

Town of Hartford
Annual Town Meeting
For Fiscal Year
July 1, 2013 to June 30, 2014

The meeting was held at the Town Hall beginning at 8:00am June 11, 2013.
Lianne Bedard read the greetings of the annual town meeting warrant.

Article #1: A motion was made by Lianne Bedard to elect Richard Dyer as moderator to preside at said meeting. This nomination was seconded by Daryl Boness. No other nominations were received.

Vote by written ballot: Three votes for Richard Dyer.
Richard took the Oath of office then he read the following Article

Article #2: To elect by secret ballot one Selectman for a term of three (3) years, Town Clerk-Tax Collector- Treasurer for a term of three (3) years, Road Commissioner for a term of two (2) years

Richard showed that the ballot box was empty.
Richard locked the ballot box and declared the polls opened.
Richard closed the polls at 8:00pm.
Results of the secret ballot election:

Selectman, three year term: Expiring June of 2016
Zoe L Cowett 53
Write in/Blank 15

Town Clerk – Tax Collector – Treasurer, three year term: Expiring June of 2016
Leanne M Bedard 65
Write in/Blank 3

Road Commissioner, two year term: Expiring June of 2015
Jeremy L Johnson 53
Write in/Blank 15

School Budget vote:	Article 1	Yes	32	No	33	Void	1
	Article 2	Yes	38	No	26	Void	2

Richard recessed the meeting until June 15, 2013 at 9:00am.

June 15, 2013 at 9:00am, Hartford Town Hall the town meeting was reconvened.

Richard Dyer appointed Stephen Wight Deputy Moderator for the remainder of the meeting.
Deputy Moderator, Stephen Wight took his oath of office and shared the results of the municipal election.

Article 3: To elect and/or appoint the following Town Officers for the ensuing year or to take any other action thereto:

A motion was made by Lee Holman to nominate the board of selectmen as General Assistance Director. This motion was seconded by Fern Langer.

Vote by show of hands: Yes

A motion was made by Dan Maddox to nominate the board of selectmen as Board of Assessors. This motion was seconded by Daryl Boness.

Vote by show of hands: Yes

A motion was made Dan Maddox to nominate **Barry Langer, Neil Hanley, Harley Swanson, Robert L'Heureux, and Dan Maddox** as Budget Committee members. This motion was seconded by Beverly Murphy.

Vote by show of hands for the slate: Yes

Article 4: A motion was made by Dan Maddox to see if the Town will vote to raise **\$127,882.00** though taxation to be placed in the Summer Road account. This motion was seconded by John Plumley.

Vote by show of hands: Yes

Article 5: A motion was made by Dan Maddox to see if the Town will vote to raise **\$50,000.00** though taxation to be placed in the Future Summer Road account. This motion was seconded by Leslie Boness.

Vote by show of hands: Yes

Article 6: A motion was made by Dan Maddox to see if the Town will vote to raise **\$24,333.00** though taxation to be placed in the Salt Shed Loan account. This motion was seconded by Leslie Boness.

Vote by show of hands: Yes

Article 7: A motion was made by Leslie Boness to authorize the Board of Selectman to enter into a multi-year contact for the Winter Plow Contract. This motion was seconded by Dan Maddox.

Vote by show of hands: Yes

Article 8: A motion was made by Leslie Boness to authorize the Board of Selectman to enter into a multi-year contact for the Municipal Mowing Contract. This motion was seconded by Dan Maddox.

Vote by show of hands: Yes

Article 9: A motion was made by Dan Maddox to see if the Town will vote to raise **\$214,132.00** though taxation for the Winter Roads account. This motion was seconded by John Plumley.

Vote by show of hands: Yes

Article 10: A motion was made by Dan Maddox to see if the Town will vote to raise **\$86,506.00** though taxation for the Contracted Solid Waste, Bulky Household Waste Curbside pickup & Recycling services and Transfer Station cleanup costs. This motion was seconded by Harley Swanson.

Vote by show of hands: Yes

Article 11: A motion was made by Dan Maddox to see if the Town will vote to raise **\$4,725.00** though taxation for the Animal Control Account and apply the total amount of revenue received, associated with animal control, against the total amount authorized to be raised by taxation to reduce the tax commitment. This motion was seconded by Morrill Nason.

