

**Board of Selectmen Meeting**  
**Minutes of 02/11/08**  
**5:30 p.m.**

*Selectmen:*

*Frank S. Michel, Chairman*  
*Peter F. Brothers, Vice Chairman*  
*Robert C. Flanders*  
*Miller C. Lovett*  
*Colette Worsman*

*Town Manager:*

*Carol M. Granfield*

*Recording Clerk:*

*Karin Landry*

Call to Order: Chairman Frank Michel called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. He made announcements pertaining to fire exits, listening assisted devices, and the use of microphones. Comments and questions are to be directed through the Chair. He introduced the Board, Town Manager, and Recording Clerk.

**ACCEPTANCE AND/OR CORRECTION OF MINUTES:**

**08-08 Minutes of the January 14, 2008 Workshop; January 21, 2008 Workshop, Regular Board Meeting, and Non-Public Meeting; January 28, 2008 Workshop; and reconsideration of the Minutes of the January 7, 2008 Regular Board Meeting**

*Selectman Worsman motioned to accept the minutes of the January 14, 2008 Workshop; January 21, 2008 Workshop, Regular Board Meeting, and Non-Public Meeting; January 28, 2008 Workshop; and Reconsideration of the Minutes of the January 7, 2008 Regular Board Meeting . Seconded by Selectman Lovett.*

Selectman Lovett questioned the logic of the wording of the January 14 Workshop, page one, third paragraph: "The Chair then noted that the fund balance was already set for 2008, so it cannot be changed until the 2009 budget." The Chair directed that the record show that he meant to refer to the years 2007 and 2008, respectively.

Selectman Lovett asked that the minutes of this meeting reflect that the January 14 minutes should indicate that it was always understood that the Board would have another chance to address the final budget following the individual votes.

*5-0. All in favor. Motion passed unanimously. (1/14/2008 Workshop, 1/21/2008 Workshop, Regular Board Meeting, and Non-Public Meeting, Reconsideration of 1/7/2008 Regular Board Meeting). 4-0-0. Motion passed. (1/28/08 Workshop – Selectman Worsman abstained, absent with notice).*

**TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT:**

- The Town Manager thanked the Public Works department for the great job they have been doing with snow removal.
- The annual Fishing Derby, sponsored by the Meredith Rotary Club, was a great success. There was a big turnout and lots of activity.
- The Town offices will be closed this coming Monday, February 18, in observance of President's Day. The Board will not meet on that day.

**VISITOR'S AND RESIDENT'S COMMENTS (Non-Agenda Items):**

Resident Andrew Faller of Highland Street wrote a letter to the Town Manager several months ago regarding Code Enforcement Officer Bill Edney. He did some research on the answers he was given by the Town Manager, and retained counsel regarding the matter. Attorney Sandra Blumenthal spoke on behalf of Mr. Faller. She presented the Board with a lengthy letter that includes a number of attachments that deal with various zoning ordinances and wetlands protection issues. She suggested that the Board review the letter so the matter can be addressed at their next regular meeting. Dialogue ensued regarding whether the matter should be addressed in a non-public session under RSA 91-A:3 II(c). The Chair turned the letter over to the Town Manager. The matter will be included on the Board's agenda if it is deemed that that is the right forum.

Resident Mike Pelczar was the Chair for this year's Fishing Derby. He thanked the Town Manager and various departments for their assistance in putting on the event. Due to weather conditions, a hole developed in the ice about 40 feet off shore. For safety purposes, snow fences were installed to block the area. Mr. Pelczar asked the Board for direction on whether to remove the fence. The Chair told Mr. Pelczar that although the State of New Hampshire is technically the steward of the Lake, there are many structures still on the ice, and prudence dictates leaving the fence where it is until the water freezes over, or there is an alternate plan. The Chair directed the Town Manager to follow up on the matter.

**SELECTMAN'S COMMENTS:**

None.

**NEW BUSINESS:****08-13 PUBLIC HEARING**

**Proposed municipal bond issues/notes in excess of \$100,000;**

**A. Fire Station Bond**

**B. Page Pond Bond**

The Chair reviewed the procedure for a public hearing. No action will be taken at the hearings.

