

**STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
TOWN OF JAFFREY
ANNUAL TOWN MEETING WARRANT
2012**

**Elections – March 13, 2012 (8:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.)
Business Meeting – March 17, 2012 (9:00 a.m.)**

TO: The inhabitants of the Town of Jaffrey, in the County of Cheshire, in the State of New Hampshire, qualified to vote in Town affairs:

You are hereby notified to meet at the Veterans of Foreign War, Post 5613 in said Jaffrey on Tuesday, the 13th of March, 2012 at eight o'clock in the forenoon (polls close at 7:00 p.m.) to vote for the town officers and to act on other questions as required by law to be decided by official ballot. Pursuant to RSA 39:2a and the vote of the Town at the adjourned session of Town Meeting on March 13, 1979 and the Town Meeting on March 13, 1993, the business portion of the meeting will be recessed until nine o'clock in the forenoon, Saturday, March 17th, 2012, at the Ernest J. Pratt Auditorium in Jaffrey, at which time the Town will act on all subjects described in the following Warrant Articles except those requiring action by official ballot:

Art. 1. To choose the following Town Officers: (by Official Ballot)

Selectman - one person for three-year term – **Kathleen Batchelder**

Trustee of Trust Funds - one person for three-year term – **Gary Arceci**

Library Trustee - two persons for three-year terms - **Karl Putnam**

-**Mary Heafy**

Moderator – one person for two-year term – **Marc P. Tieger**

Supervisor of the Checklist – one person for six year term – **Carolyn Saari**

Art. 2. To see if the Town will vote to adopt the following amendments to the Jaffrey Zoning Ordinance , as proposed by the Jaffrey Planning Board to be voted by official ballot:

1. Are you in favor of Amendment #1 to the Jaffrey Zoning Ordinance as proposed by the Planning Board? This article amends Section III, District Regulations and Permitted Uses, to insert Section 3.6 Turnpike Road Industrial District and amends Section XV Guide to Zoning Districts in the Town of Jaffrey (maps).

Yes – 266 No - 72

2. Are you in favor of Amendment #2 to the Jaffrey Zoning Ordinance as proposed by the Planning Board? This article amends Section IV, General Provisions That May Apply to

More Than One Zoning District, section 4.2.1 Definition of minor site plan to delete the word “external”.

Yes – 272 No – 70

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 am. The attendants were asked to stand as the Boy Scouts from Troop 33: Tyler Bennett and Ben Chesney presented the colors and led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance. After which Hannah Howard, a sophomore from Conant High sang the “Star Spangled Banner”.

The moderator, Marc Tieger, the said the following: “Good morning. Sometime in the late 1960’s or early 1970’s these words were written by Alice Lehtonen who was the author of Volume III in the History of Jaffrey. They are as appropriate today as they were then and for years and years before:

“Jaffrey has a healthy social climate, evident at that ancient New England institution, the Town Meeting. Here democracy can be seen at work. Here all voters have a chance to say their say as well as cast their ballots. Here it is often clear that relative newcomers on the voting list have as much interest in Jaffrey’s well-being as the older residents. All Jaffrey people take pride in their town, holding their heads high, even as Monadnock that towers above all.”

As we meet this morning in the shadow of our Mount Monadnock it is incumbent upon us, be we recent arrivals or those whose ancestors were here at the incorporation of Jaffrey, to be mindful of Miss Lehtonen’s words.

Each of us has her or his own ideas, convictions, and philosophies in which we passionately believe and it’s only natural that at times we will disagree. But let’s disagree with respect and civility, let’s not just listen but hear what our neighbor is saying and above all, let’s remember that each of us in this room wants the same thing: what is best for this wonderful community, this wonderful Town of Jaffrey, that we call home.”

Mr. Tieger then asked everyone to be seated. He then introduced the Town Manager, the Board of Selectmen, Department Heads, Budget Committee, Supervisors of the Checklist and the Assistant Moderator, Peter Lambert who would be moderating a few of the articles and overseeing the ballot boxes for secret ballot articles.

Mr. Tieger then recognized Chairman of the Board of Selectmen, Kathy Batchelder.

Mrs. Batchelder then offered the following Proclamations:

“Whereas, Kathleen Sterling served the Town of Jaffrey with honor and distinction as a member of the Supervisors of the Checklist;

Now, therefore, be it resolved and proclaimed in Town Meeting convened March 17, 2012, that the Town of Jaffrey wishes to express our thanks and sincere gratitude ant that this expression of our thanks be made a part of the official record of this meeting.”