Vote by show of hands: Yes

Article 12: A motion was made by Dan Maddox to see if the Town will vote to raise **\$60,314.00** though taxation for the Public Safety Account. This motion was seconded by Barry Langer.

Vote by show of hands: Yes

Article 13: A motion was made by Dan Maddox to see if the Town will vote to raise **\$125,025.00** though taxation for the Administrative Account. This motion was seconded by Morrill Nason.

Vote by show of hands: Yes

Article 14: A motion was made by Morrill Nason to see if the Town will vote to raise **\$1,295.00** though taxation for the Legal Fee Reserve Account. This motion was seconded by Leslie Boness.

Vote by show of hands: Yes

Article 15: A motion was made by Morrill Nason to see if the Town will vote to raise **\$11,700.00** though taxation for the Assessing/Tax Maps Account. This motion was seconded by Barry Langer.

Vote by show of hands: Yes

Article 16: A motion was made by Morrill Nason to see if the Town will vote to raise **\$12,500.00** though taxation for the Revaluation Reserve Account. This motion was seconded by Dan Maddox.

Vote by show of hands: Yes

Article 17: A motion was made by Dan Maddox to see if the Town will vote to raise **\$2,920.00** though taxation for the Town Office Account. This motion was seconded by Morrill Nason.

Vote by show of hands: Yes

Article 18: A motion was made by Leslie Boness to see if the Town will vote to raise **\$4,245.00** though taxation for the Town Hall Account. This motion was seconded by Morrill Nason.

Vote by show of hands: Yes

Article 19: A motion was made by Morrill Nason to see if the Town will vote to raise **\$620.00** though taxation for the Town Garage Account. This motion was seconded by Dan Maddox.

Vote by show of hands: Yes

Article 20: A motion was made by Morrill Nason to see if the Town will vote to raise **\$644.00** though taxation for the Old Union School House Account. This motion was seconded by Dan Maddox.

Vote by show of hands: Yes

Article 21: A motion was made by Morrill Nason to see if the Town will vote to raise **\$5,560.00** though taxation for the Mowing Account. This motion was seconded by Dan Maddox.

Vote by show of hands: Yes

Article 22: A motion was made by Leslie Boness to see if the Town will vote to raise **\$150.00** though taxation to provide Wi-Fi Access at the Hartford Town Office. This motion was seconded by Margaret Matthews.

Judith Hamilton moved the question

Vote by show of hands: Yes

Vote by show of hands on article: Yes

Article 23: A motion was made by Morrill Nason to see if the Town will vote to move any unexpended funds raised in 2012-2013 for the Cemetery Account to a reserve account for future cemetery repair or maintenance. This motion was seconded by Barry Langer.

Vote by show of hands: Yes

Article 24: A motion was made by Morrill Nason to see if the Town will vote to raise **\$2,200.00** though taxation for the Cemetery Account. This motion was seconded by Dan Maddox. Morrill motion to amend to \$2,000.00 was withdrawn.

Vote by show of hands: Yes

Article 25: A motion was made by Morrill Nason to see if the Town will vote to raise **\$1,000.00** though taxation for the General Assistance Account. This motion was seconded by Barry Langer.

Vote by show of hands: Yes

Article 26: A motion was made by Leslie Boness to see if the Town will vote to raise **\$3,000.00** though taxation for the Contingency Fund Account. The Board of Selectmen, in consultation with the Budget Committee, shall have the authority to approve any expenditure from this account. This motion was seconded by Morrill Nason.

Vote by show of hands: Yes

Article 27: A motion was made by Morrill Nason to enact an attached ordinance entitled Solid Waste Ordinance for the Town of Hartford. Refer to Attachment A. This motion was seconded by Leslie Boness.

Vote by show of hands: Yes

Article 28: A motion was made by Arlene Nason to see if the Town will vote to carry the balance of any grant funds received in 2012/2013 for Emergency Management purposes to general ledger reserve account to be used for the same purposes. This motion was seconded by Barry Langer.

Vote by show of hands: Yes

Article 29: A motion was made by Leslie Boness to see if the Town will authorize to pay for tax abatements and applicable interest granted during the fiscal year of 2013/2014 from Overlay. This motion was seconded by Barry Langer.

