



Town of Gilford, New Hampshire  
Deliberative Session "First Session" Minutes  
February 8, 2018

Moderator Sandra McGonagle called the meeting to order at 7:00 and led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance. McGonagle made several announcements regarding no food or drink in the auditorium, no smoking on the school grounds, silence cell phones and pointed out the emergency exits. McGonagle invited everyone to attend the Gilford High School's Performing Arts Production "A Few Good Men" and that daycare is available during show time.

McGonagle introduced the Board of Selectmen, Chan Eddy, Gus Benavides and Richard Grenier; Town Administrator, Scott Dunn and Assistant Moderator, Larry Routhier. McGonagle introduced the Budget Committee Members: Norman Silber, Susan Green, Harry Bean, Dr. Leslie Suranyi, Jr., Sean Murphy, David "Skip" Murphy, David Horvath, Chris McDonough and Chan Eddy. Dunn recognized Department Managers, Steve Carrier, Anthony Bean-Burpee, Herb Green, Katherine Dormody, Jason Hayden, John Ayer, Glen Waring and Denise Gonyer. McGonagle also introduced Supervisor's of the Checklist/Greeters, Irene LaChance, Miriam York and Mary Villaume in attendance.

McGonagle went over the rules and purpose of the meeting. She further explained discussion, debate, amendment and how to overrule during the meeting. She cautioned the membership to direct questions to her and to have courteous debate during the meeting; no personal attacks would be permitted and would result in removal from the meeting by the Gilford Police Dept. She explained how to amend a question, that the subject matter could not be eliminated and how to proceed with a secret ballot if one was to be requested. McGonagle asked that anyone wishing to speak come to the microphone, announce their name and address for the record before speaking. McGonagle set a time limit of 5 minutes for the first time a person speaks and 2 minutes for a follow up after everyone had the opportunity to speak once on the Article. McGonagle explained that moving a question terminates discussion and that a second is required. McGonagle asked any unregistered voters to ask permission to speak and it would be on the honor system. Registered voters have voting cards and Department Managers may speak on any Article. McGonagle further stated that after the discussion had terminated that the Article would be placed on the ballot for March 13<sup>th</sup>.

There were 54 people in attendance for the meeting.

The Moderator read Article 1 as follows:

**Article 1:** To choose the necessary Town Officers for the following year; to wit:

- ◆ One Selectman for a three year term;
  - DALE CHANNING “CHAN” EDDY
- ◆ One Moderator for a three year term;
  - SANDRA T. MCGONAGLE
- ◆ One Supervisor of the Checklist for a three year term;
  - MARY E. VILLAUME
- ◆ One Trustee of Trust Funds for a three year term;
  - ELIZABETH A. CASTRO
- ◆ Two Library Trustees for a three year term;
  - JOHN P. (JACK) LACOMBE
  - DIANE TINKHAM
- ◆ One Cemetery Trustee for a three year term;
  - SUSAN S. LEACH
- ◆ One Fire Engineer for a three year term;
  - WILLIAM R. AKERLEY
- ◆ Three Budget Committee Members for three year terms;
  - JACK KELLEY
  - NORMAN J. SILBER
  - KRISTIN SNOW
  - JOSEPH D. WERNIG
  - HARRY H. BEAN
  - THOMAS CHASE
- ◆ One Budget Committee Members for two year terms;
  - PRISCILLA M. BEAN
  - TRACIE CORBETT

**Discussion:** David “Skip” Murphy, 9 Gilford Glen Rd., announce a point of order and wanted to know why the candidates were not read at the School Board’s Deliberative Session on Tuesday. McGonagle explained that there was a candidate in question that may want to do a write-in campaign and felt it wasn’t fair to announce that

information at that meeting until that issue had been resolved. Murphy stated that he felt it was a disservice; McGonagle said she would take it under advisement. There was no further discussion, the Moderator stated Article 1 would be place on the ballot.

The Moderator read Article 2 as written:

**ARTICLE 2:** Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment Number 1 as proposed by the Gilford Planning Board for the Gilford Zoning Ordinance as follows?

Amend Section 6.5, Screened Buffer, by deleting the existing provisions of Section 6.5 and replacing them with revised Screened Buffer provisions including a purpose statement, clarification of when a buffer containing a screen is and is not required in each zone, clarification of when the Planning Board may waive screen requirements, and a statement regarding conflicting regulations. (An official copy of the entire proposal is on file at the Town Clerk's Office and on display at the meeting place on the date of the Town Meetings and may be viewed at [www.gilfordnh.org](http://www.gilfordnh.org).)