*Selectman Flanders motioned to open the public hearing to discuss the Warrant Article for the bond on the fire station for \$2.5 million at 5:50 p.m. Seconded by Selectman Brothers.*

There was no public comment on the warrant article for the fire station bond.

Bids on the project are due next Wednesday. Once they are received, the construction manager will review and analyze them, and prepare spread sheets that will be presented to the Board in a non-public meeting next Friday.

*Selectman Flanders motioned to close the public hearing at 5:52 p.m. Seconded by Selectman Brothers . 5-0. All in favor. Motion passed unanimously.*

*Selectman Brothers moved to open the public hearing to discuss the Warrant Article for the Page Pond bond for \$400,000 at 5:53 p.m. Seconded by Selectman Lovett.*

Resident and Conservation Commission Chair Donald MacFarlane of Wind Song Place spoke in favor of the Article. The Article reads “. . . provided that the total amount of bonds or notes to be issued shall be reduced by the amount of grants or aid or contributions from other sources that are pledged or received for this purpose prior to the issuance of the bonds or notes”. Mr. MacFarlane expressed concerns with the interpretation of the wording of the Article in view of the LCHIP grant in the amount of \$400,000 and the ongoing public fundraising campaign. He wants to be certain that the wording does not refer to those funds. The Town Manager indicated that the wording was reviewed by various legal counsel and they do not have any concerns with it. Counsel indicated that the wording is confusing, but it does what we want it to do. It is the Board’s decision whether or not to include the language. Dialogue ensued among the Board whether the language could be interpreted to include the LCHIP grant or the money being raised. The Board is not in favor of changing language that has been cleared by legal counsel.

*Selectman Flanders moved to close the public portion of the hearing at 6:02 p.m. Seconded by Selectman Lovett. 5-0. All in favor. Motion passed unanimously.*

Selectman Flanders expressed disappointment that the Board was not able to review written material from the attorneys regarding the language in question.

#### **08-14 PUBLIC HEARING**

**Shall we adopt the provisions of RSA 40:13 (known as SB2) to allow official ballot voting on all issues before the Town of Meredith on the second Tuesday of March?**

A petitioned warrant article was received to allow official ballot voting on all issues before the Town on the second Tuesday of March (known as SB2). SB2 requires a public hearing and a <sup>3</sup>/<sub>5</sub> majority vote on Election Day. The Selectmen are not required to take any action on the matter. The Town Manager set forth various items to be considered in adopting the provisions of SB2:

- The primary reason communities have adopted SB2 is to meet the needs of voters who otherwise would not have the opportunity to vote on all items at Town Meeting.

- It allows an individual to vote privately, rather than at an open Town Meeting.
- SB2 requires a deliberative meeting that is attended to discuss each Warrant Article. Amendments can be made from the floor. Articles, as amended, are included on the final ballot.
- Many people, especially those who do not attend the deliberative session, do not understand the articles, and as a result, typically vote no.
- Town Meeting allows for secret ballots, eliminating apprehension about public votes.
- Budgets can be voted down, reverting to a default budget of the previous year. This creates issues with honoring contractual agreements that are in place, including union contracts.
- The entire budget process must begin sooner if SB2 is adopted.
- SB2 may better serve Towns that do not have a professional manager and department heads on staff.
- A Charter is an alternative approach to SB2.

*Selectman Brothers motioned to open a public hearing regarding the adoption of the provisions of RSA 40:13 known as SB2 at 6:09 p.m. Seconded by Selectman Flanders. 5-0. All in favor. Motion passed unanimously.*

Resident Richard Juve spoke in favor of SB2. He is concerned about the right to vote for those serving the country overseas or out of state. He is also concerned with the ability of senior citizens to sit through the long Town Meeting process. He thinks an absentee ballot is appropriate for those voters. The right to a secret vote should be considered. He urged a favorable vote for SB2.

Resident Richard Roman expressed concerns whether a ballot under SB2 is set forth in laymen's terms. He suspects that a lot of people did not vote on the electronic sign issue at the Special Town Meeting because the wording was hard to understand.

Resident Charlie Stone agrees that it is important that servicemen and the elderly are able to vote. He suggested adopting an alternative to SB2 that would allow those that cannot attend Town Meeting to cast their vote.