“Whereas, James Dumont served the Town of Jaffrey with honor and distinction as a member of the Economic Development Council;

Now, therefore, be it resolved and proclaimed in Town Meeting convened March 17, 2012, that the Town of Jaffrey wishes to express our thanks and sincere gratitude ant that this expression of our thanks be made a part of the official record of this meeting.”

Whereas, James Bearce served the Town of Jaffrey with honor and distinction as a member of the Conservation Commission;

Now, therefore, be it resolved and proclaimed in Town Meeting convened March 17, 2012, that the Town of Jaffrey wishes to express our thanks and sincere gratitude ant that this expression of our thanks be made a part of the official record of this meeting.”

“Whereas, Charles Marvin served the Town of Jaffrey with honor and distinction as a member of the Trustees of the Trust Fund;

Now, therefore, be it resolved and proclaimed in Town Meeting convened March 17, 2012, that the Town of Jaffrey wishes to express our thanks and sincere gratitude ant that this expression of our thanks be made a part of the official record of this meeting.”

“Whereas, Rebecca DeGrandpre served the Town of Jaffrey with honor and distinction as a member of the Budget Committee;

Now, therefore, be it resolved and proclaimed in Town Meeting convened March 17, 2012, that the Town of Jaffrey wishes to express our thanks and sincere gratitude ant that this expression of our thanks be made a part of the official record of this meeting.”

“Whereas, Mary Jo Marvin served the Town of Jaffrey with honor and distinction as a member of the Library Trustees;

Now, therefore, be it resolved and proclaimed in Town Meeting convened March 17, 2012, that the Town of Jaffrey wishes to express our thanks and sincere gratitude ant that this expression of our thanks be made a part of the official record of this meeting.”

“Whereas, Sara Belletete Abitz served the Town of Jaffrey with honor and distinction as a member of the Budget Committee;

Now, therefore, be it resolved and proclaimed in Town Meeting convened March 17, 2012, that the Town of Jaffrey wishes to express our thanks and sincere gratitude and that this expression of our thanks be made a part of the official record of this meeting.”

“Whereas, Donald Cramb served the Town of Jaffrey with honor and distinction as a member of the Cemetery Committee;

Now, therefore, be it resolved and proclaimed in Town Meeting convened March 17, 2012, that the Town of Jaffrey wishes to express our thanks and sincere gratitude and that this expression of our thanks be made a part of the official record of this meeting.”

The resolutions were accepted by acclamation.

After the applause for the above Mr. Tieger then went over the basic ground rules and guidelines for how our town meeting is conducted. He also asked that those folks who were elected on Tuesday to come forward after the meeting was adjourned so that they may be sworn in.

Mr. Tieger recognized Town Counsel David Tower and any of our non-resident department heads as is those members of the meeting who will be allowed to speak on any items at this meeting.

Mr. Tieger encouraged the assembly to partake in the food and beverages being sold in the lobby by the Fast Food group for the Jaffrey Fire Department.

Mr. Tieger stated that the warrant had been posted at the Jaffrey Public Library and Post Office. Mr. Tieger proposed to waive reading of the Warrant in its entirety. It was so moved and seconded.

Mr. Tieger then read the results of Tuesday’s voting.

Art. 3. That all reports submitted by Town Officers be accepted as read and as printed in the Town Report.

Selectman Don MacIsaac moved and addressed the article.

With no discussion the article was moved to vote.

The article passed by voice vote.

Art. 4. To see if the Town will vote to approve the cost items included in the collective bargaining agreement reached between the Town and the Public Works Union, AFSCME Local 2973 that calls for the following increase in salaries and benefits, this amount is included in Article 8. Recommended by the Selectmen and the Budget Committee.

Year	Estimated Increase in Cost Items
2012	0

Selectwoman Kathy Batchelder moved and addressed the article.

With no discussion the article was moved to vote.

The article passed by voice vote.

Art. 5. Shall the Town, if Article 4 is defeated, authorize the governing body to call one special meeting, at its option, to address Article 4 cost items only?

**Since article 4 was passed a motion was made and seconded to pass over this article.
So carried.**

Art. 6. To see if the Town will vote to approve the cost items included in the collective bargaining agreement reached between the Town and the Police Union, AFSCME Local 3657, that calls for the following increase in salaries and benefits, this amount is included in Article 8. Recommended by the Selectmen and the Budget Committee.

