

Town of Lincoln

Annual Town Meeting Minutes

March 12, 2024

The Annual Town Meeting, of the inhabitants of the Town of Lincoln, in the County of Grafton, and State of New Hampshire, qualified to vote in town affairs was held at Lin-Wood High School on Tuesday, March 12, 2024. Moderator Robert Wetherell called the meeting to order at 10:00am and announced processing of absentee ballots will begin as early as 1:00pm. Janet Peltier made a motion to dispense with the reading of the entire warrant until 6:30pm in the evening. Kristyn Brophy seconded the motion. Vote was in the affirmative – unanimous. Robert declared the polls open. The polls closed at 6:00pm with a total of 288 ballots cast.

ARTICLE 01: Election of Town Officers

To choose all necessary Town Officers for the year ensuing as follows: Selectman (1), Budget Committee Members (4), Cemetery Trustee (1), Library Trustee (2), Moderator (1), Planning Board Members (2), Supervisors of the Checklist (1), and Trustees of Trust Funds (1), Zoning Board Members (2).

FOR SELECTMEN – 3 year term

JACK DALY – 227 votes

JOSEPH CHENARD – 53 votes

FOR BUDGET COMMITTEE – 3 year term

MICHAEL SIMONS – 205 votes

CYNTHIA LLOYD – 195 votes

FOR BUDGET COMMITTEE – 2 year term

BRENT HANSMA – 206 votes

PAUL BEAUDIN – 2 votes

FOR CEMETERY TRUSTEE – 3 year term

JAMES “MIKE” CONN – 237 votes

FOR LIBRARY TRUSTEE – 3 year term

PATRICIA SURABIAN – 234 votes

FOR LIBRARY TRUSTEE – 1 year term

WAYNE BALTZER – 234 votes

FOR MODERATOR – 2 year term

ROBERT WETHERELL – 243 votes

FOR PLANNING BOARD – 3 year term

DANIELLE BLACK – 190 votes

JOSEPH CHENARD – 74 votes

MICHAEL FOSSA – 119 votes

PAUL BEAUDIN – 135 votes

FOR SUPERVISOR OF THE CHECKLIST – 6 year term

NANCY CUNNING – 221 votes

FOR TRUSTEE OF TRUST FUNDS – 3 year term

MATT MURPHY – 221 votes

FOR ZONING BOARD – 3 year term

MYLES MORAN – 197 votes

JACK DALY – 221 votes

Article 02: Amend LUPO-General Use District

Planning - Amend LUPO, Article VI District and District Regulations, Section A Districts:

Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 02 as proposed by the Planning Board for the Town Zoning Ordinance known as the "Land Use Plan Ordinance" (LUPO) as necessary to create two (2) General Use (GU) Districts by changing the characteristics of the General Use (GU) District in different parts of Town and amend LUPO, ARTICLE VI DISTRICT AND DISTRICT REGULATIONS, Section A. DISTRICTS and Section B DISTRICT REGULATIONS as follows:

A. General Use Downtown (GUD)

Along both ends of Lincoln Village along Main Street/NH Route 112/Kancamagus Highway and along both sides of East Branch Pemigewasset River.

1. Business Uses like (a) Manufactured Housing Park; (b) Motor Vehicle Sales & Service; and (c) Gas/Fuel Sale & Storage are permitted by Special Exception.
2. Industrial Uses like (a) Earth, Gravel & Stone Removal; and (b) Manufacturing Other than a Home Business are permitted by Special Exception.
3. Industrial Uses like (a) Junk Yards and (b) Bulk Storage/Warehousing are not permitted.
4. Change the Dimensional Setback Requirements for an Accessory Building by increasing the rear setback from five feet (5') to ten feet (10') and the side setbacks from five feet (5') to ten feet (10').

