

Town Meeting Deliberative Session

Saturday, February 3, 2024

Moderator Robert Harb called the meeting to order at 9:00 am in the Great Hall in the Town Hall. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Moderator Harb. A recording of the National Anthem was provided by Cable Director Dean Zanello. Moderator Harb announced the following handouts that were available at the back of the room:

- 2024 deliberative session agenda
- Moderator's operating rules 2024
- 2024 Town Meeting Voters' Guide
- 2024 Town Meeting Warrant and Budget
- 2024 MS 727 Proposed Budget
- 2024 MS-DTB default budget
- comparative budget statement
- 2023 tax rate chart.

Harb announced Candidates Night will be held at the Plaistow Public Library March 5th at 6 pm. The Timberlane School District Deliberative Session will be held February 8th 7 pm at the Timberlane Performing Arts Center.

Moderator Harb asked that those at the front of the room introduce themselves. Budget Committee members in attendance included Budget Committee Chair Katherine (Katie) Knutsen, Budget Committee Vice Chair Douglas Thompson, David Gerns, Richard Anthony, Elizabeth Kosta, and Margo Collins. Select Board members in attendance included Chair William (Bill) Coye, Vice Chair John (Jay) DeRoche, Tammy Bergeron, Darrell Britton and Jonathan Gifford. Also at the front was Town Manager & Finance Director Greg Colby, Administrative Assistant Beth Hossack, Deputy Moderator Norman Major and myself, Martha Fowler, Town Clerk.

Moderator Harb read the Moderator's Rules and as there was no objection, the rules were adopted by the body. Motion was made by Selectman Coye and seconded by Budget Committee Chair Knutsen to allow the following non-voters to speak:

- Town Manager & Finance Director Greg Colby
- Highway Supervisor Dan Garlington
- Library Director Cab Vinton
- Administrative Assistant Beth Hossack

Motion **PASSED** by the voters raising their voter cards.

Moderator Harb read the Warrant; reminding voters that the hours for the Town / School Election are 7 am to 7 pm at the Plaistow Fish and Game Club 18 May Ray Avenue. The rest of the minutes for the deliberative session will be in `Courier New font` and will be typed under each article.

OPERATING BUDGET – GENERAL FUND

Article P-24-02: Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate as an operating budget, not including appropriations by special warrant article and other appropriations voted separately, the amounts set forth on the budget posted with the warrant or as amended by vote of the first session, for the purposes set forth therein,

totaling \$12,570,807 with the sum of \$200,000 to come from the unassigned fund balance. Should this article be defeated, the operating budget shall be \$12,312,846 with certain adjustments required by previous action of the Town or by law; or the governing body may hold one special meeting, in accordance with RSA 40:13, X and XI, to take up the issue of a revised operating budget only. (Majority vote required)

(Recommended by the Board of Selectmen (5-0-0) and the Budget Committee (7-0-0)).

Moderator Harb read article P-24-02. Motion made by Selectman Coye to place the article on the floor for discussion. Motion seconded by Selectman DeRoche. Budget Committee Chair Katie Knutsen presented an explanation of the budget. The overall budget has a 9.5% increase due to the addition of the new ambulance service. Without the addition of the ambulance, the rest of the budget has a 3.44% increase. Discussion ensued regarding the increases in the police, emergency management budget and the new ambulance service and its funding. Remarks were made by Ryan Labrecque 174 Main St., Dennis Heffernan 4 Secluded Circle, Richard Anthony 4 Village Way, Jason Dumas 6 Pineview Ave and Nolan and Jessica Pelletier 24 North Ave. Without any motion to amend the article, article P-24-02 will appear on the ballot as written.

OPERATING BUDGET – WATER DEPARTMENT

Article P-24-03 Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate as an operating budget for the water department, not including appropriations by special warrant article and other appropriations voted separately, the amounts set forth on the budget posted with the warrant or as amended by vote of the first session, for the purposes set forth therein, totaling \$520,014? Should this article be defeated, the operating budget shall be \$520,014 with certain adjustments required by previous action of the Town or by law; or the governing body may hold one special meeting, in accordance with RSA 40:13, X and XI, to take up the issue of a revised budget only. (Majority vote required)

Total Appropriation:	\$520,014
Withdrawal from the Water Enterprise Fund:	-\$520,014

No Amount to be raised by 2024 taxation: \$0

The approximate balance in Water Enterprise Fund was \$430,950 as of December 31, 2023.