Year	Estimated Increase in Cost Items
2012	\$19,018

Selectwoman Jeanne LaBrie moved and addressed the article.

After one comment the article and no other discussion that article was moved to vote.

The article passed by voice vote.

Art. 7. Shall the Town, if Article 6 is defeated, authorize the governing body to call one special meeting, at its option, to address Article 6 cost items only?

**Since article 6 was passed a motion was made and seconded to pass over this article.
So carried.**

Art. 8. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$8,852,590 for general municipal operations. Recommended by the Selectmen and Budget Committee.

Budget Committee Chairman Norm Langevin moved and addressed the article.

Mr. Langevin introduced the Budget Committee. He went on to explain the budget process.

Mr. Langevin stated that the budget had no fat and that the biggest “hits” in the budget were mostly to do with the County and State in areas of pensions, emergency dispatch and past promises by the state in the area of the five million dollar sewer bond.

Mr. Langevin encouraged folks to look at their taxes bills and see how it is allocated to 4 different areas (School at 47%, Town 33%, County 12%, and State School 8%- 2011).

Mr. Langevin mentioned that last years increases to the town were off set by the town being able to use some monies in the town’s reserve fund.

After many comments, statements and questions the article was moved to a vote.

The article passed by voice vote.

Bill Graf was recognized and he moved to restrict reconsideration of this article.

So seconded and carried.

Mr. Tieger called for a short ten minute recess so that any of the late comers to the meeting could check in.

Selectwoman Kathy Batchelder was recognized. She wished to publicly thank Andy Webber for refurbishing the Town Seal (which is a wooden, 5 foot plus oval with gold lettering, which use to be on one of the Old Mill buildings in downtown). She pointed it out on the stage behind the Selectmen. Mrs. Batchelder asked Andy to please stand and everyone gave a round of applause for his wonderful work.

Art. 9. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$2,000 to be deposited into the Cemetery Trees Trust Fund established in 2007. Recommended by the Selectmen and Budget Committee.

Selectman Don MacIsaac moved and addressed the article.

After a few comments the article was moved to vote.

The article passed by voice vote.

Art. 10. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$500 to be deposited into the Gravestone Restoration Trust Fund established in 2000. Recommended by the Selectmen and the Budget Committee.

Selectman Don MacIsaac moved and addressed the article.

With no discussion the article was moved to vote.

The article passed by voice vote.

Art. 11. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$3,000 to be deposited into the Meeting House Trust Fund established in 1991. Recommended by the Selectmen and Budget Committee.

Selectwoman Jeanne LaBrie moved and addressed the article.

With no discussion the article was moved to vote.

The article passed by voice vote.

Art. 12. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$22,400 from the Property Revaluation Capital Reserve Fund for purposes of conducting the second segment of a four year property revaluation program in 2012. Recommended by the Selectmen and Budget Committee.

Selectwoman Jeanne LaBrie moved and addressed the article.

With no discussion the article was move to vote.

The article passed by voice vote.

The following article is the original article that was posted:

Art. 13. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$15,000 to be deposited into the Municipal Building Maintenance Capital Reserve Fund established in 2009 under the provisions of RSA 35:1 and to further name the Board of Selectmen as agents to expend from said fund in the best interest of the Town or to take any action thereon. Recommended by the Selectmen and Budget Committee.

The Board of Selectmen replaced it with the following:

Art. 13. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$65,000 to be deposited into the Municipal Building Maintenance Capital Reserve Fund established in 2009 under the provisions of RSA 35:1 and to further name the Board of Selectmen as agents to expend from said fund in the best interest of the Town or to take any action thereon. Recommended by the Selectmen and

Budget Committee.

Selectwoman Kathy Batchelder moved and addressed this article. She explained that due to some changes with Article 17 it was decided by the Board of Selectmen that the dollar amount for this article be increased due to concern that this fund, which has approximately \$25,000 in uncommitted funds in it, needs to have additional funds added to cover any unanticipated repairs or improvements for any municipal building.

After a couple of questions and comments it was moved by Kevin Chamberlain to amend this article to the original \$15,000. He presented the Moderator with his written amendment. His amendment was seconded. The floor was then open for discussion on the amendment.

John Field moved that the amendment be voted on by secret ballot, he too presented the Moderator with signatures.

