## TOWN OF CENTER HARBOR TOWN MEETING MARCH 12, 2024

The March 12, 2024 Town Meeting was called to order at 8:00 A.M. by Moderator Charles Hanson, who announced the polls to open to act upon Article 1.

At 1:00 P.M. the absentee ballots were accepted. The polls closed at 7:00 P.M. and the ballots were tallied.

Article 1-A. All town offices and school board members for the year ensuing were voted on with following results:

Cemetery Trustee for 3 years	
Charles Hanson	130 votes
Moderator for 2 years	
Charles Hanson	130 votes
Selectman for 3 years	
Richard Drenkhahn	117 votes
Mark Stearns	1 vote
Lee Mattson	1 vote
Steven Chad	1 vote
(2) Library Trustees for 3 years	
Sandy Frost	83 votes
Clara Gamboa de Levin	53 votes
Karen Ponton	42 votes
Supervisor of the Checklist for 6 years	
Rhonda Cost	122 votes
Ronald Valpey	1 vote
Trustee of the Trust Funds for 3 years	
Diane Drenkhahn	115 votes
Moderator of School Board for 1 year	
Write in Pat Kelly	12 votes
" " David Locke	10 votes
" " Charles Hanson	5 votes
" " Louisa Cartier	1 vote
" " Kiera Russell	1 vote
School Board Member Center Harbor	
James Locke	123 votes
Kiera Russell	5 votes
Charles Hanson	1 vote

School Board Member Meredith Edward Twaddell Kiera Russell

74 votes 36 votes

Article 1-B: Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment 1-B, as proposed by the Planning Board, for the Town Zoning Ordinance, to amend the following under **Section 10:2 Purpose and Intent.** 

**Amend to:** The guiding principles for this ordinance are two-fold: First, to guide landowners in developing and using their property for their desired purpose while protecting the water resources that drive Center Harbor's economy and wellbeing.

**Section 10:2 item (6) amend to:** To preserve and enhance the aesthetic and recreational values associated with water resources.

**Section 10:2 item (8) amend to:** Prevent unnecessary or excessive expenditures of municipal funds for the purposes of providing and/or maintaining essential service and utilities which might be required as a result of misuse or abuse of water resources.

(Recommended by the Planning Board)

Yes 107

No 15

Article 1-C: Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment 1-C, as proposed by the Planning Board, for the Town Zoning Ordinance, to amend the following under **Section 10:3 Definition.** 

Section 10:3:8 to add "or edge of a channel."

**Section 10:3:14** to add "Water Resources-any water feature, including, but not limited to aquifers, ponds., lakes, streams and wetlands."

(Recommended by the Planning Board)

Yes 100

No 19

Article 1-D: Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment 1-D, as proposed by the Planning Board, for the Town Zoning Ordinance, to amend **Section 10:4:2:4 Boundary Disputes** paragraphs to read" In Accordance with the Center Harbor Town Ordinance where it determined that an area has been incorrectly delineated as a wetland or an area not so designated was subsequently found to meet the criteria for wetlands designation, the planning Board shall determine whether the regulations contained herein have applications.

In a dispute about the boundary of the WRCOD relative to wetlands, the edge of a wetland as defined by RSA 482-A and as required by RSA 674:55 should be determined by a certified soil or wetland scientist using field methods prescribed by the Army Corp of Engineers Wetland Delineation Manual (January 1987)

and the Regional Supplement to the Corps of Engineers Wetland Delineation Manual: North Central and Northeast Region) January 2012, as amended.

The Planning Board shall make their judgement under this section only upon determination by a certified soil or wetland scientist on the basis of additional onsite information contained on the Center Harbor Water Resources Map is incorrect. The evidence shall be delivered for consideration in written form to the Planning Board clerk. Costs involved into the foregoing shall be borne by the applicant.

(Recommended by the Planning Board)

Yes 103

No 15

Article 1-E: Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment 1-E, as proposed by the Planning Board, for the Town Zoning Ordinance, to amend the following under **Section 10:4:3 Rivers and Streams** 

**Section 10:4:3: 1:1 to add:** Designated Stream Protective Buffer-all lands within 75Ft. of the reference line of the designated streams identified in Section 10:4:3:1.

**Section 10:4:3: 2:1.to read:** Non-Designated Stream Protective Buffer-all lands within 50 feet of the reference line of a non-designated stream.