(Recommended by the Board of Selectmen (5-0-0) and the Budget Committee (7-0-0)).

Motion to put article P-24-03 on the floor for discussion was made by Selectman Coye and seconded by Selectman DeRoche. Selectman Coye explained that the Water Fund is funded by the users of the water system.

Motion made by Kate Sherman-DeRoche to restrict reconsideration of article P-24-02. Motion seconded by Dennis Heffernan. Nolan Pelletier spoke against restricting reconsideration. Motion **PASSED**.

Discussion of article P-24-03 ensued. Without any motion to amend, article P-24-03 will appear on the ballot as written.

COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT (CBA) – Police Union

Article P-24-04: Shall the Town vote to approve the cost items included in the collective bargaining agreement (CBA) reached between the Town of Plaistow and the Plaistow Police Unit, Teamsters Local 633, which calls for the following increases in salaries and benefits at the current staffing level:

Contract Year	Estimated Increase
01-Apr-2024 to 31-Mar-2025	\$180,756
01-Apr-2025 to 31-Mar-2026	\$179,942
01-Apr-2026 to 31-Mar-2027	\$156,389

And further to raise and appropriate the sum of \$135,567 for 2024.
(Majority vote required)

(Recommended by the Board of Selectmen (5-0-0) and the Budget Committee (7-0-0)).

Motion made by Budget Committee Chair Knutsen to place article P-24-04 on the floor for discussion. Motion seconded by Selectman DeRoche. Selectman DeRoche spoke about the negotiating of the contract. Moderator Harb reminded the body that cost items in this article couldn't be amended. Without motions to amend, article P-24-04 will appear on the ballot as written.

SPECIAL TOWN MEETING FOR DEFEATED COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT (CBA)

Article P-24-05: Shall the Town, if Article P-24-04 is defeated, authorize the Board of Selectmen to call one special meeting, at its option, to address warrant article P-24-04 cost items only?
(Majority vote required)

(Recommended by the Board of Selectmen (5-0-0)).

Motion made by Budget Committee Chair Knutsen to place article P-24-05 on the floor for discussion; seconded by Selectman DeRoche. Selectman DeRoche explained this article was to have a special meeting if article P-24-04 didn't pass. Without any motion to amend, P-24-05 will appear on the ballot as written.

Motion made by Selectman DeRoche and seconded by Selectman Coye to restrict reconsideration of articles P-24-03, P-24-04, and P-24-05.
Motion **PASSED**.

CONTINGENCY FUND RSA 31:98-a

Article P-24-06: Shall the Town vote to establish a contingency fund for the current year for unanticipated expenses that may arise and further to raise and appropriate the sum of \$80,000 to be deposited into the fund? The sum to come from the General Fund, Unassigned Fund Balance. Any appropriation left in the fund at the end of the year will lapse to the general fund. Use of these funds will be pursuant to RSA 31:98-a and RSA 32:11.
(Majority vote required)

Total Appropriation: \$80,000
Withdrawal from the General Fund, Unassigned Fund Balance: -\$80,000

No amount to be raised by 2024 taxation:

\$0

The approximate balance in the General Fund, Unassigned Fund Balance was \$2,501,459 as of December 31, 2023.

(Recommended by the Board of Selectmen (5-0-0) and the Budget Committee (6-0-0)).

Motion made by Selectman Coye and seconded by Selectman DeRoche to place article P-24-06 on the floor for deliberation. Selectman Jonathan Gifford explained that these funds are to be used for unexpected repairs to town buildings. Discussion ensued regarding repairs to certain town buildings. Remarks were made by Ryan Labrecque 174 Main St., Nolan Pelletier 24 North Ave., Dennis Heffernan 4 Secluded Circle, Selectwoman Tammy Bergeron and Town Manager Colby. Selectman DeRoche reminds the body that the funds are coming from the Unassigned Fund Balance. Jason Dumas motioned to move the question. Without any motions to amend, article P-24-06 will appear on the ballot as written.

