

ONE HUNDRED FORTY-SECOND ANNUAL REPORT



Town of
EASTON
New Hampshire

Year Ending December 31, 2018

ANNUAL REPORT
of the Town Officers
for the year ending December 31, 2018
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All Agency Reports Are On File In The Selectmen’s Office

Front cover photo courtesy of Bob Craven

Printed at Harrison Publishing House, Littleton, New Hampshire.

The 2018 Easton Annual Report
is dedicated to
Anita & Bob Craven

From a first date climbing Mt. Chocorua, to skiing with their three young children at Cannon Mountain, to buying property in Easton and building first a ski house and then their permanent home, Anita and Bob Craven have demonstrated a love for the outdoors and a commitment to community that remain in evidence today.

Bob graduated from MIT with both a BSEE degree and an MSEE degree. He worked for many years designing precision instrumentation and measurement systems for firms in the Boston area. He is the holder of four electronic circuit design patents. Anita graduated from Wellesley College as an English major, entered the



professional world as a teacher, went into the field of graphic production, and formed a consulting business to assist entrepreneurs launch small business ventures. Anita also devoted an abundance of time to raising and training dogs, including 10 Rhodesian Ridgebacks, bringing them to schools and sharing them as therapy dogs. Throughout their working careers, Bob and Anita always found time and utilized unique and effective ways to give back to their community of Wayland, MA.

Upon moving permanently to Easton in 1996, Anita recalls quickly being “drafted” into Town Government and taking on Town concerns in the process. A summary of Anita’s contributions includes:

- Secretary of the Easton ZBA
- An 11-year member of the Planning Board (6 as Chair)
- A member of the Easton Conservation Commission which she helped revitalize after a period of relative inactivity. Anita was responsible for the Current Use Change Tax Fund and Pastry and Preservation Programs (a popular public education series)

Continued ➤

Anita was the first woman President of the Franconia Ski Club and currently is active in a local Book Club and Political Education Action Group.

Bob also assumed many positions and projects that benefited the Town of Easton including:

- Selectman- 1998-2004/ Chair - 1999-2004
- Planning Board Ex Officio Member - 1999-2003
- Tri-Town Waste Management Committee - 2007-2009
- Profile School Building Team Tax Support/Finance Committee - 2005-2006
- Author of Intervenor Petition opposing Northern Pass - 2010

In 2001, Bob was able to secure a \$120,000 -20 yr. bond, with very favorable interest rates, for the office addition to the Town Hall. He oversaw the team responsible for this addition and brought it in on time and on budget. Easton Volunteer Fire Fighters received payment for fighting fires for the first time after Bob authored a Warrant Article that passed during the 2002 Town Meeting. The Easton Town Clerk and Tax Collector were beneficiaries of the research conducted by Bob and fellow Selectman, Bob Thibault into new municipal software that would lead to an improved program providing enhanced efficiency and job performance to both essential Town positions.

Bob is also a former president of the Franconia Ski Club and the NH Alpine Racing Association. He is a USSA licensed Alpine Race Official and a member of the AMC Four Thousand Footer Club.

Extending their care for the community outside the Town lines of Easton, Bob and Anita were founding Board members of The Boys and Girls Club of the North Country where Bob served as its first President (2005-2006). This organization continues to grow and offer a much-needed service to many area families.

Anita and Bob Craven continue with their staunch support of Easton and are always available to lend advice, expertise, and labor whenever needed. They are first in line to celebrate Easton's achievements.

SKIBOB and LIONDOG, we thank you for your devotion to our Town.

TOWN OFFICERS ELECTED OFFICIALS AND APPOINTED BOARD MEMBERS

Board of Selectmen

Zhenye (Zak) Mei (2019)
 Robert Thibault (2020)
 Toni Woodruff (2021)

Treasurer

Darrel Gearhart (2019)

Moderator

Jim Collier (2020)

Lafayette School Board

Denys Draper (2020)

Cemetery Trustees

Denys Draper (2019)
 Richard Larcom (2020)
 Kristina Pastoriza (2021)

Town Clerk

Melissa Elander (2019)

Tax Collector

Melissa Elander (2019)

Trustees of the Trust Funds

Claire Mei (2019)
 Denys Draper (2020)
 John Hynes (2021)

Supervisors of the Checklist

Tambra Gearhart (2020)
 Lisa Cutler (2021)
 Ed O'Brien (2022)

Planning Board

Frank Woodruff (2019)	Zhenye (Zak) Mei (Ex Officio)
Denys Draper (2019)	Tom Boucher (Alternate)
Anita Craven (2020)	Jim Collier (Alternate)
Robert Lamanna (2020)	Edward (Ned) Cutler (Alternate)

————— APPOINTED OFFICIALS & BOARD MEMBERS —————

Fire Chief: Arthur Rainville **Emergency Manager:** Edward Cutler

Health Officer: Inga Johnson **Welfare Officer:** Zhenye (Zak) Mei

Zoning Board of Adjustment: **Building Inspector:** Allan Clark

Beth Harwood (2019)
 Greg Sorg (2019) **Road Agent:** Presby Construction Co.

John Hynes (2020)
 Kris Pastoriza (2021) **Recreation Committee:** Mike McKeever
 Ellen Pritham (2021) Matt Koehler

Deputy Town Clerk: Toni Woodruff
Assistant Town Clerk: Bob Thibault

Animal Control Officer: Richard Larcom

Conservation Commission

Shawn Graham (2019)	Inga Johnson (2020)
Kathy Stringham (2019)	Steve Sabre (Alternate) (2021)
Carl Lakes (2020)	

EASTON SELECT BOARD

The Select Board began its year by welcoming, as the newest member, Toni Woodruff, who was elected at the 2018 Town Meeting. Melissa Elander was also welcomed to the positions of Easton Town Clerk and Easton Tax Collector. Melissa has done an outstanding job, not only with the responsibilities and duties of each position, but also with her welcoming demeanor toward all who visit the Town Hall.

A focus throughout the year was roads, a roof, and refinancing. Winter work on Town roads requires not only preparation but vigilance. Presby Construction, our Road Agent has kept the roads clear and vehicles moving during even the most inclement weather. Seasonal maintenance was also a priority with projects such as culvert replacement and repair, and sand and brush removal on the list of essential upkeep and improvements.

The entirety of the Town Hall received a new roof which should hopefully last for the next twenty-five years. Our two loans (for the new addition on the Town Hall and the purchase of the Ashton House property) were refinanced with a more favorable interest rate.

The Select Board worked cooperatively, throughout the year, with all other Boards, Commissions, and Organizations in Town. Projects such as Town zoning and subdivisions, and workshops on the “Right to Know” laws and procedures for proper subdivision submission and oversight were jointly undertaken. The Select Board also met with the Select Boards of Franconia and Sugar Hill for discussions regarding the Tri-Town Transfer Station, the Lafayette Recreation Commission and other mutual concerns.

A great deal of time was devoted to ongoing legal issues. Throughout the year the Board consulted with Town attorneys regarding legal actions and spent time in mediation and in Court trying to come to a resolve to the disputes faced by the Town. The Select Board is also keeping up-to-date on Northern Pass and its appeal before the Supreme Court of NH.

During the upcoming year we hope to focus on revising and updating certain applications and procedures as well as keeping our Town Ordinances reflective of the Warrants passed at Town Meeting. Exercising fiscal responsibility in the running of the Town is and will remain a priority.

The Select Board meets every other Monday at 6:00 p.m. (dates indicated on the back page of the Town Report) at the Town Hall. Please consider attending.

The Easton Select Board
Zhenye (Zak) Mei – Chairman
Bob Thibault
Toni Woodruff

TOWN MEETING MINUTES

MARCH 13, 2018

To the inhabitants of the Town of Easton, in the County of Grafton, in the State of New Hampshire qualified to vote in Town affairs: You are hereby notified and warned of the Annual Town Meeting to be held at the Town Hall in said Town on Tuesday, March 13, 2018. Polls will open from 3:00 PM to 6:00 PM for voting on Article 1. The Town's annual business meeting will follow at 7:00 PM.

The Ballot Clerks were sworn in at 2:45 p.m. by Town Clerk, Toni Woodruff. Moderator, Jim Collier read the above Warrant presented to him by Select Board Chair, Ned Cutler at 2:55 p.m. the polls officially opened at 3:00 p.m. Ballot voting continued until 6:00 p.m. Election results are recorded below.

Town assistants to the Moderator were sworn in at 6:45 p.m. to check voters and residents into the 7:00 p.m. meeting. The assistants also provided yes/no ballots and yellow file cards for hand votes (if necessary) and, if needed, to help with vote counts for the remainder of the Articles.

The Deliberative Session was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by the Moderator. All those who served in our armed forces were honored and everyone stood for the Pledge of Allegiance. Moderator Collier thanked all those in attendance and reminded them of the importance of Town Meeting. He explained the voting procedures and set the rules, citing fairness, civility, and the authority to challenge the Moderator.

ARTICLE 1. Elect All Officers

To choose all necessary officers for the ensuing year, on the Official Ballot. The Moderator read Article 1 and gave the following results of the voting.

With 69 people voting:

Selectman – 3-year term:

Toni Woodruff	66
Blank	3

Town Clerk – 1-year term:

Melissa Elander	67
Bob Thibault	1
Barbara Collier	1

Tax Collector – 1-year term:

Melissa Elander	59
Denys Draper	8
Steve Whitcomb	1
Blank	1

Moderator – 1-year term:

Jim Collier	57
Kevin O'Brien	5
Campbell McLaren	1
Jeff Lax	1
Denys Draper	1
Blank	4

Cemetery Trustee

Kris Pastoriza	62
Sonia German	1
John Hynes	1
Denys Draper	1
Alan Wrench	1
Blank	3

Trustee of the Trust Funds – 3-year term:

John Hynes 69

Treasurer

Darrel Gearhart 68
Ralph Brigida 1

After each motion and second for all Articles, the Moderator called for discussion. After discussion concluded (or if there was no discussion), the Moderator reread the motion on the floor and called for a vote on said motion.

