



Action taken at the Annual Town Meeting held May 11, 2015 at the Belchertown High School Veterans' Auditorium

FY16

Moderator – Frances J. South

Meeting called to order 7:33PM

Registered voters present – 162 (Quorum requires 75)

The Clerk read the Warrant

Raymond J. Janke, III, Veterans' Agent led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance and the National Anthem was performed on the trumpet by Joseph Brozek of the Belchertown High School Band.

Selectman Ronald E. Aponte presented the Citizen of the Year Award to Paul McGrath.

Selectman George Archible presented the Volunteer of the Year Award to Vicki Martins-Auffrey.

Selectman Brenda Aldrich presented the Employee of the Year Award to Christine Vigneux.

Article 1 Voted to elect Paul Anziano and Ellen Lachance as Almoners of the Whiting Street and Mrs. Susan M.D. Bridgman Funds, each for one year; and Ken Snow as Trustee of the Calvin Bridgman Fund for a three year term.
(Vote – Unanimous Yes)

Article 2 Voted to accept the reports of the officers of the Town with the exception of the Finance Committee.
(Vote – Unanimous Yes)

Article 3 Voted to authorize the Assessors and the Board of Health members to appoint themselves to work in their various departments for the ensuing fiscal year, at hourly rates not exceeding the following:
➤ Assessors \$9.29
➤ Board of Health Members \$7.25
(Endorsed by Finance Committee 5-0-0 Yes)

Tom Barry, Board of Assessors, spoke against this article. Wages have not changed since 1990 and he is looking to increase the amount. He asked town meeting not to support this article.

(Vote – Majority No)

Article 4 Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$100.00 to be used by the Assessors for legal counsel in resolving court tax cases. (Endorsed by Finance Committee 5-0-0 Yes)
(Vote – Unanimous Yes)

Article 5 Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$30,000.00 to the Reserve Fund for use by the Finance Committee. (Endorsed by Finance Committee 5-0-0 Yes)
(Vote – Unanimous Yes)

Article 6 Voted to authorize the Board of Selectmen to apply for and accept funds from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Highway Improvement Program or any other state grant program for use on approved town ways. (Endorsed by Finance Committee 5-0-0 Yes)
(Vote – Unanimous Yes)

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Article 7 Voted to appropriate from the Sale of Cemetery Lots Account the sum of \$3,000.00 to the Cemetery Lot Development Account. (Endorsed by Finance Committee 5-0-0 Yes)
(Vote – Unanimous Yes)

Article 8 Voted to authorize the Board of Selectmen to apply for Massachusetts Small Cities Program or other Federal or State monies and to expend any monies received as set forth in the application following a public hearing. (Endorsed by Finance Committee 5-0-0 Yes)
(Vote – Unanimous Yes)

Article 9 Voted to fix the salaries and compensation of all elected officers of the Town, as provided for by Section 108 of Chapter 41 of the Massachusetts General Laws, as amended; to raise and appropriate or appropriate from available funds in the Treasury for departmental and incidental expenses of the Town for the ensuing fiscal year; and that the various major categories of the budget as contained in the Finance Committee’s report be considered separately and acted upon; and further that these sums of money granted and appropriated for the several specific purposes therein designated, be expended only for those purposes as specifically designated and under the direction of the respective officers, boards and committees of the Town. (Endorsed by Finance Committee 5-0-0 Yes)
(Vote – Unanimous Yes)

Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,825,889 for General Government, each item and amount recommended in the Finance Committee’s report being considered as a separate appropriation voted by Town Meeting. (Endorsed by Finance Committee 5-0-0 Yes)
(Vote – Unanimous Yes)

Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$2,997,215 and appropriate the sum of \$700,000 from the Ambulance Receipts Reserved for Appropriation Account, for a total appropriation of \$3,697,215 for Public Safety, each item and amount recommended in the Finance Committee’s report being considered as a separate appropriation voted by Town Meeting. (Endorsed by Finance Committee 5-0-0 Yes)
(Vote – Unanimous Yes)

Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$26,820,746, and appropriate from free cash in the Treasury the sum of \$293,246, for a total appropriation of \$27,113,992 for the Town School Department each item and amount recommended in the Finance Committee’s report being considered as a separate appropriation voted by Town Meeting. (Endorsed by Finance Committee 5-0-0 yes)
(Vote – Unanimous Yes)

Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,061,370 for the Pathfinder Regional Vocational Technical High School District, each item and amount recommended in the Finance Committee’s report being considered as a separate appropriation voted by Town Meeting. (Endorsed by Finance Committee 5-0-0 Yes)
(Vote – Unanimous Yes)

Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,706,458 for the DPW-Highways, each item and amount recommended in the Finance Committee's report being considered as a separate appropriation voted by Town Meeting. (Endorsed by Finance Committee 5-0-0 Yes)

(Vote – Unanimous Yes)

Voted to appropriate from Landfill receipts the sum of \$268,976 and appropriate from Landfill Enterprise free cash in the Treasury the sum of \$13,111 for a total appropriation of \$282,087 to the Landfill Enterprise Fund, each item and amount recommended in the Finance Committee's report being considered as a separate appropriation voted by Town Meeting. (Endorsed by Finance Committee 5-0-0 Yes)

(Vote – Unanimous Yes)

Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$152,512, appropriate from Sewer Enterprise free cash in the Treasury the sum of \$155,307 and appropriate from Sewer receipts the sum of \$1,452,300 for a total appropriation of \$1,760,119 to the Sewer Enterprise Fund, each item and amount recommended in the Finance Committee's report being considered as a separate appropriation voted by Town Meeting. (Endorsed by Finance Committee 5-0-0 Yes)

(Vote – Unanimous Yes)

Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$864,436 for the Human Services Departments, each item and amount recommended in the Finance Committee's report being considered as a separate appropriation voted by Town Meeting. (Endorsed by Finance Committee 5-0-0 Yes)

(Vote – Unanimous Yes)

Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$750,627 for Culture and Recreation Departments, each item and amount recommended in the Finance Committee's report being considered as a separate appropriation voted by Town Meeting. (Endorsed by Finance Committee 5-0-0 Yes)

(Vote – Unanimous Yes)

Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$748,165 for DPW Buildings and Grounds Departments, each item and amount recommended in the Finance Committee's report being considered as a separate appropriation voted by Town Meeting. (Endorsed by Finance Committee 5-0-0 Yes)

(Vote – Unanimous Yes)

Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$3,527,996, and appropriate from the Stabilization Fund the sum of \$300,000 for a total appropriation of \$3,827,996 to the Pensions and Insurance Accounts, each item and amount recommended in the Finance Committee's report being considered as a separate appropriation voted by Town Meeting. (Endorsed by Finance Committee 5-0-0 Yes)

(Vote – 2/3 Required – Passed by 2/3)

Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$56,123 to the Unclassified Accounts, each item and amount recommended in the Finance Committee's report being considered as a separate appropriation voted by Town Meeting. (Endorsed by Finance Committee 5-0-0 Yes)

(Vote – Unanimous Yes)

Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$2,592,461 for the Interest and Debt Accounts, each item and amount recommended in the Finance Committee's report being considered as a separate appropriation voted by Town Meeting. (Endorsed by Finance Committee 5-0-0 Yes)

(Vote – Unanimous Yes)

Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$3,750 for Hampshire Council of Governments, each item and amount recommended in the Finance Committee's report being considered as a separate appropriation voted by Town Meeting. (Endorsed by Finance Committee 5-0-0 Yes)

(Vote – Unanimous Yes)

Article 10 Voted to authorized the use of the following funds pursuant to MGL, Chapter 44, Section 53E ½ for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2014 to be credited with receipts from the following revenue sources, to be expended under the authority and the direction of the following agencies or officials, for the following purposes, not to exceed the following spending limits respectively.