DEPOSIT TO HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT EQUIPMENT EXPENDABLE TRUST FUND

Article P-24-07: Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$150,000 to be deposited into the previously established Highway Department Equipment Expendable Trust Fund? (Majority vote required)

Total Appropriation

\$150,000

The approximate balance in the Highway Equipment Trust Fund was \$171,253 as of December 31, 2023.
(Recommended by the Board of Selectmen (5-0-0) and the Budget Committee (6-0-0)).

Motion made by Selectman Britton and seconded by Selectman DeRoche to place article P-24-07 on the floor for discussion. Selectman Britton explained that these funds will be used for future replacement of Highway Department equipment. Discussion ensued with remarks from Ryan Labrecque 174 Main St. giving his opinion on the CIP. Without motions to amend, article P-24-07 will appear on the ballot as written.

DEPOSIT TO BUILDING EXPENDABLE TRUST FUND

Article P-24-08 Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$40,000 to be deposited into the previously established Building Expendable Trust Fund? (Majority vote required)

Total Appropriation:

\$40,000

The approximate balance in the Building Expendable Trust Fund was \$67,138. as of December 31, 2023.
(Recommended by the Board of Selectmen (5-0-0) and the Budget Committee (6-0-0)).

The motion to place article P-24-08 on the floor for deliberation was made by Selectman Coye and seconded by Budget Committee Chair Knutsen. Selectman Bergeron explained the purpose of this article by reading from the Voters' Guide. With little discussion and no amendment made, article P-24-08 will appear on the ballot as written.

DEPOSIT TO LIBRARY CAPITAL RESERVE FUND

Article P-24-09: Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$55,000 to be deposited into the previously established Library Capital Reserve Fund? (Majority vote required)

Total Appropriation \$55,000

The approximate balance in the Library Capital Reserve Fund was \$107,328 as of December 31, 2023. (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen (5-0-0) and the Budget Committee (6-0-0)).

Selectman Coye made the motion to place article P-24-09 on the floor for deliberation. Selectman DeRoche seconded the motion. Selectman Coye explained the article. Moderator Harb, seeing no one was at the microphone to discuss the article further, declared the article will appear on the ballot as written.

Nolan Pelletier 24 North Ave. made a motion to overrule the Moderator’s decision. This motion was seconded by Jason Dumas 6 Pineview Ave. Motion **FAILED** by count of raised voter cards. (Yes 25 NO 34)

DEPOSIT TO ENERGY CAPITAL RESERVE FUND

Article P-24-10: Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$25,000 to be deposited into the previously established Energy Capital Reserve fund? (Majority vote required)

The approximate balance in the Energy Capital Reserve Fund was \$61,872. as of December 31, 2023 (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen (5-0-0) and the Budget Committee (6-0-0)).

Motion made by Selectman Coye and seconded by Selectman DeRoche to place article P-24-10 on the floor for deliberation. Selectman DeRoche explained that these funds were for future energy committee projects such as a solar field on the landfill. Discussion ensued until a motion to move the question was made by Selectman DeRoche and seconded by Budget Committee Chair Knutsen. Motion **PASSED**.

Article P-24-10 will appear on the ballot as written.

Motion to restrict reconsideration of articles P-24-06, 07, 08, 09 and 10 was made by Selectman Coye and seconded by Budget Committee Knutsen. Motion **PASSED**.

DEPOSIT TO POLICE VEHICLE CAPITAL RESERVE FUND

Article P-24-11: Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate \$100,000 to be deposited into the previously established Police Vehicle Capital Reserve Fund? (Majority vote required)

Total Appropriation: \$100,000

The approximate balance in the Police Vehicle Capital Reserve Fund was \$28,875 as of December 31, 2023. (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen (5-0-0) and the Budget Committee (6-0-0)).

Budget Committee Chair Knutsen made the motion to place article P-24-11 on the floor for deliberation. Selectman Coye seconded the motion. Selectman Gifford explained that these funds are for future replacement of police vehicles. Discussion ensued with remarks from Julie Labrecque 174 Main St and Selectman DeRoche. Without any amendment to article P-24-11, the article will appear on the ballot as written.