Read by the Moderator:

ARTICLE 2. Town Operating Budget

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$267,284.00 for general Town operation as follows:

Executive	\$ 16,550.00
Election Registration, Town Clerk & Vital Stats	12,000.00
Financial Administration	14,750.00
Revaluation of Individual Properties	6,000.00
Legal Expenses	25,000.00
Personnel Administration & Payroll Taxes	2,000.00
Planning & Zoning	2,500.00
Government Buildings	14,500.00
Cemetery	2,600.00
Insurance	2,963.00
Advertising & Regional Associations	1,990.00
General Government – Other	5,000.00
Police Department	0.00
Ambulances	10,853.00
Fire Department	23,500.00
Building Inspections	250.00
Emergency Management – Forest Fire	151.00
Emergency Management – Other Public Safety	1,500.00
Highway Maintenance	70,000.00
Solid Waste	25,389.00
Animal & Pest Control	300.00
Welfare Assistance	3,000.00
Parks and Recreation	13,601.00
Library	0.00
Patriotic Purposes	100.00
Conservation Commission	1,500.00
Construction Bonds – Town Hall/Ash	<u>11,287.00</u>
Total Operating Budget	\$267,284.00

Ned Cutler moved that the Town raise and appropriate the sum of \$267,284.00 for general Town operation as printed in the Warrant. Zak Mei seconded. Zak Mei moved to dispense with the reading of the Town Operating Budget line by line. Bob Thibault seconded. Passed with a voice vote

- Discussion- regarding the Parks and Recreation line and how many Easton residents use this program. Attendance of Easton residents is difficult to determine because of the nature of many activities

- No further discussion. The motion was passed on a voice vote as moved
- Denys Draper made a motion not to reconsider the Town Operating Budget. Steve Sabre seconded.
- Motion to not reconsider Article 2 passed on a voice vote

Read by the Moderator:

ARTICLE 3. Budget for Health Agencies & Hospital

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$2,011 for Health Agencies & Hospitals as follows: (The Selectmen recommend adoption of this Warrant Article.) (Majority vote required)

Ammonoosuc Community Health Services	\$ 500.00
North Country Home Health & Hospice	800.00
CASA	500.00
White Mountain Mental Health	<u>211.00</u>
Total Health Agencies & Hospitals	\$2,011.00

Zak Mei moved that the Town raise and appropriate the sum of \$2,011 for Health Agencies and Hospitals as follows (see above). Bob Thibault seconded the motion.

- No discussion on Article 3. Article 3 passed on a voice vote

Read by the Moderator:

ARTICLE 4. Budget for Other Welfare

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$3,240 for Other Welfare as follows: (The Selectmen recommend adoption of this Warrant Article.) (Majority vote required)

American Red Cross	\$ 100.00
Burch House	140.00
Center for New Beginnings	250.00
Grafton County Senior Citizens Council	300.00
Tri-County CAP	2,150.00
Tri-County Tyler Bain Homeless Shelter	<u>300.00</u>
Total Other Welfare	\$3,240.00

Bob Thibault moved to move that the Town raise and appropriate the sum of \$3,240.00 for Other Welfare as follows (see above). Ned Cutler seconded

- Tyler Bain Homeless Shelter discussed
- Article 4 passed on a voice vote

Read by the Moderator:

ARTICLE 5. Budget for Other Culture & Recreation

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,000 for Other Culture & Recreation as follows: (The Selectmen recommend adoption of this Warrant Article.) (Majority vote required)

North Country Boys & Girls Club	<u>\$1,000.00</u>
Total Other Culture & Recreation	\$1,000.00

Ned Cutler moved that the Town raise and appropriate the sum of \$1000.00 for Other Culture and Recreation as follows (see above). Zak Mei seconded

- No discussion. Motion passed on a voice vote

Read by the Moderator:

ARTICLE 6. Fee for Franconia Library

To see if the Town will vote to accept a special discounted patron rate of \$10 per Easton resident at the Abbie Greenleaf Library in Franconia, and to raise and appropriate the sum of \$450 for payment to such library for this purpose. (The Selectmen recommend adoption of this Warrant Article.) (Majority vote required)

Zak Mei moved that the Town raise and appropriate the sum of \$500.00 for payments to Franconia's Abbie Greenleaf Library to support the special discount for Easton patrons at the rate of \$10.00. Bob Thibault seconded.

- Question by Steve Sabre as to why the amount was raised from \$450.00 in the Warrant to \$500.00 in the motion?
- Zak Mei explained that at \$10.00 per Easton patron, the Abbie Greenleaf Library is funding Easton patrons in the amount of \$540.00, so a \$500.00 contribution would help with the Library's operation expenses
- Zak Mei's motion passed on a voice vote

Read by the Moderator:

ARTICLE 7. Discontinue Library Memorial Trust Fund

To see if the Town will vote to discontinue the Library Memorial Trust Fund. Said funds, if any, with accumulated interest to date of withdrawal, are to be transferred to the municipality's general fund. (The Selectmen recommend adoption of this Warrant Article.) (Majority vote required)

Bob Thibault moved that the Town discontinue the Library Memorial Trust Fund. All funds therein, if any, are to be transferred to the Municipality's general fund. Ned Cutler seconded the motion.

- Denys Draper (a former Easton Library Trustee) stated there was a zero balance in this Trust Fund.
- Article 7 passed on a voice vote

Read by the Moderator:

ARTICLE 8. Discontinue Northern Pass Legal Fees Fund

To see if the Town will vote to discontinue the Expendable Trust Fund for Legal Fees Incurred Representing the Town's Position Regarding the Northern Pass Project created in 2012. Said funds, with accumulated interest to date of withdrawal, are to be transferred to the municipality's general fund. (The Selectmen recommend adoption of this Warrant Article.) (Majority vote required)

Ned Cutler moved that the Town discontinue the Expendable Trust Fund for legal fees incurred representing the Town's position regarding the Northern Pass Project created in 2012. Said funds, with accumulated interest to date of withdrawal, are to be transferred to the municipality's general fund. Zak Mei seconded

- Discussion about this Article included concerns that the Northern Pass Project is not completely resolved, and additional fund could still be needed in the fight.

- Ned Cutler explained that the monies remaining in this fund would transfer to the Legal Trust Fund and could be used for Northern Pass and/or any other legal issues confronting the Town.
- The consensus of those who spoke did not want to eliminate this fund and felt that a dedicated fund for Northern Pass should remain in place for at least another year.
- Article 8 failed on a standing vote 32-14
- Steve Sabre made a move not to reconsider Article 8. Denys Draper seconded. The motion not to reconsider Article 8 passed on a voice vote

Read by the Moderator:

ARTICLE 9. Legal Fees Expendable Trust Fund

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$29,000 to add to the Legal Fees Expendable Trust Fund; of this amount \$15,000 is to come from general taxation with the remaining balance of \$14,000 to come from the Unassigned Fund Balance. (The Selectmen recommend adoption of this Warrant Article.) (Majority vote required)

Zak Mei moved that the Town raise and appropriate the sum of \$15,000 to add to the Legal Fees Expendable Trust Fund; of this amount \$15,000 is to come from general taxation. Bob Thibault seconded.

- Discussion- \$14,000 would remain in the Northern Pass Legal Fees Fund and would not be added to the Legal Fees Expendable Trust Fund, lowering the amount in this fund by \$14,000 to \$15,000 instead of the original \$29,000
- The cost of legal actions (other than Northern Pass) in Town was brought up. The Stever's actions against the Town. were debated. Gibson Road legal fees were mentioned along with potential monetary repercussions to the Town because of legal actions
- Steve Sabre motioned moved to call the question on Zak Mei's motion. Angela Brigida seconded.
- A voice vote was called for. Article 9 passed on a voice vote

Read by the Moderator

ARTICLE 10. Conservation Capital Reserve Trust Fund

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$500 to be added to the Conservation Capital Reserve Trust Fund; of this amount the entirety is to be raised from general taxation. (The Selectmen recommend adoption of this Warrant Article.) (Majority vote required)

Bob Thibault moved that the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$500.00 to be added to the Conservation Capital Reserve Trust Fund; of this amount the entirety is to be raised from general taxation. Ned Cutler seconded

- No discussion. Article 10 passed on a voice vote.

Read by the Moderator:

ARTICLE 11. Town Roads Maintenance Expendable Trust Fund

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$10,000 to add to the Town Roads Maintenance Expendable Trust Fund; of this amount \$10,000 is to be raised

from general taxation. (The Selectmen recommend adoption of this Warrant Article.) (Majority vote required)

Ned Cutler moved that the Town raise and appropriate the sum of \$10,000 to add to the Town Roads Maintenance Expendable Trust Fund; of this amount, \$10,000 is to be raised from general taxation. Zak Mei seconded.

- Discussion-Sean Graham questioned why most funds asked for, in the Articles were coming from General Taxation, rather than the Unassigned Fund Balance (Sean had seen this terminology in previous Town Reports).
- Ned Cutler explained that the Unassigned Fund Balance is used mostly as a safety net
- Article 11 passed on a voice vote.

Read by the Moderator:

ARTICLE 12. Expendable Trust Fund for the Maintenance and Repair of Government Buildings

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$10,000 to add to the Expendable Trust Fund for the Maintenance and Repair of Government Buildings; of this amount the entirety is to be raised from general taxation. (The Selectmen recommend adoption of this Warrant Article.) (Majority vote required)

Zak Mei moved that the Town raise and appropriate the sum of \$10,000 to add to the Expendable Trust Fund for the Maintenance and Repair of Government Buildings; of this amount the entirety is to be raised from general taxation. Bob Thibault seconded

- Discussion – Town roof replacement – this coming year
- The possibility of having the Town Hall building painted was raised. This presents a problem because of the aluminum and vinyl siding currently in place.
- Article 12 passed on a voice vote.

Read by the Moderator:

ARTICLE 13. Town Cemetery Expendable Trust Fund

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,000 to add to the Town Cemetery Expendable Trust Fund; of this amount the entirety is to be raised from general taxation. (The Selectmen recommend adoption of this Warrant Article.) (Majority vote required)

Bob Thibault moved that the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1000 to add to the Town Cemetery Expendable Trust Fund; of this amount the entirety is to be raised from general taxation. Ned Cutler seconded

- No Discussion. Article 13 passed on a voice vote.

Read by the Moderator:

ARTICLE 14. Fire Department Major Equipment Replacement and Repair Expendable Trust Fund

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$7,500 to add to the Fire Department Major Equipment Replacement and Repair Expendable Trust Fund; of this amount the entirety is to be raised from general taxation. (The Selectmen recommend adoption of this Warrant Article.) (Majority vote required)

Ned Cutler moved that the Town raise and appropriate the sum of \$7500 to add to the Fire Department Major Equipment Replacement and Repair Expendable Trust Fund; of this amount the entirety is to be raised from general taxation.

