

Town of Albany
2016 Town Meeting Minutes
March 8, 2016

At 7:20 p.m., the Albany Annual Town Meeting was called to order by Moderator Edward Alkalay.

Article 1. To elect all necessary officials.

Selectman (3 Years):	Joseph Ferris 61 votes
Selectman (1 Year):	Richard Hiland 60 votes
Moderator (2 Years):	Edward Alkalay 108 votes
Trustee of Trust Funds:	Leah Valladares 6 votes
Cemetery Trustee:	Kimberly Guphill 88 votes
Supervisor of Checklist (6 Years):	Lisa Robitaille 85 votes

Article 2. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$672,856.00** for the municipal operating budget for the ensuing year. This article does not include appropriations contained in special or individual articles addressed separately. [Recommended by Selectmen (3-0-0)]

The article passed as read.

Article 3. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$3,000.00** for deposit into the Revaluation Trust Fund previously established. [Recommended by Selectmen (3-0-0)]

The article passed as read.

Article 4. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$401.00** for deposit into the Cemetery Expendable Trust Fund previously established. Said funds to be withdrawn from the Town's "Unreserved Fund Balance." This represents the proceeds from the sale of cemetery plots and burial permits in 2015. [Recommended by Selectmen (3-0-0)]

The article passed as read.

Article 5. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$5,000.00** for deposit into the Cemetery Expendable Trust Fund previously established. [Recommended by Selectmen (3-0-0)]

The article passed as read.

Article 6. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$25,000.00** for deposit into the Highway Capital Reserve Fund previously established. [Recommended by Selectmen (3-0-0)]

The article passed as read.

Article 7. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$4,800.00** for the installation of three video cameras to video all town board meetings and the operating expenses for same. [Recommended by Selectmen (2-1-0)]
The article was defeated.

Article 8. To see if the Town of Albany will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$1,500.00** (Fifteen hundred dollars) in support of the Albany Party Group which hosts the Town's annual summer picnic and the annual holiday children's party. Submitted by petition. [Recommended by Selectmen (3-0-0)]
The article passed as read.

Article 9. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$1,800.00** for the Early Supports & Services Program (birth to 3 years) of Children Unlimited, Inc. Submitted by petition. [Recommended by Selectmen (3-0-0)]
The article passed as read.

Article 10. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$4,000.00** for Tri-County Community Action for the purpose of continuing services of the Fuel Assistance Program for the residents of Albany. Submitted by petition. [Recommended by Selectmen (3-0-0)]
The article passed as read.

Article 11. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$1,433.00** to assist The Mental Health Center at Northern Human Services. Submitted by petition. [Recommended by Selectmen (3-0-0)]
The article passed as read.

Article 12. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$2,500.00** to support Albany home delivered meals (Meals on Wheels), congregate meals, transportation and program services provided by the Gibson Center for Senior Services, Inc. Submitted by petition. [Recommended by Selectmen (3-0-0)]
The article passed as read.

Article 13. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$1,126.00** in support of Starting Point providing advocacy and support to victims of domestic and sexual violence and their children. Submitted by petition. [Recommended by Selectmen (3-0-0)]
The article passed as read.

Article 14. To see if the Town of Albany will vote to raise and/or appropriate the sum of Three Hundred Dollars (**\$300.00**) for the Eastern Slope Airport Authority for its use in operation the Eastern Slope Regional Airport. Submitted by petition. [Recommended by Selectmen (3-0-0)]
The article passed as read.

Article 15. To see if the Town of Albany will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$3,000.00** in support of Blue Loon Public Bus Services. Submitted by petition. [Recommended by Selectmen (3-0-0)]

The article passed as read.

Article 16. To see if the Town of Albany will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$4,000.00** (or the annual Time Warner Cable Franchise Fee Funds from 2016) in support of the operations of Valley Vision, Channel 3, the Public Education and Government Station in 2016. Submitted by petition. [Recommended by Selectmen (3-0-0)]

The article passed as read.

Article 17. To see if the Town of Albany will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$2,227.00** for the support of White Mountain Community Health Center to help meet the healthcare needs of the uninsured and underinsured residents of the Town of Albany. Submitted by petition. [Recommended by Selectmen (3-0-0)]

The article passed as read.

Article 18. To see if the Town of Albany will vote to urge the next President and Congress fight big money politics and restore government of, by, and for the people by championing the **We the People Agenda** which includes: **Ban Super PACs and overturn Citizen United, expose secret donors and require full transparency, ban bribes from big money lobbyists and government contractors, establish small donor, citizen funded elections, end gerrymandering and modernize voter registration, close loopholes and enforce campaigning finance laws.** To see that New Hampshire State Legislature support concrete legislation to enact the **We the People Agenda.** **The record of the vote approving this article shall be transmitted by written notice from the Selectmen to the NH Congressional Delegation and to Albany's state legislators and to the President of the United States informing them of the instructions from their constituents within 30 days of the vote.** Submitted by petition. [Recommended by Selectmen (0-3-0)]

The article passed as read.

Article 19. To see if the town will vote, pursuant to RSA 80:80, V, to retain and hold for public use, the property identified as 2008 Passaconaway Rd., tax map 11, lot 56, taken by Tax Collector's deed on August 7, 2013, said property to be used as an asset for the Town. Managed for timber, recreation, possible location for a cell tower, another Town Cemetery or other public use. [Recommended by Selectmen (3-0-0)]

The article was passed over.

Article 20. To see if the Town will vote to advise the Board of Selectmen to not support the purchase of any land in Albany, including the Albany portion of Wonalancet, by the White Mountain National Forest. [Recommended by Selectmen (3-0-0)]

This article passed as read.

Article 21. To act upon any other business that may legally come before this meeting. [Recommended by Selectmen (3-0-0)]

Moderator Alkalay thanked Kelly Robitaille and Rob Nadler for their service to the town, saying it takes a lot to put your name out there to run for office. He appreciates what they have done for the town for the past few years.

Moderator Alkalay thanked Leah Valladares for once again running around with the microphone so everyone could hear what was being said.

Kathy Carrier would like to see the town meeting posted on the marquis outside of town hall. Andy Davis added he called people to remind them of town meeting.

Selectman Ryan thanked Kelly and Rob for their effort and time. Rob serves on a lot of boards for the town and Kelly has been the idea man on the Selectboard. It has been a pleasure and an honor. She appreciates it.

Selectman Ryan informed the citizens that in 2016, they can count on their property taxes going up as a result of the school tuition bill. On top of that, the town has been short of cash just before tax bills go out in the fall. Albany has had to pay their bills late. Particularly, the school tuition bill. The Selectmen have looked into taking a tax anticipation note in 2016 and are contemplating a change to biannual taxing. Other towns seem to like it as it is a convenience to split up that large bill that comes just before the holidays. Selectman Ryan put on a short presentation of the issues Albany is facing and possible solutions that the Selectmen will be looking into.

Colleen Cormack would like to see the town utilize current technology to announce the town meeting date and time. She posted the town meeting on Facebook and boosted the post with her own money to reach more people. Buzz Coleman said town meeting is always the same every year, the second Tuesday in March.

Rick Hiland told Moderator Alkalay he did a nice job. Andy Davis concurred.

At 9:55 p.m., the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,



**Kathleen Vizard
Albany Town Clerk**