

## CANDIA DELIBERATIVE SESSION

January 30, 2021

*Moderator Clark Thyng opened the meeting at 10:07 AM. It began with a prayer by Pastor Steven Baker of Candia Congregational Church. Girl Scout Troop 59185 conducted a flag ceremony and Salute to the flag. Special recognition was given to Miriam Wilcox-Barsalou, Candia resident who is in the process of becoming a US Citizen; to Christine Dupere, recently retired, recognized for her long-standing service as Town Clerk; to Arthur Sanborn, recently deceased, recognized for his service to the Town; Charles Bowman, recently deceased, recognized for his service to the Town. A special dedication and plaque was presented to the family of recently deceased Road Agent, Dennis Lewis. A duplicate plaque honoring Mr. Lewis will be hung in the Town Offices.*

*A poll of the body was taken to see if they would like the zoning amendments read. The body voted no.*

### **ARTICLE 2**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate as an **Operating Budget**, this operating budget warrant article does not include 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 **\$2,998,217.00**. Should this article be defeated, the default budget shall be **\$ 2,947,915.00**, which is the same as last year, with certain adjustments required by previous action of the Town of Candia 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. (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen by a vote of 4 to 0) (Recommended by the Budget Committee by a vote of 7 to 2) The motion was made by Susan Young, seconded by Patrick Moran. **Article 2 is moved to ballot as read.**

### **ARTICLE 3**

To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of One Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (**\$150,000**) for **Excess Winter Road Maintenance**, these funds will not be used unless the operating winter maintenance funds are exhausted. This will be non-transferable appropriation. Said funds to be expended under the direction of the Board of Selectmen. (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen by a vote of 5 to 0) (Recommended by the Budget Committee by a vote of 8 to 0) The motion was made by Brien Brock, seconded by Russ Dann. **Article 3 is moved to the ballot as read.**

#### **ARTICLE 4**

To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Two Hundred Thousand Dollars **(\$200,000)** for the southeast portion of **Currier Road**. Said funds to be expended under the direction of the Board of Selectmen. (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen by a vote of 5 to 0) (Recommended by the Budget Committee by a vote of 8 to 0) The Motion was made by Brien Brock, seconded by Boyd Chivers. **Article 4 is moved to the ballot as read.**

Discussion:

Richard Lazott of Island Rd asked if the intent was to pave Currier Rd?

Selectman Brien Brock explained that the work done last year on the first section of the road was a test to see how it stood up in the Spring, if it stood up it would remain dirt.

#### **ARTICLE 5**

To see if the town will raise and appropriate the sum of One Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars **(\$150,000)** for the final phase of **Healey Road reconstruction**. Said funds to be expended under the direction of the Board of Selectmen. (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen by a vote of 5 to 0) (Recommended by the Budget Committee by a vote of 7 to 1). The Motion was made by Brien Brock, seconded by Patrick Moran. **Article 5 is moved to the ballot as read.**

#### **ARTICLE 6**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Fifty Thousand Dollars **(\$50,000)** to be deposited in the **Fire Apparatus Capital Reserve Fund**, established under RSA 35:1 at the March 1991 Town Meeting, for the future purchase of the fire apparatus and equipment with the Selectmen appointed as agents. (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen by a vote of 4 to 0) (Recommended by the Budget Committee by a vote of 8 to 0). The Motion was made by Russ Dann, seconded by Boyd Chivers. **Article 6 is moved to the ballot as read.**

#### **ARTICLE 7**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Fifty Thousand Dollars **(\$50,000)** to be deposited in the **Fire Station Infrastructure and Grounds Capital Reserve Fund** under the provisions of RSA 35:1 at the March 2017 Town Meeting, for the purpose of providing for major capital investments in the fire station building infrastructure and grounds to keep the building and property sound, functional and safe well into the future with the Selectmen appointed as agents. (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen by a vote of 4 to 0) (Recommended by the Budget Committee by a vote of 8 to 0). The Motion was made by Russ Dann, seconded by Brien Brock. **Article 7 is moved to the ballot as read.**

## **ARTICLE 8**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Twenty Thousand Dollars (**\$20,000**) to be placed in the existing **Revaluation Capital Reserve** fund for the Future Revaluation of the municipality. Said funds to be expended under the direction of the Board of Selectmen. (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen by a vote of 5 to 0) (Recommended by the Budget Committee by a vote of 8 to 0). The Motion was made by Boyd Chivers, seconded by Russ Dann. **Article 8 is moved to the ballot as read.**

## **ARTICLE 9**

To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Two Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (**\$2,500**) to be placed in the existing **Town Office Building Maintenance Fund**. Said funds to be expended under the direction of the Board of Selectmen. (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen by a vote of 5 to 0) (Recommended by the Budget Committee by a vote of 8 to 0). The Motion was made by Patrick Moran, seconded by Susan Young. **Article 9 is moved to the ballot as read.**

