

TOWN OF CARROLL

DELIBERATIVE SESSION MEETING MINUTES

FEBRUARY 2, 2010

Moderator Ben Jellison called the meeting to order at 6:38 PM with the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag and a moment of silence for our friends and neighbors who had passed away in the past year.

Mr. Jellison introduced himself and went over ground rules for this session and reminded everyone that the next session will be Tuesday, March 9, 2010; polls open 8:00 AM to 6:00 PM. He introduced Selectmen Chris Hancock, Bonnie Moroney, and Ken Mills, Town Counsel Jae Whitelaw, Town Clerk Becki Pederson, Administrative Assistant Maryclare Quigley, Fire Chief Jeff Duncan, Police Chief John Trammell, Road Agent Bill Rines, and Budget Committee members Tom Gately, Lori Hogan, Jim Covey, Mike Shea, Carmine Fabrizio.

Mr. Jellison explained that all amendments must be in writing, with wording exactly as would be voted on. He said a request for a secret ballot vote must be in writing with signatures of five registered voters, and must be received before a vote is called for from the floor. He stated that each warrant article does not need a vote. If there are no amendments to an article, at the conclusion of any discussion, we will move on to the next article.

Article 1. Election of Town Officers

Selectman:	Three year term	Mark G. Catalano Kenneth D. Mills
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Moderator:	Two year term	Benjamin Jellison
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Treasurer:	One year term	Susan Kraabel
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Supervisor of Check List:	Six year term	Sabrina Rines
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Trustee of Trust Funds:	Three year term	Ann Fabrizio
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Library Trustee:	Three year term	Georgia Brodeur
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Cemetery Trustee:	Three year term	Roberta McGee
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Article 1 will appear as written on the official ballot.

**PLANNING BOARD ARTICLES FOR 2010 WARRANT
(TOWN OF CARROLL)**

Article 2. Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 1 as proposed by the Planning Board for the town zoning ordinance as follows: add definitions for the following terms: condominium; dwelling, two-family; dwelling multi-family; dwelling unit; junkyard; lot, corner; motor home; and amend the definition of “dwelling.”

The full text of the amendment is available for review at the Town Office.

John Birknes, Chairman of the Planning Board, said this article is a result of a request from Stan Borkowski, Building Inspector and Code Enforcement Officer, as he was concerned about some of the definitions in our Ordinance. The new definitions were sent for review to Town Counsel and have been approved.

Article 2 will appear as written on the official ballot.

Article 3. Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 2 as proposed by the Planning Board for the town zoning ordinance, as follows: delete the commercial removal of topsoil, sand, gravel and rock as permitted uses and replace with excavation as a permitted use in the Residential (Bretton Woods), Industrial and Rural districts by special exception; add definitions relating to excavations; and appoint the ZBA as the regulating body for excavation permits.

The full text of the amendment is available for review at the Town Office.

Mr. Birknes said one reason for this article is that a committee asked the Planning Board for clarification on definitions related to dirt removal. In addition the Planning Board would like the Zoning Board of Appeals appointed to be the regulator of excavation projects. State statute (RSA 155-E) says if Town Meeting doesn't vote to appoint a regulator, it is the Planning Board. He explained that our Ordinance was written shortly before the state statute was put in place, Town Counsel has said that legally, the Planning Board is our regulator. He explained that most of the time excavation projects need a variance or special exception and the ZBA would address all the terms of 155-E, and if this amendment does not pass, an applicant would in essence have two regulators. Donna Foster, PB member, pointed out that the Board recommendation of this article was not unanimous. She feels there should be a dual system. She said any excavation would need a site plan review, which is a Planning Board function.

Article 3 will appear as written on the official ballot.

Article 4. Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 3 as proposed by the Planning Board for the town zoning ordinance, as follows: delete the provisions of Section 704.3 regarding the ZBA's grant of variances and replace with new language that is consistent with new statutory law.

The full text of the amendment is available for review at the Town Office.

Article 4 will appear as written on the official ballot.

Article 5. 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 sum of \$1,701,196 (One Million Seven Hundred One Thousand One Hundred Ninety Six Dollars)? **Recommended by the Budget Committee.**

Should this article be defeated; the operating budget shall be \$1,924,219 (One Million Nine Hundred Twenty Four Thousand Two Hundred Nineteen Dollars) which is the same as last year, with certain adjustments required by previous action of the Town or by law; or the governing body 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.

