

**MINUTES OF 2005 ANNUAL MEETING
NORTHFIELD, NEW HAMPSHIRE**

The 2005 annual Town Meeting of Northfield, NH was called to order by Moderator Scott McGuffin at 10:00 a.m. at the Northfield Town Hall. The ballot box was inspected, the warrant was read and ballot clerks were sworn in. Voting was terminated at 7:00 p.m. with 374 ballots cast. The results of the voting were:

Article #1 To choose all necessary Town officers and School District Officers for the ensuing year

For Selectman	
Steve Bluhm	187
Glen Brown	179
For Treasurer	
Roland Seymour	337
For Town Clerk/Tax Collector	
Judy Huckins	341
For Trustee of Trust funds	
Steve Bradbury	81
Eliza Conde	273
For Supervisor of Checklist	
Margaret LaBrecque	324

Article #2 To see if the Town will vote to change the term of the Town Treasurer (RSA41:26-b) from one year to three years, beginning with the term of the Town Treasurer to be elected at next year's town meeting. Majority vote required for adoption

Yes.....	259
No	104

Article #3 To see if the Town will vote to adopt the provisions of RSA40:13 (know as SB2) to allow official ballot voting on all issues before the Town of Northfield on the second Tuesday of March. (This article was submitted by petition). A 3/5 majority vote is required for adoption.

Yes.....	172
No	193

The annual Town Meeting was called to order again by Moderator Scott McGuffin at 10:05 a.m. on Saturday March 12, 2005 at the Pines Community Center to act upon the following articles

Article #4 To see if the Town will vote to modify the income and asset limits for the Elderly exemption (RSA72:39-b) to become effective April 1, 2005: a net Income in each applicable age group of not more than \$28,500 or, if married, a combined net income of not more than \$38,500; and own net assets not in excess of \$50,000. A majority vote is required for adoption.

Motion made by Glen Brown seconded by Scott Hilliard. Dina Hunter asked what the limits were in effect now. Joyce Fulweiler explained them. **Article #4 passed.**

Article #5 To see if the Town will vote to adopt the optional veteran's tax credit (RSA 72:28) in the amount of \$250; the surviving spouse tax credit (RSA 72:29-a) in the amount of \$1,400; and the service connected total disability (RSA 72:35) in the amount of \$1,400 to become effective April 1, 2005. (This article was submitted by petition.) A majority vote is required for adoption.

Motion made by Glen Brown seconded by David Liberatore Roger Labraney felt amount should be increased. Amendment by Kevin Waldron to increase the tax credit to \$500. Steve Rufo spoke in support of this amendment. Amendment passed. **Article #5 passed as amended.**

Article #6 To see if the Town will vote to adopt the optional veteran's tax credit (RSA72:28) in the amount of \$500 to become effective April 1, 2005. (This article was submitted by petition.) A majority vote is required for adoption.

Motion to table by Steve Randall seconded by Aurlow Stanley. **Article #6 was tabled**

Article #7 To see if the Town will vote to adopt an exemption of the disabled (RSA 72:37-b) to become effective April 1, 2005. (This article was submitted by petition.) The exemption amount shall be \$50,000 with a net income of not more than \$28,500 or, if married a combined net income of not more than \$38,500; and own net assets not in excess of \$50,000. A majority vote is required for adoption.

Motion made by Glen Brown seconded by David Liberatore. Aurlow Stanley asked what the exemption is at this time. Joyce Fulweiler explained the requirements. **Article #7 passed**

Article #8 To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen to appoint not more than 3 alternate members to the planning board (RSA 673:6). The terms of the alternate members shall be 3 years. A majority vote is required for adoption.

Motion made by Linda Pardy seconded by Steve Randall. After minimal discussion **Article #8 passed.**

Article #9 To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen to appoint the Capital Improvement Program Committee (RSA674:5) which shall include at least one member of the Planning Board and may include but not be limited to other members of the Planning Board, the Budget Committee, or the Selectmen, to prepare and amend a recommended program of municipal capital improvement projects. A majority vote is required for adoption.

Motion made by Glen Brown seconded by Lana Dearborn. **Article #9 passed.**

Article #10 To see if the Town will vote to discontinue the Hall Memorial Library Construction Capital Reserve Fund (created in 1992) and transfer the balance and

accumulated interest to date of withdrawal into the Town's General Fund. A majority vote is required for adoption.

Motion made by Scott Hilliard seconded by David Liberatore. Joyce Fulweiler explained there was \$358.53 in the account and that this a housekeeping matter. **Article #10 passed.**

Article #11 To see if the Town will vote to discontinue the Arch Restoration Capital Reserve Fund (created in 1978) and transfer the balance and accumulated interest to date of withdrawal into the Town's General Fund. A majority vote is required for adoption.

Motion Glen Brown seconded by Aurlow Stanley. Joyce Fulweiler explained that this a housekeeping matter. **Article #11 passed**

Article #12 To see if the Town will vote to discontinue the Solid Waste Facility Closure Capital Reserve Fund (created in 1989) and transfer the balance and accumulated interest to date of withdrawal into the Town's General Fund. A majority vote is required for adoption.

Motion by Lana Dearborn seconded by David Liberatore. Joyce explained again that this was a housekeeping matter. The amount is \$840.96 **Article #12 passed**

Article #13 To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen to enter into a two (2) year lease/purchase agreement for a replacement cruiser for the Police Department and to raise and appropriate the sum of \$14,000.00 as the first year's payment. This lease/purchase agreement contains a non-appropriation clause. (Majority vote required for adoption.) The Selectmen and the Budget Committee recommend this Article.

Motion by Glen Brown seconded by David Liberatore. Kevin Waldron asked if this was a replacement vehicle or an additional. Scott Hilliard explained that this was an additional vehicle. Kevin also asked if this went out for bid. Scott explained that the Town uses the company that has been awarded the State bid. Hal Beyor asked how many vehicles the Police Department has in service. Scott stated that there would be six (6). **Article #13 passed.**

Article #14 To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$3,072,340 which represents the Budget Committee's recommended budget on the posted MS-7 and pass any vote in relation thereto. The posted budget includes the appropriation in Warrant Article #13. (Majority vote required for adoption.)

Motion by Glen Brown seconded by David Liberatore. Lana Dearborn submitted an amendment to increase the amount by \$30,000 for the Highway Department for salt, sand and overtime due to the numerous winter storms in the last month. Amendment passed. **Article #14 passed as amended with the sum of \$3,102,340.**

Article #15 To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Tax Collector to discount by two percent (2%) any amount in property taxes due when said taxes are paid with 30 days of the date of billing. (Majority vote required to adoption.)

Motion by Glen Brown seconded by Lana Dearborn **Article #15 passed**

Article #16 To transact any other business that may legally come before this meeting.

Joyce Fulweiler presented gifts to Carol Cross for retiring Road Agent Albert Cross as he could not be present for the meeting.

Lana Dearborn read a dedication to retiring Road Agent, Albert Cross thanking him for his 36 years of service.

Lana Dearborn and James Knowlton presented a plaque to outgoing Selectmen, Glen Brown.

Newly appointed Public Works director, Doug Sargent was introduced.

Doug announced that Amnesty week would be April 25 through April 30.

Meeting adjourned at 12:20 pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Judy A. Huckins
Town Clerk