

TOWN of MASON ELECTION MARCH 10, 2009

The Moderator, Catherine Schwenk, called the town election to order. The polls were declared open at 11:04 AM. Seven absentee ballots were opened by the Moderator at 1pm. Checklist total was 1007. The polls were closed at 7:09 PM after 379 had voted.

The moderator administered the oath to the following ballot counters:
George Schwenk, Douglas Whitbeck, Mary McDonald, Rachel Petersen, Lauren Mann, Nancy Richards, Dee Mitchell, Chris Guiry (counted School Ballots only), Jim DeMarco, Sally Wilson, Connie Lacasse, Mark Richardson, Wolfgang Millbrandt, Dorothy Millbrandt, Pauline Bergeron, Dorothy Minior and Joan Losee

The results of the Town Election on Article 1 were as follows:

Town Clerk/TaxCollector for 3 years: Susan Wagoner 332
There was 1 write-in vote

Selectmen for 3 years: C. Christopher Guiry 233
There were 12 write-in votes

Library Trustee for 3 years: Lynn McCann 20 write-in vote
There were 8 write-in votes

Trustee of Cemeteries for 3 years: Robert Larochelle 5 write-in votes
There were 8 write-in votes for other people

Trustee of Trust Funds for 3 years: Stuart Sherman 31 write-in votes
There were 11 write-in votes for other people

The results of **Article 4** –Shall the Town adopt the provisions of RSA 40:13 (known as SB 2) to allow official ballot voting on all issues before the Town on the second Tuesday of March or whenever as required by RSA 40:13? By petition

Yes 219 No 149 Needed 221 to pass. Article failed

Zoning Questions:

The results of **Article 2** –Are you in favor of the adoption of amendment No. 1, as proposed by the Mason Planning Board, to the Town of Mason Planning and Zoning Ordinance, Appendix A, Article XVIII: NH Model Floodplain Development, as necessary to comply with the requirements of the National Flood Insurance Program as follows:

Amend **Article XVIII: Floodplain Development Ordinance** by deleting the words “as permitted by RSA 674:52. This RSA was repealed by the Legislature in 2002.

Yes 269 No 98

The results of **Article 3** –Are you in favor of the adoption of amendment No. 2, as proposed by the Mason Planning Board, to Town of Mason Planning and Zoning Ordinance, Appendix A, Article XVIII: NH Model Floodplain Development, as necessary to comply with the requirements of the National Flood Insurance Program as follows:

Amend **Appendix A** as follows: **new construction** means, for the purposes of determining insurance rates, structures for which the” start of construction” commenced on or after the effective date of an initial FIRM or after December 31, 1974, whichever is later, and includes any subsequent improvements to such structures. For floodplain management purposes, *new construction* means structures for which the *start of construction* commenced on or after the effective date of a floodplain management regulation adopted by a community and includes any subsequent improvements to such structures.

Yes 247 No 112

Mason School District Results:

Clerk – John Lewicke 5
There were 7 write-ins

Treasurer – Susan J. Wagoner 324
There were 4 write-ins

The results of **Article 3** – Shall we adopt the provisions of RSA 40:13 (known as SB 2) to allow official ballot voting on all issues before the School District on the second Tuesday of March (3/5 majority ballot vote required). (By Petition)
Yes 219 No 157 Needed 225 to pass. Article failed

Mascenic School District:(Towns of Greenville, Mason, and New Ipswich)
School Board Member (term expires 6/30/2009) –
Wolfgang Millbrandt 21 (declined position)
John Lewicke 13 (declared elected)

Susan J. Wagoner
Town Clerk

MASON TOWN MEETING MARCH 11, 2009

At 7:28PM The Moderator, Catherine Schwenk, came to the microphone and requested that non voters should wear non voter credentials and sit in the first row to the Moderator's left. There was no request for interpretive services. She then indicated the fire and emergency exits, acknowledged all those who were involved in the election, and introduced those who were sitting at the head table: Selectmen - Anne (Nancy) Richards, Mark Richardson, and Dr. Christopher Guiry; Town Clerk, Susan Wagoner and Wally Brown, Audio Specialist.

The Moderator reviewed the procedures for voters: Voters wishing to speak should use the microphones and address any questions to the chair; all amendments and substantive motions must be in writing and signed by the maker and seconder; every voter is entitled to speak on a debatable motion unless the body by a two-thirds vote has ordered discussion stopped; a voter is entitled to speak a second time on the same question provided all voters who wish to speak have spoken. Five voters must request a ballot vote on any article.