Vote by show of hands: Yes

Article 30: A motion was made by Dan Maddox to see if the Town will authorize the Board of Selectmen on behalf of the Town to sell and dispose of any real estate acquired by the Town for non-payment of taxes. Sale or sales of said properties is to be by sealed bid and advertized seven (7) days in advance by posting in two conspicuous public places and by placing an advertisement in a newspaper of general circulation, and to execute Municipal Quit Claim Deeds for such property for such property. The Board of Selectmen may, without auction or advertisement, sell to the person or persons to whom a property was taxed at the time the property was acquired by the Town or to their heirs or assigns, such property at the amount of the accrued taxes, interest, lien costs and administrative fees as determined by State Law and the Board of Selectmen and therefore shall execute and deliver a Municipal Quit Claim Deed for such property. This motion was seconded by Judith Hamilton.

Vote by show of hands: Yes

Article 31: A motion was made by Leslie Boness to fix the following dates which real and personal property taxes shall be due and payable: one half of the tax shall be due and payable December 1, 2013 and one half of the tax shall be due and payable May 1, 2014. This motion was seconded by Morrill Nason.

Vote by show of hands: Yes

Article 32: A motion was made by Dan Maddox to fix an annual interest rate of seven percent (7%) on real and personal property taxes not paid on or before December 1, 2013 and May 1, 2014. This motion was seconded by Leslie Boness.

Vote by show of hands: Yes

Article 33: A motion was made by Barry Langer to authorize the Tax Collector or the Deputy Tax Collector to accept prepayments of property taxes not yet due or assessed to fix an annual interest rate of zero percent (0%) on taxes paid prior to the due date.(M.R.S.A. 36, section 506, amended). This motion was seconded by Morrill Nason.

Vote by show of hands: Yes

Article 34: A motion was made by Dan Maddox to fix an annual interest rate of three percent (3%) on excess taxes paid when tax abatements are issued by the Board of Assessors.(M.R.S.A. 36, section 506A, as amended). This motion was seconded by Morrill Nason.

Vote by show of hands: Yes

Article 35: A motion was made by Leslie Boness to accept all revenues from Cost Sharing Projects and from State and Federal agencies. This revenue will be distributed to the appropriate accounts as intended by said agencies. This motion was seconded by Dan Maddox.

Vote by show of hands: Yes

Article 36: A motion was made by Leslie Boness to see if the Town will accept the categories of funds listed below as provided by the Maine State Legislature, and appropriate and apply the total amount of **\$155,270.00** against the total amount authorized to be raised by taxation (to reduce the 2013/2014 Tax Commitment). This motion was seconded by Dan Maddox.

<u>Fund category</u>	<u>Estimated amount</u>
State Municipal Revenue Sharing.....	\$ 62,000.00
Urban Rural Initiative Program.....	\$ 47,000.00
Tree Growth Reimbursement.....	\$ 18,000.00
Veterans Exemption Return.....	\$ 741.00
Snowmobile Registration Refund.....	\$ 529.00
General Assistance.....	\$ Unknown
Homestead Exemption Return.....	\$ 29,000.00
Emergency Management.....	\$ Unknown
State Grants.....	\$ Unknown
Total	<u>\$155,270.00</u>

Vote by show of hands: Yes

Article 37: A motion was made by Dan Maddox to see if the Town will vote to apply the local revenue amount of **\$167,272.00** against the total amount authorized to be raised by Taxation (to reduce the 2013/2014 Tax Commitment). This motion was seconded by Morrill Nason.

Vote by show of hands: Yes

Article 38: A motion was made by Dan Maddox to appropriate **\$30,000.00** from the Fund Balance to reduce the 2013/2014 Tax Commitment. This motion was seconded by Morrill Nason. An amendment was made to motion by Dan Maddox to appropriate **\$60,000.00**, this amendment was seconded by Judy Hamilton.

The question was called **Vote by show of hands: Yes**

Vote by show of hands on the amendment: Yes

Vote by show of hands on amended Article: Yes

Article 39: A motion was made by Dan Maddox to see if the Town will vote to raise **\$1,500.00** through taxation for the "The Hartford News". This motion was seconded by Morrill Nason. An amendment was made to motion by Morrill Nason to appropriate **\$1,600.00**, this amendment was seconded by Elizabeth Garcia-O'Keefe.

Judith Hamilton moved the question Vote by show of hands: Yes

Vote by show of hands on the amendment: Yes

Vote by show of hands on amended Article: Yes

Article 40: A motion was made by Elizabeth Garcia-O'Keefe to see if the Town will vote to raise \$750.00 through taxation for the Hartford Recreation Committee. This motion was seconded by Arthur Harvey.