Lori Hogan, Budget Committee member, gave a slide presentation of the operating budget. She said at the Public Hearing in January, they went through line by line of the amounts that make up the MS-7 report to the state. Ms. Hogan said it will be this report that can be amended at tonight's meeting, not the individual lines. She explained that there are no employee pay increases in the budget and no new employees, although realignment of positions include 1 part time clerical person for water, and 1 highway person is now categorized as ½ highway, ½ water. She noted that the health insurance option for 2010 will reduce costs. Looking at a Budget Summary, the committee is recommending an operating budget that is 10% lower than the 2009 budget, and when anticipated revenue estimates were applied, is 12.9% lower than last year. Ms. Hogan pointed out that no money was put into Capital Reserve Funds last year, and that in order to not get caught short in future years, we need to get back to funding these accounts. Therefore, the committee is recommending the warrant articles that will add \$355,464 to the CRF's. She said the committee is also recommending the warrant articles that ask to spend \$167,644 from current CRF balances. The net result of the recommendations for the operating budget and warrant articles is a .7% increase from last year. We would be saving on operating to allow spending on warrant articles. Basically the tax rate would remain flat. Evan Karpf made a motion seconded by Lee Hallquist, to amend Article 5 to have an operating budget in the amount of \$1,531,076 (One Million Five Hundred Thirty-One Thousand Seventy Six Dollars). Joan Karpf, in accordance with RSA 40:4-A, requested a secret ballot on this amendment, and had 5 signatures which were validated by the town clerk. Al Strasser showed graphs pertaining to the historical rise in our operating budgets and various comparisons with other towns our size and up to 1,500 people. He said our employee costs are too high and we need to cut our budget by \$400,000. Mr. Catalano said he'd like more than a 10% reduction of spending, as he's had to reduce his business costs by 35% in light of the economy. Owen McQueeney asked if the warrant article for \$40,000 for engineering related to the water system would be paid for by all residents or just the water users, and was told it would be all taxpayers paying. When asked how he arrived at his number, Dr. Karpf said they went line by line through the budget, but did not have the detail with him. There were other town comparisons mentioned. Comments were made about the current economy affecting people's ability to pay their taxes and the need to keep

spending in check, but also that the town had ignored things in the past that can't be ignored forever. Comments were made about all the anonymous emails and secret meetings going on around town, and the fact that some people involved were not willing to work with the budget committee. Mr. Jellison said voting by secret ballot would begin and explained how to cast a vote. Votes cast: 42 Yes, 57 No The amendment failed to pass.

Article 5 will appear as written on the official ballot.

Article 6. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$40,000 (Forty Thousand Dollars) to pay for Preliminary Engineering Report(data assembly and review, site visit/ existing conditions survey, evaluation of alternatives related to - new well location-well head protection-water line extensions), Environmental Report, RDA Application Assistance, Hydraulic Modeling of the Storage and Distribution System, Base Map of the System: and Draft and Final Deliverables. This is a significant project that will identify planning for water system improvements. **Recommended by the Selectmen and by the Budget Committee.**
\$.11 impact on tax rate.

It was reiterated that the taxpayers would pay for this report which would cover the current Twin Mountain water system only. Ms. Foster said that while she appreciates the Bretton Woods owners' help wherever possible, that if a new well is put in, the water users would pay for it. Sharon Savoy commented that we're all one town, and pointed out that there are many taxpayers in town that don't have children, yet we all pay towards the school system. Mr. Strasser stated that the only place we can impact the tax rate is in the town budget – the school and county are out of our control.

Article 6 will appear as written on the official ballot.

Article 7. To see if the town will vote to authorize the Select Board to enter into a four year lease agreement for the rental of the Police Department . This will make for stability for having a guaranteed 4 year location, cost savings, and less restrictions. **Recommended by the Selectmen and by the Budget Committee.**

Ms. Hogan stated that if we had a four year lease, there would be no increase in rent this year and it would only be increased for inflation.

Article 7 will appear as written on the official ballot.

Article 8. Shall we rescind the provisions of RSA 31:95-c to restrict revenues from recreations fees to expenditures for the purpose of recreation, in accordance with RSA 31:95-d? Any funds plus accumulated interest to date will be placed in the town's general fund. **Recommended by the Selectmen and by the Budget Committee.**

The purpose of this article is to close the Recreation Department Special Revenue Fund and place the money in the General Fund so that it can be then put into the Revolving Fund that was established at last year's Town Meeting. Bonnie Moroney made a motion to amend the article in order to clarify the issue. It was seconded and passed.

Article 8 will appear as amended on the official ballot.

Amended Article 8. Shall we rescind the provisions of RSA 31:95-c to restrict revenues from recreations fees to expenditures for the purpose of recreation, in accordance with RSA 31:95-d? Any funds plus accumulated interest to date will be placed in the town's general fund. These funds represent the \$3,435 proposed appropriation to the Recreation Revolving fund in article 9. **Recommended by the Selectmen and by the Budget Committee.**

Article 9. To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate \$3,435.00 (Three Thousand Four Hundred Thirty Five Dollars) to be placed in the previously established Recreation Revolving Fund; these funds represent the amount from the dissolution of the Recreation Special Revenue Fund established in 2004, Warrant Article 16. No money will be raised from new taxation. **Recommended by Selectmen and by the Budget Committee.**

Article 9 will appear as written on the official ballot.