(Recommended by the Planning Board)

Yes 101

No 19

Article 1-F: Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment 1-F, as proposed by the Planning Board, for the Town Zoning Ordinance, to amend the following under **Section 10:6:2 Permitted Uses within the Protective Buffer** 

Section 10:6:2:2 amend to: Minor accessory structures as detailed in Section 5:3:1.

**Section 10:6:2:4 add to:** Wet and Dry Boathouses are defined in Section 2:2:23. and Section 2:2:24 respective and as reference in Section 9:4, Paragraph 3.

(Recommended by the Planning Board)

Yes 101

No 19

Article 1-G: Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment 1-G, as proposed by the Planning Board, for the Town Zoning Ordinance, to amend **Section 10:6:3:3 Item (5) Waterfront Buffer Boundary Disputes** paragraph to read" Pesticide and herbicide applications shall only be applied by a licensed applicator.

(Recommended by the Planning Board)

Yes 104

No 16

At 6:00 P.M., Wednesday, March 13, 2024, the Town Meeting was reconvened in the Fire Station to act upon Articles 2 thru 23. Moderator Charles Hanson opened the meeting by stating that it was the first Town Meeting that he has attended with open water in the bay. He asked for any veterans in the audience to stand and be recognized which led to all attendees standing for the Pledge of Allegiance. He introduced the Selectmen, Bill Ricciardi, Harry Viens and Chairman Richard Drenkhahn. Town Attorney Chris Hilson, Town Clerk/Tax Collector Mary Richardson, Administrative Assistant Robin Woodaman, Ballot Clerks, Diane Kimsey, Helen Altavesta and Amy Hornkohl, who is also Deputy Town Clerk/Tax Collector, Supervisors of the Checklist, Rachel Small, Kelli Kemery and Jamie Jenkins, Deputy Moderators Peter Louden and Alan Rilla, Police Chief Mark Chase, Fire Chief Tyler Driscoll and Parks and Recreation Director Sandy Frost. He stated that we have an unprecedented number of Petition Warrant Articles, totaling five. He thanked the Fire Department for the hard work they do in setting up for the meeting. He asked Rachel Small to come forward for recognition and flowers for her role of Supervisor of the Checklist over the last twelve years. A role that that is extremely important to the integrity of our elections. He then read the results of the election. He reminded everyone of the rules of the meeting, to be respectful of opposing views and try to keep comments brief. Due to a few Articles that we expect to have quite a debate, our Town Attorney was asked to attend to help with procedural issues.

Article 2. Special Warrant Article. It was moved by Richard Drenkhahn and seconded by Greg Hime to see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$400,000 for the installation of a 116 kilowatt ground mount photovoltaic array system on Town owned property located at 36 Main Street (Tax Map 102, Lot 1), of which \$55,000 will come from the Town's Energy Conservation Expendable Trust Fund, \$100,000 from the unreserved fund balance, \$120,000 from a US Treasury 2021 Inflation Reduction Act grant and \$125,000 from taxation; but if the \$120,000 US Treasury grant is not received, then this warrant article will be null and void. (Majority vote required). The Selectmen do NOT recommend this warrant article by a 2-1 vote. Dennis Schofield requested a secret ballot in writing with five registered voters that were present. Bernie Volz moved to amend the article to remove the wording \$120,000 US Treasury grant is not received then this warrant article will be null and void. The reason is the steps are different than we had assumed. The array needs to be put in service and then file a pre-registration for taxes. Carol Sullivan seconded the motion. Jeff Hubbell asked where residential grants require a tax return to receive the grant, how would it work for the town? Richard Drenkhahn responded where the town is not required to file a tax return, we would have to file an elective pay form to receive the grant. Jeff Hubbell stressed the drawback of having to put the money up front. Craig Baker felt there were too many what if's and no concrete proposal. Craig Showers stated we are going into the unknown with a very high-risk level based off what we are hearing right now. Bernie Volz responded there should not be a risk to the town. Chris Johnson wanted to remind everyone with an election next year everything could change from the current administration. Chris Johnson found the fund misleading. Dennis Schofield felt the solar array should be non-obtrusive and not in the Village District. He is all for solar. He has solar on his house but why not put it on the Municipal Building instead. William Hornkohl suggested why not keep funding the energy fund instead of paying now. Bernie Volz reminded us he proposed putting money in last year but got shot down. Others brought up the proposed buffer and it not being conducive to the historical look, they questioned payback, no consideration of other land to use and to wait for improved future technology. Bernie Volz discussed payback figures and it does include maintenance and replacement costs as well as offsetting power and selling power. Gwen Bronson wanted to hear from the Selectmen who opposed the project. Harry Viens is a fan of solar. He has solar but does not feel it belongs in The Village. Bill Ricciardi

stated after listening to all the hearings and tonight he felt the cost benefit is not enough. He is not against in the future but in a different spot. Eloise Coudert spoke in favor. We need to take care of our planet for our future generations. Greg Hime also spoke in favor. Jeff Hubbell motioned to call a question. It was approved. It went to a secret ballot vote. Results to be announced later in the meeting.