**Discussion:** Ayer explained the current regulations and when it is required. This Amendment explains the purpose and gives clarification. The Amendment gives the Planning Board the ability to waive screening requirements under certain conditions. Howard Epstein, 231 Sagamore Rd., wanted to know if it effected Gunstock Acres greenspace buffer and Ayer explained that it did not effect it at all and that the Article would take effect going forward and existing developments would be grandfathered. Norman Silber, 243 Mountain Dr., asked other than single family and agricultural why it was needed. Ayer explained that in most instances the whole existence of agricultural use is a screen. There was no further discussion, the Moderator stated Article 2 would be place on the ballot.

The Moderator read Article 3 as written:

**ARTICLE 3:** Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment Number 2 as proposed by the Gilford Planning Board for the Gilford Zoning Ordinance as follows?

Amend the requirements for Boat Storage by deleting the existing Section 4.4.7, Boat Storage; creating a new Section 4.4.7, Boat Storage – Inside, as a permitted use in the Resort Commercial (RC), Commercial (C), and Industrial (I) zones and not permitted in all other zones; creating a new Section 4.4.8, Boat Storage – Outside, as a permitted use in the C and I zones, as a special exception in the RC zone, and not permitted in all other zones; amending Section 4.7.4(g), Boat Storage, by deleting the existing wording and replacing it with new wording establishing separate requirements for inside and outside boat storage uses which include screening of outside boat storage in the RC zone when adjacent to abutting single-family and two-family residential uses. (An official copy of the entire proposal is on file at the Town Clerk's Office and on display at the meeting place on the date of the Town Meetings and may be viewed at [www.gilfordnh.org](http://www.gilfordnh.org).)

**Discussion:** Ayer explained that this Article is intended to split the existing boat storage use into inside boat storage and the outside boat storage in the zones outlined within the amendment including special exception and screening clarification. There was no further discussion, the Moderator stated Article 3 would be placed on the ballot.

The Moderator read Article 4 as written:

**ARTICLE 4:** Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment Number 3 as proposed by the Gilford Planning Board for the Gilford Zoning Ordinance as follows?

Amend extensively Article 8, Signs, in various ways, primarily to comply with a U.S. Supreme Court decision (see *Reed v. Town of Gilbert*) which in general terms stated that regulation of signs based on a sign's content is prohibited. The changes include deleting and amending several sign types that are regulated based on the sign content, creating a new provision for a Development Sign for projects meeting Applicability requirements for a Master Signage Plan, creating a provision allowing only one sign in a Master Signage Plan to be made larger if another sign is made smaller by the same area, amending Tables 8.12 and 8.13 as needed to accommodate the proposed changes, renumbering sections due to deletions and additions, and making other related changes. (An official copy of the entire proposal is on file at the Town Clerk's Office and on display at the meeting place on the date of the Town Meetings and may be viewed at [www.gilfordnh.org](http://www.gilfordnh.org).)

**Discussion:** Ayer explained that many changes to the sign regulations are based on a US Supreme Court ruling that found it is unconstitutional if a sign regulation is based on the content of a sign. This Article proposes to eliminate content-based types of sign such as "real estate sign" and changes it to a "temporary sign." Ayer further explained that no signs will be allowed in the right of way for upcoming events. The amendment proposes to add a new sign type for "development sign" in that it will qualify for signage based on the size of the project. Skip Murphy inquired about political signs and Ayer responded that political signs are regulated by state law. There was no further discussion, the Moderator stated Article 4 would be placed on the ballot.

The Moderator read Article 5 as written:

**ARTICLE 5:** Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate as an operating budget, not including appropriations by special warrant articles and other appropriations voted separately, the amounts set forth on the budget posted with the warrant or as amended by vote of the first session, for the purposes set forth therein, totaling \$13,037,801? Should this article be defeated, the default budget shall be \$12,648,499, which is the same as last year, except for certain adjustments required by previous action of the Town or by law; or the Board of Selectmen may hold one special meeting, in accordance with RSA 40:13, X and XVI, to take up the issue of a revised operating budget only.