## **ARTICLE 10**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of One Hundred Thirty-Six Thousand Nine Hundred Ninety dollars (**\$136,990**) for the operating expenses of the **Smyth Public Library**. Funds are to be expended under the direction of the Smyth Public Library Association. (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen by a vote of 4 to 0) (Recommended by the Budget Committee by a vote of 8 to 0) The motion was made by Susan Young, seconded by Brien Brock. **Article 10 is moved to the ballot as read.**

## **ARTICLE 11**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Four Thousand Dollars (**\$4,000**) for the operation and maintenance of the **Fitts Museum**. Said funds to be expended under the direction of the Trustees of the Fitts Museum. (By request of the Trustees of the Fitts Museum). (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen by a vote of 5 to 0) (Recommended by the Budget Committee by a vote of 8 to 0) The motion was made by Brien Brock seconded by Boyd Chivers. **Article 11 is moved to the ballot as read.**

## **ARTICLE 12**

To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Three Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (**\$3,500**) to be placed in the existing **Smyth Memorial Building Fund**. Said funds to be expended under the direction of the Board of Selectmen. (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen by a vote of 5 to 0) (Not Recommended by the Budget Committee by a vote of 7 to 1) The Motion was made by Boyd Chivers, seconded by Russ Dann. **Article 12 is moved to the ballot as read.**

### Discussion:

Lynn Chivers of Depot Road, Chair of the Budget Committee, clarified Budget Committee does not support this article because of a line item in the operating budget for the Smyth Memorial Maintenance under Town building expenses, Smyth Memorial building, of \$11,640.

Carla Penfield, Jane Dr., Chair of the Smyth Memorial Trustee Fund, stated the money requested in this article are for repairs beyond normal maintenance. It would be saved toward the cost of repairing the slate roof and cleaning up the exterior brick. The potential lease agreement with Jesse Remington School (see Article 26) will not include these repairs.

Steve Higgins of North Road asked if there a plan to use the building?

Carla Penfield of Jane Dr responded there is a plan that will be addressed in Article 26.

**A vote of Body by a show of hands was taken to move to read Amendments 13-24 as a block. The Body voted yes.**

### **ARTICLE 13**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Four Thousand Dollars (**\$4,000**) in continuation of its support of the **Visiting Nurse Association of Manchester and Southern New Hampshire**. (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen by a vote of 5 to 0) (Not Recommended by the Budget Committee by a vote of 5 to 2) The Motion was made by Patrick Moran, seconded by Brien Brock.

### **ARTICLE 14**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Three Thousand Two Hundred Fifty Dollars (**\$3,250**) in continuation of its support of the **American Red Cross**. (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen by a vote of 4 to 0) (Not Recommended by the Budget Committee by a vote of 6 to 1)

### **ARTICLE 15**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of One Thousand Eight Hundred Fifty-Four Dollars (**\$1,854**) in support of the **Rockingham County Nutrition and Meals on Wheels Program** for transportation (Formally offered by **Lamprey Health Care**). (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen by a vote of 4 to 0) (Recommended by the Budget Committee by a vote of 4 to 3)

### **ARTICLE 16**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of One Thousand Two Hundred Fifty Dollars (**\$1,250**) in continuation of its support of the **Child Advocacy Center**. (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen by a vote of 5 to 0) (Recommended by the Budget Committee by a vote of 5 to 2)

#### **ARTICLE 17**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of One Thousand Two Hundred Fifty Dollars (**\$1,250**) in continuation of its support of **Waypoint (formally Child and Family Services)**. (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen by a vote of 5 to 0) (Not Recommended by the Budget Committee by a vote of 5 to 2)

#### **ARTICLE 18**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of One Thousand One Hundred Seven Dollars (**\$1,107**) in continuation of its support of the **Rockingham County Nutrition and Meals on Wheels Program**. (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen by a vote of 4 to 0) (Recommended by the Budget Committee by a vote of 4 to 3)

#### **ARTICLE 19**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of One Thousand Dollars (**\$1,000**) in support of the **Home Health and Hospice Care**. (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen by a vote of 4 to 0) (Recommended by the Budget Committee by a vote of 4 to 3)

#### **ARTICLE 20**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of One Thousand Dollars (**\$1,000**) in continuation of its support of **Big Brother/Big Sister**. (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen by a vote of 5 to 0) (Not Recommended by the Budget Committee by a vote of 5 to 2)

#### **ARTICLE 21**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of One Thousand Dollars (**\$1,000**) in continuation of its support of the **CASA** (Court Appointed Special Advocates for Children). (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen by a vote of 5 to 0) (Not Recommended by the Budget Committee by a vote of 5 to 2)