Appreciation was noted for Wally Brown's setting up the election facilities, the dedicated election workers, the Town Clerk and Deputy, the Supervisors of the Checklist, Selectmen, and Barbara Milkovits, Selectmen's Assistant.

Dr. Christopher Guiry asked the Town Meeting to acknowledge Catherine Schwenk for her 25 years of service as Moderator for the Town of Mason and the School District.

There were 113 voters and 1 non voter.

The Moderator announced the results of the Town elections and the school district. Total votes cast were 379. She declared the winning candidates elected to their respective office.

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There was 1 write-in vote

Selectmen for 3 years: C. Christopher Guiry 233
There were 12 write-in votes

Library Trustee for 3 years: Lynn McCann 20 write-in votes
There were 8 write-in votes

Trustee of Cemeteries for 3 years: Robert Laroche 5 write-in votes
There were 8 write-in votes for various other people

Trustee of Trust Funds 3 years: Stuart Sherman 31 write-in votes
There were 11 write-in votes for various other people

The results of the election on **Article 2** the NH Floodplain insurance
Yes 269 No 98

The results of the election on **Article 3** NH Floodplain new construction insurance

Yes 247 No 112

The results of **Article 4** – Shall the Town adopt the provisions of RSA 40:13 (known as SB 2) to allow official ballot voting on all issues before the Town on the second Tuesday of March or whenever as required by RSA 40:13? By petition

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Yes 219 No 157 Needed 225 to pass

Mascenic School District:(Towns of Greenville, Mason, and New Ipswich)

School Board Member (term expires 6/30/2009) –

Wolfgang Millbrandt 21 (declined position)

John Lewicke 13 (accepted)

There were no errors or omissions in the town report. There was a misprint on page 30. The total fund balance was not printed for the Recreation Playground Fund \$201.90 and the Kindergarden Fund \$11,601.70 The totals are correct. Principal Fund Created and Expended:

The Highway Capital Fund Created and Expended \$30,400

The Town Meeting was called to order by Moderator Catherine Schwenk at 7:32 PM.

The colors were presented by Daniel McGuire, Nathan O'Brien, Nicholas Calderan, and Robbie Anderson of Boy Scout Troop 264 .

It was a distinct pleasure by the Moderator to present Tom McGuire who led us in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America. Tom is Mason's Boy Scout Troop 264 newest Eagle Scout. His Eagle project was to construct a bridge over Spaulding Brook on Mason Conservation land. He is a senior and honor student at Dublin School and the captain of the cross country team.

There was no objection to waiving the reading of the Warrant.

Senator Peggy Gilmour addressed the body without objection. She briefly discussed the outstanding community spirit during and after the December ice storm.

Article 5: Dr. Christopher Guiry moved and it was seconded that the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of One million five hundred twenty-nine thousand, seven hundred forty-three dollars (\$1,529,743) which represents the operating budget. Said sum is exclusive of all Special or Individual Articles addressed.

Mark Richardson proposed an amendment to correct the 6021-01 figure by \$9,000.00, to be \$59,326.00. The amendment carried unanimously.

Bernie O'Grady asked for a show of hands of residents who use the Wilton Recycling Center. By a show of hands, over 95% of the voters present use the Wilton Recycling Center.

The new proposed budget, as amended, of \$1,538,743.00 carried unanimously.

Article 6: Anne Richards moved and it was seconded that the Town vote to authorize the Selectmen to enter into a three year lease/purchase agreement in the amount of Twenty-eight thousand dollars (\$28,000) to purchase a new cruiser for the Police Department and to appropriate Nine thousand three hundred seventy five dollars (\$9,375) from the insurance settlement received on the totaled police cruiser, for the first year's payment of this lease. (Requires 2/3 ballot vote.)

The Moderator declared the polls open at 8:31pm and closed at 9:31pm.

While the ballots were being cast, Barbara DeVore addressed the body about the ice storm and FEMA's role. FEMA has financial assistance available for the Town. The assistance will be based on the number of volunteer hours and type of machinery residents used to assist in the cleanup. To date there are almost 600 hours donated.

The total number of voters was 108. Yes 96 No 12 Needed to pass 72
The article carried by the 2/3 vote

Article 7: Mark Richardson moved and it was seconded that the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Fourteen thousand five hundred thirty-three dollars (\$14,533) for equipment for the new cruiser for the Police Department and to appropriate Fourteen thousand five hundred thirty-three dollars (\$14,533) from the insurance settlement received on the equipment of the totaled police cruiser.