Fund	Revenue Source	Authority to Spend Funds	Use of Funds	Spending Limit	Restrictions/ Comments
Senior Center Transportation Program	Receipts from said Transportation Program	Director of the Senior Center	Operation of Senior Center Transportation Program	\$25,000	None
Council on Aging Programs	Receipts from said Programs	Council on Aging	Operation of Council on Aging Programs	\$10,000	None
Firefighters' Protective Clothing & Equipment Purchase	Receipts from Open Air Burning Permit Fees	Fire Chief	Firefighters' Protective Clothing & Equipment Purchase & Maintenance	\$10,000	None
Town Beach Concession	Receipts from said Concession	Recreation Director	Operating Town Beach Concession	\$15,000	None
Operating Town Beach	Receipts from Daily & Seasonal Entrance Fees	Recreation Director	Operating Town Beach	\$50,000	None
Pool Programs	Receipts from said Programs	Recreation Director	Pool Programs	\$130,000	None
Tween and up Programs	Receipts from said Programs	Recreation Director	Tween and up programs	\$25,000	None
Witnessing and Documenting Percolation Tests	Receipts from said Witnessing and Documenting tests	Board of Health	Witnessing & Documenting Percolation Tests	\$15,000	None
Police Department Technology Fund	Receipts from Firearms License & FID Card Fees	Police Chief or his designee	Police Department Technology, Firearms Licensing & FID Card Fees	\$15,000	None
Transportation of pupils in Grades 7-12	Receipts from said Transportation	School Committee	Transportation of pupils in Grades 7-12	\$150,000	None

or take any other action relative thereto. (Endorsed by Finance Committee 5-0-0 Yes)

(Vote – Unanimous Yes)

Article 11

Voted to amend the Code of Belchertown, Chapter 91, Personnel, as previously amended, in the following prescribed manner.

In §91-6 Employee Benefits, B. Benefits, (12) Uniforms:

- **Remove** the following sentence from paragraph (a): Each mechanic in the Department of Public Works shall receive a mechanic’s tool allowance of \$150 per fiscal year.

In 91 Attachment 1, Appendix A, Town Classification-Compensation Plan:

- **Replace** Management, Administrative or Professional Exempt chart as follows:

Effective July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016

Director of Public Works	\$84,261 - \$107,563
Fire Chief	\$84,261 - \$107,563
Director of Information Technology	\$70,218 - \$89,636
Town Planner	\$70,218 - \$89,636
Town Treasurer-Collector	\$66,874 - \$85,368
Town Accountant	\$66,874 - \$85,368
Building Commissioner	\$66,874 - \$85,368
Director of Assessments	\$66,874 - \$85,368
Conservation Administrator	\$64,302 - \$82,084
Council on Aging Executive Director	\$64,302 - \$82,084
Director of Parks & Recreation	\$64,302 - \$82,084
Veterans’ Agent	\$61,829 - \$78,927

- **Under** Classified Nonexempt Employees:
- **Amend** the following title and grade:
 - Recreation Department Administrative Assistant, Grade 8 **to** Department Assistant II/Office Manager, Grade 6
- **Insert** new title and grade:
 - Technical Office Assistant/Program Manager, Grade 5
- **Under** Part-Time Employees, Annual Salary Schedule:

Amend the following:

- Electrical Inspector from \$25 per inspection to \$30 per inspection
- Plumbing Inspector from \$25 per inspection to \$30 per inspection
- Gas Inspector from \$25 per inspection to \$30 per inspection
- Assistant Building Inspector from \$25 per inspection to \$30 per inspection

In 91 Attachment 1, Appendix B – Weekly Salary Schedule for Classified Employees:

- **Remove** the compensation chart effective July 1, 2014 through June 30, 2015, and insert the following chart:

Effective July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016

Grade	Step 1	Step 2	Step 3	Step 4	Step 5	Step 6	Step 7	Step 8	Step 9	Step 10
1	10.97	11.27	11.57	11.89	12.21	12.56	12.90	13.25	13.62	13.99
2	14.25	14.64	15.05	15.46	15.89	16.32	16.77	17.23	17.71	18.20
3	16.39	16.84	17.30	17.78	18.27	18.77	19.29	19.82	20.36	20.92
4	18.84	19.36	19.89	20.44	21.00	21.59	22.19	22.79	23.42	24.05
5	20.74	21.30	21.89	22.49	23.10	23.75	24.40	25.06	25.77	26.47

6	22.81	23.43	24.07	24.75	25.42	26.11	26.84	27.57	28.33	29.11
7	25.08	25.78	26.48	27.21	27.96	28.72	29.52	30.32	31.16	32.03
8	26.09	26.81	27.54	28.29	29.08	29.88	30.70	31.55	32.41	33.30
9	27.13	27.89	28.64	29.44	30.24	31.08	31.93	32.80	33.71	34.64
10	29.03	29.82	30.65	31.50	32.35	33.25	34.17	35.10	36.07	37.06

or take any other action relative thereto.

(Vote – Unanimous Yes)

Article 12 Voted to appropriate the sum of \$100,000 from the Stabilization Fund to purchase and equip a dump truck for the Department of Public Works. (Endorsed by Finance Committee 5-0-0 Yes)
(2/3 required - Vote – 2/3 Yes)

Article 13 Voted to authorize the Board of Selectmen to enter into lease/purchase agreements of up to five years for Department of Public Works vehicle leases. (Endorsed by Finance Committee 5-0-0 Yes)
(Vote – Unanimous Yes)

Article 14 Voted to appropriate the sum of \$37,000 from the Stabilization Fund for roof and drain repairs at Jabish Brook Middle School. (Endorsed by Finance Committee 5-0-0 Yes)
(2/3 required - Vote – 2/3 Yes)

Article 15 Voted to accept MGL 54, §16A, which provides that if the warden, clerk, or inspector, or the deputy of any such officer, if any, is not present at the opening of the polls, the Town Clerk may appoint a person to fill such vacancy who shall be an enrolled voter of the same political party as the absent officer, if any competent person enrolled in such party is present and willing to service.
(Vote – Unanimous Yes)

Article 16 Voted to authorize the Board of Selectmen to enter into a lease/purchase agreement of up to four years for an AFIS finger printer for the Police Department.
(Vote – Unanimous Yes)

Article 17 Voted to amend the Code of Belchertown, as previously amended, by adding a chapter entitled “Motorboats” as printed below and to authorize the Town Clerk to assign a chapter number and internal numbering consistent with the Code.

**CHAPTER xxx
MOTORBOATS**

§ xxx-1. Authority

This chapter is adopted as authorized by G.L. c. 90B, § 15, which permits municipal regulation of motorboats on the waters of the Commonwealth by a bylaw, subject to the approval of said bylaw by the Director of the Office of Law Enforcement of the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs.

§ xxx-2. Purpose

- A. The purpose of this chapter is to protect the public health and safety of persons using the lakes, ponds, and rivers 10 acres or more in size within the Town, by requiring the safe operation of motorboats on those water bodies. The chapter seeks to ensure that motorboats are operated in a safe and courteous manner that respects other uses of those waterbodies and avoids the risk of injury to persons or property.
- B. The requirements of this chapter are in addition to, and are to applied in a manner consistent with, the requirements of other federal and state statutes and regulations pertaining to the operation of motorboats on public water bodies in the Town, including 33 U.S.C §§2001-2073 and 33 CFR Part 83, and G.L. c. 90B, §§ 1-19 and 323 CMR 2.01-2.15.