Vote by show of hands: Yes

Article 41: A motion was made by Morrill Nason to if the Town will vote to raise \$600.00 for the Hartford Heritage Society. This motion was seconded by Dan Maddox.

Vote by show of hands: Yes

Article 42: A motion was made by Morrill Nason to see if the Town will raise \$529.00 to contribute to area snowmobile clubs for snowmobile trail and bridge maintenance. This motion was seconded by Dan Maddox.

Vote by show of hands: Yes

Article 43: A motion was made by Leslie Boness to see if the Town will raise \$600.00 for Hartford Food Bank. This motion was seconded by Morrill Nason.

Vote by show of hands: Yes

Article 44: A motion was made by Leslie Boness to see if the Town will raise \$400.00 for Safe Voices. This motion was seconded by Arthur Harvey.

Vote by show of hands: Yes

A motion was made by Leslie Boness allow out-of-town representatives from REACH, American Red Cross, Western Maine Transportation and Androscoggin Home Health to speak.

Vote by show of hands: Yes

Article 45: A motion was made by Leslie Boness to see if the Town will raise \$795.00 through taxation for Androscoggin Home Care & Hospice. This motion was seconded by Maureen Wheeler.

Vote by show of hands: Yes

Motion was made by Harley Swanson, seconded by Elizabeth Garcia-O'Keefe to vote on Articles 46-58 as one for the requested amount.

Vote by count of hand cards 11-10 to vote as one.

Discussion and presentations by out of town representatives followed.

Dan Maddox moved the question Vote by show of hands: Yes

Vote by show of hands to raise and/or appropriate the requested amount for Articles 46-58. Yes

Article 46: To see if the Town will vote to raise and/or appropriate \$1,185.00 for Buckfield Recreation Department.

Article 47: To see if the Town will vote to raise and/or appropriate \$1,000.00 for Community Concepts.

Article 48: To see if the Town will vote to raise and/or appropriate \$400.00 for Rape Education & Crisis Hotline (REACH).

Article 49: To see if the Town will vote to raise and/or appropriate \$2,200.00 for Rural Community Action Ministry (RCAM).

Article 50: To see if the Town will vote to raise and/or appropriate \$1,219.00 for Seniors Plus.

Article 51: To see if the Town will vote to raise and/or appropriate \$325.00 for Seniors Transportation.

Article 52: To see if the Town will vote to raise and/or appropriate \$1,185.00 for Tri County Mental Health.

Article 53: To see if the Town will vote to raise and/or appropriate \$500.00 for Oxford County Mental Health.

Article 54: To see if the Town will vote to raise and/or appropriate \$100.00 for Western Maine Transportation

Article 55: To see if the Town will vote to raise and/or appropriate \$175.00 for Western Maine Veteran's Advisory Committee.

Article 56: To see if the Town will vote to raise and/or appropriate \$300.00 for the American Red Cross.

Article 57: To see if the Town will vote to raise and/or appropriate \$700.00 for the Zadoc Long Free Library.

Article 58: To see if the Town will vote to raise and/or appropriate \$250.00 for the Bear Pond Improvement Association.

Article 59: To see if the town will vote to increase the property tax levy limit established for Hartford by State Law in the event that the municipal budget approved under the preceding articles will result in a tax commitment that is greater than that property tax levy limit. (Estimated LD1 limit \$476,887.00) Written Ballot required.

Vote by written Ballot: Yes 16 - No 2

Lianne Bedard took the oath of office as Town Clerk, Tax Collector and Treasurer for a term of 3 years.

Zoe Cowett took the oath of office as a selectman for a term of 3 years.

Budget Committee Members: Dan Maddox, Barry Langer, Harley Swanson; took the oath of office as members of the Budget Committee for a term of 1 year, Neil Hanley, Robert L'Heureux will take oath at town office at a later date.

Jeremy Johnson Road Commissioner for term of 2 years will take oath at town office at a later date.

John Plumley of the Select board thanked Town Clerk Lianne Bedard and the Budget Committee for their hard work on the budget.

Motion to adjourn was made by Morrill Nason.

Vote by show of hands: Yes

Adjourned 11:05 am

Minutes prepared by Barbara E Robinson, Deputy Town Clerk