Chief Hutchins proposed, and it was seconded, to amend the amount for the equipment to be \$17,854.41. The amendment carried.

The motion as amended carried.

Article 8: On motion of Dr Christopher Guiry it was VOTED unanimously that the Town raise and appropriate the sum of Ten thousand five hundred dollars (\$10,500) to pay the Nashua Regional Planning Commission (NRPC) for the balance of costs resulting from the Town of Mason joining NRPC.

Article 9: Anne Richards moved and it was seconded that the Town raise and appropriate the sum of Six thousand eight hundred dollars (\$6,800) for the purchase of a zero turn mower for use in the cemeteries and parks, or take any other action relative thereto.

The Moderator called for a hand count and it carried. Yes 63 No 32

Article 10: Mark Richardson moved and it was seconded that the Town raise and appropriate the sum of Six thousand dollars (\$6,000) to be added to the Highway Construction Capital Reserve, previously established, or take any other action relative thereto.

Article 11: On motion of Dr Christopher Guiry it was VOTED unanimously that the Town raise and appropriate the sum of Five thousand dollars (\$5,000) to purchase five new air bottles for the Fire Department, or take any other action relative thereto

Article 12: On motion of Anne Richards it was VOTED unanimously to raise and appropriate the sum of Four thousand five hundred dollars (\$4,500) for the repair and replacement of culverts on Brookline Road, or take any other action relative thereto.

Article 13: On motion of Mark Richardson it was VOTED unanimously to raise and appropriate the sum of Four hundred dollars (\$400) to be added to the Cemetery Land Improvement Trust Fund, previously established and to authorize the transfer from the December 31, 2008 Fund Balance of that amount received from the 2008 sale of cemetery lots for this purpose.

Article 14: Dr. Christopher Guiry moved and it was seconded that the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Four hundred dollars (\$400) to be added to the Highway Equipment Capital Reserve Fund, previously established and to authorize the use/transfer from the December 31, 2008 Fund Balance of that amount received from the 2008 sale of highway equipment for this purpose. The motion carried.

Article 15: Anne Richards moved and it was seconded that the Town accept the following: Acceptance of Credit Cards.

The Town Clerk/Tax Collector will be allowed to accept credit card payments pursuant to RSA 80:52-c for the collection of local taxes, charges generated by other services or fees. The Town will add to the amount due, in addition to any interest and penalties payable, a service charge for the acceptance of the card. The amount of the service charge shall be disclosed at the time of billing. The

Board of Selectmen in coordination with the Town Clerk/Tax Collector may adopt rules and regulations regarding the collection procedures.

The motion carried.

Article 16: Mark Richardson moved and it was seconded that the Town adopt the provisions of RSA 36-A: 4-a, I (b) to authorize the Conservation Commission to expend funds for contributions to “qualified organizations” for the purchase of property interests, or facilitating transactions related thereto, where the property interest is to be held by the qualified organization and the town will retain no interest in the property?

Robert Larochelle and Elizabeth Fletcher spoke to the issue.

John Lewicke and Michael Bromberg proposed the following amendment:

“to authorize the Conservation Commission to propose expending funds....”.

After much discussion the amendment failed.

Two residents checked the complete RSA on their Blackberry and read the statute to the Town Meeting. After much additional discussion Robert Bergeron moved the question. The Moderator requested a hand count. Yes 26 No 44
The article failed

Article 17: On motion of Dr. Christopher Guiry it was VOTED unanimously that the Town authorize the Selectmen and the Road Agent to sell or dispose of surplus equipment from the Highway Department, or take any other action thereto.

Article 18: On motion of Anne Richards it was VOTED unanimously that the Town authorize the Selectmen and the Fire Chief to sell or dispose of surplus equipment from the Fire Department, or take any other action thereto.

Article 19: On motion of Mark Richardson it was VOTED unanimously that the Town authorize the Selectmen and the Police Chief to sell or dispose of surplus equipment from the Police Department, or take any other action thereto.

On motion of Dr. Christopher Guiry it was VOTED unanimously to accept the reports of agents, auditors, committees or officers chosen as printed in the annual district report.

On motion of Michael Bromberg, and seconded by many voices, the meeting was adjourned Sine Dai at 10:02 PM

Susan J. Wagoner
Town Clerk