B. General Use Route 3 (GU3)

Along portions of Connector Road & US Route 3/Daniel Webster Highway & Connector Road and Liberty Road

1. Business Use – Campgrounds are permitted without a Special Exception.
2. Change Dimensional Requirements:
 - a. Reduce Minimum Lot Size for Duplex from twenty-two thousand five hundred square feet (22,500 SF) to fifteen thousand square feet (15,000 SF) with a maximum of three thousand square feet (3,000 SF) of total living space, otherwise, Minimum Lot Size for Duplex is twenty-two thousand five hundred square feet (22,500 SF).
 - b. Reduce side and rear setback requirements, staying with 15-foot setbacks in front, but reducing sides and rear setbacks from 15 feet to 5 feet.
 - c. Increase the Percentage of Maximum Lot Coverage from 70% to 75%.

Recommended by the Planning Board

**Yes 158 – No 108
Article 02 passed**

Article 03: Amend LUPO-Village Center

LUPO, Article VI District and District Regulations, Section A Districts:

Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 03 as proposed by the Planning Board for the Town Zoning Ordinance known as the "Land Use Plan Ordinance" (LUPO) changing some characteristics of the Village Center (VC) District and amend LUPO, LUPO, ARTICLE VI DISTRICT AND DISTRICT REGULATIONS, Section B DISTRICT REGULATIONS, as follows:

Revise Characteristics of Village Center (VC) District

1. Veterinarian & Dog Kennels are permitted by Special Exception where formerly prohibited.
2. Industrial Uses like Manufacturing Other than a Home Business is permitted by Special Exception where formerly prohibited.
3. Industrial Uses like Bulk Storage/Warehousing are not permitted where formerly prohibited.
4. Change the Dimensional Setback Requirements for an Accessory Building by increasing the rear setback from 5 feet to 10 feet and side setbacks from 5 feet to 10 feet.

Recommended by Planning Board

**Yes 170 – No 96
Article 03 passed**

Article 04: Amend LUPO-Useable Space

Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 04 as proposed by the Planning Board for the Town Zoning Ordinance known as the “Land Use Plan Ordinance” (LUPO) to:

1. Duplicate the definition of “Useable Space” as set forth in LUPO ARTICLE VIII BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT, Section A. BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT related to appeals for a Special Exception and add it to the definition section of the LUPO ARTICLE IV DEFINITIONS.
2. Duplicate the text for “Site Shall Be Suitable for Proposed Use, Structure or Development” as set forth in ARTICLE VIII BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT Section A. BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT related to appeals for a Special Exception and add it to ARTICLE VI, DISTRICT AND DISTRICT REGULATIONS, Section B. DISTRICT REGULATIONS. Paragraph 4. Lot and Lot Coverage Requirements and Standards.

Not Recommended by Planning Board

**Yes 111 – No 155
Article 04 failed**

Article 05: Amend LUPO-Definitions

Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 05 as proposed by the Planning Board for the Town Zoning Ordinance known as the “Land Use Plan Ordinance” (LUPO) to as the following definitions to LUPO, ARTICLE IV, DEFINITIONS:

1. Dwelling Unit – A building or portion thereof providing complete independent living facilities for one or more persons, including permanent provisions for living, sleeping, eating, cooking and sanitation. This use shall not be deemed to include such transient occupancies as hotels, motels, rooming or boarding houses.
2. Multi-Family Dwelling: A building containing three or more separate dwelling units.

Not Recommended by Planning Board

**Yes 223 – No 55
Article 05 passed**

RESULTS OF THE TOWN BUSINESS MEETING

MARCH 12, 2024 at 6:30 pm

Moderator Robert Wetherell opened the Annual Town Meeting at 6:54 pm.

Moderator Wetherell welcomed everyone present and thanked everyone for coming. He thanked the Lin-Wood school for accommodating us and the facilities department for their extra work and asked the attendees to please make note of the Annual School District Meeting which is to be held on Tuesday March 19th at the High School with voting between the hours of 2:00pm and 6:00pm followed by the meeting starting at 7:00pm.