Article 10. To see if the Town will vote to approve leaving the Town of Carroll Chamber of Commerce on the town budget. If this is passed, the Chamber would continue to present a yearly budget to the Select Board and Budget Committee. If this does not pass, effective 2011, the Chamber of Commerce would present a yearly Warrant Article for the funds they are requesting. **Recommended by the Selectmen and by the Budget Committee.**

It was stated that a yes vote on this article will keep funds in the operating budget for the Chamber of Commerce. Jim Covey read a list of 15 items of community involvement by the Chamber in 2009. Highlights were the new brochures, the information booth, July 4th fireworks and the music series. He encouraged people to leave money in the budget for the Chamber.

Article 10 will appear as written on the official ballot.

Article 11. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$15,000 (Fifteen Thousand Dollars) to be placed in the Municipal Truck Capital Reserve Fund. **Recommended by the Selectmen and by the Budget Committee. \$.04 impact on tax rate.**

Article 11 will appear as written on the official ballot.

Article 12. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$18,000 (Eighteen Thousand Dollars) to be placed in the Police Cruiser Capital Reserve Fund. **Recommended by the Selectmen and by the Budget Committee. \$.05 impact on tax rate.**

Article 12 will appear as written on the official ballot.

Article 13. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$10,000 (Ten Thousand Dollars) to be placed in the Highway Equipment Capital Reserve Fund. **Recommended by the Selectmen and by the Budget Committee. \$.03 impact on tax rate.**

Article 13 will appear as written on the official ballot.

Article 14. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$2,000 (Two Thousand Dollars) to be placed in the Computer Technology Capital Reserve Fund. **Not recommended by the Selectmen and by the Budget Committee. \$.01 impact on tax rate.**

The Selectmen stated that with the amount of money already in the fund, they did not feel a need to increase it, and thus did not recommend the article.

Article 14 will appear as written on the official ballot.

Article 15. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$2,000 (Two Thousand Dollars) to be placed in the Library Improvement Capital Reserve Fund. **Not recommended by the Selectmen and by the Budget Committee. \$.01 impact on tax rate.**

When the Selectmen and Budget Committee were considering their recommendations, they were not aware of the intentions of the Library Trustees. It was suggested to Claire Gritzer that the trustees get a cost for the shelving they want, and consider presenting a warrant article for next year if there is not enough in the Capital Reserve Fund.

Article 15 will appear as written on the official ballot.

Article 16. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$10,000 (Ten Thousand Dollars) to be placed in the Landfill Closure Capital Reserve Fund. **Recommended by the Selectmen and by the Budget Committee. \$.03 impact on tax rate.**

Article 16 will appear as written on the official ballot.

Article 17. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$10,000 (Ten Thousand Dollars) to be placed in the Road Improvements Capital Reserve Fund. **Recommended by the Selectmen and by the Budget Committee. \$.03 impact on tax rate.**

Article 17 will appear as written on the official ballot.

Article 18. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$30,000 (Thirty Thousand Dollars) to be placed in the New Land & Building Capital Reserve Fund. **Recommended by the**

Selectmen and by the Budget Committee. \$.08 impact on tax rate.

At this point, Ms. Hogan again urged the voters to pass the warrant articles to fund Capital Reserve Funds. An even flow of money into these funds will help prevent tax rate spikes in the future.

Article 18 will appear as written on the official ballot.

Article 19. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Carroll Conservation Commission to retain the unexpended portion of its 2010 appropriations as authorized by RSA 36-A:5, said funds to be placed in a conservation fund account held by the municipal Treasurer (RSA41:29). **Recommended by the Selectmen and by the Budget Committee.**

Article 19 will appear as written on the official ballot.

Article 20. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$38,000 (Thirty Eight Thousand Dollars) to purchase a new police cruiser and to authorize the withdrawal of \$25,000 (Twenty Five Thousand Dollars) from the Police Cruiser Capital Reserve Fund created in 1981 with the remaining \$13,000 (Thirteen Thousand Dollars) to come from general taxation. **Recommended by the Selectmen and by the Budget Committee. \$.04 impact on tax rate.**

Sgt. Bill Smalley stated they don't intend to add a third vehicle to the cruiser count, but rather will replace the Tahoe.

Article 20 will appear as written on the official ballot.