§ xxx-3. Definitions

For purposes of this chapter, the following definitions shall apply (see 323 CMR 2.02 for additional definitions):

HEADWAY SPEED: The minimum speed at which a vessel may be operated and maintain steerage way, but not to exceed six miles per hour.

MOTORBOAT: Any vessel propelled by machinery, whether or not such machinery is the principal source of propulsion.

§ xxx-4. Operation of Motorboats

A. General Requirements

- 1. Operators of motorboats must proceed in a safe and courteous manner, always keep a proper lookout, and maintain safe speed.
- 2. No person shall operate a motorboat at a speed greater than is reasonable and proper, having regard to the lives and safety of the public; the state of visibility; the traffic density; the maneuverability of the vessel; the state wind, water, and current; and the proximity of navigational hazards. In no case shall a person operate a motorboat at a rate of speed exceeding 35 miles per hour, unless otherwise specified herein.
- 3. Motorboats shall give the right of way to any oar-propelled boat, any boat proceeding under sail, and/or any anchored vessel.
- 4. Motorboats meeting head-on on opposite courses shall be operated as to pass each other on the left or port side. When boats approach each other obliquely, or at right angles, the boat approaching on the right has the right of way.
- 5. No motorboat shall be operated at a speed creating an excessive wash or wake so as to interfere with the operation of other water craft, to endanger swimmers or damage property and the lake shore. The wake should not rock excessively other boats, docks, etc. The wake is considered a part of the boat and the operator is responsible for any interference, damage or injury caused by the wake.
- 6. No person shall operate a motorboat while under the influence of alcohol or drugs.
- 7. Motorboats are not allowed to operate on any water bodies under 15 acres in area.

8. Motorboats are not allowed to operate on Lake Arcadia at a speed in excess of 10 miles per hour.

B. Minimum Distance for Operation

1. Motorboats shall not be operated (a) at a distance of less than 150 feet of shoreline which is being used as a swimming area, whether public or private, or (b) within 75 feet of the boundary of a public or private swimming beach, if designated by markers, floats, or otherwise.

C. Operation at Headway Speed

1. No person shall operate a motorboat at a rate of speed in excess of Headway Speed:
 - a. when leaving the shore, or approaching a landing place.
 - b. at a distance of less than 150 feet from any marina, boat launching facility, canoe, kayak, raft, float, or swimmer.
 - c. at a distance of less than 300 feet of a shoreline being used as a swimming area or bathing beach, whether public or private.
 - d. when the operator's vision is obscured by a bridge, a bend or curve in the waterway, or any other reason.

D. Water-Skiing

1. Any motorboat towing a person or persons on water-skis or aquaplane shall be occupied by at least two persons age twelve or older, one of whom shall give full attention to the operation of the boat, and the other shall give full attention to the safety of the person or persons being towed.
2. The length of the ski-rope shall not exceed 75 feet.
3. Water-skiing is prohibited between sunset and sunrise.

E. Littering and control of vegetation

1. Littering or throwing trash from a boat into a waterbody is prohibited.
2. Weeds and vegetation must be cleaned off engine propellers, trailers, and boat exteriors before launching motorboats, and cleaned off again when leaving the waterbody. Weeds shall be disposed of in trash barrels or on dry land away from the waterbody.

§ xxx-5. Use of Winter Recreational Vehicles on Frozen Waterbodies.

- A. No person shall operate a winter recreational vehicle on a frozen waterbody, over 10 acres in size, unless the ice has a thickness of at least six inches.
- B. No person shall operate a winter recreational vehicle on a frozen waterbody, over 10 acres in size, within 150 feet of an occupied residence without the permission of the owner or tenant of such

residence, except in cases of emergency or when directly departing from or returning to such residence.