Moderator Wetherell then reiterated that this is not a public meeting, but a meeting of registered Lincoln voters, as it is a legislative body. He encouraged voters to ask questions and participate.

The Moderator then informed the voters of the rules of order for the town meeting:

- All cell phones should be turned to silent
- Each participant will treat every other participant with respect and courtesy. The moderator will not allow personal attacks or inappropriate language.
- Anyone wishing to address the meeting will use the microphone and first be recognized by the moderator. Speakers will begin by stating their name. All other speakers will be considered out of order. I will allow non-voters to speak, however please identify yourself as a non-voter. While allowed to speak, you are forbidden from voting.
- The initial presentations on bond articles will be limited to twenty minutes, the remain articles will be limited to ten minutes, all speakers in debate will be limited to three minutes (including a warning at one minute remaining). Time to be determined by the moderator. All new speakers who desire to speak will be given a chance to do so before one is given a second opportunity on the same issue.
- Each Article needs a motion and a second, in order to discuss it.
- Only one amendment to a motion will be allowed on the floor at any one time. No amendment to an amendment will be allowed; such proposals will be dealt with as subsequent amendments after the first amendment has been voted upon. All amendments will be submitted in writing to the moderator. The subject of the original article must be addressed in the amendment and it cannot be a negative amendment.
- The moderator can be overruled by a majority of the meeting.
- State statutes do govern legal procedures not listed here.

Article 06: Amend LUPO-Adjust Zoning District

Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 06 as proposed by the Planning Board for the Town Zoning Ordinance known as the "Land Use Plan Ordinance" (LUPO) ARTICLE VI, DISTRICT AND DISTRICT REGULATIONS, Section A. DISTRICTS which says: "These Districts, as established, are shown on the "Lincoln Zoning Map" which is hereby declared to be a part of this Ordinance.", to adjust the "Lincoln Zoning Map" by adjusting the location of a Zoning District line between the General Use (GU) District and Rural Residential (RR) District to align with a minor subdivision (a/k/a Boundary Line Adjustment [BLA] or Lot Line Adjustment [LLA] for Thomas P. Tremblay, Trustee, approved by the Planning Board on December 13, 2023, between 189 Main Street (Map 117, Lot 004) and 19 Louann Lane (just changed to 3 Meadow Lane) (Map 117, Lot 017). Recommended by the Planning Board.

Moderator Wetherell announced all zoning articles must be voted on via official ballot, and as Article 06 did not make it on the final official ballot, it was unable to be voted on tonight.

Article 07: Land Purchase "Campers World"

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Four Million dollars (\$4,000,000.00) to purchase the locally known "Campers World" property, Map 105 Lot 033 consisting of 321.96 acres of land located off Route 3, on the east side of the Pemigewasset River in Lincoln, NH, currently owned by EDL Enterprises, and to further authorize the issuance of not more than \$4,000,000.00 of bonds or notes in accordance with the provisions of the Municipal Finance Act (RSA 33) and to authorize the municipal officials to issue and negotiate such bonds or notes and to determine the rate of interest thereon; By Petition. The Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend this article. (3/5 ballot vote required).

Motion made by: Tamra Ham
Seconded by: OJ Robinson

Robert Wetherell called for a recess at 8:06PM. The meeting was called back to order at 8:35PM while the poles remained open until 9:07PM.

Yes 106 – No 33

Article 07 passed

Kristyn Brophy motioned to change the order of the day and skip to Article 31, OJ Robinson seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Robert Wetherell recused himself for the following Article. OJ Robinson had been sworn in as Assistant Moderator and presided over Article 31.