Article 21. To see if the Town will vote to change the name of the Water Improvement Capital Reserve Fund to the Water Department Capital Reserve Fund and further to expand the purpose of the fund to include improvements and emergency repairs to the water system and the purchase of vehicles and equipment for use by the Water Department, and further to appoint the Board of Selectmen as agents to expend from the fund. (Majority 2/3 vote needed.). **Recommended by the Selectmen and by the Budget Committee.**

Lee Hallquist asked if this article would allow the Selectmen to buy a vehicle for the water department without Town Meeting vote, and was told yes. This led to Mr. McQueeney making a motion to delete the purchase of vehicles from the article. It was seconded but failed to pass. Ken Mills made a motion to exclude the purchase of vehicles but allow emergency repairs to vehicles. This motion was seconded and passed.

Article 21 will appear as amended on the official ballot.

Amended Article 21. To see if the Town will vote to change the name of the Water Improvement Capital Reserve Fund to the Water Department Capital Reserve Fund and further

to expand the purpose of the fund to include improvements and emergency repairs to the water system, emergency repairs to vehicles and equipment and the purchase of equipment for use by the Water Department, and further to appoint the Board of Selectmen as agents to expend from the fund. (Majority 2/3 vote needed.). **Recommended by the Selectmen and by the Budget Committee.**

Article 22. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$9,500 (Nine Thousand Five Hundred Dollars) from water revenues to be placed in the Water Department Capital Reserve Fund. If the name change is not approved by vote in previous article, above named amount to be placed in the Water Improvement Capital Reserve Fund. No money will be raised from new taxation. **Recommended by the Selectmen and by the Budget Committee.**

Article 22 will appear as written on the official ballot.

Article 23. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$57,000 (Fifty Seven Thousand Dollars) for the purpose of purchasing a dump truck with plow and sander for the Highway Department, and further, to authorize the withdrawal of that entire sum from the Highway Capital Reserve Fund created in 1980, with no amount to be raised from new taxation. **Recommended by the Selectmen and by the Budget Committee.**

Article 23 will appear as written on the official ballot.

Article 24. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$4,000 (Four Thousand Dollars) to fund the Planning Board, Zoning Board of Appeals, and Zoning Enforcement Officer duties and further to authorize the withdrawal of such amount from the Planning Special Revenue Fund established in 2006, for that purpose. No money will be raised from new taxation. **Recommended by the Selectmen and by the Budget Committee.**

Article 24 will appear as written on the official ballot.

Article 25. To see if the Town will vote to change the name of the fund created in 2001 Warrant Article 11 and amended in 2007 Warrant Article 20, from Recycling Equipment Special Revenue Fund to Recycling Special Revenue Fund. Also to expand the purpose of the fund to be expended for a specific purpose related to the fund or source of revenue or for the purpose of reducing the principal of the Recycling Transfer Station Bond obligation approved in 2003. (Majority 2/3 vote needed). . **Recommended by the Selectmen and by the Budget Committee.**

Bill Dowling said this fund was set up to be used for equipment and he thinks it should be left alone. Ms. Hogan stated that all the money collected from the recycling center goes into this fund and there is approximately \$90,000 in the account. She said none of this money is used to

run the transfer station; all the costs are funded by taxation, and for this year would like to give the taxpayers a break by passing this article and Article 26.

Article 25 will appear as written on the official ballot.

Article 26. To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$30,000 (Thirty Thousand Dollars) for the purpose of paying off a portion of the principle of the bond approved at the 2003 Town Meeting to build the transfer/recycling station, and to authorize the withdrawal of that entire sum from the Recycling Special Revenue Fund established by the 2001 Town Meeting for that purpose. No money will be raised from new taxation. **Recommended by the Selectmen and by the Budget Committee.**

Mr. Dowling said he wants to save our children/grandchildren from having to pay for new equipment. He cited the original costs of several pieces of equipment used at the recycling center and the significantly higher costs of these items now. He'd like to leave the money in the account.

Article 26 will appear as written on the official ballot.

Article 27. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum up to Eighteen Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$18,500) for the purchase of one outdoor UL2200 emergency generator, installation, and outside cement pad, to be installed at the Town of Carroll Town Hall. This constitutes one half of the cost which will be covered by a grant. The remaining half will be covered through validated donations of, but not limited to, time, materials, and money. This will be purchased only if the grant is approved. No money from new taxation. **Recommended by the Selectmen and by the Budget Committee.**

Using language recommended by the New Hampshire DRA, Selectman Moroney made a motion to amend the article to include the full amount. The motion was seconded and passed. It was stated that the generator will only be purchased if we get grant money.

Article 27 will appear as amended on the official ballot.