(Recommended by the Board of Selectmen by a vote of 3 to 0)

(Recommended by the Budget Committee by a vote of 11 to 0)

**Discussion:** Bill Akerely, 3 Mitchell Rd., asked for clarification of the amount and asked if it included meetings and dues. Silber confirmed that it did include meetings and dues. Rick Moses, 141 Gunstock Hill Rd asked for an explanation of the difference between the two budgets (Budget Committee's and Board of Selectmen budgets) of \$20K. Silber referred to Dunn for an explanation. Dunn explained that the bottom line is the same and that the Budget Committee added \$20K to its own line item for their legal line. Dunn further explained that the law allows Board of Selectmen to transfer the funds to whichever line item they see fit. Akerely asked about meeting and dues again if they were staying in the budget. Fred Butler, 65 Yasmin Dr., asked for further clarification of the \$20K added by the Budget Committee. Chairman Eddy, further explained that the Board of Selectmen has control of the budget and will decide where funds are to be spent and could move the money from legal fees to meetings and dues. Skip Murphy, explained his stance on "no means no" and further agreed that the way the law is written now the Board of Selectmen do have authority to transfer funds to GL account line items. Murphy further explained that the funds would be added to the budget in the event that the Budget Committee would need to take legal action against the School Board or Board of Selectmen there would be funds available for such action. Gretchen Gandini, 18 Belknap Mountain Rd., asked if the Board of Selectmen were comfortable to cover the needs of the town with the current amount in the Article and Chairman Eddy responded yes to the question. There was no further discussion, the Moderator stated Article 5 would be placed on the ballot.

The Moderator read Article 6 as written:

**ARTICLE 6:** Shall the Town vote to approve the cost items included in the two year collective bargaining agreement reached between the Board of Selectmen and the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees, (AFSCME), Local 534, on behalf of certain Public Works Department employees, which calls for no increase in the wage and benefit package for the estimated costs necessary to fund the new collective bargaining agreement in the current fiscal year over the costs attributable to wages and benefits that would have been due under the current agreement at the current staffing level? If approved, the estimated cost to fund the wages and benefits in the second year of the agreement would also result in no increase in the costs attributable to the wages and benefits that would have been paid under the current agreement at the current staffing levels.  
(Recommended by the Board of Selectmen by a vote of 3 to 0)

**Discussion:** There was no discussion, the Moderator stated Article 6 would be placed on the ballot.

The Moderator read Article 7 as written:

**ARTICLE 7:** Shall the Town vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to enter into a five year lease purchase agreement in the amount of two hundred seventy-five thousand dollars, (\$275,000), for a fire boat, contingent upon such an agreement having a non-appropriation clause in accordance with the provisions of RSA 33:7-e; and to raise and appropriate the sum of sixty-five thousand dollars, (\$65,000), to be used to purchase accessories and the first year's payment for that purpose?  
(Recommended by the Board of Selectmen by a vote of 3 to 0)  
(Recommended by the Budget Committee by a vote of 9 to 1)

**Discussion:** There was no discussion, the Moderator stated Article 7 would be placed on the ballot.

The Moderator read Article 8 as written:

**ARTICLE 8:** Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of two hundred thousand dollars, (\$200,000), to purchase a heavy-duty dump truck with plow and accessories? This sum to come from fund balance and no amount to be raised from taxation.

(Recommended by the Board of Selectmen by a vote of 3 to 0)

(Recommended by the Budget Committee by a vote of 10 to 0)

**Discussion:** There was no discussion, the Moderator stated Article 8 would be placed on the ballot.

The Moderator read Article 9 as written:

**ARTICLE 9:** Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of fifty thousand dollars, (\$50,000), to purchase a used excavator; and authorize the withdrawal of fifty thousand dollars, (\$50,000), from the existing Highway Equipment Capital Reserve Fund as established by Article 11 at the 1991 Annual Town Meeting? No amount to be raised from taxation.

(Recommended by the Board of Selectmen by a vote of 3 to 0)

(Recommended by the Budget Committee by a vote of 10 to 0)

**Discussion:** There was no discussion, the Moderator stated Article 9 would be placed on the ballot.

The Moderator read Article 10 as written:

**ARTICLE 10:** Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of one million one hundred thousand dollars, (\$1,100,000), for replacement of the Old Lakeshore Road Bridge and authorize the withdrawal of two hundred twenty thousand dollars, (\$220,000), from the existing Bridge Replacement Capital Reserve Fund? The remaining balance of eight hundred eighty thousand dollars, (\$880,000), will come from a State Bridge Aid Program grant. No amount is to be raised from taxation. This will be a non-lapsing appropriation per RSA 32:7, VI and will not lapse until the bridge project is completed or by December 31, 2020, whichever comes first.

