

# Record of Affirmative Votes from 2015 Town Meeting

## *Town of Henniker* State of New Hampshire

The polls were open at the Henniker Community School Gymnasium  
51 Western Avenue, Henniker on Tuesday, March 10, 2015  
From 7:00 AM to 7:00 PM  
And voting commenced on the following:

- 1) Town Officers were voted as follows for the ensuing year:

\*Asterick indicates person(s) elected

Selectmen-3 year term

**Robert French Jr. 312\***

**Kris Blomback 322\***

Town Treasurer-1 year term

**Ronald C. Taylor 354\***

Cemetery Trustee-3 year term

Martha Taylor (write-in) 7

**Khiara Bostrom (write-in) 6\***

Carl/Rocky Bostrom (write-in) 3

Trustees of the Trust Funds-3 year term

**Lynn M. Piotrowicz 326\***

Planning Board-3 year term

**Rick Patenaude 302\***

**Scott Dias 338\***

Trustees of the Tucker Free Library-

3 year term

**Jamie Ramsey 317\***

**Patti Osgood 339\***

Supervisor of the Checklist-3 year term

**Anne M. Gould 376\***

Supervisor of the Checklist-6 year term

**Ryan Gould 350\***

Cogswell Spring Water Works Water

Commissioner-3 year term

**Jerry D. Gilbert 366\***

2) Are you in favor of amending Chapter 133, Zoning Regulations, Article VIII Commercial District Regulations, Section 133 – 28 Regulations for all commercial districts, G, by amending it as follows (deletions are within brackets [ ] and additions are underlined):  
[No-e]Commercial retail buildings, as defined as any building for commercial retail use, with a building footprint greater than 35,000 square feet [will be allowed within any of the zoning districts in the Town of Henniker.] shall be prohibited from all zoning districts, except for the CH Heavy Commercial District.

**Planning Board recommend.**

*Amendment purpose: At this time, no commercial buildings larger than 35,000 square feet are allowed anywhere in the community. Given the location of the CH Heavy Commercial District, (eastern portion of Old Concord Road), the Planning Board believes that this area of the community it well suited for commercial growth, with excellent access and vacant land. In addition, it will provide opportunities to expand the tax base, which is greatly needed.*

YES 285 NO 98

3) Are you in favor of amending Chapter 133, Zoning Regulations Article XVI, Non-conforming Uses, Non-complying Structures & Non-conforming Lots by making the following changes?

Create new Section 133 – 75 to read as follows: Existing Non-conforming Residential Uses in the CH Heavy Commercial District: Existing principal and accessory residential structures may be expanded as a matter of right and shall not require a Special Exception from the Zoning Board of Adjustment.

**Planning Board recommend.**

*Amendment purpose: To reduce conflicts between commercial/industrial and residential uses, two years ago the Planning Board amended the zoning ordinance to prohibit residential uses in the CH Heavy Commercial zone. This change creates a burden to existing homes in this area, requiring homeowners to obtain Zoning Board approval for home expansions. This amendment will allow such natural expansions to occur by right.*

YES 314 NO 65

**(430 of the 3239 registered voters in Henniker voted – 11%)**

The meeting reconvened at the Henniker Community School Cafetorium  
on Saturday, March 14 at 1:00 p.m.

The annual Henniker Town Meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance, led by the Moderator, Wayne Colby. A reminder was given to all in attendance to get checked in by the Supervisors of the Checklist and receive your voting card to be used when voting on articles. There were 223 voter cards issued at the Town Meeting. Wayne also mentioned that the 7<sup>th</sup> grade class will once again be selling refreshments to help defray some of the costs for the annual trip to Washington, DC. Wayne then recognized Leigh Bosse, from the Messenger who had a presentation to make. Leigh presented the Highway Department with gift certificates to the Appleseed Restaurant as a thank you from the Town of Henniker residents for all the hard work they have done this winter. Wayne then mentioned the results of the two zoning amendments and the results from the only contested seat on the Henniker School Board. Wayne reminded all the re-elected and newly elected officials that they need to be sworn in before taking any official actions.

An introduction of the head table was given – Kimberly Johnson, Town Clerk/Tax Collector; Deborah Aucoin, Deputy Town Clerk/Tax Collector; the Selectmen: Robert French, Jr., Leo Aucoin, Kris Blomback, Scott Osgood, Tia Hooper; Chris Trovato, Town Administrator and Russ Roy, Finance Director. Russ Roy, Nate Hadaway, and Ken Levesque are not Henniker residents, but they will be allowed to speak.