Amended Article 27. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of up to Thirty Seven Thousand Dollars (\$37,000) for the purchase and installation of one outdoor UL2200 emergency generator, to be installed at the Town of Carroll Town Hall of which up to One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000) is to come from general taxation and the remaining Thirty Six Thousand Dollars (\$36,000) from grants, donations (both monetary and in-kind) or other sources, and further to authorize the Selectmen to apply for, accept and expend grants or other funds that are available for such purposes. **Recommended by the Selectmen and by the Budget Committee.**

Article 28. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$14,000.00 (Fourteen Thousand Dollars) for the 2010 tipping of bulky waste and construction debris and the removal of tires, freon, propane tanks, electronics, florescent light bulbs and antifreeze and further to authorize the withdrawal of that entire sum from the Recycling Special Revenue Fund established at the 2001 Town Meeting for this purpose. No amount to be raised from taxation. **Recommended by the Selectmen and by the Budget Committee.**

Article 28 will appear as written on the official ballot.

Article 29. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$25,000.00 (Twenty Five Thousand Dollars) to purchase a glass crusher for the Transfer and Recycling Center. This appropriation will be raised from the Recycling Special Revenue Fund. No money will be raised from new taxation. **Recommended by the Selectmen and by the Budget Committee.**

Mr. Dowling said we currently take our glass to the Littleton Transfer station at a cost of \$20/ton plus \$250 trucking, and it will go to \$40/ton plus trucking this year. He said we could use the crushed glass for highway department drainage, under roads and sidewalks, etc. When asked how long it would take to amortize the cost of this purchase, Ms. Hogan said it would be 19 ½ years.

Article 29 will appear as written on the official ballot.

Article 30. To see if the Town will vote to establish the hours at the Transfer Station year round **with no additional cost to the tax rate** as follow:

Tuesday	11:00 AM – 4:00 PM
Thursday	11:00 AM – 6:00 PM
Saturday	9:00 AM – 4:00 PM

Recommended by the Selectmen.

Mr. Dowling pointed out that most of the holidays are Monday, so the transfer station is then open on Tuesday anyway. He said he’s also talked to Northeast Resource Recovery about possibly making us a consolidation center and the above change would facilitate that.

Article 30 will appear as written on the official ballot.

Article 31. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the establishment and implementation of a mandatory Pay-Per-Bag System at the Transfer Station, with the revenue generated to be used to off-set the cost of solid waste disposal and reduce the tax rate accordingly, and furthermore to adopt the provisions of RSA 41:9-a, Establishment of Fees. **Recommended by the Selectmen.**

Mr. Covey spoke to encourage voters to vote no on this article. He said the economy is such that residents and businesses don’t need another fee. Mr. Dowling said the tonnage going to the Bethlehem landfill goes up each year and if they close and we have to truck garbage to Berlin,

the fees will probably more than double. The 33 gallon bags would cost \$1.50 and 16 gallon bags would be \$.75. It was stated that our Town Aid program would cover the cost for those who cannot afford the bags. Both Mr. Mills and Mr. Covey felt that a stronger effort to encourage recycling should be done first.

Article 31 will appear as written on the official ballot.

Article 32. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,000.00 (One Thousand Dollars) for maintenance of the old landfill. This includes needs for actual physical maintenance, engineering and overseer expenses. The appropriation will come from the Landfill Closure Capital Reserve Fund established for this purpose. No money will be raised from new taxation. **Recommended by the Selectmen and by the Budget Committee.**

Mr. Dowling said the state mandates that the old landfill be maintained.

Article 32 will appear as written on the official ballot.

Article 33. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$8,320.00 (Eight Thousand Three Hundred Twenty Dollars) for ground-water monitoring of the old landfill. \$2,665.00 (Two Thousand Six Hundred Sixty Five Dollars) to pay for the engineer to take samples, produce reports and send the results to the Town and State. \$5,655.00 (Five Thousand Six Hundred Fifty Five Dollars) to pay the laboratory fees to process the samples. The total amount to come from the existing Landfill Closure Trust Fund established for this purpose. This warrant article will not require new taxation. **Recommended by the Selectmen and by the Budget Committee.**

Mr. Dowling said the state mandates this well monitoring for at least 30 years after the landfill closed. We're tested 3 times per year and have had no real bad tests so far.

Article 33 will appear as written on the official ballot.

Article 34. To see if the Town of Carroll will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$906 (Nine Hundred Six Dollars) to contribute to the regional Household Hazardous Waste Collection Program. The Program will provide residents access to a Household Hazardous Waste collection of household generated hazardous waste such as oil based paints, paint thinners, solvents, pesticides, gasoline and household cleaners. **Recommended by the Selectmen and by the Budget Committee. \$.002 impact on tax rate.**

Mr. Dowling said if no residents participate, we'll pay nothing. Last year 17 participated at a cost of \$680.