(Recommended by the Board of Selectmen by a vote of 3 to 0)

(Recommended by the Budget Committee by a vote of 10 to 0)

**Discussion:** There was no discussion, the Moderator stated Article 10 would be placed on the ballot.

The Moderator read Article 11 as written:

**ARTICLE 11:** Shall the Town vote to establish a Sidewalk Capital Reserve Fund under the provisions of RSA 35:1 for the purpose of constructing and reconstructing sidewalks; and to raise and appropriate the sum of fifty thousand dollars, (\$50,000), to be placed in this fund; and furthermore, to name the Board of Selectmen as agents to expend? This sum to come from fund balance and no amount to be raised from taxation.

(Recommended by the Board of Selectmen by a vote of 3 to 0)  
(Recommended by the Budget Committee by a vote of 7 to 3)

**Discussion:** There was no discussion, the Moderator stated Article 11 would be placed on the ballot.

The Moderator read Article 12 as written:

**ARTICLE 12:** Shall the Town vote to change the purpose of the existing Geographic Information System (GIS) Capital Reserve Fund as established by Article 25 at the 2014 Annual Town Meeting to the Technology Capital Reserve Fund; and to name the Board of Selectmen as agents to expend?

(2/3 vote required)

(Recommended by the Board of Selectmen by a vote of 3 to 0)

**Discussion:** Skip Murphy spoke in opposition of the Article and was concerned that the “reserve” funds are on autopilot and may miss oversight of the Budget Committee. Moses asked about the GIS system if funds were not needed. Dunn replied that the funds may still be used for GIS in this budget and suggested that capital reserve funds for budgeting purposes is to keep the tax rate down. Ayers spoke in the affirmative on positive feedback on the GIS online information which has a great deal of content. Silber in favor and stated Budget Committee approved because of good stewardship on using capital reserve fund. There was no further discussion, the Moderator stated Article 12 would be placed on the ballot.

The Moderator read Article 13 as written:

**ARTICLE 13:** Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of ten thousand dollars, (\$10,000), to be added to the Technology Capital Reserve Fund? This sum to come from fund balance and no amount to be raised from taxation. This article will be null and void in the event that Article 12 is defeated.

(Recommended by the Board of Selectmen by a vote of 3 to 0)

(Recommended by the Budget Committee by a vote of 9 to 1)

**Discussion:** There was no discussion, the Moderator stated Article 13 would be placed on the ballot.

The Moderator read Article 14 as written:

**ARTICLE 14:** Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of twenty thousand dollars, (\$20,000), to be added to the Building Repair Capital Reserve Fund previously established in 2007? This sum to come from fund balance and no amount to be raised from taxation.

(Recommended by the Board of Selectmen by a vote of 3 to 0)

(Recommended by the Budget Committee by a vote of 7 to 3)

**Discussion:** Silber spoke against the wording “no amount to be raised from taxation” on the ballot and has asked that the wording read “no amount to be raised from new taxation.” Silber further explained that all the money is taxpayer’s money including the fund balance from previous taxation.

The Moderator read Article 15 as written:

**ARTICLE 15:** Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of twenty thousand dollars, (\$20,000), to be added to the Fire Water Supply Maintenance Capital Reserve Fund previously established in 2008 for town-wide fire suppression purposes? This sum to come from fund balance and no amount to be raised from taxation.

(Recommended by the Board of Selectmen by a vote of 3 to 0)

(Recommended by the Budget Committee by a vote of 10 to 0)

**Discussion:** There was no discussion, the Moderator stated Article 15 would be place on the ballot.

The Moderator read Article 16 as written:

**ARTICLE 16:** Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of twenty thousand dollars, (\$20,000), to be added to the Recreation Facilities Maintenance Capital Reserve Fund previously established in 2008? This sum to come from fund balance and no amount to be raised from taxation.

(Recommended by the Board of Selectmen by a vote of 3 to 0)

(Recommended by the Budget Committee by a vote of 7 to 3)

**Discussion:** There was no discussion, the Moderator stated Article 16 would be place on the ballot.

The Moderator read Article 17 as written:

**ARTICLE 17:** Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of thirty thousand dollars, (\$30,000), to purchase and equip a 4x4 pick-up truck for the Parks & Recreation Department? This sum to come from the Recreation Revolving Fund and no amount to be raised from taxation.