Wayne spoke about his roll as the Moderator which is to make sure that we have an orderly and legal meeting. Any decision made by the Moderator may be challenged or overturned by making a motion. After a motion has been made and you wish to speak to that motion, come to the microphone, state your name and wait to be recognized. Any amendment that you would like to make must be in writing. A motion to end discussion on any article can't be made by the last person to speak to that motion. Any 5 voters in attendance may request a ballot vote before any type of vote and 5 voters can also request a ballot vote recount. Please be respectful and no personal attacks. "We are all in the same town, same sandbox, so play nice".

Kris Blomback, Chairman of the Selectmen, opened his presentation with the fact that this process of a Town Meeting in Henniker has unfolded at least 247 other times before today. The backbone of our operation is personnel based, and we had a number of departures and arrivals this past year. The departures this past year were Tom Yennerell, Nicole Gage, and Fire Chief Keith Gilbert. We welcomed Christine Trovato as the new Town Administrator; Steve Burritt, the new Chief of the Fire Department and Carol Conforti-Adams. We also wish the Ayer family heartfelt condolences with the passing of Chief Ben Ayer who held a steady watch for 35 plus years as the Fire Chief and retired from Henniker in 2003.

Kris said the Highway garage fire on January 30<sup>th</sup> is still a fresh memory and spoke about what the goal for rebuilding is. Kudos to all our employees who are working under difficult conditions and making the most of it. A brief explanation was given on some of the articles to be discussed during the meeting, including the Fire Truck, the operating budget, fire/rescue budget, the Canal Area Bridge, and the revaluation scheduled to take place this year. Kris mentioned the dedicated funds that people may make donations to for specific causes. These specific causes are Azalea

Park, Community Concert Series, the Community Center, Spirit of Henniker (S.H.O.T) and Athletics.

Most of the citizen input has overwhelmingly indicated that they are content with the level of spending and government services that are being provided. Kris said the Selectmen believe that the budget being presented today provides that and they are asking for your support.

Kris concluded with saying that Mr. Colby will help us navigate and keep the process legal. Kris ended with what his fortune cookie from lunch the other day said....."He who is afraid to ask is ashamed of learning" I thought that was very appropriate.

Wayne Colby, the Moderator, discussed the procedure for the 2 ballot votes that were necessary for Article 4 and Article 5. There will be a motion made to postpone discussion on Article 4 until discussion and the voting results are known on Article 5. The polls must be open for 1 hour on each of the bond issues.

- 4) To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to enter into a long-term lease/purchase agreement in the amount of Five Hundred Fifty Three Thousand Five Hundred Thirty Dollars (\$553,530) payable over a term of five years for the replacement of the Fire Department Pumper Truck and to raise and appropriate the sum of Sixty Three Thousand Dollars (\$63,000) for the down payment for that purpose, and to authorize the withdrawal of \$63,000 from the Fire Truck Capital Reserve Fund; in 2016 the sum of \$98,106 will be due on the lease/purchase agreement and this sum will be due each year over the five year term. (2/3 vote required for passage.)  
**Selectmen recommend.**

**MOTION TO POSTPONE DISCUSSION AND ACTION ON ARTICLE 4 UNTIL  
RESULTS OF THE VOTING ON ARTICLE 5 ARE KNOWN**

**MOTION PASSED**

- 5) To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of (\$1,200,000) One Million Two Hundred Thousand Dollars for the construction and equipping of a new public works garage and the purchase of road maintenance equipment, including, trucks, plows, wings, communications equipment, road grader, and to authorize the issuance of bonds or notes in accordance with the Municipal Finance Act(RSA 33) and to authorize municipal officials to issue and negotiate such bonds or notes and to determine the rate of interest thereon and to accept such grants, insurance proceeds and other revenues as may be available.

**MOTION** made to postpone voting on Article 5 until action on Article 21 is complete.

**MOTION FAILED**

**MOTION TO AMEND (#1) ARTICLE 5:** to raise and appropriate up to the sum of (\$1,000,000) One Million Dollars for the construction and equipping of a new public works garage and the purchase of road maintenance equipment, including, trucks, plows, wings, communications equipment, road grader, and to authorize the issuance of bonds or

notes in accordance with the Municipal Finance Act(RSA 33) and to authorize municipal officials to issue and negotiate such bonds or notes and to determine the rate of interest thereon and to accept such grants, insurance proceeds and other revenues as may be available.