Article 34 will appear as written on the official ballot.

A motion was made, seconded, and passed that we would approve Articles 35 through 45 without discussion. These articles constitute donations to various non-profit agencies.

Article 35. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$2,000 (Two Thousand Dollars) to the Coalition Communities in Portsmouth, New Hampshire consisting of 34 towns to represent the Town of Carroll in a solution to our educational funding crisis by opposing the establishment of donor towns and keeping the statewide property tax so that it can be used locally to fund our own education assessment from the White Mountain Regional School District. **Recommended by the Selectmen and by the Budget Committee. \$.005 impact on tax rate.**

Article 35 will appear as written on the official ballot.

Article 36. To see if the Town of Carroll will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$904 (Nine Hundred Four Dollars) as the Town's contribution to the Northern Human Services - White Mountain Mental Health and Common Ground, a non-profit mental health and development service center. **Recommended by the Selectmen and by the Budget Committee. \$.002 impact on tax rate.**

Article 36 will appear as written on the official ballot.

Article 37. To raise and appropriate the sum of \$2,000 (Two Thousand Dollars) to donate to the Tyler Blain House, Lancaster, NH, one of the only homeless shelters in northern NH. **Recommended by the Selectmen and by the Budget Committee. \$.005 impact on tax rate.**

Article 37 will appear as written on the official ballot.

Article 38. To see if the Town of Carroll will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$875 (Eight Hundred Seventy Five Dollars) payable to Littleton Regional Hospital, to help offset the cost of charity care and community benefit programs that Littleton Hospital provides. **Recommended by the Selectmen and by the Budget Committee. \$.002 impact on tax rate.**

Article 38 will appear as written on the official ballot.

Article 39. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,167 (One Thousand One Hundred Sixty Seven Dollars) and turn over such monies to the Weeks Medical Center - Home Health & Hospice Services. The monies are used to provide home health care services to the residents of Carroll. **Recommended by the Selectmen and by the Budget Committee. \$.003 impact on tax rate.**

Article 39 will appear as written on the official ballot.

Article 40. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$750 (Seven Hundred Fifty Dollars) for the support of preventative and primary health care services of Ammonoosuc Community Health Services, Inc. for the residents of Carroll. **Recommended by the Selectmen and by the Budget Committee. \$.002 impact on tax rate.**

Article 40 will appear as written on the official ballot.

Article 41. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,797 (One Thousand Seven Hundred Ninety Seven Dollars) payable to North Country Home Health & Hospice Agency, Inc for the support of the home health care, supportive care, medical hospice and community health programs and services of North Country Home Health & Hospice Agency, Inc. and Hospice of the Littleton Area for the residents of Carroll. **Recommended by the Selectmen and by the Budget Committee. \$.005 impact on tax rate.**

Article 41 will appear as written on the official ballot.

Article 42. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$355 (Three Hundred Fifty Five Dollars) for the American Red Cross. **Recommended by the Selectmen and by the Budget Committee. \$.001 impact on tax rate.**

Article 42 will appear as written on the official ballot.

Article 43. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,650 (One Thousand Six Hundred Fifty Dollars) for the Caleb Interfaith Volunteer Caregivers that serves the needs of elderly people in the community. **Recommended by the Selectmen and by the Budget Committee. \$.004 impact on tax rate.**

Article 43 will appear as written on the official ballot.

Article 44. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$500 (Five Hundred Dollars) for Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) of NH for recruiting, training and supervising volunteers who advocate in NH's courts for the best interests of abused and neglected children. **Recommended by the Selectmen and by the Budget Committee. \$.001 impact on tax rate.**

Article 44 will appear as written on the official ballot.

Article 45. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$805 (Eight Hundred Five Dollars) for Tri County Community Action Program in support of their services for the community. **Recommended by the Selectmen and by the Budget Committee. \$.002 impact on tax rate.**

Article 45 will appear as written on the official ballot.

Article 46. To see if the Town of Carroll will vote to adopt the following BID POLICY:

Competitive Purchasing

Except as hereinafter provided, every Town purchase or contract greater than five thousand (\$5,000) dollars in amount shall be made only after the receipt by the Town of a publicly invited, sealed, competitive bid on uniform specifications. The bids will be open and read at a time and date, specified in the bid invitation, by the Board of Selectmen at a regularly scheduled meeting. After study by the Department Head, of all the bids and a recommendation from the Department Head making the purchase, the Board of Selectmen shall award the contract to the lowest responsible bidder; considering also the quality, delivery, financial responsibility and guarantees of the bidders being equal. This does not guarantee the lowest monetary bid be awarded. The Board of Selectmen, may, in its discretion, reject or accept, any or all bid(s) for any reason. The Board of Selectmen shall announce its decision at the next meeting of the Board of Selectmen, after receiving the Department Head's recommendation.