(Recommended by the Board of Selectmen by a vote of 3 to 0)

(Recommended by the Budget Committee by a vote of 9 to 1)

**Discussion:** There was no discussion, the Moderator stated Article 17 would be place on the ballot.

The Moderator read Article 18 as written:

**ARTICLE 18:** Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of ten thousand dollars, (\$10,000), to be added to the Glendale Boat and Launch Ramp Facilities Maintenance Capital Reserve Fund previously established in 2008? This sum to come from fund balance and no amount to be raised from taxation.

(Recommended by the Board of Selectmen by a vote of 3 to 0)

(Recommended by the Budget Committee by a vote of 10 to 0)

**Discussion:** Moses inquired as to what the funds were used for and Chairman Eddy replied repairs to docks, ramps and other various projects. There was no further discussion, the Moderator stated Article 18 would be placed on the ballot.

The Moderator read Article 19 as written:

**ARTICLE 19:** Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of one hundred thousand dollars, (\$100,000), to be added to the Fire Equipment Capital Reserve Fund previously established in 1989? This sum to come from fund balance and no amount shall be raised from taxation.

(Recommended by the Board of Selectmen by a vote of 3 to 0)

(Recommended by the Budget Committee by a vote of 9 to 0)

**Discussion:** There was no discussion, the Moderator stated Article 19 would be placed on the ballot.

The Moderator read Article 20 as written:

**ARTICLE 20:** Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of fifty-eight thousand dollars, (\$58,000), to be added to the Lakes Business Park Capital Trust Fund previously established pursuant to the terms of the Inter-Municipal Agreement that was approved under Article 18 of the 2001 Annual Town Meeting?

(Recommended by the Board of Selectmen by a vote of 3 to 0)

(Recommended by the Budget Committee by a vote of 7 to 2)

**Discussion:** Silber commented on contractual obligation to make the payments; he spoke against the contract and further explained that these are vacant, unsold properties that are not currently paying taxes but that there was no choice as there was a legal contract in place. There being no further discussion, the Moderator stated Article 20 would be placed on the ballot.

The Moderator read Article 21 as written:

**ARTICLE 21:** Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of ten thousand dollars, (\$10,000), to be added to the Sewer Maintenance Capital Reserve Fund previously established in 2007? This sum to come from sewer fund balance and no amount to be raised from taxation.

(Recommended by the Board of Selectmen by a vote of 3 to 0)

(Recommended by the Budget Committee by a vote of 7 to 2)

**Discussion:** Chairman Eddy explained that the wording is misleading and that this amount is paid by the sewer user fees. There being no further discussion, the Moderator stated Article 21 would be placed on the ballot.

The Moderator read Article 22 as written:

**ARTICLE 22:** Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of nine thousand, three hundred five dollars, (\$9,305), for the annual fee to continue as a member of the New Hampshire Municipal Association?

(Recommended by the Board of Selectmen by a vote of 3 to 0)  
(Not recommended by the Budget Committee by a vote of 8 to 2)

**Discussion:** Silber explained that this Article is related to Article 34 and spoke in opposition. Silber further explained that he is against taxpayer's dollars being used for Lobbyist representing Towns in Concord. Butler asked if the Board of Selectmen will follow the will of the people. Chairman Eddy explained that there is no line item in the budget and if the Article is defeated it cannot be spent on membership because it is a separate warrant article. Skip Murphy stated that he thinks technically the Board of Selectmen can still fund membership. Dunn explained that this is where "no means no" when it is a separate warrant article. Bruce Thurston, 11 Jameson Ave., wanted to know if there was a benefit to the membership to NHMA? Dunn explained he understand the opposition but in his 20 years' experience what is being lobbied against is the downshifting of taxes to the towns and if there is no membership the town cannot attend workshops and seminars. Silber stated that the lobbies are also working in other areas such as agritourism not just the down shifting of taxes. Skip Murphy stated that he takes exception to Dunn's explanation of downshifting taxes and explained the level of taxes and level of government. There being no further discussion, the Moderator stated Article 22 would be placed on the ballot.