- Discussion- Questions as to the functioning and level of experience of the Easton Fire Dept. and Firefighters were brought up. A suggestion was to conduct a cost benefit analysis of the 27-year-old Fire Dept.
- Article 14 passed on a standing vote.

Read by the Moderator:

ARTICLE 15. Forest Fire Reimbursement Expendable Trust Fund

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$5,000 to add to the Forest Fire Reimbursement Expendable Trust Fund; of this amount the entirety is to be raised from general taxation. (The Selectmen recommend adoption of this Warrant Article.) (Majority vote required)

Zak Mei moved that the Town raise and appropriate the sum of \$5000 to add to the Forest Fire Reimbursement Expendable Trust Fund; of this amount the entirety is to be raised from general taxation. Bob Thibault seconded

- No Discussion – Article 15 passed on a voice vote.

Read by the Moderator:

ARTICLE 16. Master Plan Revision

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$4,000 for the purpose of Town Master Plan Revision. This special warrant article will be a non-lapsing appropriation per RSA 32:7. VI and will not lapse until the Town Master Plan Revision is completed or by December 31, 2019, whichever is sooner. (The Selectmen recommend adoption of this Warrant Article.) (Majority vote required)

Bob Thibault moved that the Town raise and appropriate the sum of \$4000 for the purpose of Town Master Plan Revision. This special Warrant Article will be a non-lapsing appropriation per RSA 32:7.VI and will not lapse until the Town Master Plan Revision is completed or by December 31, 2019, whichever is sooner. Ned Cutler seconded.

- Discussion – Bob Thibault spoke to the bids coming from a planning group and individual planner for assistance with this project reaching a much higher amount than \$4000.
- Anita Craven moved to amend the amount from \$4000 to \$8000. Bob Craven seconded
- Anita Craven’s motion to amend the amount from \$4000 to \$8000 passed by voice vote
- Payment for assistance is on a task completion payment system
- The Master Plan is a vision for the Town of Easton but is a non- binding document.
- Outside agencies and projects (Northern Pass) look at Master Plans to obtain additional knowledge about Towns.
- There is a public hearing associated with the adoption of a Master Plan. Answers to the initial survey are very important
- The Moderator read the amended motion to raise and appropriate the sum of

\$8000 for Town Master Revision

- The Town voted on Article 16 as amended by Anita Craven’s motion and the amended Article 16 passed on a voice vote.

Read by the Moderator:

ARTICLE 17. Other Ambulance

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,000 for the purpose of donation to Franconia Life Squad; of this amount \$500 is to be raised from general taxation with the remaining balance of \$500 to come from the December 31, 2017 Fund Balance. (The Selectmen recommend adoption of this Warrant Article.) (Majority vote required)

Ned Cutler moved that the Town raise and appropriate the sum of \$1000 for the purpose of donation to Franconia Life Squad; of this amount \$500 is to be raised from general taxation with the remaining \$500 to come from the December 31, 2017 Fund Balance. Zak Mei seconded.

- Discussion – Golden Cross (out of Littleton) is our major ambulance provider backed up by Franconia Life Squad.
- Franconia Life Squad did not ask for their donation last year, so this Article includes last year’s payment as well as this year’s.
- Article 17 passed on a voice vote

Read by the Moderator:

ARTICLE 18. Other Animal & Pest Control

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$500 for Other Animal & Pest Control as follows. (The Selectmen recommend adoption of this Warrant Article.) (Majority vote required)

Above the Notch Animal Rescue	<u>\$500.00</u>
Total Other Animal & Pest Control	\$500.00

Zak Mei moved that the Town raise and appropriate the sum of \$500 for Other Pest and Animal Control. Bob Thibault seconded.

- Discussion – Where is Above the Notch Animal Rescue? (Franconia)
- Article 18 passed on a voice vote

Read by the Moderator:

ARTICLE 19. Discontinuance of Town Road

To see if the Town will approve the complete discontinuance of the approximately one-tenth mile long section of “Old” Gibson Road, so-called, from its intersection with the west side of Easton Valley Road (Route 116) westerly to the residence at 50 Gibson Road (Tax Map 3-13), which is no longer required by the Town for use as a public highway. The section of Gibson Road to be discontinued is described in the “Return of Highway Alteration Pursuant to RSA 231:8” dated September 16, 2013 by which the Selectmen altered Gibson Road to the new location shown on the plan attached thereto. (The Selectmen recommend adoption of this Warrant Article.) (Majority vote required)

Bob Thibault moved that the Town approve the complete discontinuance of the

approximately one-tenth mile long section of “Old” Gibson Road, so-called, from its intersection with the west side of Easton Valley Road (Route 116) westerly to the residence at 50 Gibson Road (Tax Map 3-13), which is no longer required by the Town for use as a public highway. The section of Gibson Road to be discontinued is described in the “Return of Highway Alteration Pursuant to RSA 231:8” dated September 16, 2013 by which the Selectmen altered Gibson Road to the new location shown on the plan attached thereto. Ned Cutler seconded.

- Discussion- Bob Thibault spoke to the history of this Warrant Article. The land from the original Gibson Rd. reverted to the owner
- Clarification of the location of the Road was given
- Thanks, was given to Campbell McLaren for the donation of the land for the “new” Gibson Road
- Article 19 passed on a voice vote

Read by the Moderator:

ARTICLE 20. Verify Classification of Paine Road

To see if the Town will vote to reclassify the approximately six-tenths of a mile unpaved section of Paine Road as a Class V Highway pursuant to RSA 231:22-a, and to designate that same section of Paine Road as a Highway to Summer Cottages pursuant to RSA 231:79-81. (The Selectmen recommend adoption of this Warrant Article.) (Majority vote required)

Ned Cutler moved that that the Town reclassify the approximately six-tenths of a mile unpaved section of Paine Road as a Class V Highway pursuant to RSA 231:22-a, and to designate that same section of Paine Road as a Highway to Summer Cottages pursuant to RSA 231:79-81.

Zak Mei seconded the motion

Ned Cutler read the Explanatory Note accompanying the Warrant stating: this Article is intended to ratify the Town’s votes on Articles 9 and 10 at the 2016 Annual Meeting, to the extent there may be any uncertainty whether those votes were effective in reclassifying the above-referenced section of Paine Road as a Class V Highway to Summer Cottages.

- Discussion - Roy Stever and Bob Thibault addressed the voters.
- Tom Boucher moved to call the question.; Gary Harwood seconded.
- Bob Craven invoked a “point of order” for a change of wording (change “reclassify” to “verify classification”). The “point of order” was not taken by the Moderator.
- An “Aye” vote approved Tom Boucher’s motion to call the question.
- Anita Craven made a motion to pass over this Article. The motion was seconded.
- A standing vote was taken with the result being not to pass over the Article
- A discussion continued regarding road classification, gates, and road safety issues.
- Tom Boucher moved for a second time to call the question on Ned Cutler’s original motion. Angela Brigida seconded.
- The motion to call the question passed on a voice vote
- The Moderator asked for a voice vote on Ned Cutler’s original motion (which he read once again). Article 20 passed on a voice vote

Read by the Moderator:

ARTICLE 21. Rivers Management Protection Program

To approve the inclusion of the Ham Branch watershed in the Rivers Management Protection Program. (The Selectmen do not recommend adoption of this Warrant Article) (Majority vote required)

Kris Pastoriza who presented this petitioned Warrant to the Select Board made the motion to approve the inclusion of the Ham Branch Watershed in the River Management Protection Program. Gary Harwood seconded.

- Discussion – many in the audience spoke for and against this program.
- While proponents claimed inclusion in this program might thwart major energy projects from coming into Easton, opponents expressed the loss of landowner rights.
- The Moderator called for a standing vote on the motion. Article 21 failed.

Read by the Moderator:

ARTICLE 22. Fire Department Capital Reserve Fund

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$20,000 to be added to the Fire Department Equipment Capital Reserve Fund previously established. Of this amount \$20,000 to be raised from general taxation. (The Selectmen recommend adoption of this Warrant Article.) (Majority vote required)

Bob Thibault moved that the Town raise and appropriate the sum of \$20,000 to be added to the Fire Department Equipment Capital Reserve Fund previously established. Of this amount \$20,000 is to be raised from general taxation. Ned Cutler seconded.

- Discussion – How much is in the Fund? \$110,628.86
- Is the Fire Dept. applying for any grants? Does the awarding of a grant have anything to do with the experience of the firefighters in the Department?
- Beth Harwood moved to call the question. Steve Sabre seconded. Motion to call the question passed on a voice vote.
- Article 22 passed on a voice vote

OTHER BUSINESS

Bob Thibault presented plaques of appreciation to Kris Pastoriza and Sue Schibanoff for their work, dedication, and perseverance to defeat Northern Pass.

Zak Mei thanked outgoing Selectman, Ned Cutler, for his six years of service to the Town. He cited Ned's knowledge of the budget and his calm manner in providing leadership in this office.

The 2018 Annual Meeting was closed at 10:45 p.m. by the Moderator.