Except as hereinafter provided, every Town purchase or contract of greater than five thousand (\$5,000) dollars shall be made only after at least three (3) invitations to bid, through certified mail, are sent. Department Heads shall compile and maintain a list of possible bidders for equipment or services required. Invitations to bid will also be published in two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Every purchase of five thousand (\$5,000) dollars or less shall be handled by the Department Head on a competitive basis as is deemed reasonable and prudent. (i.e. single vendor item).

Purchases made through existing State of New Hampshire or other State contracts or Coos County contracts shall be deemed to meet the requirements of the above paragraphs. Nothing herein shall be construed to prevent joint bidding and contracting by the Town and other public jurisdictions, and in fact, such is encouraged.

Professional Services

Professional services contracts (architecture, engineering, construction management, risk management, financial and auditing and other professional services or consulting work) of *more than ten thousand (\$10,000) dollars may be entered into after receiving proposals* from at least three (3) interested firms, evaluations of those proposals and evaluation of anticipated quality of service to be rendered, and approval by the Board of Selectmen. Such services of ten thousand (\$10,000) dollars or less may be procured in a manner deemed reasonable and prudent by the Board of Selectmen.

Exceptions, Waivers, and Emergencies

Valid exceptions not subject to the above bid requirements are utility purchases, advertising, postage, federal, state and local taxes, court judgments, financing or borrowing, police special investigative costs where disclosure may jeopardize an investigation, legal services, medical, health and social services for Town employees, the purchase of insurance, maintenance contracts

with manufacturers of equipment purchased or with suppliers of data processing software, or where the Town decides to contract with non-profit organizations for the provision of health, welfare, social *or* recreational services for the Town and/or to the general public or where the Town decides to contract with governmental agencies for the provision of governmental services.

Sealed, publicly invited competitive bids will not be required for purchases in any situation where a contractor or supplier has defaulted upon his or her obligations to the Town and there is presently a security guaranteeing to the Town for the performance of said obligation at no additional cost to the Town, over and above the original obligation. In such a case, the Board of Selectmen, may renegotiate and award the contract to whomsoever it sees fit, providing that said renegotiation and award does not exceed the amount contracted for in the original obligation.

Town Departments will attempt to obtain competitive quotes from different suppliers for standardized items or services.

In case of an accident or emergency, the Board of Selectmen may award contracts and make purchases for the purpose of repairing damages caused by an accident or meting a public emergency without meeting the purchasing requirements of the above sections. In such cases, the Board of Selectmen will file a report which certifies the emergency nature of the incident and itemizes the purchases and their costs.

Sale of Surplus Material

After making all Departments aware of such surplus items, the Board of Selectmen may authorize the sale of materials and equipment which it and the Department Head determine to be surplus to the needs of the Town where a single item or lot does not exceed one thousand (\$1,000) dollars in book value. In cases where such item(s) or lot exceeds one thousand (\$1,000) dollars in book value, the Board of Selectmen shall approve the sale of such materials. All such surplus materials shall be disposed of by public auction or competitive sealed bids. The highest bidder shall receive the item(s) or lot.

This Bid Policy to take effect upon adoption by the 2010 Town Meeting. **By Petition. Not recommended by the Selectmen.**

Selectman Moroney made a motion to amend the article to read “To see” It was seconded and after discussion, was passed. Jae Whitelaw said in the SB2 process, every article must appear on the ballot. However the courts have ruled that the first session can eviscerate the article as proposed. Mr. Catalano questioned why the selectmen objected to this article and was told that we currently do our best to get bids when appropriate, but this article would tie our hands in many cases, as bid responses have been few or none at times.

Article 46 will appear as amended on the official ballot.

Amended Article 46. To see

Article 47. To see if the Town of Carroll will vote to select the Board of Public Works Commissioners pursuant to RSA 38-C. The Board of Public Works Commissioners shall consist of 3 citizens of Carroll, who shall have powers and duties such as development of maintenance schedules for work on town roads and buildings, establishment of bidder lists, preparation of bid specifications, recommendations for contracts to the governing body, supervision of contracted work projects for all accepted town roads and buildings, town water supply and development and presentation of the Public Works budget. The Public Works Commissioners' terms of office shall be for 3 years and until their successors are elected. The first Board of Commissioner may be chosen for terms of one, 2 and 3 years, respectively, by the legal voters of Carroll at the 2011 town meeting election and their successors shall be elected at each annual election. **By Petition. Not recommended by the Selectmen.**

Ms. Karpf made a motion to omit the words "and buildings" in each place they appear in the article. The motion was seconded, and after discussion, failed to pass. Atty. Whitelaw said those words definitely make the article non-binding if they were to remain. She also said there was a question about the legality of the article even if they are removed, because of the provision for budget preparation by this new board.