The Moderator allowed time for the membership to read Article 23 as written:

**ARTICLE 23:** Shall the Town vote to establish a Police Dog and Training Capital Reserve Fund under the provisions of RSA 35:1-c for the purpose of purchasing a new police dog and training when necessary; and to raise and appropriate the sum of two thousand nine hundred dollars, (\$2,900), to be placed in this fund; and furthermore, to appoint the Board of Selectmen as agents to expend? It would appear that between donations and grant money the Town of Gilford will finally (2018) get a much-needed new dog and training for the Police Department to replace Ike, who passed away in February 2017. We feel the responsibility for providing a police dog and training lies within the Town instead of repeated solicitations from individuals, businesses and grants. The extensive time needed to conduct a campaign to raise funds greatly delays the acquisition of a much-needed new dog following a dog's demise or retirement. It is no secret that New Hampshire is at the top of the list for opioid use. The assistance a dog can provide in drug related instances and also in search and rescue operations is critical. To quote Lieutenant James Leach of the Gilford Police Department, "It is a tremendous asset to have a dog and we need all the tools we can have."

(Submitted by petition)

(Recommended by the Board of Selectmen by a vote of 3 to 0)

(Recommended by the Budget Committee by a vote of 10 to 0)

**Discussion:** Silber explained that the public's safety is his number one priority and spoke in favor of the Article. He further explained the fundraising efforts that have been made and the availability of purchasing a paver with engraved name on it through the Police Department. There being no further discussion, the Moderator stated Article 23 would be placed on the ballot.

The Moderator read Article 24 as written:

**ARTICLE 24:** Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of nine thousand dollars (\$9,000) to support the operation of the Laconia Area Center of Community Action Program? The Laconia Area Center staff provides low income, elderly and disabled residents of Gilford assistance with basic needs such as fuel assistance, electric assistance, home weatherization, security deposits for housing, emergency housing assistance and maintains a food pantry accessible every day during business hours. In 2017 residents of Gilford received more than \$397,768 in services through the programs of Community Action Program, Belknap-Merrimack Counties, Inc., and the Laconia Area Center.

(Submitted by petition)

(Not recommended by the Board of Selectmen by a vote of 3 to 0)

(Not recommended by the Budget Committee by a vote of 8 to 2)

**Discussion:** Silber explained the Budget Committee's stance on Articles 23 through 27, known as "outside agencies" were not recommended by the Budget Committee as the Committee felt it was not a good use of tax dollars and the although they do good work they should be privately funded by the taxpayer. He further stated that the Town has a Welfare Director and a budget to go with the position. Eddy explained that the Board of Selectmen recognize the good work and would prefer not to take any stance on the aforementioned articles however, they are required to do so; even though they do not one way or another. Butler stated that the people of the town have voted since 2007, 37 times in favor of funding the outside agencies and that a no appears to be a no instead of being silent. Butler asked for additional data for voters to see how it effects their tax dollars and stated that town welfare cannot cover all the needs. Benavides stated that people can support on their ballot but many do it personally and he wants residents to decide individually if they want to support outside agencies – which voters have year after year. Benavides also stated that the town has a financial obligation to fund welfare as the law states "shall" fund welfare needs for town residents but also bases the budget on historical spending. Skip Murphy explained that funds are also coming from the county, state and federal government and are already taxpayer's monies. Alexis Jackson, 52 October Ln., wanted to know how many Gilford people are being helped and suggested more background information is needed. Silber explained that it is a petition warrant article and it is provided by the petitioners. Ann Nichols, 1140 Cherry Valley Rd., explained that 24 towns have an application process and submit a letter and documentation for town report. Other towns ask for information via a process and revisit the application process, it can have an impact on the article and can be helpful to the voter. There being no further discussion, the Moderator stated Article 24 would be placed on the ballot.

The Moderator read Article 25 as written:

**ARTICLE 25:** Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of twenty-three thousand five hundred dollars, (\$23,500), to support the operations of Central New Hampshire VNA & Hospice, a local agency that provides visiting nurse services, hospice care, and pediatric care to residents of the Town of Gilford, NH? This past year residents of Gilford received 3,888 home visits from Central New Hampshire VNA & Hospice. Town funds are used chiefly to support hospice care, pediatric care to children at medical or social risk, wellness clinics, bereavement support groups and immunization services.

