

Town of Peterborough
Town Meeting – Open Session
Wednesday, May 11, 2011
Upper Town Hall, 1 Grove Street, Peterborough, NH

Town Moderator L. Phillips Runyon III called the meeting to order at 7:07 PM and led Pledge of Allegiance. Moderator Runyon began by reviewing the Rules of Town Meeting and Civility Protocol.

Moderator Runyon recognized Select Board Chair Barbara Miller who delivered a welcoming statement to the body and reviewed the structure of the Charter as it pertains to Town Meeting.

Warrant Article 6 – Adams Pool Rehabilitation

\$1,200,000

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **One Million Two Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$1,200,000)** (gross budget) for the purposes of preparing plans, specifications, and the rehabilitation of the Adams Pool and associated amenities and to authorize the issuance of up to \$1,200,000 of bonds or notes in accordance with the provisions of the Municipal Finance Act, R.S.A. 33.1 et seq., as amended; and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to issue, negotiate, sell and deliver such bonds or notes and to determine the rate of interest thereon and the maturity and other terms thereof as shall be in the best interest of the Town; to authorize the Selectmen to apply for, obtain and accept other grants, gifts, or other forms of assistance, if any, which may be available for said project and to comply with all laws applicable to said project; and to authorize the Selectmen to take any other action or to pass any other vote relating thereto.

By Ballot Vote (2/3 Ballot Vote Required).

The Select Board does not recommend this appropriation by a 2 to 1 vote
The Budget Committee recommends this appropriation by a 4 to 2 vote

Motion: Select Board Chair Joe Byk moved the article as read. Select Board member Barbara Miller seconded the motion.

Motion: Amendment #1 to Warrant Article 6 was moved by Mr. Byk, second by Ms. Miller.

The Board of Selectmen moved to amend the motion under Article 6 as follows:

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **One Million Two Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$1,200,000)** (gross budget) for the purposes of financing 1) the costs of preparing plans and specifications and 2) the costs of the rehabilitation of the Adams Pool and associated amenities and to authorize the issuance of up to \$1,200,000 of bonds or notes in accordance with the provisions of the Municipal Finance Act, R.S.A. 33.1 et seq., as amended; and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to issue, negotiate, sell and deliver such bonds or notes and to determine the rate of interest thereon and the maturity and other terms thereof as shall be in the best interest of the Town; to authorize the Selectmen to apply for, obtain and accept other grants, gifts, or other forms of assistance, if any, which may be available for said project and to comply with all laws applicable to said project; and to authorize the Selectmen to take any other action or to pass any other vote relating thereto.

By ballot vote (2/3 Ballot Vote Required).

The Select Board recommends this appropriation by a 3 to 0 vote.
The Budget Committee recommends this appropriation by a 4 to 2 vote.

Town Counsel John Ratigan explained the legal reason for the amendment.

Tina Kriebel, Chair of the Recreation Committee spoke to the need to preserve Adams Pool. While this project has been discussed for several years with both the Budget Committee and the Select Board, they are now able to present it to the voters.

Questions were posed from the floor as to whether we should vote on the proposed Amendment to the article before discussing the merits of the project. Moderator Runyon asked the attending voters if they wanted to vote on the amendment at that time and received an overwhelming 'yes'.

Vote: By a show of paddles, Amendment #1 to Warrant Article 6 passed.

Moderator Runyon recognized Jeff King, Director of the Recreation Department. Jeff thanked Tina Kriebel for the six years she served on the Recreation Committee. Jeff then proceeded to present the proposed project, including recent repair efforts and the justification for the rehabilitation project. He described the proposed cost schedule for the estimated bond the impact it would have on the tax rate. He closed his presentation with the poem, "No Sadder Day in Peterborough".

Moderator Runyon asked if there was anyone who wished to speak to the article or ask questions.

Chet Soule pointed out that at a 1st year payment of \$131,200 and estimating 7000 visits for the year, the estimated cost is \$18.75 per visit and "just wanted to point that out."

Many residents spoke in favor of the pool and the proposed project including Anne Twitchell, Joan Barrows, Annika Brown, Jim Grant, Joe Brennan, Christine McCall, Greg Kriebel, Tim Selby, Dick Estes, Sue Chollet, Sue Shute, and Shelly Stritzinger.

Mary Kate Kelly spoke as a former member of the Peterborough Wave Swim Club. PWSC pays to use the pool in the summer months and holds several swim meets there including the annual Pentathlon event. She said that having access to the Adams Pools allowed her and others to swim competitively.

Jim Grant pointed out that the playground and pool provide a safe place for kids and is located within walking distance to downtown. Kerri Beaulieu indicated that the pool was an important amenity in her choice to purchase a home in Peterborough. Carol Nelson asked the cost to add the proposed splash pad and what impact it would have on the insurance cost. Jeff King responded that the cost to add the splash pad as part of the overall rehabilitation effort would be approximately \$220,400 and that any impact on the insurance would be negligible. Marie Primeau indicated that the proposed splash pad would be a welcome relief in the summer heat for those with disabilities. Roland Patten pointed out that the lack of maintenance to the pool has been a problem for years and that although many issues have been addressed in recent years, the proposed rehabilitation is critical to preserve Adams Pool.

Susan Shute questioned how the proposed costs were arrived at and why was it determined to renovate the current pool vs. building a new pool or building a year-round pool complex. Jeff King indicated that the decision was based on the cost and that the other options were just too expensive for a town the size of Peterborough. Jeff indicated that it would cost between \$1.7 million and \$3 million to build a new

pool, more than the cost to rehab the existing pool. And the cost to build – and maintain – a year-round pool complex is far too expensive for a town the size of Peterborough.