#### **ARTICLE 22**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Seven Hundred Dollars (**\$700**) in continuation of its support of the **Aids Response Seacoast**. (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen by a vote of 5 to 0) (Not Recommended by the Budget Committee by a vote of 5 to 2)

#### **ARTICLE 23**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Two Hundred Twenty-Five Dollars (**\$225**) in continuation of its support of the **Retired and Senior Volunteer Program**. (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen by a vote of 5 to 0) (Not Recommended by the Budget Committee by a vote of 5 to 2)

## **ARTICLE 24**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Six Thousand Eight Hundred Seven Dollars (**\$6,807**) in support of the **Rockingham County Community Action**. (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen by a vote of 5 to 0) (Not Recommended by the Budget Committee by a vote of 6 to 1) The Motion was made by Brien Brock, seconded by Patrick Moran. **Articles 13- 24 are moved to the ballot as read.**

### Discussion:

Lynn Chivers of Depot Road explained the Budget Committee did not recommend the charitable articles as a whole in consideration of residents that struggle financially. The Budget Committee feel charity should not be mandatory. The Budget Committee makes exception for Article 16 as Police Chief McGill indicated to them that Child Advocacy Center was often used by the Candia Police Department.

## **ARTICLE 25**

Shall the town modify the **Veteran's Tax Credit** in accordance with RSA 72:28, II from its current tax credit of **\$300.00** per year to **\$500.00**? (Majority vote required) (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen by a vote of 5 to 0) (Recommended by the Budget Committee by a vote of 8 to 0) The Motion was made by Russ Dann, seconded by Patrick Moran. **Article 25 moved to the ballot as read.**

### Discussion:

Selectman Boyd Chivers of Depot Road explained the last time this credit was adjusted was in 2003. The Selectmen want to adjust the credit to reflect equivalent value in today's dollars.

## **ARTICLE 26**

To see if the town will vote to allow the select board to write a lease agreement with the Jesse Remington School for the use of the Smyth Memorial Building. The lease will not exceed 10 years. Submitted by: The Smyth Memorial Building Trustees and the Candia Board of Selectmen (Recommended by Board of Selectmen by a vote of 5 to 0) The Motion was made by Boyd Chivers, seconded by Brien Brock. **Article 26 is moved to the ballot as read.**

### Discussion:

Carla Penfield of Jane Drive explained that after many years without use, Jesse Remington High School requested to bring the building up to code at no cost to the Town, in exchange for use of the building for a period of 10 years.

The body voted to hear from Jeffrey Philbrick, South Rd, Headmaster of Jesse Remington Christian High School. Mr. Philbrick explains that Jesse Remington will use school resources to upgrade well, septic, plumbing, electric, and more, creating general purpose meeting rooms and a kitchenette. The building to be used during the school day by Jesse Remington with afternoon and evening use for Town purposes.

Rick Lazott of Island Road asked what will happen to line item in the operating budget for Smyth Memorial Building maintenance and warrant Article 12 if this article passes?

Carla Penfield of Jane Drive responded that the Town is the landlord, and Jesse Remington the tenant. Town will take care of building maintenance. Jesse Remington will pay utilities and janitorial expenses.

Richard Lazott of Island Road, asked will top floor of the building be handicap accessible? Jeffrey Philbrick of Jesse Remington responded that the main floor will not be immediately handicap accessible. The bottom floor is accessible right now. Handicap accessibility will be addressed in phase II of upgrades.

Carla Penfield suggested the community will determine whether it would like handicap accessibility to extend to the upper floor in the future.

Betsy Kruse of New Boston Road asked if there will be any interior architectural changes? Carla Penfield of Jane Drive responded there will be no architectural changes. Selectman Brien Brock asserts Jesse Remington will take good care of the building.

Richard Lazott of Island Road asked where will town election material stored?

Selectman Russ Dann responded it is stored in the Doucette Building at Moore Park.

Matthew Cobb of Raymond Road questioned Town Attorney Mike Courtney if there is a requirement for the Town to offer to lease the property to others?

Mike Courtney responded that RSA 41:11a requires permission via Town meeting. The lease is permissible.

Carla Penfield of Jane Drive noted this article is written as vote to *allow* Jesse Remington to sign a lease, it is not a lease itself.

Glenna Jean Wilson of South Road inquired if Jesse Remington students will participate in bringing the building up to code?

Jeffrey Philbrick indicated that the repairs require skilled professionals. Student may be able to help in limited ways.

## **ARTICLE 27**

To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$17,500.00** to the Candia Youth Athletic Association for the specific expenses of providing youth recreation programs to the children of Candia. Said expenses to be expended under the direction of the Candia Youth Athletic Association Board of Directors in accordance with the approved budgets. Submitted by petition. (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 5 to 0) (Recommended by Budget Committee 9 to 0) The Motion was made by Susan Young, seconded by Patrick Moran. **Moved to the ballot as amended.** Discussion to follow.