Resident Phil McGowan spoke in favor of SB2. There has been poor attendance at Town Meetings in the past, and he believes that SB2 would improve the process. He has observed that the school board meetings and town meetings are mostly attended by employees and their spouses. Those who spend winters outside Meredith, as well as servicemen and the elderly, should be given the opportunity to participate in the Town Meeting forum.

Resident Jack Carty expressed concerns with a small number of people being able to modify a Warrant Article at a deliberative session under SB2.

Resident and Town Moderator Lou Kahn is impartial on the matter. He corrected an earlier comment that a deliberative session is handled like the existing Town Meeting. Nothing can be adopted at a deliberative session. The articles can be debated and changed at the deliberative session. He cautioned that the Superior Court ruled that articles can be amended to the extent

that all language except "to see if" is deleted. The matter is on appeal to the New Hampshire Supreme Court.

Resident Peter Miller spoke against SB2. He said he is a person who supposedly will benefit from the adoption of SB2. He is a senior citizen who suffers from various physical ailments that make it difficult for him to sit through Town Meeting, and is one of Meredith's middle class people. SB2 is perceived by many as a way of curbing spending because it is easier to cast a vote. He is radically and vehemently opposed to it. The traditional Town Meeting is our direct link to the America that was conceived and created by the architects of our independence. It is the same form of debate and decision making that they participated in that led to the Constitution. He does not wish to see that link severed. Town Meeting is a vital part of the social fabric of the Town of Meredith. It has been demonstrated that attendance at SB2 deliberative sessions can be very low, with just a few people deciding whether a warrant article should be modified. He is concerned that the capital improvement projects that make the community of Meredith a standout will be jeopardized with the adoption of SB2. He invited everyone to join him in voting against the petition in numbers that will assure it won't be presented again for many years.

Resident David Sticht is neutral on the matter. In order for bond issues to pass under SB2, you need 60% or  $\frac{3}{5}$  vote as opposed to 66.67%, or  $\frac{2}{3}$  vote at Town Meeting. He is in favor of an absentee vote. In one town that adopted SB2, 35 people showed up at a deliberative session and made changes to everything, and 300 showed up the following year because they were angry with the process. The Selectmen can adopt a ballot system whereby there must be a quorum for the meeting however, alternatives to SB2 must be identified before it is voted in. He suggested holding Town meeting on a Saturday in May to allow more people to attend.

Resident Chuck Palm observed that the overriding issue for those advocating SB2 is they are tired of seeing the municipal tax rate skyrocket. He pointed out that last year's increase of 26¢ is broken down to 6¢ for the local school, 13¢ for the state school, and 7¢ for the county portion. The 26¢ total increase was offset by the municipal rate to 17¢. SB2 will not change what is paid to the state, schools, and county. The tax rate can be controlled with the process that is in place today. He suggested that more people attend the school district meeting so their input can be heard. Mr. Palm is also in favor of holding Town Meeting on a Saturday afternoon.

*Selectman Lovett moved to close the public hearing at 6: 43 p.m. Seconded by Selectman Worsman. 5-0. All in favor. Motion passed unanimously.*

Selectman Worsman requested that the Board will have the opportunity discuss the material they were presented with the SB2 Staff Report regarding the Town of Peterborough's Charter Commission. Selectman Flanders urged those who would like further information on SB2 to contact Bob Ambrose, who was the Deputy Secretary of State when it was adopted, or Phil McCormack, who was the Superintendent of Schools in the Monadnock Region when SB2 was adopted by the Keene school system. Selectman Flanders does not believe that SB2 is a more representative form of government. Voters are not able to participate in the debate that shapes what is on the ballot. Town Meeting allows for voters to listen to arguments, for and against an article, and come to a reasonable conclusion on their own. An SB2 ballot can include many

lengthy articles that must be voted on in a booth, so voters must come to the voting booth well informed. SB2 does not allow for the opportunity to have lively debate and come to some kind of compromise. He cautioned that SB2 can allow for default budgets that are larger than anything that could be passed at Town Meeting. He suggested that it might be more appropriate for the Town of Meredith to look at some kind of Charter. Selectman Brothers wishes to do additional research on his own before taking a position on the matter.