Article 47 will appear as written on the official ballot.

Article 48. To see if the Town of Carroll will vote to elect the members at large to the Budget Committee in accordance with RSA 32:15. **By Petition. Not recommended by the Selectmen.**

Ms. Karpf said election of the Budget Committee will help people know who is representing them on this committee. Ms. Foster thought that because we're a small town, people would most likely know the volunteers. She thought electing these people was too much of a big city policy, and was countered that it was a democracy policy. There was a statement that we have trouble finding volunteers at times and that there would be fewer people willing to run for election. A couple other people said there had been volunteers told there were no vacancies. Rena Vecchio said she thought the Budget Committee was made up of people with diverse opinions, and thought it worked quite well.

Article 48 will appear as written on the official ballot.

Article 49. To reduce the scheduled work week of all fulltime employees to a flex 35 to 38 (budget 36.5) hour work week with shorter hours being used in the non peak periods. The Town Clerk/Tax Collector and the Administrative Assistant to the Selectmen will **not** be affected by this scheduled hourly reduction. Regular rates of pay will be used and the rate not increased for the hourly reductions. **By Petition. Not recommended by the Selectmen.**

Dan Walker made a motion to amend the article to read "To see." The motion was seconded and passed with no discussion.

Article 49 will appear as amended on the official ballot.

Amended Article 49. To see

Article 50. To limit the maximum total budget for 2010, and the maximum total fulltime employee wages going forward (including fringe benefits), the Town of Carroll will base its maximum costs upon the averages for all the towns larger than Carroll in population up to 140% of the size of the Town of Carroll using the most recent years figures that are available from the NH LGC. **By Petition. Not recommended by the Selectmen.**

Mr. Strasser again referred to his charts of LGC salary comparisons and the historical tax rate information. He spoke in favor of this article. Tom Gately made a motion to amend the article to read "To see." The motion was seconded and passed with no further discussion.

Article 50 will appear as amended on the official ballot.

Amended Article 50. To see

Article 51. To revoke the "Town Handbook" passed on January 9, 2009, because the public was never warned of its costs, and reinstate the "Town Personnel Policies Manual" last revised June 2006. **By Petition. Not recommended by the Selectmen.**

Mr. Strasser said that after the state labor board came in to examine our records, we had to complete several manuals, including a Personnel Policy Manual which was approved in 2006. He said Chief Trammell later brought in a collective bargaining agreement that was edited to create the current handbook that this article seeks to revoke. He said at some point in the process it was sent to former Town Counsel Bernie Waugh who was said it was not legal. Mr. Strasser said this manual eliminated several items that deal with federal labor laws. It changed the amount of time firefighters have to work before overtime applies from 53 hours to 40 hours, and police from 43 hours to 40. Volunteer firemen are now getting paid for a minimum of 3 hours per call regardless of how long they are out. He said the provisions for sick time and vacation time have increased our costs dramatically. George Brodeur made a motion and it was seconded to amend the article to read "To see." There were comments made that the entire town should be able to see this and other amended articles in full, have an opportunity to read them and decide. Others countered that the SB2 town meeting process allows all voters to attend the deliberative session and have their say before voting. Atty. Whitelaw stated that Town Meeting is not authorized by the legislature in matters of employees. Authority belongs to the selectmen. Atty. Whitelaw said this article would be advisory only and this is not the only petition article that would be advisory only. A vote was taken and the amendment passed.

Article 51 will appear as amended on the official ballot.

Amended Article 51. To see

Article 52. To prohibit any forms of special or bonus pay to any employee. Employees are to be paid under the Fair Labor Standards Act and its RSA equivalent. In all cases, only straight

time and overtime payment can be made for actual work done. **By Petition. Not recommended by the Selectmen.**

Mr. Strasser said we should be paying only straight time and overtime when appropriate. He said currently we're paying triple time for call out and, in his opinion, we're violating the Fair Labor Standards by not requiring the police to work 43 hours before overtime, and the fireman 53 hours before overtime. He also said we're not charging proper rates for police details to cover the cost. He said we should be including health insurance, sick time, and vacation pay. George Brodeur made a motion to amend the article to read "To see." The motion was seconded and passed.

Article 52 will appear as amended on the official ballot.

Amended Article 52. To see

At 11:08 PM, Town Meeting was recessed until March 9, 2010, at the town hall for voting by ballot. The polls will be open from 8:00 AM – 6:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Rebecca J. Pederson
Town Clerk