Discussion:

Selectman Brien Brock moved to **amend** to the sum appropriated to **\$19,500**. He explained the CYAA has lost revenue helping the Town with elections and expended additional cleaning costs due to Covid.

Discussion to the amendment:

Robert Jones of Patten Hill Road, President of the CYAA, thanked the Board of Selectmen and Budget Committee stating this has been financially challenging year.

Selectman Russ Dann thanked CYAA & volunteers for their contributions to the Town. Steven Higgins of North Road praised facility and coaches.

### **Article 28**

To see if the Town will vote to allow the operation of "Keno games" within the town of Candia at appropriate locations in accordance with the State Lottery Commission requirements? Submitted by petition. (Not recommended by Board of Selectmen by a vote of 2 to 2) 1 abstained The Motion was made by Susan Young, seconded by Patrick Moran. **Article 28 moved to the ballot as read.**

Moderator Clark Thyng noted that some mailers incorrectly read 'Recommended by the Board of Selectman.

#### Discussion:

Rick Lazott of Island Road stated his support of Article 28.

Selectman Boyd Chivers of Depot Road noted Keno had already been voted down for the last 3 years.

Selectman Patrick Moran stated he doesn't think Keno reflects this community.

Selectman Russ Dann noted this amendment was submitted by registered voters.

### **Article 29**

To see if the Town will vote to rescind the twentyfive thousand dollar (\$25,000) maximum annual contribution established by Article 31 on the ballot for the March 10th, 2009 Candia Town Meeting, and to clarify and certify that the percentage to be deposited in the Candia Conservation Commission Fund, in accordance with RSA 79-A:25, is twenty five percent (25%) of each receipt of a Land Use Change Tax (LUCT) payment. Submitted by petition. (Not recommended by Board of Selectmen by a vote of 4 to 1). The Motion was made by Boyd Chivers, seconded by Russ Dann. **Article 29 is moved to the ballot as read.**

#### Discussion:

Judith Lindsey of South Road stated this RSA rescinds or takes away. In the past there was no cap on the amount of money put into the Conservation Commission from the Land Use Change Tax. It is the main revenue for the Conservation Commission to protect land, water, and wildlife.

Betsy Kruse of New Boston Road noted that other towns use Land Use Change Tax to protect land and fund conservation. The Conservation fund received less than \$55,000 since 2011. Money would typically be used for protection projects and open space in the face of open development and for grant proposals. Limited funded would limit ability to maintain our rural characteristics.

Finance officer Donna Becker of Raymond Road clarified the financial impact. Land use change tax goes toward lowering tax rates. Money going to the Conservation Commission decreases the amount of money that would go toward lowering the tax rate. If the cap is removed, it will impact the Town's ability to decrease taxes.



Judith Lindsey of North Road noted that development costs more than open space in terms of services that will be required by the Town in support of new development.

Betsy Kruse of New Boston Road stated change tax is unpredictable so can't budgeted. As it is unknown if and when land will be taken out of current use & taxed. If there is no more development, the Conservation Commission will continue to get \$6,000 yearly. If there is more development the money received from the Land Use Change tax will offset some costs.

Stephen Higgins of North Road asks has the 55+ community had much of a tax impact this year? Will there be a substantial tax impact next year?

Finance Officer, Donna Becker of Raymond Road, explained that the tax rate is based on construction as of April 1<sup>st</sup>. Land Use Change Tax revenue is received for the calendar year. The full assessed value of the 55+ community homes completed after April 1st will be collected in 2022.

Selectman Susan Young clarified developers pay 10% tax when the land is taken out of current use. A majority of the 55+ Land Use Change tax will be paid this calendar year and lower the tax rate this calendar year.

Selectman Russ Dann stated the Town loses money when someone donates to Conservation Commission.

Betsy Kruse of New Boston Road noted that open space doesn't require town services.

Judith Lyndsay of North Road observed development eases taxes for one year, open space pays for itself providing its own kind of tax break indefinitely.

Carla Penfield of Jane Drive asked how much money does the Conservation Commission have now?

Betsy Kruse responded \$329,404.66, most of which will be spent on current project's transaction costs. It will take years to replenish funds for future projects.

Carla Penfield of Jane Drive asked how much open space do we have vs. other spaces?

Judith Lindsey of North Road noted there are maps of Town on the Town website.

Carla Penfield of Jane Drive asked how much land could the Conservation Commission buy with \$300,000?

Betsy Kruse of New Boston Road explains Land Trusts pays bulk of development rights. The Conservation Commission supports transaction costs, such as land surveys, etc. Land Ordinances change over time. The Conservation Commission is looking to preserve land now to keep open corridors for water and wildlife in the future.

The Motion to dissolve was made by Susan Young, seconded by Patrick Moran. There was no objection. The Town Meeting was dissolved at 11:46 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Hetzel, Town Clerk of Candia