After thirty minutes of question, comments and discussion the question on whether to amend the article was put to a vote. Mr. Tieger instructed everyone to use their "A" ballots, the polls were open for a sufficient amount of time, and the results were:

Yes- 69 No – 70

The amendment was defeated.

**while all of the voting and tabulating was occurring the meeting continued on to the following articles.

Discussion on this article resumed just before Article 17.

Art.14. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$50,000 and to deposit said sum into the Highway Equipment Capital Reserve fund established in 1997 under RSA 35:1 for the purpose of purchasing new or refurbishing highway equipment. Recommended by the budget Selectmen and Budget Committee.

Selectman Don MacIsaac moved and addressed the article.

After one question and no other discussion the article was moved to vote.

The article passed by voice vote.

Art. 15. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$238,000, with the source of funds being \$12,000 from the capital reserve fund established in 1996 for the purchase of new or refurbishing existing firefighting and/or rescue equipment and \$226,000 from an Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) to be used to purchase new Self Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA). The \$12,000 from the reserve fund will be utilized as the Town's 5% share of the total cost of the equipment. In the event the grant is not awarded the department shall be authorized to utilize the funds appropriated for the purchase of SCBA bottles to replace existing bottles that are in need of replacement. Recommended by the Selectmen and the Budget Committee.

Selectman Don MacIsaac moved and addressed the article.
With no discussion the article was moved to vote.

The article passed by voice vote.

Art. 16. To see if the Town will raise and appropriate \$5,000 to be deposited into the Land Acquisition Capital Reserve Fund established in 2008 under the provisions of RSA 35:1.

Selectwoman Kathy Batchelder moved and addressed the article.
Michael George from the Conservation Commission encouraged everyone to support this article.
With no further discussion the article was move to vote.

The article passed by voice vote.

Discussion on **Article 13** resumed at this time, as the results of the vote on the amendment had just been tabulated.

The first person to be recognized to speak to the article was Frank Sterling and he offered the following amendment:
“To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$35,000 to be deposited into the Municipal Building Maintenance Capital Reserve Fund established in 2009 under the provisions of RSA 35:1 and to further name the Board of Selectmen as agents to expend from said fund in the best interest of the Town or to take any action thereon.” This motion was seconded by Kevin Chamberlain. Frank Sterling felt this was a good compromise. After a brief comment the article as amended was move to vote. Again a request for secret ballot was made. Mr. Tieger instructed the voters to use the “B” ballot, the polls were open for a sufficient amount of time, and the results were as follows:

Yes- 75 No – 64
The amendment passed.

Mr. Tieger called to then vote on the article, as amended.

The article, as amended, passed by voice vote.

The following article is the original article that was posted:

Art. 17. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$200,000 to design and upgrade the 2nd floor of the Library to relocate some of Town offices presently located at 10 Goodnow Street.

The Board of Selectmen replaced it with the following:

Art. 17. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate up to \$50,000 for the purpose of developing architectural design and engineering plans for a new Town Office as recommended by the Town's Facilities committee in 2010.

Selectman Kathy Batchelder moved and addressed the article. She explained that the original article contained the risk that the proposed interim solution of moving to the library could extend to a much longer term and create undue hardship on the Town staff. The absence of a defined long term solution exacerbated this risk. The amendment focused on the development of detailed plans to support the long term solution recommended by the Facilities Committee.

After many comments, opinions, and a couple of questions the article was move to a vote. A standing vote was taken and the results were as follows:

Yes – 73 No – 53
The article passed.

Art. 18. To see if the Town will vote to accept the Stone Arch Bridge Tax Increment Finance District Financing Plan. Recommended by the Selectmen and Budget Committee.

Selectman Don MacIsaac moved and addressed the article.

After a question and comment the article was move to vote.

The article passed.

Peter Lambert moderated the next article.

Art. 19. To see if the Town will vote to accept the Downtown Tax Increment Finance District Financing Plan. Recommended by the Selectmen and Budget Committee.

Selectman Don MacIsaac moved and addressed the article.

After some discussion the article was move to vote.

The article passed by voice vote.

At this time Frank Sterling was recognized, he moved to restrict reconsideration on all articles that had been voted upon so far.

So seconded and carried.

Art. 20. To see if the Town will raise and appropriate the sum of \$20,000.00 for support of the

Jaffrey-Rindge Memorial Ambulance, a non-profit agency or take any action relating there to. Submitted by petition. Recommended by the Selectmen and Budget Committee.