Article 3. It was moved by Harry Viens and seconded by Peter Louden to see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,159,748 for general municipal operations. This article does not include appropriations contained in special or individual articles addressed separately. (\$1,071,491 appropriated in 2023). (Majority vote required). The Article passed unanimously.

Article 4. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$963,256 for public safety. (\$854,334 appropriated in 2023). (Majority vote required). It was moved by Bill Ricciardi and seconded by David Hughes. The Article passed unanimously.

	2024 Proposal	2023
		Appropriation
Police Department	\$466,589	\$443,899
Fire Department	\$386,579	\$304,578
Ambulance	\$77,273	\$76,154
Lakes Region Mutual Fire Aid	\$28,515	\$25,403
Emergency Management	\$3,250	\$3,250
Red Hill Fire Tower	\$1,050	\$1,050
Total Public Safety	\$963,256	\$854,334

Article 5. Special Warrant Article. It was moved by Richard Drenkhahn and seconded by Peter Louden to see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen to enter a five-year, in arrears, lease-purchase agreement in the amount of \$140,000 for the purpose of leasing a Utility Rescue Truck and Covered Trailer for the Fire Department, and to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1 for the first year's installment to come from taxation. This lease-purchase agreement contains an escape clause. The Selectmen recommend this warrant article by a 3-0 vote. (Majority vote required). Jeff Duren asked what the rescue truck is for? Fire Chief Driscoll replied we traditionally keep apparatus for a long period of time to get as much life out of the trucks as possible before moving them on. Our current rescue truck is 24 years old and will need over \$20,000 worth of work to pass inspection this coming September. When the truck committee designed our newest engine, we moved equipment from the rescue onto the new fire truck. This made it so we can get away with buying an F350 to replace the current rescue instead of needing to buy an F550 which would cost the town between \$45,000 and \$60,000. We feel the new F350 will do the job well and be very helpful as the rescue replacement. **Motion passed by majority vote**.

Article 6. It was moved by Harry Viens and seconded by Greg Hime to see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$412,095 for the maintenance of Town Highways and Bridges, including

sidewalks and dead tree removal to be offset with an estimated amount of \$39,289 from State Highway Block Aid and, in the event the grant is not fully funded, the balance will be raised through taxation. (\$412,712 appropriated in 2023). (Majority vote required). Andy Cartier asked who is in charge of sidewalks. Harry Viens stated that would be the Town. **The Article passed unanimously**.

## The result of Article 2 was announced. 33 Yes 87 No. Article failed.

Article 7. Special Warrant Article. It was moved by Bill Ricciardi and seconded by Dave Nelson to see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen to enter a five-year, in arrears, lease-purchase agreement in the amount of \$121,511 for the purpose of leasing a Ford F600 Plow Truck for the Highway Department, and to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1 for the first year's installment to come from taxation. This lease-purchase agreement contains an escape clause. The Selectmen recommend this warrant article by a 3-0 vote. (Majority vote required). The Article passed unanimously.

Article 8. Special Warrant Article. It was moved by Richard Drenkhahn and seconded by Peter Louden to see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$172,827 to be placed in the following existing Capital Reserve Funds. \$18,826 to come from the unreserved fund balance and \$154,001 from taxation. (\$186,500 appropriated in 2023). The Selectmen recommend this warrant article by a 3-0 vote. (Majority vote required). The Article passed unanimously.