#### **08-15 PUBLIC HEARING**

**Shall we adopt the provisions of RSA 31:95-c to restrict 100% of the revenue from the Town's boat launch at Shep Brown's Boat Basin to expenditures for the purpose of repairs or improvements to the boat launch, or to Town owned facilities such as municipal parking, bathrooms, or other related facilities? Funds shall only be expended after a vote at Town Meeting.**

There is a \$10 charge to launch boats at the Town's boat launch at Shep Brown's Boat Basin. The funds are segregated and are only to be used for improvements of the Town's boat launch. The funds can be expended upon the approval of a warrant article at Town Meeting.

*At 6:54 p.m. Selectman Flanders moved to open a public hearing to discuss the Warrant Article on the provisions of reserving 100% of the funds from monies raised at Shep Brown's boat basin for repairs and improvements to the boat launch and docks and other Town facilities. Seconded by Selectman Worsman. 5-0. All in favor. Motion passed unanimously.*

There was no public comment on the warrant article.

*Selectman Worsman motioned to close the public hearing at 6:55p.m. Seconded by Selectman Flanders. 5-0. All in favor. Motion passed unanimously.*

The Town Manager told the Board that the public hearing is required to establish a special revenue account for this fund. A trial period was established whereby individuals at Shep Brown's collected boat launch fees for the Town. Just under \$5,000 was collected last year. A warrant article is required to put the funds collected by Shep Brown's in the future into a special revenue account, to be utilized for improvements to that particular Town property. The funds can be accumulated from year to year in the special revenue account.

#### **08-10 DRAFT WARRANT ARTICLES**

The only change in the Town Warrant presented to the Board was in Article 1, where "Supervisor of the Checklist" was omitted. Articles 1to7 do not require the vote of the Selectman, and are not part of the Warrant. Each Article will be approved or denied as written in the 2008 Meredith Town Warrant (SEE ADDENDUM I).

Article 8:

*Selectman Flanders motioned that the Board recommend approval of Article 8 as written. Seconded by Selectman Brothers. 5-0. All in favor. Motion passed unanimously.*

## Article 9:

*Selectman Lovett motioned that the Board recommend approval of Article 9 as written. Seconded by Selectman Brothers. 5-0. All in favor. Motion passed unanimously.*

## Article 10-14:

## Petitioned Articles

## Article 15:

*Selectman Brothers motioned that the Board recommend approval of Article 15 as written. Seconded by Selectman Worsman. 5-0. All in favor. Motion passed unanimously.*

The Chair pointed out that this is the second time money has been put into Open Space/Conservation Expendable Trust Fund. The funds are coming from of the land use change tax, which is assessed when property is developed. This is a crucial year for the Page Pond project, and the Article will not affect the tax rate.

## Article 16:

The Board previously voted to recommend the approval of Article 16 at a workshop, 5-0. For full disclosure, and the record, none of the Selectmen wish to change their previous vote.

## Article 17-24:

Recommendation of Board previously made.

## Article 25:

Does not require a vote by the Board.

## Article 26:

Article 26 sets forth the operational expenses for 2008 of \$12,071,457.23, exclusive of all Warrant Articles. It includes the operating budget, debt service, conservation commission, and Water & Sewer. The operating budget is up 1.75%, exclusive of COLA's. If passed, the entire budget increase will be 3.38%.

*Selectman Flanders moved that the Board recommend the approval of Article 26 as written. Seconded by Selectman Brothers.*

*Selectman Lovett moved to amend the motion to reduce the budget figure of \$12,071,457.23 by 2%, approximately \$213,000, with cuts made in each department on the recommendation of the*

*department head and at the final discretion of the Board of Selectman. Seconded by Selectman Worsman.*

Selectman Flanders is in favor of the budget as it stands and is adamantly opposed to the amendment. Selectman Worsman was in favor of line by line cuts throughout the budget, totaling \$509,536.76; approximately two times the cuts proposed by Selectman Lovett. She was willing to discuss options proposed by other Board members when she made her proposals. In many of the votes that were made, she was dissenting Selectman Lovett's overall approach to cutting the budget. She is in favor of the amendment to cut the budget by 2%. Selectman Brothers is against any further cutting of the budget. He is prepared to vote on the final budget as presented. Selectman Lovett is in favor of a budget this year with zero increases. He believes his motion accomplishes that. Dialogue ensued regarding the figures to be used when reducing the operating budget by 2%. Selectman Lovett wishes to reduce the budget by close to \$213,000. The Chair solicited recognition from the press on the hard work they have done to this point, keeping the operating budget at a 1.75% increase with double digit increases in fuel costs, health insurance, etc.