Marc Winiecki moved the article and Bob Chamberlain seconded; with Marc Winiecki addressing the article.

After a couple of comments the article was move to vote.

The article passed by voice vote.

Art. 21. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$8,000 for the support of the Monadnock Community Early Learning Center, a non-profit agency, or take any other action relating thereto. Submitted by Petition. Recommended by the Selectmen and the Budget Committee.

Ellen Avery moved the article and Carolyn Garretson seconded. Both ladies addressed the article.

With no discussion the article was move to vote.

The article passed by voice vote.

Art. 22. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$7,170 for the support of the Monadnock Family Services, or take any other action relating thereto. Submitted by Petition. Recommended by the Selectmen and the Budget Committee.

Bill Driscoll moved the article and Meredith Lynch seconded. Bill Driscoll addressed the article. With no discussion the article was move to vote.

The article passed by voice vote.

Art. 23. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$17,000 to support HCS – Home Healthcare, Hospice and Community Services to support the continuance of visiting nursing services being provided to the residents of Jaffrey. Submitted by Petition. Recommended by the Selectmen and the Budget Committee.

Iлона Kwiecien moved the article and Ken Campbell seconded. Iлона Kwiecien addressed the article.

With no discussion the article was move to vote.

The article passed by voice vote.

Art. 24. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$6,500 to The

Community Kitchen, Inc. in Keene, NH. for services provided to Jaffrey residents.
Submitted by Petition. Recommended by the Selectmen and the Budget Committee.

Bill Jackson moved the article and Janet Jackson seconded. Bill Jackson addressed the article.
With no discussion the article was move to vote.

The article passed by voice vote.

Art. 25. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$3,800 to Southwestern Community Services, Inc., a private non-profit, multi-service, anti-poverty agency. Submitted by Petition. Recommended by the Selectmen and the Budget Committee.

Indira Smart moved the article and John Field seconded. Indira Smart addressed the article.
With no discussion the article was move to vote.

The article passed by voice vote.

Peter Lambert moderated the next article.

Art. 26. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$3,500 to the Jaffrey Civic Center to help support its ongoing community activities and events.
Submitted by petition. Not Recommended by the Selectmen and Not Recommended by the Budget Committee.

Bill Driscoll moved the article and Barbara Danser seconded. Bill Driscoll addressed the article.
After a few comments the article was move to vote.

The article passed by voice vote.

Art. 27. We the citizens of Jaffrey petition the Town to design and implement a plan which successfully places the Town of Jaffrey in the next four years without raising rates to achieve that of the state average of water and sewer municipalities in the state of New Hampshire. And to remain for at least 5 years.

Submitted by petition.

Mr. Tieger stated that Town Counsel said that this article was advisory only.

Randy Christmas moved the article and Eric Beecham seconded. Randy Christmas addressed the article.

After a few brief comments the article was move to vote.

The article was defeated by voice vote.

Art. 28. We the citizens petition that the town return to a more fiscal responsible community. Through responsible spending that will effectively remove us from one of the top highest property tax rate in the state of New Hampshire to that of the state average or lower within the next two years. And remain for at least 5 years.

Submitted by petition.

Mr. Tieger stated that Town Counsel said that this article was advisory only.

Randy Christmas moved the article and Eric Beecham seconded. Randy Christmas addressed the article.

After a few comments the article was move to vote.

The article was defeated by voice vote.

Peter Lambert moderated the next article.

Art. 29. To see if the Town of Jaffrey shall prohibit vote counting concealed from the human eye by computerized voting machines, tabulators, or other electronic devices, and require that all methods used for sorting and counting the votes in all elections be publically observable for full citizen oversight of the entire voting system. (The secrecy of vote casting shall be maintained.)

Submitted by petition.

Mr. Tieger stated that Town Counsel said that this article was advisory only.

Deb Sumner moved the article and Cynthia Hamilton seconded. Deb Sumner addressed the article.

After close to thirty minutes of lively questions, comments and debate the article was move to vote.

A standing vote was taken and the results were as follows:

Yes – 25 No – 63
The article was defeated.

Lee Sawyer was then recognized. She wished that thank everyone for their support of the Civic Center and for the input from the citizens.

Art. 30. To take up any other business which may come legally before this meeting.

With no further business to take up the meeting was adjourned at 2:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

Maria Chamberlain
Jaffrey Town Clerk