(Submitted by petition)

(Not recommended by the Board of Selectmen by a vote of 3 to 0)  
(Not recommended by the Budget Committee by a vote of 8 to 2)

**Discussion:** There was no discussion, the Moderator stated Article 25 would be place on the ballot.

The Moderator read Article 26 as written:

**ARTICLE 26:** Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of twenty-one thousand dollars, (\$21,000), in support of Genesis Behavioral Health for the delivery of Emergency Mental Health Services? These services include access to Master's level clinicians and psychiatrists by individuals, police, fire, schools, hospitals and others, 24 hours per day, 7 days per week. Services are provided to anyone in need, regardless of their ability to pay. Genesis Behavioral Health is designated by the State of New Hampshire as the community mental health center serving Belknap and Southern Grafton Counties. We served 3,883 children, families, adults and elders in Fiscal Year 2017, 193 of whom were Gilford residents. Genesis Behavioral Health provided emergency services to 48 Gilford residents in Fiscal Year 2017. We provided \$45,943.81 in charitable care to Gilford residents.

(Submitted by petition)

(Not recommended by the Board of Selectmen by a vote of 3 to 0)

(Not recommended by the Budget Committee by a vote of 8 to 2)

**Discussion:** Silber made reference to guidestar.com website for information on salaries and other information regarding outside agencies. Nichols stated that Silber's comments were accurate about salaries but that the website does not take into effect the types of staff members (medical staffs of doctors, nurses, nurse practitioners and psychiatrist) and that these salaries are very much market driven; Nichols spoke in support of the article. There being no further discussion, the Moderator stated Article 26 would be placed on the ballot.

The Moderator read Article 27 as written:

**ARTICLE 27:** Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of two thousand, six hundred and thirty dollars, (\$2,630), in support of New Beginnings Without Violence & Abuse, the center for free and confidential intervention, support and advocacy for those whose lives have been affected by domestic, sexual and stalking and trafficking violence? Services include access to crisis line, emergency shelter, information and referral, staff and advocates' services for individuals, schools, police, courts, hospitals and others, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. You don't have to be in crisis to call a crisis center. There are no fees for service.

(Submitted by petition)

(Not recommended by the Board of Selectmen by a vote of 3 to 0)

(Not recommended by the Budget Committee by a vote of 6 to 4)

**Discussion:** There was no discussion, the Moderator stated Article 27 would be place on the ballot.

The Moderator read Article 28 as written:

**ARTICLE 28:** Shall the Town vote to discontinue the Police Facility Capital Reserve Fund as established by Article 18 at the 2007 Annual Town Meeting? Said funds, with accumulated interest to date of withdrawal, are to be transferred to the Town's general fund.  
(Recommended by the Board of Selectmen by a vote of 3 to 0)

**Discussion:** There was no discussion, the Moderator stated Article 28 would be place on the ballot.

The Moderator read Article 29 as written:

**ARTICLE 29:** Shall the Town vote to discontinue the Public Works Sand Pile Cover Capital Reserve Fund as established by Article 24 at the 2014 Annual Town Meeting? Said funds, with accumulated interest to date of withdrawal, are to be transferred to the Town's general fund.  
(Recommended by the Board of Selectmen by a vote of 3 to 0)

**Discussion:** There was no discussion, the Moderator stated Article 29 would be place on the ballot.

The Moderator read Article 30 as written:

**ARTICLE 30:** Shall the Town vote to repeal the Ordinance Establishing a Town Dump and Providing for the Use Thereof as adopted on Article 29 at the 1972 Annual Town Meeting; and furthermore, authorize the Board of Selectmen to adopt bylaws governing the use of the Gilford Solid Waste Center, to include (1) the establishment of reasonable fees and (2) rules for the separation and collection of refuse; pursuant to the provisions of RSA 149-M:17?  
(Recommended by the Board of Selectmen by a vote of 3 to 0)

**Discussion:** There was no discussion, the Moderator stated Article 30 would be place on the ballot.

The Moderator read Article 31 as written:

**ARTICLE 31:** Shall the Town vote to establish the Peverly Town Forest at Map/Lot 232-002 off Durrell Mountain Road, consisting of approximately 104± acres; said parcel having been acquired pursuant to a vote on Article 13 at the 1985 Annual Town Meeting; and to authorize the Conservation Commission to manage the property; and furthermore, to authorize the proceeds from said forest to be placed in the Special Forest Maintenance Fund as established by vote on Article 56 of the 1981 Annual Town Meeting; in accordance with the provisions of RSA 31:110-113.  
(Recommended by the Board of Selectmen by a vote of 3 to 0)

**Discussion:** There was no discussion, the Moderator stated Article 31 would be place on the ballot.

The Moderator read Article 32 as written:

**ARTICLE 32:** Shall the Town vote to designate Terrace Hill Road Extension, a 50± foot wide by 200± long foot highway accepted as a Town road by vote on Article 17 of the 1941 Annual Town Meeting, as a “Highway to Summer Cottages” pursuant to RSA 231:79 and RSA 231:81, I, (b)?