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMUNICATION AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY CAPITAL RESERVE FUND

Article P-24-12: Shall the Town vote to establish a Public Safety Communication and Information Technology Capital Reserve Fund under the provisions of RSA 35:1 for the purpose of providing funding for all dispatch consoles, computer servers, radios, radio tower transmitters/receivers, and all other hardware and software required for Public Safety Officials to safely and successfully do their jobs and furthermore to fund all computer hardware and software necessary to log all public safety transactions involved with any and all public safety matters and to raise and appropriate the sum of \$39,600 to be placed in the fund. This sum to come from the unassigned fund balance. Further, to name the Board of Selectmen as agents to expend from said fund.

Total Appropriation:	\$39,600
Withdrawal from the General Fund, Unassigned Fund Balance:	-\$39,600

No amount to be raised by 2024 taxation: **\$0**

(Recommended by the Board of Selectmen (5-0-0) and the Budget Committee (6-0-0)).

Motion made by Selectman Coye to place article P-24-12 on the floor for deliberation. Seconded by Selectman DeRoche. Selectman Britton explained the article and that the funds would be used to for newer technology for our dispatch center and emergency management use. Discussion ensued until a motion was made by Patrick Kiley Deputy Emergency Management Director and Plaistow's Health Officer to increase the appropriation amount to \$3960 (10%) for a total appropriation of \$43,560. Motion was seconded by Derrick Travers 31 Sunrise Terrace. Motion **PASSED** by count of raised voter cards.

Motion made by Patrick Kiley and seconded by Derrick Travers to increase the withdrawal from the General Fund Unassigned Fund balance to \$43,560. Motion **PASSED** by count of raised voter cards.

Discussion ensued but no further amendments were made. Article P-24-12 will appear on the ballot with the appropriation and withdrawal from the General Fund Unassigned Fund balance **amended** to \$43,560.

Motion made by Shauna Manthorn 10B Middle Rd. and seconded by Kate Sherman-DeRoche 20 Sunrise Terrace to restrict reconsideration of articles P-24-11 and P-24-12. Motion **PASSED**.

DISCONTINUE THE POLICE DEPARTMENT COMMUNICATION RADIO DISPATCHING SYSTEM CAPITAL RESERVE FUND

Article P-24-13: Shall the Town vote to discontinue the following Capital Reserve Funds? Said funds and accumulated interest to date of withdrawal, are to be transferred to the municipality's general fund.

- Police Department Communication Radio Dispatching System Capital Reserve Fund
- Police Department Management Information Computer System Capital Reserve Fund

This article shall be null and void if Article P-24-12 fails. (Majority vote required)

(Recommended by the Board of Selectmen (5-0-0)).

The approximate balance of the Communication Dispatch Radio Capital Reserve Fund was \$35,157 as of December 31, 2023.

The approximate balance of the Management Information System Capital Reserve Fund was \$466 as of December 31, 2023.

Motion made by Selectman Coye and seconded by Selectman DeRoche to place article P-24-13 on the floor for deliberation. Selectman Britton explained that this fund is redundant if article P-24-12 passes. The only discussion was in regard to the explanation in the Voters' Guide. Without any motions to amend, article P-24-13 will appear on the ballot as written.

DEPOSIT TO FIRE DEPARTMENT RADIO CAPITAL RESERVE FUND PREVIOUSLY ESTABLISHED

Article P-24-14: Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate \$20,000 to be deposited into the previously established Fire Department Capital Reserve Fund? (Majority vote required)

Total Appropriation: \$20,000

The approximate balance in the Fire Department Radio Capital Reserve Fund was \$11,194. as of December 31, 2023.

(Recommended by the Board of Selectmen (5-0-0) and the Budget Committee (6-0-0)).

Motion to place article P-24-14 on the floor for discussion was made by Selectman Coye and seconded by Selectmen DeRoche. Selectman Bergeron read the explanation from the Voters' Guide. As there were no motions to amend, article P-24-14 will appear on the ballot as written.