*2-3. (Selectman Brothers, Flanders and Michel opposed). Motion denied.*

*Selectman Lovett motioned that the Select Board salary be set at \$1 for the year 2008, and the Chairman of the Board's salary be set at \$2. Seconded by Selectman Worsman. 2-3. (Selectmen Brothers, Flanders and Michel opposed). Motion denied.*

The motion on Article 26 remained before the Board:

*3-2. (Selectmen Lovett and Worsman opposed). Motion passed.*

### **08-17 Water Line Easement Corliss Hill Farm Subdivision (Lyman Brewer Properties, LLC)**

The Planning Board conditionally approved a 7-lot cluster subdivision off Corliss Hill Road that includes an extension of municipal water. The Board is familiar with the subdivision. It previously approved road waivers and a street name for the project. The lots were incorporated in the allocation of available spare capacity. The road is complete to base pavement. Construction of the water line is complete and signed off by Bob Hill. The applicant is nearing recordation of the final subdivision plan and associated legal documents. An as-built survey has been completed and signed off by Mike Faller and Bob Hill. The request is to have the Board accept the Water Line Easement. The extension of municipal water necessitates an easement to the Town. The roadway itself remains private until such time the road is taken over by the Town. The acceptance does not suggest or guarantee that the Town will necessarily take over roadway maintenance responsibilities. Applicant's attorney submitted a draft easement that has been reviewed by Town staff. It is acceptable to Bob Hill. The final easement language is recommended by Town counsel Tim Bates. The cost of constructing the water main and the preparation of the associated as-built survey has been borne by the applicant. The subdivision represents up to seven additional water customers/rate payers.

*Selectman Worsman moved that the Board accept the proposed water line easement to the Town of Meredith associated with the Corliss Hill Farm Subdivision as recommended by the Town Manager and Town Counsel. Seconded by Selectman Brothers. 5-0. All in favor. Motion passed unanimously.*

### **08-18 Water System Committee Charge**

The Charge forms a standing committee to review the water system. The Board addressed the Charge in two workshops.

*Selectman Flanders moved to accept the Charge as presented to form a Water System Committee. Seconded by Selectman Lovett.*

Selectman Worsman questioned the wisdom of always having at least two staff on every committee. It ties up a lot of staff time and accounts for a fair amount of Town costs. The Chair is in favor of the Town Manager and Community Development Director serving on the committee. The water issue is critical and it is beneficial to have the best minds in the Town working on the Charge. Selectman Flanders is in agreement with the Chair. The Chair recalled making a recommendation to strike "A strategy for" from 2.a. so that it reads "Assessing water system needs and setting priorities". The Board agreed to drop the language from 2.a.

Resident David Sticht agrees that it is not necessary to have multiple Town Staff on a committee. The committee is charged with doing work for the Board so they don't have to be involved in it. If they need expertise from a particular department, it can be called upon.

Resident Richard Roman is in agreement with Mr. Sticht.

*4-1. (Selectman Worsman opposed). Motion passed.*

### **08-19 Abatements**

An abatement, in the amount of \$1,041.78 for 2006, and an abatement, in the amount of \$710.24 for 2007, have been reviewed and recommended by Assessor Commerford.

*Selectman Flanders moved that the Board approve the abatements as presented in the total amount of \$1,041.78 and \$710.24. Seconded by Selectman Worsman. 5-0. All in favor. Motion passed unanimously.*

*Selectman Worsman motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:45 p.m. and move back into a workshop to address unfinished business following a five minute break. Seconded by Selectman Brothers. 5-0. All in favor. Motion passed unanimously.*

After the short break, the Board decided to continue the workshop once the Director of Administrative Service Brenda Vittner has provided them with updated numbers relating to fund balance.