**MOTION FAILED BY HAND COUNT  
YES 80 NO 109**

**MOTION TO AMEND (#2) ARTICLE 5:** to raise and appropriate up to the sum of (\$1,200,000) One Million Two Hundred Thousand Dollars for the construction and equipping of a new public works garage and the purchase of road maintenance equipment, including, trucks, plows, wings, communications equipment, road grader, and to authorize the issuance of bonds or notes in accordance with the Municipal Finance Act(RSA 33) and to authorize municipal officials to issue and negotiate such bonds or notes and to determine the rate of interest thereon and to accept such grants, insurance proceeds and other revenues as may be available.

**MOTION PASSED**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate up to the sum of (\$1,200,000) One Million Two Hundred Thousand Dollars for the construction and equipping of a new public works garage and the purchase of road maintenance equipment, including, trucks, plows, wings, communications equipment, road grader, and to authorize the issuance of bonds or notes in accordance with the Municipal Finance Act(RSA 33) and to authorize municipal officials to issue and negotiate such bonds or notes and to determine the rate of interest thereon and to accept such grants, insurance proceeds and other revenues as may be available.

**BALLOT VOTING ON ARTICLE 5 BEGAN AT 3:19 p.m.**

- 6) To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Four Million Four Hundred Fifty One Thousand Seven Hundred Ninety Four Dollars (\$4,451,794) for general municipal operations.

**Selectmen recommend.**

	<b>2015 Requested</b>	<b>2014 Approved</b>	<b>Difference</b>
EXECUTIVE BUDGET	21,067	20,767	300
HISTORIC DISTRICT	1,250	1,250	0
TOWN CLK BUDGET	71,938	70,419	1,519
ELECTION BUDGET	6,750	9,960	-3,210
TAX MAP BUDGET	3,850	3,850	0
TOWN OFFICE BUDGET	458,486	478,505	-20,019
TAX COLL BUDGET	73,641	71,122	2,519
LEGAL FEES BUDGET	30,000	20,000	10,000
PLAN BUDGET	47,969	47,751	218
ZBA BUDGET	5,521	5,521	0
CEMETERIES BUDGET	8,000	8,000	0
INSURANCE BUDGET	110,937	110,975	-38

MUNICIPAL DUES BUDGET	3,641	3,603	38
POLICE BUDGET	1,150,321	1,047,666	102,655
FIRE/RESCUE BUDGET	693,617	537,286	156,331
CODE BUDGET	4,000	4,000	0
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT	3,792	1,292	2,500
HIGHWAY BUDGET	650,971	651,802	-831
HIGHWAY/STREETS BUD	360,500	292,500	68,000
STREET LIGHTS BUDGET	24,080	24,080	0
SOLID WASTE BUDGET	433,885	438,713	-4,828
ANIMAL CONTROL BUD	12,059	24,437	-12,378
HUMAN SERVICE BUDGET	90,065	87,500	2,565
ATHLETIC BUDGET	40,149	40,149	0
PATRIOTIC PURPOSES BUD	2,150	2,150	0
CONCERT'S BUDGET	5,850	5,850	0
CONSERVATION BUDGET	2,790	2,790	0
COMMUNITY BUDGET	58,366	58,366	0
DEBT SERVICE – PRINCIPAL	57,000	59,000	-2,000
DEBT SERVICE – INTEREST	9,149	11,743	-2,594
DEBT SERVICE – TAN INT	10,000	10,000	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,451,794</b>	<b>4,151,047</b>	<b>300,747</b>

**MOTION TO AMEND (#1) ARTICLE 6:** to remove \$47,000.00 from the budget to remove the position of a Planning Consultant.

**AMENDMENT FAILED – NO SECOND**

**VOTED** to raise and appropriate the sum of Four Million Four Hundred Fifty One Thousand Seven Hundred Ninety Four Dollars (\$4,451,794) for general municipal operations.

**Selectmen recommend.**

	<b>2015 Requested</b>	<b>2014 Approved</b>	<b>Difference</b>
EXECUTIVE BUDGET	21,067	20,767	300
HISTORIC DISTRICT	1,250	1,250	0
TOWN CLK BUDGET	71,938	70,419	1,519
ELECTION BUDGET	6,750	9,960	-3,210
TAX MAP BUDGET	3,850	3,850	0
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PLAN BUDGET	47,969	47,751	218
ZBA BUDGET	5,521	5,521	0
CEMETERIES BUDGET	8,000	8,000	0
INSURANCE BUDGET	110,937	110,975	-38
MUNICIPAL DUES BUDGET	3,641	3,603	38