BUDGET OF THE TOWN OF EASTON – REVENUE

SOURCES OF REVENUE	Estimated 2018	Actual 2018	Estimated 2019
Taxes:			
3185 Yield Taxes	\$ 11,255.00	\$ 11,256.00	\$ 0.00
3186 Payment in Lieu of Taxes	35,695.00	35,695.00	32,000.00
3190 Interest & Penalties on Delinquent Taxes	2,000.00	3,164.00	1,000.00
Licenses, Permits, & Fees:			
3220 Motor Vehicle Permit Fees	50,000.00	64,498.00	45,000.00
3230 Building Permits	750.00	1,605.00	500.00
3290 Other Licenses, Permits & Fees	750.00	1,703.00	200.00
3311-3319 From Federal Government	0.00	3,661.00	0.00
From State:			
3352 Meals & Rooms Tax Distribution	13,732.00	13,732.00	13,732.00
3353 Highway Block Grant	8,812.00	8,807.00	8,807.00
3359 Other State Revenue	0.00	0.00	0.00
3379 From Other Governments	0.00	0.00	0.00
Charges For Services:			
3401-3406 Income from Departments	1,000.00	1,316.00	500.00
Miscellaneous Revenues:			
3501 Sale of Municipal Property	0.00	0.00	0.00
3502 Interest on Investments	500.00	773.00	300.00
3503 Other Miscellaneous Revenue	0.00	845.00	0.00
Interfund Operating Transfer In:			
3915 From Capital Reserve Fund	0.00	20,650.00	95,000.00
3916 From Trust & Fiduciary Fund	0.00	16,070.00	0.00
Other Financing Sources:			
3934 Proceeds from Long Term Bonds	0.00	0.00	0.00
Amount Voted From Fund Balance	500.00	500.00	8,897.00
Estimated Fund Balance To Reduce Taxes	<u>10,000.00</u>	<u>10,000.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>
Total Estimated Revenue & Credits	\$134,994.00	\$194,275.00	\$205,936.00

BUDGET OF THE TOWN OF EASTON – EXPENDITURES

PURPOSES OF APPROPRIATIONS	Estimated 2018	Actual 2018	Proposed 2019
General Government:			
4130-4139 Executive	\$ 16,550.00	\$ 14,168.00	\$ 16,550.00
4140-4149 Election, Reg., & Vital Statistics	12,000.00	11,780.00	12,500.00
4150-4151 Financial Administration	14,750.00	13,615.00	14,500.00
4152 Revaluation of Property	6,000.00	5,996.00	6,000.00
4153 Legal Expenses	25,000.00	59,002.00	20,000.00
4155-4159 Personnel Administration	2,000.00	1,755.00	2,000.00
4191-4193 Planning & Zoning	2,500.00	4,919.00	4,500.00
4194 General Government Buildings	14,500.00	30,415.00	13,000.00
4195 Cemeteries	2,600.00	1,754.00	2,600.00
4196 Insurance	2,963.00	2,999.00	3,200.00
4197 Advertising & Regional Association	1,990.00	1,600.00	2,020.00
4199 Other General Government	5,000.00	0.00	5,000.00
Public Safety:			
4210-4214 Police	0.00	0.00	0.00
4215-4219 Ambulance	10,853.00	10,949.00	11,353.00
4220-4229 Fire	23,500.00	20,569.00	23,500.00
4240-4249 Building Inspections	250.00	0.00	250.00
4290-4298 Emergency Management	151.00	1,678.00	500.00
4299 Other (including communications)	1,500.00	0.00	1,500.00
Highways and Streets:			
4312 Highways & Streets	70,000.00	55,108.00	65,000.00
Sanitation:			
4321 Administration	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00
4323 Solid Waste Collection	0.00	0.00	0.00
4324 Solid Waste Disposal	24,389.00	24,389.00	28,230.00
Health:			
4414 Pest Control	300.00	0.00	300.00
4415-4419 Health Agencies & Hosp. & Other	0.00	0.00	0.00
Welfare:			
4442 Welfare Direct Assistance	3,000.00	0.00	3,000.00
4449 Other Welfare and Donations	0.00	0.00	0.00
Culture and Recreation:			
4520-4529 Parks & Recreation	13,601.00	13,601.00	16,351.00
4550-4559 Library	0.00	0.00	0.00
4583 Patriotic Purposes	100.00	0.00	100.00
4589 Other Culture & Recreation	0.00	0.00	0.00
Conservation:			
4619 Other Conservation	1,500.00	421.00	1,100.00

Debt Service:

4711 Principal-Long Term Bonds & Notes	8,411.00	7,338.00	7,400.00
4721 Interest-Long Term Bonds & Notes	2,876.00	2,613.00	2,700.00

Capital Outlay:

4909 Other Capital Outlay	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>
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OPERATING BUDGET TOTAL	\$ 267,284.00	\$ 285,669.00	\$ 264,154.00
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SPECIAL WARRANT ARTICLES

4915 To Capital Reserve Fund	\$20,500.00	\$20,500.00	\$ 29,397.00
4916 To Exp. Trust Fund	62,500.00	48,500.00	55,000.00
4902 Machinery, Vehicles & Equipment	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>95,000.00</u>

Special Articles Recommended	\$83,000.00	\$69,000.00	\$179,397.00
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INDIVIDUAL WARRANT ARTICLES

4415-4419 Health Agencies, Hospital & Other	\$2,011.00	\$1,011.00	\$1,511.00
4449 Other Welfare & Donations	3,240.00	2,800.00	2,600.00
4449 Other Welfare & Donations	1,000.00	0.00	0.00
4414 Animal Control	500.00	0.00	500.00
4550-4559 Library	450.00	500.00	500.00
4589 Other Culture & Recreation	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00
4191 Master Plan Update	<u>4,000.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>

Special Articles Recommended	\$12,201.00	\$5,311.00	\$6,111.00
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BUDGET SUMMARY

	Prior Year <u>Budget</u>	Prior Year <u>Actual</u>	Ensuing Year <u>Budget</u>
Operating Budget Recommended	\$267,284.00	\$285,669.00	\$264,154.00
Special Warrant Articles Recommended	83,000.00	69,000.00	179,397.00
Individual Warrant Articles Recommended	<u>12,201.00</u>	<u>5,311.00</u>	<u>6,111.00</u>
Total Appropriations Recommended	362,485.00	359,980.00	449,662.00
Less: Estimated Revenues & Credits	124,494.00	183,775.00	197,539.00
Less: Fund Balance Use	<u>10,500.00</u>	<u>10,500.00</u>	<u>8,897.00</u>
Estimated Amount of Taxes to be Raised	\$227,491.00	\$165,705.00	\$243,226.00

PROFIT & LOSS

2018

Ordinary Income/Expense

Income

3110-1	Property Tax Revenue	\$ 744,488.00
3185-0	Timber Taxes	11,255.69
3186-0	Payments in Lieu of Taxes	35,695.00
3190-0	Penalties & Interest	3,163.95
3220-0	Motor Vehicle Permits & Titles	64,498.00
3230-0	Building Permits	1,605.00
3290-0	Other Licenses, Permits & Fees	1,702.80
3319	Federal Grants	3,660.75
3352-0	Rooms & Meals Tax	13,732.37
3353-0	Highway Block Grant	8,807.04
3401-0	Income from All Departments	1,316.49
3502-0	Bank Interest	773.16
3508	Donations	845.00
3915-0	Transfers from Capital Reserve	20,650.00
3916-0	Transfers from Trust Funds	<u>16,070.00</u>

Total Income

\$ 928,263.25

Expense

4130-0	Executive	
4130100	Salaries - Selectmen, Moderator	7,950.00
4130150	Secretary Pay	1,326.00
4130200	Fees-NHMA Lectures	90.00
4130300	Outside Services - Tax Maps	990.00
4130600	Office Expenses	<u>3,812.16</u>

Total 4130-0 Executive

14,168.16

4140-0 Election Registration, Town Clerk & Vital Statistics

4140100	Salary - Town Clerk	6,000.00
4140150	Deputy Town Clerk	1,500.00
4140200	Fees - Town Clerk	275.00
4140500	Election & Voter Registration	3,368.93
4140600	Office & Miscellaneous	<u>635.72</u>

Total 4140-0 Election Registration, Town Clerk & Vital Statistics

11,779.65

4150 Financial Administration

4150100	Salaries - Tax Collector, Treasurer, Auditor	5,374.97
4150125	Financial Services	4,450.00
4150200	Fees & Miscellaneous	2,152.01
4150600	Office Expenses & Bank Charges	<u>1,638.35</u>

Total 4150 Financial Administration

13,615.33

4152-0	Revaluation of Individual Property		
4152100	Revaluation	4,800.00	
4152200	Reval Software	<u>1,196.00</u>	
Total 4152-0	Revaluation of Individual Property		5,996.00
4153-0	Legal Expenses		59,002.34
4155-22	Personnel Administration & Payroll Taxes		1,754.54
4191-00	Planning & Zoning		4,918.86
4194-0	Government Buildings		
4194400	Utilities	5,645.99	
4194800	Repairs, Maintenance & Supplies	22,943.78	
4194900	Mowing, Gardening & Wreaths	<u>1,825.00</u>	
Total 4194-0	Government Buildings		30,414.77
4195-0	Cemetery		
4195900	Mowing & Maintenance	<u>1,754.00</u>	
Total 4195-0	Cemetery		1,754.00
4196-0	Insurance		
4196100	Property Liability-NHMA	2,463.00	
4196200	Worker's Compensation-Primex	<u>536.40</u>	
Total 4196-0	Insurance		2,999.40
4197-0	Advertising & Regional Association		1,599.87
4215-0	Ambulances		10,948.40
4220-0	Fire Department		
4220100	Salary - Fire Chief	1,000.00	
4220110	Firefighters Call Pay	1,223.00	
4220200	Training, Dues, Other	1,210.00	
4220400	Utilities	3,709.58	
4220600	Office & Miscellaneous	294.89	
4220630	Truck Inspection, Maintenance & Repair	6,940.41	
4220635	Truck Fuel	588.08	
4220700	Equipment & Small Tools	4,891.21	
4220800	Building Maintenance & Supply	<u>711.77</u>	
Total 4220-0	Fire Department		20,568.94
4290	Emergency Management – Forest Fire		
4290200	Training	<u>178.35</u>	
Total 4290	Emergency Management – Forest Fire		178.35
4299-0	Emergency Management – Communication		1,500.00

4312000 Highway Maintenance		
4312100 Highway Maintenance General	<u>55,107.62</u>	
Total 4312000 Highway Maintenance		55,107.62
4324-0 Solid Waste		
4324100 Administration	1,000.00	
4324200 Disposal	<u>24,389.00</u>	
Total 4324-0 Solid Waste		25,389.00
4415 Health Agencies & Hospitals		1,011.14
4449 Other Welfare		
4449100 Other Welfare & Donations	<u>2,800.00</u>	
Total 4449 Other Welfare		2,800.00
4520 Parks and Recreation		
4520100 Administrative Fees	1,000.00	
4520200 Tri-Town Recreation Program	<u>12,601.00</u>	
Total 4520 Parks and Recreation		13,601.00
4550 Library		500.00
4589 Other Culture and Recreation		
4589900 Boys & Girls Club	<u>1,000.00</u>	
Total 4589 Other Culture and Recreation		1,000.00
4619 Other Conservation		421.03
4711 Construction Bond - Principal		7,338.20
4721 Construction Bond - Interest		2,613.04
4915 Transfers to Capital Reserve		69,000.00
4931 County Taxes		124,158.00
4933100 Lafayette Regional School District		230,154.00
4933200 Profile School District		<u>167,937.00</u>
Total Expense		<u>882,228.64</u>
Net Ordinary Income		<u>46,034.61</u>
Net Income		<u><u>46,034.61</u></u>

