:

James F. Goff
Town Clerk
Pembroke, NH

March 21th, 2023

TOWN SEAL