Capital Reserve Funds	2024 Proposal	2023 Appropriation
FD Self Contained Breathing Apparatus	\$14,000	\$14,000
FD Engine or Rescue Vehicle	\$112,576	\$100,000
Safety Building	\$1	\$10,000
PD Cruiser	\$22,500	\$27,500
PW Truck or Equipment	\$11,250	\$15,000
Computer Equipment	\$5,000	\$5,000
Revaluation of Property	\$7,500	\$15,000
Total Capital Reserve Funds	\$172,827	\$186,500

Article 9. Special Warrant Article. It was moved by Harry Viens and seconded by Jeff Hubbell to see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$382,575 to be placed in the following existing Expendable Trust Funds; \$20,572 to come from the unreserved fund balance and \$362,003 from taxation. (\$470,118 Appropriated in 2023). The Selectmen recommend this warrant article by a 3-0 vote. (Majority vote required). Bernie Volz motioned to amend the Article to add to the Energy Conservation & Improvements line \$60,000. Carol Sullivan seconded. Earl Jenkins asked why? Bernie said due to Article

2 failing this would be appropriate for the town to accumulate money for a solar array down the road. There was a hand count for the amendment of **45 Yes and 56 No. Amendment failed**.

Original Article of \$382,575 was called to question. Article passed by majority vote.

Expendable Trust Funds	2024 Proposal	2023
		Appropriation
Buildings Repairs & Maintenance	\$22,909	\$40,000
Energy Conservation & Improvements	\$1	\$1
Town Roads Repairs & Maintenance	\$311,092	\$334,069
Town Vehicle Repairs	\$11,418	\$11,053
Town Beautification	\$2,000	\$2,000
Town Properties Stewardship	\$1	\$1
Town Winter Maintenance	\$1	\$1
Town Boat Ramp/Drainage	\$25,000	\$50,000
Cemetery Repairs & Maintenance	\$5,000	\$13,500
Bridge Maintenance, Const, Repairs	\$5,153	\$19,493
Total Expendable Trust Funds	\$382,575	470,118

Article 10. It was moved by Bill Ricciardi and seconded by Craig Baker to see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$233,369 for the disposal of Solid Waste. (\$247,311 appropriated in 2023). (Majority vote required). The Article passed by majority vote.

Article 11. It was moved by Richard Drenkhahn and seconded by Peter Louden to see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$109,952 for the operation of the James E. Nichols Memorial Library. (\$80,701 appropriated in 2023). (Majority vote required). Craig Baker stated he is unable to use the library with the current hours. Linda Verge, Director and resident spoke. At the last trustee meeting the hours were changed on Tuesdays to 12:00 to 6:00 P.M. to address the public use. We are currently down a staff member. We are very aware and actively looking at correcting the hours. William Hornkohl asked about the \$29,000 difference. Ann Xavier, Chair of the Library Trustees explained the library is trying to stay competitive. We lost our Librarian and Assistant Librarian at the same time due to teaching positions with full time hours and benefits. We need to be competitive to hire and retain employees. **Article passed by majority vote.** 

Article 12. It was moved by Harry Viens and seconded by David Hughes to see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$123,228 for recreational activities. (\$112,018 appropriated in 2023). (Majority vote required). **The Article passed by majority vote**.

	2024 Proposal	2023 Appropriation
Parks & Recreation	\$70,643	\$62,343
Patriotic Purposes	\$34,910	\$32,000
Town Band concerts	\$17,675	\$17,675
Total Recreational	\$123,228	\$112,018

Article 13. It was moved by Bill Ricciardi and seconded by to see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1 for the Centre Harbor Historical Society. (\$1,000 appropriated in 2023). (Majority vote required). The Article passed by majority vote.

Article 14. It was moved by Richard Drenkhahn and seconded by Lee Woodworth to see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$5,000 for Direct Welfare. (\$10,000 appropriated in 2023). (Majority vote required). Bernie Volz asked the reason for the reduction. Richard Drenkhahn said fortunately there has not been a need. **The Article passed unanimously**.

Article 15. It was moved by Harry Viens and seconded by Peter Louden to see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$48,384 for the support of the following health and welfare agencies (\$47,648 appropriated in 2023) (Majority vote required). The Article passed unanimously.

Agency	2024 Request	2023 Appropriation
Lakes Region Visiting Nurse Assoc.	\$20,000	\$20,000
Winnipesaukee Wellness Center	\$6,500	\$6,500
Community Action Program	\$8,800	\$8,800
Inter-Lakes Day Care Center	\$5,284	\$4,848
New Beginnings	\$1,050	\$1,050
American Red Cross	\$1,000	\$1,000
Lakes Region Mental Health Ctr.	\$1,750	\$1,750
CASA	\$1,000	\$1,000