Article 31: Hand Count-Discontinuance of Electronic Voting Machines

Shall the following provisions pertaining to elections be adopted? All voting shall be by paper ballot and all ballots shall be hand counted only, rather than by use of optical scanning or any other types of programmable electronic counting devices. This shall constitute a return to hand counting ballots and the immediate discontinuance of all electronic voting machines and

electronic devices authorized for use by trial in RSA 656:40. Shall this article be passed, it shall be enacted by the town of Lincoln immediately. By Petition. The Selectmen do not recommend this article.

Motion made by: Brent Hansma
Seconded by: Ray D'Amante

A petition to vote on Article 31 by secret ballot was presented. Petition did not meet criteria and was not accepted.

Article 31 failed by voice vote with minor support

Article 08: Operating Budget

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the Budget Committee's recommended sum of Eight Million Five Hundred Thirty-Three Thousand Four Hundred Six dollars (\$8,533,406.00) for the purposes of General Government; Public Safety; Highways; Sanitation; Water Treatment; Health, Welfare, Culture and Recreation; and Long and Short Term Debt including Interest, for the ensuing year, exclusive of all special and individual warrant articles. The Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend this appropriation. (Majority vote required.) Tax Impact: Appropriations = \$6.69/per thousand; Revenue = \$1.62/per thousand; Net Tax Impact \$5.07/per thousand.

Motion made by: Tamra Ham
Seconded by: OJ Robinson

Article 08 passed by unanimous voice vote

Article 09: Library Front Steps

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Thirty Thousand Dollars (\$30,000.00) for the reconstruction of the Library's front steps and entranceway. The project includes the demolition and removal of the existing concrete entranceway and stairs, reconstruction of columns, and installation of new deck and stairs. The Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend this article. Tax Impact: \$.02/per thousand.

Motion made by: Tamra Ham
Seconded by: OJ Robinson

Article 09 passed by unanimous voice vote

Article 10: Purchase Police Cruiser

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Sixty Two Thousand dollars (\$62,000.00) for the purpose of purchasing a replacement cruiser. The Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend this appropriation. Tax Impact: \$.05/per thousand.

Motion made by: Tamra Ham
Seconded by: OJ Robinson

Article 10 passed by unanimous voice vote

Article 11: Highway Block Grant Program

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate Thirty Thousand dollars (\$30,000.00) for purposes allowed under the State of New Hampshire Highway Block Grant Program. This appropriation is to be offset by revenue from the State of New Hampshire Highway Block Grant Program to the extent that it is available. The Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend this appropriation.

Motion made by: Tamra Ham

Seconded by: OJ Robinson

Article 11 passed by unanimous voice vote

Tammy Ham made a motion to restrict reconsideration for articles 1 through 11, and 31. OJ Robinson seconded. Motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

Article 12: Kanc Rec Area Covered Structure

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of One Hundred Fifty Thousand dollars (\$150,000) to be used to construct a covered structure at the Kanc Recreation Area, and to further fund this appropriation by authorizing the withdrawal of \$150,000 from the unassigned fund balance as of December 31, 2023. No amount is to be raised by general taxation. This Special Warrant Article will be a non-lapsing appropriation per RSA 32:7, VI and will not lapse until the structure is complete or December 31, 2026, whichever comes first. By Petition. The Budget Committee does not recommend this article. The Selectmen recommend this article.

Motion made by: Tamra Ham

Seconded by: OJ Robinson

A petition to vote on Article 12 by secret ballot was presented. Petition met all criteria and was accepted.

Robert Wetherell called for a recess at 9:25PM. The meeting was called back to order at 9:36PM.

Yes 48 – No 34

Article 12 passed

Article 13: CR-Public Works Vehicle & Equipment

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate One Hundred Eleven Thousand One Hundred Ninety-Four dollars (\$111,194.00) to be placed in the Public Works Vehicle and Equipment Capital Reserve Fund (created in 1990, amended in 2008.) The Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend this appropriation. Tax Impact: \$.09/per thousand

Motion made by: Tamra Ham

Seconded by: OJ Robinson

Article 13 passed by unanimous voice vote

Article 14: CR-Police Department Equipment

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate One Hundred Thousand dollars (\$100,000.00) to be placed in the Police Department Equipment Capital Reserve Fund (created in 1995.) The Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend this appropriation. Tax Impact: \$.08/per thousand.