POLICE BUDGET	1,150,321	1,047,666	102,655
FIRE/RESCUE BUDGET	693,617	537,286	156,331
CODE BUDGET	4,000	4,000	0
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT	3,792	1,292	2,500
HIGHWAY BUDGET	650,971	651,802	-831
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ATHLETIC BUDGET	40,149	40,149	0
PATRIOTIC PURPOSES BUD	2,150	2,150	0
CONCERT'S BUDGET	5,850	5,850	0
CONSERVATION BUDGET	2,790	2,790	0
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DEBT SERVICE – PRINCIPAL	57,000	59,000	-2,000
DEBT SERVICE – INTEREST	9,149	11,743	-2,594
DEBT SERVICE – TAN INT	10,000	10,000	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,451,794</b>	<b>4,151,047</b>	<b>300,747</b>

**BALLOT VOTING ON ARTICLE 5 CLOSED AT 4:19 p.m.**

- 7) **VOTED** to raise and appropriate the sum of up to Three Hundred Sixty Four Thousand Dollars (\$364,000) for the Canal Bridge Repairs.  
**Selectmen recommend.**

**BALLOT VOTING RESULTS ON ARTICLE 5**

**YES 179 NO 24**

**ARTICLE 5 PASSED WITH THE REQUIRED 2/3 VOTE**

**MOTION** made to restrict reconsideration of Articles 5 through 7 in accordance with RSA 40:15, paragraphs 1 and 5.

**MOTION PASSED**

- 4) To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to enter into a long-term lease/purchase agreement in the amount of Five Hundred Fifty Three Thousand Five Hundred Thirty Dollars (\$553,530) payable over a term of five years for the replacement of the Fire Department Pumper Truck and to raise and appropriate the sum of Sixty Three Thousand Dollars (\$63,000) for the down payment for that purpose, and to authorize the withdrawal of \$63,000 from the Fire Truck Capital Reserve Fund; in 2016 the sum of \$98,106 will be due on the lease/purchase agreement and this sum will be due each year over the five year term. (2/3 vote required for passage.)  
**Selectmen recommend.**

**MOTION TO AMEND (#1) ARTICLE 4:** To see if the town will raise from the current year taxation and appropriate the sum of \$453,693.00 and authorize a withdraw from the Fire Truck Capital Reserve fund in the amount of \$63,000 (Sixty Three Thousand Dollars) for the purpose of purchasing a Fire Department Pumper Truck.

**MOTION FAILED**

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to enter into a long-term lease/purchase agreement in the amount of Five Hundred Fifty Three Thousand Five Hundred Thirty Dollars (\$553,530) payable over a term of five years for the replacement of the Fire Department Pumper Truck and to raise and appropriate the sum of Sixty Three Thousand Dollars (\$63,000) for the down payment for that purpose, and to authorize the withdrawal of \$63,000 from the Fire Truck Capital Reserve Fund; in 2016 the sum of \$98,106 will be due on the lease/purchase agreement and this sum will be due each year over the five year term. (2/3 vote required for passage.)  
**Selectmen recommend.**

**BALLOT VOTING ON ARTICLE 4 BEGAN AT 4:43 p.m.**

- 8) **VOTED** to raise and appropriate the sum of Twenty Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000) to purchase/replace Plow Gear for the Highway Department Loader.  
**Selectmen recommend.**
- 9) **VOTED** to raise and appropriate the sum of Forty Thousand Dollars (\$40,000) to replace the Pick-Up Truck used at the transfer station and to authorize the withdrawal of \$40,000 from Unreserved Fund Balance. No amount to be raised from taxes.  
**Selectmen recommend.**
- 10) **VOTED** to raise and appropriate the sum of Two Hundred Eleven Thousand Five Hundred Sixty Eight Dollars (\$211,568) for the Tucker Free Library with the amount to be raised from current year taxation.  
**Selectmen recommend.**
- 11) **VOTED** to raise and appropriate the sum of \$4,583 (four thousand five hundred eighty three dollars for the purpose of restoration of the stained glass indows at the Tucker Free Library. Furthermore, this appropriation is 100% reimbursable to the Town from a Conservation License Plate Grant Program offered through the State of New Hampshire Department of Cultural Resources. No expenditure under this article shall occur unless the library receives the amount of the stated grant.  
**Selectmen recommend.**
- 12) **VOTED** to raise and appropriate the sum of up to One hundred forty six thousand nine hundred sixty six dollars (\$146,966) for road improvements, representing the Town's estimated share of the New Hampshire Highway Block Grant. Only the amount of revenue received from the block grant shall be appropriated for this purpose. This is a non-lapsing appropriation per RSA 32:7, VI and will not lapse before five (5) years.  
**Selectmen recommend.**
- 13) **VOTED** to raise and appropriate the sum of Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000) to conduct the Statistical Property Revaluation.