BALANCE SHEET

December 31, 2018

ASSETS

Current Assets

Checking/Savings

1001 WGSB Checking Account	\$ 214,437.73
1002 WGSB Money Market Fund	<u>122,706.67</u>
Total Checking/Savings	<u>337,144.40</u>

Other Current Assets

1010.3 Cash on Hand	100.00
1080100 Property Taxes - Current Year	38,276.35
1110 Tax Liens Receivable	<u>21,487.42</u>
Total Other Current Assets	<u>59,863.77</u>

Total Current Assets	397,008.17
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Other Assets

1670 Tax Deeded Property	<u>29,368.41</u>
Total Other Assets	<u>29,368.41</u>

TOTAL ASSETS	<u><u>\$426,376.58</u></u>
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LIABILITIES AND EQUITY

Liabilities

Current Liabilities

Other Current Liabilities

2020.1 Accounts Payable at Year End	\$ 11,949.38
2023 Property Taxes POA/Overpayments	2,820.75
2025 Withholding Taxes	2,714.58
2075 Due to School Districts	<u>135,942.00</u>
Total Other Current Liabilities	<u>153,426.71</u>

Total Current Liabilities	<u>153,426.71</u>
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Total Liabilities	153,426.71
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Equity

2440 Nonspendable Fund Balance	29,368.41
2450 Restricted Fund Balance – Conservation	709.85
2460 Committed Fund Balance – Encumbrances	5,890.00
2530 Unassigned Fund Balance	190,947.00

Net Income	<u>46,034.61</u>
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Total Equity	<u>272,949.87</u>
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TOTAL LIABILITES & EQUITY	<u><u>\$426,376.58</u></u>
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**TOWN OF EASTON
TOWN MEETING WARRANT
MARCH 12, 2019**

To the inhabitants of the Town of Easton, in the County of Grafton, in the State of New Hampshire qualified to vote in Town affairs: You are hereby notified and warned of the Annual Town Meeting to be held at the Town Hall in said Town on Tuesday, March 12, 2019. Polls will open from 3:00 PM to 6:00 PM for voting on Articles 1-3. The Town's annual business meeting will follow at 7:00 PM.

To act upon the following subjects:

ARTICLE 1. Elect All Officers

To choose all necessary officers for the ensuing year, on the Official Ballot. (Ballot Vote)

ARTICLE 2. To see if the Town is in favor of the adoption of Amendment #1 as proposed by the Planning Board for the Town of Easton Zoning Ordinance as follows:

Replace the entirety of Article 6, Section 606, Steep slopes hillside & ridgeline development overlay district, Part D, Density Analysis to state:

Prior to submitting an application for subdivision, the applicant shall complete a slope-density analysis to determine the allowable density for the subject lots. Such analysis shall include a lot elevation map highlighting the areas of the lots having a slope less than 15%, as well as the percentage of area highlighted per lot.

Lots with a surface area of less than 15% slope over or equal to half of the lot shall have a minimum lot size of three (3) acres. Lots with a surface area of greater than 15% slope over half of the lot shall have a minimum lot size of six (6) acres.

In all cases, each lot shall have at least one contiguous acre that is of less than 15% slope. The lots are subject to State and Town building requirements in force at time of approval.

(The Planning Board recommends adoption of this Article) (Ballot vote)

ARTICLE 3. To see if the Town is in favor of the adoption of Amendment #2 as proposed by the Planning Board for the Town of Easton Zoning Ordinance as follows:

Append the following to Article 8, Section 810, Road and driveway access:

All private driveways less than 18 feet wide and exceeding a length of 1500 feet, must have a turnout(s) capable of supporting a fire truck or other emergency vehicle, in order to allow another emergency vehicle to pass. Minimum dimensions of the turnout shall be at least 12 feet wide and 40 feet long. There must be at least one turnout for every 1500

feet of driveway. Turnout(s) should be approximately equally placed.

(The Planning Board recommends adoption of this Article) (Ballot vote)

ARTICLE 4. Town Operating Budget

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$264,154 for general Town operation as follows.

Executive	\$ 16,550.00
Election Registration, Town Clerk & Vital Stats	12,500.00
Financial Administration	14,500.00
Revaluation of Individual Properties	6,000.00
Legal Expenses	20,000.00
Personnel Administration & Payroll Taxes	2,000.00
Planning & Zoning	4,500.00
Government Buildings	13,000.00
Cemetery	2,600.00
Insurance	3,200.00
Advertising & Regional Associations	2,020.00
General Government – Contingency	5,000.00
Police Department	0.00
Ambulances	11,353.00
Fire Department	23,500.00
Building Inspections	250.00
Emergency Management – Forest Fire	500.00
Public Safety – Other (Including Communications)	1,500.00
Highways and Streets	65,000.00
Sanitation – Solid Waste	29,230.00
Animal & Pest Control	300.00
Welfare Assistance	3,000.00
Parks and Recreation	16,351.00
Library	0.00
Patriotic Purposes	100.00
Conservation Commission	1,100.00
Construction Bonds – Principal	7,400.00
Construction Bonds – Interest	<u>2,700.00</u>
Total Operating Budget	\$264,154.00

ARTICLE 5. Budget for Health Agencies & Hospitals

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,511 for Health Agencies & Hospitals as follows: (The Selectmen recommend adoption of this Warrant Article.) (Majority vote required.)

Ammonoosuc Community Health Services	\$ 500.00
North Country Home Health & Hospice	800.00
White Mountain Mental Health	<u>211.00</u>
Total Health Agencies & Hospitals	\$1,511.00

ARTICLE 6. Budget for Other Welfare

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$2,600 for Other Welfare as follows: (The Selectmen recommend adoption of this Warrant Article.) (Majority vote required.)

American Red Cross	\$ 100.00
Center for New Beginnings	250.00
Grafton County Senior Citizens Council	100.00
Tri-County CAP Energy Service Program	<u>2,150.00</u>
Total Other Welfare	\$2,600.00

ARTICLE 7. Budget for Other Culture & Recreation

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,000 for Other Culture & Recreation: (The Selectmen recommend adoption of this Warrant Article) (Majority vote required.)

North Country Boys & Girls Club	\$1,000.00
Total Other Culture & Recreation	\$1,000.00

ARTICLE 8. Fee for Franconia Library

To see if the Town will vote to accept a special discounted patron rate of \$10 per Easton resident at the Abbie Greenleaf Library in Franconia, and to raise and appropriate the sum of \$500 for payment to such library for this purpose. (The Selectmen recommend adoption of this Warrant Article.) (Majority vote required.)

ARTICLE 9. Other Animal & Pest Control

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$500 for Above the Notch Animal Rescue; of this amount the entirety is to be raised from general taxation. (The Selectmen recommend adoption of this Warrant Article.) (Majority vote required.)

ARTICLE 10. Fire Department Capital Equipment Reserve Fund

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$20,000.00 to add to the Easton Fire Department Capital Equipment Reserve Fund (established in March 1997); of this amount the entirety is to be raised from general taxation. (The Selectmen recommend adoption of this Warrant Article.) (Majority vote required.)

ARTICLE 11. Legal Fees Expendable Trust Fund

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$20,000 to add to the Legal Fees Expendable Trust Fund; of this amount the entirety is to be raised from general taxation. (The Selectmen recommend adoption of this Warrant Article.) (Majority vote required.)

ARTICLE 12. Conservation Capital Reserve Trust Fund

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$500 to be added to the Conservation Capital Reserve Trust Fund; of this amount the entirety is to be raised from general taxation. (The Selectmen recommend adoption of this Warrant Article.) (Majority vote required.)

ARTICLE 13. Town Roads Maintenance Expendable Trust Fund

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$10,000 to add to the Town Roads Maintenance Expendable Trust Fund; of this amount the entirety is to be raised from general taxation. (The Selectmen recommend adoption of this Warrant Article.) (Majority vote required.)

ARTICLE 14. Expendable Trust Fund for the Maintenance and Repair of Government Buildings

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$7,500 to add to the Expendable Trust Fund for the Maintenance and Repair of Government Buildings; of this amount the entirety is to be raised from general taxation. (The Selectmen recommend adoption of this Warrant Article.) (Majority vote required.)

ARTICLE 15. Town Cemetery Expendable Trust Fund

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$5,000 to add to the Town Cemetery Expendable Trust Fund; of this amount the entirety is to be raised from general taxation. (The Selectmen recommend adoption of this Warrant Article.) (Majority vote required.)

ARTICLE 16. Fire Dept. Major Equipment Replacement and Repair Expendable Trust Fund

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$7,500 to add to the Fire Department Major Equipment Replacement and Repair Expendable Trust Fund; of this amount the entirety is to be raised from general taxation. (The Selectmen recommend adoption of this Warrant Article.) (Majority vote required.)

ARTICLE 17. Forest Fire Reimbursement Expendable Trust Fund

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$5,000 to add to the Forest Fire Reimbursement Expendable Trust Fund; of this amount the entirety is to be raised from general taxation. (The Selectmen recommend adoption of this Warrant Article.) (Majority vote required.)

ARTICLE 18. Establish and Fund the Transfer Station Capital Reserve Fund

To see if the Town will vote to establish the Transfer Station Capital Reserve Fund under the provisions of RSA 35:1 for the purpose of financing Easton's share of equipment purchases and improvements at the Tri-Town Transfer Station, and to raise and appropriate the sum of \$8,897 to add to the said fund; of this amount the entirety is to come from the December 31, 2018 Fund Balance. The amount represents Easton's share of the funds from the discontinuation of the Franconia Transfer Station Recycling Special Revenue Fund. Furthermore, to appoint the Selectmen as Agents to expend from the fund. (The Selectmen recommend adoption of this Warrant Article.) (Majority vote required.)

ARTICLE 19. Change of Purpose for the Fire Dept Major Equipment Repair & Replacement Fund

To see if the Town will vote to change the purpose of the Fire Dept Major Equipment Repair & Replacement Fund from covering major or unforeseen Fire Dept equipment replacement and repair costs, excluding vehicle replacements, to equipment acquisition,

repair and replacement for the EFD, excluding acquisition and replacement of vehicles and apparatuses. Furthermore, to change the fund name to the Easton Fire Department Equipment Expendable Trust Fund, and to appoint the Selectmen as Agents to expend from the fund. (The Selectmen recommend adoption of this Warrant Article.) (2/3 vote required.)