FIRE DEPARTMENT EQUIPMENT CAPITAL RESERVE FUND

Article P-24-15: Shall the Town vote to establish a Fire Department Equipment Capital Reserve Fund under the provisions of RSA 35:1 for the purpose of purchasing equipment to provide firefighting services, rescue services, medical services, and ambulance services and to raise and appropriate the sum of \$30,000 to be deposited into this fund. Further, to name the Board of Selectmen as agents to expend from said fund. (Majority vote required)

Total Appropriation \$30,000

(Recommended by the Board of Selectmen (5-0-0) and the Budget Committee (6-0-0)).

Motion made by Selectman Coye to place article P-24-15 on the floor for discussion. Motion seconded by Selectman DeRoche. Selectman Coye explained the article. As there was not further discussion or amendments, article P-24-15 will appear on the ballot as written.

DEPOSIT TO REVALUATION CAPITAL RESERVE FUND

Article P-24-16 Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$35,000 to be deposited into the previously established Revaluation Capital Reserve Fund? (Majority vote required)

The approximate balance in the Revaluation Capital Reserve Fund was \$37,136. as of December 31, 2023. (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen (5-0-0) and the Budget Committee (6-0-0)).

Motion made by Budget Committee Chair Knutsen and seconded by Selectman DeRoche to place article P-24-16 on the floor for deliberation. Selectman DeRoche explained that these funds would be used to level the tax impact of the cost of the full re-evaluation of the Plaistow's properties. Without any motions to amend, article P-24-16 will appear on the ballot as written.

Motion made by Selectman Coye and seconded by Selectman DeRoche to restrict reconsideration of articles P-24-13, 14, 15, and 16. Motion **PASSED**.

DEPOSIT TO FIRE DEPARTMENT APPARATUS CAPITAL RESERVE FUND

Article P-24-17: Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$140,000 to be deposited into the previously established Fire Department Apparatus Capital Reserve Fund? (Majority vote required)

Total Appropriation: \$140,000

The approximate balance in Fire Department Apparatus Capital Reserve Fund was \$208,578. as of December 31, 2023. (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen (5-0-0) and the Budget Committee (6-0-0)).

Motion made by Selectman Coye and seconded by Selectman DeRoche to place article P-24-17 on the floor for discussion. Selectman Gifford explained that this article was for \$250,000 more when it was brought to the Board but Chief Knutsen was able to lower it to the \$140,000. Without further discussion or amendment, article P-24-17 will appear on the ballot as written.

DEPOSIT TO OLD HOME DAY EXPENDABLE TRUST FUND

Article P-24-18: Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$2,645 to be deposited into the previously established Old Home Day Expendable Trust Fund? The sum to come from the Unassigned Fund Balance and represents donations received in 2023, with no amount to be raised from taxation. (Majority vote required)

Total Appropriation: \$2,645

Withdrawal from the General Fund, Unassigned Fund Balance:

-\$2,645

No amount to be raised by 2024 taxation:

\$0

The approximate balance in the General Fund, Unassigned Fund Balance was \$2,501,459 as of December 31, 2023.

(Recommended by the Board of Selectmen (5-0-0) and the Budget Committee (6-0-0)).

Motion made by Budget Chair Knutsen and seconded by Selectwoman Bergeron to place article P-24-18 on the floor for deliberation. Selectman Britton explained the article. Discussion ensued about Old Home Day funding and that this year was Plaistow's 275th Anniversary. Without any motions to amend, article P-24-18 will appear on the ballot as written.

PLAISTOW HISTORICAL SOCIETY SUPPORT

Article P-24-19: Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$8,036. to support the operation of the Historical Society.

(Recommended by the Board of Selectmen (4-0-0) and the Budget Committee (7-0-0)).

Motion made by Selectman Coye and seconded by Selectman Gifford to place article P-24-18 on the floor for discussion. Selectman Gifford explained that this appropriation will keep the Historical Society going. President of the Historical Society Erica Lemire explained that the Historical Society is a 501-3C non-profit organization. It used to get its funds from Old Home Day but hasn't since 2020. She is hoping this will be a onetime request to the town for funds. Nolan Pelletier spoke in favor of this article. With no motions to amend article P-24-19 will appear on the ballot as written.

Motion to restrict reconsideration of articles P-24-17, 18, and 19 was made by Selectman Coye and seconded by Selectman DeRoche. Motion **PASSED**.