(Recommended by the Board of Selectmen by a vote of 3 to 0)

**Discussion:** John Morgenstern, 74 Terrace Hill Rd., spoke on behalf of himself and his neighbors and thanked the Board of Selectmen for their support and for bringing this issue forward to the townspeople. There was no further discussion, the Moderator stated Article 32 would be placed on the ballot.

The Moderator allowed the membership time to read Article 33 as written and offered to read and assist anyone requiring assistance:

**ARTICLE 33:** Shall the Town urge the next President and Congress to fight big money politics and restore government of, by, and for the people by championing the “We The People” agenda to (1) ban Super PACs and overturn Citizens United; (2) expose secret donors and require full transparency; (3) ban bribes from big-money lobbyists and government contractors; (4) establish small-donor, citizen-funded elections; (5) end gerrymandering and modernize voter registration; and (6) close loopholes and enforce campaign finance laws? And furthermore, to urge the New Hampshire State Legislature to support concrete legislation to enact the “We The People” agenda. The record of the vote approving this article shall be transmitted by written notice from the Selectmen to the New Hampshire congressional delegation and to Gilford, New Hampshire’s state legislators, and to the President of the United States informing them of the instructions from their constituents within 30 days of the vote.

(Submitted by petition)

**Discussion:** Silber spoke in opposition to the article and stated that the article has no effect on what happens to these issues. Silber encouraged folks to attend the meeting next Tuesday in the Legislative Office Building (LOB) 308 in Concord to hear the issues. Butler stated that the article does not make sense. There being no further discussion, the Moderator stated Article 33 would be place on the ballot.

The Moderator read Article 34 as written:

**ARTICLE 34:** Shall the Town be prohibited from membership in the New Hampshire Municipal Association and the expenditure of any monies for such purpose, but this shall not prohibit the expenditure of Town monies solely for registration fees for educational seminars sponsored by the New Hampshire Municipal Association?

(Submitted by petition)

**Discussion:** Silber/petitioner stated that he was not aware that Article 22 was going to be submitted by the Board of Selectmen and spoke in favor of the Article. Gandini asked what happens if both get approved. Eddy answered that Article 24 would override Article 34. Silber stated that there was a difference of opinion on that happening and that it would be up to the Attorney General’s Office. Butler stated that no one would be allowed to participate in education if they were not members and

wanted to know if it should be amended and was seeking an opinion. Eddy stated there was not an agreement if the article could be amended because of it being a petition warrant article. Silber gave his opinion on the seminars/membership rules and said there was no need to amend the article. There being no further discussion, the Moderator stated Article 34 would be placed on the ballot.

The Moderator read Article 35 as written:

**ARTICLE 35:** Shall the Town vote to adopt an additional veteran's property tax credit which extends the current veteran's property tax credit of \$500 to all honorably discharged veterans in accordance with RSA 72:28-b, to be effective as of April 1, 2018?  
(Recommended by the Board of Selectmen by a vote of 2 to 1)

**Discussion:** Larry Routhier, 9 Sleeper Hill Rd., asked for an explanation. Dunn explained that if passed this article would extend the \$500 Veteran's Credit to all Veterans instead of Veterans that served during a specific timeframe. Sandy Perry, 28 Potter Hill Rd., asked what specific timeframe. Dunn replied according to state law and this change would allow it for any honorably discharged veteran. Perry spoke against the article if the Veteran did not have to be in combat as they already have benefits. There being no further discussion, the Moderator stated Article 35 would be placed on the ballot.

There being no further business the Moderator moved all warrant Articles to the town ballot for voting on March 13, 2018 from 7:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m. at the Gilford Youth Community Center on Potter Hill Rd. McGonagle stated that she had not intended to do any disservice to the Town and read the list of candidates running for the open positions on the school ballot as follows: School Board, Chris McDonough; School Treasurer, Dawn Scribner; School Moderator, Sandra McGonagle; School District Clerk, Kimberly Zyla. The Moderator thanked Town Clerk, Denise Gonyer and Scott Piddington, Technical Advisor from the Gilford High School for their service.

At 9:05 the Moderator asked for a motion to adjourn; motion by Skip Murphy, Seconded by Bruce Thurston.

Respectfully submitted,

Denise M. Gonyer, CMC  
Town Clerk – Tax Collector