ARTICLE 20. Change of Purpose for the Fire Department Capital Equipment Reserve Fund

To see if the Town will vote to change the purpose of the Easton Fire Department Capital Equipment Reserve Fund from equipment acquisition and replacement for the EFD, to vehicle and apparatus acquisition and replacement for the EFD and to change the fund name to the Easton Fire Department Vehicle and Apparatus Capital Reserve Fund. Furthermore, to remove the Selectmen as Agents to expend from the fund. (The Selectmen recommend adoption of this Warrant Article.) (2/3 vote required.)

ARTICLE 21. Purchase a pre-owned, replacement firefighting apparatus for the Easton Fire Department

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$95,000.00 to purchase a firefighting apparatus for the Easton Fire Department; of this amount the entirety is authorized to be withdrawn from the Easton Fire Department Vehicle and Apparatus Capital Reserve Fund established for that purpose. (The Selectmen recommend adoption of this Warrant Article.) (Majority vote required.)

ARTICLE 22. PETITIONED – Abutter Approval for Road Expansion

Any minor bridge/culvert repair, pavement expansion or road widening for maintenance or other purpose, on state or municipal roads, must be approved by abutters in area where the ROW width is unknown, has not been previously determined and marked by NHDOT, or is in dispute.

ARTICLE 23. PETITIONED – Permission for Horizontal Directional Drilling

Horizontal Directional Drilling is prohibited in road rights-of-way without abutting landowner permission, due to its high potential for sub-surface chemical/material trespass onto abutting properties.

ARTICLE 24. PETITIONED – Survey for Infrastructure Burial

Any major construction that involves burial of electrical transmission infrastructure, or any other utility, in public roadways, requires a complete boundary survey for road width and all abutting property lines, including complete deed chains, signed by a licensed NH surveyor and accepted by the Town, before construction.

NOTES

TREASURER'S REPORT
for the Year Ending December 31, 2018

Bank Balance- January 1, 2018		\$ 269,646.89
Receipts:		
Tax Collector	\$812,891.58	
Town Clerk - Motor Vehicles, Fees, etc.	65,320.80	
From Federal & State Government	26,200.16	
From Capital Reserve Fund	36,720.00	
Bank Interest	773.16	
Other Sources	<u>1,129.45</u>	
Total 2018 Receipts		<u>943,035.15</u>
Total Available Receipts		\$1,212,682.04
Disbursements:		
Grafton County - County Taxes	\$124,158.00	
School Districts	398,091.00	
Selectmen Ordered Paid	<u>353,288.64</u>	
Total Disbursements		<u>\$ 875,537.64</u>
Bank Balance as of December 31, 2018		\$ 337,144.40

**STATEMENT OF APPROPRIATIONS
2018 TAX RATE CALCULATION**

Town Portion

Appropriations	\$352,535.00	
Less Revenues	(124,494.00)	
Less Fund Balance Used	(10,500.00)	
Add: War Service Credits	2,950.00	
Add: Overlay	4,640.00	
Net Town Appropriation	\$225,131.00	\$225,131.00

School Portion

Net Cooperative School Appropriations	398,091.00	
Less Locally Retained State Education Tax	(145,098.00)	
Net Local School Portion	252,993.00	252,993.00

State Education Tax

State Education Tax	145,098.00	
Less State Education Tax Not Retained	-	
Net State Education Tax	145,098.00	145,098.00

Approved County Tax Effort

		124,158.00
Total Property Taxes Assessed		747,380.00
Less War Service Credits		(2,950.00)
Total Property Tax Commitment		\$744,430.00

2017 Tax Rate			2018 Tax Rate		
		%			%
Town	\$ 2.99	23	Town	\$ 3.54	30
County	1.90	14	County	1.95	16
School	6.03	46	School	3.98	34
State	2.22	17	State	2.31	20
	\$13.14	100%		\$11.78	100%

2018 SUMMARY INVENTORY OF ASSESSED VALUATION

Land Value Only

Current Use	\$ 287,329.00
Residential Land	26,363,600.00
Commercial/Industrial Land	<u>268,600.00</u>
Total of Taxable Land	\$26,919,529.00
Tax Exempt and Non Taxable Land	(20,781,000.00)

Buildings Value Only

Residential	35,342,798.00
Commercial/Industrial	460,400.00
Discretionary Preservation Easements	<u>2,802.00</u>
Total of Taxable Buildings	35,806,000.00
Tax Exempt and Non-Taxable Buildings	(281,800.00)

Utilities and Timber

Utilities	928,500.00
Valuation Before Exemption	\$63,654,029.00

Exemptions Applied

Elderly Exemption	(20,000.00)
Total Dollar Amount of Exemptions	<u>20,000.00</u>

Net Valuation	\$63,634,029.00
Less Utilities	(928,500.00)
Net Valuation Without Utilities	\$62,705,529.00
Change in Net Valuation Over 2017 (\$62,456,696.00)	\$ 248,833.00

TAX COLLECTOR

Just a reminder – property owners of Easton can look up their tax information on the internet. Access the “Tax Kiosk” by going to the Town website, townofeastonnh.org and clicking on the Tax Collector’s information. This will direct you step by step to your tax card, or you can go directly to www.nhtaxkiosk.com.

As always you can call the office (603-823-7707) Thursdays between 1:00 and 5:00 p.m. If you have questions or concerns, email the Tax Collector at eastonhtownclerk@gmail.com or eastonhtaxcollector@gmail.com, or stop in for more personal assistance. The Tax Collector is also in the office on the last Friday of the month between 4:00 and 6:00 p.m.

Melissa Elander
Easton Town Clerk
Easton Tax Collector

TAX COLLECTOR – SUMMARY OF WARRANTS
Levies of 2018

DEBITS

<u>Uncollected Taxes</u> <u>Beginning of Year</u>	<u>Account</u>	<u>Levy for Yr. of</u> <u>This Report</u>	<u>2017</u>	<u>2016</u>
Property Taxes	3110	\$	\$111,553.33	\$31.86
Property Tax Credit Balance		(2,194.96)		
<u>Taxes Committed This Year</u>				
Property Taxes	3110	744,516.00		
Yield Taxes	3185	11,255.69		
<u>Overpayment Refunds</u>				
Property Taxes	3110			
Interest and Penalties on Delinquent Taxes	3190	<u>221.71</u>	<u>2,902.49</u>	<u>0.14</u>
<u>TOTAL DEBITS</u>		\$753,798.44	\$114,455.82	\$32.00

CREDITS

<u>Remitted To Treasurer</u>				
Property Taxes		\$706,865.44	\$92,100.52	\$31.86
Yield Taxes		11,255.69		
Interest (w/ Lien Conversion)		211.71	2,324.35	0.14
Penalties		10.00	578.14	
Conversion to Lien (Principal Only)			19,437.81	
<u>Abatements Made</u>				
Property Taxes			15.00	
Current Levy Deeded				
<u>Uncollected Taxes - End Of Year</u>				
Property Taxes		38,276.35		
Property Tax Credit Balance*		<u>(2,820.75)</u>		
<u>TOTAL CREDITS</u>		\$753,798.44	\$114,455.82	\$32.00

SUMMARY OF TAX LIEN ACCOUNTS

DEBITS

	Last Year's Levy	2017	2016
Unredeemed Liens Balance at Beginning of Fiscal Year	\$0.00	\$ 0.00	\$1,536.73
Liens Executed During Fiscal Year	0.00	21,216.61	0.00
Interest & Costs Collected (After Lien Execution)	<u>0.00</u>	<u>39.61</u>	<u>0.00</u>
Total Debits	\$0.00	\$21,256.22	\$1,536.73

CREDITS

Remitted To Treasurer:

Redemptions	\$0.00	\$ 1,265.92	\$ 0.00
Interest & Costs Collected (After Lien Execution) #3190	0.00	39.61	0.00
Abatements of Unredeemed Liens Liens Deeded to Municipality	0.00	0.00	0.00
Unredeemed Liens Balance #1110	<u>0.00</u>	<u>19,950.69</u>	<u>0.00</u>
Total Credits	\$0.00	\$21,256.22	\$1,536.73

TOWN CLERK'S REPORT
For the Year Ending December 31, 2018

Motor Vehicle Registrations & Titles	\$64,498.00
Dog Registrations	421.00
Penalties	4.00
Copies	97.80
Marriage License & Certified Copies	15.00
Miscellaneous	<u>285.00</u>
Transferred to Town	\$65,320.80

VITAL RECORDS REGISTERED IN THE TOWN OF EASTON
For the Year Ending December 31, 2018

BIRTHS

Date & Place Of Birth	Name Of Child	Name Of Father & Mother's Name
June 15, 2018 Littleton, NH	Gail Thornton	Daniel Thornton Angela Thornton
June 15, 2018 Littleton, NH	Grace Thornton	Daniel Thornton Angela Thornton

MARRIAGES

Date & Place Of Marriage	Name and Surname Of Groom & Bride	Residence of Each At Time Of Marriage
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NONE

DEATHS

Date & Place Of Death	Name of Deceased
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January 8, 2018 Woodsville, NH	Vincent Place
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Respectfully submitted,
Melissa Elander, Town Clerk

SCHEDULE OF TOWN PROPERTY

December 31, 2018

Assessed Values:	
Land - Town Hall and Fire Station	\$ 90,500.00
Land - Deeded	15,200.00
Land - Cemetery	92,300.00
Building - Town Hall	247,200.00
Building - Fire Station	58,400.00
Estimated Values:	
Furniture and Equipment - Town Hall	23,100.00
Furniture and Equipment - Fire Station	163,285.00
Furniture and Equipment - Police	<u>800.00</u>
Total Town Property	\$690,785.00

SCHEDULE OF LONG-TERM DEBT

December 31, 2018

USDA Rural Development Town Hall Addition from 2001

	<u>Principal</u>
Original Amount	\$120,000.00
Balance December 31, 2017	35,407.00
Payments in 2018	<u>35,407.00</u>
Balance December 31, 2018	\$ -

Woodsville Guaranty Savings Bank Refinanced Town Hall Addition from 2001

	<u>Principal</u>
Original Amount	\$40,315.00
New Debt in 2017	40,315.00
Payments in 2018	<u>2,801.00</u>
Balance December 31, 2018	\$37,514.00

Woodsville Guaranty Savings Bank Ashton Property from 2017

	<u>Principal</u>
Original Amount	\$60,427.00
Balance December 31, 2017	58,231.00
Payments in 2018	<u>4,537.00</u>
Balance December 31, 2018	\$53,694.00

TRUSTEES OF THE TRUST FUNDS

In 2018, the Trustees of the Trust Funds, with cooperation from the Treasurer and Select Board, moved into the realm of online banking with the assistance of Woodsville Guaranty Savings Bank; money transfers are now able to be completed electronically between the Town Treasurer, Darrel Gearhart and the Trustees. The process is secure, expedient, paperless, and efficient, eliminating the need to write checks or trek to the bank in order to deposit them. It also allows the Select Board access to view all the trust accounts, online, when needed.