EXPENDABLE TRUST FUND TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM

Article P-24-20: Shall the Town vote to create an Expendable Trust Fund under the provision of RSA 31:19-a for the express purpose of depositing any donations or other receipts received from/or for the purpose of a Transportation program? The Transportation Program is to provide transportation to those in need for medical and/or other necessary appointments. Said funds shall be used exclusively for expenses incurred for the transportation program, and further to appoint the Board of Selectmen as agents to expend the fund. (Majority vote required).

(Recommended by the Board of Selectmen (5-0-0)).

Motion made by Budget Committee Chair Knutsen and seconded by Selectman Coye to place article P-24-20 on the floor for deliberation. Selectwoman Bergeron explained the article would be used to set up a program for the needy who need rides. Discussion ensued with some applauding the article and others worrying that it will add to their future tax bills. With no motions to amend, article P-24-20 will appear on the ballot as written.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST ORDINANCE

Article P-24-21: Shall the Town vote to revise the Conflict-of-Interest Code as set forth below: (Majority vote Required)

§ 56-2. Election of Conflict-of-Interest Committee (amended 3-10-2020 by Town Meeting Art. 21)

A. Membership terms.

(1) The Town of Plaistow, at the March Town Election, will elect a Conflict-of-Interest Committee consisting of five persons. Five at-large members shall be elected to serve with staggered three-year terms.

(2) Members will be elected to three-year terms.

B. Members of the Conflict-of-Interest Committee shall consist of private citizens residing in the town and not employees by the town, ~~or~~ in a contractual agreement with the town, or a member of another town committee or board.

C. A town citizen shall not serve on the Conflict-of-Interest Committee if they have a family member who is currently serving on a Town Committee or Board. Family members' serving on Town Committee or Boards does not preclude a town citizen from being elected and service on the Conflict of Interest Committee. Members of the Conflict of Interest will recuse themselves when a petition is filed involving a family member.

Family Member(s): Include spouse, children, stepchildren, grandchildren, parents, stepparents, grandparents, brothers, sisters, stepbrothers, stepsisters, uncles, aunts, cousins, nephews, nieces, father-in-law, mother-in-law, brother-in-law, sister-in-law, son-in-law, daughter-in-law, or any member of the official's household.

Revised Wording

§ 56-2. Election of Conflict-of-Interest Committee (amended 3-10-2020 by Town Meeting Art. 21)

A. Membership terms.

(3) The Town of Plaistow, at the March Town Election, will elect a Conflict-of-Interest Committee consisting of five persons. Five at-large members shall be elected to serve with staggered three-year terms.

(4) Members will be elected to three-year terms.

B. Members of the Conflict-of-Interest Committee shall consist of private citizens residing in the town and not employees by the town, in a contractual agreement with the town, or a member of another town committee or board.

C. A town citizen shall not serve on the Conflict-of-Interest Committee if they have a family member who is currently serving on a Town Committee or Board. Members of the Conflict of Interest will recuse themselves when a petition is filed involving a family member.

D. Should a vacancy in the Committee arise, the remaining members of the Conflict-of-Interest Committee will elect a town citizen to serve out the remainder of the term year. At the following annual town election, a member at large will be elected to serve out the remainder of the term.

E. The Conflict-of-Interest Committee shall establish, maintain, and update as needed, its Bylaws.

Family Member(s): Include spouse, children, stepchildren, grandchildren, parents, stepparents, grandparents, brothers, sisters, stepbrothers, stepsisters, uncles, aunts, cousins, nephews, nieces, father-in-law, mother-in-law, brother-in-law, sister-in-law, son-in-law, daughter-in-law, or any member of the official's household.

(Recommended by the Board of Selectmen (4-1-0)).

Motion made by Selectman Coye and seconded by Selectman DeRoche to place article P-24-21 on the floor for deliberation. Selectman Coye explained that this article was recommended to the Board of Selectmen by the Conflict of Interest Committee. The intent of the article was to get the

most impartial members of the committee. Discussion ensued with remarks from Jason Dumas 6 Pineview Ave and Selectman Britton speaking against the article because they thought it was too pure and would make it too difficult to get members for the committee.