Respectfully submitted,

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Carol M. Granfield, Town Manager

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Frank S. Michel, Chairman

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Karin Landry, Recording Clerk

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Peter F. Brothers, Vice Chairman

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Robert C. Flanders

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Miller C. Lovett

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Colette Worsman

**ADDENDUM I**

**2008 Meredith Town Warrant**

**State of New Hampshire**

**TO THE INHABITANTS OF MEREDITH QUALIFIED TO VOTE IN TOWN AFFAIRS:**

You are hereby notified to meet at the Meredith Community Center, 1 Circle Drive, in said Town on the second Tuesday of March next March 11, 2008, from 7:00 AM until 7:00 PM for the casting of ballots; and at 7:00 PM Wednesday, March 12, 2008, at the Inter-Lakes Junior/Senior High School Gymnasium, 1 Laker Lane, in said Town to act on Articles 8 through 26.

**BALLOT ARTICLES TO BE ACTED UPON:**

**ARTICLE 1**

To bring your ballots for:

- Selectman – One (1) for three (3) years
- Town Clerk – One (1) for three (3) years
- Treasurer – One (1) for three (3) years
- Moderator – One (1) for two (2) years
- Trustee of Trust Funds- One (1) for three (3) years
- Library Trustees – Two (2) for three (3) years
- Supervisor of the Checklist – One (1) for six (6) years

**ARTICLE 2**

Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 1 as proposed by the planning board for the Meredith Zoning Ordinance as follows:

Insert a new paragraph W in Article III (General Provisions) of the ordinance to allow building permits to be issued for lots on islands served exclusively by boats without requiring that the landowner must either comply with the road access requirements of RSA 674:41, or must apply to the Zoning Board of Adjustment for relief from the road access requirements on a case by case basis?

**ARTICLE 3**

Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 2 as proposed by the planning board for the Meredith Zoning Ordinance as follows:

Amend Article VI (International Residential Code/Enforcement) of the ordinance to adopt the 2006 Edition of the International Residential Code as the town’s basic building code in place of the

2000 Edition; also, to update an obsolete statutory reference in section A, and to delete section C of Article VI which is also obsolete due to a change in State law?

**ARTICLE 4**

Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 3 as proposed by the planning board for the Meredith Zoning Ordinance as follows:

Amend Articles III (General Provisions), Article IV, (Establishment of Districts and District Regulations) and Article VIII, (Definitions), to delete all provisions and references relating to cluster development, and add a new Article entitled "Conservation Subdivision Design Ordinance" to replace the deleted cluster provisions?

**ARTICLE 5**

Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 4 as proposed by the planning board for the Meredith Zoning Ordinance as follows:

Amend Article III (General Provisions), Section K, Waterfront Right-of-Way, Subsection 2-A, 1, to increase the shore frontage requirement for each additional right of access to a water body through or by means of waterfront land, from 25 feet per dwelling unit to 50 feet per dwelling unit?

**ARTICLE 6**

Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 5 as proposed by the planning board for the Meredith Zoning Ordinance as follows:

Amend Article VII (Zoning Board of Adjustment), Section B (Special Exception- Specific), Subsections 1-a, 1-b and 1-d (Accessory Apartments) to permit accessory apartments in accessory structures as well as in principal residential structures, to revise the Special Exception criteria for accessory apartments, and to amend the definitions of "Accessory Apartment" and "Apartment" in Article VIII?

**ARTICLE 7**

Shall we adopt the provisions of RSA 40:13 (known as SB 2) to allow official ballot voting on all issues before the Town of Meredith on the second Tuesday of March?"

**(Petitioned by 25 or more registered voters or  
2% of the registered voters in town, whichever is less)**

**(Passage requires an affirmative 3/5 majority ballot vote)**

**DELIBERATIVE SESSION**  
**Wednesday - 3/12/2008 @ 7:00 pm**  
**@ Interlakes High School, 1 Laker Lane**

**ARTICLE 8**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate an amount not to exceed the sum of Two Million, Five Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$2,500,000.00) (gross budget) for the purpose of constructing an addition to and refurbishing the Downtown Fire Station, and to authorize the issuance of not more than Two Million, Five Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$2,500,000.00) of bonds or notes for this purpose in accordance with the provisions of the Municipal Finance Act, Chapter 33, provided that the total amount of bonds or notes to be issued shall be reduced by the amount of grants-in-aid or contributions from other sources that are pledged or received for this purpose prior to the issuance of the bonds or notes. Further to authorize the Town Treasurer to make temporary borrowings in accordance with the provisions of said RSA Chapter 33 in anticipation of the receipt of the proceeds of said bonds or notes, and to determine the term and interest rate, method and manner of sale of such bonds, notes, and temporary borrowings, as the Town Treasurer shall deem to be in the best interest of the Town. Finally, to authorize the Selectmen and Town Manager to apply for, accept, and expend any grants-in-aid or contributions that may be available for this project.