Easton Trustees of the Trust Funds

Denys Draper
John Hynes
Claire Mei

Town of Easton Report of Trust Funds

December 31, 2018

Account	Type of Fund	Beginning Balance	Additions		Withdrawals	Ending Balance
			*Deposits	Interest		
Cemetery Maintenance	ETF	\$4,754.07	\$1,000.00	\$2.57	\$0.00	\$5,756.64
Cemetery Maintenance	TRUST	\$13,126.66	\$0.00	\$19.79	\$0.00	\$13,146.45
Conservation	CRF	\$2,004.83	\$500.00	\$1.13	\$0.00	\$2,505.96
Emergency Lane	ETF	\$6,946.52	\$0.00	\$6.98	\$0.00	\$6,953.50
Fire Dept Equipment	CRF	\$110,656.75	\$20,000.00	\$118.76	\$0.00	\$130,775.51
Fire Dept Major Equipment	ETF	\$31,989.80	\$7,500.00	\$52.79	\$0.00	\$39,542.59
Forest Fire	ETF	\$9,015.26	\$5,000.00	\$11.07	\$0.00	\$14,026.33
Legal Funds Northern Pass	ETF	\$14,160.15	\$0.00	\$21.38	\$0.00	\$14,181.53
Legal Funds Regular	ETF	\$16,894.10	\$15,000.00	\$34.49	\$0.00	\$31,928.59
Town Building Repairs	ETF	\$68,423.89	\$10,000.00	\$99.26	\$20,650.00	\$57,873.15
Town Roads Maintenance	ETF	\$92,294.39	\$10,000.00	\$168.75	\$16,070.00	\$86,393.14
		\$370,266.42	\$69,000.00	\$536.97	\$36,720.00	\$403,083.39

* Deposits are the amount appropriated at the 2018 Town Meeting.

A Trust Fund (TRUST) is a normal type fund. The Trustees share discretion for spending.

An Expendable Trust Fund (ETF) is a fund over which the Selectmen have discretion for spending.

A Capital Reserve Fund (CRF) is a fund which needs Town vote to spend.

All of these Trust Funds must receive written application from Select Board and/or Trustees before any money is released from the fund, regardless of who has discretion over actual spending.

Errors made in the 2017 Trust Fund Report have been corrected.

EASTON VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

2018 was another year for the Easton Volunteer Fire Department striving to be their best. The Department has again proven its effectiveness in serving the Town's needs be what they may. The Department is always at the ready to serve Easton or other Towns if our help is needed.

Easton Fire Department responded to a total of 22 calls in 2018. These calls are broken down as follows:

Motor Vehicle Accidents	(8)	Fire Alarm Activations	(6)
Trees on Power Lines	(2)	Ambulance Assist	(1)
Chimney Fire	(1)	Non Permit Burns	(2)
Structure Fires	(2)		
Mutual Aid Calls: Bethlehem	(1)	Sugar Hill	(1)

The Department is continuing to pursue any monies available be it State or Federal Grants. Do to our small size some grants are difficult to obtain. The Department will not stop trying to find grant money.

Easton Fire is actively working to conduct as many training exercises as possible. Water Flow Exercises, Vehicle Extrication, Forestry, Smoke Drills, Equipment and Gear Practice, Maintenance.

The Easton Fire Department is as always looking for additional members. Come check us out first and third Wednesday of the month 7 pm or call Chief Art Rainville 823-9558 or Deputy Chief Darrel Gearhart 823-7152.

As you may already know the Department is pursuing a used piece of apparatus. The Truck is a combination unit. It is a 2005 International commercial cab with 11,000 miles. It is equipped with a 1200 gallon per minute pump. Carries 1500 gallons of water and is capable of dumping the water; which makes it capable of being an engine or a tanker whatever the need may be. This will replace our 1983 home built tanker. The truck purchase will be on the warrant to be voted on at town meeting. Hope to see you there.

All of the Firefighters of Easton Fire would like to express our appreciation for all of your support and we Thank you for allowing us to serve our awesome community. We stand ready to respond when called to action.

Respectfully submitted,

The Easton Volunteer Firefighters
Art Rainville, Chief

CEMETERY TRUSTEES REPORT

The Cemetery Trustees have spent much of this year seeing that the Cemetery grounds are being cared for and protected. Research was conducted regarding planting a tree buffer between the Cemetery and its abutters. The Chair of the Trustees has been in consultation with the Grafton County Forrester regarding appropriate plantings.

The Chair has also contacted several potential builders for constructing a planned for kiosk over the course of the coming year. This would provide a space for the Trustees to post locations of grave sites as well as have an alphabetic roster of grave site(s) to assist visitors.

We continue to maintain all Cemetery records and take pride in watching over this historic site.

Denys Draper - Chairperson
Rich Larcom
Kris Pastoriza
Cemetery Trustees

EASTON PLANNING BOARD

The Planning Board has been busy during the past year. Our main task was and continues to focus on reviewing the current Master Plan and revising it accordingly. The Planning Board is required to do this every ten years. Bob Lamanna has most ably chaired this project. Also, following through on another requirement of the Planning Board, Zak Mei has undertaken a review of the Capital Improvement Plan.

As a Board we have dealt with a major subdivision application this year and have had several training sessions regarding subdivisions, right to know laws, and the development of the Master Plan.

Additionally, we are constantly reviewing Subdivision Regulations and Zoning Ordinances in order to make them more applicable to our landowners as well as making the content of both documents clearer and easier to use.

Denys Draper, Chairman
Anita Craven, Vice Chair
Bob Lamanna
Frank Woodruff
Zhenye “Zak” Mei - Ex Officio
James Collier - Alternate
Robert Thibault - Ex Officio, Alternate
Edward Cutler - Alternate
Tom Boucher - Alternate

EASTON CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Mission Statement for the Easton Conservation Commission: The Easton Conservation Commission (ECC) was established for the proper utilization and protection of the natural resources and for the protection of watershed resources of the Town of Easton, New Hampshire.

Easton Conservation Commission Members: Steve Sabre, Shawn Graham, Carl Lakes, Inga Johnson.

The ECC has welcomed new members of the Commission and continues efforts at recruitment to continue our service to the mission of the Easton Conservation Commission. We offer our appreciation for the service of past members.

Over the past year the ECC has conducted a number of site reviews for building permits and outdoor recreation permits as required by local permit requirements to inspect for potential wetlands impact.

The ECC has identified several topics of interest for community education and engagement related to the exceptional natural resources of Easton including water quality and species, riparian buffer benefits, community nature walks with education on plant and animal species and education on local logging practices. We are also considering bi-community projects for collaboration on projects and programs of interest.

The ECC sponsored a well-attended community education event on the American Chestnut Foundation Project. Two blight resistant Chestnut Trees were planted. An Educational Sign will be dedicated in the spring of 2019 in conjunction with an additional presentation and potentially more plantings. Participation in the American Elm restoration project is also under consideration.

The ECC continues to remain attentive to the Northern Pass Project. We participated in the Master Plan Update. Members of the ECC have attended training programs relevant to our mission and brought back information to share. The ECC has joined the NH Association of Conservation Commissions which will allow us to reactivate our link from the Town of Easton to their website and utilize this platform for community education and updates on the activities of the ECC.

PUBLIC NOTICE: The Easton Conservation Commission Meetings are being held on the first Wednesday of each month at 05:30 pm at the Easton Town Hall. This change was voted into effect on February 7th, 2019.

Respectfully submitted,
Inga Johnson, Acting Chair

FRANCONIA LIFE SQUAD/AMBULANCE

The Ambulance Service continues to seek its membership from the surrounding area by recruiting from the towns of Franconia, Sugar Hill and Easton, the same communities it provides service to. Anyone willing to volunteer is welcome to apply for membership. Each member is dedicated to providing the highest quality emergency care to the communities we serve.

The Franconia Ambulance currently has four (4) members who are certified to provide Advanced Life Support, two (2) of whom are nationally registered paramedics. The Franconia Ambulance at year's end has eleven (11) active members; a membership well prepared to assist our citizens and visitors to our area with quality emergency medical care.

All members are Nationally Registered Emergency Medical Technicians. They are continually training and improving their skills. Each member must have a minimum of 20 hours of continuing education each year for a total of 40 hours after two years, at which time they must reapply for their national certification and state license.

Many of the members have other specialized training including ice rescue, swift water rescue, high angle rescue and motor vehicle extrication certifications. All of our members are certified in advanced CPR and in the use of the heart monitor and defibrillator. Most importantly, all of our members are dedicated to providing compassionate emergency medical care from the scene to the hospital.

The current active members of the Franconia Ambulance are:

Chief Paul Schmucker - EMT
Asst. Chief Mark Taylor - EMT
William Mead - Paramedic
Ned Wilson - EMT
William McCarthy - AEMT
Katlin Varin - EMT

Jeffrey Collins - AEMT
Capt. Pam Oakman - Paramedic
Allan Clark - EMT
Patrick Griffin - EMT
Ron Baillargeon - EMR

The Franconia Ambulance responded to 282 calls for assistance during 2018. Of those, 154 required transport.

In 2018, the total operating expenses for the Franconia Ambulance were \$81,231. Income obtained from patient billing and subsidies from Sugar Hill and Easton totaled \$114,180, generating a \$32,950 surplus to the Town of Franconia.

Your Ambulance is currently operating at the Advanced Life Support - Paramedic level.