Motion to amend article P-24-21 by Holly Patterson 24 Brady Circle and seconded by Angela Edwards 4 Whiton Place to change "employed by the town" instead of "employees by the town" in section B and in the revised wording section of the article. Motion **PASSED**.

Motion made by Nolan Pelletier and seconded by Jessica Pelletier, 24 North Ave., to amend section C to read in sub section C "currently serving on a Town Committee, Board or employed by the town."

Motion **PASSED**.

With no further discussion or amendments, article P-24-21 will appear as **amended**.

Motion to restrict reconsideration of articles 24-20 and 24-21 was made by Selectman Coye and seconded by Selectman DeRoche. Motion **PASSED**.

Moderator Harb reminded everyone again that the election is March 12th 7am-7pm at the Plaistow Fish and Game Club. School Deliberative Session is February 8th 7pm at the Timberlane Performing Arts Center.

CITIZEN'S PETITION TO AMEND ZONING ORDINANCE

Article C-24-01: Shall the Town vote to approve the following replacement to the Plaistow Zoning Ordinance Article XX, Adjustments Section 220-137: Board of Adjustment as follows?

Amend Section 220-137 as follows"

1. The members of the Board of Adjustment shall be elected at the annual Town Meeting. The Board of Adjustment shall consist of five members conforming with the duties and responsibilities contained within the provisions of Chapters 673 and 674 of the New Hampshire Revised Statutes Annotated, as amended. Vacancies in the Board of Adjustment occurring other through the expiration of a term shall be filled in accordance with RSA 673:12.
2. The Board of Adjustment may provide for the appointment of not more than five alternate members to the Board of Adjustment, and the terms of alternate members shall be three years in accordance with Chapter 673:6 II-a of the New Hampshire Revised Statutes Annotated, as amended.
3. Current appointed members to the Board of Adjustment shall serve out their appointed term and when the term of each appointed member expires, each new member of the Board of Adjustment shall be elected at the next regular Town Meeting for the term provided under Chapter 673:5, II of the New Hampshire Revised Statutes Annotated, as amended. Terms of current appointed members and/or alternate members that expire from the date this provision is approved through Town Meeting can be reappointed but in no case can their term exceed beyond the next regular Town Meeting.
4. Variances and special exceptions granted prior to December 31, 2013, but not exercised by March 30, 2022 shall be considered abandoned. Note: abandonment under this section of the ordinance shall not preclude submission of a new application for the same variance or special exception.

Motion made by Nolan Pelletier and seconded by Richard Anthony to place article C-24-01 on the floor for deliberation. Motion made by Peter Bealo and seconded by Dennis Heffernan to amend C-24-01 to the following:

1. "The members of the Board of Adjustment shall be ~~elected at the annual Town Meeting~~ appointed by Selectmen. The Board of Adjustment shall consist of five members conforming with the duties and responsibilities contained within the provisions of Chapters 673 and 674 of the New Hampshire Revised Statutes Annotated, as amended. Vacancies in the Board of Adjustment occurring other through the expiration of a term shall be filled in accordance with RSA ~~673:12~~ 673:3.
2. The Board of Adjustment may provide for the appointment of not more than five alternate members to the Board of Adjustment, and the terms of alternate members shall be three years in accordance with Chapter 673:6 II-a of the New Hampshire Revised Statutes Annotated, as amended.
- ~~3. Current appointed members to the Board of Adjustment shall serve out their appointed term and when the term of each appointed member expires, each new member of the Board of Adjustment shall be elected at the next regular Town Meeting for the term provided under Chapter 673:5, II of the New Hampshire Revised Statutes Annotated, as amended. Terms of current appointed members and/or alternate members that expire from the date this provision is approved through Town Meeting can be reappointed but in no case can their term exceed beyond the next regular Town Meeting.~~
3. Variances and special exceptions granted prior to December 31, 2013, but not exercised by March 30, 2022 shall be considered abandoned. Note: abandonment under this section of the ordinance shall not preclude submission of a new application for the same variance or special exception.

Discussion ensued. Motion to amend passed by count of voter cards 26 YES to 15 No. Article C-24-01 will appear on the ballot as **amended**.

Moderator Harb adjourned the 2024 Town Deliberative Session at 12:40pm

Respectfully submitted,

Martha L. Fowler
Town Clerk