**(Passage requires an affirmative two-thirds ballot vote)**  
**(Recommended by the Board of Selectmen \_\_\_\_\_)**

**ARTICLE 9**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate an amount not to exceed the sum of Four Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$400,000.00) for the purpose of purchasing certain real estate to be held by the Town as Conservation Land under the management of the Town's Conservation Commission pursuant to RSA 36-A. Specifically, the property to be purchased is known as the Page Pond Project properties, identified by the Town as Tax Map S03, Lot 6 and Tax Map S04, Lots 1, 3, 6. Further, to authorize the issuance of not more than Four Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$400,000.00) of bonds or notes for this purpose in accordance with the provisions of the Municipal Finance Act, Chapter 33, provided that the total amount of bonds or notes to be issued shall be reduced by the amount of grants-in-aid or contributions from other sources that are pledged or received for this purpose prior to the issuance of the bonds or notes. Further to authorize the Town Treasurer to make temporary borrowings in accordance with the provisions of said RSA Chapter 33 in anticipation of the receipt of the proceeds of said bonds or notes, and to determine the term and interest rate, method and manner of sale of such bonds, notes, and temporary borrowings, as the Town Treasurer shall deem to be in the best interest of the Town. Finally, to authorize the Selectmen and Town Manager to apply for, accept, and expend any grants-in-aid or contributions that may be available for this project.

**(Passage requires an affirmative two-thirds ballot vote)**  
**(Recommended by the Board of Selectmen \_\_\_\_\_)**

**ARTICLE 10**

To see if the Town will vote to designate Chase Road in the Town of Meredith as a Scenic Road under the authority of RSA 231:157. Chase Road is located within the town of Meredith.

**(Petitioned by 10 or more Registered Voters or abutters)**

**ARTICLE 11**

We the undersigned do hereby petition under the authority granted to us under NH Law, OPPOSE the designation of Chase Road as a "Scenic Road" until such time that all planned upgrades, repairs and improvements have been completed to ensure the public safety of all who use the road.

**(Petitioned by 25 or more Registered Voters)**

**ARTICLE 12**

To see if the Town will vote to discontinue the elected office of Town Treasurer and authorize the appointment of the Town Treasurer upon recommendation of the Town Manager with the approval of the Board of Selectmen, all pursuant to RSA 41:26-e. If this article is adopted, the elected town treasurer shall continue to hold office until the annual Town election in March, 2009, at which time the elected office will terminate as provided by RSA 669:17-d.

**ARTICLE 13**

To see if the Town will vote to approve the following resolution to be forwarded to our State Representatives, our State Senator and our Governor:

Resolved: We the Citizens of Meredith, NH believe in a New Hampshire that is just and fair. The property tax has become unjust and unfair. State leaders who take a pledge for no new taxes perpetuate higher and higher property taxes. We call on our State Representatives, our State Senator and our Governor to reject the "Pledge", have an open discussion covering all options, and adopt a revenue system that lowers property taxes.

**(Petitioned by 25 or more registered voters or  
2% of the registered voters in town, whichever is less)**

**ARTICLE 14**

To see if the Town will adopt the provisions of RSA 31:95-c to restrict 100% of the revenue from the use of the Town's boat launch at Shep Brown's Boat Basin to expenditures for the purpose of repairs or improvements to the boat launch, or to Town owned facilities at the site of the boat launch such as municipal parking, bathrooms, or other related facilities? Such revenue and expenditures shall be accounted for in a special revenue fund to be known as the Town Boat Launch Facilities Fund, separate from the general fund. Any surplus in said fund shall not be deemed part of the general fund accumulated surplus and shall be expended only after a vote of the town meeting to appropriate a specific amount from said fund for a specific purpose related to the purpose of the fund.