Article 16. Special Warrant Article. It was moved by Bill Ricciardi and seconded by Dennis Schofield to see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1 to be placed in the existing Heritage Fund. (\$5,000 appropriated in 2023). The Selectmen recommend this warrant article by a 3-0 vote. (Majority vote required). Karen Ponton moved to amend the article to \$5,000 from \$1. Bernie Volz seconded. Karen stated seeing Town support helps with seeking grants. The agencies need to see the Town is supportive. We have received over \$200,000 in grants and donations in the past several years. Tom Ploszaj questioned what was in the fund and what the expenses were last year. We have close to \$50,000 and spent \$6,395. The amendment failed. Karen Ponton motioned to amend to \$2,000, seconded by Bernie Volz. Chair of the Heritage Commission Ginny Fisher asked to support the \$2,000 amendment. The \$2,000 Amendment passed by 66 yes 33 no. **The Article passed by majority vote**.

Article 17. Special Warrant Article. Petitioned Warrant Article. It was moved by David Walker and seconded by David Hughes to see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Twelve Thousand Dollars (\$12,000) to fund the purchase and installation of audio and video equipment in the Cary Mead meeting room at Center Harbor Town Hall, including service contracts for operations and maintenance of the audio and video equipment, live streaming and digital storage, to allow for successful video broadcast and viewing of public meetings held in the Cary Mead meeting room. The Selectmen do NOT recommend this warrant article by a 3-0 vote. (Majority vote required). A secret ballot request was submitted signed by six registered voters. David Walker read a prepared statement on why he recommends Article 17 and Article 18. He stated we all need transparency in our local government and for those who cannot attend the meetings live in the Carey Mead Room, you can view them on your phone, tablet, or computer at any time. He read a mission statement from governmentoversite.com which provides recordings from some Carroll County towns. Moderator Hanson chose to move to Article 18 before bringing this Article to a vote.

Article 18. Special Warrant Article. Petitioned Warrant Article. It was moved by David Walker and seconded Greg Hime to see if the Town will vote to add an Ordinance to its Town Ordinances entitled "Town Government Transparency" that will state the following: "All public meetings held in the Cary Mead meeting room shall be live-streamed in real-time for the public to view on the Town's internet website, and a link to the video recording of each public meeting shall be posted on the Town's internet website immediately after the conclusion of each meeting." This ordinance shall take effect on August 1, 2024. The Selectmen do NOT recommend this warrant article by a 3-0 vote. (Majority vote required). A secret ballot request was submitted signed by six registered voters. Harry Viens spoke on behalf of the Board of Selectmen. We do not feel we have a problem with transparency and feel these two articles are unnecessary as well as the expense. He used the zoom meetings attendance during the pandemic as a benchmark. Adding the Article is flawed as it specifies all public meetings in the Carey Mead Room counting seven committees alone the expense would be in excess of the \$12,000. Is it the intent to just cover the Carey Mead Room? There are public meetings held in the library, the townhouse, and the fire station. Bernie Volz questioned what becomes the official record and how long are recordings retained versus minutes. Chris Hilson stated typically the minutes are transcribed and approved by the board of that meeting and they are the official record. Greg Hime expressed his concerns with security on the internet, vulnerability, and expense. Discussion ensued with a variety of comments including support of the current board with not having an issue with transparency and the depth of the meeting minutes now. Phil Boivin commented on how detailed the Selectmen's Minutes are now and easily available on our website thanks to Robin. Some spoke in favor for those that cannot get out to the meetings and to put in place for the future as a reasonable measure. Harry Viens moved an amendment to Article 18 seconded by Jeff Hubbell as follows:

To see if the Town will vote to form a committee to study adding an Ordinance to its Town Ordinances entitled "Town Government Transparency" that will state the following: "All public meetings held in the Cary Mead meeting room shall be lived-streamed in real-time for the public to view on the Town's internet website immediately after the conclusion of each meeting."

There was a hand count for the amendment of **56 Yes and 29 No. Motion carried**. The amendment went to a secret ballot vote, results to be announced later in the meeting.