Maude Salinger asked whether the Isabelle Miller funds could be used to fund the splash pad. Jeff King responded that it's a possibility but that the money currently in the fund is targeted for the Phase I renovation of the Armory building.

Several residents spoke against the article. John Kaufhold stated that we already have Cunningham Pond and MacDowell Lake. Also, if the town is to spend this kind of money, shouldn't we look into funding a year-round pool facility?

Kathleen Allen stated that the \$1.2 million should be targeted to the Main Street bridge project.

Margaret Wynn questioned what benefit the pool is to the town's elderly.

Francis Chapman asked how the town can afford to pay for the pool rehabilitation. Although all of his children grew up using the pool facilities, he felt that the town can't afford to keep "throwing money" at it.

Craig Hicks moved the article. Warrant Article 6 was put to ballot vote and requires a 2/3 majority to pass. Used aqua colored ballots. YES favorable, NO against. Moderator Runyon declared at 8:17 PM that the polls are open for voting and to remain open for one hour.

Moderator Runyon announced at 9:17 PM that the polls were closed. Counting of votes commenced by Supervisors of the Checklist, William Sweet, Denise Sweet, and Mary Lee Leedham.

At 9:25 PM Moderator Runyon announced results of vote for Warrant Article 6:

YES	215
NO	42
Total Ballots Cast:	257

Vote: Warrant Article 6, as amended, passed successfully with more than the 2/3 required votes.

Warrant Article 7 – Fire Pumper Truck Lease Purchase Revision **\$550,000**

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to extend the previously approved two year lease purchase agreement for the purpose of lease-purchasing a fire pumper truck for the Fire Department, Warrant Article 12, May 2010 Town Meeting, to a three year lease purchase. The third year lease purchase payment, to include principal and interest, will be in an amount not to exceed One Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$100,000).

By ballot vote (2/3 Ballot Vote Required).

Motion: Select Board member Barbara Miller moved the article; Select Board member Elizabeth Thomas seconded the motion.

Ms. Miller spoke to the article. The purpose for the article is to extend the previously approved 2-year lease purchase agreement to a 3-year lease purchase agreement. The interest rate is expected to remain at

2.75%. The change in lease purchase term will reduce the amount due at the end of the lease purchase period from approximately \$130,000 to approximately \$87,000.

With no additional speakers to the article, Moderator Runyon put Warrant Article 7 to ballot vote, requiring a 2/3 majority to pass. Used pink colored ballots. YES favorable, NO against. Moderator Runyon declared at 8:29 PM that the polls are open for voting and to remain open for one hour.

Moderator Runyon announced at 9:29 PM that the polls were closed. Counting of votes commenced by Supervisors of the Checklist, William Sweet, Denise Sweet, and Mary Lee Leedham.

At 9:32 PM Moderator Runyon announced results of vote for Warrant Article 7:

YES	127
NO	8
Total Ballots Cast:	135

Vote: Warrant Article 7, as amended, passed successfully with more than the 2/3 required votes.

Special Recognition

Moderator Runyon recognized Roland Patten who spoke of a special citizen of Peterborough and this year's recipient of the Governor Walter Peterson Award: Sue Chollet. Mr. Patten spoke to Ms. Chollet's many years of service to the Town of Peterborough and its residents. She served on the Monadnock Community Day Care Center's Board of Directors in the mid-1970s and has served on the boards of the Peterborough Players, ConVal Scholarship Program, the Goyette Foundation, and Rivermead Planning Committee. She also served on several town committees including the Capital Improvement Committee, the Budget Committee, Master Plan Steering Committee. In addition, Ms. Chollet was instrumental in the creation of the "Keep Peterborough Warm" program which has provided fuel assistance to more than 30 needy families in Peterborough. Ms. Chollet graciously accepted the award.

Warrant Article 8 – Operating Budget - \$10,759,137

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **Ten Million Seven Hundred Fifty Nine Thousand One Hundred Thirty Seven Dollars (\$10,759,137)** for the operation of General Government, Water, and Wastewater. This represents the fiscal year 2012 budget period, July 1, 2011 to June 30, 2012.

This article does not include special or individual articles.

Pursuant to the Peterborough Charter, the Official Ballot Session has adopted an annual operating budget by approving Article 3. Therefore, this article was passed over.

Warrant Article 9 – Police Cruiser Lease Purchase

\$28,000

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to enter into a two year lease purchase agreement for **Twenty Eight Thousand Dollars (\$28,000.00)** for the purpose of lease-purchasing a replacement cruiser for the Police Department, and to raise and appropriate the sum of **Fourteen**

Thousand Dollars (\$14,000.00) for the first year's payment for that purpose. This lease agreement contains a non-appropriation escape clause.

The Select Board recommends this appropriation.

The Budget Committee recommends this appropriation

Motion: Select Board member Liz Thomas moved the article; Select Board Chair Joe Byk seconded the motion.

Ms. Thomas spoke to the article. Peterborough Police Department is requesting \$28,000 for the lease purchase of a new cruiser which will replace the 2006 cruiser currently in use by the police department. The current cruiser has accumulated more than 82,000 miles and is no longer covered by warranty. By selling the vehicle now, the town will be able to re-coup approximately 1/3 of the vehicle's original cost.

As there were no further questions, Moderator Runyon put the article to vote.

Vote: By a show of paddles, the majority was in the affirmative and Warrant Article 9 was passed.

As there was no further business, Nicole MacStay made a motion to adjourn. William Sweet seconded. By a show of paddles, the vote was manifested in favor of the motion. Meeting adjourned at 9:33 PM.

Total Registered Voters on Checklist:	5457
Total Registered Voters at Town Meeting:	257

Respectfully submitted,

Linda M. Guyette
Town Clerk