**ARTICLE 15**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the balance available in the Land Use Change Tax Fund (Fund #14) for 2007 in the amount of Twenty Thousand, Seven Hundred and Eighty Dollars (\$ 20,780.00) and to place that sum in the Open Space/Conservation Expendable Trust Fund previously established.

(Recommended by the Board of Selectmen \_\_\_\_\_)

**ARTICLE 16**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Two Hundred and Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$250,000.00) for the capital roadway project designated as Batchelder Hill Road.

(Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 5 - 0)

**ARTICLE 17**

To see if the Town will vote to create an Expendable Trust Fund under the provisions of RSA 31:19-a, to be known as the Main Street Rehab Fund, for the purpose of rehabilitation, construction, and improvements to the Class V town road known as Main Street, and to appropriate the sum of Twenty Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000.00) toward this purpose from the General Fund and to appoint the Board of Selectmen as agents to expend.

(Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 3 - 2)

**ARTICLE 18**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Seventy Five Thousand Dollars (\$75,000.00) to be added to the Fire Department Vehicle Replacement Expendable Trust Fund previously established. The Selectmen are agents to expend.

(Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 5 - 0)

**ARTICLE 19**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000.00) to be added to the Open Space/Conservation Expendable Trust Fund previously established. The Board of Selectmen are agents to expend.

(Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 5 - 0)

**ARTICLE 20**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000.00) to be added to the Water Improvements Expendable Trust Fund previously established. The Board of Selectmen are agents to expend.

(Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 5 - 0)

**ARTICLE 21**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Thirty Five Thousand Dollars (\$35,000.00) to be added to the Waterfront Infrastructure Trust previously established. The Board of Selectmen are agents to expend.

(Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 5 - 0)

**ARTICLE 22**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Twenty Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000.00) to be added to the Solid Waste Trailer Replacement Fund Trust Fund previously established. The Board of Selectmen are agents to expend.

(Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 5 - 0)

**ARTICLE 23**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Twenty Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000.00) to be added to the Employee Benefits Expendable Trust Fund previously established. The Board of Selectmen are agents to expend.

(Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 5 - 0)

**ARTICLE 24**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Ninety Thousand Dollars (\$90,000.00) for the water project designated at the Prescott Park/Circle Drive Water Loop. This is the second year of a two-year project. These funds are non-lapsing appropriations until December 31, 2009 or project completion.

(Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 3 - 2)

**ARTICLE 25**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Sixty Thousand Dollars (\$60,000.00) to improve various town roads that are eligible for 2 to 1 matching funds from the State Aid Reconstruction Program, contingent upon the receipt of Forty Thousand Dollars (\$40,000) of that amount from the State, with the balance of Twenty Thousand Dollars (\$20,000) to be raised by taxation.

**ARTICLE 26**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Twelve Million, Seventy One Thousand, Four Hundred Fifty Seven Dollars and twenty three cents, (\$ 12,071,457.23) for the necessary operational expenses of the Town for the ensuing year's budget. This amount does not include amounts appropriated under the prior articles.

**Board of Selectmen  
Meredith, New Hampshire**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Frank S. Michel  
Chairman

\_\_\_\_\_  
Peter F. Brothers  
Vice Chairman

\_\_\_\_\_  
Colette Worsman  
Selectman

\_\_\_\_\_  
Miller C. Lovett  
Selectman

\_\_\_\_\_  
Robert C. Flanders  
Selectman

**Subscribed and sworn to before me this 22<sup>nd</sup> day of February 2008.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Kerri A. Parker, Deputy Town Clerk, Notary Public**

**Town Clerk  
Meredith, New Hampshire**

Received and recorded this 22<sup>rd</sup> day of February 2008.

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Pauline L. Jones, Town Clerk

We hereby certify that on this date, the 22<sup>rd</sup> day of February 2008, we caused to be placed an attested copy of this warrant at the place of meeting specified and like copies at the Town of Meredith Municipal Building and other public places in said Town. We also caused to be placed a true copy at the Office of the Town Clerk, Meredith, New Hampshire.

Board of Selectmen  
Meredith, New Hampshire

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Frank S. Michel  
Chairman

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Peter F. Brothers  
Vice Chairman

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Colette Worsman  
Selectman

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Miller C. Lovett  
Selectman

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Robert C. Flanders  
Selectman