§ xxx-6. Enforcement

- A. The provisions of this chapter shall be enforced by the Town Police and by the Board of Selectmen and its agents or designees, which may issue violation notices and enforcement orders, and may pursue all civil and criminal remedies for such violations.
- B. A person violating any of the provisions of this chapter or an order issued thereunder shall be subject to a fine not exceeding \$50 dollars for each such violation.
- C. As an alternative to criminal prosecution or civil action, the Town may elect to utilize the non-criminal disposition procedure set forth in G.L. Ch. 40, §21D and Article II, Section 1-2 of the Town Bylaws, in which case the enforcing person shall be any Town police officer or the Board of Selectmen and its agents or designees. For non-criminal disposition, the penalty shall be \$50 for each violation. Each day or part thereof that such violation occurs or continues shall constitute a separate offense, or take any other action relative thereto.

Motion was made for a hand count. Vote – Unanimous Yes
(Vote – 80 Yes, 38 No – Majority Yes)

A motion was made to reconsider Article 3
(Vote – 74 Yes, 45 No – 2/3 required - did not pass)

Article 18 Voted to appropriate from the Community Preservation Fund estimated annual revenues the sum of \$5,000 for the administrative expenses of the Committee in FY 2016; and that the Town reserve for future appropriation from the Community Preservation Fund estimated annual revenues the amounts recommended by the Community Preservation Committee, with each item to be considered a separate reserve:

- \$28,047 from FY 2016 Community Preservation Fund revenues for Open Space
- \$28,047 from FY 2016 Community Preservation Fund revenues for Historic Resources
- \$28,047 from FY 2016 Community Preservation Fund revenues for Community Housing.

And to appropriate and transfer \$50,500 from the Community Preservation Fund Balance to pay the debt service on the bonds issued under Article 26 at the May 10, 2010 Annual Town Meeting,

And to appropriate and transfer \$35,700 from the Community Preservation Fund Balance to pay the debt service on the bonds issued under Article 29 of the May 14, 2012 Annual Town Meeting.

And further to appropriate and transfer \$40,400 from the Community Preservation Fund Balance to pay the debt service on the bonds issued under Article 33 of the May 14, 2012 Annual Town Meeting.

(Vote Unanimous – Yes)

Article 19 Voted to appropriate and transfer \$3,500 from the Reserve for Historic resources for the preservation of historic tax records dating from 1862 – 1930 by microfilming the same, with such funds to be expended under the direction of the Board of Selectmen. (Endorsed by Community Preservation Committee 6-0-0 Yes)

Motion made to amend this article, changing Board of Selectmen to Board of Assessors. (Vote Majority No)

(Vote Majority – Yes)

Article 20 Voted to appropriate and transfer \$7,750 from the Reserve for Historic Resources for the rehabilitation and preservation of the historic South Cemetery, Hillcrest Cemetery, and Evergreen Cemetery by installing new concrete bounds through the process of field measurements and verifications, mapping, identification of plot locations, excavations, removal of old bounds, and related tasks, with such funds to be expended under the direction of the Director of the Department of Public Works. (Endorsed by Community Preservation Committee 6-0-0 Yes)

(Vote Unanimous Yes)

Article 21 Voted to appropriate and transfer \$4,900 from the Reserve for Historic Resources for the restoration of the historic gravestones at the Rural Cemetery, with such funds to be expended under the direction of the Veterans Graves Officer. (Endorsed by Community Preservation Committee 6-0-0 Yes)

(Vote Unanimous Yes)

Article 22 Voted to appropriate and transfer \$23,441 from the Reserve for Open Space for the purpose of granting the same to Kestrel Land Trust to accept, monitor, and enforce the terms of conservation restrictions to be granted by the Town to Kestrel Land Trust on Town-owned properties acquired with the use of CPA funds. (Endorsed by Community Preservation Committee 6-0-0 Yes)

(Vote – Unanimous Yes)

Article 23 Voted to appropriate and transfer \$30,122 from the Community Preservation Fund balance for the creation, preservation, and rehabilitation of recreational facilities at the Skate Park by designing and constructing a new skate park at the existing skate park location, with such funds to be expended under the direction of the Skate Park Committee. (Endorsed by Community Preservation Committee 6-0-0 Yes)