Motion made by: Tamra Ham

Seconded by: Jack Daly

Article 14 passed by unanimous voice vote

Article 15: CR-Fire Truck & Equipment

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Two Hundred Twenty Thousand dollars (\$220,000.00) to be placed in the Fire Truck and Equipment Capital Reserve Fund (created in 1989). The Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend this article. Tax Impact: \$.17/per thousand.

Motion made by: Tamra Ham

Seconded by: Jack Daly

Article 15 passed by unanimous voice vote

Article 16: CR-Water System Rehabilitation

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate Two Hundred Seventy-Six Thousand dollars (\$276,000.00) to be placed in the Water System Rehabilitation Capital Reserve Fund (created in 1995). The Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend this appropriation. Tax Impact: \$.22/per thousand.

Motion made by: Tamra Ham

Seconded by: Jack Daly

Article 16 passed by unanimous voice vote

Article 17: CR-Sewer System Rehabilitation

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate Three Hundred Five Thousand dollars (\$305,000.00) to be placed in the Sewer System Rehabilitation Capital Reserve Fund (created in 1995). The Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend this appropriation. Tax Impact: \$.24/per thousand.

Motion made by: Tamra Ham

Seconded by: Jack Daly

Article 17 passed by unanimous voice vote

Article 18: CR-Roads & Streets Reconstruction

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate One Hundred Forty-Eight Thousand dollars (\$148,000.00) to be placed in the Road and Street Reconstruction Capital Reserve Fund (created in 1994). The Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend this appropriation. Tax Impact: \$.12/per thousand.

Motion made by: Tamra Ham

Seconded by: Jack Daly

Article 18 passed by unanimous voice vote

Article 19: CR-Property & Building Maintenance

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate Three Hundred Thirty-One Thousand dollars (\$331,000.00) to be placed in the Property and Building Maintenance Expendable Trust (created in 2007). The Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend this appropriation. Tax Impact: \$.26/per thousand.

Motion made by: Tamra Ham

Seconded by: Jack Daly

Article 19 passed by unanimous voice vote

Article 20: CR-Kanc Rec Area Equipment

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate Sixty Thousand dollars (\$60,000.00) to be placed in the Kancamagus Recreational Area Equipment Capital Reserve Fund (created in 2005). The Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend this appropriation. Tax Impact: \$.05/per thousand.

Motion made by: Tamra Ham

Seconded by: Jack Daly

Article 20 passed by unanimous voice vote

Article 21: CR-Community Building

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Five Thousand dollars (\$5,000.00) to be added to the Community Building Expendable Trust Fund previously established (created in 2005). The Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend this article. Tax Impact: \$.004/per thousand.

Motion made by: Tamra Ham

Seconded by: Kristyn Brophy

Article 21 passed by unanimous voice vote

Article 22: CR-Library Building

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Twenty-Eight Thousand dollars (\$28,000.00) to be added to the Library Building Capital Reserve Fund (created in 1991). The Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend this appropriation. Tax Impact: \$.02/per thousand.

Motion made by: Tamra Ham
Seconded by: OJ Robinson
Article 22 passed by unanimous voice vote

Article 23: CR-Solid Waste

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate Ten Thousand dollars (\$10,000.00) to be added to the Solid Waste Facility Improvements Capital Reserve Fund (created in 1999). The Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend this appropriation. Tax Impact: \$.01/per thousand.

Motion made by: Tamra Ham
Seconded by: OJ Robinson
Article 23 passed by unanimous voice vote

Article 24: CR-Engineering & Planning

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate Five Thousand dollars (\$5,000.00) to be added to the Engineering & Planning Capital Reserve Fund (created in 1997). The Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend this appropriation. Tax Impact: \$.004/per thousand.