Article 19. Special Warrant Article. Petitioned Warrant Article. It was moved by Karen Ponton and seconded by Dennis Schofield. Shall only Center Harbor residents, property owners and their guests be permitted to use the Town of Center Harbor boat launch on Lake Winnipesaukee? The Selectmen do NOT recommend this warrant article by a 3-0 vote. (Majority vote required). Karen Ponton read her concerns in regards to Article 19 and how it affects Article 20 with the potential development in Moultonborough, using Koss Development on Bean Rd being advertised as Harbor Landing as an example. NH Department of Environmental Services determined there were contaminants where the wells were being drilled causing a halt to the project for now. Limiting the boat launch use will make construction and sales, like Harbor Landing, much less attractive to investors, owners, developers, and renters. She believes the loss of revenue is a small price to pay to protect and preserve the integrity and character of our small historic village area. She ended by stating this Article is not intended to start a war but to send a clear message on how much we value the historic village in our town. Richard Drenkhahn pointed out the income does offset the cost for the boat launch attendant. He feels the Article is premature because the project did fail which was welcome news. He does not feel a need to add any new restrictions currently. Harry Viens commented the Koss Development project was followed closely with our Attorney's help at the cost of \$32,000 in legal fees. This development was originally marketed as Harbor Landing with concerns that most units would be used as Airbnb's. If it comes back, which it might, we will have to fight it again and revisit our beach access and boat launch if it progresses to that. Harry added our Selectboard has a good relationship with Moultonborough's Selectboard. We want to be welcoming in our Town and for our businesses. Therefore, he does not support the Article. There was a lot of discussion from many voters mostly not in favor of the Article at this time. However, to keep watch in case there is a need to revisit restrictions in the future.

The result of Article 18 was announced. 61 Yes 52 No. Amended Article passed.

After more discussion Moderator Hanson brought the original Article 19 forward for a vote. **The Article failed.** 

Moderator Hanson brought back Article 17 moved to after Article 18 results showing the Amended Article 18 passed. David Walker moved to amend the sum of \$12,000 to come from the ARPA funds. There was no second. Having six voters sign a secret ballot request the original Article 17 went to a vote. 14 Yes 92 No. The Article failed.

Article 20. Special Warrant Article. Petitioned Warrant Article. It was moved by Karen Ponton and seconded by Greg Hime shall the vote at Town Meeting of March 6, 1973 permitting Moultonborough residents, property owners and their guests to use the Town of Center Harbor beach be rescinded, and

only Center Harbor residents, property owners and their guests be permitted use of the Town Beach? The Selectmen do NOT recommend this warrant article by a 3-0 vote. (Majority vote required). Karen stated although she cannot speak for the 100+ people who attended the informational meeting on the Koss Development or the 46 people who signed the petition for this Article the discussion created has achieved the intended effect of reminding our Selectmen and powers to be in Moultonborough how very much we value our heritage and want to preserve the historic village area in our town. Harry Viens motioned an amendment with Diane Drenkhahn seconding it to see if the Town will authorize the Selectboard the discretion to rescind the vote at Town Meeting of March 6, 1073 permitting Moultonborough residents property owners and their guests to use the Town of Center Harbor beach facilities. The amendment failed. The original Article was brought forward for a vote. **The Article failed**.

Article 21. Special Warrant Article. Petitioned Warrant Article. It was moved by Richard Drenkhahn and seconded by Davd Hughes. We, the undersigned, do hereby request the Town of Center Harbor provide snow removal of the town sidewalks. The uncleared sidewalks, especially those along Dane Road (Route 25B), place pedestrians in danger of bodily harm and death. The snow blocked sidewalks present insufficient safe passage for pedestrians, requiring foot travelers walk on the busy highway to access town facilities. We respectfully request the issue be placed as a warrant article at the Town Meeting 2024. The Selectmen do NOT recommend this warrant article by a 3-0 vote. (Majority vote required). Gayle Lacasse submitted a letter as she was not able to attend due to illness which Richard Drenkhahn read. In part her letter stated it was the intent of the petition to bring the discussion of the Town being responsible for removing the snow on the town sidewalks (especially along 25B) to this meeting. After discussion an amendment was motioned by Karen Ponton seconded by Ginny Fisher to form a committee to explore the Town of Center Harbors removal of snow on sidewalks especially on 25B. The amended Article passed.

Article 22. It was moved by Richard Drenkhahn and seconded by Eric Strapp to see if the Town will vote to allow a discount of two (2) percent on property taxes paid within twenty-two (22) days of issue of tax bills by the Tax Collector. **The Article passed unanimously**.

Article 23. To transact such other business that may legally come before the Town Meeting, including to choose agents or committees in relation to any article of the Warrant and hear reports of any heretofore chosen. Karen Ponton wanted to say how impressed she was with citizen involvement this year. Carol Sullivan asked for participants for Earth Week Roadside Cleanup April-21 thru April 27.

The meeting was adjourned by the moderator at 9:23 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Richardson Town Clerk