(Vote – Majority Yes)

Article 24 Voted to appropriate and transfer \$26,000 from the Community Preservation Fund Balance for the rehabilitation and restoration of the historic Clapp Memorial Library, on which the Town holds a historic preservation restriction, by restoring the elevator to working order and making such changes to the Library as required to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act, with said funds to be granted pursuant to a grant agreement entered into with the Clapp Memorial Library; and authorize the Board of Selectmen, in consultation with the Historic District Commission and the Community Preservation Committee, to enter into said grant agreement to set forth the terms and conditions on which such funds may be expended. (Endorsed by Community Preservation Committee 6-0-0 Yes)

(Vote – Unanimous Yes)

Article 25 Voted to appropriate and transfer \$49,495 from the Community Preservation Fund Balance for the creation and rehabilitation of Jessica’s Boundless Playground, such funds to be used to prepare the recreational land and equip and install recreational facilities thereon, with such funds to be expended under the direction of the School Committee. (Endorsed by Community Preservation Committee 6-0-0 Yes)
(Vote – Unanimous Yes)

Article 26 Voted to appropriate and transfer \$12,500 from the Reserve for Historic Resources, and appropriate and transfer \$12,500 from the Community Preservation Fund Balance, for a total appropriation of \$25,000, said funds to be used for the rehabilitation of the historic Hope United Methodist Church, on which the Town holds a historic preservation restriction, by making improvements to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act and other federal, state and/or local building or access codes, with said funds to be granted pursuant to a grant agreement entered into with the Hope United Methodist Church, and to authorize the Board of Selectmen, in consultation with the Historic District Commission and the Community Preservation Committee, to enter into said grant agreement to set forth the terms and conditions under which such funds may be expended. (Endorsed by Community Preservation Committee 6-0-0 Yes)
(Vote – Unanimous Yes)

Article 27 Voted to appropriate and transfer \$218,000 from the Reserve for Community Housing for the acquisition of an affordable housing restriction on 43 units in the proposed Assisted Living facility to be built on the former BSS campus, which 43 units shall be occupied by persons having incomes not in excess of 80% of the area median income, with said funds to be granted pursuant to a grant agreement, and authorize the Board of Selectmen to enter into said grant agreement to set forth the terms and conditions on which the funds may be expended, and accept said affordable housing restriction on such terms and conditions as the Board deems appropriate, which restriction shall be enforceable by the Town for a period of 80 years. (Endorsed by Community Preservation Committee 6-0-0 Yes)
(Vote – Unanimous Yes)

Article 28 **CITIZEN PETITION: - Non-binding**

Voted to direct the Belchertown Conservation Commission (BCC) to publicly review the priorities for Commission practice that were provided in the enabling legislation for the formation of the BCC, MGL Chapter 40, Section 8c, (“for the *promotion and development of the natural resources and for the protection of watershed resources* of said city or town.”), to gather or develop definitions for these duties as needed, to rank actions needed for these mandates citing authority for and limitations to steps to be taken by the BCC with particular regard to the expected benefits to the Town of limitations of proactivity, and to seek Town Meeting approval of the proposed steps,

Or take any other action relative thereto.
(Vote – Majority – Yes)

Article 29 **CITIZEN PETITION: - Non-binding**

Voted to direct the Belchertown Conservation Commission (BCC) to publicly review the definition of the term “Conservation” currently in use, see MGL Chapter 40, Section 8c, and to direct the BCC to suggest changes to this definition as the current and projected needs to the community develop, and to publicly officially amend this definition,

or take any other action relative thereto.

After much discussion a motion was made to move the question.

(2/3 required - Vote – Unanimous – Yes)

A vote then was taken on Article 29.

(Vote – Majority – No)

Meeting adjourned at 9:25PM

Attest:

Colleen K. Toothill-Berte

Town Clerk