Again, I sincerely thank the townspeople for their continued support and the privilege of serving them. And I especially thank the men and women of the Franconia Ambulance for their countless hours of dedication and sacrifice, serving others in their community in their time of need.

Respectfully submitted,
Chief Paul Schmucker
Franconia Life Squad

TRI-TOWN TRANSFER STATION

The Tri-Town Transfer Station underwent many changes over the past year. After the retirement of long time Director Greg Wells, Tim Blake was promoted to Supervisor of the station and its employees. Throughout the year, several different employees have held and left positions, to include Erik Rasmussen, Bruce Emmons and Gus Pinsky.

Many things were reorganized at the Transfer Station during 2018, beginning with the hours of operation and the addition of holiday closures, which were extended to the employees by the Town. We would like to thank our customers for their patience and understanding with the change in hours of operation.

At the Transfer Station itself, residents have commented positively on changes noticeable around the facility, such as the addition of a pedestrian zone in front of the recycling area, the reduction to the size of the burn pit, the relocation of the compost pile that has made it more accessible to residents, the addition of signage to identify locations and aesthetic improvements such as painting and a cleaner facility.

In 2018, the Tri-Town Transfer Station processed and recycled 76.51 tons of glass, 17.97 tons of plastic, 33.33 tons of metal, 14.43 tons of tin, 2.25 tons of aluminum and 59.4 tons of cardboard. We also processed 4.9 tons of tires, 113 freon units, 1461 feet of fluorescent light bulbs and 220 gallons of oil. We would like to say a huge thank you to the Tri-Town residents for your recycling efforts.

Respectfully submitted,

Timothy Blake, Supervisor
Kevin Dauphine

LAFAYETTE RECREATION COMMITTEE

The Lafayette Recreation Committee and staff worked throughout 2018 to provide an array of recreational activities for all ages for our community's three towns: Franconia, Sugar Hill, and Easton.

Over the past year, we continued our work to make Old Home Day, Earth Day roadside cleanup, and Halloween happenings successful community events, and for the holidays Santa visited the Abbie Greenleaf Library where we had story time, crafts and cookies.

Our youth programs continue to engage children from all three towns. We had 64 children involved in baseball, softball and spring running club; 67 played soccer; and 50 are now involved in basketball. During the summer 68 Lafayette students – 60% of the school's enrollment – joined us for the Summer Recreation program, visiting many of our area's fun spots, taking swim lessons, and learning about bike safety. Twenty-seven middle school-aged children participated in the adventure rec program, which included camping, biking, swimming and an ocean trip.

In addition to these regular programs, the Lafayette Recreation Department, in collaboration with other organizations and with a dedicated corps of volunteers, hosted the 2nd Touch-a-Truck, 26th Annual Top Notch Triathlon, 12th Annual Halloween Cup youth soccer tournament, 8th Annual Wobble-N-Gobble fun run, and the 10th Annual Franconia Scramble 5K. Proceeds from these events have been used over the years to fund projects that benefit recreational facilities in the community, like the playground, gazebo and skating rink. This year, along with many generous donations from community members, the proceeds from these events provided funding for construction of a pavilion on the Dow.

The pavilion will be ready for use in the summer of 2019! This will be a great venue for the 2 summer soccer camps, youth recreation programs, concerts, Old Home Day, the Halloween Cup, family picnics, and other community events.



We continue in our endeavor to offer a variety of programs and activities for residents of all ages in our communities, and we welcome ideas for enhancing these. The Lafayette Recreation Committee meets the first Thursday of each month in the conference room at Lafayette Regional School, and residents are welcome to attend.

Respectfully submitted,

Lafayette Recreation Committee

Franconia: Adam Boyer, Meghan McPhaul, and Cindy Berlack

Sugar Hill: Haley Ireland and Launa Glover

Easton: Matt Koehler and John Hynes

Lafayette Regional School: Gordie Johnk

Kris Kappler, Youth Program Director

Kim Cowles, Parks & Recreation Director

THE KINSMAN VALLEY CLUB

The mission of the Kinsman Valley Club (KVC) is the continuous identification of projects that will enhance the Easton Town Hall and increase its utilization for community functions. The Club operates in a manner beneficial to all residents of Easton while promoting a spirit of unity.

Through quarterly public meetings, the Board and Easton residents discuss and plan projects that will in some way aid the Town. They then work together as individuals or in committees to achieve the goals set.

Over the past year the KVC has participated in the Old Home Day celebration in Franconia selling home-made cookies and milk. The Club hosted a Town Picnic in August, held a yard and bake sale in September, and welcomed fall with a Harvest Pot Luck Dinner in October. The holidays were celebrated with a festive and very well-attended Holiday Party in December. Occasional Friday Game Nights during the winter provided laughter, camaraderie, and a bit of competitive spirit.

The proceeds from fundraisers afforded the Club the ability to, not only fund their many activities, but purchase an AED (defibrillator) for the Town Hall, a large screen for presentations, rhododendron bushes to frame the doorway to the Town Hall, and seat cushions for the folding chairs that are used for every meeting. The KVC also has provided meals for the poll workers. (the word is out “come to Easton on election day if you want some terrific food”).

During the fall, the KVC worked to present a NH Humanities Council program at the Town Hall for the second year. These well attended presentations were free to the public and Easton residents along with friends from other communities enjoyed the opportunity of quality shows at a venue close to home. Two programs are scheduled for this year, one in the spring and one in the fall. Look for the titles, dates, and times on the Town website townofeastonnh.org.

Please consider joining the KVC at their next meeting, April 17, 2019, 6:30 p.m. at the Easton Town Hall. We would love to see you!

For the Kinsman Valley Club,

Ellen Malessa – President
Maria Hynes – Vice President
Bev Lamanna – Treasurer
Toni Woodruff – Secretary

2018 COOLEY-JERICHO COMMUNITY FOREST REPORT

Created in 2013, the Cooley-Jericho Community Forest is a collaborative effort of the Ammonoosuc Conservation Trust (ACT) and the towns of Easton, Franconia, Landaff, and Sugar Hill. ACT owns the 843-acre property on behalf of the communities.

CJCF offers great hiking and mountain biking, bird watching, hunting, snowmobiling, and educational opportunities around animal tracking, forestry, and trail planning and building. The main entrance to the Forest is off Trumpet Round Road in Sugar Hill. The Forest is attracting more visitors, and the Yellow Trail (suitable for mountain biking as well as hiking) is in the latest version of the AMC White Mountain Guide.

This past year, volunteers have improved the trails and added more directional signs. This work is ongoing and volunteers are always needed and welcomed! You can download a trail map on the ACT website, www.aconservationtrust.org/explore-our-lands.

The Forest has been proposed as a place for glade skiing. Glade skiing is off trail, where skiers hike up and ski down through the forest. Some removal of small trees is needed to enhance the experience. The Granite State Backcountry Alliance is working with ACT and the CJCF Stewardship Team on the feasibility of this use.

The CJCF Stewardship Team has representatives of the four towns and ACT, and is charged with managing this land now and into the future. The Management Plan for the Forest is now available on-line at the ACT website, <https://act-nh.org/about-the-forest>. Printed copies will also be made available to the four towns this spring.

ACT hosts walks and exploration of the Forest, and trails work days, throughout the year. For more information e-mail ACT at outreach@act-nh.org or call 823-7777.

Submitted on behalf of the CJCF Stewardship Team,

By Rebecca A. Brown
Executive Director, Ammonoosuc Conservation Trust

TOWN OF EASTON

FEES

(As of January 2019 - Subject to Change)

Building Permit Fee

New Residence, Garage, Shed, Barn, Renovations, Solar Permit – Fees Vary
See Building Permit (online) – www.townofeastonnh.org

9-1-1 Building Numbering

\$30.00

Current Use Application

\$20.00

Driveway Permit for Town Roads

\$20.00

Reappraisal Charges

\$45.00

Major and Minor Subdivision Application Fee

Major or Minor Lot Line Adjustments and/or Boundary Agreement

\$200.00

Plus \$10.00 per Abutter

This Covers All Filing Fees

Subdivision and Zoning Ordinances

Available on the Town of Easton Website

www.townofeastonnh.org

Planning Board Link

Paper Copies for Review Available at Town Hall

Copies

Taxpayers - \$0.10 per page

Non-Taxpayers - \$0.25 per page

Non-Resident Tax Card - \$2.00

Faxes

\$1.00 per page

*Clerical Time to Meet Miscellaneous Information Requests
\$25.00 per Hour, Payable Prior to the Release of Information*

EMERGENCY TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Police – Fire – Medical Emergency
9-1-1

New Hampshire State Police – Troop F
846-3333

Fire Chief
Art Rainville – 823-9558

Deputy Fire Chief
Darrel Gearhart – 823-7152

Fire Wardens
Warden – Art Rainville – 823-9558
Deputy – Darrel Gearhart – 823-7152
Deputy – Edward Cutler – 823-5050
Deputy – Zhenye Mei – 823-7264

Town Clerk and Tax Collector
Town Hall Telephone – 823-8017
Town Hall Fax – 823-7780

Hours
Thursday: 1:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.
and by appointment

A license for all dogs is required by May 1, 2019

**A current rabies certificate is required, in Easton,
in order to license a dog**

NOTES

Select Board Meetings for 2019

JANUARY

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1	^o 2	[*] 3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

FEBRUARY

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1	2
3	4	5	^o 6	[*] 7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28		

MARCH

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1	2
3	4	5	^o 6	[*] 7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

APRIL

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1	2	^o 3	[*] 4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

MAY

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			^o 1	[*] 2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

JUNE

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						1
2	3	4	^o 5	[*] 6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

JULY

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1	2	^o 3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	[*] 11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

AUGUST

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				[*] 1	2	3
4	5	6	^o 7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

SEPTEMBER

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1	2	3	^o 4	[*] 5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

OCTOBER

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1	^o 2	[*] 3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

NOVEMBER

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1	2
3	4	5	^o 6	[*] 7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

DECEMBER

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1	2	3	^o 4	[*] 5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

Select Board Meetings – 6:00 p.m. every other Monday evening.

The first Select Board meeting of 2020 is scheduled for Monday, January 6, 2020.

***Planning Board Meetings** – 7:00 p.m. first Thursday of each month, except July.

^oConservation Commission – 5:30 p.m. first Wednesday of each month.

Department Head Meetings with the Select Board – by request.