**Selectmen recommend.**

- 14) **VOTED** to raise and appropriate the sum of Fifty Six Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$56,500) to be added to the Ambulance Capital Reserve Fund established in 1988 under the provisions of RSA 35:1 for the purchase of an ambulance for the Rescue Squad, of which the amount of \$6,500 will be transferred if received from the Town of Bradford.

**Selectmen recommend.**

- 15) **VOTED** to raise and appropriate the sum of up to Two Hundred One Thousand Eight Hundred Sixty Five Dollars (\$201,865) for Fire Department Self Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) equipment. Said appropriation is contingent upon receipt and acceptance by the Board of Selectmen of a FEMA "Assistance to Firefighter's Grant" in the amount up to One Hundred Ninety Two Thousand Two Hundred Fifty Three Dollars (\$192,253), and authority is granted to take all steps to apply for such grant funding. The remaining cost, not to exceed \$9,612 will come from taxation. This is a non-lapsing appropriation per RSA 32:7, VI and will not lapse until December 31, 2018 or upon completion of the project, whichever comes first. No expenditure will occur unless grant from FEMA is awarded to the Town of Henniker.

**Selectmen recommend.**

**MOTION** made to restrict reconsideration of Articles 8 through 15 in accordance with RSA 40:15, paragraphs 1 and 5.

**MOTION PASSED**

- 16) To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of One Dollar (\$1) to be added to the Fire Truck Capital Reserve Fund established at the 2001 Town Meeting under the provisions of RSA 35:1.

**Selectmen recommend.**

**MOTION TO POSTPONE ACTION ON ARTICLE 16 UNTIL WE HAVE RESULTS FROM VOTING ON ARTICLE 4**

**MOTION PASSED**

- 17) **VOTED** to raise and appropriate the sum of \$19,000 for the Weatherization of the Town Hall as requested by the Energy Committee.

**Selectmen recommend.**

- 18) **VOTED** vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Four Hundred Twenty Three thousand One Hundred Twenty Five (\$423,125) for the operating expenses of Cogswell Spring Water Works. This funding is provided by water assessments.

**Water Commissioners recommend.**

- 19) **VOTED** to raise and appropriate the sum of Five Hundred Forty Two Thousand Four Hundred Eighty Two Dollars (\$542,482) for the operating expenses of the Wastewater Treatment Plant. This funding is provided by sewer assessments.

**Sewer Commissioners recommend. Selectmen recommend.**

- 20) **VOTED** to raise and appropriate the sum \$300,026 (Three hundred thousand twenty six dollars) for the reconstruction of sidewalks and curbing on Rush Road, Maple Street,

Prospect Street and Hall Avenue and authorize the acceptance of the same amount from a Transportation Alternatives Program grant set forth by the New Hampshire Department of Transportation. The funding is eighty percent (80%) reimbursable by the State in the amount of \$240,020 (Two hundred forty thousand twenty dollars) upon completion of the project(s) authorized by the NHDOT, The State portion is \$240,020; and furthermore, dispensing of funds from this article is contingent upon the DOT awarding the grant. The balance of \$60,005 (sixty thousand five dollars) will come from taxation. The grant award will take place in Spring 2015. This is a non-lapsing article per RSA 32:7 and will not lapse before two (2) years or upon completion, whichever comes first.  
**Selectmen recommend.**

**BALLOT VOTING ON ARTICLE 4 CLOSED AT 5:48 p.m.**

**BALLOT VOTING RESULTS ON ARTICLE 4**

**YES 118 NO 58**

**ARTICLE 4 PASSED WITH THE REQUIRED 2/3 VOTE**

- 16) **MOTION TO TAKE NO ACTION** to raise and appropriate the sum of One Dollar (\$1) to be added to the Fire Truck Capital Reserve Fund established at the 2001 Town Meeting under the provisions of RSA 35:1.  
**Selectmen recommend.**

**MOTION PASSED**

- 21 **VOTED** to authorize the conveyance of a conservation easement to an established Conservation Trust on two adjacent lots off of Craney Pond Road and identified in the Town's tax records as Map 1, Lot 735 and Map 1, Lot 739, subject to the conditions that the Conservation Commission approve the conveyance and underwrite all costs from the Conservation Fund, including, but not limited to surveying, legal, transaction and monitoring fees.  
**Conservation Commission and Selectmen recommend.**

To transact any other business that may legally come before this meeting. (This article is meant to allocate time that public acknowledgments may be voiced and is not meant to add additional articles to the meeting. The final decision is the responsibility of the Town Moderator - per Henniker Town Counsel).

The meeting adjourned at 6:18 p.m.

A True copy Attest:

Kimberly I. Johnson, Town Clerk