Motion made by: Tamra Ham
Seconded by: OJ Robinson
Article 24 passed by unanimous voice vote

Article 25: CR-Village Center & Riverfront Park

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate Twenty Thousand dollars (\$20,000.00) to be placed in the Village Center & Riverfront Park Capital Reserve Fund (created 2008). The Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend this appropriation. Tax Impact: \$.02/per thousand.

Motion made by: Tamra Ham
Seconded by: OJ Robinson
Article 25 passed by unanimous voice vote

Article 26: CR-Library Technology

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate Two Thousand dollars (\$2,000.00) to be placed in the Library Technology Capital Reserve Fund (created in 1997). The Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend this appropriation. Tax Impact: \$.002/per thousand.

Motion made by: Tamra Ham
Seconded by: OJ Robinson
Article 26 passed by unanimous voice vote

Article 27: CR-Employee Separation

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Ten Thousand dollars (\$10,000.00) to be added to the Employee Separation Expendable Trust Fund (created in 2010). The Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend this appropriation. Tax Impact: \$.01/per thousand.

Motion made by: Tamra Ham

Seconded by: OJ Robinson

Article 27 passed by unanimous voice vote

Article 28: CR-Cemetery Maintenance

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Five Thousand dollars (\$5,000.00) to be added to the Town Cemetery Maintenance Expendable Trust Fund (created in 2006). The Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend this appropriation. Tax Impact: \$.004/per thousand.

Motion made by: Tamra Ham

Seconded by: OJ Robinson

Article 28 passed by unanimous voice vote

Article 29: CR-Revaluation

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate Twenty-Five Thousand dollars (\$25,000.00) to be placed in the Revaluation Capital Reserve Fund (created in 1984, amended in 2008.) The Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend this appropriation. Tax Impact: \$.02/per thousand.

Motion made by: Tamra Ham

Seconded by: OJ Robinson

Article 29 passed by unanimous voice vote

Article 30: Establish CRF

To see if the Town will vote to establish a Town Buildings Audio, Video and Surveillance Capital Reserve Fund under the provisions of RSA 35:1 for maintenance and upgrades to the current systems and to raise and appropriate the sum of Two Thousand Five Hundred dollars (\$2,500.00) to be placed in this fund. Further, to name the Selectmen as agents to expend from said fund. The Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend this article. Tax Impact: \$0.002/per thousand.

Motion made by: Tamra Ham

Seconded by: OJ Robinson

Article 30 passed by unanimous voice vote

Article 32: Transact any other business

To transact any other business that may legally come before the meeting.

Tammy Dutilly thanked the Board of Selectman for their efforts at the last Town Meeting in ensuring there is a dedicated School Resource Officer placed at Lin-Wood Public School. She also recognized Officer Betsy Scrafford for her commitment in getting to know each student individually and making sure they know she is available if they ever need.

Selectman Jack Daly thanked the voters for taking the time to come and listen to what was being proposed and stressed the importance of asking questions and providing input.

Selectman Robinson thanked all those who ran for open positions, and congratulated those who won. He also commended Elise Clark, and Diane and Thomas Clark for affording the Town the opportunity to vote on the purchase of the land in Article #7 by pausing the potential sale of the property to those who may have bid higher than the Town, as they were no obligation to do so.

Selectman Robinson also recognized and congratulated Janet Peltier for dedicating 23 years to being a Supervisor of the Checklist and wishes her well in her future endeavors.

Tammy Ham made a motion to dissolve the 2024 Annual Town Meeting

Seconded by: OJ Robinson

The 2024 Lincoln Town Meeting dissolved at 9:58 pm.

I hereby certify that the above return of the Annual Lincoln Town Meeting of March 12, 2024 is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kristyn Brophy", written in a cursive style.

Kristyn Brophy, Town Clerk